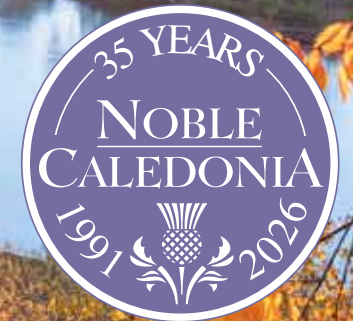


# FROM AMSTERDAM TO VIENNA

– AN ANNIVERSARY VOYAGE –

A CELEBRATORY CRUISE ALONG THE RHINE, MAIN & DANUBE RIVERS  
ABOARD THE MS RIVER CROWN

30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER TO 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2026





Join us and just 100 fellow travellers this coming autumn on board the MS River Crown as we mark 35 years since Noble Caledonia was established. Since 1991, over one quarter of a million people have travelled with us on a myriad of trips to every corner of the world and by every means of transport known to man. River cruising has been an important and very popular contributor to our success, and we are therefore delighted to be able to celebrate our anniversary with this specially arranged departure aboard the MS River Crown.

From the comfort of the MS River Crown, you can expect good food, wonderful company, interesting guided tours, beautiful autumnal scenery, informative lectures, uplifting music and a celebratory atmosphere as we sail along the Rhine, Main and Danube. We have planned our itinerary to ensure there is ample time to relax on board in order to enjoy the programme of talks, celebratory receptions and musical performances as we make our way from Amsterdam to Vienna.

During our voyage we will visit historic cities, towns and villages which will contrast well with our calls into the great cities of Cologne, Nuremberg and Vienna. We will spend time in some delightful Medieval towns including Miltenberg and Rothenburg, taste some of the splendid local wines and, in addition to our performances by London Festival Opera, enjoy concerts ashore of the works of both Beethoven and Mozart in the cities they were born. We will also sail through some of the most enchanting scenery imaginable including the beautiful Rhine Valley in Germany and Austria's delightfully scenic Wachau Valley.

There will be interesting talks by our eminent Guest Speakers, wonderful recitals by London Festival Opera and keeping good order will be our Cruise Director, Cesar Perez, ably assisted by our popular Tour Manager Elaine Weddick, alongside Chantal Cookson, who was on board our very first cruise thirty-five years ago. Finally, some members of the team from our London HQ will also take the opportunity to join the celebration, and we hope to see many familiar faces on board in order that we can express our thanks for such marvellous continued support that has allowed the company to progress to where we are today.

## GUEST SPEAKERS



### Martin Sixsmith

Martin is a writer, presenter and former television correspondent. He was the BBC's Central and Eastern Europe Correspondent in the 1980s, reporting on the political upheavals that changed the shape of the continent and the world. In the 1990s, Martin was the BBC's correspondent Moscow and Washington. Between 1997 and 2002 he worked for the British Government as Director of Communications and Press Secretary to several cabinet ministers. He worked as a consultant on the BBC2 political sitcom *The Thick of It* and the 2010 movie *In the Loop*. In 2013, his book *The Lost Child of Philomena Lee* was made into the film *Philomena*, starring Judi Dench and Steve Coogan. It was nominated for four Oscars. His non-fiction books include *Putin's Oil*; *Moscow*

*Coup*; *The Litvinenko File*; *Russia, A Thousand Year Chronicle of the Wild East*; and *The War of Nerves – Inside the Cold War Mind*. His latest book *My Sins Go With Me* is a story of bravery and treachery in the Resistance to Nazi occupation in World War Two. In 2011, he presented the BBC's 50-episode history of Russia on Radio Four and in 2014 presented Radio Four's 25-part history of psychology and psychiatry.



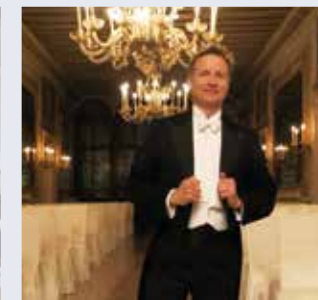
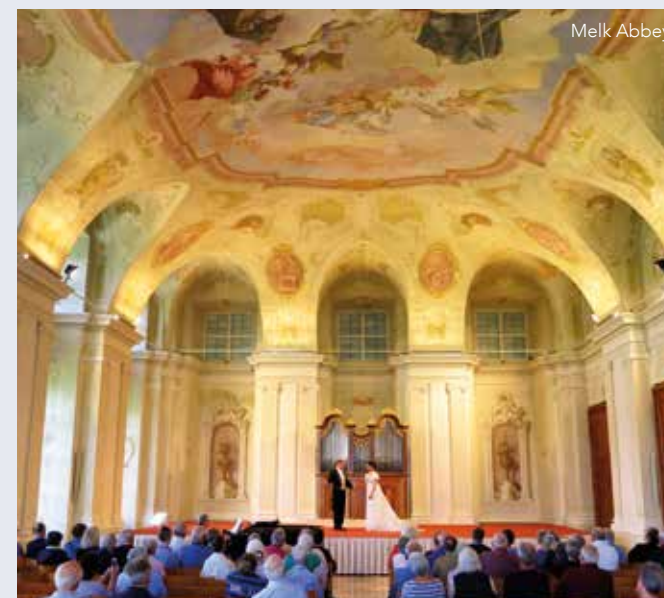
### Ernest Rea

