

CHRISTMAS OR NEW YEAR ON THE DANUBE

Festive cruises between Vienna and Budapest
aboard the MS Royal Crown

21st to 28th December 2022 &
28th December 2022 to 4th January 2023

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£500
PER PERSON



NOBLE CALEDONIA

If you are looking for a memorable break over the festive period we heartily recommend our river cruise over Christmas or New Year along the Danube aboard the 90-passenger MS Royal Crown. We will travel through the very heart of Europe in great comfort and whilst exploring ashore, we will see a wonderful mix of the historic and cultural diversity of the region, witness stunning scenery and visit picturesque towns and villages, all with their own unique history and adorned with festive decorations.

Christmas in Central Europe is a special time and nowhere is this more evident than in the cities, towns and villages of the Danube. Our cruise has been planned to include the Christmas market in Vienna, a 'Mozart tour' in Salzburg, and a day in the lovely Wachau Valley with a visit to the village of Weissenkirchen where the traditional joys of Christmas can be best enjoyed. For those who wish to attend Midnight Mass we have made arrangements for a visit to the magnificent church in Melk Abbey.

Highlights of our New Year cruise include ample time in Budapest to explore the wonders of the city, a tour of the scenic Danube Bend and the charming city of Bratislava. Take the opportunity to see in the New Year in the wonderful city of Vienna and be on deck for the mighty bells of St Stephen's as they ring in the New Year. On New Year's Day, we will attend a concert at one of Vienna's splendid music venues.

For those who would like to celebrate both Christmas and New year on board our two cruises can be combined into a 14 night voyage.

GUEST SPEAKER



Professor Richard Butterwick-Pawlikowski

Professor Richard Butterwick-Pawlikowski graduated in History from Cambridge, before obtaining his doctorate from Oxford. He taught European history at Oxford and Queen's University Belfast before moving to the School of Slavonic and East European Studies at University College London, where he is now Professor of Polish-Lithuanian History. He also holds the Chair of European Civilization at the Warsaw campus of the College of Europe. Richard's academic interests range across the history and culture of Europe, but he especially favours the eighteenth century. He has published four books and many articles in scholarly periodicals and collections. He is in frequent demand as a speaker and we are delighted that he will be joining us for both the Christmas and New Year cruise.





New Year in Salzburg



The Neptune Fountain and Schonbrunn Palace, Vienna



River Danube

CHRISTMAS ON THE DANUBE

21st to 28th December 2022

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Vienna, Austria. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Royal Crown and embark. After dinner this evening there will be a concert on board featuring works by Mozart and Strauss. Moor overnight in Vienna.

Day 2 Vienna. This morning there will be a city sightseeing tour, driving around the 'Ring' visiting the Old Quarter including St Stephen's Cathedral and the Christmas market outside the City Hall. Return to the ship for lunch. This afternoon the ship sails from Vienna, however you may wish to join our excursion to the Schonbrunn Palace and Gardens which has its own Christmas market. Afterwards rejoin the MS Royal Crown in Tulln, before continuing to sail on to Linz. This evening join your fellow travellers for the welcome drinks and dinner.

Day 3 Linz for Salzburg. After breakfast today join a full day tour to Salzburg, birthplace of Mozart and famous for its architectural treasures and music festival. Our guided excursion will concentrate on Mozart's family and his musical contemporaries. Lunch will be in a local restaurant and before we leave, we will enjoy a special concert of music by Salzburg's most famous son. Return to the ship in the late afternoon.

Day 4 Melk & Weissenkirchen. This morning we will reach the picturesque Wachau Valley, famous for its wine. We will moor under the shadow of the great Baroque abbey, situated on a cliff high above the Danube. After a guided tour of the abbey we will drive to the charming town of Weissenkirchen for some seasonal gluhwein and traditional Schrammel music. This evening there will be the opportunity to attend Midnight Mass in the magnificent setting of Melk Abbey.

Day 5 Christmas Day on the Danube. A relaxing day as we sail past Vienna and Bratislava and enjoy the good food and festivities of Christmas Day on board.

Day 6 Esztergom to Budapest, Hungary. On this morning's excursion, we depart by road to visit Esztergom with its magnificent basilica and continue outside the city to the villages and towns of the scenic Danube Bend including the charming artistic village of Szentendre. We re-join the vessel in Budapest and enjoy a late lunch on board and an afternoon at leisure. This evening, for those passengers who have pre-booked, there will be an optional music evening ashore (*subject to schedules & availability*).

Day 7 Budapest. A morning guided tour will include the Matthias Church, for centuries the scene of the coronation of the kings of Hungary, and the Fisherman's Bastion, for fine views of the city. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy the rest of the afternoon at leisure. This evening join your fellow travellers for the farewell drinks and dinner.

Day 8 Budapest to London. Disembark after breakfast and return to London by scheduled flight.



