



Cruise Details

Name: Christmas & New Year with Paris & Prague
Reference: SCENICCTPP181227-2
Operator: Scenic River Cruises
Cruise Type: River
Cruise Rating: Luxury
Ship: Scenic Opal
Regions: Rhine, Danube and Main

Departs On: 18 Dec 27

Departs From: Prague

Arrives On: 07 Jan 28

Arrives At: Paris

Cruise Nights: 20

Total Vacation Days: 21

Itinerary

Day 1: Prague (Czech Republic)

Welcome to one of Europe's best-preserved and most beautiful cities, with a rich and fascinating history stretching back more than 1,000 years. The Vltava River, the longest in the Czech Republic, runs through the centre of Prague, with the historic Old Town on one bank and New Town on the other.

Arrives On: 18 Dec 27

Day 2: Prague (Czech Republic)

Join your expert local guide to explore Prague in all its Gothic glory including the Old Town, the famous Astronomical Clock and Charles Bridge, commissioned in 1357 by Charles IV. This afternoon, stroll this magnificent city at your leisure. Situated on the banks of the River Vltava in central Bohemia, Prague is rich in history and home to some of the world's most striking architectural wonders.

Arrives On: 19 Dec 27

Day 3: Prague (Czech Republic)

<p>Scenic Freechoice:
Scenic Freechoice

Communist walk of Prague with beer tasting: Join an expert local guide for a walking tour of Prague's famous sites and hidden gems and learn about everyday life under Communism. Visit a local brewery for a tasting of local beers.

Terezin Memorial: Head to the town of Terezin, a former military fortress and location of the Theresienstadt Ghetto to learn about the horrors committed during the Nazi occupation.

Prague Castle Tour: Explore Prague Castle, considered one of the largest castle complexes in the world. Visit St. Vitus Cathedral, the grandest cathedral in the Czech Republic, the Old Royal palace, former residence of Bohemian Royalty, and the picturesque Golden Lane.</p>

Arrives On: 20 Dec 27

Day 4: Prague (Czech Republic)

<p>Journey by coach to Budapest where you'll board your luxurious Scenic Space-Ship.</p>

Arrives On: 21 Dec 27

Day 4: Budapest (Hungary)

Arrives On: 21 Dec 27

Day 5: Budapest (Hungary)

<p>Get a different perspective of Budapest with a variety of fascinating activities to choose from today.</p><p>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.</p>

Arrives On: 22 Dec 27

Day 7: Vienna (Austria)

<p>A city full of grandeur, Vienna comes alive during the festive season. A visit to the Austrian imperial capital during this time of the year will create some unique, magical moments.

See the world's most beautiful boulevard, The Ringstrasse, all lit up with dazzling displays of Christmas lights and decorations. You'll also enjoy the city's musical heritage in full display with the sounds of famous festive tunes and classical pieces around every corner. After all, you're in the City of Music, which fostered musical geniuses like Mozart and Beethoven. </p><p>Scenic Freechoice:
Explore your way with today's selection of Scenic Freechoice activities:

Schönbrunn Palace: Explore Schönbrunn Palace, the former summer residence of the Habsburg family, one of the most prominent dynasties in European history. Wander its countless ornately designed rooms, hear tales about the royal family that lives here and see the impressive gardens.

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

Excursion to Bratislava: Take a coach to Bratislava, Slovakia's capital since independence in 1993. Bratislava is a modern multicultural metropolis with an intriguing history. Its Old Town is glorious in medieval and Gothic architecture and its well-preserved hilltop castle, which has history dating back to the 9th century, still dominates the town. These charming historic sites contrast with its brutalist socialist architecture, which is evident around the city. Take a tour with a local guide to see Bratislava Castle, the Hlavné Námestie, the main square and the Old Town Hall.</p><p>Tonight, you may wish to join the locals at a traditional Christmas Mass at a nearby church.</p>

Arrives On: 24 Dec 27

Day 9: Brandstatt (Austria)

<p>Today, choose from two completely different yet equally fascinating full day Scenic Freechoice excursions, or relax with a walking tour.</p><p>Scenic Freechoice:
Full day excursion to Salzburg: Journey via coach to Salzburg, Austria. Surrounded by alpine peaks and on the banks of the Salzach River, explore before enjoying lunch at a local restaurant.

Full day excursion to Ceský Krumlov: From Brandstatt journey to the Czech town of Ceský Krumlov. Wander this fairytale location with your guide and explore the historic centre before lunch at a local restaurant.

Highlights of Passau walking tour: Located at the meeting point of the Danube, Inn and Ilz rivers, Passau has been an important trading route for centuries. Wander through narrow laneways before visiting St. Stephens Cathedral.</p>

Arrives On: 26 Dec 27

Day 9: Passau (Germany)

Arrives On: 26 Dec 27

Day 10: Regensburg (Germany)

<p>You will arrive in Regensburg just before lunch today. Set on the confluence of three rivers in Bavaria, Regensburg is a delight to explore. </p><p>Scenic Freechoice:
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: 27 Dec 27

Day 11: Nuremberg (Germany)

<p>You will arrive in Nuremberg, Bavaria's second-largest city, this afternoon. 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. </p><p>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.

The trials and tribulations of WWII Tour: Join your expert local guide and learn about the horrific events that occurred in Nuremberg during the Third Reich.

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.</p>

Arrives On: 28 Dec 27

Day 12: Bamberg (Germany)

<p>Dock in picturesque Bamberg this morning.