Ernest is a celebrated British broadcaster who specialises in the history of religions and the way that faith impacts on the contemporary world. His regular national radio programme, *Beyond Belief*, was awarded the prestigious Sony Gold Award for the Best Speech Programme on British Radio. He worked for the BBC for 22 years in a variety of production and editorial roles. From 1989 to 2001 he was Head of Religious Broadcasting for the BBC responsible for all religious television and radio programmes nationally and locally. During this period, he spent much time in the United States, brokering co-production television deals with leading American broadcasters. He was closely involved in a variety of key national events, including the Funeral Service for

Diana, Princess of Wales. He is in wide demand as a speaker at international inter faith conferences, literary festivals and academic symposia. In 1997 he was personally awarded the Gold Medal of the International Council of Christians and Jews for his contribution to Inter Faith Understanding. He has First Class Honours Degrees in Theology and in History and Politics which helped to fuel his passion for the study of world religions and the way in which they impact on the ancient and modern worlds.

## EXCLUSIVE PERFORMANCES BY LONDON FESTIVAL OPERA

We are delighted to announce that our long time associates, London Festival Opera, will present an Opera Celebration during your cruise. In addition to their onboard performances, whilst in the wonderful surrounds of Melk Abbey they will perform aria ensembles from *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Così fan tutte*, *The Magic Flute*, and *Don Giovanni* in period costume. Bringing together artists from the major British opera companies including the Royal Opera, English National Opera and Glyndebourne Festival Opera, the company has a considerable reputation and has appeared in some of the world's leading venues including as a guest company in one of Italy's greatest opera houses, La Fenice.





## THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 London to Amsterdam, The Netherlands.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival in Amsterdam transfer to the MS River Crown and embark. Sail this evening.

**Day 2 Arnhem.** After breakfast on board join an excursion to visit the memorable Airborne Museum 'Hartenstein'; this renovated building houses the world's largest collection of militaria from Operation Market Garden. Alternatively, you may like to visit the private art collection at the Kroller Muller Museum with its late 19th and 20th century paintings. Return to the MS River Crown for lunch and enjoy a leisurely afternoon sailing towards Germany.

**Day 3 Cologne & Bonn, Germany.** This morning, arrive into Cologne, one of Germany's most famous Medieval cities. Enjoy a walking tour through the city centre and take in the relaxed atmosphere and historic surroundings. Visit Cologne Cathedral, which was once the world's tallest building, and still boasts the largest façade in the world. Return to the ship for lunch while we continue upstream to Bonn, the birthplace of Beethoven. On arrival we will enjoy an orientation walk in the town centre before continuing to the Beethoven House, which now houses a museum to the great composer. Our visit will conclude with a concert of Beethoven's works in the adjacent hall.

**Day 4 Koblenz & the Rhine Valley.** This morning, take a walking tour around charming Koblenz, a historic commercial centre on the

confluence of the Rhine and Moselle rivers. We will return to the MS River Crown for lunch and enjoy a leisurely afternoon on board sailing through the magnificent Rhine Gorge. This famously scenic stretch of river is punctuated by striking hilltop castles, steep vineyard covered slopes, and the legendary Lorelei Rock. We will moor in Rudesheim allowing for the opportunity to sample the famous wines of the region in one of the local wine estates.

**Day 5 Mainz.** Arrive this morning in atmospheric Mainz where our guided walking tour will include the Hoefchen ("Little Court") which was the residence of the city's archbishops until the 15th century, the Kirschgarten with its romantic half-timbered houses and Marian-Fountain. Our tour will end with a visit to the Johan Gutenberg Museum. Sail at lunchtime as we enter the River Main.

**Day 6 Miltenberg.** Enjoy a relaxed morning sailing into the River Main before we arrive this afternoon in the pretty Franconian town of Miltenberg which has been occupied since antiquity and is today renowned for its half-timbered Medieval houses. During our guided walking tour we will see the picturesque triangular shaped Marktplatz and the restored castle.

