

# GRAND DANUBE CRUISE

Spend 3 nights in Prague, take a 14-night cruise to Bulgaria, stay 1 night in Bulgaria and end your vacation with 3 nights in Istanbul

23 Days ♦ Fly from Prague & Return from Istanbul



*Celebrate the beauty and history of the Danube, Europe's second largest river. Journey from Nuremberg across the Continental Divide, and along the way visit charming towns and marvel at beautiful vistas. Enter Austria and cruise along the Wachau wine region. Visit three grand old capitals, magnificent Vienna, charming Bratislava and vibrant Budapest. Continue to Croatia and Serbia and cruise through the Iron Gates, a very narrow passage dividing the Balkan mountains from the Carpathian mountains. Sail along the Romanian/Bulgarian border before ending your grand European journey in what was known for centuries as the world's greatest city, Istanbul.*



Shop in Veliko Tarnovo



Bathhouse, Budapest

## DAILY PROGRAM FEATURES

DAY	DESTINATION	ACTIVITIES
1		Flight to Czech Republic
2	Prague	Hotel check-in
3	Prague	City tour
4	Prague	Optional tours available
5	Prague	Transfer to Karlovy Vary
	Karlovy Vary	Free time
	Nuremberg	EMBARKATION
		Welcome Cocktail & Dinner
6	Nuremberg	City tour
		Main-Danube Canal lecture
	Hilpoltstein	Crossing Continental Divide
7	Regensburg	Walking tour
		Evening folklore music
8	Passau	Walking tour
	Salzburg	Optional Salzburg tour
	Linz	Evening walk
9	Melk	Benedictine Abbey tour
	Vienna	Optional evening concert
10	Vienna	City tour
11	Budapest	City tour
12	Budapest	Puszta excursion
13	Mohacs	Pecs excursion
14	Vukovar	City tour
	Novi Sad	City tour
15	Belgrade	City tour
16	Iron Gates	Full day cruising
17	Vidin	City tour
		Baba Vida Fortress
18	Bucharest	City tour
19	Rousse	DISEMBARK
	Veliko Tarnovo	City tour
20	Plovdiv	City tour
21	Istanbul	City tour & optional tour
22	Istanbul	Tour Topkapi Palace
23	Istanbul	Airport transfer

## INCLUDED FEATURES

- ❖ 3 Nights Hotel Accommodation in Prague with daily Buffet Breakfast
- ❖ Transfer from the Hotel in Prague to the Ship in Nuremberg
- ❖ 14-night Deluxe Cruise Accommodation in an Outside Stateroom - 82% of the Staterooms with large French Balconies
- ❖ Infotainment System in all Staterooms with Internet, Movie and Music Library & English Language TV Stations
- ❖ Terry Bathrobes and White-on-white plush Bedding in all Staterooms
- ❖ Superb Dining with all Meals included during your Cruise
- ❖ Unlimited Quality Red & White Wines from Europe's great Wine Regions with every Dinner onboard the Ship
- ❖ Cocktail Reception, Welcome Dinner & Captain's Gala Dinner
- ❖ Fully escorted Motorcoach Tour from the Ship in Rousse, Bulgaria to Istanbul
- ❖ 1 Night Hotel Accommodation in Bulgaria including daily Buffet Breakfast
- ❖ 3 Nights Hotel Accommodation in Istanbul including daily Buffet Breakfast
- ❖ Daily Sightseeing Program as outlined in the Itinerary
- ❖ Special Highlights including Folklore Dances, Lectures, Theme Dinners, onboard Music Performances and afternoon & evening Piano Music
- ❖ Use of Bicycles to explore on your own
- ❖ Services of Professional Cruise Director
- ❖ All English Language onboard in a non-smoking Environment (smoking permitted only on the Sun Deck)
- ❖ All Transfers with the Purchase of Cruise, Land & Air package
- ❖ All local Taxes

## YOUR ITINERARY

**Day 1, DEPART USA.** Board your overnight flight to Czech Republic.

**Day 2, ARRIVE IN PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC.** Arrive in Prague and transfer to your hotel. The balance of the day is free to start exploring this beautiful city.

