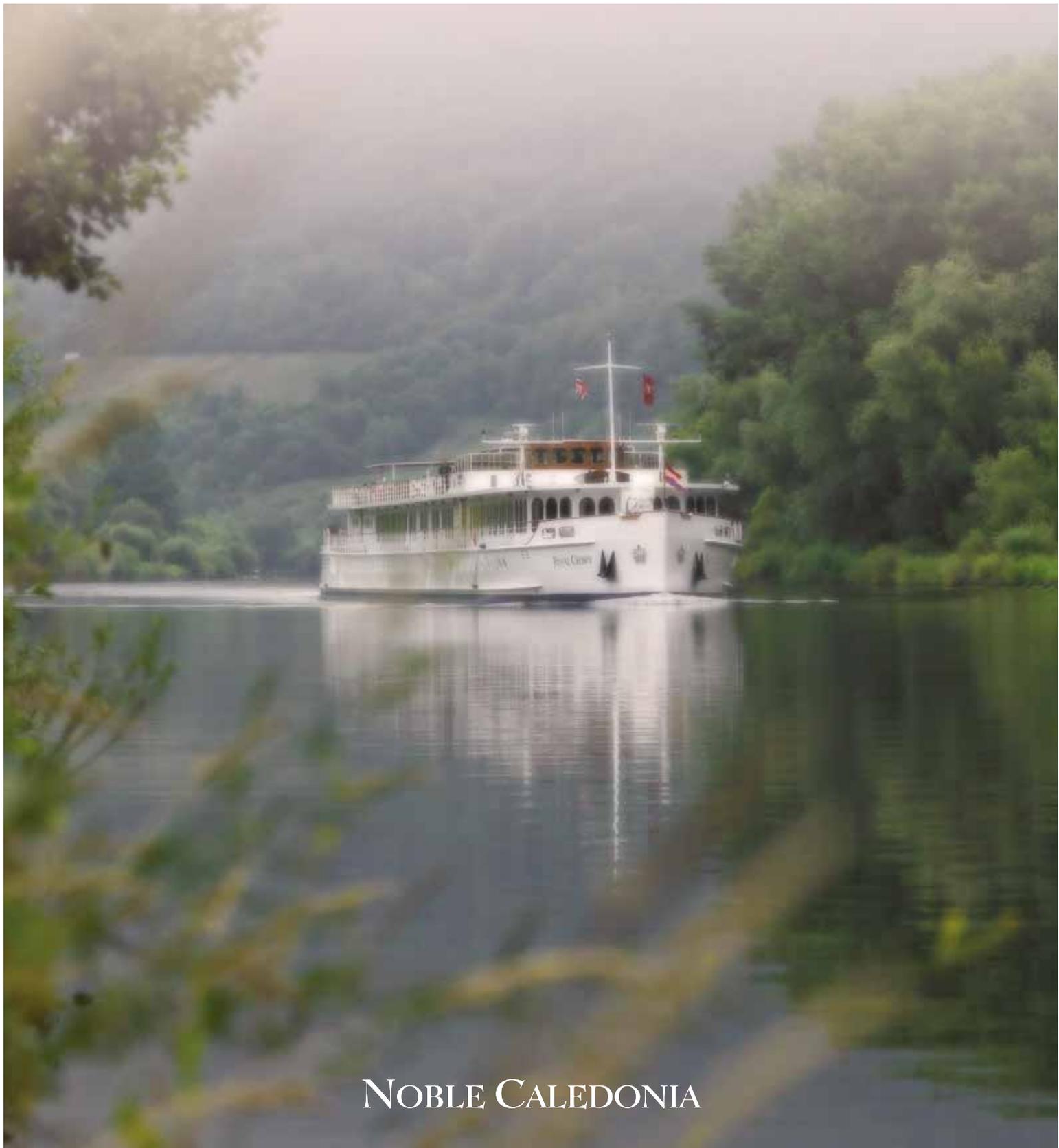


# MS ROYAL CROWN

RIVER CRUISING ALONG THE  
RHINE, MOSELLE, MAIN & DANUBE

2019



NOBLE CALEDONIA

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# MS ROYAL CROWN

## RIVER CRUISING AT ITS BEST WITH NOBLE CALEDONIA



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.

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 once again chosen to charter the charming MS Royal Crown for a series of cruises along the European Waterways in 2019. Built in 1996 to accommodate just 90 guests, she is in a class of her own and features exquisite furniture, expensive materials and Art Deco style cabins which give the vessel its unique atmosphere.

Our Guest Speakers, who will accompany you on board the MS Royal Crown will add to your enjoyment with informative talks and, after 25 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 to the excursions, we have included drinks with lunch and dinner, as well as gratuities in the price which makes for all-round ease and enjoyment when travelling aboard the MS Royal 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, Moselle, Main and Danube for the genuine traveller.



Royal Suite

## MS ROYAL CROWN

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

## YOUR SUITE

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



Premium Suite



Deluxe Suite



Lido Bar

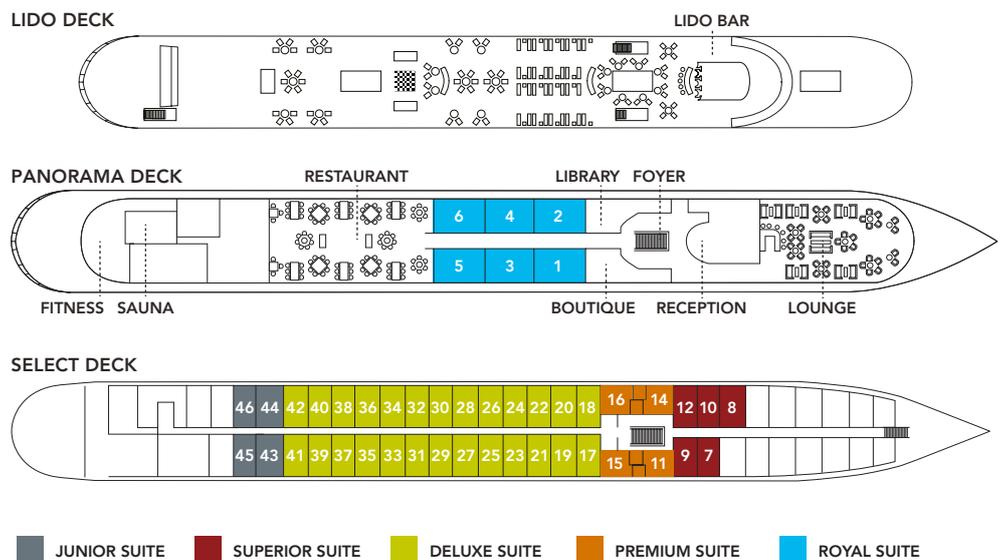


Cabin hospitality



Bathroom

## DECK PLAN



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



The Restaurant



## YOUR DINING

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

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### *Farewell Gala Dinner*

#### **Appetiser**

Salmon with honey mustard dressing  
and fresh garden lettuce

#### **Soup**

Broccoli cream soup with gorgonzola croutons

#### **Warm Appetiser**

Grilled king prawn on saffron risotto with herb sauce

#### **Sorbet**

Cassis sorbet with sparkling wine

#### **Main**

Pink roasted slices of Beef Tenderloin served with béarnaise sauce,  
gratin potatoes and fresh garden vegetables

#### **Desserts**

"Dessert Parade"

Baked Alaska MS Royal Crown

or

Cheese plate with crackers, nuts and grapes

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Bar Lounge



Sun Deck

## YOUR SPACE

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

For some time out, relax in the wellness centre which includes a sauna with shower facilities, and a fitness room. There is also a small boutique and a library with a selection of books and games.





The Lounge

# SPRING FLOWERS & THE GOLDEN AGE OF DUTCH ART

A cruise exploring the horticultural highlights & art treasures of the Netherlands aboard the MS Royal Crown

29<sup>th</sup> March to 7<sup>th</sup> April, 7<sup>th</sup> April to 16<sup>th</sup> April & 16<sup>th</sup> April to 25<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Spring is the perfect time of year to immerse yourself in the cultural and horticultural splendours of the Netherlands. During our voyage aboard the wonderfully comfortable MS Royal Crown, we will explore the countryside in some depth, visiting the magnificent flower displays of the Keukenhof, the historic Castle and Gardens of Middachten, the picturesque towns of the Zuider Zee, the botanical gardens in Utrecht and of course the art treasures of Amsterdam and The Hague. April is the perfect time for such a journey, the bulbs will be at their best and the landscape touched by the arrival of spring. The itinerary we have designed is, we believe, a perfect mix of horticulture, history, art and Dutch lifestyle and makes for a colourful and endlessly interesting cruise.



## ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS

- Rijksmuseum, Van Gogh & Hermitage museums in Amsterdam
- Canal cruise in Amsterdam & opportunity to visit the famous "Bloemenmarkt"
- Middachten Castle & Gardens
- Southern Zeeland's historic seaport of Veere & Medieval Middelburg
- Mauritshuis museum in The Hague & Delft Blue Pottery
- Keukenhof Gardens at Lisse
- Botanical Gardens at Utrecht & opportunity to visit the lavish De Haar Castle

## THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 London, Bristol, Manchester or Edinburgh to Amsterdam, Netherlands.** Fly from your chosen airport by scheduled flight or travel by train in Standard Premier Class from London St Pancras. Drive to the MS Royal Crown and embark. Moor overnight in Amsterdam.

**Day 2 Amsterdam.** After breakfast on board, we will 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. Here, Rembrandt's famous 'The Night Watch' hangs in the Hall of Honour. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon there will be an optional tour to visit the 'Bloemenmarkt', one of the city's most colourful attractions and the world's only floating flower market. Alternatively, you may prefer an afternoon at leisure on board or to explore independently. Join the Welcome Drinks and Dinner on board this evening. Moor overnight.

**Day 3 Amsterdam.** This morning we will visit the Van Gogh Museum which houses one of the world's largest collection of works by the artist, including 'Almond Blossom' and 'The Bedroom'. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch and this afternoon there will be a choice of included excursions. Join a relaxing canal cruise, one of the most interesting ways to see this unique city. Alternatively, join our visit to the Hermitage Museum. The Hermitage's collection of paintings, prints and drawings by Dutch Masters is one of the

world's largest. Return to the ship and this evening sail to Enkhuisen where we will moor overnight.

**Day 4 Enkhuisen, Edam & Volendam.** After breakfast on board we depart for our exploration of the Zuider Zee. We will drive to Edam, a tranquil little town with drawbridges across canals and charming historic houses with lovely facades. We then continue on to the attractive town of Volendam to see its colourful wooden houses and old fishing boats in the harbour. Enjoy some free time here before returning to your ship in Enkhuisen for lunch. This afternoon is at leisure to enjoy some free time in Enkhuisen, considered by many to be the prettiest town in Holland with its well preserved buildings dating back to the 15th to 17th century. Later we set sail for Arnhem.

**Day 5 Arnhem.** Arrive this morning into Arnhem. After breakfast on board join an excursion to the unique Middachten Castle. The manor house in its present form was built in the 17th century, but still retains some Medieval parts. Middachten has always passed from one generation to another, and the castle interior still has many of the original household effects. Our time here will include a guided tour of the castle and surrounding estate gardens. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon there will be a choice of two included excursions. Choose from a trip to visit the memorable Airborne Museum 'Hartenstein'; this renovated building houses the world's largest collection of militaria from Operation Market Garden. Alternatively, you may like to visit the private art collection at the Kroller Muller Museum with its late 19th and 20th century paintings. This evening we will sail towards Veere.



Keukenhof Gardens



International Court of Justice, The Hague



Delft



Haarlem



Rembrandt's 'The Night Watch' - Rijksmuseum



Amsterdam

**Day 6 Veere & Middelburg.** Today we explore Southern Zeeland, starting in the 13th century town of Veere. Formerly a seaport but now within a lake due to the Delta works carried out in the 1960s, it is a charming place with well-preserved houses and a marina. Enjoy free time here to explore at your own pace. Return to the ship and sail on to the lovingly restored Medieval town of Middelburg whose 12th century abbey is one of the oldest in the Netherlands. Join an afternoon guided walking tour on arrival.

**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, and afterwards take a walking tour of this pretty town, finishing with a visit to see the Delft Blue Pottery. Return to the ship and sail to Utrecht for an overnight mooring.

**Day 8 Keukenhof Gardens & Haarlem.** After breakfast drive to nearby Keukenhof Gardens for a morning in this extraordinary horticultural heaven. With 32 hectares of flowers, more than 7 million bulbs in bloom and 800 varieties of tulips, this is a truly unique and unforgettable experience. Afterwards we will return to the MS Royal Crown for a late lunch and time at leisure in Utrecht. Alternatively continue with an optional afternoon excursion to Haarlem. The excursion includes lunch in a local restaurant on arrival, followed by visits to 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 life's and landscapes.

**Day 9 Utrecht.** This morning we will visit Utrecht's Botanical Gardens at Fort Hoofddijk, a unique natural treasure consisting of thousands of plant species. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure in this pretty town. Alternatively you may wish to join our optional excursion to see the opulent De Haar Castle, which dates from the 13th century. The castle was completely restored in the 20th century by renowned architect Pierre Cuypers for the wealthy Van Zuylen family. Our visit will include a tour of the beautiful interior as well as some time in the surrounding park and gardens. This evening whilst we sail towards Amsterdam, enjoy your Farewell Drinks and Dinner.

**Day 10 Amsterdam to London, Bristol, Manchester or Edinburgh.** Disembark after breakfast. Transfer to the airport and return to your chosen UK airport by scheduled flight or to London St Pancras by Eurostar.



Volendam

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

### SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CAT	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Junior Suite	Select	£2895	£2595
Superior Suite	Select	£2995	£2695
Deluxe Suite	Select	£3295	£2995
Premium Suite	Select	£3895	£3595
Royal Suite	Panorama	£4195	£3895
Deluxe Suite for sole use	Select	£3795	£3495

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel or Eurostar train travel in Standard Premier Class • Nine nights aboard the MS Royal Crown on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Shore excursions as described • Cruise Director • Tour Manager • Guest Speaker • Gratuities • Complimentary Wi-Fi on board • Transfers • Port taxes • Airport taxes.  
**Not Included:** Travel insurance, optional excursions as described.

# RIVER DEEP & MOUNTAIN HIGH

A delightful journey along the picturesque Rhine & Moselle Rivers, from Amsterdam in the Low Countries to Basle in Switzerland aboard the MS Royal Crown

19<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019

Join us aboard the MS Royal Crown as we cruise along the mighty Rhine and lovely Moselle. May is a wonderful month for such a cruise, the weather is becoming warmer, flowers are in bloom with the promise of summer, and the popular towns and cities along the rivers are not yet busy with tourists. Our comprehensive journey includes Amsterdam and Arnhem in the Netherlands, the historic cities of Cologne and Koblenz combined with the great wine producing areas along the Moselle, the enchanting resort of Baden-Baden, the ancient city of Speyer and our penultimate call is the endlessly fascinating city of Strasbourg in the Alsace region.

This detailed look at two of Europe's great rivers will offer a captivating and endlessly romantic journey and promises to be a truly memorable voyage. The scenery is stunning and diverse and makes an excellent combination with the artistic riches we will 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.



## ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS

- Rijksmuseum & Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam
- The architectural wonders of Roman Trier
- Medieval towns of Koblenz & Bernkastel
- Scenic cruising along the Romantic Rhine & Rhine Gorge
- The majestic city of Speyer
- World-renowned Spa town of Baden Baden
- The attractive French city of Strasbourg



Amsterdam

## THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 London to Amsterdam, the Netherlands.** Fly by scheduled flight and on arrival you will be met and transferred to the MS Royal Crown for embarkation. Moor overnight.

**Day 2 Amsterdam.** After breakfast, join our guided tour of Amsterdam. Explore the city of the "Golden Age" on an excursion which will include the incomparable Rijksmuseum with its splendid collection of old masters. Return to the ship for lunch. This afternoon is at leisure or you may wish to join our included visit to the Van Gogh Museum, which houses some of the world's largest collection of works by the artist. In the early evening join your fellow travellers for the Welcome Drinks & Gala Dinner. Sail in the evening towards Arnhem.

**Day 3 Arnhem.** We arrive into Arnhem in the morning and will have a choice of morning excursions. Arnhem is well known because of the airborne paratrooper landings and the battles around the bridge over the Rhine. Your first option is 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, visit Middachten Castle and Gardens with its distinctive manor house and beautiful landscaped gardens. Return to the ship for a late lunch and the afternoon is free, or you may wish to join our included tour to the Kröller-Müller Museum to see its exceptional collection of sculptural art. Sail on this evening to Cologne.

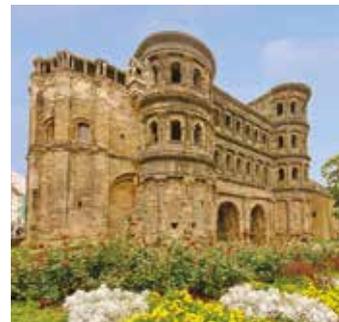
**Day 4 Cologne, Germany.** Cruise this morning along the Rhine, arriving into the grand city of Cologne in the early afternoon. After lunch on board depart for a tour to see the city's famous cathedral. The cathedral is the largest Gothic church in northern Europe with a total area of almost 8000 square metres, room for more than 20,000 people and the second tallest spire and largest facade in the world. After our tour here, travel the short distance to Bonn for a classical concert at the renowned Chamber Music Hall (or similar venue). Return to our ship and this evening we sail on towards Koblenz.