**Day 7 Wurzburg or Rothenburg.** Discover Wurzburg during a half-day tour and admire the architecture and history of the wine capital of Franconia. Explore the Baroque grandeur of the Residenz Palace before

returning to the ship for a relaxing afternoon on board. Alternatively, join a full day excursion to charming Rothenburg, one of the most lovingly preserved Medieval towns in Bavaria. During the guided tour explore the cobbled streets and admire the half-timbered houses and impressive city walls that seem to spring from the pages of a fairy tale. After lunch ashore there will be time to explore independently before we meet with the MS River Crown as she sails toward Bamberg.

**Day 8 Bamberg.** This morning we will enter the Main-Danube Canal at Bamberg, one of Germany's most beautiful historic towns. Its geographical location, some 40 miles north of Nuremberg, was a key factor in preserving its magnificent architectural heritage from the ravages of war. Every European style from the Romanesque onwards has left its mark on Bamberg, each bequeathing at least one major building. After lunch on board, enjoy a walking tour of this beautiful Medieval city.

**Day 9 Nuremberg.** The city of Nuremberg's long and sometimes troubled history has left its mark on the city and there is plenty to discover during our morning tour. Three towering castles overlook Nuremberg, and its old city which is contained within vast walls is a joy to explore. Visit the World War II sites, including the Third Reich Party Rally Grounds and discover the city's spectacular Medieval architecture. Sail at lunchtime and continue cruising through the highest point of any commercial waterway in Europe, 1331 feet above sea level.



**Day 10 Regensburg.** Early this morning we enter the Danube River, arriving in Regensburg mid-morning. Join a guided stroll around the historic city and see the highlights such as the Old Town Hall and the World Heritage listed city centre. We will see the twin spired Cathedral Dom St Peter, as well as the Turn and Taxis Palace, a former Abbey and home of the Taxis family who played a major role in the history of the Holy Roman Empire and the German state. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore further at your own pace.

**Day 11 Passau.** This morning, we arrive in Passau, where the Inn and Ilz rivers join the Danube. Our guided walking tour will include the old town of this Bavarian city and the breathtaking Cathedral of St Stephen which contains one of the world's largest church pipe organs. After lunch on board the MS River Crown, you can choose to relax on board or explore Passau further under your own steam. This evening, enjoy a musical performance on board by the London Festival Opera.

**Day 12 Linz for Salzburg, Austria.** We will moor in Linz and after breakfast there will be an opportunity to 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. After lunch in a local restaurant, we will enjoy a special concert of music by Salzburg's most famous son before returning to the MS River Crown in the late afternoon.

**Day 13 Melk & the Wachau Valley.** This morning, we will reach the picturesque Wachau Valley, famous for its wine. We will moor in Melk under the shadow of the great Baroque Abbey, situated on a cliff high above the Danube. Enjoy a guided tour of the abbey followed by a performance by London Festival Opera featuring aria ensembles from The Marriage of Figaro, Così fan tutte, The Magic Flute, and Don Giovanni. Return to the ship for lunch as we sail through the beautiful vineyard covered scenery of the Wachau Valley. This afternoon, arrive in Weissenkirchen, where you can enjoy a stroll through the charming riverside village and a tasting of local Wachau wines before sailing this evening towards Vienna.

**Day 14 Vienna.** A morning city tour of Austria's elegant capital will take us around the famous Ringstrasse and the Old Quarter including St Stephen's Cathedral. Alternatively, you may wish to join an excursion to the famous Schönbrunn Palace and its gardens. Explore this Baroque masterpiece and see rooms that were once occupied by Empress Maria Theresa, and Emperor Franz Joseph and Empress Elisabeth, affectionately known as Sisi. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon is at leisure to explore this majestic city further at your own pace before our farewell dinner and concert by London Festival Opera on board this evening.

**Day 15 Vienna to London.** Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for your scheduled flight to London.

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

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

CATEGORY	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Premium with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£6995	£6495
Premium with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£7295	£6795
Deluxe with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£7795	£7295
Deluxe with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£7995	£7495
Queen Suite with Balcony	Upper Deck	£8495	£7995
Standard Single with porthole	Main Deck	£6995	£6495
Premium with French Balcony for sole use	Middle Deck	£7995	£7495

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 14 nights aboard the MS River Crown on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions & special events • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speakers • Performances by London Festival Opera • Gratuities • Transfers • Port & airport taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

# MS RIVER CROWN



We are delighted to have chartered the elegant 100-passenger MS River Crown, a spacious and well-designed vessel which was built in 2008 and is undergoing a comprehensive upgrade before our series of cruises begins in spring 2026. The atmosphere on board is friendly and informal and within days you will have made new friends in the open-seating restaurant, on the shore excursions or whilst relaxing in the comfortable public areas. You will find yourself amongst like-minded people in an English-speaking environment and for those who seek peace and quiet, there will always be the opportunity to find a secluded spot on the Sun Deck, in one of the relaxing public areas or to simply rest in your well-appointed cabin. Guest Speakers will provide a series of interesting talks and our Cruise Director will host informative port briefings. After a day exploring ashore, you will return to the comfort and peace of a well-run and exceedingly comfortable vessel.