**Day 3, PRAGUE.** This morning's sightseeing reveals why Prague is considered one of Europe's most attractive cities. Visit the thousand-year-old Hradcany Castle courtyard, St. Vitus, and then walk over the Charles Bridge to the Old Market Square. The evening is free to mix with the locals at Wenceslas Square, shop for souvenirs or enjoy one of the charming cafés or restaurants. (B)

**Day 4, PRAGUE.** Today, why not join the optional tour to Terezin, the once infamous Nazi WWII labor camp, now a memorial to those who perished. Or, stroll through a museum or wander along the banks of the Vlatava River. (B)

**Day 5, PRAGUE – KARLOVY VARY – NUREMBERG, GERMANY.** This morning, depart Prague after breakfast and stop in Karlovy Vary, better known by its German name, Carlsbad, and most famous for its Bohemian Spa. After lunch, drive through the pastoral countryside to Nuremberg, the capital of Franconia. Tonight gather onboard for a Gala Welcome Dinner. The ship will moor overnight in Nuremberg. (B,D)

**Day 6, NUREMBERG – CONTINENTAL DIVIDE – DIETFURT.** Enjoy a guided morning tour of this historic city with its fabulous Gothic churches and elegant impressive walls. At lunchtime, rejoin the ship further along the Main-Danube-Canal and continue to the highest point of your cruise - 1,332 feet above sea level - before descending through stair-step locks to Dietfurt. (B,L,D)

**Day 7, REGENSBURG.** Cruise the final stretch of the Main-Danube Canal to Regensburg, which is one of Germany's best preserved medieval cities. Your guided tour will show you the city's architectural highlights, including the Old Town Hall, and the Porta Praetoria - gates to a Roman fort built in 179 AD. Marvel at beautiful churches and one of the oldest bridges crossing the Danube. Then take the opportunity to join the optional excursion to beautiful Weltenburg Abbey in the Danube Gorge. In the evening enjoy a music performance onboard. (B,L,D)

**Day 8, PASSAU – LINZ, AUSTRIA.** After breakfast, arrive in picturesque Passau. During your walking tour, gaze at this fairy tale city founded more than 2,000 years ago. Or take an optional full day tour to Salzburg, birthplace of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and the location of the Sound of Music. For those staying onboard, enjoy a scenic cruise from Passau to Linz. The ship moors overnight in Linz. (B,L,D)

**Day 9, MELK – VIENNA.** Cruise through the narrow Strudengau and reach the Wachau Valley early this morning. Your tour takes you to Melk's magnificent Benedictine Abbey. Enjoy your lunch sailing through the romantic Wachau Valley. Late this afternoon arrive in Vienna, the City of Music. Tonight, explore the vibrant Austrian capital on your own, or come along for an optional Mozart and Strauss concert. (B,L,D)

**Day 10, VIENNA.** Your tour of Vienna will show you the Hofburg Palace, the Vienna Opera House, Ringstrasse and awe-inspiring St. Stephen's Cathedral. Then enjoy a free afternoon to shop, explore or visit one of the city's many museums or palaces. Continue cruising overnight to Budapest, Hungary. (B,L,D)

**Day 11, BUDAPEST, HUNGARY.** During this morning's city tour, appreciate the beauty from historic Buda Castle, a splendid view of the twin cities of Buda and Pest spread over both banks of the river. Your tour also features the distinctive Fisherman's Bastion, the marvelous Royal Palace, St. Stephen's Basilica, and much more. Tonight, enjoy a Gala Dinner with Gypsy music. (B,L,D)

**Day 12, BUDAPEST.** Puszta is the region of Hungary widely known throughout the world for its Hungarian cowboys who still wear traditional garb and practice the skills of their Magyar ancestors. Upon arrival, you will be met by horse-herds and greeted with brandy and scones. Take a ride in an Ox-cart, see a typical Gypsy village and marvel at the equestrian skills of the riders during the horse show. There will be a lunch of Goulash, the national dish, before returning to Budapest. (B,L,D)

**Day 13, MOHÁCS – PECS - VILÁNY.** During breakfast arrive in Mohács for an interesting excursion to Pecs. Charming Old Pecs is brought alive by local guides on your walking tour. See the Synagogue, Christian Basilica and visit the former Turkish Mosque. Enjoy a wine-tasting excursion, where you will sample aromatic, spicy white wines from the vineyards of Vilány. (B,L,D)



Spanish Riding School, Vienna

CODE AK

USA DEP. DATE	START CITY	SHIP NAME	CRUISE ONLY	CRUISE & LAND	AIR, CRUISE & LAND*
26-May	PRG	Amadolce	\$4,898	\$6,508	\$7,308
8-Jun	IST	Amadolce	\$4,798	\$6,408	\$7,508
7-Jul	PRG	Amadolce	\$4,698	\$6,308	\$7,408
20-Jul	IST	Amadolce	\$4,698	\$6,308	\$7,408
29-Jul	PRG	Amacello	\$4,698	\$6,308	\$7,408
11-Aug	IST	Amacello	\$4,798	\$6,408	\$7,508
18-Aug	PRG	Amadolce	\$4,998	\$6,608	\$7,708
31-Aug	IST	Amadolce	\$5,298	\$6,908	\$8,008
29-Sep	PRG	Amadolce	\$5,098	\$6,708	\$7,808
12-Oct	IST	Amadolce	\$4,698	\$6,308	\$7,108

\*Included airfare from New York is a current estimate. Actual airfares from all gateways will be advised at the time of booking.

