



RSVP™

vacations

**Legendary Danube &
European Splendor River Cruises**
July 17 – August 4, 2016 | *Avalon Expression*

Your Cruise Vacation Guide

Before You Leave • Getting There
About Your Ship • Program Preview



Welcome to RSVP - Where You Belong!

This summer's river cruises are shaping up to be two of the most exciting adventures we've ever created. Whether you're traveling from Budapest to Nuremberg or Nuremberg to Amsterdam or doing BOTH cruises back-to-back, we know you're going to love this adventure.

Avalon Expression is a real beauty, bringing just the right amount of intimate luxury to the RSVP experience. If you've never joined us for a river cruise, you're in for a treat. For those who have navigated the world's rivers with RSVP before, you know how great the adventure that lies ahead will be. Either way, we have lots to share with you regarding your upcoming vacation. So sit down, grab your favorite drink, and read on! This guide outlines everything you need to know before your cruise and what you can expect onboard. It'll also give you a glimpse of the RSVP signature entertainment and activities we've lined up for you.

Whether you've traveled with us many times before or you're a first-timer, you'll certainly find that the new RSVP is exactly where you belong. We can't wait to welcome you to Europe!

Enjoy!

Randle, James, Brad, and Paul J.

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Where You Go

LD	Date	Port	Arrival	Departure
Day 1	Sunday, July 17	Budapest, Hungary	Optional Pre-Cruise Program	
Day 2	Monday, July 18	Budapest, Hungary	Optional Pre-Cruise Program	
Day 3	Tuesday, July 19	Budapest, Hungary	Boarding 4pm-5pm. 6pm Safety Drill.	
Day 4	Wednesday, July 20	Bratislava, Slovakia	1:30pm	11pm
Day 5	Thursday, July 21	Vienna, Austria	6:30am	Overnight
Day 6	Friday, July 22	Vienna, Austria	Overnight	1:30am on 7/23
Day 7	Saturday, July 23	Dürnstein, Austria Melk, Austria	8am 5:30pm	2pm 7:30pm
Day 8	Sunday, July 24	Aschach, Austria Vilshofen, Austria	8am 5pm	9am 7pm
Day 9	Monday, July 25	Regensburg, Germany	8am	1pm
Day 10	Tuesday, July 26	Roth, Germany Nuremberg, Germany	7:30am 12pm	8am 1:15pm Disembark
Day 11	Wednesday, July 27	Prague, Czech Republic	Optional Post-Cruise Program	
Day 12	Thursday, July 28	Prague, Czech Republic	Optional Post-Cruise Program Ends	

ES	Date	Port	Arrival	Departure
Day 1	Sunday, July 24	Prague, Czech Republic	Optional Pre-Cruise Program	
Day 2	Monday, July 25	Prague, Czech Republic	Optional Pre-Cruise Program	
Day 3	Tuesday, July 26	Nuremberg, Germany	Boarding 4pm-5pm. 6pm Departure.	
Day 4	Wednesday, July 27	Bamberg, Germany	8am	10:30pm
Day 5	Thursday, July 28	Würzburg, Germany	8:30am	3:30pm
Day 6	Friday, July 29	Miltenburg, Germany	10am	1pm
Day 7	Saturday, July 30	Rüdesheim, Germany Cruising Rhine Gorge Cologne, Germany	8am 2pm 9pm	12pm 4pm Overnight
Day 8	Sunday, July 31	Cologne, Germany	Overnight	5:30am on 8/1
Day 9	Monday, August 1	Düsseldorf, Germany Duisburg, Germany	9am 12:30pm	10am 1:30pm
Day 10	Tuesday, August 2	Amsterdam, Netherlands	2:30am	9am Disembark
Day 11	Wednesday, August 3	Amsterdam, Netherlands	Optional Post-Cruise Program	
Day 12	Thursday, August 4	Amsterdam, Netherlands	Optional Post-Cruise Program Ends	

Itinerary Changes

RSVP Vacations and Avalon have carefully planned this river cruise itinerary for your enjoyment. Although we do our best to adhere to published times, all times listed are approximate and are more than likely to change slightly with river traffic and lock schedules.

Documentation Requirements

A valid passport is required for all passengers. Visas are not required of US Citizens, but may be required of those guests from other countries. Check with your local consular office for requirements. Please note it is the responsibility of all passengers to have the necessary travel documentation. Failure to do so will result in denied boarding and no refund will be provided.

Where You Start

Provide RSVP with Your Flight Details (if you're part of our pre/post cruise groups)

For those of you taking part in our pre- or post-cruise programs in Budapest, Prague, or Amsterdam, airport transfers are included in your package. We'll just need to get your travel details to arrange everything. For pre-cruise arrivals, you will be met by an Avalon representative, who will escort you to the hotel transfer vehicle. The representative will have an Avalon Waterways sign and will be located in the Arrivals Hall.

In order to facilitate this transfer, RSVP will need the following arrival/departure information from each guest prior to May 25, 2016:

Pre-Cruise Guests:

Name of Passenger(s):

Arrival Date:

Airline:

Flight Number:

Scheduled Arrival Time:

Post-Cruise Guests:

Name of Passenger(s):

Departure Date:

Airline:

Flight Number:

Scheduled Departure Time:

This information can be sent to us via the link we sent you, emailed to info@rsvpvacations.com, or you can call us directly at 310.432.2300.

In late June, you will receive a packet of information from RSVP regarding your cruise. It will include your printed cruise ticket and a purple RSVP luggage tag. We ask that you complete the information on the ID card and place the luggage tag on your bag prior to flying to Europe. This will help quickly identify your bag upon arrival.

Our Host Hotels

Corinthia Hotel Budapest

Erzsébet krt. 4

1073 Budapest Hungary

+36 1 479 4000

Boscolo Carlo IV Prague

Senovážné nám. 991/13

110 00 Praha 1, Czech Republic

+420 224 593 111

Grand Hotel Amrâth Amsterdam

Prins Hendrikkade 108

1011 AK Amsterdam, Netherlands

+31 20 552 0000

Getting to the Ship

In Budapest, the ship will be docked on the Danube near the city center. The exact docking location will not be known until 24 hours before embarkation. Therefore, for those of you traveling to the ship on your own on July 19, you can call Cruise Director Barbara at 00491622969510 to find out the exact location (if you're unable to locate it on your own, of course). General Boarding will begin at 3pm with all guests required to be onboard by 5pm.

For those embarking *Expression* on July 26 in Nuremberg, the ship will be docked at Liegplatz 01. General Boarding will begin at 4pm with all guests required to be onboard by 5pm.

Where You Sparkle

Onboard Clothing

RSVP emphasizes a comfortable atmosphere where sportswear and casual resort attire are appropriate for nearly every occasion. Long pants and collared shirts (polo shirts are a welcome and cool choice) are typically worn in the evenings. With respect to your fellow passengers and the beautiful setting, we ask that tank tops, swimwear, and shorts not be worn to dinner. Please note we may make exceptions to the dinner dress policy if we experience a mid-summer heat wave.

On-Shore Clothing

Plan for comfortable days and nights. The average July/August temperature in Europe is usually in the mid 70s during the day and upper 60s at night. However, over the past few years, Europe has experienced late-July/early-August heat waves that drove temperatures well into the upper 90s. You'll want to be prepared for both situations. Remember, too, that when visiting churches, temples, and mosques, you will typically need to cover your knees. So a couple pairs of lightweight casual pants are recommended for daytime sightseeing.

Miscellaneous Packing Advice

Plan for uncertainty; pack at least one change of clothing in your carry-on luggage in case your bags are lost or mishandled en route. Please do not pack any valuables (medications, cameras, jewelry, electronics, cash, your passport, etc.) in your checked baggage.

Special Outfits to Consider

We'll have a couple evening parties and a few T-Dances (maybe we should call them T-Cocktails) along the way, however you won't need much in regard to themed outfits/costumes.

Legendary Danube

Tuesday, July 19

“Hello, My Name Is...” Cocktails

Panorama Lounge, 11pm

Meet 166 new friends with our traditional “Hello, My Name Is...” party and show your pride in who you are and where you’re from. A creative nametag or a t-shirt with your name and hometown says it all. Who knows? You may find friends from your own backyard!

Saturday, July 23

Bathrobe Ball

Panorama Lounge, 11pm

Of course RSVP has always had an Underwear Party, but since the rivers of Europe have upped our class quotient a bit, we’re throwing on our stateroom robes (sexy underwear underneath optional) as we drink and dance the night away!

Monday, July 25

Black, Red, & Yellow Cocktails

Sky Deck, 4pm

In honor of our arrival into Germany, our traditional Color T-Dance gets a Bavarian river cruise twist! Today our colors are Black, Red, and Yellow for our Color Cocktail Party!



European Splendor

Tuesday, July 26

“Hello, My Name Is...” Cocktails

Panorama Lounge, 11pm

To welcome all those joining us in Nuremberg, we say “hello” all over again! Show your pride in who you are and where you’re from. A creative nametag or a t-shirt with your name and hometown says it all as you share a drink with 165 of your newest friends!

Friday, July 29

Totally 80s Party

Panorama Lounge, 11pm

After Anne Steele brings down the house with your favorite 80s songs, the awesome hits keep rolling as the show lounge transforms into a totally tubular cocktail and dance space!

Monday, August 1

Rainbow Pride Cocktails

Sky Deck, 4pm

As we wave goodbye to Germany and turn toward Amsterdam and her EuroPride festivities, we celebrate our final color cocktail party with a tribute to the entire ROYGBIV spectrum of fabulousity! Pick one or pick them all!



Where You Discover

Customs & Immigration

Standard immigration procedures apply when entering Europe. Before collecting your bags, you will go through Immigration. Simply have your passport and completed immigration form in-hand. The process is quick and efficient by nearly all standards.

