



DESTINATION GUIDE CENTRAL EUROPE

Discover the enchanting destinations of Central Europe best explored by river



Welcome to CENTRAL EUROPE

*Experience the charm and elegance
of Europe's hidden treasures.*

Embark on an unforgettable journey as you explore the heart of Europe on an enchanting river voyage. More than just a journey, it is a seamless blend of history, culture and magnificent scenery—all enjoyed from the comfort of your floating hotel. Each destination along the way offers a unique glimpse into the region's rich tapestry of history and culture. From the grand cathedrals and castles that dot the landscape to the vibrant local markets, river cruising in Central Europe is a feast for the senses.

You will experience the perfect blend of major cities and charming small towns. Imagine waking up to the sight of Budapest's iconic Parliament building, exploring the artistic treasures of Amsterdam or strolling through the imperial streets of Vienna. These major ports of call offer a wealth of historical landmarks, world-class museums and architectural marvels that will leave you in awe.

The true charm of river cruising, however, lies in the smaller, lesser-known ports where you can experience the true wonder of Europe. Wander through the medieval streets of Bamberg, a UNESCO World Heritage Site; explore the charming town of Kinderdijk in the Netherlands known for its historic windmills or savour local wines in quaint villages nestled amongst terraced vineyards along the Rhine and Danube rivers.

Each stop along Europe's rivers tells a different story—of emperors and composers, painters and poets. Admire art that defines centuries and savour the traditional cuisines that have been perfected over generations.

Whether you are a history buff, an art enthusiast, or simply seeking a relaxing and enriching travel experience, a voyage along the rivers of Central Europe offers an unforgettable journey that will leave you with memories to last a lifetime. We hope you enjoy this guide.



VIKING LONGSHIP IN MILTENBERG, GERMANY



NEUSCHWANSTEIN CASTLE IN SCHWANGAU, GERMANY

Discover why our loyal guests **LOVE CENTRAL EUROPE**

Who better to share the magic of a Viking voyage than those who have lived it? Our guests recount the unforgettable moments that made their journey through Central Europe truly special.



"As we sailed quietly down the smooth waters of the Rhine, sitting outside on the deck, we both drifted off thinking about how the castles were built, by so few, in a short period of time, and without a hi-vis jacket or crane on site! Then the Viking team gently tapped our shoulder, it was time for our hot chocolate drink and warm biscuit."

Kerry V

"Our guided tour of Regensburg showed us the rich history of the city as a centre of power and trade. We were awestruck by the cathedral, the town hall and the tower houses. We finished with eating delicious sausages by the old stone bridge!"

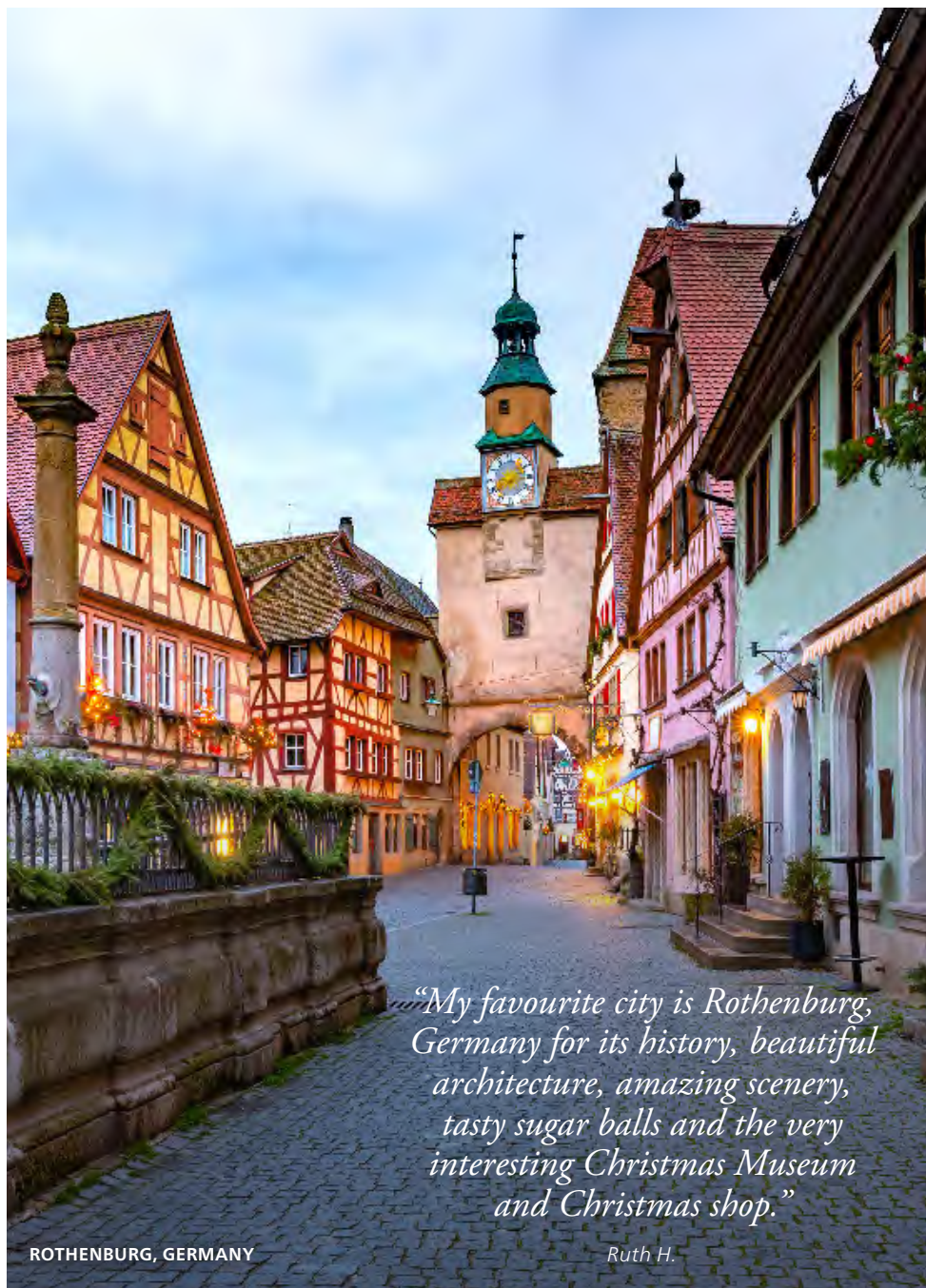
Paul B

"Seeing and hearing the Opera in Vienna was our highlight. It was in an original building with excellent acoustics. Imagine people parading up and down the stairs in their gowns; no electronic microphones or high-tech equipment, just a building built for sound. And what an amazing sound."

Eileen H

"We purchased tickets for an Alma Deutscher performance in Vienna whilst on our Budapest to Amsterdam river voyage. What an experience—to see and hear the prodigiously talented teenager sing, dance, conduct and play piano was truly wonderful. An unforgettable night that we still talk about."

Michael A.



“My favourite city is Rothenburg, Germany for its history, beautiful architecture, amazing scenery, tasty sugar balls and the very interesting Christmas Museum and Christmas shop.”

ROTHENBURG, GERMANY

Ruth H.

Highlights of **CENTRAL EUROPE**

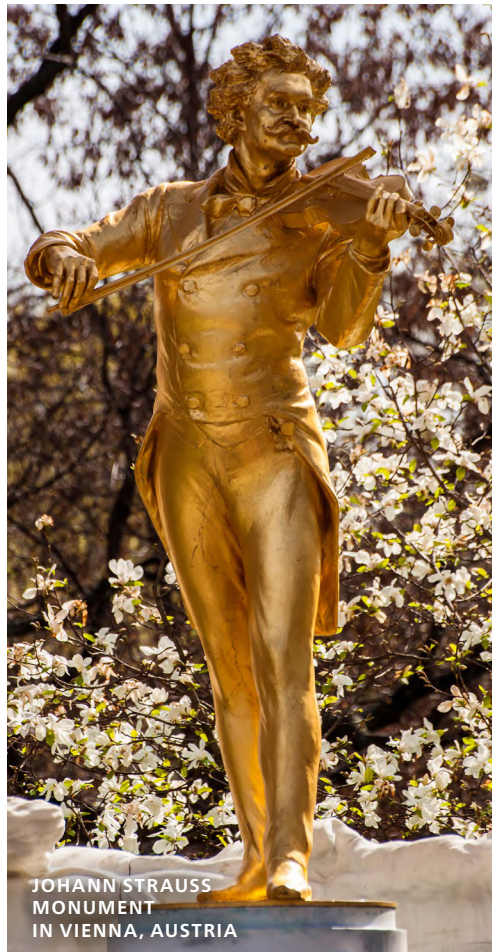
Immerse yourself in the rich culture and breathtaking landscapes of Central Europe. From the elegant Viennese waltz to the majestic Swiss Alps, explore the iconic traditions and natural wonders that make this region truly enchanting.

THE VIENNESE WALTZ AND MOZART'S MUSIC

A visit to Vienna, Austria is not complete without delving into its rich traditions of classical music and dance. Don your dancing shoes and learn the elegant steps of the Viennese Waltz, a dance that is not just a form of movement but a symbol of Austrian social life and history. First introduced to modern ballrooms in the 17th century, the waltz gained immense popularity in Vienna during the 1780s, reflecting the city's love for music, dance and celebration.

After mastering the waltz, embark on a tour of the former residence of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart at Mozarthaus—Mozart's Vienna apartment. Explore his family residence, see the rooms where Mozart composed some of his greatest works and enjoy a unique glimpse into the daily life and creative genius of one of the world's most celebrated composers.

Or perhaps lose yourself in the enchanting melodies of Vienna's finest music with an orchestral performance at one of the city's renowned musical institutions, featuring renditions of famous compositions by Mozart and Strauss.



**JOHANN STRAUSS
MONUMENT
IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA**

THE BLACK FOREST

Nestled in the southwest corner of Germany, the fabled Black Forest is a mesmerising blend of natural beauty and enchanting folklore. Wander through the dense, towering fir forests and discover charming villages hidden among the gently rolling hills, idyllic woodlands and lush vineyards.

The Black Forest region is renowned for its cuckoo clocks and glassblowing—you will be captivated by the intricate craftsmanship on display in local shops. Make the most of the opportunity to savour the region's culinary delights, from the rich and creamy Black Forest cake to hearty dishes like schnitzel and spätzle. Hofgut Sternen hotel is a loyal keeper of Black Forest traditions and well worth a visit.

Energetic travellers can explore the region by car or by e-bike, effortlessly navigating scenic woodland trails and rolling fields adorned with vineyards and orchards, while uncovering the rich history and culture of this captivating region.



BLACK FOREST, GERMANY



KINDERDIJK, THE NETHERLANDS

KINDERDIJK WINDMILLS

Visiting the Netherlands Kinderdijk windmills is like taking a journey back in time. This UNESCO World Heritage site is home to 19 well-preserved windmills, built around 1740 to manage water levels and prevent flooding in the Alblasserwaard polder. These windmills stand as iconic symbols of Dutch ingenuity in water management.

The best way to explore Kinderdijk is by bike or on foot, allowing you to fully immerse yourself in the serene beauty and historical significance of the area. As you wander, make sure to visit the Blokker Windmill Museum, where you can step into the rustic lives of mill keepers and their families. Inside, you will meet the miller and his family and tour the windmill adorned with authentic furnishings and exhibits that bring to life the mechanics of the windmills and their pivotal role in Dutch history.



ROTHENBURG, GERMANY

THE ROMANTIC ROAD

The Romantic Road in southern Germany, established in the 1950s to boost tourism and revive the post-war economy, is renowned for its fairytale castles, medieval towns and picturesque countryside.

A notable highlight is Rothenburg ob der Tauber, one of Germany's last remaining walled medieval towns. Once a bustling merchant city under the Holy Roman Empire, Rothenburg's decline during the Thirty Years' War and the plague preserved its medieval charm, which was rediscovered by German Romantics in 1802.

