Cruise Details

Name:	Danube Explorer
Reference:	EMERALDEWPA140827-2
Operator:	Emerald Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Emerald Dawn
Regions:	Danube
Departs On:	14 Aug 27
Departs From:	Budapest
Arrives On:	21 Aug 27
Arrives At:	Passau
Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	8

Itinerary

Day 1: Budapest (Hungary)

Welcome to Hungary and the ‘Pearl of the Danube,’ Budapest. You’ll be met at the airport and then transferred to the stylish surrounds of your Emerald Cruises Star-Ship, where your friendly captain and crew will be waiting to welcome you on board. This evening, as part of your EmeraldPLUS experience, join your fellow guests to enjoy a traditional Hungarian folklore show performed on board your Star-Ship. EmeraldPLUS
Traditional Hungarian folklore show on board Please book your flight to arrive into Budapest prior to 05:00 PM.

Arrives On: 14 Aug 27

Day 2: Budapest (Hungary)

Today, explore the atmospheric cobblestone streets and medieval quarter of Budapest, as you embark on a coach tour through the UNESCO World Heritage-listed city centre. Your insightful

guide will explain all about the Hungarian capital’s culinary scene as you tour the neo-Gothic Grand Market, Budapest's largest and most expansive indoor market. Afterwards, you’ll have the opportunity to explore this vibrant market at your own pace. Alternatively, if you’re feeling more active, you can choose to hike to Gellert Hill. The surrounding area has been rebuilt several times, most recently following the air raids of World War II. Several 18th century Baroque houses still remain standing and are best explored along the medieval-era paths and alleyways that encircle Buda Castle. Included Excursion
Budapest tour with Grand Market visit EmeraldACTIVE
Hike to Gellert Hill DiscoverMORE
Excursion to Szentendre (extra expense)

Arrives On: 15 Aug 27

Day 3: Bratislava (Slovakia)

This morning, relax on board your Star-Ship as you sail into the capital of Slovakia, Bratislava. This graceful nation 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 insightful local guide. Enjoy a walking tour of the 18th century Old Town, taking in the Slovak National Theatre and a wealth of Gothic and Art Nouveau buildings. Alternatively, embark on a guided hike to Bratislava Castle, a city landmark steeped in legend that looks as though it has been plucked from the pages of a fairytale. Standing on an isolated rocky hill directly above the Danube, this impressive building has been rebuilt several times, most recently in Renaissance-style. Tonight, enjoy some typically local Slovakian entertainment on board your Star-Ship. 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: 16 Aug 27

Day 4: Vienna (Austria)

Historic boulevards and imperial grandeur welcome you to Vienna, the magnificent Austrian capital. Vienna perfectly encapsulates the opulence of the Habsburg Monarchy and their ornate Baroque palaces, some of which you’ll be able to see during your guided coach tour of the famous Ringstrasse, one of the world’s most beautiful boulevards. Afterwards, embark on a guided walking tour of this UNESCO World Heritage-listed city centre, where you can admire classical architectural styles, legacies of the melting pot of artistic influences that have existed here since

the turn of the 20th century. Some of Austria's most important – and exquisite - buildings line the Ringstrasse, including the Neo-Renaissance Vienna State Opera, City Hall and Parliament, as well as splendid palaces. Alternatively, If you're feeling more active, choose to explore Vienna on two wheels, as part of a guided bike tour, cycling along the riverbanks to scenic Danube Island. Included Excursion
Guided tour of Vienna EmeraldACTIVE
Guided bike tour of Vienna DiscoverMORE
Exclusive Viennese evening concert (extra expense)

Arrives On: 17 Aug 27

Day 5: Weissenkirchen (Austria)

Effortlessly suspended in time, Weissenkirchen is one of the most frequented parts of the Wachau wine region, where the delightful warm climate creates the perfect setting for viticulture. Later, sail through the scenic, UNESCO World Heritage-listed Wachau Valley and arrive in Melk, a delightful Austrian town, 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 houses some of the most important collections of medieval manuscripts in the world. Included Excursion
Tour of Melk Abbey EmeraldACTIVE
Guided bike tour along the Danube River EmeraldACTIVE
Guided hike in Weissenkirchen DiscoverMORE
 Visit to Schallaburg Castle (extra expense)

Arrives On: 18 Aug 27

Day 5: Melk (Austria)

Arrives On: 18 Aug 27

Day 6: Linz (Austria)

This morning, your Star-Ship will arrive in Linz. You'll then be transferred by coach to the UNESCO World Heritage-listed historic centre of Ceský Krumlov, a delightful Czech town. Join your insightful local guide on a walking tour along the labyrinth of winding cobblestone streets lined with colourful façades of buildings and learn how they survived the test of time. The town surrounds the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Ceský Krumlov Castle, and your guided tour will take in the 15th century St. Vitus Church and a number of charming Gothic façades. EmeraldPLUS
Guided tour of Ceský Krumlov DiscoverMORE
Walking tour of Linz with a Linzer Torte tasting (extra expense)

Arrives On: 19 Aug 27

Day 6: Cesky Krumlov (Czech Republic)

Arrives On: 19 Aug 27

Day 7: Passau (Germany)

Narrow cobblestone streets and the aroma of freshly-baked gingerbread, a local delicacy, welcome you upon your arrival in Passau. Nestled on the confluence of three of Europe's main waterways – the Danube, Inn and Ilz rivers – this charming German town is an important historic trading centre and bordering Austria, displaying a distinctive blend of cultures. You'll later experience a typical Bavarian farm for some interesting insights into the daily life of local farmers and livestock farming, then have a chance to sample some homemade specialities. Alternatively, you can embark on a guided hike, taking in 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: 20 Aug 27

Day 8: Passau (Germany)

This morning after breakfast, it's time to bid farewell to your fellow guests and disembark your Star-Ship for your transfer to the airport, leaving with cherished memories of a wealth of Europe's iconic sights and cultural treasures. Please book your flight to depart out of Munich after 01:00 PM. 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. Please note: Preview itinerary subject to change.

Arrives On: 21 Aug 27

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

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