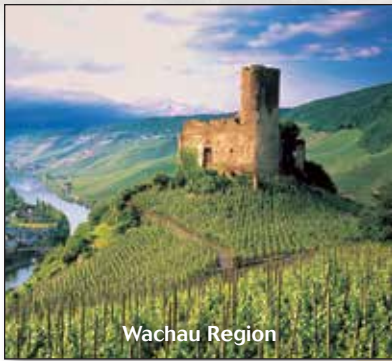


Book Early!

**SAVE up to
\$750.00 per person
Before DEC 29, 2017**



Images by Lutner Cruises except where noted



Wachau Region

Magical Danube & Prague

President's Exclusive Charter Cruise Through the Heart of Europe

The majestic blue Danube—no other river in the world flows through as many countries. By land and by ship, we'll discover four capital cities in five countries, several UNESCO World Heritage Sites, and delightful scenic, cultural, rural and culinary experiences too

numerous to count! Spend days marveling at Europe's most beautiful landscapes, and evenings docked so you can take in the night life of its magnificent cities—including two nights each in Budapest, Vienna and Prague! We'll immerse ourselves in the splendor of Budapest (*NY Times*, *Condé Nast* Best Places to Go), whose imperial buildings dominate both banks of the Danube.

Aboard the deluxe *Amadeus SILVER II*, we call on the charming rural towns of Szentendre and Esztergom, before visiting the Slovakian capital of Bratislava, with its classic Baroque castles and palaces. We'll become immersed in the music, culture and imperial legacies of glittering Vienna, then sail through the stunning landscapes of Austria's Wachau region. The Baroque abbey of Melk awes before a countryside visit outside Linz brings Austrian agriculture to life. Docking in Germany's historic Passau, we head inland to our crescendo—dazzling Prague, Europe's best-preserved capital.

Good Morning!

I'm pleased to personally invite you to join me, along with veteran European Discovery Director Sue Froidl, to cruise the Danube River aboard the amazing MS *Amadeus SILVER II*. By demand, following our sold-out 2015 Magical Danube trip, we have again chartered this luxury ship exclusively for CTD travelers. Prefaced by two special days in stunning Budapest, we'll board our luxury ship for the cruise of a lifetime. We'll experience the region's centuries-old cities, towns, countryside and cultural sites—all arranged specifically for our group. We'll meet a friendly farm family and experience local customs—a CTD tradition.

We insisted on this particular date, a prime time to visit this part of Europe, and this ship. With just 70 staterooms and 12 suites, the *SILVER II* offers an intimate atmosphere perfect for making friends, but with elegant, first-class service and amenities.

And, we've thrown in a plethora of inclusions, excursions and options that most companies don't offer—from round-trip airfare to all gratuities to complimentary bicycles while ashore—you'll just love the value and convenience.

Space is limited and these cruises fill fast, so please join in soon. Unlike other trips, once this program is sold out, we will not be able to add capacity, and we don't want you to miss out! I hope to host you in 2018 on this amazing trip!

Warm regards,

President
Country Travel Discoveries



Please join me in 2018 as we visit Budapest, Vienna & Prague, and cruise along the Magical Danube!



DAYS 1-2—UNITED STATES/WELCOME TO BUDAPEST

Upon arriving in Hungary, we'll be greeted by our professional, English-speaking Tour Director, then enjoy a traditional local lunch in Budapest, made up of two parts—Buda and Pest—on opposite banks of the Danube. With its cobbled streets and medieval architecture, Buda is the older and more graceful part, while Pest, with its wide avenues and impressive 19th-century buildings, is the administrative and commercial center. After a light orientation tour, we'll settle in at our 4-star hotel. Tonight, we gather for a relaxed welcome dinner. **L, D**

DAY 3—BUDAPEST TOUR/TREE OF LIFE/FOLKLORE SHOW

This morning starts with a sightseeing tour in this fascinating capital city where East meets West. After a visit to one of Europe's largest classic synagogues and its moving Tree of Life WWII memorial, enjoy lunch and free time to explore. Later, a real "WOW" moment strikes as we board our home for the next 7 nights: the *Amadeus SILVER II*. Your week on the blue Danube is underway! The excitement is palpable as we board to a festive welcome dinner hosted by CTD president Steve Uelner. Next, we invite a traditional Hungarian folklore group aboard, then take an evening cruise past the brilliantly illuminated architecture on both Budapest riverfronts, and beneath the famed Széchenyi Chain Bridge. **B, L, D**