Discover the enchanting Plönlein square, with its narrow street lined with half-timbered houses. Stroll along the well-preserved city walls for stunning views of the town and the surrounding countryside, as you imagine the rich history that these walls have witnessed. Admire the High Altar of St. Jakob's Church and the Gothic-Renaissance Town Hall. Rothenburg is also known for its Christmas shops, particularly Käthe Wohlfahrt's Christmas Village, where you can step into a magical Christmas wonderland all year round.

BAVARIAN BEER CULTURE

Bavarian beer culture is woven with centuries of tradition, craftsmanship and community spirit. Bavaria, often considered the heartland of German beer, is home to almost half of the country's breweries. Central to this culture is the Reinheitsgebot, or Beer Purity Law, enacted in 1516, which mandates that beer can only be made from water, barley and hops. Although these regulations have since been relaxed, purists remain and this tradition has been recognised as an intangible cultural heritage, highlighting its significance to Bavarian identity.

Sample traditional wheat beers, crafted with more wheat than barley, as well as refreshing pilsners from Kneiting and rich dark beers from Weltenburger. For an authentic brauhaus experience, indulge in homemade Bavarian sausages and sauerkraut, savour a freshly baked breze and enjoy a tasting of various local mustards.



BAVARIAN BEER

EUROPE'S FAMOUS WINE TRAILS

The Danube, Rhine and Main rivers flow through some of Europe's most enchanting wine regions, each offering a unique blend of history, culture and exceptional wines.

The Danube's wine regions are steeped in history, with traditions dating back to the Roman Empire. One such region is Austria's Wachau Valley, known for producing some of the world's finest dry Rieslings and Grüner Veltliners. The unique combination of terraced slopes, dry stone walls, hillside castles, vineyards and rich cultural tradition has earned it a place as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, adding to the allure of the wines.

The Rhine River Valley, particularly the Rheingau in Germany and Alsace in France, is celebrated for its Riesling wines. The steep, terraced vineyards produce wines with remarkable aromatic complexity. World-renowned for its viticulture, Alsace is enriched with a dry mild climate, favourable soils and ideal exposure for its vineyards. Its location creates a blend of Germanic and Roman influences, and tells a story started by wine-producing Romans.

The Main River is the longest tributary of the Rhine, flowing through Germany. This region is distinguished by its Silvaner wines, often dry with a crisp, clean profile. The charming towns along this river, with their half-timbered houses and historic wine cellars, offer a picturesque backdrop for sampling fine vintages.



RÜDESHEIM AM RHEIN, GERMANY

EUROPE'S ARCHITECTURAL TAPESTRY

Central Europe is steeped in history and architectural splendour, with each city telling its own unique story. From imperial palaces to medieval towns, the architecture of this region offers a fascinating journey through time.

In Budapest, the Parliament Building stands as a testament to Hungary's national pride and Gothic Revival architecture, while Cologne's Cathedral, with its towering spires, represents centuries of faith and resilience. Vienna's skyline is a harmonious blend of imperial opulence and modern sophistication, epitomised by the Hofburg and Schönbrunn Palaces, the heart of the Habsburg Empire. Meanwhile, Amsterdam's iconic canals and gabled houses reflect the Dutch Golden Age, with landmarks like the Rijksmuseum and Anne Frank House offering profound insights into the city's rich artistic and historical heritage.

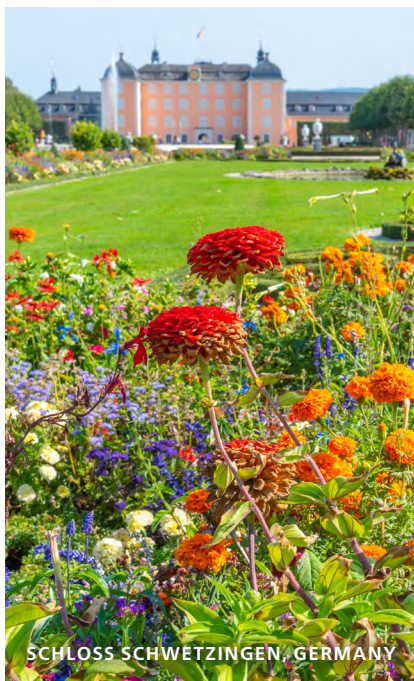


COLOGNE, GERMANY

THE SWISS ALPS

Embark on an unforgettable adventure in the Swiss Alps, where natural beauty meets rich cultural heritage. Begin your journey in the charming village of Brienz, where you can watch skilled wood carvers bring traditional crafts to life. In Grindelwald, board a cogwheel train to Kleine Scheidegg. This mountain pass, situated between the Eiger and Lauberhorn peaks, offers awe-inspiring mountain views. Interlaken, beautifully situated between Lake Thun and Lake Brienz and surrounded by towering peaks, was once hailed as a spa town to cure the ailments of 19th-century Europeans.

No trip to Switzerland is complete without indulging in its world-renowned chocolate. Celebrated for its smooth texture and rich flavour, Swiss chocolate is crafted from high-quality cocoa beans and fresh Alpine milk, a product that is now synonymous with luxury and excellence. Participate in a hands-on workshop at the Lindt headquarters in Kilchberg to become a Maître Chocolatier, or discover the art of making artisanal Swiss chocolate at Kürzi Kakao, a boutique chocolatier known for its premium creations.



THE GARDENS OF SCHLOSS SCHWETZINGEN

Visit the stunning gardens of Schloss Schwetzingen in Germany, where baroque architecture meets splendid flora. Stroll through the exquisitely ornate gardens and learn about the palace's rich history as the summer residence of Electors Palatine Charles III Philip and Charles IV Theodore of the House of Wittelsbach. Marvel at the decorative water fountains and sculptures depicting scenes from Greek mythology. The gardens boast a diverse collection of plants, trees and flowers that bloom throughout the seasons, creating a vibrant tapestry of colours year-round. Do not miss the baroque-style theatre, the Temple of Apollo and the 18th-century bathhouse, a favourite retreat of the princes.

