

MOZART & THE GOLDEN AGE OF MUSIC

Explore the wonderful music and opera of the
Danube with Guest Speaker Sir Nicholas Kenyon
and London Festival Opera

Aboard the MS Royal Crown

28th October to 4th November 2018

NOBLE CALEDONIA



Passau Cathedral and the Old Town

The magic of Mozart has once again placed its spell and the demand for music inspired trips along the Danube continues unabated, and with our friends London Festival Opera we can promise you a marvellous experience. Our musical journey from Budapest to Passau is a celebration of Mozart's life, and of the many great composers from this Golden Age. On this seven night river cruise we will visit small towns and villages as well as the cities of Budapest, Bratislava and Salzburg, enjoying some of the finest works of music from the concertos of Mozart and Johann Strauss's waltzes to opera and folk tunes in idyllic settings.

We will also visit the city most celebrated for its music heritage and Austria's capital, Vienna, whose classical period was a golden age in Viennese musical life. Mozart lived here for the last decade of his life and exerted great influence on the musical life of the capital and Empress Maria Theresa herself trilled arias on the stage of the Schlosstheater at Schonbrunn.

In addition to our excursions and music ashore, we will also enjoy 'highlight' performances by London Festival Opera aboard our wonderfully comfortable vessel in the intimate atmosphere of the lounge. The life and times of Mozart as well as the music of this Golden Age will be brought vividly to life by our guest speaker, Sir Nicholas Kenyon, who will accompany the trip.



GUEST SPEAKER – SIR NICHOLAS KENYON



Sir Nicholas Kenyon has been Managing Director of the Barbican Centre since 2007. He was Controller, BBC Radio 3 1992-8, and Director of the BBC Proms from 1996 to 2007. He was a music critic for The New Yorker, The Times and Observer, and editor of Early Music 1983-92. He was appointed Controller, BBC Radio 3 in 1992, and was responsible for the award-winning seasons Fairest Isle and Sounding the Century. He oversaw the BBC's programming for the Millennium, and then ran the BBC's Live Events and TV Classical Music departments, including the Queen's Jubilee Concerts of 2002. He has lectured widely and published books on Bach, Mozart, Simon Rattle, the BBC Symphony Orchestra and early music. Most recently he has edited The City of London: a Companion Guide. He has been a Visiting Fellow of All Souls College Oxford, and is an Honorary Fellow of Balliol College Oxford. He is a member of Arts Council England, and a board member of Sage Gateshead. He was knighted in the 2008 New Year Honours, and in 2011 received the British Academy President's medal for outstanding service to the arts and humanities.



Hofburg Palace, Vienna



Melk Abbey

MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS

- Highlight performances by London Festival Opera
- An onboard piano recital by renowned artist Agnes Kovacs
- Concert of Dvorak and Mozart music in Bratislava
- String quartet at the superb Mozarteum Conservatory in Salzburg
- The grand cities of Budapest & Vienna
- A visit to the fascinating Mozarthaus museum in Vienna
- Tour of the Liszt Ferenc Memorial Museum in Budapest.

London Festival Opera



We are delighted that Artistic Director, Philip Blake-Jones, and members of London Festival Opera will be joining us for three performances during the cruise. Bringing together established opera singers from major British opera companies, London Festival Opera have achieved a considerable reputation for presenting opera and music

performances in a wide variety of worldwide venues. They will perform a Mozart Opera Celebration featuring arias and ensembles from *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Così fan tutte*, *Don Giovanni* and *The Magic Flute*, in period costume, in the beautiful setting of Melk Abbey. Other opera concerts include *A Night in Vienna* and an *Opera Soiree* on board the *MS Royal Crown* whilst we are moored in Vienna and Passau.

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Budapest, Hungary. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the *MS Royal Crown* for embarkation. After dinner you will be entertained by the heartwarming music of the Lugosi Band. Moor overnight in Budapest.

Day 2 Budapest. We have the day to explore Hungary's elegant capital city. Spend the morning on an excursion that will include the old quarter visiting the Matthias Church, the Fisherman's Bastion and the Royal Palace (outside view). Return to the ship for lunch. This afternoon is at leisure to relax or sightsee independently or for those who wish there will be an included tour to the Liszt Ferenc Memorial Museum, located in the Old Academy of Music. Liszt spent a significant part of the last five years of his life here (from 1881 to 1886) and his furniture, portraits, books, pianos along with other personal belongings are on display. This evening we join our fellow travellers for the Welcome Drink & Dinner, followed by a performance by renowned pianist Agnes Kovacs. Sail in the late evening.



