

The River Danube

Escorted Tour

Reservations: Telephone 01452 715370 or online www.jmb-travel.co.uk

Contrast the romantic landscape of Austria's Wachau Valley with the majesty of three splendid capital cities as we cruise through Austria, Slovakia and Hungary on the most scenic part of the Danube's stately journey from the Black Forest to the Black Sea. We take time to linger awhile in small, riverside towns and admire the architectural magnificence of Vienna, historic Bratislava, and Budapest, the Pearl of the Danube, and the most easterly point of our journey.

Sat 24 Apr to Sat 1 May

DAY ONE

Departure by air to Vienna and transfer to our floating hotel. After a welcome aperitif and a chance to meet the crew, we dine on board. The rest of the evening is free to relax or join a guided tour of Vienna (OE).

DAY TWO

Morning arrival in Melk where we visit the 18th-century mustard-yellow abbey (OE), considered to be one of the finest in the country. We set sail again over lunch for Dürnstein and admire the famous castle where Richard the Lionheart was held captive during the Third Crusade. We return on board and continue our cruise to Bratislava.

DAY THREE

After breakfast we have a guided tour of the Slovakian capital. The Baroque palaces and beautiful squares are a delight and there are spectacular views from the 15th-century castle over the city and the Danube valley. Back on board for lunch, we head off for Hungary.

DAY FOUR

Mid-morning arrival in Kalocsa, starting point for our excursion into the Great Hungarian Plain of Puszta, originally inhabited by cowboys and horsemen and known as the "Wild West of Hungary", where we are treated to a horse show. Back on board for lunch, we cruise to Budapest, the "Pearl of the Danube".

DAY FIVE

A day in Hungary's capital with a city tour (OE) that introduces us to Várhegy, the Castle Hill in Buda, the former Royal Palace that now houses the Hungarian National Gallery and bustling Pest, bristling with cafés and wine bars. After lunch on board, the afternoon is free to explore Budapest independently. After dinner attend an evening performance of Tosca by Puccini at the State Opera House.

DAY SIX

We arrive early morning in Esztergom. Packed with crusader history, this appealing small town was the first capital of Hungary under the Arpad dynasty. We rejoin the boat for lunch and set sail again for Vienna. Tonight we have a gala dinner on board, always a special occasion.

DAY SEVEN

We begin the day by coach (OE) along the main Ringstrasse, where many of the most important buildings are seen, including the Opera House and the Burgtheater. The highlight of our morning is sure to be the Schönbrunn Palace, the summer home of the Habsburgs with its formal gardens and 1,500 rooms. After lunch we have the chance to visit the Hofburg Imperial Palace (OE) or explore at leisure. Attend an evening performance of Werther by Massenet at the State Opera House.

DAY EIGHT

After breakfast, we transfer to the airport for our return flight to the UK.

Your holiday at a glance

MS France

Features

78 air-conditioned cabins, restaurant, lounge bar, gift shop

Lift

No (2 decks)

Porterage

Yes

Your cruise includes

- return scheduled flights and transfers
- 7 night cruise with buffet breakfast in twin main deck cabins with shower/wc
- 7 dinners and 6 lunches on board
- unlimited drinks included with on-board meals (water, wine, fruit juice, beer, tea or coffee)
- services of a Tour Manager abroad

Not included

- optional excursions(OE) as detailed

The River Danube • 8 days/7 nights		
Departures.....	24th Apr	Operator
Heathrow	£1595	British Airways

We will do our best to maintain brochure prices but we reserve the right to increase or decrease them at any time to reflect changes in our costs (including air fares)

All flights arrive in /depart from: Vienna

Supplements per person per cruise: Upper deck cabin + £95 Single cabin + £295

Book your own travel and save £145 per person

BA connecting flights from regional airports to Heathrow from only £99

Transfer distances: 18 miles (50 mins)