The Moselle River Valley at Bernkastel



Spires of Cologne Cathedral



The Roman Porta Nigra, Trier



Half-timbered houses in La Petite France district of Strasbourg

**Day 5 Koblenz & Cochem.** Arrive this morning into Koblenz and depart for a walking tour of this ancient and fascinating commercial centre with its monumental statue of William the Great, which marks the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle rivers. Return to the ship and cruise through the lovely scenery of the Moselle Valley as we make our way to Cochem where we will arrive in the afternoon. The town of Cochem is famous for its 11th century Schloss and the Reichsburg, set impressively on a tree clad hill above a bend of the river. On our guided tour we will walk along its winding Medieval streets and see the Baroque Town Hall. Later this evening we sail on towards Bernkastel.

**Day 6 Bernkastel.** After breakfast this morning we depart for an exploration of this lovely town, situated in the heart of the Moselle Valley. Our tour also includes a tasting of some of the splendid locally produced wines. Return to the ship for lunch and the remainder of the day is at leisure here. We moor overnight in this beautiful location.

**Day 7 Trier.** After breakfast on board we depart for our visit to the Roman city of Trier. Founded in the 4th century and reigned over by Constantine

the Great, Trier has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1986. On arrival we will see the mighty Porta Nigra, a fortified gate in the Roman town walls, as well as the High Cathedral of Saint Peter with its rich Treasury, and the skull of Emperor Constantine's mother, St Helena. Also see the Aula Palatina, a Roman basilica built in the time of Emperor Constantine, and the Church of Our Lady, dating from 1270. Afterwards we will have lunch in a local restaurant, including a chance to sample some of the region's delicious wines. Return to your ship and sail in the afternoon towards Boppard.

**Day 8 Boppard & Sailing the Rhine Gorge.** Arrive this morning into the picturesque riverside town of Boppard. Enjoy some free time here to explore at your own pace, as well as a wine tasting before we continue our sail. We spend the afternoon cruising along the beautiful Rhine Gorge, regarded by many as the most romantic section of the Rhine, with its cliff hugging castles and vine clad hills, arriving into Rudesheim in the early evening. Perhaps enjoy an after dinner stroll ashore to explore the cobblestone streets of the vibrant Drosselgasse. Sail later in the evening on to Speyer.



The Reichsburg and the town of Cochem



Baden-Baden

**Day 9 Speyer.** Arrive this morning, and after breakfast depart for a guided tour of the handsome city of Speyer, including a visit to the mighty cathedral. This Romanesque basilica was founded by Emperor Conrad II in 1030 and is one of the largest and most impressive edifices in Germany. Return to the ship for lunch and we sail later this afternoon towards Strasbourg.

**Day 10 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. This afternoon is at leisure, or alternatively join an optional scenic tour along Alsace's "Route des Vins", including a tasting of the region's splendid wines. Moor overnight.

**Day 11 Baden-Baden, Germany.** From Strasbourg, we drive inland to the beautiful spa town of Baden-Baden. This elegant belle-epoch 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 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. Return to the ship for a late lunch. In the afternoon enjoy an onboard performance by the Stuttgart Symphony Quartet. Sail in the early evening towards Basle.

**Day 12 Basle, Switzerland.** This morning's excursion will take us to the old market square with its brightly painted Town Hall and along Minster Hill, past many handsome 18th century houses to the Minster with its slender twin spires. The oldest parts of the building date between 9th-13th centuries, although much was rebuilt in the Gothic style after the 1356 earthquake. Return to the ship for lunch and spend the afternoon at leisure to relax or sightsee ashore. Alternatively you may wish to join our optional half day tour to the surrounding Black Forest region. This evening join your fellow travellers for the Gala Farewell Drinks & Dinner.

**Day 13 Basle to London.** Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for your return scheduled flight to London.

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

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

CAT	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Junior Suite	Select	£3195	£2995
Superior Suite	Select	£3295	£3095
Deluxe Suite	Select	£3595	£3395
Premium Suite	Select	£4095	£3895
Royal Suite	Panorama	£4195	£3995
Deluxe Suite for sole use	Select	£4195	£3995

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 12 nights aboard the MS Royal Crown on full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Shore excursions as described • Cruise Director • Tour Manager • Guest Speaker • Gratuities • Complimentary Wi-Fi on board • Transfers • Port taxes • Airport taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance, optional tours on Days 10 & 12.

## POST-CRUISE EXTENSION

### MONTREUX, SWITZERLAND

31<sup>st</sup> May to 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019

Join us after your cruise for a leisurely stay in the lakeside resort of Montreux in Switzerland. The extension includes three nights accommodation at the elegant and centrally located Grande Hotel Suisse Majestic, a half day tour by train to Gstaad, a Riviera Pass which provides you with 50% discount off the local boats and certain museums and local attraction fees, as well as free travel on local buses and trains. Montreux offers many sightseeing options to fill your free time, perhaps take a boat trip on the lake, visit the impressive Chateau Chillon, or explore further afield by taking the cog railway from Montreux to Rochers de Naye for spectacular views and hiking opportunities.

We will be based at the elegant and centrally located Grande Hotel Suisse Majestic, a four star property. The hotel was built in 1870 in the 'Belle Epoque' style by Eugène Jost and was entirely renovated in 2010. Located in the heart of Montreux close to the railway



Grand Hotel Suisse Majestic

station, the hotel has 155 comfortable rooms with free Wi-Fi, Satellite TV, air conditioning, minibar, safe, en-suite bathroom with shower & bathtub and hairdryer. The hotel facilities include an intimate bar and 'Restaurant 45' which offers views of the Swiss Alps and the Lake.

## THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 Basle to Montreux, Switzerland.** Disembark after breakfast and transfer by coach (approximately 3 hours) to your hotel in Montreux. The afternoon is at leisure, and in the early evening your Tour Manager will host a welcome drink and discussion on sightseeing options to make the most of your stay.

**Day 2 Montreux.** Enjoy breakfast at the hotel and a morning at leisure. This afternoon join a half day tour to the lovely town of Gstaad. The journey there and back offers wonderful views of the lake, small villages and meadows. On arrival you will visit a local "cheese cave", meet the owner of this small scale cooperative and discuss all aspects of cheese making, as well as sampling their delicious products. Afterwards enjoy some free time in the town to explore and shop, returning by train in the late afternoon.

**Day 3 Montreux.** A full day at leisure. Perhaps take a boat trip on the lake, visit the impressive Chateau Chillon, or explore further afield by taking the cog railway from Montreux to Rocher de Naye for spectacular views and hiking opportunities.

**Day 4 Montreux to London.** Enjoy breakfast at the hotel and a morning at leisure. In the early afternoon we take the airport train link directly from Montreux centre to Geneva airport for your return scheduled flight to London. Your luggage will be transported separately to the airport.

Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Comfort Twin/Double Room – Mountain View	£975
Deluxe Twin/Double Room – Lake View	£1075
Comfort Single Room – Mountain View	£1495
Deluxe Double for Sole Use – Lake View	£1695

**Price Includes:** Three nights accommodation at the Grande Hotel Suisse Majestic, breakfast daily, transfer from MS Royal Crown to hotel, half day tour to Gstaad by train and cheese tasting, Riviera Pass, train transfer from Montreux to Geneva Airport, luggage portage from hotel to airport, services of a Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance, meals other than those stated.



# JOURNEY THROUGH THE HEART OF EUROPE

A grand voyage from Basle to the Black Sea aboard the MS Royal Crown  
With highlight performances by London Festival Opera

31<sup>st</sup> May to 25<sup>th</sup> June 2019



Join us aboard the MS Royal Crown for this ultimate European journey, a truly fascinating and unique voyage along the Rhine, Main and Danube Rivers all the way from Basle to the Black Sea. Our elegant floating hotel will transport you through historical, cultural and scenic delights as we traverse nine countries over the course of 25 nights.

If you enjoy seeing something new every day then this is the perfect cruise for you. From historic locations to iconic buildings and beautiful scenery, our itinerary is brimming with highlights including the grand cities of Vienna and Budapest, the picturesque towns along the Rhine and Main including Breisach and Miltenberg as well as cruising through the scenic beauty of the Wachau Valley and the spectacular Iron Gates.

When not exploring ashore, you can relax on board whilst observing everyday life on the banks of the Rhine, Main and Danube rivers and delight in awe-inspiring panoramic views of the passing scenery. Guided excursions with excellent local guides, interesting talks by our Guest Speakers and highlight performances by London Festival Opera will create an enjoyable and informative atmosphere on board.

## ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS

- The Bishop's Residenz and wine tasting in Wurzburg
- Visit the grand cities of Vienna and Budapest
- Weltenburg Abbey and the dramatic Danube Gorge
- Scenic sailing through the Wachau Valley
- Dvorak concert by a string quartet in Bratislava
- The splendours of Pecs Cathedral and Villany
- Spectacular cruising through the Iron Gates

## SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCES BY LONDON FESTIVAL OPERA: PERFORMANCES IN GREIN, MELK & VIENNA



We are delighted to announce that London Festival Opera will be performing a Celebration of Opera during your time in Austria. Their performances will include a private Opera Gala in costume (arias by Verdi, Bizet, Offenbach & Puccini) in the wonderful Stadttheatre in Grein, followed by a concert of

Mozart in the historic setting of Melk Abbey (featuring *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Così fan tutte*, *Don Giovanni* & *The Magic Flute*). Their final concert, 'A Night in Vienna' (including Mozart, Strauss & Lehár) will be performed on board whilst we are moored in Vienna, 'The City of Music'.



Heidelberg



Statue of Mythical Figure, Helvetica, Basle



Breisach



Strasbourg

## THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 London to Basle, Switzerland.** Fly by scheduled flight and transfer to the MS Royal Crown. Moor overnight.

**Day 2 Basle.** This morning's excursion will take us to the old market square, with its brightly painted Town Hall, and along Minster Hill past many handsome 18th century houses to the Minster with its slender twin spires. The oldest part of the building dates from between the 9th and 13th centuries, although much was rebuilt in the Gothic style after the 1356 earthquake. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch and spend the afternoon at leisure. Set sail this evening whilst we enjoy Welcome Drinks and Dinner.

**Day 3 Breisach & Colmar, Germany & France.** This morning we arrive in Breisach, gateway to the Black Forest. After breakfast we will depart for a scenic excursion through the area's mountain landscape, meadows and dense forest. During our tour we will ensure there is time to sample some delicious Schwarzwald Kirschtorte. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon will be at leisure in the pretty town of Breisach, or for those who wish there will be an included excursion to the charming town of Colmar, capital of the Alsace region. Colmar offers an exciting glimpse of 1000 years of European history with its wonderfully preserved historical centre, careful restoration and friendly ambience. Sail in the evening to Strasbourg.



Miltenberg

**Day 4 Strasbourg, France.** 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. After lunch on board, enjoy an afternoon of relaxing cruising as we make our way towards Mannheim.

**Day 5 Heidelberg, Germany.** From our berth in Mannheim, we visit nearby Heidelberg where we have a day to enjoy this most picturesque and romantic of German cities which is home to Germany's oldest university, dating back to 1386. A morning tour will include the castle, a dramatically sited red sandstone ruin that dominates the city, the old town with its famous market place and the city gates. Return to the ship for lunch and sail towards Miltenberg.

**Day 6 Miltenberg & Wertheim.** Arrive this morning into the pretty Franconian town of Miltenberg, known for its half-timbered Medieval houses. Enjoy a guided walking tour here before returning to the ship for lunch and sailing on to beautiful Wertheim where you can enjoy some free time in this charming market town.

**Day 7 Wurzburg.** Arrive this 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 for lunch as we sail to Kitzingen for an overnight mooring.

**Day 8 Kitzingen & Rothenburg.** After breakfast join a walking tour of Kitzingen which will include the famous Leaning Tower, built during the 13th century. Legend has it that the golden ball that sits at the top of the crooked roof contains the heart of the original Count Dracula. Also see the Old Main Bridge, Kitzingen Church and the Renaissance Town Hall. End your tour with a local wine tasting, where you will sample several different wines and learn about the history of wine production in the region. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure. For those who wish there will be an included excursion by coach on the Romantic Road to Rothenburg, the best preserved Medieval town in Germany.

**Day 9 Bamberg.** This morning 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



Passau

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. We arrive around midday, and 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 10 Nuremberg.** The city of Nuremberg's long and sometimes troubled history has left its mark on the city and there's plenty to discover during our morning tour. Three towering castles overlook Nuremberg, and its old city which is contained within vast walls is a joy to explore. Visit the World War II sites, including the Third Reich Party Rally Grounds. Discover the city's spectacular Medieval architecture, including the 900 year-old ramparts that surround the city, the Imperial Castle and more. Sail at lunchtime and continue cruising through the highest point of any commercial waterway in Europe, 1331 feet above sea level.

**Day 11 Kelheim & Regensburg.** This morning we arrive in the pretty town of Kelheim where our tour will include the unique Liberation Hall. We then embark local boats for a sail through the Danube Gorge and view the dramatic 400 foot cliffs. Our tour ends at the impressive Weltenburg Abbey, where we will have some refreshments and time to explore. Return to your ship in Kelheim for lunch and sail on to Regensburg. On arrival here enjoy some free time in this World Heritage listed city.

**Day 12 Passau.** 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. Enjoy an organ recital before returning to the vessel for lunch.

**Day 13 Linz & Cesky Krumlov, Austria & Czech Republic.** From the town of Linz a choice of tours is available today. Enjoy a full day 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 lunch in a local restaurant. This afternoon will be free to explore further before returning to the MS Royal Crown. Alternatively, you may prefer to join a morning half day tour to the outstanding Monastery of St Florian, the largest in Upper Austria and where St Florian was drowned by pagans in 304. On our guided tour you will see St Florian's corridor, the Library, Marble Hall and the Collegiate church and tomb. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon is at leisure.

**Day 14 Grein & the Stadttheater, Austria.** Enjoy a morning of relaxing cruising as we sail to Grein, a pretty riverside town. On arrival this afternoon we will visit Schloss Greinburg, the privately owned Austrian castle of the Ducal House of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. Afterwards, we continue to The Grein Stadttheater, considered to be the oldest secular theatre in Austria, built into the former granary of the town hall by its citizens in 1791, and still preserved in its original form. On arrival enjoy a splendid costumed performance by London Festival Opera, featuring an Opera Gala with highlights from Verdi, Bizet, Offenbach and Puccini. This evening we sail to Melk.

**Day 15 Melk & the Wachau Valley to Vienna.** This morning we will reach the picturesque Wachau Valley, famous for its wine. We will moor in Melk under the shadow of the great Baroque Abbey, situated on a cliff high above the Danube. Enjoy a guided tour of the abbey followed by a performance by London Festival Opera featuring arias and ensembles from Mozart's celebrated operas. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon we sail through the beautiful Wachau Valley towards Vienna.

**Day 16 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 guided visit to the impressive Zentralfriedhof (Vienna Central Cemetery), the second largest in Europe, and with honorary graves of renowned Austrian musicians, historians and politicians. Mozart, Beethoven and other luminaries of the musical world (Schubert, Brahms, Strauss) are buried, or memorialised here. 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 a performance of 'A Night in Vienna' by London Festival Opera, followed by dinner in the restaurant.

**Day 17 Vienna.** After breakfast 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.

**Day 18 Bratislava, Slovakia.** Arrive this morning 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. Return to the ship and cruise to Budapest arriving in the late evening.

**Day 19 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 Fisherman's Bastion. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure. After dinner this evening, join your fellow travellers on board for a "Budapest by Night" cruise as we head towards Mohacs.

**Day 20 Pecs & Villany.** From the port of Mohacs, depart after breakfast 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 a short organ recital 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. Thanks to the area's sub-Mediterranean climate, wines from Villany are full-bodied and spicy and of the highest quality.

**Day 21 Belgrade, Serbia.** Spend the morning in this dynamic 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



Aggstein Castle and River Danube at sunset, Wachau Valley

Memorial. Our tour will finish with a superb local folklore performance before returning to the ship for lunch. This afternoon is at leisure.

**Day 22 Cruising through the Iron Gates.** Today the scenery becomes truly spectacular as you cruise through the Iron Gates, a narrow Danube gorge between the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains.

**Day 23 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 we re-join the MS Royal Crown in Rousse and sail in the evening.

**Day 24 Constanta, Romania.** Early this morning, arrive in Cernavoda at the entrance to the Black Sea Canal. Drive to nearby Constanta, a popular resort city. Its colourful history dates back to ancient Greek and Roman times. On a guided tour see the Museum of National History and Archaeology and the Museum of Ethnography. Return to the ship for a late lunch and sail in the afternoon along the snaking Danube as we make our way to the Black Sea.

**Day 25 The Black Sea & Danube Delta.** Awake early today to experience a sunrise cruise, and weather conditions permitting we hope to make a short voyage to the periphery of the Black Sea. Later we cruise to Mila 35, situated at the entrance to the Danube Delta and enjoy an afternoon boat trip into the delta wetlands. Tonight join your fellow travellers for a Gala Farewell Dinner.

**Day 26 Bucharest to London.** Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for your return scheduled flight to London.

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

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

CAT	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Junior Suite	Select	£7495	£6995
Superior Suite	Select	£7595	£7095
Deluxe Suite	Select	£7695	£7195
Premium Suite	Select	£8195	£7695
Royal Suite	Panorama	£8795	£8295
Deluxe Suite for sole use	Select	£7995	£7495

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 25 nights aboard the MS Royal Crown on full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Shore excursions & music events as described • Performances by London Festival Opera • Guest Speaker • Cruise Director • Tour Manager • Gratuities • Complimentary Wi-Fi on board • Transfers • Port taxes • Airport taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.