Bratislava Castle

Day 3 Bratislava, Slovakia. After breakfast this morning enjoy a relaxing cruise as we continue to sail to Bratislava, the Slovak capital, arriving in the early afternoon. After lunch on board depart for a guided walking tour of the city, formerly known as Pressburg, a former capital of Hungary. See the old quarter, the ornate Baroque Palace

and the ancient city gates. The tour ends with a visit to the impressive Pálffy Palace for a concert of Dvorak and Mozart by a string quartet. In 1762 Mozart played a concert here at the age of six. Later this evening we continue our cruise towards Vienna.

Day 4 Vienna, Austria. After breakfast today depart for a guided city tour which will include the famous Ringstrasse, St Stephen's Cathedral, the Hofburg Palace (outside only). Return to the ship for lunch and the afternoon will be at leisure to explore independently or you may like to join our included visit to the Mozarthaus, a three-story museum where Mozart lived from 1784-1787, during which time he wrote the world-famous opera "*The Marriage of Figaro*" and three of the six Haydn Quartets. We will stand in the room where Mozart and Beethoven met and where Haydn told Mozart's father "your son is the greatest composer I know in person or by name". Return to the ship and before dinner this evening London Festival Opera will entertain you in the comfort of the ship's lounge with *A Night in Vienna* including the works of Mozart, Johann Strauss and Lehár.

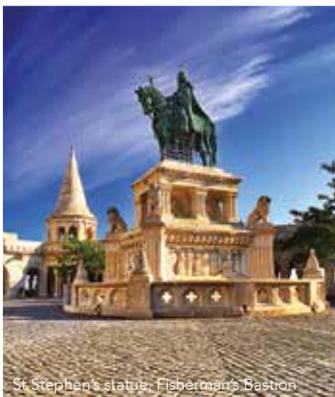
Day 5 Durnstein & Melk. Arrive this morning in the charming town of Durnstein, set in Austria's beautiful Wachau Valley. It was here that Richard the Lionheart was held captive on a Crusader journey. We will have a gentle walking tour and some time to stroll through the pretty streets and perhaps sample some of the region's delicious "marille" (apricot brandy). We return to the ship for lunch and continue our short sail on to Melk. On arrival enjoy a tour of the magnificent Benedictine Abbey which dominates the river from its cliff top setting and see the historic rooms including the Marble Hall, Library, Church and Terrace. Our time here is completed by a wonderful performance



Durnstein and the Wachau Valley



London Festival Opera performing at Melk Abbey



St Stephen's statue, Fibermans Bastion

by London Festival Opera including ensembles from The Marriage of Figaro, Cosi Fan Tutte, Don Giovanni and The Magic Flute in period costume. Return to the ship and this evening we sail towards Linz.

Day 6 Linz for Salzburg. After breakfast we depart for 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. Visits will be made to the house known as Tanzmeisterhaus where he spent his early life, and the Residenz. We also take a walk through the lovely gardens of the Mirabell Palace. Before we leave we will enjoy a special concert of music by a string quartet at the Mozarteum Conservatory. Return to the ship and sail on this evening towards Germany.

Day 7 Passau, Germany. Enjoy a morning walking tour of the ancient fairytale city of Passau, the meeting point of the Danube, Ilz and Inn Rivers. See the old town and cathedral that houses one of the largest pipe organs in the world. After a short organ recital return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon is free to relax or explore ashore further. In the early evening we join our fellow travellers for the Farewell Drinks and Dinner, after which London Festival Opera will present an Opera Soiree of Handel, Verdi, Gounod, Bizet and Puccini on board the MS Royal Crown.

