

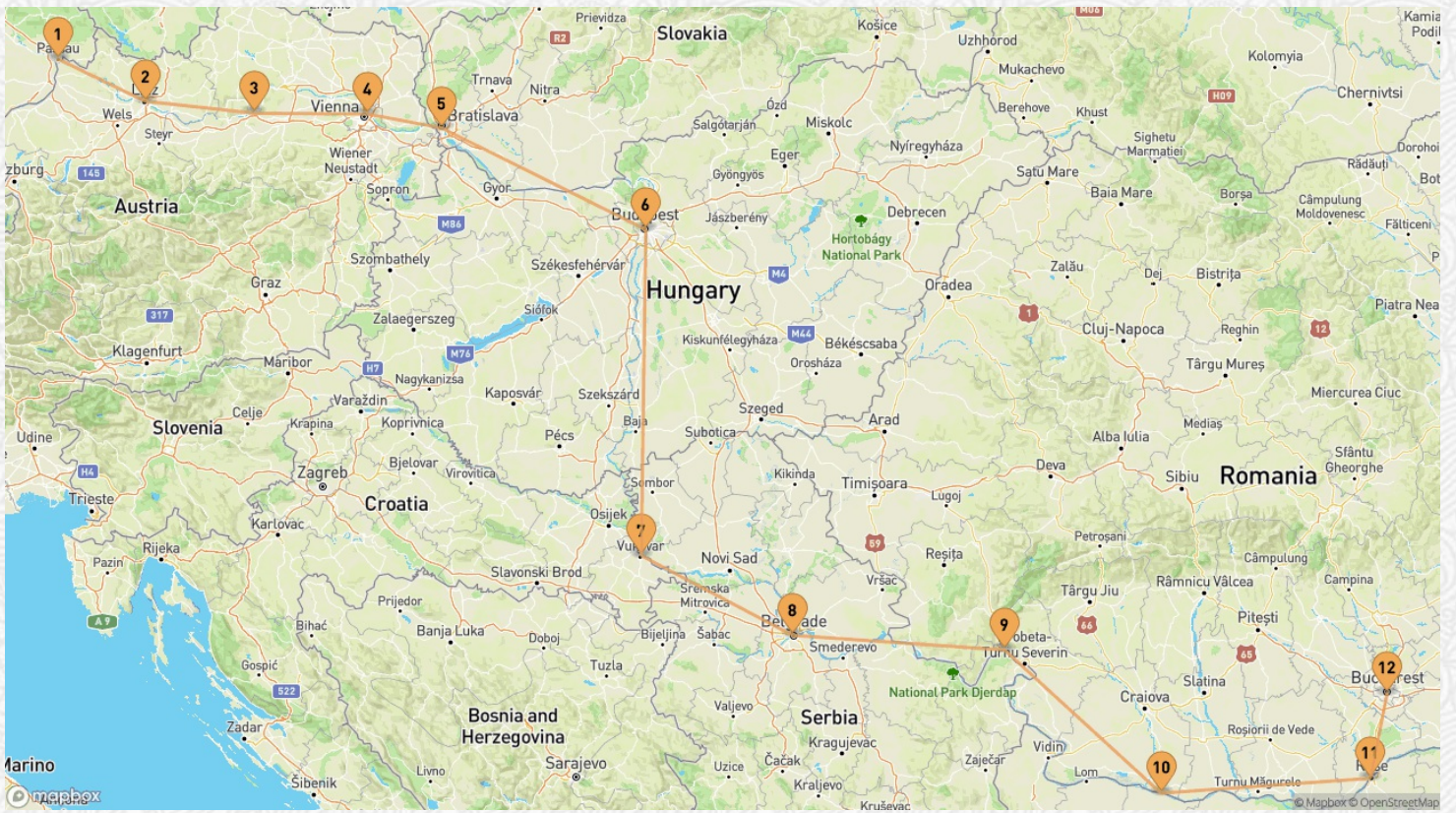


# DANUBE CRUISE, VIENNA - BUDAPEST, THE IRON GATES

A legendary river, the Danube has seen the birth and fall of the greatest empires on its banks. This fascinating river, the cradle of European culture, crosses no fewer than 10 countries over nearly 3,000 km before flowing into a vast delta in the Black Sea. Sailing on its waters means following the course of a thousand-year-old history in the heart of central Europe, diving into the meanders of an epic where a cohort of peoples, influences, arts and cultures mingle. Music, architecture, painting, even the taste of the coffees and pastries that accompany them, the Danube has fertilized an incomparable art of living of which Vienna and Budapest, as imperial and royal cities, represent the finest examples. On board the M/S Amadeus Silver II, you will have a front row seat to this historic theater. A theater of emotions too, when on

On the ship's deck you will admire the romantic lights of Budapest, in the park of Schönbrunn Palace you will follow in the footsteps of the Empress, or finally in Vukovar you will touch with your own hands the turmoil that contemporary Europe experienced. Because the Danube is undoubtedly the most beautiful promenade in History.