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.</p><p>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.</p>

Arrives On: 29 Dec 27

Day 13: Würzburg (Germany)

<p>Cruise into Würzburg today. This Baroque city straddles the Main River in the heart of Franconian wine country. Surrounded by undulating vineyards, Würzburg is home to a World Heritage-listed palace, a dominating hilltop fortress, the 15th century Old Main Bridge, and three universities including Bavaria's oldest.</p><p>Scenic Freechoice:
Guided city tour: A short transfer via coach is needed to get to the centre of Würzburg. Your local guide is delighted to show you their hometown as you stroll towards the historic market square where you will have time to wander.

Romantic Road to Rothenburg: From Würzburg drive by coach to Rothenburg along the so-called Romantic Road, an important trading route during the Middle Ages. Take a guided tour in Rothenburg, famous for its well-preserved medieval old town, to see the Gothic and Renaissance City Hall as well as the famous City Councillors' Tavern.</p>

Arrives On: 30 Dec 27

Day 14: Wertheim (Germany)

<p>This morning you will arrive in the historic town of Wertheim, sitting on the picturesque banks of the Main and Tauber Rivers.

Enjoy an orientation tour of Wertheim before transferring via coach to the stunning town of Miltenberg. Here your local guide will showcase the city during a walking tour through the beautiful cobblestone streets lined with historic half-timbered houses.

After some time at leisure, you will embark your luxury Space-Ship in Miltenberg and set sail. Tonight, your Cruise Director and Enrichment Manager have a fun night in store as you celebrate the start of a New Year.</p>

Arrives On: 31 Dec 27

Day 14: Miltenberg (Germany)

Arrives On: 31 Dec 27

Day 15: Rüdesheim (Germany)

<p>Begin your 2028 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.</p>

Arrives On: 01 Jan 28

Day 16: Cologne (Germany)

<p>You will arrive in Cologne this morning. This is a city known for its liberal and laidback lifestyle, a unique beer culture, thriving auto industry and cathedral that dominates its skyline.

Discover Cologne on a walking tour. Wander the laneways of the historical Old Town, which is home to breweries serving up draft Kolsch beer and enjoy free time to visit the city's centrepiece and icon, Cologne Cathedral. You will have further free time afterwards to explore the city on your own.</p>

Arrives On: 02 Jan 28

Day 17: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

<p>Amsterdam is a treasure trove of urban beauty. Look around and you'll find architectural marvels, masterpiece-filled galleries, boats putting along 16th century canals, narrow cobbled laneways filled with boutiques and cafes and streets busy with cyclists. Often referred to as the Venice of the North, the World Heritage-listed waterways are lined with well-preserved canal houses and intersected by charming bridges. </p><p>Scenic Freechoice:
Canal cruise: Amsterdam has more than 100 kilometres of canals, with some of the prettiest sights of the city visible from these historical waterways on this one-hour cruise.

City walking tour: Explore Amsterdam on foot today, discovering the maze of canals and bridges in the city centre. Your guide will cover history, modern lifestyle and Dutch culture.

Excursion to Schermerhorn & Alkmaar: Visit the village of Schermerhorn, home to authentic windmills dating back to the 16th century. You will also head to Alkmaar, a charming town with historic buildings and picturesque canals.</p>

Arrives On: 03 Jan 28

Day 18: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

<p>Travel by high-speed train to Paris and spend three nights at one of our centrally located hotels.</p>

Arrives On: 04 Jan 28

Day 18: Paris (France)

Arrives On: 04 Jan 28

Day 19: Paris (France)

<p>This morning, join a guided coach tour of the city, exploring its most scenic districts and iconic sights including the Eiffel Tower, Champs-Élysées and Arc de Triomphe. Drive along the banks of the beautiful River Seine and see such highlights as the Palais Garnier Opera, built in the 19th century; the Louvre, one of the world's largest and most impressive art museums; and Les Invalides, a complex of ornate military buildings. </p><p>Enjoy some free time this afternoon.</p>

Arrives On: 05 Jan 28

Day 20: Paris (France)

<p>Scenic Freechoice:
Today you can choose from the following Scenic Freechoice excursions:

Secrets of Montmartre: Step back in time as you trapse the winding cobblestone streets of the district that has been home to many famous artists for centuries and once you see the beauty of this district you will understand why. See some of the quirky characteristics of the district including the greenspace in the middle of the city, the vineyard of Montmartre that produces some 27 varieties of wine.

Atelier des Lumières: Atelier des Lumières is a captivating digital art center in Paris, renowned for its immersive exhibitions that blend art and technology. Located in a former iron foundry, it offers visitors an enchanting experience where classic and contemporary artworks are brought to life through large-scale digital projections and synchronized music. Masterpieces by artists like Van Gogh, Klimt, and Monet are projected onto walls, floors, and ceilings, creating a 360-degree visual spectacle that immerses viewers in the art itself. NOTE: Exhibition changes every year, and 2026 will only be published in January 2026. The venue combines culture, innovation, and accessibility, making it a must-visit destination for art lovers and those seeking a modern twist on traditional exhibitions.</p><p>This afternoon is yours to explore at your own pace. </p>

Arrives On: 06 Jan 28

Day 21: Paris (France)

<p>Your journey concludes this morning, transfer to the airport for your flight home taking lasting memories with you.</p><p>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.</p><p>Please note: Preview itinerary subject to change</p>

Arrives On: 07 Jan 28

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

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