Bratislava Castle, Parliament and Danube River, Bratislava

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £500 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CAT	DECK	CHRISTMAS ON THE DANUBE	
		Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Junior Suite	Select	£2995	£2495
Superior Suite	Select	£3295	£2795
Deluxe Suite	Select	£3395	£2895
Premium Suite	Select	£3595	£3095
Royal Suite	Panorama	£4095	£3595
Deluxe Suite for sole use	Select	£3395	£2895

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Seven nights aboard the MS Royal Crown • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions • Noble Caledonia Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes • Airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, optional tours/music ashore as described.



Matthias Church and Fisherman's Bastion, Budapest



Esztergom Cathedral, Hungary



St Michael's Watch Tower and Gate, Bratislava



St Stephen's Cathedral, Vienna



Durnstein

NEW YEAR ON THE DANUBE

28th December 2022 to 4th January 2023

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Budapest, Hungary. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Royal Crown and embark. Enjoy a welcome drink and music by a local Gypsy Orchestra prior to dinner this evening. Moor overnight.

Day 2 Budapest. A morning city tour will include the highlights of the former twin cities of Buda & Pest. See the ornate Houses of Parliament, the beautiful Matthias Church and admire the view from the top of the Fisherman's Bastion. Alternatively, depart on a tour to the Palace of Godollo, built in 1740 and the favoured home of Sissy, the wife of Emperor Franz Josef.

Day 3 Esztergom & the Danube Bend. Today you have the choice of staying on board as the vessel cruises from Budapest to Esztergom. Alternatively, you may join the overland tour which will include the scenic and cultural highlights on Hungary's Danube Bend and Esztergom or join a tour to the Liszt Ferenc Memorial Museum, located in the Old Academy of Music.

Day 4 Bratislava, Slovakia & Vienna, Austria. This morning there will be a guided walking tour of this pretty city, formerly known as Pressburg and a former capital of Hungary. See the old quarter, the ornate Baroque Palace and the ancient city gates. This afternoon, whilst cruising to Vienna, we will be joined by some Slovakian musicians who will provide music into the early hours for our New Year's Eve celebrations.



Day 5 Vienna. After breakfast we will drive to one of Vienna's grand music venues for a New Year's concert. Afterwards, there will be a choice of two included afternoon tours; a drive around the stately Ringstrasse, stopping at St Stephen's Cathedral and a visit to the Kartnerstrasse. Alternatively, join an afternoon visit to the beautiful Vienna Woods, including the Roman City of Baden with its thermal springs, and Heiligenkreuz where the Medieval cloister houses the remains of the last Babenberger (a packed lunch will be provided today). Rejoin the ship in Tulln.

Day 6 Linz for Salzburg. Today there will be a choice of included tours from Linz. Take a full day tour to Salzburg, birthplace of Mozart and famous for its architectural treasures and music festival. Our guided excursion will concentrate on Mozart's family and his musical contemporaries. Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant. Alternatively, join a morning city tour of Linz and after lunch on board visit the Abbey of St Florian where St Florian was drowned by pagans in 304. On our guided tour you will see Saint Florian's corridor, the Marble Hall, and the Collegiate church and tomb.

Day 7 Melk & Krems. Today we reach the picturesque Wachau Valley where we will moor at Melk under the shadow of the great Baroque abbey. After breakfast there will be a choice of two excursions. Drive along the beautiful scenery of the Wachau valley to the lovely Baroque monastery of Gottweig with its splendid views of the Danube Valley. Afterwards we continue on to Krems, one of Austria's oldest villages for a short walking tour. Our final stop will be in Weissenkirchen to enjoy a mulled wine and a local delicacy before returning to the ship in Melk. Alternatively, you may prefer a guided visit to the magnificent Melk Abbey itself, followed by a trip to the nearby charming town of Durnstein, situated in Austria's scenically splendid wine producing Wachau Valley. After a walking tour of Durnstein continue to nearby Weissenkirchen to enjoy a mulled wine and a local delicacy. Return to the ship for a late lunch and this afternoon relax on board as we sail to Vienna. In the evening join your fellow travellers for the farewell drinks and dinner.

Day 8 Vienna to London. Disembark after breakfast and return to London by scheduled flight.

Christmas & New Year on the Danube – Combination Cruise

21st December 2022 to 4th January 2023

If you wish to celebrate both Christmas and New Year together, our two cruises can be combined and booked as a 14 night cruise. For the combined cruise day 8 will include a morning tour of Eger followed by lunch at a local restaurant. Full itinerary and prices can be viewed online.

ONLY

NEW YEAR ON THE DANUBE	
Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
£3095	£2595
£3395	£2895
£3495	£2995
£3695	£3195
£4195	£3695
£3495	£2995

MS Royal Crown on a full board basis
with a dedicated onboard team including Guest Speaker



ROYAL CROWN - RIVER CRUISING AT ITS BEST

We are delighted to have chartered the MS Royal Crown for a series of European river cruises in 2022.