Dining Onboard

Avalon *Expression’s* bistro would rival any of Europe’s finest land-based restaurants. From freshly baked breads and pastries in the morning to four-course overly-indulgent meals at night, we hope you’ll enjoy every morsel you put in your mouth. Part of the fun of any RSVP vacation is sitting with different people for each meal. With 166 passengers onboard, you’re certain to make some lifelong friends as you break bread with each other. Dining times are as follows:

Early Riser Breakfast
6am – 7am

Full Breakfast
7am – 9am

Late Riser Breakfast
9am – 10am

Lunch Buffet
Noon – 1:30pm

Afternoon Coffee & Cake
Times Vary Daily

Dinner
7:30pm (one seating only, with all guests served simultaneously)

Late Night Snacks
11pm – Midnight

Coffee, Juices, Tea, & Cookies
Available around the clock in the Aft Lounge

Please note the above times may be adjusted slightly depending on the times we dock in each city.

Champagne is served with breakfast. Soft drinks are included with lunch. Soft drinks, wines, and beers are included with dinner. The *Expression’s* chefs have hand selected the perfect wine pairing for each dinner.

Power & Water

The ship has 220 (European) voltage power outlets in the staterooms. A limited number of adapters are available onboard, so you may want to consider bringing one with you. All water onboard is filtered and potable, however bottled water is also readily available onboard and will be provided each morning as you leave for your excursions. Each stateroom is equipped with a hair dryer.

Mobile Phone Access

Not all U.S.-based mobile phone plans enable you to make and receive calls when outside the U.S. If you are an American citizen and this is your first time traveling abroad, be sure to reach out to your carrier before you leave for Europe to activate the appropriate plan; this typically cannot be done from abroad. International roaming rates apply and you should maintain coverage through local carriers in Hungary, Austria, Germany, Czech Republic and the Netherlands throughout most of the cruise.

Internet Access

Complimentary WiFi is available throughout the ship. Access codes for your mobile phones, tablets, and laptops are readily available at the Front Desk. There are also two general-use computers with a printer in the lobby if you choose to travel electronics free. Because international data rates are so expensive, we advise turning data roaming off on your mobile devices and instead connecting to the Internet via the ship's WiFi. Please note that connection speeds aboard *Expression* are much slower than land-based connections and service may drop out entirely (and sometimes for long stretches) while our ship makes its way through the lock systems or in more remote regions.

Currency

The official currency of the European Union is the Euro. However, Hungary uses the Forint and the Czech Republic uses the Koruna. Many places in Hungary and the Czech Republic will also accept Euro, but you should ask first before assuming. At the time of publishing of this guide, the following exchange rates were applicable:

1.00 USD = 0.88 EUR

1.00 USD = 277 Hungarian Forints

1.00 UD = 24 Czech Korunas

Today's exchange rates can be found at www.xe.com/currencyconverter/.

Laundry Service

Laundry service is available at about the same price you would expect to pay in a luxury hotel. You will find laundry bags and price lists in your closet or you can ask your stateroom attendant for details. For safety reason, irons (including travel irons) are prohibited onboard. However, pressing service is available for a fee.

Medical Services

Although there is no official Avalon doctor onboard, in emergencies we are able to dock along the river and get you assistance. Simply contact the Front Desk or any crewmember if a medical need arises.

Door Decorations

Part of the fun of any RSVP vacation is decorating your door. It's a great way to show everyone your personality! When decorating your door, decorations should not obstruct doorways, hallways, or create an electrical or fire hazard. Also, please refrain from using offensive images or nudity on your door. Please respect the ship property and do not damage door surfaces. It is your responsibility to clean up your decorations at the end of the cruise. The costs associated with any damage to your door will be charged to your onboard account.

Drug Policy

Illicit drugs of any kind are not allowed onboard. RSVP has no recourse with the cruise line or government officials in these matters. In other words, you're on your own. Of course, in the Netherlands pot is legal and readily available. However, you are not allowed to smoke it onboard August 2 while we're docked in the city.

Smoking Policy

Cigarette smoking is limited to the aft section of the Sky Deck, where the ashtrays are clearly visible. Smoking is prohibited in staterooms, corridors, elevators, stairways, public bathrooms, and all common areas except as listed here.

No Solicitation Policy

We do not allow guests to advertise, market, or offer any other type of commercial or non-profit solicitations onboard. We want the environment to be free of advertising and other clutter. Any guest violating this policy will be fined a minimum of \$3000 on their shipboard account.

Accessibility

Avalon makes reasonable attempts to accommodate the special needs of disabled and mobility-impaired travelers, but is not responsible in the event it is unable to do so. Because Avalon cannot provide individual assistance to travelers in many situations, and most of the transportation services are not equipped with wheelchair ramps, we advise you to thoroughly read through [Avalon's Terms & Conditions](#). That being said, teamRSVP will assign a team member to the "Gentle Walkers" group for each city tour.

Alcohol & Non-Alcoholic Beverages

Guests are allowed to bring wine, liquors, sodas, and bottled water onboard. Please note, however, that a corkage fee will apply for wines brought to the main restaurant. There is no corkage fee for beverages consumed in your stateroom.

Personal Funds & Shipboard Charges

Avalon's cashless system is designed to make your life onboard as easy as possible. Your account is activated once you register a credit card with the Front Desk. Avalon accepts American Express, Discover, MasterCard, and Visa. You'll use your onboard account for purchasing drinks from the bar or any other shipboard services (like the salon). Your card will be charged only at the conclusion of your cruise once all purchases have been tallied.

If you'd like to purchase optional excursions, you will handle that credit card transaction

separately and directly with Avalon Cruise Director Barbara. These are two different sets of transactions – one with Avalon for drinks/services and one with Barbara for optional excursions. Don't worry if you forget how this works. We'll explain everything to you again once we're onboard!

European Air Conditioning

Air conditioning in Europe is a different standard than in the U.S. Every effort is made to keep the ship, buses, and all excursion venues cool. However, if a heat wave hits, the systems are simply unable to compensate for extreme high temperatures. In those situations, we recommend dressing coolly and comfortably and drinking lots of water to stay hydrated.

Beating the Heat

One recommendation for keeping your room cool is to keep your curtains closed while not in the room. It's a simple thing, but it makes a world of difference.

Bugs

In the heat of summer, sometimes there are bugs along the river. Most aren't the biting kind, but it can still be somewhat discomfiting to see them en masse. Here's a valuable tip we've learned over the years and we'd like to share it with you now...if you're in your room at night and you decide to open your sliding glass doors, be sure to turn off all the lights in your room before doing so. Bugs are attracted to the light and won't hesitate to fly into your stateroom. We anticipate being completely sold out and there won't be an empty room to be had onboard. So take this warning as it's intended...be smart about opening your sliding glass doors at night.

Gratuities & Tipping

Gratuities for your stateroom attendants and dining room staff have been pre-paid with your RSVP reservation. Additional tipping for exceptional service is at your discretion and is certainly appreciated by the ship's bar, wait, and cruise director staff. In Europe, a minimum gratuity of €5 per person is standard for half-day tours or shorter. For full day tours, €10 per person is standard.

Where You Barbara



For those who cruised with us in 2012, 2013, or 2014, you will of course know exactly what we mean when we say, "We are truly blessed to welcome back Avalon Cruise Director Barbara Bocz." Barbara is a Hungarian fireball of near statuesque perfection. She plays the ideal foil to RSVP Cruise Directors Brad Loekle (Legendary Danube) and Paul J. Williams (European Splendor).

For those of you on our Legendary Danube Cruise who haven't yet had the pleasure of meeting Barbara, you'll get your first chance at the Hotel Corinthia Budapest on July 17. She'll be hosting the RSVP/Avalon Hospitality Desk that day, along with RSVP President Randle Roper and RSVP Director of Guest Experience James Compton.

The Hospitality Desk Hours are as follows:

Legendary Danube

Budapest Pre-Cruise

Sunday, July 17	8am – 5:30pm
Monday, July 18	7am – 9am & 11:30am – 1:30pm & 5pm – 7pm
Tuesday, July 19	8am – 12pm (Transfer to <i>Expression</i> at 4pm)

Prague Post-Cruise (hosted by Avalon Representative Sabine)

Tuesday, July 26	5:30pm – 7:30pm
Wednesday, July 27	7am – 9am & 11:30am – 2pm & 5pm – 7pm

European Splendor

Prague Pre-Cruise (hosted by Avalon Representative Sabine)

Sunday, July 24	8am - 5:30pm
Monday, July 25	7am – 9am & 11:30am – 2pm & 5pm – 7pm
Tuesday, July 26	8am - 12pm (1pm departure for Nuremberg)

Amsterdam Post-Cruise

Tuesday, August 2	11:30am – 2pm & 5pm – 7pm
Wednesday, August 3	7am – 9am & 11:30am – 2pm & 5pm – 7pm

In addition to the above, we will also hold a Welcome Meeting/Orientation at 6pm on Sunday, July 17 at the Hotel Corinthia Budapest and at 6pm on Sunday, July 24 at the Boscolo Prague. All guests are welcome to join - even those staying at other properties. At this session, we'll give you a high-level overview of your upcoming adventure, as well as answer any and all questions you may have about the experience.

If at any time on our voyage you're in need of assistance, you can call Barbara directly at 00491622969510. She'll do her best to help with all matters.

Where You Explore

RSVP has worked closely with Avalon to enhance and develop excursions that will be fun, informative, and exciting for our group. All excursions are exclusive to RSVP guests.

Standard sightseeing excursions in each port are included with your cruise. Optional excursions are listed here and can be booked directly with Avalon Cruise Director Barbara once onboard *Expression*. Here is a breakdown of all the things you'll see and when.

Legendary Danube



Day 1 & 2 – July 17 & 18

(for those who purchase our optional pre-cruise extension)

Budapest, Hungary

Your RSVP Legendary Danube River Cruise starts off with nearly 2 full days in Budapest. You'll stay at the 5-star Corinthia Hotel Budapest. Your Avalon Cruise Director and teamRSVP will be on-hand to point the way to adventure! Transfers from Budapest'

Ferenc Liszt International Airport to the Corinthia Hotel and from the Corinthia Hotel to the ship July 19 are included.

