deluxe cruises

Cruise Details

Name:	Splendours of Europe & Prague
Reference:	EMERALDEPGF161027-1
Operator:	Emerald Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Emerald Star
Regions:	Danube
Departs On:	16 Oct 27
Departs From:	Amsterdam
Arrives On:	02 Nov 27
Arrives At:	Prague
Cruise Nights:	17
Total Vacation Days:	18

Itinerary

Day 1: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

Welcome to Amsterdam, a postcard-worthy destination of picturesque canals, cafés, and art galleries. Here, you 'll be met at the airport and transferred to the comfortable surrounds of your Emerald Cruises Star-Ship. After boarding, you can enjoy some time to explore the cobbled streets and gabled houses at leisure. This evening, join your fellow guests for dinner on board.

Arrives On: 16 Oct 27

Day 2: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

This morning, explore the Dutch Golden Age, as you board a glass-top canal boat cruise to explore the UNESCO World Heritage-listed canal system or enjoy a guided bike tour to Waterland. Both excellent ways to experience the city in all its authenticity, take to its charming waterways, passing iconic buildings and elegant merchant residences that reflect a time when Amsterdam was one of the most lucrative ports in the world. If you’re feeling more active,

then explore on two wheels, cycling alongside a backdrop of historical villages and traditional windmills. Upon returning to your ship, your first day of sailing will take you through the Dutch countryside to the Rhine River. Included Excursion
Canal cruise EmeraldACTIVE
Guided bike tour to Waterland

Arrives On: 17 Oct 27

Day 3: Cologne (Germany)

Founded by the Romans in 50 AD, the cathedral city of Cologne is one of the oldest cities in Germany and the largest on the Rhine. The historic capital of the Rhineland, this illustrious city has been generously peppered with ancient architecture, from Roman ruins to medieval structures, despite much of the inner city being completely destroyed during WWII. Join your local guide and explore the city during a unique adventure that will take you hunting for some of the most typical Cologne treasures. EmeraldACTIVE
Quest for Cologne’s treasures

Arrives On: 18 Oct 27

Day 4: Rüdesheim (Germany)

Today’s cruising will be a highlight of your trip, as we meander through the fairy tale-like surrounds of the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Rhine Gorge. Hilltop castles and fortresses will be yours to admire as we sail. We will pass the infamous Lorelai Rock, where sailors are said to have been lured onto treacherous rocks by an enchanting siren, and the impressive Pfalzgrafenstein Castle, a former stronghold. This afternoon, arrive in Rüdesheim, a town with a vibrant wine-growing heritage. You will have the choice of either riding on the Winzerexpress and visiting Siegfried’s Mechanical Music Cabinet Museum or, if you're feeling active, taking an active hike to Niederwalddenkmal. Included Excursion
Visit to Siegfried’s Mechanical Music Cabinet Museum EmeraldACTIVE
Active Walk to Niederwalddenkmal

Arrives On: 19 Oct 27

Day 5: Wertheim (Germany)

Arrives On: 20 Oct 27

Day 5: Miltenberg (Germany)

Welcome to Miltenberg, a picturesque village on the Main River, boasting an inimitable feeling of medieval Bavaria with its 15th century half-timbered buildings. On your included walking tour, stroll down the cobblestone streets, lined with these colourful houses and view the Gothic Merchant Hall, an impressive symbol of past affluence. You could also enjoy an active walk through the forest to Mildenburg Castle. This iconic landmark now houses a wonderful collection of contemporary art and old masters. Later, we'll venture to the charming town of Wertheim where, as part of your EmeraldPLUS programme, you'll have an exclusive glassblowing presentation at the Glass Art Museum. Included Excursion
Guided tour of Miltenberg EmeraldPLUS
Exclusive visit to the Glass Art Museum in Wertheim with presentation EmeraldACTIVE
Guided Active Walk to Mildenburg Castle

Arrives On: 20 Oct 27

Day 6: Würzburg (Germany)

Known as the 'Pearl of the Romantic Road', Würzburg, is the centre for grape-growing, the product of the sloping vineyard-laden hills which surround the former capital of Franconia. The architects behind the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Würzburg Residence drew inspiration from a spectrum of different styles, including Viennese Baroque and secular features from Italy, but it was heavily damaged during WWII. Enjoy learning about how this impressive building was restored to its former glory on a guided tour. Included Excursion
Walking tour of Würzburg and a visit to the Bishops Residence DiscoverMORE
Excursion to Rothenburg (extra expense)

