

TRAVEL  LEADERS®

and

 **AVALON**  
WATERWAYS®  
*Legendary river cruises. Inspired design.™*

# Blue Danube Discovery

## for Beer Enthusiasts

### July 15-28, 2017



## 13 Day River Cruise from Budapest to Prague

Per Person Rates Based on Double Occupancy:

**\$5449** per person Panorama E

**\$6598** per person Panorama B

**\$6648** per person Panorama A

**\$6748** per person Panorama P

*\$495 pp deposit due at time of booking*

*Second Deposit of \$1000 per person due 1/24/2017*

***Final Payment Due on April 4, 2017***

**Package Includes:** Round trip Transportation from Fredericksburg, Round trip Air, Airport/Hotel/Ship transfers, Deluxe motor coach for touring, 5 Night Hotel Accommodations, 7 Night Cruise Fare on Avalon Vista, Meals as noted in Itinerary (11 Breakfast, 6 Lunch, 7 Dinner), Cruise Gratuities, Guided tours as listed in Itinerary w/ headsets, port charges, taxes and service fees.

Travel Insurance and Tour Gratuities are Additional.

*Please note airfare is estimated at \$1100 on Delta Airlines and is subject to change until ticketing.*

Cancellations are \$250 per person cancellation fee + any vendor fees.

### HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

....Hefeweizen and Witbier (wheat beer)  
....Dunkles and Dubbel (dark beer)  
....Lambic (wild-yeast beer)  
....Krystal (filtered beer)  
....and so many others.

A visit to Europe is even better when it includes a discovery of the regional beers via a river cruise vacation! Visit historic breweries, attend special beer tastings, learn about European beer-brewing techniques during fascinating onboard lectures and workshops, and enjoy a special dinner, hosted by your onboard beer expert. Cheers!

-All Itinerary Details on Back

**TRAVEL  LEADERS®**  
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4113 Plank Road Fredericksburg, VA 22407  
**540-786-4000 or 800-966-8016**  
[EscapeNow@TravelLeaders.com](mailto:EscapeNow@TravelLeaders.com)  
[www.TravelBetterNow.com](http://www.TravelBetterNow.com)

AVO07152017 Group #747236

### **Day 1-Arrive in Budapest, Hungary**

Welcome to Budapest, Hungary's lively capital spanning the banks of the Danube. The remainder of the day is free to start exploring Eastern Europe's most cosmopolitan metropolis.

### **Day 2-Budapest**

Whether you're seeing the sights, shopping for handcrafted embroidery or Herend porcelain, or basking in the coffee house culture over a rich cream cake in the renowned Gerbeaud Café, Budapest's unique energy is positively palatable. On your GUIDED SIGHTSEEING TOUR, see Heroes' Square as well as the massive hilltop castle complex with its remarkable Fishermen's Bastion and 11th-century Matthias Church, the coronation spot of several Hungarian monarchs. Be sure to take note of the city's eight bridges—many famous sights in and of themselves—which connect ancient Buda on the right bank with Pest on the left. You may even want to walk across Chain Bridge, built in 1849 and a symbol of Budapest. (B)

### **Day 3-Budapest (Embarkation)**

You have time this morning to explore Budapest further. Perhaps visit St. Stephen's Basilica for marvelous views of the city from its viewing platform. This afternoon, board your river cruise vessel and meet your crew at a welcome reception. (B,D)

### **Day 4-Budapest-Vienna, Austria**

Enjoy a day of relaxation on board and marvel at the beautiful scenery on both banks of the Danube. Hungary is on your left as you cruise upriver and Slovakia is on your right. The two countries share the Danube for a 58-mile stretch, with the border in the middle of the river. As you sail, our beer expert will hold an onboard BEER WORK-SHOP. This evening, arrive in Vienna, Austria's capital. Known as the "City of Music," it inspired the creative genius of Mozart, Beethoven, and Strauss. An optional concert is available during your stay. (B,L,D)

### **Day 5-Vienna**

Once the center of the mighty Habsburg Empire, Austria's magical capital on the blue Danube is a showcase of gilded architecture. This is home to the lavish Hofburg Imperial Palace complex with its Vienna Boys' Choir and dazzling Lipizzaner stallions; the neo-renaissance Vienna Opera House; and awe-inspiring St. Stephen's Cathedral—plus, countless other sights your LOCAL GUIDE will show you during an included CITY SIGHTSEEING TOUR. Stroll through the delightful pedestrian Kärntnerstrasse, and be sure to take a break and enjoy a piece of decadent Sachertorte or Apfelstrudel in one of the classic Viennese coffee houses, historic institutions that helped shape Viennese culture! Visit the OTTAKRINGER BREWERY, a medium-size family business that stands for the successful combination of tradition and innovation in brewing, using only the clearest water from their own spring, the finest hops, and solely Austrian barley. This evening join our Beer Expert for a pub crawl through the streets of Vienna. (B,L,D)

