Cruise Details

Name:	Ultimate European Journey
Reference:	UNIWORLD57771
Operator:	Uniworld
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	S.S. Marlene
Regions:	Danube
Departs On:	02 May 27
Departs From:	Amsterdam
Arrives On:	25 May 27
Arrives At:	Bucharest
Cruise Nights:	23
Total Vacation Days:	24

Itinerary

Day 1: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

Arrive at Amsterdam Airport Schiphol. If you have arranged a Uniworld arrival transfer, you will be greeted by a Uniworld representative and transferred to the ship.

Arrives On: 02 May 27

Day 2: Cologne (Germany)

Enjoy a delightful tour of Cologne's Old Town, where three medieval gates remain standing, as does the old city hall with its stunning Renaissance façade. Wander through the historical center and take in its charming atmosphere and narrow alleyways flanked by old houses. No matter how you choose to explore Old Town, you'll also have ample free time to explore the city on your own.

Arrives On: 03 May 27

Day 3: Rüdesheim (Germany)

Experience the most spectacular scenery on the Rhine this morning as you cruise past the famous Middle Rhine Valley. Later, experience Germany's fabled Rheingau in one of two ways today. Take in spectacular views of the region from the Rüdesheim mini-train, or venture within an atmospheric medieval monastery and taste the Rieslings made on site. Like many cities along the Rhine, Rüdesheim has a lengthy history that stretches back to Roman times. These days, the town is best known for its narrow avenue of shops and wine bars called the Drosselgasse and its impressive Niederwald Monument.

Arrives On: 04 May 27

Day 4: Frankfurt (Germany)

Frankfurt is known as the "Mainhattan" of Europe due to its profusion of bankers and soaring skyscrapers, which coexist with the city's traditional Old Town architecture. Explore the city today and visit romantic Heidelberg.

Arrives On: 05 May 27

Day 5: Wertheim (Germany)

After today, you may never eat a pretzel again without thinking of the town of Wertheim. You'll meet one of Germany's best pretzel makers, as well as the owner of a historic wine estate. If you're more in the mood for a scenic hike, you are welcome to do that as well.

Arrives On: 06 May 27

Day 6: Würzburg (Germany)

Your ship will dock in the charming Franconian town of Würzburg, where you can visit the extraordinary Würzburg Residence, one of the most opulent baroque palaces in Europe.

Arrives On: 07 May 27

Day 7: Kitzingen (Germany)

Step into a fairytale version of the Middle Ages in Rothenburg and visit a medieval castle that's been described as a miniature Versailles. Spend a relaxing day onboard as your ship wends its way along the Main River between Würzburg and Bamberg. It's something of a truism to say that this route takes you from wine to beer, and you'll see the transition as you sail past the vineyard-covered slopes around Würzburg toward Bavaria's famous beer-brewing center, Bamberg. Along the way, you'll pass delightful little villages and romantic castle ruins, drift under lovely old bridges, and have plenty of time to observe the fascinating variety of vessels plying the river, from heavily loaded barges to jaunty little pleasure craft.

Arrives On: 08 May 27

Day 8: Bamberg (Germany)

Your floating boutique hotel takes you to Bamberg today, a well-preserved town that offers a fascinating glimpse of medieval times. Explore the city on foot or opt to head deeper into the Franconian countryside to experience an authentic slice of rural life—including a tractor ride. Like Rome, the city is built on seven hills—but in Bamberg, a church tops each one.

Arrives On: 09 May 27

Day 9: Nuremberg (Germany)

Head up to the top deck or find a seat with a good view—you won't want to miss seeing the ship navigate its way through a marvel of modern engineering, the Main-Danube Canal. A formidable set of locks, 16 in all, lifts your ship to the crest of the European "continental divide." Arrive in the archetypal medieval German city of Nuremberg. Nuremberg is justifiably famous for its gingerbread and pocket watches, and it was also the site of some key moments in 20th-century history. You'll choose between two memorable ways of exploring this exceptional city. You can join a tour of a secret Nazi art bunker hidden underground, or you can accompany a local expert to the city's most important WWII sites, including the enormous Nazi Party Rally Grounds—the actual site of the Nazi Party rallies.

Arrives On: 10 May 27

Day 10: Regensburg (Germany)

Bavaria's first capital, Regensburg, owes its impressive historical lineage and rich architectural heritage to 600 years as a Free Imperial City, a fact recognized by UNESCO in 2006. Today, you'll discover how the beautifully preserved medieval city coexists with a vibrant modern urban center.