Iconic castles and palaces **OF EUROPE**

Europe is home to some of the most extraordinary castles and palaces, each with its own unique history and architectural brilliance. These magnificent structures offer a fascinating insight into the life and times of bygone eras and showcase the grandeur and cultural heritage of the regions in which they reside.

SCHÖNBRUNN PALACE

Discover the magnificent home of the Hapsburg Dynasty, situated just outside Vienna's city centre. Their luxurious summer residence reflects the power and influence of one of Europe's most significant dynasties. The origins of Schönbrunn date back to 1569 when Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian II built the original hunting lodge, naming it Schönbrunn. In 1775, Empress Maria Theresa, the only female ruler of the Hapsburgs, commissioned the grand neoclassical Gloriette colonnade. A guided tour of the imperial apartments reveals the lavishly decorated rooms where she resided, offering a fascinating glimpse into her extraordinary life. Beyond the palace walls, the expansive gardens are a marvel to explore.



MELK ABBEY

Set amid the wine-growing region of the Wachau Valley, the charming riverside town of Melk is home to the majestic 900-year-old Benedictine Melk Abbey, a spectacular example of baroque architecture. Rebuilt in the 18th century after the original 12th-century structure was destroyed by fire, the abbey stands as a testament to the resilience and cultural significance of the Benedictine order in Europe. The abbey's beautiful library houses priceless medieval manuscripts and marvellous frescoes by Paul Troger. The interior of the abbey's church is a kaleidoscope of red, orange and gold, featuring a magnificent carved pulpit and vibrant ceiling frescoes. The imperial rooms, now a museum, chronicle the abbey's history from its inception to modern times.



NEUSCHWANSTEIN CASTLE

Nestled amongst the Bavarian Alps, Neuschwanstein Castle is a 19th-century masterpiece commissioned by King Ludwig II of Bavaria, often referred to as the "Fairy Tale King." Construction began in 1869, driven by Ludwig II's vision of a medieval-style castle that would embody his love for music, art, and the legends of old. Inspired by Richard Wagner, the castle's architecture blends of Romanesque, Gothic and Byzantine elements, creating a fantastical structure that seems straight out of a storybook. The castle's lavish interiors, adorned with intricate frescoes and opulent furnishings, reflect Ludwig's artistic passions and his desire to create a personal retreat away from the pressures of royal life.



MARKSBURG CASTLE

Painstakingly carved into the slate bedrock of a mountain peak, Marksburg has long stood as one of Germany's most formidable castles. Built in the 12th century, it is the only medieval-era stronghold in the Rhine Valley that has never been destroyed, a testament to its robust defenses and strategic importance. The castle has witnessed the rise and fall of dynasties, each leaving its mark. The castle's distinctive butter-churn tower, named for its unique shape with a narrower upper section, adds to its iconic profile. Navigate narrow, winding staircases to discover the wine cellar, a bedroom, dining area and the impressive kitchen of the Gothic Hall building.



ELTZ CASTLE

Nestled in the lush hills above the Moselle River, Eltz Castle is a fairy tale brought to life. This enchanting fortress has been owned by the same family for over 850 years, surviving wars and conflicts that ravaged the region. Intertwined with the Holy Roman Empire, it played a crucial role in the region's defense and politics. With its towers and turrets soaring from a rocky perch, the castle reflects the evolution of European styles from Romanesque to Baroque. Step inside to explore the decorated halls and rooms that showcase the castle's remarkable history; 15th-century murals adorn the walls and The Knight's Hall features displays of armour and weapons that date back to the 12th century.



GÖTTWEIG ABBEY

Overlooking Austria's Wachau Valley is the gracious Göttweig Abbey. Built on land donated by Passau's Bishop Altmann in 1083, this Benedictine monastery has been a centre of learning, art and faith for nearly a millennium. Step through the church's neoclassical portal to admire its colourful and ornate interior. The abbey's museum chronicles its 900-year history as a centre of religious life and its role as a monastic retreat. Climb the Imperial Staircase, crowned by one of the largest and most spectacular ceiling frescoes in the world. The adjoining princely and imperial rooms showcase splendid artwork from the abbey's own collections.



Something for EVERYONE

There is so much to experience in Central Europe, catering to every interest and passion. Whether you are an art enthusiast, a culture aficionado, a culinary explorer, a history buff or an architecture lover, this region offers a rich tapestry of experiences.

ART

Marvel at the masterpieces of Gustav Klimt at the Belvedere Palace in Vienna, home to the world's largest collection of his works, including the iconic *The Kiss*. Enjoy Privileged Access to the 16th-century Lobkowitz Palace in Prague, where you can explore one of Europe's oldest and finest private art collections, with pieces dating back over 2,000 years. Step inside the meticulously preserved home of impressionist Claude Monet in Giverny, France. Wander through the exquisite gardens, the inspiration behind many of his most famous works.



CULTURE

Experience a behind-the-scenes look at the world-famous Vienna Boys Choir, who once performed with Mozart and Bruckner. Since 1948, Vienna's Palais Augarten has served as their school. Tour the school, meet some of the talented singers and enjoy a private concert. In Holland, explore the vibrant colours of the Keukenhof Gardens. Spread across 70 acres of parkland with meandering waterways and shaded trails, it features more than 7 million tulips and other flowers. Or discover the life and works of Johann Sebastian Bach at the Bach Museum in Leipzig, Germany. The museum offers interactive exhibits, rare and valuable items, and access to the Organ Chamber.

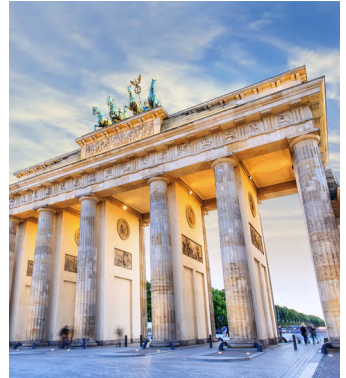


CULINARY

Savour the delightful flavours of the Alsace region in France, known for its unique blend of French and German cuisine. Taste regional specialties such as flammkuchen—a thin dough sprinkled generously with cured pork, onion and crème fraîche—and allow a sommelier to guide you through paired local wines. Perhaps travel through the lush farmlands of Austria to the tranquil village of Gutau, where a local bread maker will demonstrate traditional baking techniques and invite you to bake your own bread. Or head to the Wachau Valley wine region, to sample fine vintages on a tour of a local winery. Explore the impressive cellars and learn the centuries-old traditions that make its wines so exceptional.