- ⦿ REGIONS / COUNTRIES:  **Germany**  **Austria**  **Slovakia**  **Hungary**  **Croatia**  **Serbia**  **Bulgaria**  **Romania**
- ⦿ DURATION: **12 Days / 11 Nights**
- ⦿ DATES: **Apr 15, 2025; May 07, 2025; May 29, 2025; Jun 20, 2025; Jul 12, 2025; Aug 25, 2025; Sep 16, 2025; Oct 08, 2025**
- ⦿ TAGS: **Town, Popular, City, Mainland port, Nightlife**
- ⦿ URL: <https://embarq.travel/boats/amadeus-silver-ii/danube-cruise-vienna-budapest-the-iron-gates/>



# Day 1



## Germany / Passau

Passau, located at the confluence of three rivers in southeastern Germany, is known as the "City of Three Rivers" and is celebrated for its picturesque setting and rich history. The city's charming old town, with its winding alleys, colorful buildings, and historic landmarks such as St. Stephen's Cathedral, invites exploration. Visitors can enjoy panoramic views from the Veste Oberhaus fortress overlooking the city and the rivers below. Passau is also famous for its vibrant cultural scene, with festivals, concerts, and events held throughout the year. With its blend of natural beauty, historic charm, and cultural vibrancy, Passau offers a memorable experience for travelers.

### DAY 1: FRANCE - MUNICH (Germany) - PASSAU

Departure from France on a scheduled flight to Munich. Coach transfer to Passau (duration: approximately 2.5 hours) and boarding the *MS Amadeus Silver II*. Check into the cabins. Dinner on board.

# Day 2



## Austria / Linz

Découverte à pied de la capitale régionale de la Haute-Autriche. La ville présente un ensemble architectural harmonieux qui constitue l'un des meilleurs témoignages de l'héritage baroque. Résolument moderne et innovante, elle offre constamment une grande diversité d'événements culturels.

### DAY 2: LINZ (Austria)

Free time in Linz with lunch on board or participation in optional excursions. Welcome cocktail and dinner on board.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

Guided tour of Linz (half day)

Discover the regional capital of Upper Austria on foot. The city presents a harmonious architectural ensemble that constitutes one of the best testimonies of the Baroque heritage. Resolutely modern and innovative, it constantly offers a great diversity of cultural events.

Price per person (from): €30 in 2024 and €35 in 2025

OR

The Pearl of Bohemia (day trip with lunch)

Morning departure to the Czech Republic (transfer time: about 2 hours). Visit to Cesky Krumlov, one of the most beautiful cities in Bohemia, perfectly restored and whose architecture combines Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque styles. Lunch at the restaurant and visit to the castle museum.

Price per person (from): €135 in 2024 and €145 in 2025

OR

Discovery of Prague (day with lunch)

Early morning departure by coach to Prague, capital of the Czech Republic (transfer time: approximately 4 hours).

Walking tour of this thousand-year-old city, starting with the Castle District (exterior view) and the Mala Strana district. Lunch at a restaurant. In the afternoon, cross the Charles Bridge and discover the old town: the Powder Tower, Wenceslas Square, the Town Hall and its famous astronomical clock. Return on board around 10 p.m.

Price per person (from): €150 (excursion in 2024)

OR

Salzburg Tour (Day with Lunch)

Departure towards Salzburg, "the city of music" (transfer time: approx. 2 hours). Situated in a magnificent mountainous setting and overlooked by a medieval fortress, Salzburg offers visitors the charm of its picturesque narrow streets and vast squares lined with baroque churches and palaces. Walking tour of the city and lunch at the restaurant. Price per person (from): €135 in 2024 and €145 in 2025

# Day 3



## Austria / Melk

📍 Town, Popular

Melk, nestled along the Danube River, captivates visitors with its stunning Melk Abbey. The abbey is a masterpiece of Baroque architecture, renowned for its grandeur, opulent interiors, and extensive library.. Explore charming streets, sip local wines in the Wachau Valley, and immerse yourself in the beauty of this UNESCO World Heritage Site. Melk is a must-visit destination for history, culture, and scenic delights in Austria.