Schonbrunn Palace, Vienna



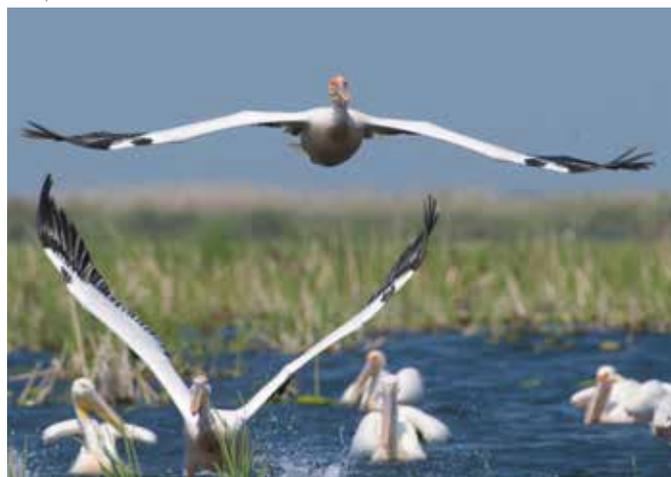
Fisherman's Bastion, Budapest



Veliko Tarnovo



Budapest



Danube Delta

# THREE RIVER ODYSSEY

Discover the music, wine & culture of the Rhine, Main and Danube Rivers aboard the MS Royal Crown

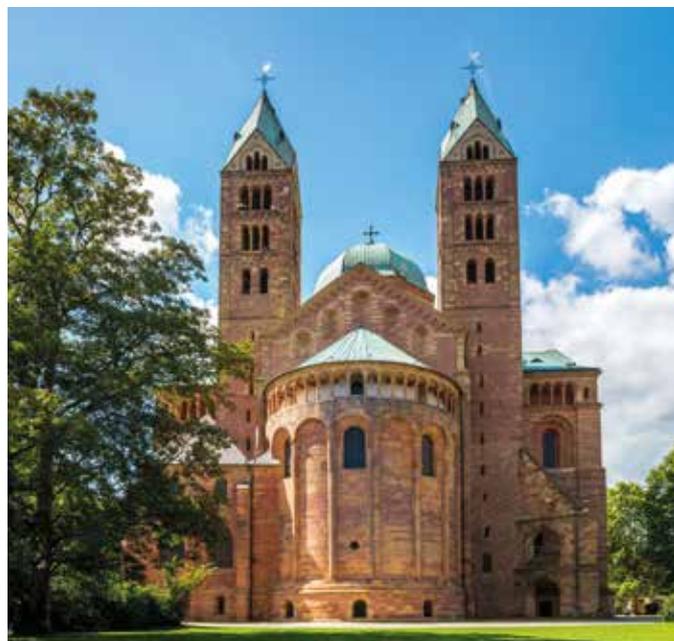
3<sup>rd</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Early September is the perfect time to visit central Europe, the weather still holds its summer warmth and the crowds have departed the towns and villages. We begin our cruise in Basle and sail along the pretty Rhine, the supremely attractive Main and the majestic Danube rivers towards our final destination of Budapest. This 15 day journey offers gentle cruising through wonderful scenery and well planned excursions at a relaxed pace, with some afternoons at leisure to relax or explore independently. These regions are well known for their rich history, superb music and delightful wine production and we have included some interesting events at a variety of locations to compliment our travels. We are also offering an opportunity to spend three nights in the beautifully serene Lake Constance in Germany before embarking the MS Royal Crown.



## ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS

- Historic Strasbourg and Alsace's "Route des Vins"
- Majestic Speyer Cathedral
- Chocolate box towns of Heidelberg, Würzburg & Bamberg
- Visit to Burgenland & Haydn's birthplace
- Melk Abbey & cruising the Wachau Valley
- Wine tasting at Weissenkirchen with traditional music
- Elegant cities of Vienna & Budapest



Speyer Cathedral

## THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 London to Basle, Switzerland.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Royal Crown and embark.

**Day 2 Basle.** This morning's excursion will take us to the old market square, with its brightly painted Town Hall, and along Minster Hill, past many handsome 18th century houses to the Minster with its slender twin spires. The oldest parts of the building date between 9th to 13th centuries, although much was rebuilt in the Gothic style after the 1356 earthquake. Return to the ship for lunch and spend the afternoon at leisure to relax or sightsee ashore. Sail this evening whilst we enjoy Welcome Drinks and Dinner.

**Day 3 Strasbourg, France.** Arrive this morning and 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. This afternoon is at leisure, or alternatively join our included scenic tour along Alsace's "Route des Vins", including a tasting of the region's splendid wines. Sail this evening towards Speyer.

**Day 4 Speyer & Schwetzingen, Germany.** After breakfast join a walking tour of the handsome town of Speyer including the mighty cathedral. This Romanesque basilica was founded by Emperor Conrad II in 1030 and is one of the largest and most impressive edifices in Germany. Return to the ship for lunch, after which drive to the sumptuous Schwetzingen Palace for a visit including the impressive Baroque gardens. We end our time here with a concert by Steffan Balle and his Stuttgarter Symphonic Quartet. Return to your ship in Speyer and sail on to Mannheim.

**Day 5 Heidelberg.** From our berth in Mannheim, we visit nearby Heidelberg where we have a day to enjoy this most picturesque and romantic of German cities which is home to Germany's oldest university, dating back to 1386. A morning tour will include the castle, a dramatically sited red sandstone ruin that dominates the city, the old town with its famous market place and the city gates. Our tour will end with a tasting of this region's excellent wines at



Schwetzingen Palace



Passau Cathedral Organ



Nuremberg



Strasbourg

a local winery. Return to the MS Royal Crown for a late lunch and relax on board this afternoon as we cruise on to Aschaffenburg.

**Day 6 Aschaffenburg & Miltenberg.** Arrive this morning into the Bavarian town of Aschaffenburg where after breakfast we will enjoy a walking tour through the winding lanes of the historic old city. During the walk we will see the Stiftskirche Basilica and the Schloss Johannisburg (outside view), one of the most important Renaissance castles of the western world. You may then return to the MS Royal Crown and relax on board as we cruise to Miltenberg. 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. We will enjoy lunch here and some free time, before our drive overland to re-join our ship in Miltenberg. There will be some free time ashore here before our cruise continues on towards Würzburg.

**Day 7 Würzburg.** Arrive this afternoon in historic Würzburg, 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 and sailing towards Bamberg.

**Day 8 Bamberg.** Enjoy a morning cruise as we enter the Main-Danube Canal at 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. Our afternoon tour will end with a performance at the Johanniskapelle by a string quartet from the wonderful Bamberg Symphony Orchestra.

**Day 9 Nuremberg.** Explore Nuremberg, the capital of Franconia on a guided tour of the old city with the vast walls. See Zeppelin Field, the site of the Nuremberg Trials and the Palace of Justice before returning to the ship

for lunch and an afternoon at leisure. For those who wish there will be an optional 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 10 Regensburg.** Enjoy a relaxing morning cruising before arriving into Regensburg in the early afternoon. On our guided stroll around this historic city, widely regarded as the Medieval wonder of Germany we will see the majestic twin-spired cathedral Dom St Peter, the treasury and the tower houses. Our tour ends with a memorable performance by the Domspatzen Quartet at the "Niedermünster Church". Return to the vessel and sail this evening towards Passau.

**Day 11 Passau.** This morning enjoy a walking tour of the ancient fairytale Bavarian city of Passau, the meeting point of the Danube, Ilz and Inn Rivers. See the old town and cathedral that houses the largest pipe organ in the world. After a short organ recital return to the vessel for lunch and an afternoon at leisure before we sail on to Austria.

**Day 12 Melk, Durnstein & the Wachau Valley, Austria.** Arrive this morning at Melk, where we visit the majestic Baroque abbey situated on a cliff, high above the Danube. We then continue our cruise through the beautiful Wachau Valley, famous for its wines. Arrive after lunch into Durnstein for some free time in this pretty town where King Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned. From here we depart by coach to the nearby village of Weissenkirchen to sample the excellent local wine, accompanied by some traditional Schrammel music. Return to the MS Royal Crown and sail this evening.

**Day 13 Vienna & Burgenland.** After breakfast take a city tour that will include the Hofburg Palace (outside only), St Stephen's Cathedral and a drive around the famous Ringstrasse. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure or join our included tour to Burgenland, birthplace of composer Joseph Haydn, and a scenic area renowned for its wine and village storks. Our tour will include a wine tasting at a local winery in the village of Rust and a visit to Haydn's House at Eisenstadt. Return to the ship and sail overnight to Budapest.

