



## Cruise Details

Name:	Gems of the Danube
Reference:	SCENICNBU200326-1W
Operator:	Scenic River Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Scenic Jasper
Regions:	Danube
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Departs On:	20 Mar 26
Departs From:	Vilshofen
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Arrives On:	27 Mar 26
Arrives At:	Budapest
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Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	8

## Itinerary

### Day 1: Vilshofen (Austria)

Welcome to Germany and the city of Vilshofen, where your cruise begins. Toast to the occasion during an evening reception on board your state-of-the-art Scenic Space-Ship.

Please book your flight to arrive into Passau prior to 02:00 PM.

Arrives On: 20 Mar 26

### Day 2: Vilshofen (Austria)

This morning, the choice is yours. Travel to Regensburg or stay in town to explore with one of the following Scenic Freechoice touring activities.

**Freechoice:**

Walking tour of Regensburg: Join your local guide for an afternoon walking tour of the Old Town of Regensburg. You'll be in awe of the many perfectly preserved medieval buildings that have been standing sentinel over the Danube for centuries.

Walking tour

of Vilshofen: Discover the quaint town of Vilshofen, with its picturesque streets lined with traditional half-timbered houses and lush greenery. Explore the town's medieval towers and charming streets, ending at the peaceful confluence of the Danube and Vils rivers.

Thurn and Taxis Active Walking Tour: Join an active walking tour from the ship to Thurn und Taxis Castle, where you'll enjoy a guided tour followed by free time. Thurn und Taxis is a German noble family who can trace their history back to the 12th century.

Arrives On: 21 Mar 26

### Day 3: Passau (Germany)

Situated at a confluence of the Inn, Ilz and Danube rivers, Passau has been an important trading route – particularly for the 'white gold' of salt - for centuries. 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.

**Freechoice:** Choose how you'll spend your day from the following Scenic Freechoice excursions:

**Highlights of Passau:** Join your local guide on a walking tour, admiring the brightly coloured buildings that line the waterways. Visit the Old Town, situated on a narrow peninsula, and admire the brightly coloured buildings that line the waterways. Visit St. Stephens Cathedral. Originally built in the year 450, the church proudly stood in Passau's Old Town until a devastating fire ripped through it in 1662. It was rebuilt in its current form with an Italian-style exterior complete with a Baroque stucco interior, and nowadays houses the world's largest Catholic church organ, which boasts 17,974 pipes and 233 registers.

**Excursion to Salzburg:** Disembark your Scenic Space-Ship in Brandstatt and journey via coach to Salzburg, Austria. On the banks of the Salzach River, surrounded by alpine peaks, Salzburg is best known as the home of Mozart and The Sound of Music. This storybook city has a thriving art scene, music and concert halls filled with classical music. In this Baroque old town you'll find Mozart's birthplace and Hohensalzburg, Central Europe's largest intact fortress, which enjoys panoramic views of the city. Explore this incredible city on a guided tour before enjoying lunch at a local restaurant followed by free time to explore at your leisure. You'll return to your Scenic Space-Ship in the German town of Passau.

**Excursion to Cesky Krumlov:** From Brandstatt, journey via coach to the Czech town of Cesky Krumlov. This delightful World Heritage town is brimming with charm. Sitting on the banks of the Vltava River, Cesky Krumlov is considered one of the best-preserved medieval towns in Europe, with a vast array of Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque architecture. Wander this fairytale location with your local guide and explore the historic centre before enjoying a delicious lunch at a local restaurant. After some free time to explore at your leisure, return to your Scenic Space-Ship in the German town of Passau.

Arrives On: 22 Mar 26

### Day 3: Schlägen (Austria)

Arrives On: 22 Mar 26

### Day 4: Melk (Austria)

Your Scenic Space-Ship will dock this morning in the small and picturesque town of Melk, located in Austria's scenic Wachau Valley. The breathtaking World Heritage-listed Benedictine Abbey overlooking the city is the most spectacular building in the region.

**Freechoice:** Melk Benedictine Abbey: No visit to Melk would be complete without a guided tour of its magnificent 18th-century Benedictine Abbey. Wander its 900-year-old hallowed grounds, visit the decorated Marble Hall and the library, filled with more than 80,000 books, and be awed by the Abbey Church, adorned in frescoes and intricate statues.

Artstetten Castle: Meet the current owners of Artstetten Castle, which dates to the 13th century. It was once home to the Archduke Franz Ferdinand, whose assassination sparked the beginning of WWI in 1914. See the family crypt and visit the on-site museum.