HISTORY

Witness famous Berlin landmarks such as the Brandenburg Gate and the Berlin Wall, which once symbolised division but now stand as powerful emblems of unity and resilience. In Osijek, Croatia, delve into the history of the former Yugoslavia, its dissolution and the subsequent impact on the region. In Trier, Germany, founded in 16BC, walk among ancient Roman ruins and remnants of the Holy Roman Empire. Meanwhile, the medieval town of Nuremberg offers a glimpse into the city's complex past, from its days as a centre of the Holy Roman Empire to its role in bringing Nazi war criminals to justice after World War II.



ARCHITECTURE

Cologne Cathedral, a masterpiece of Gothic architecture built between 1248 and 1880, stands as a testament to the grandeur of medieval craftsmanship with its twin spires and intricate façade. Melk Abbey in Austria, with its opulent design, grand halls and elaborate frescoes, showcases the artistic and cultural achievements of the Baroque period. In Budapest, explore the Roman ruins of Aquincum, the Gothic splendour of Matthias Church and the Neo-Gothic Hungarian Parliament Building. The city's iconic sights, including the Buda Castle and the Chain Bridge, offer a visual feast for architecture enthusiasts.

Map of CENTRAL EUROPE





GERMANY



Wittenberg ○

• Berlin

• Potsdam

ELBE

Meissen •

• Dresden

Bamberg

Würzburg

MAIN

MAIN-DANUBE CANAL

○ Dčín

Prague •

CZECH REPUBLIC



• Nuremberg

○ Regensburg

SLOVAKIA



• Kelheim

• Munich

○ Passau

• Salzburg

Vienna •

• Bratislava

○ Budapest

AUSTRIA



DANUBE

HUNGARY



Zürich

Geneve

LAND

• Lake Como

#1 LONGER
EUROPEAN
RIVER VOYAGE

GRAND EUROPEAN TOUR

Amsterdam to Budapest or vice versa

15 DAYS | 12 GUIDED TOURS | 4 COUNTRIES

TYPICAL SAILING SEASON - MARCH TO NOVEMBER

This incredible voyage showcases the highlights of the Netherlands, Germany, Austria and Hungary. Explore Bavaria's fairytale castles and the windmill-studded tulip fields of the Netherlands. Savour a decadent Sachertorte in a Viennese café, enjoy panoramic views of imperial Budapest, and along the way, discover the legend of the Lorelei, the ancient art of glassblowing, the music of Mozart and more.



BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

Itinerary day by day

DAY 1 Amsterdam, The Netherlands

DAY 2 Kinderdijk, The Netherlands

DAY 3 Cologne, Germany

DAY 4 Koblenz, Germany

DAY 5 Miltenberg, Germany

DAY 6 Würzburg, Germany

DAY 7 Bamberg, Germany

DAY 8 Nuremberg, Germany

DAY 9 Regensburg, Germany

DAY 10 Passau, Germany

DAY 11 Melk, Austria

DAY 12-13 Vienna, Austria

DAY 14-15 Budapest, Hungary

RHINE GETAWAY

Basel to Amsterdam or vice versa

8 DAYS | 6 GUIDED TOURS | 4 COUNTRIES

TYPICAL SAILING SEASON - MARCH TO NOVEMBER

This immersive voyage presents all of the highlights of the legendary Rhine in just eight days. Discover the turreted fortresses, historic cities, medieval towns and stunning scenery of the Middle Rhine—a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Soak in rich colours amid the stained glass of Cologne's gothic cathedral. Marvel at the many architectural splendours and enjoy an evening stroll along the cobblestones of Rudesheim. Sip the region's renowned white wines, the roots of its terraced vineyards reaching back to Roman times. Savour the various culinary traditions of Alsace on a journey that reveals a rich landscape of beauty and culture.

Itinerary day by day

DAY 1 Basel, Switzerland

DAY 2 Breisach, Germany

DAY 3 Strasbourg, France

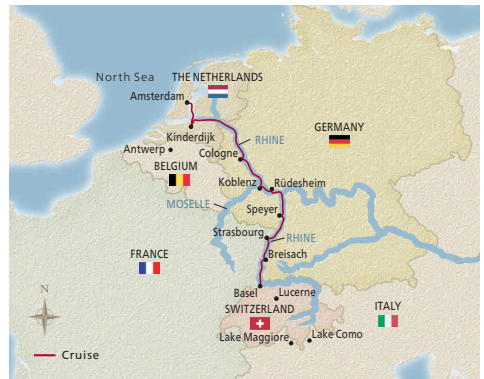
DAY 4 Speyer & Rudesheim, Germany

DAY 5 Koblenz, Germany

DAY 6 Cologne, Germany

DAY 7 Kinderdijk, The Netherlands

DAY 8 Amsterdam, The Netherlands



KINDERDIJK, THE NETHERLANDS



STRASBOURG, FRANCE

DANUBE WALTZ

Budapest to Passau or vice versa

8 DAYS | 6 GUIDED TOURS | 4 COUNTRIES

TYPICAL SAILING SEASON - MARCH TO NOVEMBER

Journey through four of Europe's most enchanting countries—Hungary, Slovakia, Austria and Germany—along the storied Danube River. Explore Budapest's imperial and Art Nouveau delights and discover why it is aptly called the "Paris of the East" with its beautiful evening illumination. Learn why Vienna is known as "the waltz capital" and enjoy learning about its fascinating classical music history. Witness daily monastic life in an abbey on an exclusive visit to Göttweig and explore lesser-known cities like Bratislava and Passau. This eight-day itinerary reveals the best of these places, while cruising leisurely through spectacular scenery.