DAY 4—SMOOTH SAILING/ESZTERGOM-SZENTENDRE

After breakfast, we set sail this morning to one of Hungary's oldest cities, Esztergom. Disembarking, we'll first tour the charming small artists' village of Szentendre. Then, we visit the imposing ruins of Visegrad, with magnificent views of the "knee" of the Danube. Next, we visit Esztergom, the seat of the Roman Catholic Church in Hungary, which is dominated by the country's largest neo-classical basilica, one of Europe's largest churches. **B, L, D**

DAY 5—BRATISLAVA/VIENNA

This morning brings excellent views en route to Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia. We'll see sites including the Presidential Palace, Eurovea (the modern city center), the National Theatre, and others. We'll end at Bratislava Castle, overlooking the countryside where the frontiers of Austria, Hungary and Slovakia meet. This evening, we dock at the classic Baroque city of Vienna, and after dinner a Viennese Quartet boards to perform a recital exclusively for us. **B, L, D**

DAY 6—VIENNA

Ah, Vienna!—the city of music and joie de vivre, *sachertorte* and *heuriger* (new wine)! The day starts off with a wonderful city tour. St. Stephen's Cathedral, the Imperial Palace, the Ringstrasse and Giant Ferris Wheel beckon...and after being introduced to its most important sites by our local guide, you can explore this historic city on your own, or join our optional tour to Schönbrunn Palace, the former imperial 1,441-room Rococo summer residence. **B, L, D**

Option—Schönbrunn Palace With its glorious parklands and gardens, Maria Theresa's former imperial residence is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and one of Vienna's most beautiful sites. *Price: \$49 per person.*

Option—Sound of Vienna Concert This evening, in the very place where Johann Strauss himself directed his orchestra from his position as first violin, the true essence of Vienna's classical music can once again be heard. The "Salonorchester Alt Wien", one of the best-known interpreters of classical Viennese music, presents an evening of waltzes, polkas, arias and duets, as well as operetta and piano concert melodies. *Price: \$59 per person.*

DAY 7—DÜRNSTEIN/WACHAU VALLEY/MELK OPTION

We start today in picturesque Dürnstein, noted for breathtaking scenery, traditional architecture, superb wines and storied places. It was in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 68 →





→ **MAGICAL DANUBE & PRAGUE** continued from page 67

the Kuenringer Castle here that the English King Richard Lionheart was imprisoned. Then, sit back deckside awed as we cruise through the stunning Wachau Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage region to our docking point near the Melk Abbey. **B, L, D**

+ **Option—Melk Abbey** Set on a rocky outcrop above Melk, this towering Benedictine abbey dates as far back as 1089, and contains tombs and remains of many saints and royals. *Price: \$49 per person.*

DAY 8—FARM & ORCHARD/LINZ

Today, we dock at Linz and drive into the countryside to visit the family farm of Norbert Pankratzhofer, cultivator of Simmental cattle and producer of award-

winning must, a type of fruit cider, as well as juices, cveves, sparkling wines and liqueurs. You can also enjoy free time to explore the city of Linz, a cultural hub in the region. Some will take the Pöstlingberg railway, which rises 255 meters in 20 minutes to the landmark mountain of Linz. **B, L, D**



Visit the Farm of Norbert Pankratzhofer, Cider Producer

DAY 9—PASSAU

This morning, we sail to Germany's "City of Three Rivers", Passau, overlooked by the massive hilltop fortress, Veste Oberhaus. You may enjoy the onboard Apple Strudel and Viennese Coffee demonstration. After a narrated walking tour of this city known for its baroque architecture, enjoy free time to explore Passau. Tonight, we're treated to special Bavarian entertainment for our last night aboard *SILVER II*. **B, L, D**

An ELEGANT Ship

Like a floating luxury boutique hotel, this sleek, modern ship offers amazing views and 100% outward-facing staterooms ship-wide, and is loaded with comforts and amenities—from spa and fitness facilities to evening entertainment, gourmet meals and wine/beer/soda with dinner. **PLUS THESE INCLUSIONS...**



- We've chartered *SILVER II* exclusively for CTD travelers
- Three gourmet meals a day
- Quality wines from the best wine regions of Europe (as well as beer and soda) with dinner
- Gratuities to English-speaking crew and cruise director included—*over a \$100.00 per person value*
- Complimentary bicycles for self-guided port exploring
- Wireless "Quietvox" Audio-Guide Headsets during guided shore excursions
- Non-smoking environment throughout ship
- Prime season with evenings docked to enjoy night life
- Strauss and Mozart Deck rooms feature automatic lowerable panorama windows (suites feature private balconies)
- Round-trip air from U.S. to Europe, with European airport transfers

See CountryTravelDiscoveries.com/DRC or call for ship photos, deck maps, port times, and complete amenities.