Arrives On: 11 May 27

Day 11: Passau (Germany)

Located at the confluence of three rivers—the Danube, Inn, and Ilz— Passau is well known for its ornate baroque cathedral. Today, the city is unusually well preserved, having been spared the brunt of Allied bombing during WWII, as you'll see on your walking tour.

Arrives On: 12 May 27

Day 12: Weissenkirchen (Austria)

Named for its white church, Weissenkirchen may very well be the prettiest village in the Wachau Valley. A local expert will show you around and introduce you to some regional delicacies, including a wine tasting. Prefer to go for baroque? Visit the 900-year-old Melk Abbey and its extraordinarily opulent library. Later, you can stretch your legs with a vineyard hike.

Arrives On: 13 May 27

Day 13: Vienna (Austria)

Vienna is a cultural treasure trove revered for its art and music (and sinfully rich pastries). Embark on a tour of the city's imperial highlights and a visit to Hofburg Palace or a visit to an interactive multimedia experience featuring the work of Mozart.

Arrives On: 14 May 27

Day 14: Budapest (Hungary)

Called the “Queen of the Danube,” in part because of the way the city hugs the banks of the river, Budapest is an enchanting city that vibrantly mixes East and West, medieval and modern. Made up of two parts— Buda (the hills) and Pest (the flatlands)—and divided by the Danube, Hungary’s capital presents an array of architectural styles that reveal its long and varied history. You’ll have two enticing ways to experience the city—a panoramic guided tour aboard a motorcoach with a visit to the Parliament, or discover the Budapest that locals love on a special walking tour of the city’s most important landmarks.

Arrives On: 15 May 27

Day 15: Budapest (Hungary)

Other passengers are heading home today, but you are only halfway through your marvelous holiday. Enjoy a day of leisure exploring beautiful and historic Budapest.

Arrives On: 16 May 27

Day 16: Budapest (Hungary)

Located on opposite sides of the Danube, Buda and Pest each have their own distinctive character and allure. Explore this dynamic and multifaceted city with your choice of excursions—you can see it from a local’s perspective on our walking tour, or cover more ground with a panoramic tour. Vibrant Budapest, Hungary’s capital, offers an enchanting combination of East and West.

Arrives On: 17 May 27

Day 17: Vukovar (Croatia)

Welcome to Croatia! This ancient country, which has made a remarkable recovery from a brutal civil war, is noted for its beautiful countryside and thriving folk traditions, as well as simple, delicious local rustic food.

Arrives On: 18 May 27

Day 18: Belgrade (Serbia)

Belgrade, the modern-day capital of Serbia, is one of Europe's oldest cities, dating back some 7,000 years. Signs of its tumultuous history are visible everywhere, juxtaposed with the city's vibrant modern-day present.

Arrives On: 19 May 27

Day 19: Iron Gates (Romania)

Head ashore to explore a Paleolithic site and an extraordinarily well-preserved medieval fortress. All along the way, history lines the banks of the river. Keep an eye out for Trajan's Plaque, which the ancient Romans erected to commemorate the road they anchored in the steep cliffs above the water, and Golubac Castle, built in the 14th century and attacked successively by the Serbs, Magyars, and Turks.

Arrives On: 20 May 27

Day 20: Vidin (Bulgaria)

Vidin is a port town on the Danube that once played an important role in medieval Bulgarian politics, as the great fortress Baba Vida attests. It's your base for an unusual excursion today—a visit to the fascinating Belogradchik rock formations. Or you can indulge in a tasting at a local winery.

Arrives On: 21 May 27

Day 21: Ruse (Bulgaria)

Bulgaria's foremost Danube port, Ruse is sometimes called "Little Vienna" for its elegant 19th-century mansions and public buildings.

Arrives On: 22 May 27

Day 22: Bucharest (Romania)

This morning, you'll disembark the ship in Giurgiu and drive through the countryside to Bucharest, where you'll enjoy a panoramic city tour and a visit to People's Palace. Tonight, you'll relax in the comfort of a luxury hotel located in the heart of the city, Romania's capital and its cultural and economic center.

Arrives On: 23 May 27

Day 23: Bucharest (Romania)

Get to know the bustling heart of Romania's capital city with a full day to explore Bucharest on your own.

Arrives On: 24 May 27

Day 24: Bucharest (Romania)

Check out of your hotel this morning. If you have arranged a Uniworld departure transfer, you will be transferred to Bucharest Henri Coandă International Airport for your flight home.

Arrives On: 25 May 27

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

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