Itinerary day by day

DAY 1 Budapest, Hungary

DAY 2 Budapest, Hungary

DAY 3 Bratislava, Slovakia

DAY 4 Vienna, Austria

DAY 5 Krems, Austria

DAY 6 Linz, Austria

DAY 7 Passau, Germany

DAY 8 Passau, Germany



ROMANTIC DANUBE

Budapest to Regensburg or vice versa

8 DAYS | 5 GUIDED TOURS | 3 COUNTRIES

TYPICAL SAILING SEASON - MARCH TO NOVEMBER

Visit Budapest's Castle District and cross the famous Chain Bridge. Explore Göttweig Abbey, one of Austria's most revered monastic centres, and make dumplings with Wachau Valley apricots. Visit historic Salzburg. Spend two days in Vienna and celebrate the city's musical heritage at a concert featuring works by Mozart and Strauss. With medieval towns, grand cities and stunning scenery, this eight-day journey on the "Blue Danube" is one you are sure to love.

Itinerary day by day

DAY 1 Budapest, Hungary

DAY 2 Budapest, Hungary

DAY 3 Vienna, Austria

DAY 4 Vienna, Austria

DAY 5 Krems, Austria

DAY 6 Passau, Germany

DAY 7 Regensburg, Germany

DAY 8 Regensburg, Germany




23 DAYS | 19 GUIDED TOURS | 8 COUNTRIES

EUROPEAN SOJOURN

Amsterdam to Bucharest or vice versa

TYPICAL SAILING SEASON
MARCH TO NOVEMBER



ROCK SCULPTURE OF
KING DECEBALUS,
DANUBE, ROMANIA



Enjoy a lifetime's worth of experiences on a single voyage. Sail the canals of Amsterdam. Discover castles on the Rhine. Behold the grandeur of Vienna. Celebrate folk traditions in Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria and Romania. These travel icons—and more—await you on a 23-day journey combining our *Grand European Tour* and *Passage to Eastern Europe* voyages. Discover eight countries in Western, Central and Eastern Europe while cruising the Rhine, Main and Danube.

Itinerary day by day

DAY 1 Amsterdam, The Netherlands

DAY 2 Kinderdijk, The Netherlands

DAY 3 Cologne, Germany

DAY 4 Koblenz, Germany

DAY 5 Miltenberg, Germany

DAY 6 Würzburg, Germany

DAY 7 Bamberg, Germany

DAY 8 Nuremberg, Germany

DAY 9 Regensburg, Germany

DAY 10 Passau, Germany

DAY 11 Melk, Austria

DAY 12-13 Vienna, Austria

DAY 14-15 Budapest, Hungary

DAY 16 Kalocsa, Hungary

DAY 17 Osijek, Croatia

DAY 18 Belgrade, Serbia

DAY 19 Golubac, Serbia

DAY 20 Vidin, Bulgaria

DAY 21 Ruse, Bulgaria

DAY 22-23 Bucharest, Romania

PARIS TO THE SWISS ALPS

Paris to Zürich or vice versa

12 DAYS | 10 GUIDED TOURS | 4 COUNTRIES

TYPICAL SAILING SEASON - MARCH TO NOVEMBER

Pay your respects at the Luxembourg American Cemetery. Discover Roman Trier. Taste Moselle Rieslings and visit the wine town of Bernkastel-Kues. Enjoy scenic sailing past the town of Sankt Goar, home of the Lorelei Rock, and through the Rhine Gorge, a UNESCO Site. Visit fascinating Worms and the university town of Heidelberg. Vineyard-flanked slopes and historic cities, along with hotel stays in Paris and Zürich, make this 12-day voyage irresistible.



Itinerary day by day

DAY 1-2 Paris, France

DAY 3 Reims, France

DAY 4 Trier & Bernkastel, Germany

DAY 5 Cochem, Germany

DAY 6 Koblenz, Germany

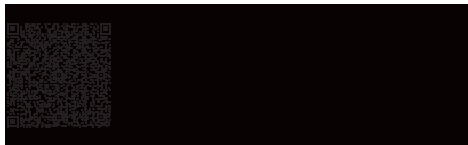
DAY 7 Mainz, Germany

DAY 8 Speyer, Germany

DAY 9 Strasbourg, France

DAY 10 Basel, Switzerland

DAY 11-12 Zürich, Switzerland

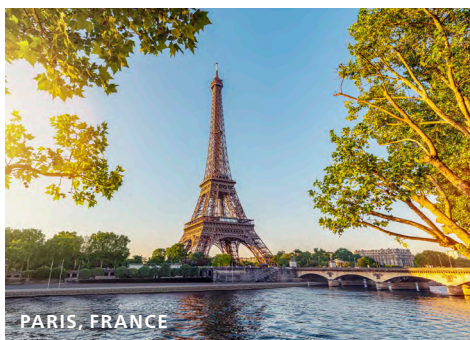


CITIES OF LIGHT

Paris to Prague or vice versa

12 DAYS | 10 GUIDED TOURS | 3 COUNTRIES

TYPICAL SAILING SEASON - MARCH TO NOVEMBER



LYON, PROVENCE & THE RHINELAND

Avignon to Amsterdam or vice versa

15 DAYS | 14 GUIDED TOURS | 4 COUNTRIES

TYPICAL SAILING SEASON - MARCH TO NOVEMBER



Discover more of France with Viking

Be it the Rhône, Seine, Dordogne or Gironde, France's rivers reveal some of the world's most celebrated locales: majestic Bordeaux, gastronomic Lyon, historic Normandy, picturesque Provence and elegant Paris. Let Viking immerse you in rich culture and tradition.

HOLLAND & BELGIUM

Amsterdam to Antwerp or vice versa

10 DAYS | 8 GUIDED TOURS | 3 COUNTRIES

TYPICAL SAILING SEASON - MARCH TO NOVEMBER

Journey through the inland waterways of the Low Countries—Holland and Belgium. Enjoy an overnight stay in vibrant Amsterdam. Sail through a vast network of canals and rivers, stopping in key cities to soak up Dutch, German and Flemish culture. Witness feats of Dutch engineering. See modern Rotterdam and the windmills of Kinderdijk, and visit Antwerp, Europe's diamond capital. In the spring, visit Keukenhof Gardens in bright bloom.