## PRE-CRUISE EXTENSION

### LAKE CONSTANCE

31<sup>st</sup> August to 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019

Join us before your cruise for a three-night stay in the romantic resort of Meersburg on Lake Constance in southern Germany. The extension is based at the Romantik Hotel Residenz am See. The particularly scenic situation of Meersburg, which is built on a steep vineyard right by the lake, has been attracting tourists for centuries. Aside from its splendid geographic situation and romantic corners, Meersburg also has many museums and cultural treasures for you to explore at your own pace. This is a wonderful opportunity to relax and unwind in luxurious surroundings. We have a limited number of rooms available, so we recommend early booking to avoid disappointment.



Regensburg



Hofburg Palace



Roofline of St Stephen's Cathedral

**Day 14 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. In the early evening join your fellow travellers in the lounge for a recital by renowned Hungarian pianist Martin Ivanov, followed by your Farewell Gala Dinner. Moor overnight.

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

#### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

#### SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CAT	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Junior Suite	Select	£4295	£3995
Superior Suite	Select	£4395	£4095
Deluxe Suite	Select	£4495	£4195
Premium Suite	Select	£5395	£5095
Royal Suite	Panorama	£5895	£5595
Deluxe Suite for sole use	Select	£4995	£4695

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 14 nights aboard the MS Royal Crown on full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Shore excursions • Guest Speaker • Cruise Director • Tour Manager • Gratuities • Complimentary Wi-Fi on board • Transfers • Port taxes • Airport taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance, optional excursion on day 9.



Mainau

#### THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 London to Lake Constance, Germany.** Fly by scheduled flight to Zurich and on arrival transfer to your hotel in Meersburg, stopping en route at the world famous Schaffhausen waterfalls, one of the three highest waterfalls in Europe. We will have a light lunch here before we continue on and check in to your hotel, followed by a welcome drink and dinner.

**Day 2 The Flower Island of Mainau.** Enjoy breakfast at your hotel, after which we depart for a visit to the flower Island of Mainau immaculately maintained and the perfect place to stroll and enjoy the gardens and their beautiful scenery, or relax in one of its cafés. The island has a Baroque palace, built in 1740, and there is also a substantial arboretum and an Italian Rose Garden laid with pergolas and sculptures. Return to your hotel, and the remainder of the afternoon is at leisure. Dinner is included at the hotel this evening.

**Day 3 Zeppelin Museum, Friedrichshafen.** After breakfast we will depart for Friedrichshafen to visit the fascinating Zeppelin Museum, with its centerpiece of a full-scale mock-up of a 33 metre section of the Hindenburg (LZ 129), the largest airship ever built, measuring an incredible 245 metres long. After our visit here, we will have some free time in this delightful lakeside town. Return to your hotel in Meersburg and this afternoon is at leisure. Dinner is included at the hotel this evening.

**Day 4 Lake Constance to Basle, Switzerland.** Enjoy breakfast at your hotel and a morning at leisure before we transfer in the afternoon to Basle to embark the MS Royal Crown (transfer approx. 2.5 hours). We will stop en-route for a visit and refreshments at the beautiful petite Swiss town of Stein am Rhein.

Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Twin Room – Garden View	£595
Twin Room – Lake View	£645
Single Room – Lake View	£1195

**Price Includes:** Three nights accommodation at the Romantic Residenz am See Hotel in Meersburg on half board basis, tours as described, light lunch on Day 1, refreshments on Day 4, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance, lunches on days 2 & 3.



# THE ENCHANTING EAST

An early autumn cruise along the majestic Danube with music and cultural highlights including performances by Alda Dizdari aboard the MS Royal Crown

17<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Join us aboard the wonderful MS Royal Crown as we journey from the grand city of Budapest in Hungary to Romania's bustling capital, Bucharest. 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.



We will sail through Hungary, Croatia, Serbia and Bulgaria, and experience the great diversity and attractive landscapes of this lesser-known region. 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 Danube in all its early autumn glory. To enhance your holiday further, we are offering a six night post-cruise extension in the beautiful region of Transylvania in Romania, travelling through some of the last untouched and least travelled areas of Europe, which promises to be a truly memorable experience.

## ALDA DIZDARI



Alda Dizdari is an outstanding musician of immense diversity. Her triumphant debut at the Wigmore Hall and Southbank's Purcell Room have already led to notable appearances on BBC Radio 3, solo performances in Europe and the USA and the release of three highly acclaimed CDs, one of which recorded live from the Wigmore Hall. Now based in the UK, Alda was born into a family of musicians and left her native Albania from an early age to pursue her career in music. She studied in Romania with distinguished soloists and

received a Bachelor Degree from the University of Bucharest. She continued her Master Studies at the University of Illinois in USA and her Advanced Instrumental Studies in London, at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama with David Takeno where she also held for two years the prestigious Leverhulme String Fellowship.

## ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS

- The elegant city of Budapest, "Queen of the Danube"
- Hungarian horse display at Kalocsa
- The wine region of Villány in Hungary
- Onboard performances by Alda Dizdari
- The wonderful Vidin Philharmonic
- Arbanassi, famous for its 17th & 18th century architecture and the Church of the Nativity of Christ
- The rock monastery of St Demetrius Basarbovski in Bulgaria

## THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 London to Budapest, Hungary.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Royal Crown and embark.

**Day 2 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 MS Royal Crown for lunch and this afternoon either relax on board or explore further independently. In the early evening join your fellow travellers for Welcome Drinks and Dinner followed by a performance by Alda Dizdari in the lounge.

**Day 3 Budapest.** This morning we have a choice of tours. Choose to visit the Palace of Godollo, the favoured home of Sissy, the wife of Emperor Franz Josef, which in recent years was restored to its former glory. Or alternatively you may like to join an excursion to Szentendre, Hungary's most romantic little town. On arrival enjoy a walking tour of the winding narrow streets, with artists, galleries and handicrafts abound. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon at leisure. This evening there will be an optional music event ashore at the State Opera House or similar venue (subject to availability).

**Day 4 Kalocsa.** Arrive this morning in charming Kalocsa, renowned for paprika production. Your tour of the Puszta 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 Mohacs in the early evening. Moor overnight.

**Day 5 Pecs & Villany.** Depart after breakfast 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 and our visit will feature the sites associated with the city's Roman Ottoman Hapsburg past, as well as a short organ recital 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. Thanks to the area's sub-Mediterranean climate, wines are full-bodied and spicy and of the highest quality.



Budapest



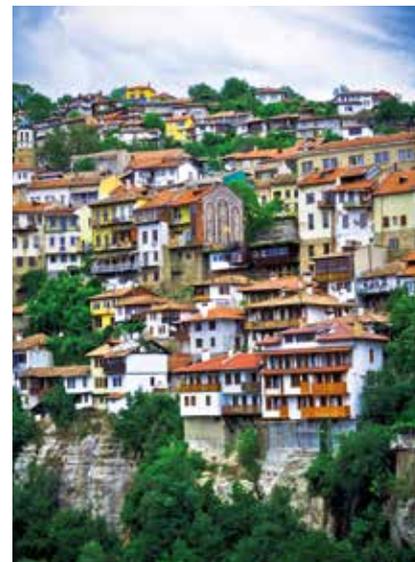
Puszta Horse Show, Kalocsa



Pecs



Decebal's Head sculpted in rock, Iron Gates Gorge



Veliko Tarnovo

**Day 6 Vukovar, Croatia.** Enjoy a relaxing morning cruising to Vukovar, an important regional centre on Croatia's eastern border. The city is renowned for the 87-day 'siege of Vukovar' between August and November 1991. At the time, it was the fiercest and most protracted battle seen in Europe since 1945. During our guided walking tour we will explore and learn about this city's distant and recent past, its brave defenders and peaceful restorations. We will also visit Eltz castle, constructed in the mid-18th century by count Anzelmo Kazimir Eltz. It is one of the most prominent Baroque buildings in Croatia. Today it serves as the city museum after it was renovated from war damages. This evening enjoy a performance by Alda Dizdari.

**Day 7 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. Your tour will end with a superb folklore performance.

**Day 8 Cruising through the Iron Gates.** Today the scenery becomes truly spectacular as you cruise through the Iron Gates, a narrow Danube gorge between the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains.

**Day 9 Belogradchik & Vidin, Bulgaria.** Arrive today in the Bulgarian port of Vidin. From here we will drive to Belogradchik which is located close to the Serbian border. The Belogradchik Rocks are a famous Bulgarian beauty spot. The sandstone has been weathered into all manner of bizarre shapes and housed amongst the rocks is an Ottoman fort, built on the remains of a Roman structure. The excursion will end with a visit to Vidin for a performance of classical music by a string quartet from the wonderful Vidin Philharmonic.

**Day 10 Veliko Tarnovo.** From Svistov we drive to Veliko Tarnovo, the capital of the second Bulgarian Kingdom which from 1187 to 1393 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 we will visit the museum town of Arbanassi before rejoining the ship in Rousse.

