



Cruise Details

Name:	Christmas & New Year
Reference:	SCENICCHAA201227-1
Operator:	Scenic River Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Scenic Amber
Regions:	Rhine, Danube and Main
Departs On:	20 Dec 27
Departs From:	Amsterdam
Arrives On:	03 Jan 28
Arrives At:	Budapest
Cruise Nights:	14
Total Vacation Days:	15

Itinerary

Day 1: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

Your journey begins in the picturesque city of Amsterdam. A labyrinth of narrow laneways adorned with twinkling lights, canals lined with beautifully preserved 17th century buildings and Christmas trees decorating historic squares, Amsterdam is not only pretty to wander, it's also steeped in history, art and an undeniable festive atmosphere. This afternoon, board your all-inclusive luxury Scenic Space-Ship and settle into your suite. Relax and raise your glass to the days ahead at this evening's welcome reception.

Arrives On: 20 Dec 27

Day 2: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

Amsterdam is a treasure trove of architectural beauty. Often referred to as the Venice of the North, much of the World Heritage-listed canal system exists today as it did hundreds of years ago, lined with well-preserved canal houses and intersected by charming

bridges.

Scenic Freechoice: Explore the region on one of these Scenic Freechoice excursions:

Canal cruise: Amsterdam has more than 100 kilometres of canals and today you will see some of the prettiest sights of the city from these historical waterways on this one-hour cruise.

Walking tour of Amsterdam: Explore Amsterdam on foot, discovering the maze of canals and bridges in the city centre. Your guide will be covering history, modern lifestyle and Dutch culture. You also get to taste herring, a local delicacy not to be missed.

Excursion to Schermerhorn & Alkmaar: Step outside of Amsterdam to visit the village of Schermerhorn, home to authentic windmills dating back to the 16th century.

This afternoon we set sail towards the cosmopolitan metropolis of Cologne, Germany.

Arrives On: 21 Dec 27

Day 3: Cologne (Germany)

Arrive in the 2,000-year-old city of Cologne early this afternoon. Cologne suffered extensive damage during World War II but was painstakingly restored over the following decades. Set out on a walking tour of the Old Town, admiring its historic buildings, beautiful squares and the World Heritage-listed Cologne Cathedral. Then enjoy some free time to explore the city on your own.

Arrives On: 22 Dec 27

Day 4: Rüdesheim (Germany)

This afternoon you will disembark in Rüdesheim, a pretty town surrounded by steep vineyards that have been cultivating wine for 2,000 years.

Take a mini train from the pier to Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum, where some 350 musical instruments from the 18th and 19th century play themselves for your enjoyment. Afterwards, explore the charming centre of Rudesheim, filled with half-timbered houses lining cobbled streets, quaint shops selling trinkets such as cuckoo clocks, as well as a smattering of wine taverns.

Arrives On: 23 Dec 27

Day 5: Miltenberg (Germany)

Dock in the stunning town of Miltenberg around lunchtime. Here, your local guide will showcase the city during a walking tour through the beautiful cobblestone streets lined with historic half-timbered houses.

Afterwards, take a coach to the historic town of Wertheim, on the picturesque banks of the Main and Tauber rivers. Enjoy an orientation tour of Wertheim before reboarding your Space-Ship.

Arrives On: 24 Dec 27

Day 5: Wertheim (Germany)

Arrives On: 24 Dec 27

Day 7: Bamberg (Germany)

Dock in picturesque Bamberg after lunch. You could spend this morning relaxing in your spacious suite or enjoying the vistas of the Main River from the Sun deck.

Built on seven hills, this World Heritage-listed town has surprises at every turn. Intersected by rivers and canals, Bamberg's Old Town is resplendent with cobblestoned streets and well-preserved medieval buildings.