Itinerary day by day

DAY 1-2 Amsterdam, The Netherlands

DAY 3 Hoorn, The Netherlands

DAY 4 Dordrecht & Rotterdam, The Netherlands

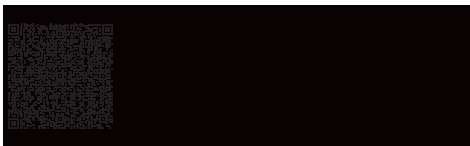
DAY 5 Kinderdijk & Gorinchem, The Netherlands

DAY 6 Wesel, Germany

DAY 7 Nijmegen, The Netherlands

DAY 8 Maastricht, The Netherlands

DAY 9-10 Antwerp, Belgium



ELEGANT ELBE

Prague to Berlin or vice versa

10 DAYS | 7 GUIDED TOURS | 2 COUNTRIES

TYPICAL SAILING SEASON - MARCH TO JULY & SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER

Discover Berlin's modern chic, Potsdam's rococo whimsy and Prague's Gothic exuberance. Walk in Martin Luther's footsteps in Wittenberg, birthplace of the Protestant Reformation. Admire delicate Meissen porcelain. Celebrate Dresden, a phoenix risen from the ashes of war. View Saxon Switzerland's monoliths. See the Elbe Biosphere Reserve. The Elbe is one of Europe's most unspoiled rivers, and it awaits you on this 10-day voyage.

Itinerary day by day

DAY 1-2 Prague, Czech Republic

DAY 3 Děčín, Czech Republic

DAY 4 Saxon Switzerland, Germany

DAY 5 Dresden, Germany

DAY 6 Meissen, Germany

DAY 7 Wittenberg, Germany

DAY 8 Potsdam & Berlin, Germany

DAY 9-10 Berlin, Germany



The magic of Europe's **CHRISTMAS MARKETS**

Exploring Europe's famed Christmas markets is like stepping into a winter wonderland filled with history, charm, and festive cheer.

With some markets dating back to the late Middle Ages, they offer a magical experience with their twinkling lights, beautifully decorated stalls, and the enticing aroma of mulled wine and roasted chestnuts. Wander through cobblestone streets lined with vendors selling handcrafted ornaments, intricate wooden toys, and cosy winter wear. The air is filled with the sounds of carolers and the laughter of children enjoying traditional rides and games. Each market has its own unique atmosphere, from the grand and bustling markets of Vienna and Budapest to the quaint and intimate settings in smaller towns. Europe's Christmas Markets offer an enchanting experience that captures the essence of the holiday season.

CHRISTMAS ON THE DANUBE

Budapest to Regensburg or vice versa

8 DAYS | 6 GUIDED TOURS | 3 COUNTRIES

SAILING SEASON - NOVEMBER & DECEMBER



CHRISTMAS ON THE RHINE

Amsterdam to Basel or vice versa

8 DAYS | 8 GUIDED TOURS | 4 COUNTRIES

SAILING SEASON - NOVEMBER & DECEMBER



*Christmas Market dates vary year on year and are subject to change, which remains beyond the control of Viking. Holiday closures at some of our destinations may impact our Christmas river voyages excursion program. Viking will do its utmost to keep booked guests advised of any itinerary updates.



VIENNA, AUSTRIA

CHRISTMAS ON THE RHINE & MOSELLE

Paris to Zürich or vice versa

12 DAYS | 10 GUIDED TOURS | 4 COUNTRIES

SAILING SEASON - NOVEMBER & DECEMBER



CHRISTMAS ON THE MAIN & MOSELLE

Paris to Prague or vice versa

12 DAYS | 10 GUIDED TOURS | 4 COUNTRIES

SAILING SEASON - NOVEMBER & DECEMBER



BASEL, SWITZERLAND



NUREMBERG, GERMANY

EXPLORE MORE

See more of the world with our pre and post extensions

Make every moment count by adding an extension to your river journey. More days mean more time to immerse yourself in the rich culture, history, and beauty of your destinations. Whether you choose to extend your stay in your embarkation or disembarkation city, or venture to an entirely new locale, our thoughtfully designed extension programs are the perfect complement to your itinerary.



LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND

WHY ADD AN EXTENSION?

Deeper Exploration: With additional days, you can delve deeper into the heart of your destination. Explore hidden treasures, enjoy leisurely strolls through historic neighbourhoods and savour local cuisine at your own pace.

Centrally Located First-Class Hotels: Enjoy the comfort and convenience of staying in centrally located First-Class hotels. We offer competitive rates in highly sought-after central locations, ensuring you have easy access to the best attractions.

Seamless Experience: All Viking Pre and Post Extensions include daily breakfasts, airport transfers, and the services of a dedicated Viking Host. Our local experts are on hand to assist you in planning and personalising your time, ensuring a seamless and enriching experience.

Exclusive Tours and Meals: Many of our extension packages include one or more guided tours and additional meals, providing you with even more opportunities to discover and enjoy your destination.

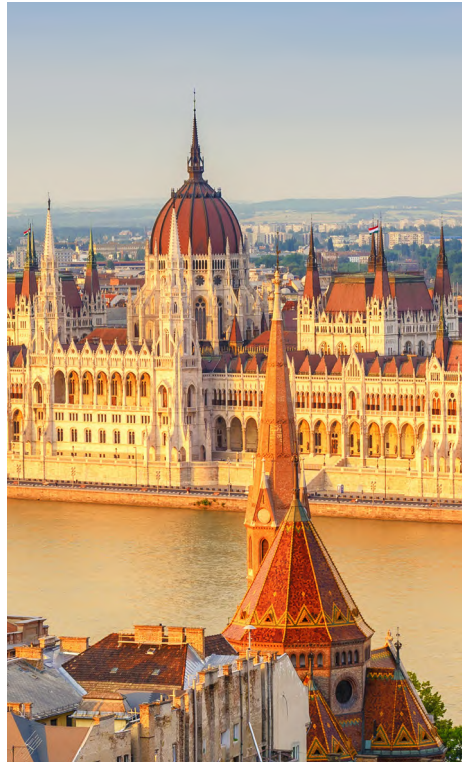
Premium Hotel Upgrades: Enhance your stay with our Premium Hotel options, a collection of properties chosen for their rich history, significant architecture, and genuine hospitality. On select itineraries and departure dates, you can upgrade your accommodation to one of these exceptional hotels.



