

EXCLUSIVE NOBLE CALEDONIA CHARTERS

MS RIVER CROWN

RIVER CRUISING ALONG THE RHINE, MAIN,
MOSELLE & DANUBE ABOARD THE MS RIVER CROWN

2024



NOBLE CALEDONIA

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INTRODUCING THE MS RIVER CROWN



Travelling across Europe by river offers an insight that cannot easily be had by more conventional forms of transport. The leisurely pace and quietness of the vessel allows you to be at one with your surroundings and the ever changing scenery and immediate accessibility of an area so steeped in history are just some of the many advantages of exploring by river.

For 2024, we are delighted to have chartered the 100-passenger MS River Crown for a series of cruises along the Rhine, Main and Danube. We have been offering river cruises since our establishment in 1991 and in that time have witnessed an incredible growth in the number of vessels plying the rivers of Europe. The new, ultra-modern river cruise ships can accommodate hundreds of passengers, however, we have been searching for a vessel aboard which we can offer a more intimate and convivial experience, and are therefore pleased to have been able to secure our charters of the MS River Crown, which is the perfect vessel for our explorations.

Built in 2008 and refurbished in 2013 with further works taking place prior to our charters in 2024, the elegant MS River Crown offers a range of comfortable cabins and suites. The vast majority of cabins feature French balconies offering wonderful views and for many the opportunity to open the doors to the fresh air is a great bonus. The vessel has a unique style, far removed from the modern river cruise ships and features beautiful rosewood panelling throughout. With a spacious lounge at the front of the vessel which benefits from extensive panoramic windows, and an expansive Sun Deck, there is ample space and opportunity to watch the world gently pass by as you relax on board your floating hotel.

Our Guest Speakers, who will accompany you on board the MS River Crown will add to your enjoyment with informative talks and, after 30 years of operating cruises along the rivers of Europe, we have accumulated the very best of local guides for our excursions. Their enormous wealth of knowledge and their own individual views provide colour to our trips leaving you with a lasting memory of all you see. In addition, our experienced Cruise Director, Cesar Perez, will be overseeing the day to day operation on board and providing informative port briefings.

Daily guided tours are included in the price, as are drinks with lunch and dinner, as well as gratuities which makes for all-round ease and enjoyment when travelling aboard the MS River Crown. Whether your main interest lies in history, politics, art, wine, music or simply enjoying the stately pace as we navigate through ever changing scenery, we believe we offer the most comprehensive range of river journeys along the Rhine, Main, Moselle and Danube for the genuine traveller.

We look forward to welcoming you on board.

Tim Cochrane
Managing Director



MS RIVER CROWN

The elegant 100-passenger MS River Crown is a spacious and well designed vessel. 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 or simply rest in your well-appointed cabin. A musician will play each evening whilst you relax in the lounge, 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 18 square metres and beds in these cabins can be configured as twin or double. Premium cabins feature 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. 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 with separate bath and shower. Finally, there are four Standard cabins on the Main Deck which measure 12 square metres and have fixed twin beds and portholes. All cabins feature ample storage space, a writing/dressing table, television, safety deposit box, 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 from 06.30 hours. 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 a small library on board and The Club, 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.





Queen Suite



Restaurant



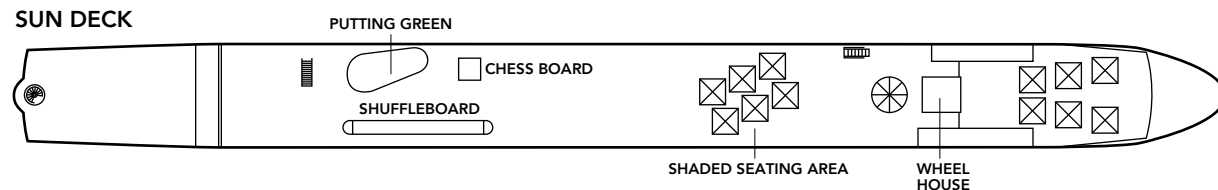
Theatre Lounge & Bar



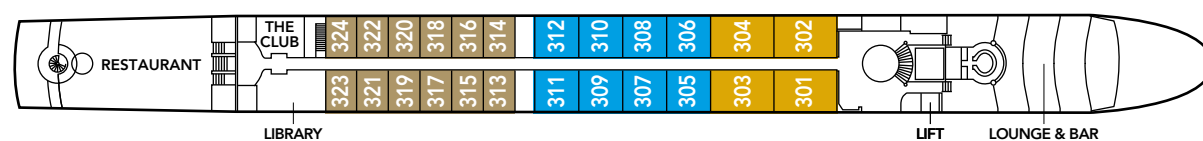
On deck

DECK PLAN

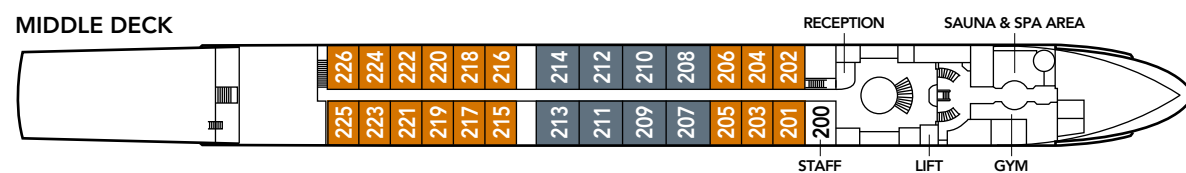
SUN DECK



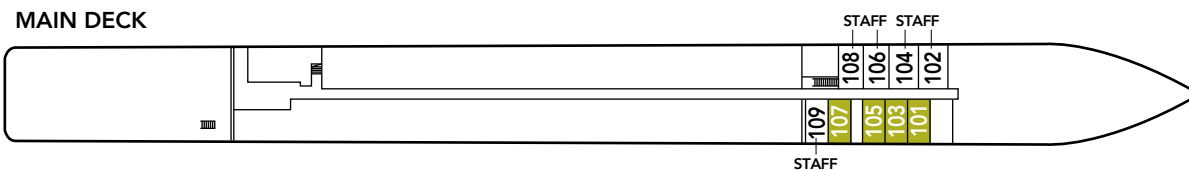
UPPER DECK



MIDDLE DECK



MAIN DECK



- QUEEN SUITE with Balcony
- PREMIUM with French Balcony
- STANDARD TWIN with Porthole (sole use)
- DELUXE with French Balcony

- PREMIUM with French Balcony
- DELUXE with French Balcony

TIMELESS LANDSCAPES OF THE LOW COUNTRIES

A journey from Brussels to Amsterdam with Guest Speaker Michael Howard aboard the MS River Crown

26th April to 6th May 2024

Our springtime exploration of Holland and Belgium is a wonderful mix of art, culture and history. For art lovers we have included the fine establishments of The Hague and Amsterdam whilst we will also visit the horticultural splendours of Keukenhof and Leiden. Not forgetting the beautiful Flemish cities, we spend time in Antwerp, Ghent and Bruges where we will explore the historic canals, cobbled streets and Medieval buildings.

From the comfort of the elegant, 100-passenger MS River Crown, we will criss-cross the intricate network of rivers and waterways that make the Low Countries such a unique region and will witness the gentle landscape and picturesque cities and towns which so inspired the Old Masters.



ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS

- Amsterdam's art treasures in the Rijksmuseum and Van Gogh Museum
- Keukenhof Gardens at Lisse
- Antwerp's Medieval gems & Ruben's House
- The beautiful cities of Ghent and Bruges
- Mauritshuis Museum in The Hague & Delft Blue Pottery

GUEST SPEAKER – MICHAEL HOWARD



Michael is an independent scholar, writer, painter and curator. He is married to the artist Ghislaine Howard with whom he shares a passion for art and the joy and creative release that it can bring to people's lives. He has curated numerous exhibitions and examples of his own work may be found in Manchester Art Gallery and many private

collections both in the UK and abroad. He is President of the Arts Society Bolton and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and for many years he taught academic and studio-based students at History of Art Department at the Manchester School of Art [MMU]. Over the years he has given many talks for Christies, Sothebys and ACE study tours and has lectured at universities and art galleries both in the UK, USA and Europe. Michael has been a lecturer with the Arts Society for over 30 years and is the author of many books including *The Impressionists by Themselves*, *Techniques of the Masters*, (Goya and Whistler); *L.S. Lowry A Visionary Artist*; *Monet in association with the Musée Marmottan* and *Gauguin in association with the Gauguin Museum in Tahiti*.

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London or Manchester to Brussels, Belgium. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS River Crown and sail this evening.

Day 2 Antwerp. Spend the day in the charming city of Antwerp. In the mid-16th century it was one of Europe's most important cities and home to Baroque painter Pieter Paul Rubens. Today, Antwerp retains an intriguing Medieval heart alongside a vibrant café culture, a riverside fortress and a truly impressive Gothic cathedral. Our morning tour here will include a visit to the delightfully restored Rubens House and St Jacobskerk. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon is free to explore ashore further or join a tour to the Museum Plantin-Moretus which has acquired UNESCO World Heritage Status; an astonishing place which is home to the world's oldest printing press and priceless manuscripts. Sail this evening towards Ghent.

Day 3 Ghent. After breakfast today we will explore the highlights of this Flemish gem including St Bavo's Cathedral, home to the unique altarpiece 'The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb', painted by the Van Eyck brothers in 1432. We also visit the ancient port at Graslei with its unique row of historical buildings, St Nicholas' Church and those feeling active can explore the grandiose Castle of the Counts (Gravensteen). This afternoon is free to explore further at your own pace as we moor overnight.