Included Excursion:

Budapest Sightseeing

Spanning the banks of the Danube, Budapest is one of Eastern Europe's liveliest cities. Whether you're seeing the sights, shopping for handcrafted embroidery or Herend porcelain, or basking in the coffeehouse culture over a rich cream cake in the renowned Gerbeaud Cafe, Budapest's unique energy is positively palatable.

On your guided tour of the city, see Heroes' Square as well as the massive hilltop castle complex with its remarkable Fishermen's Bastion and 11th-century Matthias Church. Be sure to take note of the city's eight bridges—many famous sights in and of themselves—which connect ancient Buda on the right bank with Pest on the left. In your free time this afternoon you may want to walk across Chain Bridge, built in 1849 and a symbol of Budapest; visit St. Stephen's Basilica with marvelous views of the city from its viewing platform; or stroll along Vaci utca, the main shopping street.

Optional Excursions:

Hungarian Countryside with Wine Tasting (Etyek)

Enjoy a genuine countryside experience only 30 minutes away from the capital. Stroll among the stunning vineyards of Etyek, enjoy the fascinating landscape of the youngest and the fastest developing wine region of Hungary. Visit two small, family-run wineries; learn the secrets of wine making from the local winemakers. Sample three top quality wines in each cellar along with tasty Hungarian snacks. You will leave with a really intimate understanding of the traditions and people that make the wines here so special.

Communist

From 1947 to 1989, the Hungarian Communist Party held sway. Although the regime was not as deferential to the Soviet Union, the collective economy and fear of the secret police shaped the lives of Hungarian citizens. Our guided tour starts on Liberty Square making a photo stop at the Russian monument, which honors the soldiers of the Red Army who died during the liberation of Budapest from the Nazis. Ironically, it is located directly across from the US embassy and a statue of Ronald Reagan stands on the other side of it. Visit the area surrounding the Hungarian Parliament Building and hear stories about the Hungarian Revolution of 1956, when it was overrun by Russian tanks when Hungary stood up against Communism. Visit the former headquarters of the AVH (Hungarian version of KGB), the dreaded secret police, which is a museum today. This part-museum, part-multimedia experience records grim moments of the communist period and is one of the most interesting of its kind. Your local expert will provide you an interactive commentary on how to live and survive under communism.

Night Lights

The Hungarian capital is known for its splendid views accentuated by the romance of illumination. Let the unique atmosphere of this magnificent city enchant you, while our expert guide tells you the hidden secrets and stories behind the façades. Do not miss out on a visit to the must see viewpoint from the highest hill in Budapest, a view overlooking this splendid city with an illumination rivaling the one of Paris, a view which decorates numerous travel brochures and books. Unforgettable sights, wonderful memories, and the magic of lights guaranteed during this panoramic tour with photo opportunities. Discover why Europeans call it deservedly the Paris of the East! This excursion is by comfortable coach and includes three must-see photo stops.

Puzsta with Lunch

Do not miss this unique opportunity to visit the Hungarian countryside and its authentic ways, an experience out of the ordinary. A short coach ride takes us deep into the Hungarian countryside, where we can admire the unsurpassed qualities of the Hungarian Equestrian virtue at an active stud farm. Enjoy the sight of the proud horses as they lead the festive procession. Take a typical country wagon ride and learn about the life on the typical Hungarian farm. The Hungarians have been inseparable from their horses for more than a thousand years. Experience the well-known Hungarian hospitality in the most natural environment of the Puszta Farm as we provide you with an authentic lunch. The excursion is fully hosted by one of our guides.



Day 3 – July 19

Budapest, Hungary

Your RSVP adventure aboard the Avalon *Expression* begins! We'll board around 4pm, with our Compulsory Lifeboat Drill at 5:30pm. We set sail for Slovakia at 9:30pm sharp!



Day 4 – July 20 Bratislava, Slovakia

Relax onboard this morning and marvel at the scenery on both banks of the Danube. As you cruise upriver, Hungary is on your left and Slovakia is on your right. At the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains is Bratislava, the dynamic capital of Slovakia.

Included Excursion:

Bratislava Sightseeing

After lunch, arrive in Bratislava, situated at the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains and the dynamic capital of Slovakia. Join a local guide for a tour of the city, including a guided walk of its fascinating Old Town, where winding cobblestone streets and narrow alleyways twist and turn to reveal the Town Hall, one of the oldest stone buildings in the city. Also visit gothic St Martin’s Cathedral, coronation church for the Kingdom of Hungary from the 16th to 19th centuries.



Day 5 & 6 – July 21 & 22 Vienna, Austria

Once the center of the mighty Habsburg Empire, Austria’s magical capital on the blue Danube is a showcase of gilded architecture. This is home to the lavish Hofburg Imperial Palace complex with its Vienna Boys’ Choir and dazzling Lipizzaner stallions; the neo-renaissance Vienna Opera House; and awe-inspiring St. Stephen’s Cathedral.

Stroll through the pedestrian Kärntnerstrasse, and be sure to take a break and enjoy a piece of decadent Sachertorte or Apfelstrudel in one of the classic Viennese coffee houses, historic institutions that helped shape Viennese culture!

Included Excursion:

Vienna Sightseeing

Vienna is old, Vienna is new – and so varied: from the magnificent baroque buildings to “golden” Art Nouveau to the latest architecture. Stay within the famous Ring Boulevard on your city tour. Drive the Ring Boulevard, then stop behind the State Opera on Albertinaplatz. Continue from here on foot to the Imperial Palace, the winter residence of the Imperial Family, passing elegant boutiques and the well-known Café Demel and proceed to the city center, to St. Stephan’s Cathedral where the tour ends.

Optional Excursions:

Schönbrunn

Schönbrunn, the former summer residence of the Imperial family, is considered one of the most beautiful baroque palaces in Europe. The Habsburgs resided here for the better part of the year in numerous rooms to house the large Imperial family in addition to representational rooms. Emperor Franz Joseph, who later married the enchanting Sisi and reigned from 1848 to 1916, was born here in 1830. The monarch spent his last years

entirely in the palace, which became the property of the new Republic of Austria only two years after his death. Today, the palace is part of UNESCO’s cultural heritage due to its historic importance, its unique grounds, and its splendid furnishings. Follow our local expert and visit Empress Sisi’s former summer residence, afterwards take your time to stroll through the park and enjoy the impressive gardens.

Vienna Biking

Vienna was once the center of the largest empire in the world. The power and glory of the Habsburg rule is mirrored in the boulevards and architecture of Vienna. The bike tour covers what it took the Habsburgs more than 600 years to build. It would take three days to walk what is shown during this bike tour. A must for those wanting to get the “feel” of this incredibly beautiful city!

Vienna Woods and Lunch

Along the Höhenstraße – Vienna’s longest street with approx. 14km – we will drive up on the Kahlenberg, from which you will enjoy the beautiful view and, if the weather conditions are good, you can see until the Little Carpathians in Slovakia. We will make a photo stop there. Continuing to Klosterneuburg, we drive through the Vienna Woods and stop at the Abbey. Since the monastery’s founding, the Augustinian Canons of Klosterneuburg have viewed it as their duty to foster scholarship and art. As a result of their 900 years of research and collecting activities, the monastery is home to a series of notable artworks, from the world famous Verdun Altar from the Middle Ages to magnificent Baroque works through to modern painting. After the visit to the Abbey, we will drive back to Vienna for lunch in a very famous and very small wine village. We will have lunch here at a typical Heuriger – a Viennese wine tavern. The word “heurige” does not just describe the tavern itself, but also the wine from the current vintage, which – in accordance with tradition – may be so-called until 11 November (St Martin’s Day). Enjoy a typical Viennese lunch accompanied by Viennese Wine! After lunch we drive back to the ship.

Walzer and Operetta Concert

Don’t miss a truly magical evening in Vienna, featuring the most famous opera arias by Mozart, Strauss Waltzes, polkas, and operetta excerpts from “Die Fledermaus” by Johann Strauss, “The Merry Widow” by Franz Léhar, the Blue Danube waltz, the Radetzky March, and many others, performed by a brilliant cast of top European singers, beautifully costumed dancers, and the Original Wiener Salon Orchestra. A true celebration of joy and optimism featuring familiar music, combined with dance and storytelling that recalls happy memories of a time when music helped shape the city of Vienna: a city of world-class artistry with a true flair for celebration.



Day 7 – July 23 Dürnstein & Melk, Austria

Explore the picturesque town of Dürnstein on your own or choose an optional wine tasting excursion. You may even want to hike up to the castle ruins for magnificent views of the town and river. In Melk, we’ll visit their famed Abbey, which will leave you breathless.

Included Excursions:

Dürnstein Walking Tour

Dürnstein, situated in the heart of the Wachau wine region, is known for the magnificent baroque, blue Stiftskirche built in the 1700s. The main street of this small town - with a population of less than 1,000 people - is lined with 16th century residences and charming cobblestone streets. A local guide will take you on a walking tour and tell you the tale of England's King Richard the Lionheart, who was imprisoned in the castle whose ruins still stand above the town.

Melk Abbey Tour

Guided visit of Melk's magnificent 11th-century Benedictine Abbey, one of Europe's largest monasteries. The abbey houses an ornate library with over 80,000 printed books and 2,000 manuscripts. Words cannot describe the splendor of the church with its frescoed ceilings, stunning high altar, marble statues, and 210-foot-high cupola.

Optional Excursions:

Dürnstein Bike Tour

Biking along the Danube is becoming a popular pastime. So if you are fit and ready for some exercise, grab a bike, a helmet, and cycle between the waters of the mighty stream and the lovely vineyards and romantic villages of the Wachau Valley.