AMSTERDAM

2 Nights or 2 Nights Premium

Your hotel is only a few steps away from the historic city centre in the heart of Amsterdam. Discover Amsterdam's cultural and architectural treasures along the charming canals lined with historic gilded buildings and arched bridges. An included guided walking tour will help acquaint you with this cosmopolitan city. Then spend time on your own exploring the Jordaan district, visit the city's art and history museums such as the Anne Frank House, take a canal boat ride or rent a bike and explore like a local. Savour traditional Dutch dishes like bitterballen (crispy meatballs) and stroopwafels (syrup-filled waffles) and enjoy the vibrant nightlife.



BUDAPEST

2 Nights or 2 Nights Premium

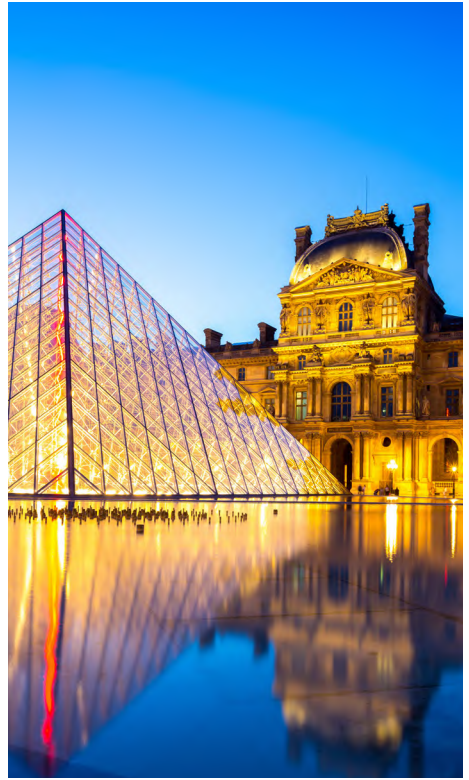
Explore Hungary's legendary capital city, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Your hotel is perfectly located for easy exploration. Discover the Castle District featuring the majestic Buda Castle, Fisherman's Bastion, and Matthias Church. Cross the Danube via the famous Chain Bridge to explore Pest and shop along Váci Street. Enjoy the hillier Buda neighbourhoods, visit the Hungarian National Gallery or relax at one of the city's elegant thermal spas. Budapest's cuisine is equally captivating - try goulash, a hearty meat and vegetable stew seasoned with paprika, or Lángos, a deep-fried dough topped with sour cream and cheese.



PRAGUE

2 or 3 Nights or 3 Nights Premium

Discover the Czech Republic's vibrant capital, the "City of a Hundred Spires." Few cities embody the past as authentically as Prague, clinging to its history with exceptional examples of medieval, Romanesque, baroque and art nouveau buildings that stir the imagination. Tour Hradčany Castle, visit the Gothic St. Vitus Cathedral and stroll along Charles Bridge. Explore the Old Town, see the Astronomical Clock and the Lennon Wall. Wander through the Jewish Quarter and see the 13th-century Altneuschul, Europe's oldest active synagogue. Sample hearty local cuisine like goulash, *svíčková* (marinated beef), and *trdelník* (sweet pastry) and sample some famous Czech beer.



PARIS

2 Nights

Become enchanted by the romance of the French capital. Your hotel is located just minutes from the Arc de Triomphe and the Champs-Élysées. Explore Paris's city centre along the banks of the Seine, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with the Notre Dame Cathedral and the Eiffel Tower reigning over the "City of Light." Visit the Louvre, the Musée D'Orsay or the Georges Pompidou Centre; stroll through Montmartre, or ride to the top of the Eiffel Tower for city views. Sample some of the famous French cuisine or take a Seine cruise on board a *bâteau-mouche* to see some of the city's landmarks and lovely bridges lining the riverbank.



BASEL

2 Nights

Basel is a vibrant city, often considered Switzerland's art and culture capital. Nestled along the Rhine River, it is home to a charming old town with picturesque alleyways and over 200 fountains. Your hotel is in the historic Kleinbasel district. Highlights include the Marktplatz Market Square, overlooked by the ornate spires of the Rathaus, and the many museums and art galleries.

ZERMATT & GENEVA

4 nights

Take in the pure mountain air of Zermatt, a car-free haven high in the Alps at the foot of the Matterhorn and explore the rich culture of Geneva. Depart Zürich for a scenic drive through Switzerland to Chur, then board the famed Glacier Express. Pass over trestles, through dramatic mountain tunnels and up and down alpine slopes taking in postcard-like vistas.



THE HAGUE

& AMSTERDAM

2 Nights

Explore The Hague, the vibrant and charming centre of the Dutch government. The city has an intriguing mix of modern and historic architecture, and treasures to admire like the palaces of Dutch royalty and the iconic Peace Palace. View the 13th-century Binnenhof and wander the Mauritshuis, home to some of the world's most famous paintings from the Dutch Golden Age.

LUCERNE

2 Nights

Explore this traditional Swiss town along the banks of Lake Lucerne, with its dramatic alpine backdrop. Your lakeside hotel is minutes from the Old Town. Visit the 14th-century Chapel Bridge, iconic Water Tower, baroque houses and many burgher houses. Join a full-day optional excursion including a cruise on Lake Lucerne and a railway trip to the top of one of the region's spectacular mountains.

NEW RIVER EXTENSIONS - OUT NOW

Uncover the Best of Holland or discover Hungary's northern wine country from Budapest as a compliment to your Danube river explorations. Discover Champagne's lush vineyards, the pink city of Toulouse or the fortified town of Carcassonne before your *Paris & the Heart of Normandy* voyage. While guests on our *Rhine Getaway* itinerary can choose to spend more time exploring the Best of Belgium, or enjoy a stunning rail journey through the Swiss Alps from Italy.