



## Cruise Details

Name:	Danube Explorer
Reference:	EMERALDEWPA080525-2
Operator:	Emerald Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Emerald Luna
Regions:	Danube
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Departs On:	08 May 25
Departs From:	Budapest
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Arrives On:	15 May 25
Arrives At:	Passau
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Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	8

## Itinerary

### Day 1: Budapest (Hungary)

Fly from the UK to Budapest. Welcome to the 'Pearl of the Danube', Budapest. You'll be met at the airport and transferred to the contemporary surrounds of your Emerald Cruises Star-Ship, where your friendly captain and crew will be waiting to welcome you. This evening, join your fellow guests for a traditional Hungarian folklore show. **EmeraldPLUS** Traditional Hungarian folklore show on board

Arrives On: 08 May 25

### Day 2: Budapest (Hungary)

Explore the city's cobbled medieval quarter today, as you embark on a coach tour through the UNESCO World Heritage-listed city centre. Your guide will teach you about the Hungarian capital's culinary scene while touring the neo-Gothic Grand Market, Budapest's largest and most

expansive indoor market, where you'll plenty of time for exploration.   
If you're feeling more active, you can instead choose to hike to Gellert Hill. The surrounding area has been rebuilt several times, most recently following the air raids of WWII. Some 18th-century Baroque houses still stand and are best explored from the medieval paths and alleyways in the area around Buda Castle.

**Included Excursion**  
Budapest tour with Grand Market visit

**EmeraldACTIVE**  
Hike to Gellert Hill

**DiscoverMORE**  
Excursion to Szentendre (extra expense)

**DiscoverMORE**  
Hungarian Bath Experience (extra expense)

Arrives On: 09 May 25

### Day 3: Bratislava (Slovakia)

Relax on board as we sail into the capital of Slovakia this morning. This graceful nation of leafy avenues became an independent country in 1993, and since then Bratislava has flourished as a new capital and made a name for itself as a cultural centre. The romantic cobblestone lanes that weave through the city are yours to explore with your local guide, as you enjoy a walking tour of the ancient town centre, including the Slovak National Theatre and a range of Gothic and Art Nouveau buildings.

Alternatively, embark on a guided hike to Bratislava Castle, a landmark steeped in legend that looks as though it has been plucked from the pages of a fairy tale. This striking building has been rebuilt several times, most recently in a Renaissance style.   
Tonight, enjoy some local Slovakian entertainment on board.

**Included Excursion**  
Walking tour of Bratislava

**EmeraldACTIVE**  
Guided hike to Bratislava Castle

**EmeraldPLUS**  
Local Slovakian entertainment on board

**DiscoverMORE**  
Skoda tour of post-Communist Bratislava (extra expense)

**DiscoverMORE**  
Carpathian Wine route (extra expense)

Arrives On: 10 May 25

### Day 4: Vienna (Austria)

Sweeping boulevards and world-famous art exhibitions welcome you to Vienna, the birthplace of revolutionary breakthroughs in the fields of music and psychology. The city perfectly encapsulates the opulence of the Habsburg Monarchy and their ornate Baroque palaces, some of which you will be able to see during your guided coach tour of the Ringstrasse. Following this, embark on a walking tour of the UNESCO World Heritage-listed city centre and its surrounding classical architectural styles, evidence of the melting pot of artistic influences that have existed here since the turn of the 20th century.

If you're feeling more active, then perhaps choose to explore on two wheels, cycling along the river to the Danube

Island. </p></p><p><strong>Included Excursion</strong><br /><span>Guided tour of Vienna</span></p><p><strong>EmeraldACTIVE</strong><br /><span>Guided bike tour of Vienna</span></p><p><strong>EmeraldACTIVE</strong><br /><span>Guided bike tour of Vienna</span></p><p><strong>DiscoverMORE</strong><br /><span>Exclusive Viennese evening concert (extra expense)</span></p>

Arrives On: 11 May 25

#### Day 5: Weissenkirchen (Austria)

<p><p>Effortlessly suspended in time, Weissenkirchen is one of the most frequented parts of the Wachau wine region, where the delightful warm weather creates the perfect setting for viticulture. </p><p>Later, sail through the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Wachau Valley and arrive in Melk, where you'll enjoy a guided tour of Melk Abbey. Originally a lavish castle that was gifted to Benedictine monks during the 11th century, this opulent Baroque building is home to some of the most important collections of medieval manuscripts in the world. </p></p><p><strong>Included Excursion</strong><br /><span>Tour of Melk Abbey</span></p><p><strong>EmeraldACTIVE</strong><br /><span>Guided bike tour along the Danube River</span></p><p><strong>DiscoverMORE</strong><br /><span>Visit to Schallaburg Castle (extra expense)</span></p>

Arrives On: 12 May 25

#### Day 5: Melk (Austria)

Arrives On: 12 May 25

#### Day 6: Linz (Austria)

<p><p>This morning, your Star-Ship will dock in Linz, where you'll be transferred by coach to the UNESCO World Heritage-listed centre of Český Krumlov, a town built around a 13th-century castle. Join your local guide on a walk along the labyrinth of winding cobblestone streets, passing the colourful façades of buildings, as you learn about how they have survived the test of time. The town surrounds the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Český Krumlov Castle, and your guided tour will include the 15th-century St. Vitus Church and a number of delightful Gothic façades. </p></p><p><strong>EmeraldPLUS</strong><br /><span>Guided tour of Český Krumlov</span></p><p><strong>DiscoverMORE</strong><br /><span>Walking tour of Linz with a Linzer Torte making (extra expense)</span></p>

Arrives On: 13 May 25

#### Day 6: Cesky Krumlov (Czech Republic)

Arrives On: 13 May 25

### Day 7: Passau (Germany)

Narrow cobblestone streets and the aroma of freshly baked gingerbread welcome you to Passau, a town nestled on the confluence of three of Europe's main waterways. This important historic trading centre borders Austria and boasts a distinctive blend of cultures. Experience life on a typical Bavarian farm for some interesting insights into the life of local farmers and livestock farming, then try their homemade specialities. Alternatively, you can set off on a hike, catching sights such as the Mariahilf and St. Severin, an ancient church dating back to the Ottonian dynasty.

**EmeraldPLUS**  
Bavarian Countryside Experience

**EmeraldACTIVE**  
Hike to Veste Oberhaus

**DiscoverMORE**  
Bavaria Live (extra expense)

Arrives On: 14 May 25

### Day 8: Passau (Germany)

After breakfast, it's time to disembark your Star-Ship for your transfer to the airport for your flight to the UK, taking memories of Europe's iconic skylines with you.

This itinerary is a guide only and may be amended for operational reasons such as high and low water. As such, the cruise may operate altered from that stated above. Please refer to our terms and conditions for further information.

Arrives On: 15 May 25

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

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