### **Day 6-Dürnstein-Melk**

Dürnstein, known for the magnificent baroque, blue Stiftskirche built in the 1700s, is right in the heart of the Wachau wine region. The main street of this small town—with a population of less than 1,000 people—is lined with 16th-century homes and charming cobblestone streets. This morning your Local Guide will take you on an included WALKING TOUR and tell you the tale of England's King Richard the Lionheart, who was imprisoned in the castle whose ruins still stand above the town. During lunchtime, sail the picturesque Wachau Valley and arrive in Melk in the early afternoon. Here, enjoy a GUIDED VISIT of the magnificent 11th-century BENEDICTINE ABBEY, one of Europe's largest monasteries. The abbey houses an ornate library with over 80,000 printed books and 2,000 manuscripts. You'll be captivated by the splendor of the church with its frescoed ceilings, stunning high altar, marble statues, and 210-foot-high cupola. The view from the terrace over the Danube and surrounding countryside is breathtaking! This evening, sample some of the Wachau Valley's FAMOUS WINES. (B,L,D)

### **Day 7-Passau, Germany**

Today, you might wish to choose from a couple of full-day optional excursions: to Salzburg, taking in some of The Sound of Music sights or to medieval Český Krumlov in the Czech Republic, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Alternatively, you may choose to stay on the ship and relax as you cruise to Passau, uniquely located where the Inn, Ilz, and Danube Rivers converge. Passau is a maze of narrow cobblestone streets lined with beautiful patrician houses. St. Stephen's Cathedral, a masterpiece of Italian baroque architecture, houses one of the world's largest church organs with 17,774 pipes. Take in the highlights on the included GUIDED WALK. (B,L,D)

### **Day 8-Regensburg**

Dating back to the time of the Celts around 500 BC, Regensburg is one of Germany's best preserved medieval cities. Established during the Holy Roman Empire and the only German city not bombed during WWII, Regensburg has at least 1,300 listed buildings of "historic interest." Architectural highlights of your GUIDED WALK include the Altes Rathaus (Old Town Hall), built in the 13th century, and Porta Pretoria, gates to an ancient Roman fort built in 179 AD. Wander through the city's lanes and alleys to discover the many mansions with high towers. Wealthy families built these towers to emphasize their status and wealth during the Middle Ages, and many still remain today. Walk across the 12th-century Steinerne Brücke (Stone Bridge), the oldest of its kind in Germany. Grab a beer and enjoy an included SNACK at the 17th-century Historische Wurstküche (Old Sausage Kitchen), one of Germany's oldest restaurants. Here—where the locals congregate—feel the vibrant atmosphere and take in the remarkable views along the river. After dinner, we'll introduce you to some of Germany's FAMOUS BEERS and you will enjoy a lecture provided by our Beer Expert. (B,L,D)

### **Day 9-Roth-Nuremberg**

This morning the choice is yours—join a Local Guide for a RALLY GROUNDS tour in nearby Nuremberg, or a GUIDED SIGHTSEEING of Roth. This delightful Bavarian town, with its half-timbered houses and market square, is also an industrial center for textile manufacturing. In contrast, take pictures of Schloss Ratibor, an ancient hunting lodge, built in 1535, with a most picturesque inner courtyard. This evening join our "Beer Pope" as he hosts a special onboard FOOD AND BEER-PAIRING dinner. (B,L,D)

### **Day 10-Nuremberg (Disembarkation)-Prague, Czech Republic**

After breakfast, say goodbye to your crew and travel by motorcoach to Prague, the "Golden City." (B)

### **Day 11-Prague**

Prague is a 1,200-year-old city preserved in time, and, unlike other Central European capitals, it was not bombed during the 20th-century wars. A LOCAL GUIDE shows you its best-known treasures, such as the Old Town's Astronomical Clock, built in 1410 and once the envy of all of Europe; HRADČANY CASTLE GROUNDS; St. Vitus Cathedral; and the Charles Bridge, the oldest bridge in Prague. Browse the shops for hand-cut crystal or art books. Mix with the locals in Wenceslaus Square, an important meeting point where people demonstrated against the communist regime; or watch performers on Charles Bridge. (B)

### **Day 12-Prague**

Enjoy a free day to explore the city at your own pace. Perhaps visit the Communist Museum or take an optional excursion around the Jewish Quarter. Sample the local plum dumplings and Pilsner; stroll along the Vltava River. Your Cruise Director will have other suggestions for things to do. (B)

### **Day 13-Prague**

Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning. (B)

B-Breakfast L-Lunch D-Dinner

**Passports must be valid through January 28, 2018**  
**TRAVEL INSURANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**  
*See your Agent for more Details!*

\*Itinerary is subject to change