

ITINERARY

Day 1: Depart via overnight flights to Vienna, Austria

Meals and services per airline policy.

Day 2: Vienna, AUSTRIA Embarkation after 3 pm

WD

On arrival, check-in to your floating hotel. In the evening enjoy a welcome cocktail and information meeting followed by your first dinner on board.

Day 3: Vienna, AUSTRIA

B, L, D

Morning city sightseeing of Austria's Imperial includes *Hundertwasser*, the Ringstrasse, the Parliament, the State Opera, *Hofburg (Imperial Palace)* and Belvedere Palace. The last stop will be in the old center of Vienna to take a walk through the pedestrian zone from Graben and Kohlmarkt to Michaela Square ending at the entrance of the *St. Stephan's Cathedral*. The balance of the day is at leisure. You may choose to explore Vienna on your own or purchase an optional tour available on board.

Day 4: Bratislava, SLOVAKIA

B, L, D

Welcome to Slovakia! Depart on a morning walking tour of this lovely city with its famous St. Martin's Cathedral followed by a walk through the Old Town. Enjoy free time for shopping and strolling and return to the ship for lunch. The balance of the day is free to explore on your own.

Day 5: Budapest, HUNGARY

B, L, D

Welcome to Hungary! Morning at sail. In the afternoon, your motor coach tour of this lovely city will include the most popular sights: The Parliament Building, St. Stefan Cathedral, the Opera, the Heroes Square, and the town park with the Vajdahunyad Castle. There will be stops at the Fisherman's Bastion and Gellert Hill. Return to the ship for dinner. In the evening, we recommend the optional Hungarian Folk Show.

Day 6: Budapest, HUNGARY

B, L, D

Full free day to explore and enjoy pedestrian friendly Budapest on your own or partake in our optional walking tour!

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Day 7: Vukovar, CROATIA

B, L, D

Welcome to Croatia! View the passing vistas from the sun deck, as you sail into Croatia. On arrival, depart of a walking tour of this riverside city, Croatia's largest river port, including a tour of the Franciscan Monastery and Museum. Return to the ship for dinner and sail on to Serbia!

Day 8: Novi Sad, SERBIA

B, L, D

Welcome to Serbia! Your first stop in this "newly" minted Balkan country will be in **Novi Sad**, Serbia's third largest city after Belgrade and Nis. Join your local guide for a walking tour through the town center. After the tour you will have free time to explore this lovely town on your own **or partake in the optional *Monastery Wine & Honey Tasting* tour.**

Day 9: Belgrade, SERBIA

B, L, D

Morning motor coach tour of this lively and vibrant capital will include all the major attractions: Kalemegdan Fortress, St. Sava's Orthodox Cathedral, and many other highlights ending with a stroll through Knez Mihajlova Pedestrian Street. **But the fun has just begun! Instead of lunch on board, continue on to Ada Safari, an authentic Serbian ethno-museum and restaurant located on the shore of Ada Ciganlia where you will enjoy an authentic Serbian lunch, including wonderful Serbian home-made food, local "shlivovitz" (plum brandy), live music and unique Serbian hospitality! Tonight, your Serbian experience will end on a high note with a private on-board folk show!**

Day 10: Full day at sail & passage through "The Iron Gate" Gorge, (Arrive Vidin midnight)

B, L, D

This morning, the ship will make a quick stop to disembark passengers taking the 4-hr. *optional* tour to see the impressive **Lepenski Vir and Golubac Fortress**. Those remaining onboard will continue sailing. Passengers participating in the optional tour will re-embark the ship in Donji Milanovac our last port of call in Serbia around 1:00pm for lunch. As you sail on, the highlight of the day will be the passage through the "**The Iron Gates**", the highest gorge on the Danube. Over 100 km long, this canyon, was a gigantic obstacle to navigation because of its pointed rocks, cliffs, and changing water levels, surrounded with very wild, yet attractive nature. This danger was finally overcome in 1972, with the building of the

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“Djerdap” lock. Tonight, prepare for fun and festivities at your Captain’s Farewell Dinner!

Day 11: Vidin – BULGARIA

B, L, D

Welcome to Bulgaria! After breakfast, embark on a walking tour of this delightful Bulgarian river port highlighted by a visit to the 13th century fortress named **“Baba Vida”** (*“Grandma Vida”*). Then enjoy some free time for strolling and shopping or take the optional **Belogradchik Rock excursion**.

Day 12: Turnu Magurele – Bucharest – ROMANIA END CRUISE

B

Disembark after breakfast. Dock at the Romanian port of Turnu Magurele and transfer to the *“Paris of the East”* – Bucharest, Romania’s lovely capital! (2 ½ hrs.). Your city tour will highlight the major attractions including **Arch D’ Triumph**, the National Theatre and a photo stop at the **Parliament** the second largest building in the world after the Pentagon. Then it’s on to your first-class hotel, where after check-in you will have free time to explore this lovely city at your leisure and enjoy dinner at one of the local restaurants on your own. **(NOTE: If taking the optional Dracula Extension, you will enjoy your last night in Bucharest AFTER returning from Brasov).**

Day 13: Bucharest, ROMANIA – FLY HOME

B

One final breakfast before transferring to the airport for flights home. **BON VOYAGE!**

Optional Extension:

Day 1 (12): Ship Disembark (Turnu Magurele) – Brasov, ROMANIA

D

After saying goodbye to your fellow cruise passengers, board a **separate bus** and head north through the beautiful Romanian countryside towards Brasov, Romania’s second largest city and renowned summer & winter resort. Along the way, stop at **Sinaia** and tour the impressive **Peles Castle***, the residence of the last Romanian King. Arrive to Brasov and check in to your first-class hotel in time for dinner and overnight.

***If closed, Peles Castle will be visited on the return to Bucharest.**

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Day 2 (13): BRASOV – ROMANIA

B

After a buffet breakfast, begin your half day sightseeing tour with a short bus ride to the infamous **Bran Castle**, the “historic” home of **Count Vlad the Impaler** – popularized world over in Bram Stoker’s novels featuring the blood-thirsty “**Count Dracula**”. This imposing castle and the surrounding museum site will both entertain and educate you about the true-life figure of Count Vlad, the Romanian national hero who fought the bloody Turkish occupation with equal ferociousness. The afternoon is free to explore this lively city on your own and enjoy dinner on your own at one of the many local restaurants.

Day 3 (14): BRASOV – BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

B, FD

After breakfast it’s time to check-out of your hotel and board your bus for the leisurely 2-hour ride back towards Bucharest. On arrival, delight in a half day city tour of the “**Paris of the East**” before checking in to your first-class hotel. The balance of the day is free for exploring this friendly city on your own. In the evening, enjoy a special **farewell dinner** at one of the popular local restaurants featuring national specialties and live entertainment.

Day 4 (15): BUCHAREST, ROMANIA – HOME

B

After a final breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flights home. **BON VOYAGE!**

MENU

B = Breakfast

L = Lunch

D = Dinner

WD = Welcome Dinner

FD = Farewell Dinner