Wine Tasting

Wachau is one of Austria's most established and notable wine regions, specializing in dry wines made from Riesling and Grüner Veltliner. Located in Lower Austria along the Danube, west of Vienna and Kremsan-der-Donau, it is one of the western-most wine producing regions in Austria with only a few scattered plantings in Tyrol being further west. While most of Austria follows a wine classification system based on ripeness and harvest minimum weight that parallels the German wine classification system, Wachau wines have a unique classification system. The three classification levels for Wachau wine include Steinfeder for wines up to 11.5% alcohol level, Federspiel for wines between 11.5–12.5%, and Smaragd that must have a minimum of 12.5% alcohol level. Despite its popularity, the Wachau is a small wine region that usually accounts for only around 3% of Austria's wine production. A guided tour through a well-known Wachau wine cellar, including tasting of some of the better Wachau wines, awaits you.



Day 8 – July 24

Aschach, Austria & Vilshofen, Germany

These stops along the Danube are meant to serve as the gateway for three of the most extraordinary optional tour offerings available to you: 1.) A visit to *The Sound of Music's* famed Salzburg, Austria or 2.) An adventure to the Czech town of Czesky Krumlov, hands down one of the most beautiful places you'll ever visit or 3.) The Austrian

Lake District, whose natural beauty is unrivaled in Europe. It's a tough choice between the three, but none will disappoint.

Optional Excursions:

Salzburg

Picturesquely located at the foothills of the Alps, the city is known as the birthplace of Mozart. Salzburg is also the setting for the film *The Sound of Music*, which has shaped the city's perception in the minds of generations. But Salzburg is much more. It is a wealthy city with history based on the salt trade from the nearby Alpine Mountains. It is a city full of beautiful baroque buildings, and a city perched between the mountains and green waters of the Salzach River. In your free time, stroll through the small but busy lanes with their wrought iron signs, use a cable car to ride up to the castle on the hill for views, or just relax on one of the many terraces that make you feel part of the scenery. On our scenic ride by coach you will admire the beauty of the region. Our dedicated local experts will talk about and show you the city, and relive scenes from *The Sound of Music*. After free time, we will also visit the church at Mondsee where the "von Trapps" were married.

Český Krumlov

Take a scenic route across the rolling hills of Upper Austria and Bohemia to one of the most beautiful, charming and romantic little towns that is to be found in Europe. For centuries, this small town has enjoyed the reputation of being the "Pearl of the Bohemian Forest," an extraordinary fortified town built by princes and bishops on the most beautiful bend of the Vltava River. This hidden gem of European history remains as it was centuries ago, a colourful place with over 300 historic buildings, small lanes, art galleries, charming shops and medieval inns; a truly stunning experience. When after WW II the Iron Curtain fell, Český Krumlov found itself even more off the beaten track, with hardly a visitor finding his way there. Our local experts will guide you back in time. Pass by the Vltava (Moldau) River, which has been made immortal by Frederic Smetana's composition of the same name, before you return to your ship with happy memories from this UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Romantic Austria

The picturesque mountain lakes, the luscious green of the hills and fields, the striking mountain cliffs, and the romantic villages – these are just a few reasons that attracted countless writers, composers, and creative artists for centuries to find inspiration in the magnificent landscape of Salzkammergut region, shared between the provinces of Salzburg, Upper Austria, and Styria - the famous Austrian Lake District. The literal translation of the Salzkammergut is "salt chamber estate" and refers to an area where salt was mined and which was formerly under the control of the Imperial Chamber in Vienna. Today, the term has developed into a brand name for one of the loveliest holiday regions of Central Europe with over 70 lakes, which are of drinking water quality and range in color from turquoise to emerald green. Let us reveal to you the unspoiled beauty of Gmunden and St. Wolfgang region and some of the most panoramic routes in Austria.



Day 9 – July 25 Regensburg, Germany

Dating back to the time of the Celts around 500 BC, Regensburg is one of Germany’s best preserved medieval cities. The only German city not bombed during WWII, Regensburg has at least 1,300 buildings of “historic interest.” Be sure to grab a beer and enjoy a snack at the Historische Wurstküche (Old Sausage Kitchen).

Included Excursion:

Regensburg Sightseeing

Architectural highlights of our guided walk include the Altes Rathaus (Old Town Hall), built in the 13th century, and Porta Pretoria, gates to an ancient Roman fort built in 179 AD. Walk across the 12th century Steinerne Brücke (Stone Bridge), the oldest of its kind in Germany.

Optional Excursion:

Weltenburg

The Danube Gorge has both a gentle and a strange beauty. In a magnificent show of force, the Danube has carved its way through the Swabian Alb to create a stunning landscape - a wild, romantic stretch of river with sheer cliffs rising over 300 feet out of the water. At its upper end the Weltenburg Abbey is located on a peninsula directly beneath the cliffs of the Gorge. It was founded by Irish or Scottish monks in 620 and is one of the oldest abbeys in Bavaria. The present Benedictine abbey dates back to the 18th century when it was extensively rebuilt in baroque style. Their ceiling frescos of the Heavenly Jerusalem blend seamlessly with the abbey interior and are particularly noteworthy. Important is also that Weltenburg Abbey houses the oldest abbey brewery in the world, as the monks have been brewing beer since 1050. A beer and a pretzel are a welcome refreshment.



Day 10 – July 26 Roth & Nuremberg, Germany

We arrive around 12:30pm and guests extending to Prague will disembark just after lunch and head to our host hotel, the 5-star Boscolo Carlo IV. For those continuing on to our European Splendor cruise from Nuremberg to Amsterdam, you’ll have a full afternoon to explore this historic German town – from the Old Town Hall (built on an island in the middle of the Regnitz River when the bishop refused to give the townspeople land for a town hall) to Adolf Hitler’s infamous rally grounds.

Choice of Included Excursion for those not going on to Prague:

Nuremberg Sightseeing

Start the guided city tour with a visit of the castle grounds of the Kaiserburg, once home to emperors, today still dominating the skyline of Nuremberg. After a panoramic drive,

the tour ends at the large market square, which is located at the heart of the city center, surrounded by a multitude of must-see sights. You are sure to be enchanted by the picturesque flair of the Old Town, take a look around and journey into times past.

Rally Ground Tour

To this day, in Nuremberg’s southern districts, the remains of the buildings on the former Nazi Party Rally Grounds with their immense proportions are a vivid testimony to the megalomania of the National Socialist regime. This area of eleven square kilometers (4.25 sq. miles) was intended as an impressive backdrop for the Nazi party rallies staged here to demonstrate their power. During our guided tour, we will visit the most important sights and the Documentation center, which offers all visitors the opportunity of an in-depth look at the Nazi Party Rallies on the spot where they occurred.



Day 11 – July 27 (for those who purchase our optional post-cruise extension)

Prague, Czech Republic

Prague is a 1,200-year-old city preserved in time. Unlike other Central European capitals, it was not bombed during the 20th-century wars.

Included Excursion:

Prague Sightseeing

A local guide will show you Prague’s best-known treasures, such as the Old Town’s Astronomical Clock, built in 1410 and once the envy of all of Europe; Hradčany Castle Grounds; St. Vitus Cathedral; and the Charles Bridge, the oldest bridge in Prague. Browse the shops for hand-cut crystal or art books. Mix with the locals in Wenceslaus Square, an important meeting point and where people demonstrated against the communist regime; watch performers and shop at the market stalls on Charles Bridge; sample the local plum dumplings and Pilsner; stroll along the Vltava River; or wander around Prague’s medieval Old Town, dating from the 10th century.

Optional Excursions:

Dinner and Folklore Show

The Czech have their way of fun where food, drinks, and traditions come together. On long rows of tables, you will be served the traditional hearty Czech cuisine where the drinks and the laughter flow. On the small stage, musicians will play on the hammerdulcimer, the fujara (shepherd’s flute), and the bag-pipe, all part of their musical heritage. The performers in their traditional costumes will treat you to local dances and their folk songs from Bohemia, Moravia, and Slovakia, which will impress you. Experience excellent dancers, vibrant music and collect wonderful memories of your trip to Prague. Join in for an evening of food and fun in one of Prague’s typical restaurants, a Czech traditional 3-course dinner with drinks. Guide services and transportation are all included.

Grand Masters Concert in Old Prague

Enjoy a great classical concert in the beautiful setting of the baroque Mirror Chapel of Clementinum. The large complex of the Clementinum was founded by the Jesuits after their arrival in Bohemia in 1556. With more than 2 hectares, it is also one of the largest building complexes in Europe. The Mirror Chapel, built in 1725 and originally dedicated to the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, is a unique sanctuary and one of the churches of the former Jesuit college, Prague Clementinum. Classical concerts in Clementinum are among the most popular concert events. The impressive installations of Baroque mirrors on the ceiling make the chapel unparalleled worldwide. Together with gilded stuccos of Bernardo Spinetti, marble paneling and ceiling frescoes by Jan Hiebl, these mirrors create great artistic value of the interior. The chapel had been repeatedly desecrated and consecrated until it became a Prague classical concert hall in 1936. Join our local guides who will take you to this gem of downtown Prague for an unforgettable experience with the music of Bach, Vivaldi, Mozart, Dvorak, Puccini, and Verdi performed by leading soloists, members of Czech Opera Houses, and top orchestras. (Baroque organ, violin, flute, soprano and baritone soloists)

Prague's Secrets Revealed

This tour will add to the included city tour as it is quite possible to escape the touristy side of Prague and just as before, it requires knowing just which street to turn down or even which unsigned walkway to pass. Knowing where to turn from the Old Town Square, you can leave all the crowds behind and find yourself shockingly alone on a twisting Medieval street, quiet as can be – with only the sound of your shoes clicking against the cobblestones or a tram swooshing by a few streets away. And in this street, it's also still possible to find the most interesting places when you least expect them. The houses and doors often look the same from the outside. To the naked eye, the street may even seem residential. There are no big flashing lights pointing out the history that lies behind these facades of Prague. You need a local expert, who can show you these secrets and tell you the stories of what happened here and there. Prague's Secrets tour leads us to the Charles Bridge and Mala Strana, which according to the locals is Prague's most romantic and picturesque part of the protected city center.