Day 4 Bruges. This morning we drive to Bruges which was one of the largest and finest cities in Europe. The 15th century Belfry still dominates the centre and the Town Hall, St John Hospital and the Begijnhof border the narrow canals. We will see some of the most important places and buildings which survive from the Middle Ages including the Basilica of the Holy Blood, City Hall, the Begijnhof, Minnewater and the Belfry and Church of Our Lady. Return to the MS River Crown and spend the afternoon cruising.

Day 5 Neunen, Netherlands. Arriving into the Netherlands we drive this morning from Cuijk to Neunen where Van Gogh lived between 1883 and 1885 and where he painted his first major work 'The Potato Eaters'. We will visit the Van Gogh Village Museum which depicts his time in the city and its influence on his painting styles. We will also see some of the locations in Neunen painted or sketched by the artist. Return to the ship and spend the afternoon cruising.

Day 6 Dordrecht & Kinderdijk. Arrive this morning in Dordrecht, our base to see the nearby marvellous Windmills of Kinderdijk, of which there are 19 in total, dating from 1740. Return to the ship for lunch and the remainder of the day is free to explore Dordrecht with its old world atmosphere and quaint shops, cottages and canals.



Day 7 Rotterdam, The Hague & Delft. From Rotterdam we depart for a full day tour. Our first stop will be The Hague for a visit to the beautiful Mauritshuis Museum with its marvellous collection of Dutch Golden Age paintings. Afterwards continue on to Delft, birthplace of Vermeer. We will have lunch in a local restaurant on arrival followed by a walking tour of this pretty town and a visit to see the Delft Blue Pottery.

Day 8 Leiden. After breakfast we depart for the vibrant city of Leiden, a treasure trove of narrow streets and canals, lined with beautiful 17th century buildings, including ancient almshouses. On our walking tour we will see the old harbour, Beestenmarkt square and the charming Weddesteege, where the world-famous painter Rembrandt was born. We continue with a visit to the Hortus Botanicus, the oldest botanical garden in the Netherlands.

Day 9 Keukenhof Gardens & Haarlem. Drive to nearby Keukenhof Gardens for a morning in this extraordinary horticultural heaven. With 32 hectares of flowers, more than seven million bulbs in bloom and 800 varieties of tulips, this is a truly unique and unforgettable experience. Return to the ship in Haarlem for lunch and this afternoon we visit the 17th century Church of St Bavo, immortalised in the artwork of Dutch painters Pieter Saenredam and Gerrit Berckheyde, and the Frans Hals Museum, home to a spectacular display of 16th and 17th century portraits, still lifes and landscapes.

Day 10 Amsterdam. There will be a choice of tours this morning; depart for a visit to the Rijksmuseum, arguably Amsterdam's most important art venue. Housing some of the greatest examples of Western European painting and decorative arts, it boasts works by Vermeer, Goya and Rubens. Alternatively, you may like to take a canal cruise and admire the city from a glass-top boat as you glide past 17th century homes, churches and 16th century merchant houses. The afternoon is free before we have our farewell dinner on board this evening.

Day 11 Amsterdam to London or Manchester. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London or Manchester.



PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CATEGORY	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Premium with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£4095	£3895
Premium with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£4295	£4095
Deluxe with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£4695	£4495
Deluxe with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£4995	£4795
Queen Suite with Balcony	Upper Deck	£5995	£5795
Standard Twin with porthole for sole use	Main Deck	£4095	£3895
Premium with French Balcony for sole use	Middle Deck	£5295	£5095

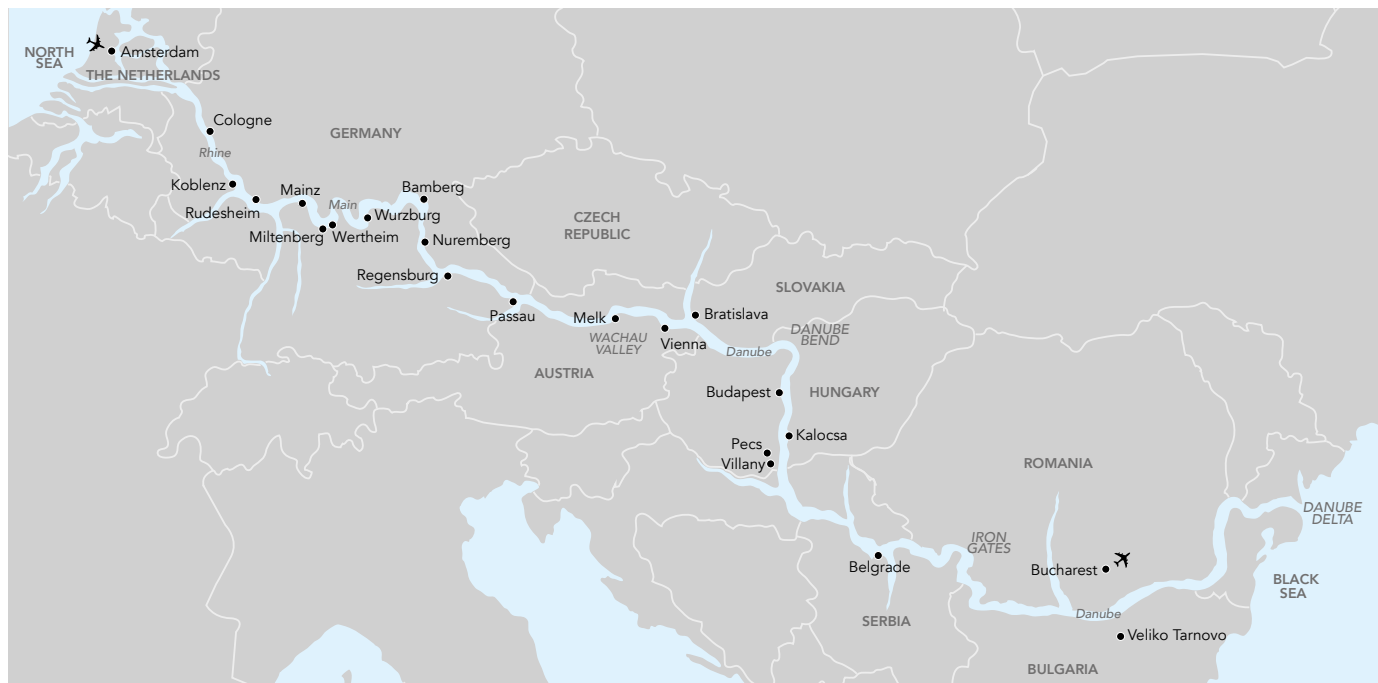
PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 10 nights aboard the MS River Crown on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Gratuities • Transfers • Port & airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

ACROSS EUROPE BY RIVER

A journey across Europe with Guest Speaker Michael Hindley & highlight performances by London Festival Opera aboard the MS River Crown

6th to 27th May 2024



Join us aboard the charming 100-passenger MS River Crown for this grand tour of Europe as we sail from Amsterdam to Bucharest, visit eight countries and yet only have to unpack once. This is the perfect trip for those who enjoy seeing something new every day, as the MS River Crown transports you in considerable comfort between great cities, towns and villages, past ever-changing landscapes where the slow speed of the vessel allows us to absorb the views of town and country.

Each port of call has its own unique character waiting to be discovered whilst on one of our guided excursions. From historic locations to iconic buildings, our itinerary is brimming with highlights including the grand cities of Vienna and Budapest; the picturesque towns along the Rhine and Main including Miltenberg and Rudesheim; wine tasting in Wurzburg and musical performances. There will of course also be plenty of time to relax on board and enjoy some truly beautiful scenery especially whilst cruising through the dramatic Rhine Gorge and through the spectacular Iron Gates.

If you have never experienced a river journey it is difficult to explain the sheer pleasure that comes from travelling across Europe observing everyday life on the banks of the Danube, Main and Rhine rivers. You can let the world slip by as you relax on the Sun Deck or in the Lounge and delight in awe-inspiring panoramic views of the passing scenery. Guided excursions with excellent local guides, highlight musical performances by London Festival Opera and interesting talks by our Guest Speaker will create an enjoyable, informative and lively atmosphere on board as we sail along the European waterways.

GUEST SPEAKER – MICHAEL HINDLEY



Michael Hindley was born in Blackburn, UK and educated at London University (BA Hons in German and French), Lancaster University (MA in Comparative Cultural Studies), and the Free University of West Berlin. Michael also has a post graduate diploma in International Law. Michael was an elected council leader in Northwest England, a Lancashire County Councillor and a Member of the European

Parliament for three terms (1984-99). He was the Majority Leader on the Trade Committee (1989-99). During this time Michael was part of the group which worked towards Sweden and Finland joining the EU in 1995. Michael is now a freelance political consultant and has acted as an expert adviser for the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and written a report on Fair Trade for the United Nations, International Trade Centre, Geneva. Michael is a frequent lecturer on European politics and has lectured at the Universities of Greifswald and Gottingen, Germany and worked with the University of Tallinn, Estonia. He has recently published a book on Britain's relationship with Europe since 1945 entitled *The Semi-Detached European*.



Amsterdam



Cologne Cathedral



Wurzburg



Bamberg



Prince Bishop's Residenz Palace, Wurzburg

SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMANCE BY LONDON FESTIVAL OPERA



ensembles from Verdi, Bizet, Offenbach and Puccini, and a magical repertoire, "A Night in Vienna".

We are delighted that London Festival Opera will perform an Opera Celebration during your stay in Melk and Vienna. In the beautiful setting of Melk Abbey experience delightful arias and ensembles from *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Così fan tutte*, *Don Giovanni* and *The Magic Flute*. Whilst in Vienna there will be two onboard performances; a costumed Opera Soirée with arias and

ensembles from Verdi, Bizet, Offenbach and Puccini, and a magical repertoire, "A Night in Vienna".

