DANUBE ADVENT CRUISE: FROM VIENNA TO NUREMBERG

28 NOVEMBER – 4 DECEMBER 2024

FROM £2,845 PER PERSON





This delightful winter cruise on the Danube from Vienna to Nuremberg aboard the elegant and luxurious *MS Amadeus Cara* encompasses not only the history, culture, food, and wine of the region but also its attractive villages, proud castles, impressive churches and traditional Christmas Markets. Shore excursions will be organised exclusively for our group, guided by Douglas Skeggs, who will also give a series of captivating onboard lectures.

Our voyage begins in Vienna, city of the Habsburgs and heart of their Empire, where we explore the Imperial sights from the magnificent Hofburg to St. Stephen's Cathedral. We continue to the UNESCO World Natural Heritage and wine region of Wachau where we visit the spectacular Benedictine abbey at Melk before continuing to Passau, also known as the 'City of Three Rivers', situated at the confluence of the Danube, Inn and IIz Rivers, with its colourful Christmas market in front of the spectacular cathedral. We then sail on to the medieval Bavarian city of Regensburg before ending our journey in the historic town of Nuremberg, famous for its Imperial Castle, walled Old Town and gingerbread. It promises to be a delightful festive journey.





7-DAY ITINERARY, DEPARTING 28 NOVEMBER 2024

28 November London / Vienna

Suggested flight (not included) British Airways BA 700 departing London Heathrow at 09.55 hrs arriving Vienna at 13.10 hrs.

On arrival, transfer to the dock in Vienna to board the luxury *MS Amadeus Cara* and embark on a sixnight cruise on the Danube. Captain's drinks followed by a welcome dinner on board.

29 November Vienna

This morning enjoy a drive along the famous Ringstrasse, passing several magnificent buildings including the stunning opera house, the parliament, the Court Theatre and Vienna's imposing city hall. The panoramic drive is followed by a guided walk with Douglas Skeggs through the city centre beginning with the Hofburg Imperial Palace, before continuing to walk along the Kohl market finishing at Vienna's iconic St. Stephen's cathedral.

Lunch on board. The remainder of the day is spent on the ship. Enjoy afternoon tea and dinner on board.

30 November Vienna / Emmersdorf

This morning arrive in Emmersdorf in the UNESCO World Natural Heritage region of the Wachau. Guided tour with a local guide of Melk Abbey, an Austrian Benedictine abbey built between 1702 and 1736, and one of the world's most famous monastic sites, perched high above the river. Particularly noteworthy is the Abbey church with frescoes by Johann Michael Rottmayr and the impressive library with countless medieval manuscripts and frescoes by Paul Troger. Continue through the Abbot's chambers, along the Imperator's Walk, and through the marble hall, the balconies and the library.

Lunch on board. The remainder of the day is spent on board, where you will have a wonderful view of the passing winter landscapes as your cruise ship travels towards Passau. Tea and dinner on board.

1 December Emmersdorf / Passau

This morning arrive in Passau, also known as the 'City of Three Rivers', situated at the confluence of the Danube, Inn and IIz Rivers, and enjoy a walking tour with Douglas Skeggs through the romantic old town with its historic buildings including the baroque St. Stephen's Cathedral with its impressive pipe organ. There will also be the opportunity to visit the Veste Oberhaus, one of the largest fortress complexes in Europe. Optional visit to the traditional Passau Christmas market in front of St. Stephen's Cathedral offering traditional handicrafts, gingerbread, spices and delicious treats.

Lunch on board. Boat departs for Ragensburg. Afternoon at leisure. Tea and dinner on board.

2 December Passau / Regensburg

This morning arrive in the historic city of Regensburg, one of the best preserved medieval cities in Germany. Enjoy a walking tour of the town with Douglas Skeggs passing the Regensburg Cathedral, dedicated to St. Peter, with its impressive Gothic architecture, the town hall and the oldest bridge to span the Danube since the 12th century.

Lunch on board. This afternoon there will the opportunity to explore the romantic Christmas market in the Thurn and Taxis Palace in Regensburg (bookable on board and at a supplementary price). Revel in the festive pre-Christmas atmosphere filled with the aroma of lebkuchen (gingerbread) and roasted almonds, and stalls filled with local handicrafts. Captain's Gala dinner.

3 December Regensburg / Roth / Nuremberg

This morning enjoy watching the beautiful scenery as you cruise to the Bavarian town of Roth.