Day 8 Passau to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to Munich airport for the return scheduled flight to London.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

CAT	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE
Junior Suite	Select	£1795
Superior Suite	Select	£1895
Deluxe Suite	Select	£2095
Premium Suite	Select	£2295
Royal Suite	Panorama	£2495
Deluxe Suite for sole use	Select	£2295

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Seven nights aboard the MS Royal Crown on full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Shore excursions and music events as described • Cruise Director • Tour Manager • Guest Speaker • Gratuities • Transfers • Port & airport taxes.
Not Included: Travel insurance

ENCHANTING PRAGUE POST-CRUISE EXTENSION

4th to 7th November 2018



Charles Bridge and the Vltava River, Prague

We are offering the opportunity to spend three nights after your cruise in the romantic city of Prague, the ancient capital of Charles IV's Bohemian Kingdom, set on the banks of the Vltava River. Prague is a delightful and easy city to explore on foot and there is a full day at leisure to explore and sightsee at your own pace. Included in your stay is a walking tour of the city's famous sights, a half day panoramic tour, including Prague Castle and a private visit to the serene and historic Strahov monastery library, and an evening music event at the famous Estates Theatre or the State Opera House. We will be based at the centrally located and comfortable Esplanade Hotel.

The Itinerary

Day 1 Regensburg to Prague, Czech Republic. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to Prague (approx. 3 hours). On arrival check in to the Esplanade Hotel where we will have lunch before joining our local guide for a walking tour of the Old City including Wenceslas Square, where the Velvet Revolution took place, the Old Town Square, with its famous astronomical clock and finally Charles Bridge and the church of St Nicholas. The remainder of the evening is at leisure.



Old town square, Prague

Day 2 Prague. After breakfast depart by coach for a panoramic tour of the city beginning with a private visit the impressive Strahov monastery library with its amazing collection of ancient books and manuscripts. We then visit the Basilica and the Convent building before continuing to the Castle, scene of the famous defenestration in 1618 which led to the start of the 30 Years War. Finally, visit the magnificent St Vitus cathedral and walk along Golden Lane to rejoin our coach and return to the hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure. Tonight, schedules permitting, there will an included music event at the Estates Theatre or State Opera House.

Day 3 Prague. Today is free to sightsee and explore at your own pace. Perhaps visit the beautiful old Jewish quarter with its well preserved synagogues and the old town square or enjoy the city's wonderful cafe culture and excellent shopping.

Day 4 Prague to London. After breakfast transfer to the airport for the return flight to London.

PRICES PER PERSON Based on double occupancy

Twin: £695 Single: £845

PRICE INCLUDES: Three nights at the four-star Esplanade Hotel on bed & breakfast basis • Tours as described • Lunch on day 1 • Evening music tickets • Gratuities • Transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance, meals other than those described.



ROYAL CROWN - RIVER CRUISING AT ITS BEST

We are delighted to have chartered the MS Royal Crown for a series of cruises along the Danube in 2018.

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.

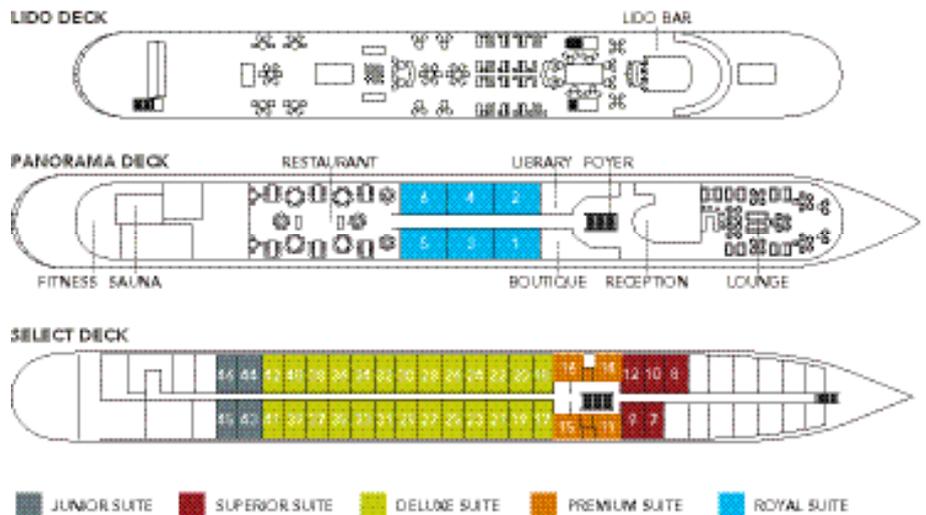
YOUR SPACE

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 on MS Royal Crown 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 under the umbrella 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.

NOBLE CALEDONIA

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All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.

Cover image: Johann Strauss Statue, Vienna.