**Day 11 Rousse.** After breakfast we will depart for a city tour of Rousse, birthplace of Nobel Prize winner for literature, Elias Canetti. After our short walking tour of the city centre, we will continue the short distance to visit the Monastery of St Demetrius Basarbovski, a rock monastery dating back to the 12th century. Return to Rousse for a wine tasting session of some splendid Bulgarian wines. This afternoon is at leisure for individual exploration. With its stunning architecture, great museums, charming restaurants and shops, there is much to explore here. Tonight join your fellow travellers for the Farewell Gala Dinner on board, followed by a final performance by Alda Dizdari. Sail this evening towards Romania.

**Day 12 Bucharest, Romania to London.** After breakfast this morning we disembark at the port of Fetesti and drive to Bucharest, capital of Romania (approx. 2 hours). On arrival we will explore the main sights of this city and see the boulevards with their decidedly French style. After lunch in a local restaurant we continue on to the airport for the return scheduled flight to London.

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

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

CAT	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Junior Suite	Select	£3195	£2995
Superior Suite	Select	£3295	£3095
Deluxe Suite	Select	£3395	£3195
Premium Suite	Select	£3995	£3795
Royal Suite	Panorama	£4595	£4395
Deluxe Suite for sole use	Select	£3795	£3595

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 11 nights aboard the MS Royal Crown on full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Shore excursions and music events as described • Guest Speaker • Cruise Director • Tour Manager • Complimentary Wi-Fi on board • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes • Airport taxes.  
**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

## POST-CRUISE EXTENSION



Council Square, Brasov



Sighisoara

### TRANSYLVANIA & ROYAL ROMANIA

28<sup>th</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Transylvania is located in central Romania, a region of exquisite countryside surrounded by the arc of the dramatic Carpathian mountain chain. This region is home to some of Europe's best-preserved Medieval towns, most notably Brasov, featuring Old Saxon architecture and citadel ruins. During our tour we will encounter stunning castles such as Bran – a Gothic fairytale structure associated with 15th century Walachian Prince Vlad Tepes, the inspiration for Bram Stoker's Dracula. We also visit the fairytale Peles Castle, built by King Carol I in the 19th century, the notable town of Biertan and its' 14th century UNESCO Church-Fortress, and last but not least – Alba Iulia, one of Romania's top attractions, with its historic roots going back 2000 years to Roman times.

#### THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 Fetesti to Bucharest, Romania.** After breakfast this morning we disembark at the port of Fetesti and drive to Bucharest, capital of Romania (approx. 2 hours). On arrival we will explore the main sights of this city and see the boulevards with their decidedly French style. After lunch in a local restaurant we continue on for a visit to Parliament Palace, Ceausescu's most infamous creation and a fascinating tour. Afterwards drive to your centrally located hotel for an overnight stay. Dinner tonight is under your own arrangements.

**Day 2 Bucharest to Sinaia to Brasov.** Depart Bucharest after breakfast and travel to Brasov. Our first stop en-route will be Sinaia to see the fairytale Peles Castle, built by King Carol I in the 19th century. We then continue on to the town of Azuga in Prahova Valley, home of the Royal Cellar – the wine supplier for the Royal family. We will enjoy lunch here at a local vineyard and continue onto Brasov where we will stay for two nights. Dinner this evening will be at your hotel.

**Day 3 Brasov & Bran.** After breakfast this morning enjoy a sightseeing tour of Brasov before departing for Bran 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. Lunch will be in a local restaurant, after which we return to Brasov for an afternoon at leisure. Dinner tonight will be under your own arrangements.

**Day 4 Sighisoara-Biertan-Sibiu.** After breakfast depart for the town of Sighisoara. On arrival explore the Old Town with its cobbled streets, burgher houses and ornate churches, and visit the Clock Tower known as the Council Tower, built in the second half of the 14th century and expanded in the 16th century. Afterwards we continue to Dracula's house where Vlad Tepes was born in 1431 and lived with his father

until 1435. Lunch will be in a local restaurant, after which 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. We will then continue on to Sibiu and check in to our hotel for a three night stay. Dinner this evening will be at the hotel.

**Day 5 Sibiu & Sibiel.** After breakfast join a walking tour of colourful Sibiu. 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. We will enjoy lunch today hosted by some local people with some of their traditional Romanian fare. Later we return to the hotel in Sibiu and dinner this evening will be under your own arrangements.

**Day 6 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 our final dinner this evening will be at a local restaurant.

**Day 7 Sibiu to London.** After breakfast this morning, transfer to the airport for your indirect scheduled flight to London.

Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Twin: £1175 Single: £1545

**Price Includes:** Six nights accommodation at four-star hotels in Brasov and Sibiu, meals as described, wine & soft drinks with lunch and dinner, all sightseeing as described, gratuities.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance, dinner on Days 1, 3 & 5.



# ACROSS EUROPE BY RIVER

A river voyage from the Danube Delta to Amsterdam aboard the MS Royal Crown  
With highlight performances by London Festival Opera

28<sup>th</sup> September to 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019



Join us aboard the charming MS Royal Crown for our ultimate grand tour of Europe as we sail clear across the continent, visit eight countries, travel more than 2200 miles and yet only have to unpack once. This is the perfect trip for those who enjoy seeing something new every day, as the MS Royal 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 music 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.

## ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS

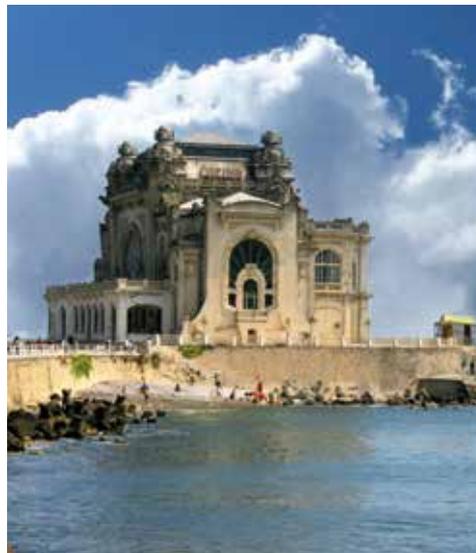
- Arbanassi, famous for its 17th & 18th century architecture
- The wine region of Villany in Hungary
- Spectacular cruising through the Iron Gates
- Dvorak concert by a string quartet in Bratislava
- Visit the grand cities of Budapest and Vienna
- Wurzburg's sumptuous Residenz Palace
- Three exclusive performances ashore by London Festival Opera



Great Black Cormorants, Danube Delta



The Iron Gates Gorge



The Old Casino, Constanta



Schonbrunn Palace, Vienna



Cathedral of Saint Sava, Belgrade

## SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMANCE BY LONDON FESTIVAL OPERA



We are delighted to announce that London Festival Opera will be presenting *A Feast of Opera* in three enchanting historic settings - Amorbach Abbey for an Opera Gala featuring the works of the great German, French and Italian composers, Kloster Eberbach for a recital covering three centuries of great operatic repertoire, and Vollarde Castle for a recreation of a

19th century Opera Soirée performed in period evening dress.

## THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 London/Manchester/Bristol/Edinburgh to Bucharest, Romania.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Royal Crown in Fetesti (approx. 2 hour drive). Sail this evening.

**Day 2 Danube Delta.** The vast Danube Delta is one of the most important wetlands left in Europe. We will access this unique region from Mila 35 at the entrance to the delta and explore by local boats. Return to the vessel and sail in the afternoon. Tonight join your fellow travellers for Welcome Drinks and Dinner.

**Day 3 Constanta.** Early this morning, arrive in Cernavoda at the entrance to the Black Sea Canal. Drive to nearby Constanta, a popular resort city. Its colourful history dates back to ancient Greek and Roman times. On a guided tour we will see the Museum of National History and Archaeology and the Museum of Ethnography.

**Day 4 Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria.** From Rousse, enjoy a full day tour to the city of 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.

**Day 5 Belogradchik & Vidin.** Arrive this morning in the Bulgarian port of Vidin. After breakfast on board we will drive to Belogradchik which is located close to the Serbian border. The Belogradchik Rocks are a famous Bulgarian beauty spot. The sandstone has been weathered into all manner of bizarre shapes, and housed amongst the rocks is an Ottoman fort, built on the remains of a Roman structure. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon we visit Vidin for a performance of classical music by a string quartet from the wonderful Vidin Philharmonic.

**Day 6 Cruising Through the Iron Gates.** Today the scenery becomes truly spectacular as you cruise through the Iron Gates, a narrow Danube gorge between the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains.

**Day 7 Belgrade, Serbia.** Spend the morning 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. Your tour ends with a superb local folklore performance ashore. Sail this afternoon towards Hungary.

**Day 8 Pecs & Villany, Hungary.** This morning we arrive in the port of Mohacs, and depart after breakfast 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 and our tour will feature the sites associated with the city's Roman Ottoman Hapsburg past, as well as a short organ recital in the splendid Pecs Cathedral. Continue on to the town of Villany for lunch and wine tasting. Villany is one of Hungary's top wine regions, known for its reds and rosés.