## YOUR CABIN

The spacious cabins are arranged over three decks and are well planned and smartly furnished. Premium cabins on the Middle and Upper Deck measure 15.5 square metres and beds in these cabins can be configured as twin or double. Premium cabins feature floor to ceiling panoramic windows which can be opened to a French Balcony providing wonderful views and access to fresh air. Also on the Middle and Upper decks are the Deluxe cabins with French Balcony which measure 22 square metres and feature fixed double beds along with a seating area comprising of a sofa, armchair and table. The four spacious, two room Queen Suites on the Upper Deck measure 30 square metres and feature both a French Balcony and separate balcony with chairs and a table, living room area with separable sliding door, a double bed and spacious bathroom. Finally, there are five Standard single cabins on the Main Deck which measure 12 square metres and feature portholes. All cabins feature ample storage space, a writing/dressing table, television, safety deposit box, hairdryer, small refrigerator and individually controlled air-conditioning.

## 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 for early risers, tea, coffee and pastries are available. Breakfast is served buffet style, lunch is a combination of a delightful buffet and hot dishes served to order and dinner is a served four course meal. In addition, house wine, beer and soft drinks are included at both lunch and dinner. Afternoon tea is also provided with a choice of cakes and to finish the day, snacks are available in the lounge in the late evening.

## YOUR SPACE

A well designed feature of the MS River Crown is the positioning of the Restaurant and the Lounge and Bar on the Upper Deck. These public areas have floor to ceiling windows, affording excellent views as you dine, relax or listen to the onboard lectures. There is also an Atrium Lobby with seating where you can access tea and coffee 24-hours a day, whilst the Club area on board comprises of two small lounges, a perfect place if you are seeking somewhere to relax with a good book and a tea or coffee. The huge Sun Deck covers almost the entire length of the vessel, interrupted only by the bridge and is the ideal location to watch the changing scenery. There is also a putting green and a large chess board on the Sun Deck for your enjoyment. For some time out, you can relax in the wellness centre which includes a sauna with shower facilities, and a fitness room.



Lounge & Bar



Queen Suite



Deluxe Cabin with French Balcony



Premium Cabin with French Balcony



Sun Deck



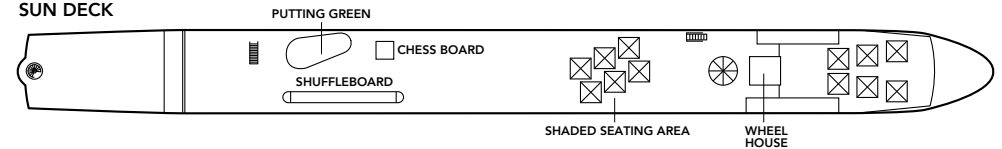
Restaurant



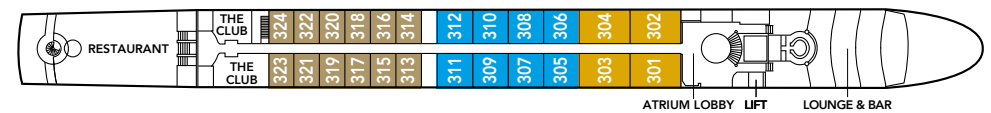
Club

## DECK PLAN

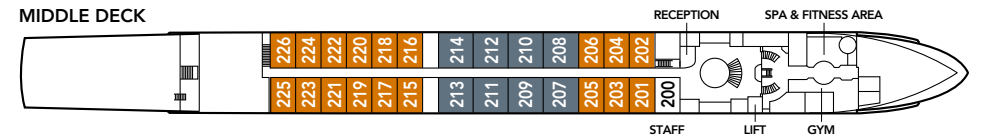
### SUN DECK



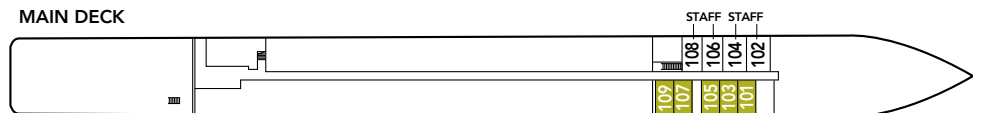
### UPPER DECK



### MIDDLE DECK



### MAIN DECK



- QUEEN SUITE with Balcony
- PREMIUM with French Balcony
- STANDARD SINGLE with Porthole
- DELUXE with French Balcony

Please note that imagery shown is prior to the planned refurbishment. Updated imagery of the vessel will be shown on our website when available.



# NOBLE CALEDONIA

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Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.  
Cover image: Wachau Valley at sunrise, Austria. Back cover image: Staircase inside Melk Abbey.