Tasting Bohemian Wines

Venture into the beautiful Bohemian countryside this morning and discover Castle Melnik, a genuine Jewel of Bohemia. The Castle was the residence of the queen widows of Bohemia and Melnik. In 1542 the castle was transformed to a Renaissance Jewel. This is a unique opportunity to visit a medieval castle inside and see how the aristocracy lived in previous centuries. The surrounding vineyards of Melnik form part of the Czech wine region, one of the northern-most viticultural areas of Europe, and are the largest in Bohemia. The castle is still a partly lived-in property and you are invited for a special Bohemian wine tasting with local cheese. This tour gives you wonderful insight into the traditional values of the Bohemian upper class.

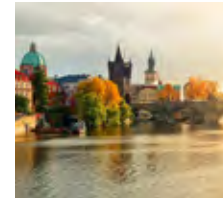
Day 12 – July 28

(for those who purchase our optional post-cruise extension)

Prague, Czech Republic

Today, we say farewell. Transfers to Prague's Václav Havel Airport are included.

European Splendor



Day 1 & 2 – July 24 & 25

(for those who purchase our optional pre-cruise extension)

Prague, Czech Republic

Your RSVP European Splendor River Cruise starts off with nearly 2 full days in Prague. You'll stay at the 5-star Boscolo Carlo IV Hotel. Your Avalon Cruise Director and teamRSVP will be on-hand to point the way to adventure! Transfers from Prague's Václav Havel Airport

to the Boscolo Hotel and from the Boscolo Hotel to the ship July 26 are included.

Included Excursion:

Prague Sightseeing

A local guide will show you Prague's best-known treasures, such as the Old Town's Astronomical Clock, built in 1410 and once the envy of all of Europe; Hradčany Castle Grounds; St. Vitus Cathedral; and the Charles Bridge, the oldest bridge in Prague. Browse the shops for hand-cut crystal or art books. Mix with the locals in Wenceslaus Square, an important meeting point and where people demonstrated against the communist regime; watch performers and shop at the market stalls on Charles Bridge; sample the local plum dumplings and Pilsner; stroll along the Vltava River; or wander around Prague's medieval Old Town, dating from the 10th century.

Optional Excursions:

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Day 3 – July 26 Nuremberg, Germany

Your RSVP adventure aboard the *Avalon Expression* begins! We'll leave Prague around 1pm and board *Expression* around 4pm, with our Compulsory Lifeboat Drill at 5:30pm. We set sail for Bamberg at 6pm sharp!



Day 4 – July 27 Bamberg, Germany

Today we'll explore this UNESCO World Heritage Site. You'll want to wander the town's serpentine streets with their charming houses and 18th-century mansions.

Included Excursion:

Bamberg Sightseeing

Bamberg is the former residence of one of Germany's most powerful imperial dynasties and today a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The guided walk takes in its historic center, including the great 13th century Romanesque cathedral and the fascinating Altes Rathaus (Old Town Hall) - built on an island in the middle of Regnitz river when the bishop refused to give the townspeople land for a town hall.



Day 5 – July 28 Würzburg, Germany

Würzburg is known as the "Pearl of the Romantic Road." This city is surrounded by sloping hills covered with vineyards and makes an immediate impression with the imposing Fortress Marienberg perched above town and its 15th-century Alte Mainbrücke (Old Main Bridge).

Included Excursion:

Würzburg Sightseeing

Surrounded by verdant hillside vineyards, Würzburg, the "Pearl of the Romantic Road," makes an immediate impression with imposing Fortress Marienberg perched above town and the 15th-century Alte Mainbrücke (Old Main Bridge). On your included guided sightseeing tour, visit the magnificent baroque Bishop's Residenz, home to the largest ceiling fresco ever painted. This afternoon you are free to explore on your own, or perhaps join an optional excursion to medieval Rothenburg.

Optional Excursion:

Rothenburg

If you had to pick only one place to visit in the whole of Germany, it should be Rothenburg. The best-preserved medieval town in Germany, Rothenburg ob der Tauber fits the word "romantic" perfectly. The entire walled town of Rothenburg is a living museum. The town wall connects five medieval gates complete with guard towers that date from the thirteenth to sixteenth centuries. Just walk along Rothenburg's narrow cobblestone streets and admire the gothic, renaissance, and baroque houses and fountains. You may wish that you had lived in these prettier, quieter, slower times. Climb to the top of the Rothenburg Town Hall Tower (circa

1250-1400) for a wide-angle view of Rothenburg and take pictures of the surrounding, mostly pastoral countryside. Walking in Rothenburg is like taking a step back into medieval times where one can feel the old roots of the continent. Not to be missed!



Day 6 – July 29
Miltenberg, Germany

Marvel at the gothic splendor of the Merchant Hall on your guided walking tour of this lovely Bavarian village filled with fountains, half-timbered buildings, and endless charm.

Included Excursion:

Miltenberg Walking Tour

Tucked away behind medieval defensive walls and towered gates, the picturesque Bavarian village of Miltenberg is a cultural gem on the banks of the Main River. This afternoon's guided walk will acquaint you with the town's delightful Marktplatz (market square), which centers around a Renaissance-era fountain and features striking half-timbered buildings, cobblestone lanes, one of the oldest inns in Germany, Haus zum Riesen (the giant's house), and the gothic splendor of the Merchant Hall.



Day 7 – July 30
Rüdesheim, Germany / Rhine Gorge / Cologne, Germany

Today is all about beauty. After the town of Rüdesheim, we'll make our way through the Rhine Gorge. This 40-mile stretch of the Rhine is quite possibly the most beautiful in all of Europe. Have your camera at the ready and head up to the *Expression's* Sky Deck where you'll see castle after castle lining the banks. We'll get into Cologne just in

time for a Saturday night on the town!

Included Excursion:

Rüdesheim Sightseeing – Music Museum

Visit Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum, where you'll see and hear a large collection of self-playing calliopes and music boxes from the 18th to the early 20th centuries.

Optional Excursion:

Rüdesheim Cable Car

Following your included visit to Siegfried's Museum, you will have the option of purchasing an extension that includes a round-trip cable car ride to visit the Germania and Niederwald Monuments high above the town.



Day 8 – July 31
Cologne, Germany

One of Germany's largest cities and capital of the Rhineland, Cologne straddles both sides of the Rhine, and is known for its soaring, twin-steepled gothic cathedral. Choose between an included Guided City Walk or Jewish Heritage Walk. The Old Town abounds with cafés, shops, and taverns. Be sure to try a Kölsch pale lager, locally brewed in Cologne for over a hundred years!

Choice of Included Excursions:

Cologne Walking Tour

Cologne is not a metropolis like any other; it is a center of multicultural spirit and lifestyle. During the guided walking tour explore the cobblestoned streets of the Old City, which are shadowed by Cologne Cathedral. After the tour you can visit the Cathedral on your own or relax in one of the breweries and sip a Kölsch.

Jewish Cologne

Cologne is home to the oldest known Jewish community north of the Alps, probably dating back to around 300 A.D., when the town was named Colonia by the Romans. During your guided walk you will see all highlights, which were important for Jewish life, including an outside stop at the excavation of the Mikwe. The Jewish community built their bathhouse deep into the ground in order to reach the water table and thus the freshest water.

Optional Excursion:

Cologne Beer Houses Visit

This is the tasty way to get to know the city with its typical Cologne beer "Kölsch" and its local delicacies! Join in our guided walking tour through the Old Town, including several breweries which produce this "fluid of life." You will also be introduced to the ambiguous meaning of "Kölsch," which refers primarily to the beer, but also to the local dialect. Although being currently revived, very few locals actually know how to speak "Kölsch" correctly. You will get to know the "patron saint" of Cologne's brewers, as well as the local characters of Tünnes and Schäl, or the Kallendresser.



Day 9 – August 1
Düsseldorf, Germany

Today, you'll have three choices – the optional Duisberg (DKM) or Lehmbruck Museum tours or SHOPPING on your own! You'll have around four hours to explore this thriving metropolis.

Optional Excursions:

DKM Museum

The Museum DKM shows art pieces from five very different movements: Contemporary

art since the 1960s, over 2000-year-old pieces of art from the Far East, as well as contemporary art from China, Korea, and Japan, art from Ancient Egypt, classical and contemporary photography and ceramics, and glass from 5000 years of cultural history.

Lehbruck Museum

The Lehbruck Museum is well known throughout Europe for its outstanding collection of modern art and international sculpture. It offers an interesting combination of exceptional architecture placed in a sculpture park. The collection commences with the life work of Wilhelm Lehbruck and his contemporaries. To round off the variety, the museum offers sections on paintings, graphics, photography, and new media.



Day 10 – August 2 Amsterdam, Netherlands

We arrive in Amsterdam around 2:30am Monday night/Tuesday morning. For those guests heading home or onto further adventures on their own, you'll disembark *Expression* by 9:30am Tuesday morning. For those continuing on to our optional post-cruise program, August 2nd provides us with the perfect disembarkation

as we view this stunning city by canal boat, cruising through the elegant grachten lined with stately homes dating back to Amsterdam's "Golden Age." Following your canal cruise, you'll be transferred to our host hotel – the 5-star Grand Amrâth Hotel.

As Amsterdam gears up for this weekend's Pride Festival, you'll have nearly two full days to explore Holland's sophisticated, modern capital, with its rich and fascinating history. This delightful 700-year-old city with its elegant and classic architecture, cafés, and restaurants has a distinct ambiance. The streets, squares, and canals – not to mention the bike paths throughout the city – make for a vibrant atmosphere. With over 60 museums, Amsterdam has the highest museum density in the world. The works of famous Dutch masters can be seen in world-renowned museums such as the Rijksmuseum or the Van Gogh.