Arrives On: 21 Oct 27

Day 7: Bamberg (Germany)

This morning, relax on board and witness the beauty of Europe's waterways from the plush surrounds of your cabin as we cruise to Bamberg. The UNESCO World Heritage-listed town boasts one of the largest medieval centres in Europe, with around 2,400 listed buildings gracing its streets. Feel the magic of the past as you explore the city with your local guide, marvelling at the opulence of the New Residence, once resided in by the prince bishops and now home to a plethora of old German and Baroque paintings from the Bavarian State collection. Enjoy a tranquil stroll around the Rose Garden to round your day off peacefully. Included Excursion
Guided tour of Bamberg

Arrives On: 22 Oct 27

Day 8: Nuremberg (Germany)

Embark on a sightseeing tour of the historic city of Nuremberg, including the architectural wonders that have inspired famous artists for centuries and exploring the effects that the war years had. After your tour, enjoy time to explore Nuremberg at leisure, passing half-timbered houses that were beautifully reconstructed following the war. Included Excursion
Guided tour of Nuremberg DiscoverMORE
World War II tour (extra expense)

Arrives On: 23 Oct 27

Day 9: Regensburg (Germany)

This morning, you'll sail the final stretch of the fascinating Main-Danube Canal to Regensburg. As you continue sailing down the Danube, one of Germany's best-preserved medieval cities welcomes you with two millennia of history. For almost 150 years, the Old Town Hall was the seat of parliament. Dating back to the 13th century, it consists of the Town Hall Tower, the Imperial Chamber building, and the Town Hall. Wander the streets with your guide, as the romantic narrow alleys of the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Old Town enable you to live through the city's history. The main highlight of your tour will be the 12th-century Stone Bridge, a medieval structure crossing the Danube. Enjoy time to explore Regensburg at leisure after your guided tour or return to your Star-Ship for some peace and tranquillity. Later today, enjoy a traditional Bavarian band performance on board. Included Excursion
Guided tour of Regensburg EmeraldPLUS
Bavarian band performance on board DiscoverMORE
Sausage-making workshop (extra expense)

Arrives On: 24 Oct 27

Day 10: Passau (Germany)

Passau is a picturesque city that has been shaped by the surrounding rivers over the years, sitting right on the confluence of the Danube, Inn and Ilz. This memorable destination is dominated by large squares, magical promenades and romantic lanes. Cobblestone streets and graceful arcades welcome you in the beautiful city of Passau. On this morning's walking tour, stroll through streets lined by Baroque buildings dating back to the 17th century and look at the Gothic Town Hall, Bishop's Residence and St. Stephen's Cathedral, a wonderful example of Baroque architecture and home to the largest church organ in Europe. Return for lunch on board and an afternoon peacefully cruising along the Danube. Included Excursion
Guided tour of Passau DiscoverMORE
Excursion to Salzburg (extra expense) DiscoverMORE
Excursion to Cesky Krumlov (extra expense)

Arrives On: 25 Oct 27

Day 11: Melk (Austria)

Situated within Austria’s wine-growing region, Melk is home to a 900-year-old Benedictine abbey, a UNESCO World Heritage-listed site, which is yours to explore today during an included tour. Your guide will take you through a series of opulent rooms, each adorned with the finest Italian Baroque architecture and ornate gold leaf walls, including the ancient monastic library, renowned for its extensive collection of medieval manuscripts. Later, the Star-Ship sails through the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Wachau Valley and on to Dürnstein, one of the most enchanting villages in the Wachau wine region, where you can choose to hike to Dürnstein Castle, the site where Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned after returning from the Crusades. Alternatively, enjoy an EmeraldACTIVE guided bike ride along the Danube from Melk to Dürnstein, passing famous vineyards and quaint towns. Included Excursion
Tour of Melk Abbey EmeraldACTIVE
Guided bike tour along the Danube EmeraldACTIVE
Guided hike to Dürnstein Castle