Scenic Freechoice: Stay in Bamberg or choose to explore further afield:

Guided tour of Bamberg Old Town: Bamberg is known for its charming World Heritage-listed Old Town, one of Europe's largest intact old town centres. Learn about its fascinating history as you wander through stunning Medieval and Baroque buildings on a guided city tour. Admire the charming Town Hall which occupies an island on its own, a Gothic and Romanesque-style cathedral, and the Old and New Residences – comprising an episcopal palace, a pretty 'Little Venice' and a 12th century castle that teeters on the highest of the seven hills.

Excursion to Coburg: Journey via coach to Coburg. Visit the impressive castle, which looks over the city, and is considered one of the largest and best-preserved forts in Germany. Its museum houses a large collection of carriages, weapons, armoury and paintings by renowned artists.

Arrives On: 26 Dec 27

Day 8: Nuremberg (Germany)

You will arrive in Nuremberg, Bavaria's second-largest city, this morning. Boasting an Old Town protected by an ancient city wall, this city is dominated by one of the most significant imperial forts of the Holy Roman Empire, the 12th century Imperial Castle, which was the preferred residence of German kings.

Scenic Freechoice:

Today it's your Scenic Freechoice:

Walking tour of the Old Town: You will drive into Nuremberg's city centre, where your local guide will take you on a walking tour to see the Imperial Castle which overlooks the city, St. Egidien's Church and market square.

World War II tour: Your local guide will highlight the main events that occurred in Nuremberg during the Nazi regime. Learn about this dark time in Germany's history and visit some of the most important sites.

Gingerbread cooking: Embrace the festive spirit and join a cooking class with an experienced local chef. You will learn how to bake traditional German gingerbread biscuits, known as Lebkuchen.

Arrives On: 27 Dec 27

Day 9: Regensburg (Germany)

<p>You will arrive in Regensburg after lunch today. Set on the confluence of three rivers in Bavaria, Regensburg is a delight to explore. </p><p>Scenic Freechoice:
Be immersed in Regensburg with your choice of excursions today:

Regensburg walking tour: Your expert local guide will show you the old stone bridge, the Church of St James, and the Porta Praetoria all while sharing the customs and traditions of the region during the festive period.

Bavarian beer tasting: Visit a series of traditional breweries, learn about the intricacies of brewing and sample a variety of distinctive Bavarian beers.</p>

Arrives On: 28 Dec 27

Day 10: Passau (Germany)

<p>Set on the confluence of the Danube, Inn and Ilz rivers, Passau has been an important trading city since medieval times, particularly for salt, commonly known as 'white gold'. Each river is distinct in colour and some days you can clearly see the green, blue and black hues where the waters meet. At the centre of the Baroque city, the 13th century Italianate Old Town is packed with tight laneways tunnels and archways, including an 'Artist's mile' where old buildings are occupied by artist studios, workshops and galleries. </p><p>Scenic Freechoice:
Take your pick from the following Scenic Freechoice excursions.

Full day excursion to Salzburg: Journey via coach to Salzburg, Austria. Surrounded by alpine peaks and on the banks of the Salzach River, Salzburg is best known as the home of Mozart and The Sound of Music. During a guided tour, explore this incredible city before enjoying lunch at a local restaurant.

Full day excursion to Český Krumlov: From Passau journey via coach to the Czech town of Český Krumlov. This delightful World Heritage-listed town is brimming with charm. Wander this fairy-tale location with your guide and explore the historic centre before a delicious lunch at a local restaurant.

Highlights of Passau: Join your local guide on a walking tour, admiring the brightly coloured buildings that line the waterways. Visit St Stephens Cathedral, originally built in the year 450 but destroyed by fire in 1662 and rebuilt in the Baroque style.</p>

Arrives On: 29 Dec 27

Day 10: Linz (Austria)

Arrives On: 29 Dec 27

Day 11: Melk (Austria)

<p>This morning, you'll cruise through the beautiful Wachau Valley, before choosing how you'd like to spend your day. </p><p>Scenic Freechoice:
Melk Abbey: Enjoy a guided tour through the one of the world's most monastic sites, the

Benedictine Abbey. The Abbey is set overlooking the town of Melk and its highlights include the abbey church, exquisitely decorated with ceiling frescoes, and the library with manuscripts that date back to medieval times.