Included Excursion (for those extending in Amsterdam):

Amsterdam Canal Cruise

Get a unique perspective of Amsterdam on a canal cruise, floating along the elegant grachten lined with stately homes dating back to Amsterdam's Golden Age.

Optional Excursions:

Zaanse Schans

If you are in the Netherlands only for a short time, then this is a great excursion to see the typical Dutch sights in just one afternoon. Join our local expert for a journey through times when Dutch sailing ships crossed the seven seas and goods from all corners of the world traded in Holland. A short coach ride gives you picturesque views of the Dutch "polder" landscape, reclaimed land with the endless horizons and cattle grazing on the green grasslands. The open-air village of Zaanse Schans is a collection of typical Dutch houses, windmills, & craft stores, which all have preserved their

original character. We will have an inside visit of a working windmill showing you how they function. Highly interesting is the clog making demonstration and the cheese factory. In the little stores you can easily find all the Dutch souvenirs you want to take home. Zaanse Schans is a pleasant half-day excursion which includes an array of typical sights for which Holland is famous.

Amsterdam Biking

The Netherlands is known for being the perfect country to go for a bike ride. After a short bike ride from your ship, a ferry takes you out of the hectic city. Then continue your biking tour into the beautiful and green nature reserve called "Waterland." Your local guide will take you through centuries-old picturesque villages with typical wooden houses, past countless brooks and waterways, across old wooden bridges, along the IJsselmeer, and through green pastures. Designated bicycle paths connect the entire region. On a nice spring or summer day, the green fields are full of flowers, while sheep and cows are in the meadows. Comfortable bicycles, helmets, and refreshment in a typical Dutch Inn are provided and of course all these experiences are under the guidance of a local guide. A different way to experience Holland.

Anne Frank

A Museum with a Story. Visit the hiding place where Anne Frank wrote her diary during the Second World War. For more than two years, Anne Frank, her family, and four others lived secretly in the back part of her father's office building at #263 Prinsengracht, before being betrayed and turned in to the Nazis. If you have read the famous diary, much of this will be familiar to you, but even if you haven't, this can be a fascinating place to see. The Anne Frank House is probably the most famous attraction in town for new visitors. Take advantage of our tailor-made tour, with an introduction by our local escort, hassle free transport, and priority entrance.



Day 11 – August 3 (for those who purchase our optional post-cruise extension) Amsterdam, Netherlands

This day is yours to enjoy on your own or you can join us for one of our optional excursions.

Optional Excursions:

Muiderslot Castle

Take a traditional boat ride on the former Zuiderzee, where the Dutch East and West Indian Company ships sailed to and from Amsterdam for centuries. End your boat ride at the imposing Amsterdam Castle, the Muiderslot, which gives you a taste of real Dutch history. It is part of the Defence Line of Amsterdam and included on the UNESCO World Heritage List. During the guided tour through rooms full of authentic furniture and paintings from the Dutch Golden Age, you will imagine yourself in a painting by Rembrandt or Frans Hals. The guided tour through the museum's rooms, all refurbished in 17th-century style, evokes the period, when Pieter Corneliszoon Hooft, also known

as the “Dutch Shakespeare,” occupied the castle. In the beautiful herb and vegetable gardens, which still retain the atmosphere of the Dutch Renaissance, you will find many oft-forgotten flowers, herbs, and vegetable from times gone by. A walk along the ramparts offers fantastic views of the water-rich environments and the Pampus island fortress. You should not miss a visit to the most beautiful and best-kept medieval castle in the Netherlands.

Volendam & Edam

Anyone who wants to see the real beauty of Holland should visit Edam and its neighbor, Volendam. Edam is the perfect picture of a Dutch city, which has kept its old-world atmosphere. Full of charm, it is a unique example of a Zuiderzee harbor city with its gabled, red brick houses and its cheese fame. Together with your local expert you are going to explore this town on a walking tour. Volendam is your typical Zuiderzee fishing village; as a result of its completely isolated location, this village preserved its character for six centuries, also because of the tough vitality of the fishermen. The characteristic small houses, which together with the canals and the drawbridges form the most picturesque spots, present the visitor an atmosphere of geniality and romance. Nowadays it is a shopping paradise for any tourist, and you will have free time to indulge.

Edam and Beemster Polder

This tour offers a scenic ride through the countryside to the town of Edam, famous for the cheese named after it. Take a guided stroll through the flat, narrow main street to the bell tower and enjoy browsing through the lanes of Edam. Afterwards, enjoy the scenic drive through the UNESCO World Heritage area “Beemster Polder.” The Beemster Polder was born 400 years ago. About 7.200 hectares (about 17,800 acres) of land were drained to complete this massive work; more than 58 watermills were used. A rare, heroic and unique project in the beginning of the 17th century. In 1999 the UNESCO World Heritage Committee subscribed the Beemster Polder onto the list of World Heritage Monuments. It is not only a cultural landscape, it is also the living and working area for the community of Beemster and thus it is really unique. The polder also includes a part of the World Heritage monument “De Stellingvan Amsterdam,” an historical system of fortresses around the city of Amsterdam.

Haarlem

Known as the City of Flowers, Haarlem is a place of historical architecture, culture, and outstanding modern facilities. While it is often overshadowed by its much larger and more famous neighbor Amsterdam about ten miles east, Haarlem’s history actually goes back further, dating back to gothic times, and this is reflected in the architecture. Join our local guide for a walking tour and see all this charming town has to offer. A perfect afternoon in this charming little place.



Day 12 – August 4

(for those who purchase our optional post-cruise extension)

Amsterdam, Netherlands

Today, we say farewell. Transfers to Amsterdam’s Schiphol Airport are included.

Where You Elevate

Over the course of our river cruise, you’ll have the opportunity to experience local specialties from wines to music to chocolate onboard. But when you’re off the ship, that’s your chance to experience the best of local culture. With over 15 years of river cruising through Europe, we’re happy to offer the following insider tips to really elevate your shore-side experience. By the time we’re done, you’ll be an insider, too!

Budapest, Hungary

Bock Bistro

Erzsebet krt.43-49

+36 1 321 0340

www.bockbisztropest.hu

Traditional Hungarian favorites in a smart bistro setting. Steps away from the Corinthia Hotel.

Book Café

Andrassy ut 39, Budapest 1061

+36-1-461-5835

<http://www.lotzterem.hu/lotz-terem-es-kavezo>

Formerly a grand Hungarian ballroom, this is a great option for taking a break for a light lunch or snack. The experience is worth it for the atmosphere and the coffee.

Chess

Dob street 63. Budapest 1074

+36 1 882 3080

<http://www.chessrestaurant.hu/en/>

A charming all black and white bistro serving Italian-French-Hungarian inspired cuisine in addition to Hungarian classics. Menu suited to the seasons with weekly specials.

Seasons Bistro

Liszt Ferenc tér 7. 1061 Budapest

+06 1 709 24 68

<http://www.seasonsrestaurant.hu/en/>

Revitalized Hungarian favorites in this charming bistro. Offers sidewalk dining.

Tuning Bar & Burger

1072 Budapest, Akácfa utca 45

+36 (20) 821 7303

<http://www.tuningburgerbudapest.hu>

Needing a taste of home? The burger is rated one of the best in Budapest!

Ruin Bars

Szimpla Kert

Kazinczy utca 14, Budapest 1075; +36 20 261 8669; daily, noon-3am

<http://www.szimpla.hu/en>

Budapest’s original ruin bar hosts a regular farmers’ market and flea market, as well as live music and film screenings. Food includes pizza from a wood-fired oven.

Kuplung

Kiraly utca 46; +36 30 755 3527;
weekdays 3pm-3am., Saturday 4pm-5am., Sunday 6pm-3am.
Colorful paper lanterns hang from the ceiling of this former car repair shop (“kuplung” means clutch), where you can get toasted sandwiches.

Super 8

Kofarago utca 8, Budapest 1086; +36 20 452 4445; Open daily at 4pm. Closed Sundays.
Super 8 is the pub that reinvented the concept of ruin pubs, and at once became a cultural junction characterised by colourful walls, an endearing family atmosphere, and a child-centred approach. Lurid green apartments overlook the cozy courtyard garden.

Gay Scene

Madrid Café and Bar

Semmelweis 17, Budapest 1052, Hungary
Modern gay café and bar with drag shows and Sunday night Karaoke. Open daily at 6pm.

Why Not Café and Bar

V. Belgrad rakpart, 2-4 (Fővám tér), Budapest 1056, District V. Riverfront refreshments.
Charming cafe with outdoor seating; a great place for an afternoon beer.

Habroló Bisztró

Szep. Str. 1.
www.habrolo.hu
This small bar is a favorite of gay locals who come to relax over drinks, drag queen acts, and other events.

Funny Carrot

Szep Str. 1.
The former “Darling Bar” downtown is now “Funny Carrot,” one of the main addresses for a night of bar-hopping, as it’s found next to Habroló (see above).

Alterego club

Dessewfy utca 33, Open Wed-Sat: 10pm-5am, www.alteregoclub.hu
One of the most popular gay clubs in the town, with good house music prepared by resident DJ. Drag shows Fridays and Saturdays.

Action Bar

Magyar utca 42, Tel: 266 9148, Open every day 09 pm-04 am, www.action.gay.hu
Bar for gay men ONLY, darkroom, video room, strip shows, video room, rent boys. Open all week, go-go dancers and strippers, nightly strip show time begins at 12:30am. The entrance is a bit difficult to find for those visiting for the first time. If you’re coming from Kálvin square, you can find the bar on the right-hand side of the street. You will find the entrance into the cellar with a big “A” and with a small rainbow flag on the door. Upon entering the bar, you will get a consumption card to hand to the bartender every time you order a drink. Minimum consumption of 1500 HUF and you have to pay before you leave.