Arrives On: 26 Oct 27

Day 11: Dürnstein (Austria)

Arrives On: 26 Oct 27

Day 12: Vienna (Austria)

Austria’s breathtaking capital is recognised for its cultural legacy. As the former residence of Mozart and Beethoven, a multitude of imperial palaces represent a rich history, and the museum district boasts contemporary buildings, housing the work of some of the world’s most prolific artists. Explore the famous sights of the Ringstrasse and Vienna’s city centre by coach and on foot or join a guided bike tour. Marvel at the Renaissance-style arches that adorn the façades of the Opera House, the Baroque Burgtheater and the Flemish Gothic Parliament before enjoying time to explore Vienna at leisure. Included Excursion
Guided tour of Vienna EmeraldACTIVE
Guided bike tour of Vienna DiscoverMORE
Visit to Schönbrunn Palace (extra expense) DiscoverMORE
Viennese evening concert (extra expense)

Arrives On: 27 Oct 27

Day 13: Bratislava (Slovakia)

Set at the crossroads of ancient trade routes in the heart of Europe, Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, is a place where Baroque palaces, boutiques and cafés adorn cobblestone streets. In the morning, enjoy a sightseeing tour, including the enchanting Old City or hike to Bratislava Castle. Your local guide will take you through the heart of the city. Pass by the botanical gardens of the Episcopal Summer Palace, the Old Town Hall and its delightful Renaissance courtyard and the Slovak National Theatre, where busts of famous composers adorn the façade. After your tour, enjoy free time to explore at leisure. This afternoon, a local family will be happy to welcome you into their home for some great conversation over traditional sweet treats and coffee. Included Excursion
Walking tour of Bratislava EmeraldPLUS
Home-hosted coffee and cake with a Slovakian family EmeraldACTIVE
Guided hike to Bratislava Castle DiscoverMORE
Skoda tour of post-Communist Bratislava (extra expense) DiscoverMORE
Carpathian wine route (extra expense)

Arrives On: 28 Oct 27

Day 14: Budapest (Hungary)

Budapest is Eastern Europe’s liveliest and most cosmopolitan city. Divided by the iconic Danube River, Buda and Pest on either side can be reached via the Chain Bridge, one of the city’s most symbolic structures. Enjoy a guided tour of the city with your local guide this morning. Alternatively, embark on a hike to Gellert Hill. This evening, you will enjoy a Hungarian folklore show before your farewell dinner. Included Excursion
Guided coach tour of Budapest EmeraldPLUS
Traditional Hungarian folklore show on board EmeraldACTIVE
Hike to Gellert Hill DiscoverMORE
Excursion to Szentendre (extra expense) DiscoverMORE
Jewish heritage tour (extra expense)

Arrives On: 29 Oct 27

Day 15: Budapest (Hungary)

After breakfast, disembark your Star-Ship to be transferred to Prague, home to some of the world’s most pristine collections of architecture from across the ages. Included is a comfortable three-night stay in the city.

Arrives On: 30 Oct 27

Day 15: Prague (Czech Republic)

Arrives On: 30 Oct 27

Day 16: Prague (Czech Republic)

The heart of Prague is an enchanting treasure trove, showcasing some of Europe’s finest and most well-preserved architectural marvels from various eras. Begin your journey by exploring three magnificent castle courtyards before stepping into the awe-inspiring St. Vitus Cathedral. From there, descend the Castle Steps, where breathtaking views of Prague unfold before your eyes. Next, we stroll across the iconic Charles Bridge, leading us to the charming Old Town. Our unforgettable city tour concludes at the legendary Astronomical Clock in the vibrant Old Town Square, leaving you captivated by Prague’s timeless beauty. Included Excursion
A guided tour of Prague EmeraldPLUS
Coffee & Cake at Lobkowicz Palace

Arrives On: 31 Oct 27

Day 17: Prague (Czech Republic)

Your tour director will be available to help you plan a day of independent exploration today, perhaps strolling past ornate façades in the Baroque quarter or discovering Prague’s Jewish heritage in Josefov. DiscoverMORE
Tastes of Czechia (extra expense)

Arrives On: 01 Nov 27

Day 18: Prague (Czech Republic)

Your journey concludes today.

Arrives On: 02 Nov 27

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.

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