Cycle from Melk to Dürnstein: Join your guide on a bicycle tour along the Danube to the quaint village of Dürnstein. Pass by charming villages and scenic vineyard landscapes.

Arrives On: 30 Dec 27

Day 11: Dürnstein (Austria)

Arrives On: 30 Dec 27

Day 12: Vienna (Austria)

Welcome to Vienna, known as the City of Music, and the home of Beethoven, Mozart, Strauss and more. A city full of grandeur, Austria's imperial capital is famous for having the world's most beautiful boulevard, The Ringstrasse, and for the legacy of the Habsburg monarchy.

Scenic Freechoice: Spend the day exploring Vienna or venture further afield with Scenic Freechoice: Schönbrunn Palace: Explore Schönbrunn Palace, the former summer residence of the Habsburg family. Hear tales about the royal family that lives here and see the impressive gardens.

Central Vienna: Vienna is brimming with history, elegance and diverse architecture. During this tour your expert local guide will delight you with stories from the city before allowing you free time to explore as you wish.

Excursion to Bratislava: Travel to Bratislava, Slovakia's capital since independence in 1993. This modern multicultural metropolis has an intriguing history. The glorious Old Town and well-preserved hilltop castle contrast with its brutalist socialist architecture. Your local guide will show you Bratislava Castle, the Hlavné Námestie, the main square and the Old Town Hall.

This evening countdown to the New Year, where you can celebrate on shore as fireworks illuminate the night's sky or join the festivities on board.

Arrives On: 31 Dec 27

Day 13: Vienna (Austria)

Happy New Year! Relax on board this morning as you cruise towards Budapest. You may like to ask your butler to bring coffee to your suite so you can savour it as the beautiful scenery rolls by your window.

The capital of Hungary and one of Europe's most diverse and vibrant cities. Budapest is divided by the Danube, with Buda on one side and Pest on the other, this city became united in 1873 when a newly built bridge connected the two. It's an architectural treasure trove comprising styles from Gothic to Art Nouveau and everything in between. It is also well known for its hot springs and thermal baths and has a vibrant nightlife scene.

Scenic Enrich Tonight, step back into

Hungary's imperial past as you attend an exclusive classical concert inside Gödöllő Royal Palace, one of the favourite residences of Queen Elisabeth of Hungary. The world's second largest Baroque palace, it dates back to the 18th century.

Arrives On: 01 Jan 28

Day 13: Budapest (Hungary)

Arrives On: 01 Jan 28

Day 14: Budapest (Hungary)

Today is your opportunity to explore the vibrant city of Budapest, the capital of Hungary and one of Europe's oldest and prettiest cities.

Scenic Freechoice:

Budapest in Depth: Visit both Buda and Pest, the two districts that are separated by the Danube. See the Várkert Bazár before crossing the Margaret Bridge to Széchenyi Square and Elizabeth Square.

Hospital in the Rock: Experience the labyrinths of the Hospital in the Rock, built as a secret hospital during WWII and was later converted to a nuclear bunker.

Hungarian Culinary Market Walk: Explore the Grand Central Market, a treasure trove of Hungarian flavours. Sample local specialties and hear fascinating stories about Budapest's food culture.

Guided hike of Buda: Strap on your walking shoes for a beautiful hike through the Buda district of the city. On your walk, see Varket Bazar and beautifully landscaped gardens, all while enjoying great views over the Danube River and the city architecture.

Arrives On: 02 Jan 28

Day 15: Budapest (Hungary)

It's time to farewell your fellow guests and Scenic crew, taking with you a wealth of memories and festive cheer.

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 what is stated above. Please refer to our terms and conditions.

Please note: Preview itinerary subject to change.

Arrives On: 03 Jan 28

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

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