CoXx - Bar & Men’s Pub

Dohány utca 38, Tel: 344 4884, Open daily from 9pm-4am, www.coxx.hu
Bar exclusively for men (and not for the faint of heart). It consists of 3 bars, XXL cruising

area, video, dark rooms, glory holes, jail, cages, slings, wet room, Andrew cross etc. Minimum consummation of 1000 HUF (approximately 4 euro).

Vienna

WILD Gasthaus

Radetzkyplatz 1, 1030 Vienna
www.gasthaus-wild.at
Serving traditional Viennese and German cuisine. Old world and authentic.

Gösser Bierklinik

Steindlgasse 4, Vienna, A-1010
www.goesser-bierklinik.at/en-gb
Reportedly the oldest still operating restaurant in Vienna. A full beer indulgence for the beer connoisseur!

Griechenbeisl

Griechengasse 9, Fleischmarkt 11, A - 1010 Vienna
Tel.: +43 (0)5331977
Famous traditional Viennese cuisine with a long history.

Vestibul

Universitätsring 2, Vienna 1010
<http://www.vestibuel.at>
Elegant, classical marble setting that offers a new twist on traditional Viennese cuisine. The perfect spot for a dinner to remember.

Gay Scene

Café Savoy

Daily 12pm-2am; Linke Wienzeile 36; www.savoy.at
Traditional Vienna coffeehouse. Mainly gay clientele.

Felixx

Daily 6pm-2am; Gumpendorfer Straße 5 [U2: Museumsquartier]; +43 (0)1 9204714;
www.felixx-bar.at
Freshly renovated, Felixx is a great place to hang out with friends, sip amazing cocktails, to see and be seen. The ambiance is high-end and the service is outstanding.

Mango Bar

Daily 9pm-4am; Laimgrubengasse 3 [U4: Kettenbrückengasse]; +43 (0)1-9204714
Popular bar for young gays.

Village

Daily 10pm-2am; Stiegengasse 8
Trendy Gay Bar with music video wall and cool sounds. Directly in the scene.

X Bar

Mon-Sat 14pm-2am; Sun 6pm-12am; Mariahilfer Straße 45/Raimundhofpassage [U3: Neubaugasse]; +43 699-10092251 (Mobile);
www.x-bar.at
Small American Gay Bar.

Eagle Vienna

Daily 9pm-4am; Blümelgasse 1 [U3: Neubaugasse]; +43 (0)1 5872661
www.eagle-vienna.com

Traditional leather and jeans bar with an inviting front bar area to mix, mingle, and cruise.

Sling

Daily 3pm-4am; Kettenbrückengasse 4
+43 (0)1 5862362; www.sling.at

Cruising lounge bar. Clean with shower facility. Best after 10pm.

Prague

Divine Coffee & Wine

Daily 11:30am-11pm; Londýnská 315/71; Prague 2 12000; 420-273-136-096;
<http://www.divinerestaurant.cz/home-en/>

A broad selection of wines at this bistro rated as one of Prague's best.

La Veranda

Mon-Sat – 12pm-5pm & 5:30pm-11pm (Closed Sunday);
www.laveranda.cz

Elisky Krasnohorské 2, Prague 1 Josefov; 420-224-814-733

A special dinner in a charming atmosphere with deliciously superb food.

Estrella

Daily 11:30am-10:30pm; Opatovická 17, Praha 1; 420-777-431-344;
<http://www.estrellarestaurant.cz>

A delicious vegetarian option in busy central Prague.

Cafe-Cafe

Daily 10am-10pm; Rytířská 10; +420 224210597; www.cafe-cafe.cz

Trendy, gay-friendly cafe with street terrace in the very centre of Prague. Great spot to take a break from sightseeing.

Celebrity Cafe

Mon-Fri 8am-1am; Sat 10am-2am; Sun 10am-12am; Vinohradská 40 [Metro, Night tram: Náměstí Míru, Tram: Vinohradská trznice]; +420 222511343; www.celebritycafe.cz

Gay-friendly cafe-bar in Prague Vinohrady, with covered street terrace.

GAY Scene

ON Club

Daily 21:00 – 05:00; Vinohradská 40 [Metro, Night tram: Náměstí Míru, Tram: Vinohradská trznice]; +420 222520630; www.onclub.cz

Gay club in Prague Vinohrady with various areas on 3 levels. Very mixed crowd.

Termix

Wed-Sun 9pm-5am; Trebízského 4a; +420 222710462; www.club-termix.cz

Modern gay bar with dance floor. Gets very crowded on weekends after midnight.

Clientele mainly in their 20s and 30s. Beware of pickpockets in the backrooms.

Friends Prague

Daily 6pm – 4am; Bartolomejská 11 [Metro B: Národní třída]; +420 226211920;
www.friendsclub.cz

Large lounge bar with dance floor in a typical Prague vault in the city center. Daily alternating program and the mix of people varies from mainly gay and lesbian to mainly straight.

The Saints

Sun-Thu 7pm-2am; Fri-Sat 7pm-4am; Polska 32, Prague 2; 420-222-250-326
<http://www.saintsbar.cz>

Casual and popular basement bar in the heart of the gay quarter of Vinohrady.

Escape Bar

Escape Club is at V Jame 8, tel. 420-602-403-744; www.escapeclub.xxx/en/

And you thought all those fresh-faced, shirtless guys were talking to you simply because you're irresistibly fascinating? Well, this may be true, but if you find yourself showered with attention during your visit to Prague's Escape Club, in Nove Mesto (New Town) just a short walk from Wenceslas Square, consider that many - if not most - of the man-boy creatures in this saucy basement nightclub are looking to initiate business relations with you – though there's no pressure to buy. You can just venture in, have a drink, and watch them take turns go-go dancing on the small stage. It's all entirely legal in this progressive nation with a consenting age of 18 for the sex trade (as opposed to 15, when no money changes hands).

Cologne

Brennerei Weiß

<http://www.brennerei-weiss.koeln>

Hahnenstraße 22, 50667 Cologne (Rudolfplatz)

Telephone: +49 (0)221 8282 0191

One of the most famous venues in Cologne's gay scene. A rustic German restaurant that includes a bar and beer benches outside on the street. Open 3pm – 1am. Cash only.

Ruhrpott

<http://www.ruhrpott-cologne.de/aboutus>

Balduinstraße 20, 50676 Cologne

Telephone: +49 (0)221 1687 5038

New cafe & cocktail bar in Cologne's gay Bermuda Triangle. Modern and cozy, serving soups, salads, French pizza, homemade cakes, and coffee specialties. Open Noon – 2am.

Bei Oma Kleinmann

<https://www.beiomakleinmann.de/startseite.html>

Zülpicher Strasse 9, 50674 Cologne

Telephone: +49 (0)221 23 23 46

Do you want Authentic German Schnitzel? Look no further. Biggest and best in town! Reservations required. Open 5pm – Midnight. Casual Attire. Cash only.

Consilium

<http://www.consiliumkoeln.com>

Rathausplatz 1, 50667 Cologne

Telephone: +49 (0)221 1687 0727

German. A hidden treasure in Old Town Cologne. Moderately priced refined food with a pretty ambiance and service-oriented staff. Reservations required. Casual Attire. Open 9:30am – 1am.

Café Noa

<http://www.cafe-noa.de>

info@cafe-noa.de

Maastrichter Strasse 3, 50672 Cologne
Telephone: +49 (0)221 168 111 01
Vegetarian. Reservations encouraged. Open 10am – Midnight. Topnotch service and location, mixed with reasonably priced fair and a trendy, young vibe.

Hyatt Biergarten

<http://cologne.regency.hyatt.com/de/hotel/home.html>

Kennedy-Ufer 2a, 50679 Cologne
Telephone: +49 (0)221 8281 1537

If you want a simple drink while you enjoy a brilliant view of the Cathedral and Hohenzollern Bridge, this is your place. Great atmosphere reminiscent of a Bavarian beer garden. Open 6pm – Midnight.

Gilden Im Zims

www.haus-zims.de

Telephone: +49 (0) 22116866110
Heumarkt 77, 50667 Cologne

Authentic and traditional german favorites served in this historical (walls over 550 years old) yet modern feeling Brewhouse in Old Town.

Funkhaus Café Bar

www.funkhaus-koeln.de

Wallrafplatz 5, 50667 Cologne

Need a break from taking in the sights near the gothic cathedral? Stop in for curry wurst, cocktails, and delicious cakes.

Cologne's Gay Scene

Barcelon Colonia

<http://www.barcelon-colonia.de>

Pipinstraße 3, 50667 Cologne

Telephone: +49 163 1598165

Friendly gay bar in Old Town with Mediterranean charm and design influences inspired by the artist Gaudi. Open 5pm – 1am. Mixed crowd.

Baustelle 4U

<http://www.baustelle4u.de>

Vor St. Martin 12, 50667 Cologne

Telephone: +49 (0)221 16829711

Popular gay bar in Old Town. Open 5pm – 1am

COX

<http://www.cox-cologne.de>

Mühlenbach 53, 50676 Cologne

Telephone: +49 163 2806245

Cologne's gay bar for the Bear Community and their friends (women welcome).

Open 8pm – 1am (closed Sundays)

Station 2B

<http://www.station2b.com/aboutus>

Pipinstraße 2, 50667 Cologne

Cologne's leading fetish and cruising location. Bar and dance floor on the ground level,

play area with cabins in the basement. (bring breadcrumbs to find your way out!) Check the website of Station 2B for its current program and dress codes. Minimum consumption €6-8.

ExCorner

<https://www.facebook.com/ExCorner>

Schaafenstraße 57-59, 50676 Cologne

Telephone: +49 (0)221 2336060

Very popular gay bar for many years. Open 7pm – Whenever They're Ready to Close.