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London or Manchester to Amsterdam, Netherlands. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS River Crown and moor overnight.

Day 2 Amsterdam. After breakfast there will be a choice of tours; depart for a visit to the Rijksmuseum, arguably Amsterdam's most important art venue. Housing some of the greatest examples of Western European painting and decorative arts, it boasts works by Vermeer, Goya, and Rubens. Alternatively, you may like to take a canal cruise and admire the city from a glass-top boat as you glide past 17th century homes, churches and 16th century merchant houses. Return to the ship for lunch and sail towards Cologne. This evening join your fellow travellers for welcome drinks and dinner on board.

Day 3 Cologne, Germany. This morning we will cruise along the legendary Rhine. Pass Duisburg and Dusseldorf before arriving in

Cologne for a tour to see the city's famous cathedral. The cathedral is the largest Gothic church in northern Europe, with the second tallest spire and largest façade in the world. Our guided tour will continue with a visit to a "Brauhaus" to sample some of the local Kolsch beer. Sail this evening.

Day 4 Koblenz & Rudesheim. Arrive in Koblenz for a morning walking tour of this historic commercial centre. Return to the ship and sail mid-morning through the dramatic Rhine Gorge to Rudesheim, passing romantic castles, lush vineyards and the infamous Lorelei rock. We will arrive into Rudesheim in the late afternoon and on arrival join the Winzerexpress mini-train to visit Siegfried's Musical Instrument Museum, home to one of Germany's most fascinating collections of automated musical instruments. Return to the MS River Crown for dinner, after which there will be some free time to perhaps visit the town's lively Drosselgasse.

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

Day 6 Miltenberg & Wertheim. During this morning's walking tour, see the pretty Franconian town of Miltenberg, known for its half-timbered Medieval houses. Return to the ship for lunch whilst sailing on to beautiful Wertheim. Enjoy some free time this afternoon in this charming market town.

Day 7 Wurzburg. Sail overnight to historic Wurzburg, the wine capital of Franconia. We will tour this lovely town including the magnificent Prince Bishop's Residenz Palace. Our visit will end with a wine tasting of local wines in the splendid cellars of the Residenz. Also see the old town with its collection of churches which range in style from Romanesque to Gothic, Renaissance to Baroque, before returning to the ship for lunch as we sail to Bamberg.



Bratislava



Budapest



Saint Sava Cathedral, Belgrade



Decebal's Head, Iron Gates



Passau

Day 8 Bamberg. Today we 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 we will have a walking tour of this beautiful Medieval city. Return to the ship and sail in the early evening.

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. In addition, visit 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 historic Regensburg, and see the highlights such as the Old Town Hall, the World Heritage listed city centre and the ancient Romanesque Porta Praetoria. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon to explore further at your own pace.

Day 11 Passau. For our final call in Germany we call at 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 Stephan which contains one of the world's largest church pipe organs. Enjoy an organ recital before returning to the vessel for lunch. In the late afternoon we sail towards Austria.

Day 12 Melk & the Wachau Valley to Vienna, Austria. 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. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon we sail through the beautiful Wachau Valley towards Vienna.

Day 13 Vienna. This morning there will be a choice of tours. A city tour of Austria's elegant capital will take us around the famous Ringstrasse and the

Old Quarter including St Stephan's cathedral. Alternatively, you may prefer a visit to the impressive Zentralfriedhof (Vienna Central Cemetery), the second largest in Europe, and with honorary graves of renowned Austrian musicians, historians and politicians. We also visit the Church of St Charles Borromeo, a significant Art Nouveau church building. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon is at leisure to explore this majestic city further. In the early evening there will be an onboard costumed performance by London Festival Opera. We remain moored overnight in Vienna for anyone who wishes to take an after dinner stroll.

Day 14 Vienna. After breakfast join a tour to see Schonbrunn Palace and Gardens, the favourite summer residence of Maria Theresa. Return to the MS River Crown for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure. In the early evening there will be a performance of "A Night in Vienna" by London Festival Opera on board. Sail late tonight.

Day 15 Bratislava, Slovakia. Overnight we sail the short distance to the Slovak capital of Bratislava. Join 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. Finish your tour with a visit to the beautiful Klarissen Church where a string quartet will perform a concert of music by Dvorak and Mozart. Return to the ship for lunch and spend the afternoon cruising.

Day 16 Budapest, Hungary. We have the day to explore Hungary's elegant capital. Spend the morning on an excursion that will include the old quarter, the Matthias Church and the Fishermen's Bastion. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore at your own pace. After dinner this evening, join your fellow travellers on deck to enjoy the wonderful "Budapest by Night" sailing as we depart towards Kalocsa.

Day 17 Kalocsa. Arrive this morning in charming Kalocsa, renowned for paprika production. We will tour the Puszt district which will include the town and a spectacular display of Hungarian horsemanship. Depart this afternoon for a relaxing cruise along the beautiful Danube, arriving in Mohacs in the early evening. Moor overnight.

Day 18 Pecs & Villany. From the port of Mohacs, we will depart for a full day scenic tour of Pecs and Villany. The city of Pecs enjoys a fine position on the slopes of the Mecsek Hills. The visit will feature the sites associated



with the city's Roman Ottoman Hapsburg past, as well as the opportunity to hear the sound of the organ in the splendid Pecs Cathedral. Continue on to the town of Villany where we will enjoy lunch and a wine tasting. Villany is one of Hungary's top wine regions, known for its reds and rosés.

Day 19 Belgrade, Serbia. Spend today in this interesting city. A half-day tour highlights the city's main attractions, including the Kalemegdan fortress as it looms over the confluence of the Sava and Danube rivers, Saint Sava Cathedral, the largest Orthodox Church in the world, and Tito's Memorial. Our tour will finish with a superb local folklore performance before returning to the ship for lunch. This afternoon is at leisure before we sail tonight.

Day 20 Cruising through the Iron Gates. Today the scenery becomes truly spectacular as we cruise through the Iron Gates, a narrow Danube gorge between the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains.

Day 21 Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria. From Svistov, we drive to Veliko Tarnovo, the capital of the second Bulgarian Kingdom from 1187 to 1393. The city formed a natural fortress, located on three hills surrounding the Yantra River. A palace, fortifications and churches were built into the terrain. Across the river, ancient stone houses seemingly perched on top of each other rise up the steep riverbank. After lunch in a local restaurant, visit the museum town of Arbanassi before returning to the MS River Crown in Rousse and sailing this evening.

Day 22 Bucharest, Romania to London or Manchester. Disembark in Giurgiu after breakfast and transfer to Bucharest airport for your return scheduled flight to the UK.

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	£7795	£7295
Premium with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£7995	£7495
Deluxe with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£8495	£7995
Deluxe with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£9095	£8595
Queen Suite with Balcony	Upper Deck	£10095	£9595
Standard Twin with porthole for sole use	Main Deck	£7795	£7295
Premium with French Balcony for sole use	Middle Deck	£9795	£9295

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 21 nights aboard the MS River Crown on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions & music events as described • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Performances by London Festival Opera • Gratuities • Transfers • Port & airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

POST-CRUISE BUCHAREST EXTENSION 27TH TO 30TH MAY 2024

If you would like to spend some time in Bucharest after disembarking the MS River Crown, we are offering a three night post-cruise extension.

Romanian Athenaeum, Bucharest



THE ITINERARY

Day 1 Giurgiu to Bucharest, Romania. Disembark the MS River Crown and transfer to Bucharest. On arrival there will be a panoramic city tour of the city's highlights followed by lunch at the Phoenicia Restaurant. Continue on to the hotel and enjoy an evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 2 Bucharest. Today we visit the Parliament Palace, the second largest administrative building in the world at 3.77 million square feet. This gargantuan construction is Ceausescu's most infamous creation and makes for a fascinating tour. After our tour we will have lunch in 'Carul cu Bere', Bucharest's oldest beer house, with its colourful Belle Epoque interior, stained-glass windows and classic Romanian fare. This afternoon enjoy a walking tour of the Old Town, including a visit to Stravropoleos Church, Lipscani Lane, Manuc's Inn and the Old Princely Court. The remainder of the day and evening will be at leisure. (B, L)

Day 3 Snagov & Mogosoaia. After breakfast, depart for our visit to Snagov Monastery. This monastery was founded in 1408 by Mircea the Elder, Vlad Dracul's grandfather. Vlad, also known as Vlad Tepes is the historical character on whom Bram Stoker's book Dracula is based and is said to be buried here by the monks in 1476. We continue on to visit Mogosoaia Palace, built in the 17th century in the Romanian Renaissance style. After lunch in a local restaurant we return to Bucharest for an evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 4 Bucharest to London or Manchester. After breakfast we transfer to the airport for your return scheduled flight to the UK. (B)

Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Twin: £895 Single: £1195

Price Includes: Three nights hotel accommodation, meals as indicated (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner), excursions as described, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

THE ENCHANTING DANUBE

A cruise along the Danube with musical and cultural highlights and Guest Speaker
Professor Martyn Rady aboard the MS River Crown

27th May to 10th June 2024



Join us as we navigate the Danube River from Romania in the east to the romantic city of Regensburg in the west. We travel through the heart of Europe visiting eight countries; Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, Hungary, Slovakia, Austria, the Czech Republic and Germany. From the earliest of times the Danube has been one of Europe's most important trade routes linking the eastern shores with central Europe and this stretch of the river offers a diversity of history and culture quite unlike anywhere else. Our included tours with excellent local guides, together with interesting talks by our Guest Speaker, will create an enjoyable, informative and lively atmosphere as we sail along the majestic Danube.

