Cruise Details

Name:	Cruise & Rail: Paris to Istanbul
Reference:	UNIWORLD60977CR
Operator:	Uniworld
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	S.S. Joie de Vivre
Regions:	Seine
Departs On:	16 May 27
Departs From:	Paris
Arrives On:	29 May 27
Arrives At:	Istanbul
Cruise Nights:	13
Total Vacation Days:	14

Itinerary

Day 1: Paris (France)

Arrive at Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport. If you have arranged a Uniworld arrival transfer, you will be greeted by a Uniworld representative and transferred to the ship.

Arrives On: 16 May 27

Day 2: Vernon (France)

Today is a celebration of northern France’s natural beauty, with an excursion to a splendid château and gardens situated in an equally grand setting, plus a chance to immerse yourself in the very landscapes that inspired Impressionist master Claude Monet. In the morning, choose between a scenic hike or a visit to the hilltop Château de La Roche-Guyon, which is surrounded by beautiful gardens and offers sweeping views over the Seine. Later, explore the beautiful gardens of Monet. You'll have the opportunity to take in the French countryside on your way there with an invigorating bike ride, or opt to arrive by coach instead.

Arrives On: 17 May 27

Day 3: Rouen (France)

Walk in the footsteps of greatness in Normandy's medieval capital, a city with a historic quarter that remains amazingly intact. From the cathedral Monet painted dozens of times to the cross marking the spot where Joan of Arc was martyred, Rouen is a treasure trove for the culturally curious. The roll call of famous people who lived or died in Rouen is long and varied—Richard the Lionheart, Joan of Arc, Gustave Flaubert, and Claude Monet are among them.

Arrives On: 18 May 27

Day 4: Caudebec-en-Caux (France)

Caudebec-en-Caux, a lovely little town on the right bank of the Seine Estuary, is your base for one of two very different excursions. You could drive through the beautiful Calvados countryside to Honfleur, a delightful seaside harbor and city of painters, or head to the windy cliffs of Étretat for a game of golf.

Arrives On: 19 May 27

Day 5: Rouen (France)

There are moments when we travel that move us on an otherworldly level—experiences that stir a profound emotional connection. The Normandy beaches certainly have that effect. On your full-day outing, you'll visit Normandy's beaches, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with a choice to venture to either the American, British and Commonwealth, or Canadian beaches. After, partake in a private memorial ceremony for a sentimental remembrance of Operation Overlord.

Arrives On: 20 May 27

Day 6: Mantes-la-Jolie (France)

How did France's rulers live over the centuries? Step into the private rooms of the Palace of Versailles, the lavish palace built by the Sun King, to find out.

Arrives On: 21 May 27

Day 7: Paris (France)

Whether you're a first-time visitor to the "City of Light" or you've been here many times before, there's something for everyone today in Paris. Enjoy a panoramic overview of the city, or join a local expert for a walk through two much-loved neighborhoods.

Arrives On: 22 May 27

Day 8: Paris (France)

Disembark the S.S. Joie de Vivre and transfer to the Paris Gare de Lyon Station, where the indulgence begins with a champagne drinks reception before stepping aboard the stylish Golden Eagle Danube Express. Settle into life onboard your private train as we journey across the serene French countryside towards our first stop, Champagne.Renowned for producing the world's finest sparkling wines, Champagne boasts manicured vineyards draped over rolling hills. On an exclusive guided tour of one such vineyard today, you'll enjoy a tasting of this AOC-protected product.

Arrives On: 23 May 27

Day 9: Vienna (Austria)

Traverse the majestic Alps as we weave our way through the breathtaking Austrian countryside towards Vienna. Whether you choose to unwind in the privacy of your cabin—where your dedicated cabin attendant is ready to cater to your every need—or opt for the sophisticated ambiance of the Bar Lounge Car, every moment promises spectacular views and refined relaxation.As twilight descends, we gracefully arrive in the imperial city of Vienna. Indulge in a sumptuous dinner in town and experience the pinnacle of cultural delight with a private classical concert featuring the illustrious Vienna Supreme Orchestra.

Arrives On: 24 May 27

Day 10: Postojna (Slovenia)

Austria's stunning capital, steeped in a rich heritage, casts its enchanting spell on visitors. With its elaborate palaces, iconic coffee houses, and a cultural tapestry woven with classical music and captivating opera, Vienna stands as a seductive metropolis that beckons to be explored.Indulge in an exquisite post-lunch affair as you step into a realm of culinary opulence with a confectionary masterclass, presented by our Catering Manager, Krisztian, and the Head Pastry Chef, Rebeka.Tonight, we venture into the enchanting depths of Postojna Caves. Aboard an underground train, we delve into a subterranean world filled with intricate cave formations and inhabited by mysterious creatures. Immerse yourself in the atmospheric ambiance, heightened by the soulful notes of a saxophonist echoing through the cavernous spaces.

Arrives On: 25 May 27

Day 11: Belgrade (Serbia)

Uncover the hidden treasures of Belgrade, beginning with an exclusive exploration of Tito's legendary blue train, a relic of Yugoslavia's storied past. Indulge your senses with a traditional Serbian feast at a local restaurant, where the flavors are as bold and diverse as the city itself.Next, prepare to savor the essence of Serbian hospitality as we delve into the world of Rakija, Serbia's beloved elixir. At the city's oldest brewery, we'll sample an array of Rakija varieties, all while

regaling in captivating tales and anecdotes that breathe life into Belgrade’s spirited history.Before we board the train, join us as we unravel the secrets of Belgrade’s bustling streets, where every corner reveals a new facet of its vibrant culture.

Arrives On: 26 May 27

Day 12: Sofia (Bulgaria)

Enjoy a morning of relaxation in the Bar Lounge Car as we head towards Bulgaria. Sofia is one of the oldest cities in Europe, dating back around 7,000 years. You’ll find some magnificent architecture throughout the city, with a mixture of Western and Central European influences. Our adventure begins amidst the captivating ruins of the Roman city of Serdica, where echoes of a bygone era whisper tales of glory and conquest. Wander through the enchanting City Garden, home to the prestigious National Theatre Ivan Vazov, and marvel at the opulent façade of the Presidential Palace and other iconic landmarks that adorn Sofia's skyline.But the excitement does not end there. Later, join an exclusive, once-in-a-lifetime experience as we descend into the hallowed Crypt of the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral. Here, in this sacred space, we'll be mesmerized by the melodies of the "Cosmic Voices.” Enchanting and evocative, this private performance by the renowned Vanya Moneva Choir stirred hearts at the opening of the Olympic Games in Tokyo.

Arrives On: 27 May 27

Day 13: Istanbul (Turkey)

Today, the final destination awaits as we arrive at the end of our European rail odyssey: the fabled city of Istanbul, spanning both Asia and Europe. We’ll transfer to the Four Seasons Sultanahmet for a one-night stay at this centrally located hotel, then the rest of the day is for you to explore this fascinating city at your leisure. This evening, join us for a Farewell Dinner on the atmospheric banks of the Bosphorus.

Arrives On: 28 May 27

Day 14: Istanbul (Turkey)

Check out of your hotel. If you have arranged a Uniworld departure transfer, you will be transferred to the airport in Istanbul for your flight home.

Arrives On: 29 May 27

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