PORT CHARGES: \$266 per person

SINGLE SUPPL. FOR CRUISE: 50% of twin price; Jr. Suites 100% of twin price

SINGLE SUPPL. FOR LAND: \$910 per person

Prices are per person in Category E in a deluxe outside stateroom with window. To upgrade to a higher Category, add per person:

CAT.	DECK	STATEROOM	PRICE
D	Piano Deck	Window	\$338
C	Cello Deck	French Balcony	\$998
B	Cello Deck	French Balcony	\$1398
A	Violin Deck	French Balcony	\$1598
A+	Violin Deck	French Balcony	\$1998
S	Violin Deck	French Balcony	\$3398

NOTE: Please select bedding configuration at the time of booking. The choices are:

Choice A: Two twin beds

Choice B: One large bed (larger than queen size)

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES

**Day 14, VUKOVAR, CROATIA – NOVI SAD, SERBIA.** Your guided bus and walking tour of Vukovar will show you the Franciscan Monastery of St. John Capistrano, the Manorhouse Eltz and the Churches St. James and St. Nicholas. During lunch, continue your cruise to Novi Sad, Serbia, where you will see the Petrovaradin Fortress. (B,L,D)

**Day 15, BELGRADE.** This morning, arrive in Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, where you have a chance to explore both the old and the new town. Your guided tour features Tito's memorial, the Town Hall, the Federal Parliament Building, Terazije Street, Republic Square and Mihajlova street, "Varos" Gate and the mighty Kalemegdan Fortress. (B,L,D)

**Day 16, CRUISING THROUGH THE IRON GATES – VIDIN, BULGARIA.** Today, enjoy a full day of cruising through one of Europe's most awe-inspiring natural wonders, the Iron Gates. Here the Danube narrows, as it winds through a range of magnificent gorges between the southern Carpathian Mountains and the northwestern foothills of the Balkan Mountains. Forming the natural border between Serbia and Romania, today's passage will be an unforgettable highlight of your Black Sea adventure. Late this evening, the ship sails to Vidin. (B,L,D)

**Day 17, VIDIN.** The "Baba Vida" Fortress sits guard over the Danube at the Bulgarian frontier town of Vidin. The 14th-century castle has massive walls and dark towers, which strongly contrast the natural park which surrounds the castle. From here, take an excursion to Belogradschik, a beautifully restored 6th-century castle, located in a fairy tale landscape of unusual rock formations. (B,L,D)

**Day 18, GIURGIU – BUCHAREST, ROMANIA – ROUSSE, BULGARIA.** Today, enjoy a full day excursion to Bucharest, capital and largest city in Romania. The city is famed for its Belle Epoque era buildings dating from the 19th-century. During the morning city tour, you will see the Arch of Triumph, Soseaua

Kiseleff, the Athenaeum, the Library and visit the Palace of the Parliament - the world's largest palace. Enjoy lunch in a typical Romanian restaurant, then explore on your own or visit the open air museum, which was dedicated to the traditional architecture and buildings of rural Romania. (B,L,D)

**Day 19, ROUSSE – VELIKO TARNOVO – PLOVDIV, BULGARIA.** Disembark in Rousse and continue your tour by motorcoach. Your first stop is the ancient capital of Bulgaria, Veliko Tarnovo. Here you will tour Tsarevets Hill, the citadel of the city, the old fortress walls, the Royal Palaces, the Patriarchal church and Baldwin's Tower. This evening, arrive in Plovdiv and see the main highlights of Plovdiv Old Town, before dinner at a local restaurant. (B,D)

**Day 20, PLOVDIV – ISTANBUL, TURKEY.** After breakfast, continue on to magical Istanbul for the grand three-night conclusion of your Black Sea voyage. (B)

**Day 21, ISTANBUL.** A comprehensive city tour will show you the old city, with its numerous Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman monuments of her historic past. Admire the mighty defensive walls, the Roman aqueduct and the hippodrome. See the Galata Tower and visit the Blue Mosque. This evening is free to explore the town on your own. (B)

**Day 22, ISTANBUL.** Today, your guided sightseeing tour will take you to the Ottoman Sultans' Grand Palace of Topkapi, home to every Sultan from the 15th-century until the end of the 19th-century. During your tour, admire the private chambers of the Sultans, marvel at the world famous Harem and also see the Treasury, home to the Topkapi Diamond. This afternoon, enjoy an optional Bosphorus cruise and Spice Bazaar or use the remainder of the day to shop for souvenirs. (B)

**Day 23, ISTANBUL – USA.** Transfer to the airport for your onward flight. (B)



Tower of Belgrade



Serbian folklore music



Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria