



Budapest

## Up the Rhine & Down the Danube

### aboard ms Serenity

Join us for a voyage of discovery as we follow the course of the Rhine, the Main, the Main-Danube canal and the Danube on an incredible journey from Cologne to Budapest. Cruising through four countries, we witness some of Europe's greatest sights at a leisurely pace, from the spectacular natural landscape of the Rhine Gorge and the Wachau valley to the fascinating cities of Cologne, Würzburg, Vienna, Bratislava and Budapest. Optional excursions are available so you can make the most of your time ashore, while our floating hotel is the perfect base to relax and admire the passing scenery.



#### Day 1: UK – Cologne

We travel by air or rail to Cologne, which sits right on the Rhine river in Germany, and board our ship for a relaxing evening.

#### Day 2: Cologne – Koblenz

We cast off this morning and begin our cruise up the Rhine, stopping at the walled city of Koblenz. For breathtaking views across the region you can join our optional excursion on the Koblenz cable car, which also includes entrance to Ehrenbreitstein Fortress – Europe's second largest preserved fortress.

#### Day 3: Koblenz – Rudesheim

Relax on the sun deck as we cruise through the dramatic Rhine Gorge, a section of the river recognised as a world heritage site for its fascinating geology, history and culture. We stop at the quaint wine town of Rudesheim where you can enjoy many highlights on our optional excursion, including a cable car ride for panoramic views across the Rhine valley.

#### Day 4: Rudesheim – Frankfurt

After breakfast we arrive in the city of Frankfurt, which sits on the Main river and has one of the most imposing skylines in Germany. Our optional city tour takes you around the central square to admire the stunning buildings and famous fountain, along with the chance to enjoy a famous glass of apple wine. Later today you can relax onboard as we cruise towards Wertheim.

#### Day 5: Wertheim

Shortly after midday we arrive at the town of Wertheim, which is well known for its wine, castle and medieval centre. Our optional excursion is a great way to see the highlights, taking you through

the town aboard a small train before ascending to Wertheim Castle, where you can enjoy fabulous views. We set sail in the early evening and cruise towards Würzburg.

#### Day 6: Würzburg

This morning you are free to explore the city of Würzburg, which served as the home of powerful prince-bishops for centuries. It is a wonderful place to visit, renowned for the Residence Palace – one of the finest pieces of baroque art in the world, its 8th-century church and the Fortress Marienberg. In the early afternoon we set sail for Bamberg.

#### Day 7: Bamberg

We arrive in Bamberg around midday, which is located at the start of the Main-Danube canal. Surrounded by seven hills, it boasts the most intact centre in Germany with the old town listed as a world heritage site because of its authentic medieval appearance. After some free time we cruise along the Main-Danube canal towards Nuremberg.

#### Day 8: Nuremberg

Nuremberg is Bavaria's second largest city after Munich. The majority of the city walls still stand and inside you can enjoy a wonderful atmosphere, which combines medieval and modern life in an area filled with gothic churches, aristocratic houses, fountains, memorials and romantic corners, all dominated by the Kaiser Castle. Our optional excursion is a great way to make the most of our visit, before we join the Danube and cruise towards Regensburg.

#### Day 9: Regensburg

We arrive in Regensburg around breakfast time, which lies at the northernmost point of the Danube.

Our optional city tour takes you around the beautifully preserved medieval centre to admire the many sights and then in the afternoon you can enjoy a cruise through the Danube Gorge to visit the oldest monastery in Bavaria. Later this evening we cruise towards Passau.

#### Day 10: Passau

Passau is known as the 'three rivers city' due to its unique location where the Danube, Inn and Ilz rivers meet. The old town is a stunning display of Italian baroque-style architecture, as you can see on our optional walking tour. This is where most of the sights are found, including the Cathedral of St Stephen, home to Europe's largest cathedral organ. In the evening we set sail for Melk.

#### Day 11: Melk & Wachau Valley – Vienna

This morning we arrive in the Austrian town of Melk, which is filled with cobbled streets and attractive buildings. It is also overlooked by one of the most splendid monastic houses in Austria – the Benedictine Abbey, which you can visit on our



Vienna



Regensburg

optional excursion. In the afternoon you can relax on deck as we cruise through the Wachau valley, which stretches 24 miles through stunning scenery, with many charming towns, terraced vineyards, castles and monasteries. We reach Vienna in the evening where we berth overnight.

#### Day 12: Vienna

Spend a full day experiencing the delights of Vienna, capital of Austria and birthplace of classical music. More than 150 grand palaces, over 27 baroque castles, impressive squares and striking monuments are just some of the key features of this magnificent city, whose historic centre is inscribed on the world heritage list. In the morning you can join our optional city tour and in the afternoon we have an optional excursion visiting the magnificent Schönbrunn Palace. Later today we cruise over the border into Slovakia, stopping at Bratislava around midnight.

#### Day 13: Bratislava – Budapest

After breakfast you can join our optional excursion to take in the sights and experience the rich culture of this Slovakian capital. The old town is centred on

two squares, with winding streets, a hilltop castle and many remarkable buildings spanning various periods. We set sail for Budapest around midday.

#### Day 14: Budapest

Budapest is described as one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Join our optional city tour which introduces you to the highlights on both sides of the river, including the 700-year-old Matthias Church, Parliament building – a magnificent example of neo-gothic architecture, and Buda Castle, which rises 48 metres above the river.

#### Day 15: Budapest – Munich (Rail) / UK (Air)

This morning we bid farewell to our captain and crew and disembark our ship. Passengers travelling by air will be transferred to the airport for the return flight. Passengers travelling by rail can enjoy free time in Budapest, before taking the overnight train to Munich and onward connections to London.

#### Day 16: Munich – UK (Rail)

This morning we arrive back in the UK.

15 DAYS FROM  
£1999



### YOUR CRUISE INCLUDES

#### BY RAIL

- Travel by Eurostar from London St Pancras
- Coach transfers between station and ship
- Fourteen nights' cruise on a full board basis
- One night overnight train and connections to London

#### BY AIR

- Return flights from Gatwick. Prices are subject to change and availability and will be confirmed at the time of booking
- Coach transfers between airport and ship
- Fourteen nights' cruise on a full board basis

To make your own way to the ship please see pages 63 & 65

2017 dates	No. of days	Coach routes	Train station/airport
12 June	16	–	St Pancras
12 June	15	–	LGW

### HOLIDAY PRICES

Tour code: UPRHI

BY COACH / RAIL per person				
Code	Deck	Berth	Rail 16 days	Air LGW 15 days
	Main	2	£2199	£1999
	Middle	2	£2399	£2199
	Panorama	2	£2699	£2499

See page 29 for deck plan and cabin occupancy

### DRINKS PACKAGE: £199 per person

See page 28 for details

### EXCURSIONS

- Koblenz cable car & Ehrenbreitstein Fortress ..... £21
- Rudesheim highlights ..... £26
- Frankfurt city tour ..... £25
- Wertheim Little Road Train ..... £22
- Nuremberg city tour ..... £21
- Regensburg city tour & Danube Gorge ... £26
- Passau walking tour ..... £21
- Melk Abbey ..... £21
- Vienna city tour ..... £21
- Schönbrunn Palace ..... £20
- Bratislava city tour ..... £19
- Budapest city tour ..... £21

**Pre-book package price** £189  
**Saving per person** £75



Frankfurt