Prince Bishop's Residenz Palace, Würzburg



The half-timbered town hall, Bamberg



Melk Abbey



Germany's picturesque Rhine Valley



Cologne Cathedral

Thanks to the area's sub-Mediterranean climate, wines are full-bodied and spicy and of the highest quality. Sail in the evening towards Budapest.

**Day 9 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 spend the afternoon at leisure, or you may wish to join our optional excursion to the fascinating Museum of Music History, with its wonderful collection of instruments and interactive displays. Tonight there will be a "Budapest by Night" cruise as we sail on towards Slovakia.

**Day 10 Bratislava, Slovakia.** Cruise through Hungary to Slovakia, arriving in the capital in the afternoon. Enjoy a walking tour of the city see the old quarter, the ornate Baroque Palace and the ancient city gates. Our tour will finish with a visit to the beautiful Klarissen Church where a string quartet will perform a concert of music by Dvorak and Mozart.

**Day 11 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. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon at leisure. Tonight there will be an optional evening of music ashore at the State Opera House or similar, subject to availability and depending on schedules.

**Day 12 Vienna.** After breakfast join our delightful tour 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 enjoy an afternoon at leisure, or you may wish to join our optional excursion to Schonbrunn Palace and Gardens, the favourite summer residence of Maria Theresa. Sail overnight towards Melk.

**Day 13 Wachau Valley & Melk.** Enjoy a morning cruise as we sail through the beautiful Wachau Valley towards the great Baroque Abbey of Melk, situated 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 14 Passau, Germany.** Arrive in the early afternoon in Passau, where the Inn and Ilz rivers join the Danube. After lunch on board join the tour that will include a scenic drive and a guided walk through the Old Town. Tour the

breathtaking Cathedral of St. Stephan, which contains the world's largest church pipe organ. Return to your ship and sail on towards Regensburg.

**Day 15 Regensburg.** Enjoy a morning guided stroll around historic Regensburg, Germany's largest and best preserved Medieval city. See the twin-spired cathedral Dom St Peter, the treasury and the tower houses. Return to the ship for lunch, and sail on towards Nuremberg.

**Day 16 Nuremberg.** Join a morning guided tour of this historic city, capital of Franconia. On our tour see the old city within the vast walls and visit Zeppelin Field and the site of the Nuremberg Trials, the Palace of Justice. We have the afternoon at leisure here to explore further.

**Day 17 Bamberg.** Arrive in Bamberg in the morning and enjoy a tour of one of Germany's loveliest cities. Its relative geographical location, some 40 miles north of Nuremberg, was a key factor in preserving its 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. This afternoon the ship remains in Bamberg, allowing you free time to explore further. Sail onwards in the late afternoon.

**Day 18 Würzburg.** After a morning of scenic cruising, arrive in Würzburg, the wine capital of Franconia. Tour this attractive town including the Prince Bishop's Residenz Palace and the old town with its impressive collection of churches. Your tour in this magnificent palace ends with an exclusive performance by London Festival Opera, followed by a wine tasting in the Residenz Cellar.

**Day 19 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. Return to the vessel for lunch followed by a short drive to nearby Amorbach Abbey for an afternoon performance by London Festival Opera of celebrated opera arias and ensembles.

**Day 20 Eltville & Kloster Eberbach.** Arrive this afternoon into the small town of Eltville and transfer the short distance to nearby Kloster Eberbach, established in the 13th century by Cistercian monks from Clairvaux in France, and the outstanding backdrop to the film "The Name of the Rose".

Our visit there will include a performance of popular repertoire by London Festival Opera and a chance to taste wine made from the world-famous Steinberg vineyard. Afterwards return to the MS Royal Crown and enjoy some free time in Eltville before we sail.

**Day 21 Rudesheim.** After breakfast today depart by coach to nearby Vollrads Castle. This grand estate has been the Greiffendau residence since the 14th century and the making of wine on this site can be traced back to 1211. We will enjoy a visit to the Vinothek to sample some of their splendid wines. Afterwards, enjoy the final concert in the company of London Festival opera with a performance in period costume for an added visual impact. Return to your ship for lunch and sail this afternoon through the scenic Rhine Gorge as we head towards Cologne.

**Day 22 Cologne.** We arrive this morning into Cologne, and take a tour to see the city's famous cathedral. The cathedral is the largest Gothic church in northern Europe with a total area of almost 8000 square metres and room for more than 20,000 people, and the second tallest spire and façade in the world. Return to your ship and spend a relaxing afternoon cruising towards Amsterdam.

**Day 23 Amsterdam, Netherlands.** Arrive into Amsterdam at lunch time and this afternoon visit one of the great art houses of Europe. Choose between the Rijksmuseum, with its splendid collection of old masters, including Rembrandt's famous "The Night Watch" which hangs in the Hall of Honour. Alternatively, you may prefer a visit to the Van Gogh Museum, which offers one of the world's largest collection of works by the artist, including "Almond Blossom" and "The Bedroom". Tonight join your fellow travellers for the Farewell Drinks and Dinner.

**Day 24 Amsterdam to London/Manchester/Bristol/Edinburgh.** Disembark this morning for the return scheduled flight to the UK.



Amsterdam

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

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

CAT	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Junior Suite	Select	£6995	£6495
Superior Suite	Select	£7095	£6595
Deluxe Suite	Select	£7195	£6695
Premium Suite	Select	£7595	£7095
Royal Suite	Panorama	£7995	£7495
Deluxe Suite for sole use	Select	£7595	£7095

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 23 nights aboard the MS Royal Crown on full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Shore excursions • Guest Speaker • Cruise Director • Performances by London Festival Opera • Tour Manager • Gratuities • Complimentary Wi-Fi on board • Transfers • Port taxes • Airport taxes.  
**Not Included:** Travel insurance, optional tours on Days 9, 12 and music evening ashore in Vienna on day 11.

## PRE-CRUISE EXTENSION

### BUCHAREST

25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> September 2019

If you would like to spend some time in Bucharest before embarking the MS Royal Crown we are offering a three night pre-cruise extension.

#### The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Bucharest, Romania.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to your four star hotel for a three night stay. Tonight join your fellow travellers in the hotel restaurant for a Welcome Drink and Dinner.

**Day 2 Discover Bucharest.** After breakfast enjoy a panoramic city tour of the city's highlights, including the National Theatre, the University Square, the Romanian Athenaeum, the National Art Museum, the Opera House, the Military Academy, the Arch of Triumph, Victory Avenue, and the Free Press House. We complete the morning with a walking tour of the Old Town, including a visit to Stravropoleos Church, Lipscani Lane, Manuc's Inn and the Old Princely Court. Enjoy 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 we will 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. Return to your hotel, and dinner will be under your own arrangements this evening.

**Day 3 Snagov & Mogosoaia.** After breakfast at your hotel, 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. After lunch in a local restaurant we continue on to visit Mogosoaia Palace, built in the 17th century in the Romanian Renaissance style. Return to Bucharest for an evening at leisure. Dinner will be under your own arrangements tonight.

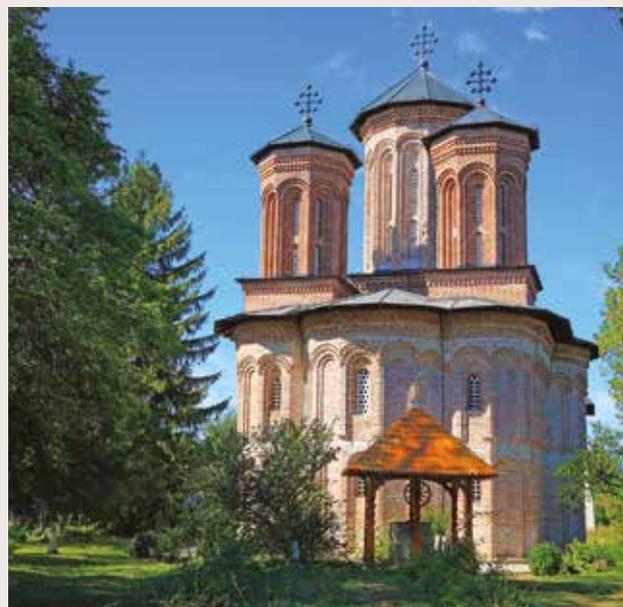
**Day 4 Bucharest to Fetesti.** After breakfast there will be free time to relax, sightsee or shop at leisure before your afternoon departure for Fetesti (approx. 2 hour drive). On arrival embark the MS Royal Crown.

**Prices per person** Based on double occupancy

Twin: £795 Single: £945

**Price Includes:** Three nights hotel accommodation on bed & breakfast basis, dinner & welcome drink on Day 1, lunch on Days 2 & 3, drinks with included meals (wine/beer/soft drinks), all sightseeing and entrances as described, transfers, services of a local English speaking guide throughout.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance, dinners on Days 2 and 3, lunch on Day 4.



Snagov Monastery



MS Royal Crown

## NOBLE CALEDONIA

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