We will journey through some of Europe's most beautiful landscapes aboard the elegant, 100-passenger MS River Crown, visiting the great historic cities of Belgrade, Budapest and Vienna, as well as picturesque riverside and inland towns. From the great comfort of our vessel we will cruise effortlessly, enjoying the varied scenery and architecture whilst learning more about a region that has seen more of its fair share of conflicts, revolutions and wars. The combination of music, traditional culture, wine tasting and folklore along the way makes for a fascinating trip. To enhance your holiday further we are offering a six-night pre-cruise extension in the magical region of Transylvania in Romania, offering the chance to visit some of the last untouched and least travelled areas of Europe. There is also the opportunity to spend some time in Prague at the end of the cruise.

GUEST SPEAKER – PROFESSOR MARTYN RADY



the Habsburg Monarchy.

Martyn Rady is Masaryk Professor Emeritus of Central European History at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, a part of University College London. He has written books on German, Hungarian and Romanian history, and has edited and translated some of the leading texts for the history of Hungary – most recently the earliest Hungarian chronicle, written in Latin about the year 1200, and an eye-witness account of the Mongol invasion of Hungary in 1241. He has broadcast extensively on television and radio, discussing subjects ranging from contemporary politics in Central Europe to vampirism and the history of



Kalosca's horsemanship



Decebal's Head, Iron Gates Gorge



City Hall Square, Pecs



Passau



Fisherman's Bastion, Budapest

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London or Manchester to Bucharest, Romania. Fly by scheduled flight to Bucharest and on arrival transfer to the MS River Crown in Giurgiu. Embark and sail this evening.

Day 2 Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria. From our berth in Svistov, we drive to Veliko Tarnovo, the capital of the second Bulgarian Kingdom from 1187 to 1393. The city formed a natural fortress, located on three hills surrounding the Yantra River. A palace, fortifications and churches were built into the terrain. Across the river, ancient stone houses seemingly perched on top of each other rise up the steep riverbank. After lunch in a local restaurant, visit the museum town of Arbanassi before we return to the MS River Crown in Nikopol and sail.

Day 3 Cruising through the Iron Gates. Today the scenery becomes truly spectacular as we cruise through the Iron Gates, a narrow Danube gorge between the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains.

Day 4 Belgrade, Serbia. Spend the morning in this interesting city. A half-day tour will highlight the city's main attractions, including the Kalemegdan fortress as it looms over the confluence of the Sava and Danube rivers, Saint Sava Cathedral, the largest Orthodox Church in the world, and Tito's Memorial. Our tour will finish with a superb local folklore performance before returning to the ship for lunch and an afternoon cruising. Arrive this evening in Novi Sad.

Day 5 Novi Sad. After breakfast we depart for a visit of Novi Sad, in the Serbian northern province of Vojvodina. The city is rich in historic buildings including the fortress, Bishop's House, Clock Tower and numerous churches, some of which will be seen on our morning tour. Our exploration of Greater Novi Sad includes a wine tasting in nearby Sremski Karlovic where we sample some excellent wines of the former Yugoslavia. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon relax on board as we cruise towards Hungary.

Day 6 Pecs & Villany, Hungary. From the port of Mohacs, we will depart for a full day scenic tour of Pecs and Villany. The city of Pecs enjoys a fine position on the slopes of the Mecsek Hills. The visit will feature the sites associated with the city's Roman Ottoman Hapsburg past, as well as the

opportunity to hear the splendid sound of the organ in Pecs Cathedral. Continue on to the town of Villany where we will enjoy lunch and a wine tasting. Villany is one of Hungary's top wine regions, known for its reds and rosés. This evening we sail the short distance to Kalocsa where we moor overnight.

Day 7 Kalocsa. Charming Kalocsa is renowned for paprika production and our tour of the Puszt district will include the town and a spectacular display of Hungarian horsemanship. Depart this afternoon for a relaxing cruise down the beautiful Danube, arriving in Budapest in the late evening. Moor overnight.

Day 8 Budapest. We have the day to explore Hungary's elegant capital. Spend the morning on an excursion that will include the old quarter, the Matthias Church and the Fishermen's Bastion. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure. After dinner this evening, join your fellow travellers on deck to enjoy the wonderful "Budapest by Night" sailing as we depart towards Bratislava.

Day 9 Bratislava, Slovakia. Arrive over lunch in the Slovak capital of Bratislava. Join 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. Finish your tour with a visit to the beautiful Klarissen Church where a string quartet will perform a concert of music by Dvorak and Mozart.

Day 10 Vienna, Austria. This morning there will be a choice of tours. A city tour of Austria's elegant capital will take us around the famous Ringstrasse and the Old Quarter including St Stephan's Cathedral. Alternatively, travel to the Vienna Woods, including a visit to the Mayerling hunting lodge, where scandal once rocked the royal family, as well as the Cistercian Abbey of Heiligenkreuz. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon is at leisure to explore this majestic city further.

Day 11 Vienna. After breakfast join a tour to see Schonbrunn Palace and Gardens, the favourite summer residence of Maria Theresa. Return to the MS River Crown for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore at your own pace.

Durnstein



Day 12 Durnstein & Melk. Arrive this morning in the pretty town of Durnstein, where King Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned. Enjoy some free time ashore to explore and perhaps sample some of the town's delicious Marillenschnaps or strudel. We then sail on through the beautiful Wachau Valley towards the great Baroque Abbey of Melk, situated high above the Danube. On arrival in the afternoon depart for an excursion to see this imposing abbey, followed by an uplifting performance by a clarinet quintet. Return to the ship and sail this evening for Linz.

Day 13 Linz for Salzburg or Cesky Krumlov, Czech Republic. From the town of Linz a choice of full day tours will be available. Enjoy a trip to the exquisite town of Cesky Krumlov set on the Vltava River in Bohemia's southern region, and one of the most picturesque in Europe. We will visit the stunning castle and take a walking tour of the Old Town, followed by some free time to explore at leisure. Alternatively, 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. Both tours include lunch in a local restaurant. Return to the ship and sail this evening towards Germany.

Day 14 Passau, Germany. Arrive this morning 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 Stephan which contains one of the world's largest church pipe organs. Return to the vessel for lunch and enjoy a leisurely afternoon on board.

Day 15 Regensburg to London or Manchester. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to Munich airport for your return scheduled flight to London or Manchester.

Salzburg



PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CATEGORY	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Premium with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£4995	£4795
Premium with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£5295	£5095
Deluxe with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£5795	£5595
Deluxe with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£5995	£5795
Queen Suite with Balcony	Upper Deck	£6995	£6795
Standard Twin with porthole for sole use	Main Deck	£4995	£4795
Premium with French Balcony for sole use	Middle Deck	£6295	£6095

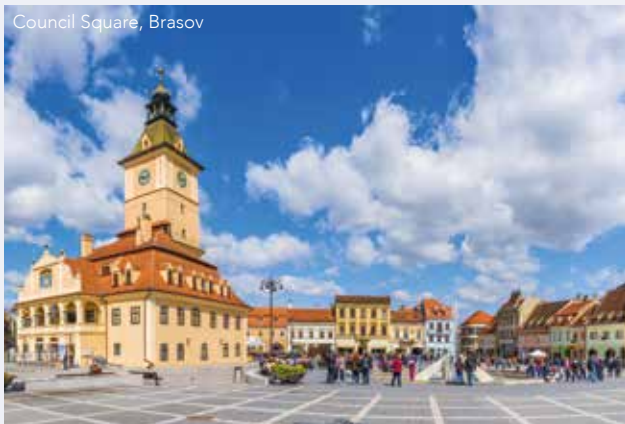
PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 14 nights aboard the MS River Crown on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Gratuities • Transfers • Port & airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

PRE-CRUISE TRANSYLVANIA & ROYAL ROMANIA EXTENSION 21ST TO 27TH MAY 2024

Before joining the MS River Crown we are offering the opportunity to explore Transylvania with our six night escorted tour. Transylvania is located in central Romania and is a region of exquisite countryside surrounded by the arc of the dramatic Carpathian mountain chain. The region is home to some of Europe's best preserved Medieval towns which we will explore.

Council Square, Brasov



THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Sibiu, Romania. Fly by scheduled indirect flight. Arrive and transfer to our hotel for a three-night stay. Tonight, gather for the traditional bread and salt welcome, followed by a welcome drink and dinner at the hotel. (D)

Day 2 Sibiu & Sibiel. This morning we take a walking tour of colourful Sibiu, a town visited by the Queen together with King Ferdinand in May 1919, followed by some free time before lunch in the old city. Later, drive to Sibiel, a pretty village situated 20 kilometres from Sibiu. Here we visit a unique and superb museum of glass painted icons, located in the old village church. This evening enjoy a traditional dinner during which we will be able to talk to our local hosts about Romanian daily life in a Transylvanian village before we return to our hotel in Sibiu. (B, L, D)

Day 3 Sibiu & Alba Iulia. After breakfast depart for Alba Iulia, the town where Ferdinand and Marie were crowned Kings of the Great Romania. On arrival we visit the stunning White Citadel and the Coronation Cathedral, as well as the Unification Museum. Lunch will be in a local restaurant, followed by some time here at leisure. Return to Sibiu and dinner this evening will be at our hotel. (B, L, D)

Day 4 Biertan & Sighisoara. This morning we depart for picturesque Biertan. Your first glimpse of the town's Medieval church is unforgettable; it towers over the square below, surrounded by vividly painted houses and backed by vineyards. On arrival we visit the UNESCO 14th century fortified church, once the home to the Lutheran Bishop of Transylvania. Continue on to Sighisoara and explore the Old Town with its cobbled streets and ornate churches. Enjoy lunch in "Dracula's House" restaurant followed by some free time. Continue on to Brasov where we will be staying for two nights. Dinner this evening will be at a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

Day 5 Brasov & Bran. A morning city tour of Brasov will include the City Hall Square, St Nicholas Church and the Old City. After lunch we continue to the world famous 'Dracula's Castle', built as a fortress in 1212 by the Knights of the Teutonic Order. Vlad Tepes, better known as Vlad the Impaler, used the castle as headquarters for his incursions into Transylvania. (B, L)

Day 6 Azuga, Sinaia & Bucharest. Departing Brasov this morning we make our first stop at Azuga in the Prahova Valley, home of the Royal Cellar which is the wine supplier for the Royal family. We will stop at a local vineyard for lunch and enjoy some wine tasting. Continue to Sinaia to see the fairytale Peles Castle, built by King Carol I in the 19th century. Afterwards we continue onto Bucharest for an overnight stay. (B, L)

Day 7 Bucharest to Giurgiu. This morning enjoy a tour of Bucharest including the Parliament Palace, the second largest administration building in the world. After lunch in a local restaurant we transfer to Giurgiu for embarkation of the MS River Crown. (B, L)

Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Twin: £1495 Single: £1795

Price Includes: Six nights hotel accommodation, meals as described (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner), wine & soft drinks with included lunches & dinners, excursions as described, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

POST-CRUISE PRAGUE EXTENSION – 10TH TO 13TH JUNE 2024

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.