This elegant vessel combines the nostalgic charm of the 1930s with the comfort and service of a four-star vessel. No expense has been spared to create not only a vessel that is beautiful to look at, but also a great joy to travel on. Spacious teak decks, elegant public rooms and staterooms with mahogany, rosewood and marble, together with rich fabrics and specially designed furniture, all blend together to create a unique river vessel.



Built in 1996 and refurbished in 2010, the 90 passenger MS Royal Crown was designed for the rivers flowing through the heart of Europe. Exquisite furniture, expensive materials and accessories give the vessel its unique atmosphere. Facilities on board include a library, boutique, fitness area, lounge with panoramic views and a restaurant with open seating.

Outside there is a large Sun Deck, Lido Bar, a putting green and large scale chessboard. On board the efficient air-conditioning system ensures a comfortable temperature. Two powerful engines propel the vessel up to a speed of 12 knots.



Royal Suite



Premium Suite

YOUR CABIN/SUITE

MS Royal Crown has 45 suites which range in size from 145 square feet to the spacious Royal Suites which measure 200 square feet. All suites are fitted with spacious rosewood cupboards, a dressing table, satellite TV and radio, a safety deposit box, individually controlled air-conditioning and en-suite facilities with shower and hairdryer. Suites on the Select Deck have portholes and the Royal Suites on the Panorama Deck have large windows.



Lounge



Restaurant



Deluxe Suite



Friendly service



Sun Deck

YOUR DINING

While the most beautiful river scenery passes by, enjoy delicacies created by the Executive Chef and his team. The restaurant has open seating, allowing you to sit where and with whom you like at each meal. In the morning breakfast is served buffet style, lunch is a delightful buffet with hot and cold choices and dinner is a served four course meal. In addition, house wine, beer and soft drinks are included at both lunch and dinner.

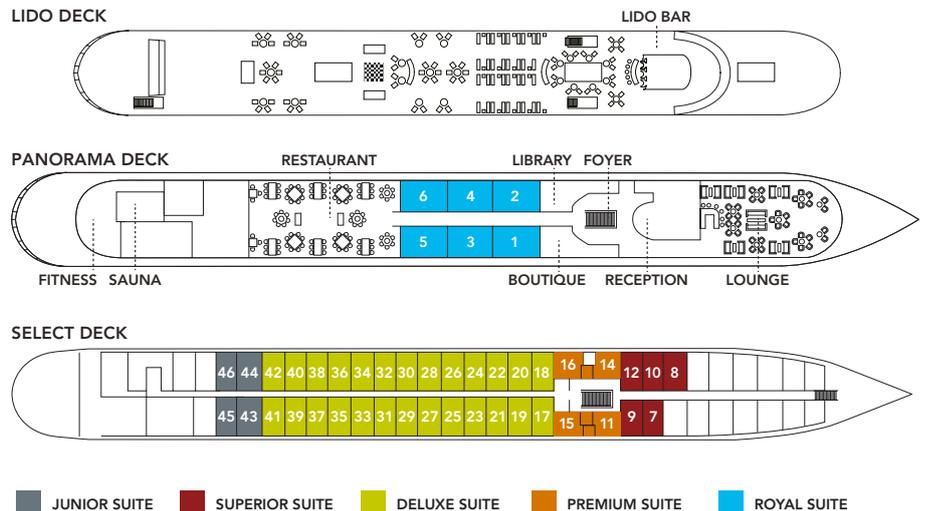
YOUR SPACE

The elegant Lounge Bar is defined by its 30s inspired Art Deco style, with textured carpets, carved mahogany and plush sofas which create a comfortable and relaxed atmosphere. Experience unforgettable views from the large windows as you enjoy tea or coffee. The Lounge is also where our Guest Speakers will entertain you with informative presentations. In the evenings, let the day come to an end with a choice of beverages from the extensive menu accompanied by a pianist playing a Steinway & Sons grand piano. The huge Sun Deck covers almost the entire length of the vessel, interrupted only by the bridge and the Lido Bar (open when weather permits) where you can enjoy a drink such as fresh juice, a milkshake, or even a cocktail. Recline on a sun lounger and

read a book or watch the changing scenery. There is also a putting green and a large chess board for your enjoyment. For some time out, relax in the wellness centre which includes a

sauna with shower facilities, and a fitness room. There is also a small boutique and a library with a selection of books and games. Daily news sheets are also supplied.

DECK PLAN



Please note that Junior, Deluxe & Superior Suites have fixed twin beds. Premium and Royal Suites have fixed double beds with separate mattresses and duvets, so can be made up as twins if required.

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