DAY 10—CESKÝ KRUMLOV/PRAGUE

This morning, we bid farewell to the ship and her wonderful crew and transfer to the beautiful Czech Republic. We'll experience the unique medieval flavor of Český Krumlov, known for its charming pedestrian walkways and stunning castle fortress high above town. Later, our scenic drive ends in Prague. **B, L, D**



Pöstlingbergbahn Mountain Rail



Krems an der Donau, Gateway to the Wachau

DAY 11—PRAGUE CASTLE DISTRICT

With our local guide narrating through wireless headsets, we explore Prague today. We'll enjoy a walking tour of the Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, noted for its millennium-old marketplace, famous Astronomical Clock, Jewish Quarter and more. In the Castle District, you can see St. Vitus Cathedral, St. George's Basilica, the Old Royal Palace, and the largest castle complex in the world. There's also the chance to explore this famously gorgeous "Golden City" at your leisure. Tonight's festive farewell dinner is at traditional Czech pub. **B, D**

DAYS 12—HOME

After breakfast, we head to the airport for your flight back home, filled with lasting memories of our journey and friendships along the Magical Danube! **B**

***About Our Panoramic Windows:**

State-of-the-art, floor-to-ceiling windows provide spectacular views, open air options and improved stateroom sizes over "French Balconies" common on some ships.

HURRY! One departure**

Special: **SAVE** if you reserve with code **DRC18A** by Dec 29, 2017!
Note: This tour is NOT eligible for Travel More, Save More discount pricing.

Cabin	Price	Early Booking Discount	Price with Discount
C Window, Stern, Hayden Deck	\$5,197	-\$250	\$4,947
C Window, Forward, Hayden Deck	\$5,297	-\$250	\$5,047
B Drop-Down Panoramic Windows*, Stern, Strauss Deck	\$5,697	-\$500	\$5,197
B Drop-Down Panoramic Windows*, Mid, Strauss Deck	\$5,797	-\$500	\$5,297
B Drop-Down Panoramic Windows*, Forward, Strauss Deck	\$5,897	-\$500	\$5,397
A Drop-Down Panoramic Windows*, Stern, Mozart Deck	\$6,097	-\$500	\$5,597
A Drop-Down Panoramic Windows*, Mid, Mozart Deck	\$6,197	-\$500	\$5,697
Suite, Mid, Mozart Deck	\$6,797	-\$750	\$6,047
Suite, Forward, Mozart Deck	\$6,897	-\$750	\$6,147
Singles, Hayden Deck	\$6,197	-\$250	\$5,947

Port taxes (per person): \$165

Discoveries Experience

12 Days • 29 Meals

Sep 28-Oct 9

Price Per Person from:

Double: \$5,197**; Single: \$5,947

Depart/Return: Chicago, IL or East Coast

**Prices vary based on stateroom category. See table on this page.

Land-only pricing available. Please call.

Highlights & Inclusions

- Round trip air from U.S. to Europe
- Included city tours of Budapest, Vienna, Bratislava, Esztergom-Szentendre, Passau, and Prague
- Seven nights aboard the luxury ship Amadeus SILVER II
- Many UNESCO World Heritage sites
- Visit Schönbrunn Palace
- Superb dining with all shipboard meals included, plus wine with dinner
- Viennese quartet, Bavarian entertainers, Hungarian folklore group
- Meet a working cattle farmer and orchardist
- Apple strudel and Viennese coffee demo
- Professional, English-speaking crew-to-passenger ratio of 1 to 3
- Bag handling (1 per person) at hotels
- Entrance fees for included attractions, tips to crew and cruise director—over a \$100 per person value
- Welcome dinner, 24-hour emergency call service

Quality Accommodations

Night 1: In Transit

Night 2: Novotel Budapest Danube

Nights 3-9: Amadeus SILVER II

Nights 10-11: Hotel Yasmin, Prague

Pre-/post-tour hotel nights with free parking available in Chicago. Please call.

CountryTravelDiscoveries.com/DRC