THE ITINERARY



astronomical clock and finally Charles Bridge and the Church of St Nicholas. The remainder of the evening is at leisure. (B, L)

Day 2 Prague. A morning panoramic tour of the city begins with a private visit to 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,

Day 1 Regensburg to Prague, Czech Republic. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to Prague (approx. 3 hours). On arrival we will have lunch before joining our local guide for a walking tour of the Old City including Wenceslas Square, the Old Town Square, with its famous

scene of the famous defenestration in 1618. Finally, visit the magnificent St Vitus Cathedral and walk along Golden Lane before returning to the hotel. The remainder of the day and evening is at leisure. (B)

Day 3 Prague. Today is free to sightsee and explore at your own pace. (B)

Day 4 Prague to London. After breakfast transfer to the airport for our return flight to London. (B)

Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Twin: £1095 Single: £1395

Price Includes: Three nights hotel accommodation, meals as indicated (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch), wine & soft drinks with included lunches, excursions as described, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

MOZART & THE GOLDEN AGE OF MUSIC

Explore the wonderful music & opera of the Danube with Guest Speaker Jamie Hayes and London Festival Opera aboard the MS River Crown

10th to 18th June 2024

The magic of Mozart has once again placed its spell and the demand for music inspired trips along the Danube continues unabated. With our friends at London Festival Opera and the elegant, 100-passenger MS River Crown, we can promise you a marvellous experience. Our musical journey from Regensburg to Budapest is a celebration of Mozart's life, and of the many great composers from this Golden Age. During this eight night river cruise we will visit small towns and villages as well as the cities of Salzburg, Bratislava and Budapest, enjoying some of the finest works of music from the concertos of Mozart and the waltzes of Johann Strauss to opera and folk tunes in idyllic settings. We will also visit the city most celebrated for its musical 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.

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 who will accompany the trip.



MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS

- Highlight performances by London Festival Opera
- String quartet at the superb Mozarteum Conservatory in Salzburg
- Concert of Dvorak and Mozart music in Bratislava
- A visit to the fascinating Mozarthaus Museum in Vienna
- Tour of the Liszt Ferenc Memorial Museum in Budapest

GUEST SPEAKER – JAMIE HAYES



Jamie has directed many new opera productions, both at home and abroad. After training at RADA, he worked for Kent Opera, Glyndebourne Festival and Touring Opera, the BBC, the RSC and English National Opera. He has directed many opera productions for leading UK festivals as well as all our most distinguished musical

conservatoires. His new opera productions overseas have appeared as far away as Reykjavik, Malta and Melbourne. Jamie was Associate Director on the original production of the hit musical Miss Saigon in the West End and on Broadway. He was Director of Productions for British Youth Opera for over a decade, a company devoted to promoting the talents of our finest young opera singers in the UK. Jamie is married to the opera singer Jean Rigby and he became an accredited lecturer with The Arts Society in 2022.

LONDON FESTIVAL OPERA



We are delighted that 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 has 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 and Don Giovanni, in period costume. Other opera concerts include A Night in Vienna and an Opera Soiree on board the MS River Crown whilst we are moored in Passau and Vienna.

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Regensburg, Germany. Fly by scheduled flight to Munich. On arrival transfer to the MS River Crown in Regensburg. Moor overnight.

Day 2 Regensburg. After breakfast enjoy a guided stroll around Germany's largest and best-preserved Medieval city, Regensburg. See the twin-spired cathedral Dom St Peter, the treasury and the tower houses followed by a visit to the Turn and Taxis Palace. Return to the MS River Crown for lunch and sail.

Day 3 Passau. 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 London Festival Opera will present an Opera Soiree of Handel, Verdi, Gounod, Bizet and Puccini on board the MS River Crown.

Day 4 Linz for Salzburg, Austria. From our berth in Linz we depart for Salzburg, the 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 this evening.

Day 5 Melk & Durnstein. Today we will see the great Baroque Abbey of Melk, situated high above the Danube. On a morning excursion we will visit this imposing abbey including the Imperial Staircase, the Marble Hall and the abbey church. We then sail on through the beautiful Wachau Valley and arrive later this afternoon in the pretty town of Durnstein, where King Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned. Enjoy some free time ashore to explore and perhaps sample some of the town's delicious Marillenschnaps or strudel.

Day 6 Vienna. After breakfast today depart for a guided city tour which will include the famous Ringstrasse, the Old Quarter and St Stephan's Cathedral. Return to the ship for lunch and the afternoon will be at leisure to explore independently or you may like to join the included visit to the Mozarthaus, a three storey museum where Mozart lived from 1784-1787,

Regensburg Cathedral and the Old Stone Bridge



Mozart's statue, Vienna



Fisherman's Bastion, Budapest



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 enjoy a pre-dinner performance in the lounge by London Festival Opera of 'A Night in Vienna' including the works of Mozart, Johann Strauss and Lehar.

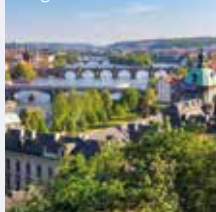
Day 7 Bratislava, Slovakia. This morning we will take a guided walking tour of the city, formerly known as Pressburg, a former capital of Hungary. See the old quarter, the ornate Baroque Palace and the ancient city gates. The tour ends with a visit to the impressive Moyzes Hall for a concert of music by Dvorak and Mozart by a string quartet. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon cruising to Budapest.

Day 8 Budapest, Hungary. 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.

Day 9 Budapest to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for your return scheduled flight to London.

PRE-CRUISE PRAGUE EXTENSION 7TH TO 10TH JUNE 2024

Prague



We are offering the opportunity to spend three nights before 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 discover 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. Also enjoy an evening music event at the famous Estates Theatre or the State Opera House (schedules permitting).

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Prague, Czech Republic. Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 2 Prague. Meet this morning 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. After lunch the remainder of the afternoon and evening is at leisure. (B, L)

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 café culture and excellent shopping. (B)

Day 4 Prague. A morning panoramic tour of the city begins with a private visit to 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. After lunch we will transfer to the MS River Crown moored in Regensburg. (B, L)

Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£995** Single: **£1295**

Price Includes: Three nights hotel accommodation in Prague, meals as indicated (B - Breakfast, L - Lunch), wine and soft drinks with included lunches, excursions, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CATEGORY	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Premium with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£3695	£3495
Premium with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£3895	£3695
Deluxe with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£4195	£3995
Deluxe with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£4395	£4195
Queen Suite with Balcony	Upper Deck	£4995	£4795
Standard Twin with porthole for sole use	Main Deck	£3695	£3495
Premium with French Balcony for sole use	Middle Deck	£4895	£4695

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

Not Included: Travel insurance.

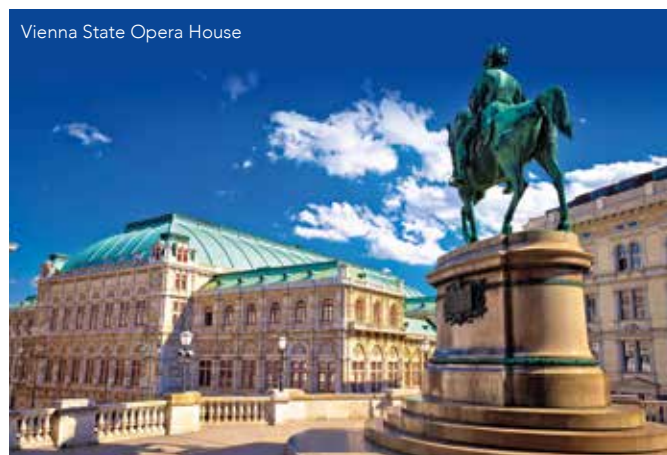
THREE RIVER ODYSSEY

A river journey between Budapest and Basle aboard the MS River Crown

18th June to 2nd July 2024 & 13th to 27th September* 2024

This journey aboard the wonderfully comfortable, 100-passenger MS River Crown from Budapest to Basle travels through the very heart of Europe and includes passages along three great rivers - the Danube, Main and Rhine. Whilst rivers may not always offer the most direct route, they do offer the most interesting. They allow us to weave through the landscape on a meandering journey experiencing the countryside, villages and towns from a very different perspective to that offered by road. A journey such as this will appeal to those who enjoy seeing something different each day but do not find the thought of long coach journeys appealing. We will sail through Europe with great ease, enjoying relaxing interludes on board in between our varied visits ashore.