While you indulge in the spectacular views this afternoon, it's also the perfect opportunity to indulge in some delicious local produce from the Wachau Valley. Your Cruise Director will organise a special treat for you and invite a local producer on board to share some regional delicacies that are famous in this region. Sample some Apricot dumplings and local schnapps among other delights in this breathtaking location.

Arrives On: 23 Mar 26

### Day 4: Dürnstein (Austria)

Arrives On: 23 Mar 26

### Day 5: Vienna (Austria)

Wake up in Vienna this morning. It's a city full of grandeur, featuring the world's most beautiful boulevard, the Ringstrasse, and the legacy of the Habsburg monarchy. Also known as the City of Music, Vienna fostered the musical geniuses Mozart and Beethoven, among others. Sigmund Freud also lived and worked here in the late 19th century.

**Freechoice:** Explore your way with a selection from today's 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. As you wander its countless ornately designed rooms, hear tales about the royal family that lived here and marvel at its impressive gardens.

Central Vienna: The city centre of 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.

Belvedere Museum: Visit one of

Europe's most stunning Baroque landmarks and explore the greatest collection of Austrian art dating from the Middle Ages to the present day, complemented by the work of international artists such as Claude Monet, Vincent van Gogh, and Max Beckmann.

This afternoon is free to wander around Vienna, so perhaps join a shuttle to the city centre or simply relax on board your Scenic Space-Ship.

**Enrich**

Scenic Enrich Classical concert at Palais Liechtenstein: Take in the opulence and luxury of Palais Liechtenstein this evening as you relish an exclusive private classical concert. Enjoy a glass of fine Austrian Sekt and listen to the timeless music of Strauss and Mozart performed by a renowned orchestra. An experience only shared with your fellow Scenic guests, you'll be seated in Vienna's largest secular baroque hall, an ornate space where royals and nobles have sat for centuries. Accompanied by ballet dancers and vocalists and surrounded by world-famous art, this will be a concert that you'll remember for a lifetime.

Arrives On: 24 Mar 26

#### Day 6: Bratislava (Slovakia)

Slovakia's capital since independence in 1993, Bratislava is a modern multicultural metropolis with an intriguing history. Its Old Town is filled with glorious examples of medieval and Gothic architecture and a well-preserved hilltop castle, which dates to the 9th century. These charming historic sites contrast with the brutalist socialist architecture evident around the city.

**Freechoice:**

As we dock in the city centre, choose from today's Scenic Freechoice excursions:

Walking tour of Bratislava: Explore Bratislava with a knowledgeable local guide to see all the highlights of the city such as the Hlavné Námestie, the main square and the Old Town Hall. As you walk, learn about the history of the city including what everyday life was like under the Iron Curtain era, the political boundary that divided Europe after WWII.

Wines of Slovakia: Slovakian's Wines are quite young but, all over the world, wine experts are beginning to praise their flavour and quality. After the fall of Communism, new viticulturists were born on the banks of the Danube and all over this country, taking advantages of the cold weather and optimal soils. Embark on a journey through the different wine regions of Slovakia as you enjoy a tasting in one of Bratislava's cellars.

Arrives On: 25 Mar 26

#### Day 7: Budapest (Hungary)

Today we arrive in Budapest, one of Europe's most diverse and vibrant cities. Divided by the Danube, with Buda on one side and Pest on the other, the city came together in 1873 when a newly built bridge connected the two. Budapest is 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.

**Freechoice:**

A range of Scenic Freechoice activities are on offer to choose from:

Budapest in Depth: Explore this magical city by coach. Visit both Buda and Pest, the two districts separated by the Danube. Starting on the Buda side see the Várkert Bazár before crossing the Margaret Bridge to the Pest side where you will see Széchenyi square and Elizabeth Square. End your tour with a mesmerising piano recital at the Institute for the Blind.

Budapest's Jewish heritage: Discover Budapest's Jewish community on a guided tour with an expert local guide and learn about the significant events from Jewish history that have shaped the culture of today. The tour includes a Synagogue, cemetery, memorial park and guided tour of the Jewish Museum.

Excursion to Szentendre: Journey to Szentendre, the riverside town in Pest County, for a guided tour. Known for its museums, galleries and artists, this charming city will captivate you.

Arrives On: 26 Mar 26

### Day 8: Budapest (Hungary)

After a hearty breakfast, you'll be transferred to Budapest Airport for your onward or homebound flight, taking a lifetime of wonderful memories 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.

Please note: Preview itinerary subject to change.

Arrives On: 27 Mar 26

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

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