Ixbar

www.facebook.com/Ixbar

Mauritiuswall 84, 50676 Cologne

Nice, friendly cocktail & wine bar in the "Bermuda Triangle" of gay Cologne.

Open Thursday-Monday 8pm-2am.

Iron

www.facebook.com/IronCGN

Schaafenstraße 45, Cologne

Gay cocktail lounge bar with a mixed crowd. Plays classical music every Sunday.

Amsterdam, Netherlands

Amsterdam's dining scene is wildly diverse and covers a lot of ground. Since Indonesia used to be a Dutch colony, the Indonesian restaurants here are among the world's best. A few of our favorite places include:

Le Restaurant

<http://www.lerestaurant.nl/en/>

Tweede Jan Steenstraat 3 1073 VK Amsterdam.

Telephone: +31 (0)20-379 22 07

Email: info@lerestaurant.nl.

Reservations required. Open for dinner Tuesday through Saturday from 7pm. Payment in cash only. French cuisine at its finest.

Ron Gastrobar

<http://www.rongastrobar.nl/en>

Sophialaan 55 hs 1075 BP Amsterdam

Telephone: +31 (0)20 49 61 943

Email: info@rongastrobar.nl.

Reservations required. Open daily: Lunch 12pm-2:30pm; Dinner: 5:30pm-10:30pm. An accessible French restaurant where overall enjoyment comes first.

Restaurant Blauw

<http://restaurantblauw.nl>

Amstelveenseweg 158-160 1075 XN Amsterdam

Telephone: +31 (0)20 67 55 000

Email: info@restaurantblauw.nl.

Reservations required. Among the best Indonesian restaurants in Amsterdam.

Samhoud Places

<http://www.samhoudplaces.com>

Oosterdoksade 5 1011 AD Amsterdam

Telephone: +31 (0)20 2602094
Email: places@samhoud.com.
Reservations required. Open Wed-Sun 7pm-9:30pm; Lunch Friday & Sunday 12pm-2pm.
Authentic dishes with an unusual twist. New cuisine at its finest.

The Pancake Bakery

<http://www.pancake.nl/indexeng.php>
Prinsengracht 191 1015 DS Amsterdam
Telephone: +31 (0)20 625 13 33
Open daily 9am-9:30pm
On the same canal as Saturday's Gay Pride Parade, don't even think about not popping in to The Pancake Bakery for some of the most delicious delights in all of the Netherlands.

Amsterdam's Gay Scene

The streets of Amsterdam will be as gay as gay gets this week with EuroPride in full swing. Add to that, northern Europe's largest Gay Pride Festival on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, and you're in for a treat! These festivals are not only attended by the gays, but by nearly everyone in the region. They all come together to celebrate progressive diversity within their community and that's what makes this city so special. However, if you want to get off the streets and in to the bars, here are a few of our favorites:

SoHo

<http://www.soho-amsterdam.com>
Reguliersdwarstraat 36
An English Pub in the heart of Amsterdam's famous gay party area.

Taboo Bar

<http://www.taboo.nl>
Reguliersdwarstraat 45
A modern and fun place to share a drink with friends or do a little late-night dancing.

Prik

<http://www.prikamsterdam.nl>
Spuistraat 109
One of Amsterdam's trendiest (and friendliest) cocktail bars.

Club NYX

<http://www.clubnyx.nl>
Reguliersdwarstraat 42
11pm – 5am
The club consists of three floors, each floor offering a different style of music, which gives one the opportunity to experience several atmospheres during one night. NYX's most important goal is to provide an experience that revolves around having fun. Because after all, that is what clubbing is about: drinking, dancing, and laughing. This is reflected in all aspects: the music, the entertainment, the décor, the staff, and the guests. No pretention, no attitudes. Although NYX is initially a gay club, straight people are just as welcome. NYX is a melting pot of likeminded, multi-minded people – people who are out to have a good time, to enjoy themselves and enjoy each other.

There are many other small gay bars in Amsterdam attracting various crowds – leather, older, drag, locals, Dutch music/Eurovision, etc. Reguliersdwarstraat is the predominant gay street and is completely packed during pride weekend. On Friday, August 5, this street is the place to go. On Saturday after the canal parade, the crowds here are immense – think New Orleans' Mardi Gras.

There is a street very close to Reguliersdwarstraat called Amstel. This street, which has many small gay bars, too, has an outdoor stage on Gay Pride Saturday evening with music and people dancing. For those who need a little elbowroom, Amstel will certainly be less crowded than Reguliersdwarstraat.

Pride Weekend Highlights

Friday, August 5

Amstel Fifty-Four

www.nighttours.com/amsterdam/gayguide/amstel-fifty-four.html
4pm-4am

Located appropriately at 54 Amstel, it's a great spot to kick-off your night and enjoy one of Amsterdam's very popular gay bars.

Club Church

<http://www.nighttours.com/amsterdam/gayguide/club-church.html>

10pm – 5am

A very popular gay dance and cruise club at Kerkstraat (near Leidsestraat)

Saturday, August 6

The famed canal boat pride parade starts at 1:30pm at the beginning of the Prinsengracht at the Westerdok harbour. At the end of the Prinsengracht, the parade turns left on to the Amstel river, passing the famous white Skinny Bridge (Magere Brug) and passes the Stadhuis / Muziektheater to make a right in the direction of the Oosterdok.

Funhouse @ WesterUnie

<http://www.nighttours.com/amsterdam/gayguide/funhouse.html>

10pm – 9am

ADVANCE TICKETS REQUIRED. ORDER ONLINE.

Bear Necessity at Air

www.nighttours.com/amsterdam/gayguide/bear-necessity.html

11pm – 5am

ADVANCE TICKETS REQUIRED. ORDER ONLINE.

Bear Necessity started as a bear party, but has become more a general gay dance party for real men.

Sunday, August 7

Rapido

www.nighttours.com/amsterdam/gayguide/rapido.html

3pm-2am

ADVANCE TICKETS REQUIRED. ORDER ONLINE.

Eagle – Amsterdam

www.nighttours.com/amsterdam/gayguide/eagle.html

10pm – 4am

World famous and most visited men's bar in Amsterdam. Rated 2015's best fetish venue.

Nude Club Amsterdam

<http://horsemen.nl>

The Eagle will host Nude Club Amsterdam's all-nude party. Doors open by 4pm, party goes until 7pm. Dress code: shoes only.

Where You Enjoy

We're thrilled to have some truly amazing RSVP regulars and guest artists with us for these two cruises:

Legendary Danube

Big-ship RSVP Cruise Director **Brad Loekle** makes his river ship debut! He'll be your RSVP Cruise Director throughout the week – a perfect foil for the fabulous Barbara.

The incomparable **Anne Steele** makes her RSVP river cruise debut! She'll be with us from Budapest to Amsterdam with all-new shows throughout the voyage. From Broadway to today's greatest hits and everything imagineable in-between, her angelic voice will raise the roof on *Expression's* Panorama Lounge!

European Splendor

The fabulously funny and dry **Mr. Paul J. Williams** will be your RSVP Cruise Director. He'll also lead evenings of comedy and games over the course of your cruise.

In addition, we're happy to welcome the following local artists:

Legendary Danube

The Aphrodites. This acclaimed all-girl orchestra interprets pop music of the 20th and 21st centuries in all original arrangements for violin, viola, flute, and piano.

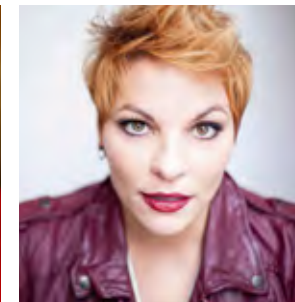
European Splendor

La Strada. This string trio has delighted our European river cruisers for the past three years. We're thrilled to welcome them back in Cologne!

Throsten Loher. This acclaimed accordion player brings his unique musical stylings to us in Bamberg.

And to top it all off, we'll also offer Pub Crawls throughout the cruise - all led by teamRSVP. So be ready!

A schedule of the next day's performances and activities will be delivered to your stateroom each evening.



Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Is everything in my Cruise Vacation Guide set in stone?

Answer: Yes...at the time of printing. We've been working for months to ensure that everything here is accurate. However, since there are still a couple months before we set sail, real world circumstances may cause certain items to be adjusted, amended, reimagined, or simply dropped. Your patience and understanding are certainly appreciated.

Question: Can I bring a friend onboard?

Answer: Only registered cruise guests and crew have access to the ship; no visitors onboard the ship. This is for the safety and security of all guests.

Question: What if I need to change the name on my reservation?

Answer: Name changes are available up to Friday, June 17. A name change fee of \$150.00 USD will be charged for each name change. Contact your travel professional or RSVP to make these changes.

Question: Will I receive anything in the mail?

Answer: In mid-to-late June you'll receive your cruise contract and an RSVP luggage tag.

Question: What if someone needs to reach me by phone while I'm on the ship?

Answer: If your mobile phone is turned on while you're away, you'll maintain service through most areas along the river. Having them dial your mobile phone directly is certainly the fastest way for them to reach you. If for some reason they need to call the ship, the phone number for *Expression* is +491726199341.

Question: How do I ensure I have the latest news regarding my RSVP vacation?

Answer: To stay on top of all that's going on and to meet fellow cruisers before you sail, be sure to join our Facebook event pages:

Legendary Danube <https://www.facebook.com/events/1670365833196331/>

European Splendor <https://www.facebook.com/events/869306016495397/>

Also, keep a close eye on our Already Booked pages for the latest news and happenings:

Legendary Danube <http://rsvpvacations.com/legendary-danube-river-cruise/10#booked>

European Splendor <http://rsvpvacations.com/european-splendor-river-cruise/11#booked>

If you have any questions about your cruise, please call us at 310.432.2300.

We hope you enjoyed your Cruise Vacation Guide.

We can't wait to see you in Europe!

RSVP Vacations is definitely **Where You Belong.**