This detailed look at three of Europe's great rivers will offer a captivating and endlessly romantic journey. Embarking in the wonderful city of Budapest we will have two weeks ahead of us to take a comprehensive look at an area of infinite cultural riches. Baroque churches, cathedrals and abbeys will be seen in all their splendour, often contrasting with their naturally beautiful, rustic surroundings. Old quarters of winding lanes and alleys lined by Medieval houses contrast with the modern architecture in the city centres. The river Main in particular meanders through some of Bavaria's most beautiful landscapes, dotted with vineyards, historic towns and villages, peaceful monasteries and imposing Medieval castles.



THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Budapest, Hungary. Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the MS River Crown.

Day 2 Budapest. After breakfast our guided tour of the splendid city of Budapest will include the old quarter, visiting the Matthias' Church and the Fisherman's Bastion from where there are stunning views of the city. After lunch on board, the afternoon will be free to explore at leisure. In the early evening join your fellow travellers in the lounge for a piano recital before we sail tonight.

Day 3 Bratislava, Slovakia. Arrive over lunch in the Slovak capital of Bratislava. Join 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. Finish your tour with a visit to the beautiful Klarissen Church where a string quartet will perform a concert of music by Dvorak and Mozart.

Day 4 Vienna, Austria. A morning city tour of Austria's elegant capital will take us around the famous Ringstrasse and the Old Quarter including St Stephan's cathedral. Alternatively, travel to the Vienna Woods, including a visit to the Mayerling hunting lodge, where scandal once rocked the royal family, as well as the Cistercian Abbey of Heiligenkreuz. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon is at leisure to explore this majestic city further at your own pace.



Day 5 Wachau Valley & Melk. Spend the morning cruising through the beautiful Wachau Valley, famous for its wines and arrive this afternoon in Melk with its majestic Baroque abbey situated on a cliff, high above the Danube. After lunch, depart for a guided tour of the abbey, including the Imperial Staircase, the Marble Hall and the abbey church.

Day 6 Passau, Germany. Arrive over lunch 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 Stephan which contains one of the world's largest church pipe organs.

Day 7 Regensburg. On our guided morning stroll around this World Heritage listed historic city, widely regarded as the Medieval wonder of Germany we will see the majestic twin-spired cathedral Dom St Peter, the ancient Romanesque Porta Praetoria and the tower houses. The afternoon is free to explore this charming town at your own pace.

Day 8 Nuremberg. After a morning cruising we arrive in Nuremberg, the capital of Franconia where there will be a choice of tours. A guided tour of the old city sees the vast walls, Zeppelin Field, the site of the Nuremberg Trials and the Palace of Justice. Alternatively join a visit to the lovely Hesperides Gardens, developed in the 17th and 18th centuries by rich tradesmen and often referred to as the "Baroque Gardens".

Day 9 Bamberg. Arrive this morning in Bamberg, one of Germany's most beautiful historic towns. Its relative geographical location, some 40 miles north of Nuremberg was a key factor in preserving its magnificent architectural heritage from the ravages of war. Every single European style from the Romanesque onwards, has left its mark on Bamberg, each bequeathing at least one major building. Return to the ship for lunch and sail later this afternoon.

Day 10 Wurzburg. We spend the morning in historic Wurzburg, the wine capital of Franconia. Tour this lovely town including the magnificent Prince Bishop's Residenz Palace where our visit ends with a wine tasting of local wines in the splendid cellars. Also see the old town with its collection of churches which range in style from Romanesque to Gothic, Renaissance to Baroque before returning to the ship.

Day 11 Miltenberg. We arrive today in the pretty Franconian town of Miltenberg, renowned for its half-timbered Medieval houses. On a walking tour see the picturesque triangular shaped Marktplatz and the restored castle. Alternatively, visit Mespelbrunn Castle, one of the loveliest castles in northern Bavaria. The castle is located in a small, hidden and picturesque valley within the Spessart forest and it was because of this concealment that it survived the Thirty Years War and remained unscathed during both World Wars. It was first built in the 15th century and then renovated in beautiful Renaissance style.

Day 12 Mannheim for Heidelberg. From our berth in Mannheim, we visit nearby Heidelberg to enjoy this most picturesque and romantic of German cities which is home to Germany's oldest university, dating back to 1386. During our guided tour which will include a visit to the city's castle and gardens, we will stroll through Heidelberg's enchanting old town and see its Renaissance building, 'Zum Ritter', which survived the fire of 1693.

Day 13 Strasbourg, France. Arrive this morning and after breakfast join a guided tour which will introduce us to the delights of Strasbourg including the fascinating old quarter. Start with the Quai de la Petite France where the River Ill splits into a number of canals, see the Ponts Couverts, a series of wooden bridges dating back to the 13th century, the Place Gutenberg and the Cathedral of Notre Dame, the tallest Medieval building in Europe. Return to the ship for lunch. This afternoon is at leisure, or alternatively join a scenic tour along Alsace's "Route des Vins", including a tasting of the region's splendid wines.

Day 14 Breisach, Germany for Colmar, France. From our berth in Breisach, we will cross the River Rhine into France and drive to the capital of the Upper Rhine region, Colmar. We begin with a visit to the impressive Unterlinden Museum which dates back to the 13th century. Admire a fine collection of religious Medieval paintings and also paintings from the 20th and 21st centuries including works by Picasso and Monet. The highlight of the Museum is the Isenheim Altar, a wonderful triptych created for the monastery at Isenheim by Mattheus Grunewald. We continue on for a short walk through the charming Old Town, with delightful patrician houses and winding lanes and enjoy some free time before our drive back to Breisach to reboard the MS River Crown. This evening join your fellow travellers for farewell drinks and dinner.

Day 15 Basle, Switzerland to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for your return scheduled flight to London.

*The 13th September departure operates in the reverse direction to that shown from Basle to Budapest. Full itinerary can be viewed online.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CATEGORY	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Premium with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£4995	£4795
Premium with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£5295	£5095
Deluxe with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£5795	£5595
Deluxe with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£5995	£5795
Queen Suite with Balcony	Upper Deck	£6995	£6795
Standard Twin with porthole for sole use	Main Deck	£4995	£4795
Premium with French Balcony for sole use	Middle Deck	£6295	£6095

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 • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Gratuities • Transfers • Port & airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

RIVER DEEP & MOUNTAIN HIGH

A cruise along the picturesque Rhine & Moselle Rivers from Basle to Amsterdam aboard the MS River Crown

2nd to 14th July & 1st to 13th September* 2024

Join us aboard the MS River Crown for our journey along two of Europe's great rivers. The mighty Rhine, for so long one of Europe's main trading routes contrasts beautifully with our exploration of the Moselle, surely one of the loveliest rivers in all Europe. We will visit some enchanting ports of call such as the traditional town of Cochem, the historic cities of Heidelberg and Arnhem and the charming spa town of Baden-Baden with its unique setting and ambience. The scenery is stunning and makes an excellent combination with the artistic riches we shall see along the way from the wonderful collections on show in the museums and galleries to the fairytale castles and Medieval charms of the towns and villages along the rivers.

This captivating and romantic voyage between Basle and Amsterdam journeys through Switzerland, France, Germany and The Netherlands as we experience the diverse scenery along the route. Each port of call has its own unique character waiting to be discovered whilst on one of our guided excursions and we have also ensured there is plenty of time to relax on board and enjoy some truly beautiful scenery whilst cruising. Our local guides and interesting talks by our Guest Speaker will create an enjoyable, informative and lively atmosphere on board.



GUEST SPEAKER – MARTIN SIXSMITH



Martin Sixsmith is a writer, presenter and former television correspondent. He was the BBC's Western Europe Correspondent for four years in the 1980s, reporting on the development and enlargement of the European Union. In the 1990s, Martin was the BBC's correspondent in Warsaw, 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 adapted into the film *Philomena*, starring Judi Dench and Steve Coogan. It was nominated for four Oscars. His book *Ayesha's Gift*, the story of a young woman's search to discover the truth after her father is murdered in Pakistan, is in development as a film. His non-fiction books include *Moscow Coup*; *The Litvinenko File*; *Putin's Oil*; *Russia, A Thousand Year Chronicle of the Wild East* and *The War of Nerves – Inside the Cold War Mind*. In 2011, he presented the BBC's 50-episode history of Russia on Radio Four. In 2014 he presented Radio Four's 25-part history of psychology and psychiatry.

Please note that Martin Sixsmith will be Guest Speaker for the 2nd July departure. The Guest Speaker for the 1st September departure is to be confirmed.

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London or Manchester to Basle, Switzerland. Fly by scheduled flight to Basle. On arrival transfer to the MS River Crown and sail this evening.

Day 2 Breisach for Colmar. From our berth in Breisach, we will cross the River Rhine into France and drive to the capital of the Upper Rhine region, Colmar. We begin with a visit to the impressive Unterlinden Museum which dates back to the 13th century. Admire a fine collection of religious Medieval paintings and also paintings from the 20th and 21st centuries including works by Picasso and Monet. The highlight of the Museum is the Isenheim Altar, a wonderful triptych created for the monastery at Isenheim by Mattheus Grunewald. We continue on for a short walk through the charming Old Town, with delightful patrician houses and winding lanes and enjoy some free time before our drive back to Breisach to reboard the MS River Crown.

Day 3 Strasbourg, France. After breakfast join a morning guided tour which will introduce us to the delights of Strasbourg including the fascinating old quarter. Start with the Quai de la Petite France where the River Ill splits into a number of canals, see the Ponts Couverts, a series of wooden bridges dating back to the 13th century, the Place Gutenberg and the Cathedral of Notre Dame, the tallest Medieval building in Europe. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure.