Lunch on board. Afternoon drive to the historic town of Nuremberg, the second largest city in Bavaria and the capital of Franconia, for a city tour. During the reconstruction work following the devastation of the Second World War, the style of the Old Town was maintained. Ringed walls, towers and the castle provide a vivid image of the town as it may have looked during medieval times. After passing the Palace of Justice, the venue of the Nuremberg trials, continue to the old town at the heart of Nuremberg. Stroll through the narrow medieval alleyways and visit the Christmas market selling world-famous Nuremberg lebkuchen (gingerbread) and Glühwein before returning to the ship. Dinner on board.

4 December Nuremburg / Munich / London

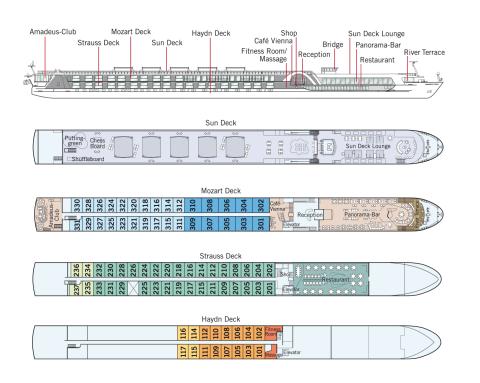
This morning disembark from the boat and transfer to Munich airport for suggested flight (not included) British Airways BA 951 departing Munich at 13.00 hrs arriving London Heathrow at 14.15 hrs.



MS AMADEUS CARA

This new vessel enjoys Amadeus' elegant interiors. The popular concept of spaciousness has been maintained. This includes not only generous public areas but also spacious cabins: 10 large suites impress with an outdoor balcony and a cosy reading corner whilst the 71 standard cabins mainly have panoramic window fronts which can be automatically lowered and luxurious bathrooms.

The 71 cabins and 10 suites of the *Amadeus Cara* offer spacious accommodation for passengers on the vessel. While cabins on all decks have panoramic windows that provide stunning views of the passing scenery; the cabins on the Mozart and Strauss decks have special drop down panoramic windows, and the 10 suites offer a walk-out exterior balcony that offer unimpeded views of the charming countryside. All cabins include modern hospitality amenities such as a comfortable bed, flat-screen TV, separate area for WC/shower, walk in wardrobe and a safe to secure valuables. All staterooms and suites offer a choice in bed configuration – please specify your preference on booking.



TOUR PRICES PER PERSON

Haydn Deck C1 Cabin:	£2,845
Single Supplement:	£245
Fully Booked	
Strouge Deals B1 Cabin	
Strauss Deck B1 Cabir	1: £3,290
Single Supplement:	£855
Available	
Mozart Deck A1 Cabin	: £3,525
Single Supplement:	£1,135
Available	
Mozart Deck Suite:	£3,980
Fully Booked	

Please note we have not included the cost of the flights in the tour price. Please contact us for prices should you wish to book them through us.

PRICE INCLUDES

- Accommodation throughout as shown in the itinerary
- Full board including daily breakfast, lunch, dinner, and midnight snack
- Coffee, tea and ice water with all meals on board
- Free flowing regional red and white wines, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner on board
- All entrance fees, visits, excursions and transportation as per the itinerary
- Local English-speaking guide/s
- Gratuities to staff onboard
- Gratuities to guide/s
- Gratuities to bus driver/s
- Porterage
- Services of a professional cruise director
- The services of your tour leader and guest lecturer throughout

PRICE EXCLUDES

- International flights, currently approximately £350 per person based on 2023 fares and subject to change
- Travel insurance
- Items of personal expenditure (e.g. telephone calls / laundry etc.)
- Government levies or taxes introduced after costing and publication of this programme on 27/10/23



YOUR TOUR LEADERS



JOANNA WORSLEY

After leaving school, Joanna travelled extensively through Asia working in Hong Kong and Delhi and developing a passion for India. She then spent several years in Los Angeles producing film and music videos. Being half-Greek she has a particular love for Greece too and has a house on the island of Skyros. She has previously led several tours to India for The Ultimate Travel Company.



DOUGLAS SKEGGS

Douglas Skeggs read fine art at Magdalene College, Cambridge and since 1980 has been a lecturer on the history and techniques of painting. He has made several art documentaries and written and advised on many more. An accomplished painter in his own right, he has held three one-man exhibitions of his work. His biography of Monet, *River of Light: Monet's Impressions of the Seine*, sold 65,000 copies, and he has also written several novels.



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