Day 4 Baden-Baden, Germany. After breakfast this morning, we will drive inland to the beautiful spa town of Baden-Baden. This elegant Belle-Epoque resort is one of Germany's best kept secrets. The spa assembly rooms and famous casino form the focal point of the town, both architecturally and socially. The old quarter is full of charming houses, exclusive boutiques and cafés and is fully pedestrianised. After a guided tour there will be some free time to wander around this remarkable town which somehow manages to retain its old-world charm and yet be very much of the 21st century.

Day 5 Mannheim for Heidelberg. From our berth in Mannheim, we visit nearby Heidelberg where we have the morning to enjoy this most picturesque and romantic of German cities which is home to Germany's oldest university, dating back to 1386. Our tour will include the castle, a dramatically sited red sandstone ruin that dominates the city, the old town with its famous marketplace and the city gates. Sail this afternoon to Rudesheim where we moor overnight.

Day 6 Rudesheim & Rhine Gorge. This morning we join the Winzerexpress mini-train to visit Siegfried's Musical Instrument Museum, home to one of Germany's most fascinating collections of automated musical instruments. Return to the ship via the cobblestone streets of the town's vibrant Drosselgasse. Our afternoon cruising takes us along the romantic Rhine. Enjoy the magnificent scenery of the Rhine Gorge, the striking hilltop castles and the legendary Lorelei Rock.

Day 7 Bernkastel. Spend the morning cruising to Bernkastel located in the heart of the Moselle Valley. After lunch on board we depart for an exploration of this lovely town, including the Medieval market square and church before we sample some of the locally produced wines.

Day 8 Cochem. Enjoy a morning of scenic cruising before we arrive into Cochem, famous for its 11th century Schloss and the Reichsburg, and set impressively on a tree clad hill above a bend of the river. This afternoon we enjoy a guided walking tour along Cochem's winding Medieval streets to see the Baroque Town Hall.

Day 9 Koblenz. Arrive today in Koblenz where we find the statue of William the Great, which marks the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle rivers. We will drive to Burg Thurant, one of the most romantic castles in the whole Moselle area. The castle was first built in the 12th century. The interior is charming and offers superb views over the River Moselle. The castle is also famous for its vineyards and we will taste the excellent Riesling after our tour. Continue on for a short walking tour through the charming village of Alken on the bank of the Moselle before returning to the ship in Koblenz.

Day 10 Cologne. This morning we will cruise along the Rhine, arriving into the grand city of Cologne in the early afternoon. After lunch on board depart for a tour to see the city's famous cathedral which is the largest Gothic church in northern Europe with a total area of almost 8,000 square metres, room for more than 20,000 people and the second tallest spire and largest facade in the world.

Day 11 Arnhem, The Netherlands. We arrive into Arnhem in the morning and will have a choice of excursions. Arnhem is well known because of the airborne paratrooper landings and the battles around the bridge over the Rhine. There will be an excursion to the Airborne Museum at Villa Hartenstein, the allied headquarters during the Battle of Arnhem and nowadays dedicated to the historic military 'Operation Market Garden' in World War II. 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 in Arnhem.

Day 12 Amsterdam. After breakfast there will be a choice of tours; depart for a visit to the Rijksmuseum, arguably Amsterdam's most important art venue. Housing some of the greatest examples of Western European painting and decorative arts, it boasts works by Vermeer, Goya, and Rubens. Alternatively, you may like to take a canal cruise and admire the city from a glass-top boat as you glide past 17th century homes, churches and 16th century merchant houses. Return to the MS River Crown for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure. This evening join your fellow travellers for farewell drinks and dinner on board.

Day 13 Amsterdam to London or Manchester. Disembark and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

*Please note that the 1st September 2024 departure operates in the reverse direction to that shown, from Amsterdam to Basle. Full details can be viewed online.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CATEGORY	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Premium with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£4495	£4295
Premium with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£4695	£4495
Deluxe with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£5195	£4995
Deluxe with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£5395	£5195
Queen Suite with Balcony	Upper Deck	£6395	£6195
Standard Twin with porthole for sole use	Main Deck	£4495	£4295
Premium with French Balcony for sole use	Middle Deck	£5695	£5495

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 12 nights aboard the MS River Crown on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Gratuities • Transfers • Port & airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

A WEEK ON THE DANUBE

A journey between Budapest & Regensburg aboard the MS River Crown

27th September to 4th October & 4th to 11th October 2024

A river journey, like no other allows you to gently absorb the landscape, appreciate the subtle changes in architecture and reflect on the many ways the river you are travelling along has influenced the course of history. More than any other European river the Danube has set the historical pulse of Central Europe, the vital crucible of culture that draws on influences of East and West.



Journey with us aboard the elegant, 100-passenger MS River Crown along the most romantic section of the Danube River between Budapest and Bavaria. Within the course of seven nights we will travel through Hungary, Slovakia, Austria and Germany and accomplish a comprehensive look at an area of infinite cultural riches. Along the way we will enjoy the delights of Budapest, Bratislava and Vienna, the beauty of the Wachau Valley and the timeless tranquillity of Medieval towns and villages. Travel through the idyllic, rolling pastures and vineyards, past centuries old villages, towns and imperial cities which have witnessed the fascinating and turbulent history of Middle Europe.

Our river vessel will take us through borders and from place to place along the Danube with great ease, allowing us to relax and enjoy the scenery and the numerous stops without the distraction of long road journeys, traffic jams and border delays. The bountiful months of September and October are the perfect time to enjoy a trip along the Danube, the high season crowds have departed and the temperatures are ideal for exploring.

GUEST SPEAKERS

PROFESSOR RICHARD BUTTERWICK-PAWLIKOWSKI

27th September 2024 Departure



Richard 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 has been Professor of Polish-Lithuanian History since 2013. He is also Principal Historian of the Polish History Museum in Warsaw. Richard's academic interests range across the history and culture of Europe, especially in the eighteenth century. An admirer of the Baroque and Classical styles in the arts, he delights in Mozart's operas. He has published four single-authored books, four edited books, and many articles in scholarly periodicals and collections, and is in frequent demand as a speaker at international conferences.

MAJOR GENERAL PATRICK CORDINGLEY

4th October 2024 Departure



Major General Patrick Cordingley was commissioned into the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards in June 1965. He commanded the Desert Rats during the 1991 Gulf War and his huge tank formation led the British and American attack, which breached the Iraqi defences. In 1992 he took command of the 2nd UK Division before being appointed as the military adviser to the late Sultan Qaboos Al Said of Oman and his retirement from the Army in 2000. Following his retirement, Patrick completed eight years as chairman of a technology company. During this time he also worked for the BBC as a military commentator. He is now chairman of Defence and Security Forum, past chairman of the trustees of the Gilbert White's House with the Oates Collection, the National Memorial Arboretum Appeal and past Master of the Worshipful Company of Ironmongers. He was a visiting scholar at Hull University, where he is a Doctor of Science. He is the author of two best-selling books and was made an OBE in the 2017 Birthday Honours List for services to the National Arboretum.



Wachau Valley



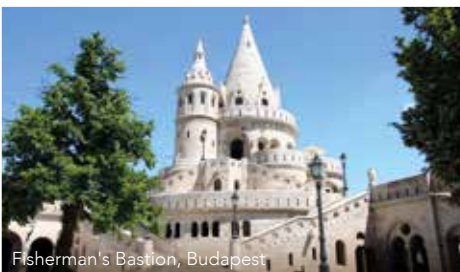
Bratislava



Schonbrunn Palace, Vienna



Vienna



Fisherman's Bastion, Budapest



Passau

27TH SEPTEMBER 2024 ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Budapest, Hungary. Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive and transfer to the MS River Crown for embarkation.

Day 2 Budapest. After breakfast our guided tour will include the old quarter, visiting the Mathias' Church and the Fisherman's Bastion from where there are stunning views of the city. After lunch on board, the afternoon will be free to explore at leisure before we sail this evening.

Day 3 Bratislava, Slovakia. Arrive over lunch in the Slovak capital of Bratislava. Join 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. Finish your tour with a visit to the beautiful Klarissen Church where a string quartet will perform a concert of music by Dvorak and Mozart.

Day 4 Vienna, Austria. A morning city tour of Austria's elegant capital will take us around the famous Ringstrasse and the Old Quarter including St Stephan's Cathedral. Alternatively join a tour to see Schonbrunn Palace and Gardens, the favourite summer residence of Maria Theresa. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon is at leisure to explore this majestic city further at your own pace.

Day 5 Krems & Durnstein, Wachau Valley. Spend the day in the Wachau Valley famous for its landscapes, vineyards and castles. From our berth in Krems we drive to Graffenegg Castle. Developed over seven centuries, here we will see traces of Gothic, Baroque and Neo-Gothic architecture with soaring towers, stylish staircases and atmospheric arcades. Also see the 32 hectares of grounds including rare plants, trees and sculptures. Over lunch we sail the short distance to the pretty town of Durnstein, where King Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned. Enjoy some free time ashore to explore and perhaps sample some of the town's delicious Marillenschnaps or strudel before we enjoy a tasting of some of the region's excellent wines.

Day 6 Melk. Spend the morning in Melk with its majestic Baroque abbey situated on a cliff, high above the Danube. A morning guided tour of the abbey, includes the Imperial Staircase, the Marble Hall and the abbey church. Relax on board this afternoon and maybe join a lecture as we spend time sailing along the Danube.

Day 7 Passau, Germany. Over breakfast 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 Stephan which contains one of the world's largest church pipe organs. Enjoy an organ recital before returning to the vessel for lunch. The afternoon is free to explore at your own pace before we sail in the early evening.

Day 8 Regensburg to London. Disembark and transfer to Munich airport for your return scheduled flight to London.

PRAGUE POST-CRUISE EXTENSION 4TH TO 7TH OCTOBER 2024



Prague

After disembarking the MS River Crown, we are offering a three night extension to discover the marvellous city of Prague.

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 Regensburg to Prague, Czech Republic. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to Prague (approx. 3 hours). On arrival we will have lunch before joining our local guide for a walking tour of the Old City including Wenceslas Square, the Old Town Square, with its famous astronomical clock and finally Charles Bridge and the Church of St Nicholas. After checking in to our hotel, the remainder of the evening is at leisure. (B, L)

Day 2 Prague. A morning panoramic tour of the city begins with a private visit to 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. Finally, visit the magnificent St Vitus Cathedral and walk along Golden Lane before returning to the hotel. The remainder of the day and evening is at leisure. (B)

Day 3 Prague. Enjoy a day at leisure to sightsee and explore at your own pace. (B)

Day 4 Prague to London. After breakfast transfer to the airport for our return flight to London. (B)

Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Twin: £1095 Single: £1395

Price Includes: Three nights hotel accommodation, meals as indicated (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch), wine & soft drinks with included lunches, excursions as described, **Not Included:** Travel insurance.

4TH OCTOBER 2024 ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Regensburg, Germany. Fly by scheduled flight to Munich and on arrival transfer to the MS River Crown in Regensburg for embarkation.

Day 2 Passau. Over breakfast 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 Stephan which contains one of the world's largest church pipe organs. Enjoy an organ recital before returning to the vessel for lunch. The afternoon is free to explore at your own pace before we sail in the early evening.

Day 3 Melk, Austria. Spend a leisurely morning cruising. In the early afternoon we arrive in Melk with its majestic Baroque abbey situated on a cliff, high above the Danube. A guided tour of the abbey, includes the Imperial Staircase, the Marble Hall and the abbey church. Return to the ship this evening as we continue our journey on the Danube.

Day 4 Durnstein & Krems, Wachau Valley. Spend the day in the Wachau Valley famous for its landscapes, vineyards and castles. This morning explore the pretty town of Durnstein, where King Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned. Enjoy some free time ashore to explore and perhaps sample some of the town's delicious Marillenschnaps or strudel. Over lunch we sail the short distance to Krems from where we drive to Graffenegg Castle. Developed over seven centuries here we will see traces of Gothic, Baroque and Neo-Gothic architecture with soaring towers, stylish staircases and atmospheric arcades. Also see the 32 hectares of grounds including rare plants, trees and sculptures. We will also enjoy a tasting of some of the region's excellent wines.

Day 5 Vienna. A morning city tour of Austria's elegant capital will take us around the famous Ringstrasse and the Old Quarter including St Stephan's Cathedral. Alternatively join a tour to see Schonbrunn Palace and Gardens, the favourite summer residence of Maria Theresa. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore this majestic city further at your own pace.

Day 6 Bratislava, Slovakia. Arrive over breakfast in the Slovak capital of Bratislava. Join 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. Finish your tour with a visit to the beautiful Klarissen Church where a string quartet will perform a concert of music by Dvorak and Mozart. Spend the afternoon relaxing on the Danube as we sail.

Day 7 Budapest, Hungary. After breakfast our guided tour will include the old quarter, visiting the Mathias' Church and the Fisherman's Bastion from where there are stunning views of the city. After lunch on board, the afternoon will be free to explore at leisure as we moor overnight.

Day 8 Budapest to London. Disembark and transfer to the airport for your return scheduled flight to London.



Durnstein

PRAGUE PRE-CRUISE EXTENSION 1ST TO 4TH OCTOBER 2024

Prague



Before embarking the MS River Crown, we are offering the opportunity to join a three night extension to discover the marvellous city of Prague.

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Prague, Czech Republic. Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive and transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 2 Prague. Our morning walking tour of the Old City will include Wenceslas Square, the Old Town Square, with its famous astronomical clock and finally Charles Bridge and the Church of St Nicholas. Continue to a restaurant for lunch and then the remainder of the afternoon and evening is at leisure. (B, L)

Day 3 Prague. Today is free to sightsee and explore at your own pace. (B)

Day 4 Prague to Regensburg. A morning panoramic tour of the city begins with a private visit to 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. Finally, visit the magnificent St Vitus Cathedral and walk along Golden Lane. After lunch as we transfer to Regensburg (approx. 3 hours) to embark the MS River Crown. (B, L)

Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Twin: £1095 Single: £1395

Price Includes: Three nights hotel accommodation, meals as indicated (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch), wine & soft drinks with included lunches, excursions as described, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CATEGORY	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Premium with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£3195	£2995
Premium with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£3395	£3195
Deluxe with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£3495	£3295
Deluxe with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£3795	£3595
Queen Suite with Balcony	Upper Deck	£4795	£4595
Standard Twin with porthole for sole use	Main Deck	£3195	£2995
Premium with French Balcony for sole use	Middle Deck	£4295	£4095

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Seven nights aboard the MS River Crown on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Gratuities • Transfers • Port & airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance



CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR ON THE DANUBE

Festive cruises between Vienna and Budapest aboard the MS River Crown
with Guest Speaker Professor Richard Butterwick-Pawlikowski

21st to 28th December 2024 & 28th December 2024 to 4th January 2025

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 elegant 100-passenger MS River 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. You can also 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.

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 has been Professor of Polish-Lithuanian History since 2013. He is also Principal Historian of the Polish History Museum in Warsaw. Richard's academic interests range across the history and culture of Europe, especially in the eighteenth century. An admirer of the Baroque and Classical styles in the arts, he delights in Mozart's operas. He has published four single-authored books, four edited books, and many articles in scholarly periodicals and collections, and is in frequent demand as a speaker at international conferences.

CHRISTMAS ITINERARY – 21ST TO 28TH DECEMBER 2024

Day 1 London to Vienna, Austria. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS River Crown and embark. After dinner this evening enjoy 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 MS River Crown will sail from Vienna, however you may wish to join an excursion to the Schonbrunn Palace and Gardens which has its own Christmas market and then rejoin the vessel in Tulln.

Day 3 Linz for Salzburg. After breakfast today 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. Visits will be made to the house known as Tanzmeisterhaus, where he was born and spent his early life, Schloss Mirabell and the Residenz. Following lunch in a local restaurant we will enjoy a special concert of music by Salzburg's most famous son. Return to the ship in the late afternoon. Alternatively, take a morning walking tour of Linz and after lunch on board enjoy an afternoon at leisure.

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 which is 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 enjoy the good food and festivities of Christmas Day on board.

Day 6 Esztergom to Budapest, Hungary. On this morning's excursion, we visit Hungary's second city of Esztergom with its magnificent cathedral, and continue outside the city to the villages and towns of the scenic Danube Bend. We re-join the vessel in Budapest and enjoy a late lunch on board and an afternoon and evening at leisure to relax or explore independently. This evening we hope to arrange an optional evening of music ashore (subject to schedules and 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 this afternoon, depart on a tour to the Palace of Godollo, built in 1740 and the favoured home of Sissy, the wife of Emperor Franz Josef. 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.



NEW YEAR ITINERARY – 28TH DECEMBER 2024 TO 4TH JANUARY 2025

Day 1 London to Budapest, Hungary. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS River 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 and Pest. See the ornate Houses of Parliament, the beautiful Matthias Church and admire the view from the top of the Fisherman's Bastion. In the afternoon, drive out of Budapest to Godollo, a small Baroque town, where we visit the 18th century palace. Alternatively, you may wish to join our tour to the handsome Hungarian town of Kecskemét, with its tremendous Art Nouveau and Baroque architecture. Our tour here, includes a visit to the Kodály Museum, dedicated to the outstanding composer and music pedagogue, Zoltán Kodály. This evening we hope to arrange an optional evening of music ashore (subject to schedules and availability).

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 second city of Esztergom with its cathedral. This afternoon we continue cruising towards Slovakia.

Day 4 Bratislava, Slovakia & Vienna, Austria. This morning there will be a guided walking tour of the pretty city of Bratislava, 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 musicians who will provide entertainment into the evening for our New Year's Eve celebrations.

Day 5 Vienna. Start the New Year with a leisurely morning on board before a choice of two included afternoon tours. Choose from a drive around the stately Ringstrasse, stopping at St Stephen's Cathedral and a visit to the Kärntnerstrasse and Christmas markets. 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.

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. Visits will be made to the house known as Tanzmeisterhaus, where he was born and spent his early life, Schloss Mirabell and the Residenz. Alternatively, join a morning walking tour of Linz and after lunch on board visit the Abbey of St Florian.

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. Firstly, a guided visit to the magnificent Melk Abbey itself, followed by a trip to the nearby charming town of Weissenkirchen, situated in Austria's scenically splendid wine producing Wachau Valley for some seasonal gluhwein. Alternatively, you may prefer a trip to Gottweig Abbey, with its splendid views of the Danube Valley. Afterwards continue on to Krems, renowned for its world class wine production and enjoy a walking tour and a wine tasting. 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.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CATEGORY	DECK	CHRISTMAS OR NEW YEAR – 7 NIGHTS		CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR – 14 NIGHTS	
		BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Premium with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£3395	£3195	£6095	£5895
Premium with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£3595	£3395	£6395	£6195
Deluxe with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£3695	£3495	£6595	£6395
Deluxe with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£3995	£3795	£7195	£6995
Queen Suite with Balcony	Upper Deck	£4995	£4795	£8995	£8795
Standard Twin with porthole for sole use	Main Deck	£3395	£3195	£6095	£5895
Premium with French Balcony for sole use	Middle Deck	£4395	£4195	£7895	£7695

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 7 or 14 nights aboard the MS River Crown on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Gratuities • Transfers • Port & airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, optional musical performances.



MS River Crown, Budapest

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