### DAY 3: MELK (Austria)

After breakfast, free time or participation in the optional excursion.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION

##### Melk Abbey and Wine Tasting (Half Day)

Overlooking the Danube, Melk Abbey is one of the finest examples of Counter-Reformation Baroque architecture. Visit the abbey and explore its gardens. Wine tasting in the restaurant's cellars.

Price per person (from): €70 in 2024 and €80 in 2025

Departure at 13:00 and lunch on board. Sailing through the exceptional landscapes of the Wachau, a steep region before Vienna, where the meanders of the Danube offer a parade of green nature.

Dinner on board.

Piano recital on board by Martin Ivanov.

# Day 4



## Austria / Vienna

City, Mainland port, Popular

Vienna is a city of imperial grandeur and cultural richness. Its stunning architecture, from historic palaces to modern marvels, reflects its storied past and vibrant present. Renowned for its classical music heritage, Vienna offers world-class concerts and opera performances. Stroll through its charming streets, indulge in exquisite pastries, and immerse yourself in the city's rich artistic and intellectual atmosphere. From the grandeur of Schönbrunn Palace to the vibrant Naschmarkt, Vienna enchants visitors with its timeless elegance and lively spirit.

### DAY 4: VIENNA (Austria)

Departure for a guided tour of the Austrian capital. Discovery of the main monuments of the city: the famous Ring with the opera and the Hofburg, the streets of the center and the Saint-Étienne cathedral, the emblem of the city (exterior view). Lunch on board. Free afternoon or participation in optional excursions. Dinner on board.

Optional "Music in Vienna" evening.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

Schönbrunn Palace (half day)

Visit the castle and stroll through the gardens of the "Viennese Versailles", the summer residence of the Habsburgs. It houses splendid ceremonial salons and, with its gardens, constitutes an imposing baroque ensemble among the best preserved in Europe.

Price per person (from): €75 in 2024 and €85 in 2025

OR

Vienna Art Nouveau and the Leopold Museum (half day)

In the 1900s, Vienna was marked by Art Nouveau. The excursion begins with a tour passing through various emblematic monuments of this movement: the Post Office Savings Bank, the Museum of Applied Arts, the House of Medallions and the House of Majolica. Stop at Karlsplatz with its famous Otto Wagner metro station. Walk to the Secession, a modern exhibition building characteristic of the Art Nouveau style. Then, visit the Leopold Museum. Located in the MuseumsQuartier, it contains unique treasures of Viennese Art Nouveau, including the most important collection of Egon Schiele's works in the world, as well as paintings by Gustav Klimt.

Price per person (from): €75 in 2024 and €85 in 2025

AND/OR

Music in Vienna (evening)

In a magnificent palace, one of Vienna's most renowned orchestras performs the most beautiful compositions of the waltz king Johann Strauss as well as famous works by Mozart. Virtuoso musicians, excellent opera singers and talented ballet dancers give the evening its Viennese charm.

Price per person (from): €85 in 2024 and €95 in 2025



# Day 5



## Slovakia / Bratislava

📍 Mainland port, City

Le matin, arrivée à Bratislava, capitale de la Slovaquie. Visite à pied du centre-ville historique admirablement restauré et d'inspiration baroque. Promenade sur la place de la Paix avec le palais Grassalkovich (palais présidentiel), la tour Michel, symbole de la ville et le vieil hôtel de ville. Visite du palais Primatial, le plus grand édifice néo-classique de Slovaquie, où Napoléon signa le traité de Presbourg après la victoire d'Austerlitz. Concert privé au palais Primatial. Déjeuner et dîner à bord.

### DAY 5: BRATISLAVA (Slovakia)

Arrival in Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia. Walking tour of the historic city center, admirably restored and inspired by the Baroque style. Walk on Peace Square with the Grassalkovich Palace, the current residence of the president, the Michael Gate, the symbol of the city and the last vestige of the medieval fortifications, and the old town hall whose buildings were erected in the 14th and 15th centuries. Stop in front of the Primatial Palace to admire its elegant architecture. Free time or participation in the optional excursion.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION

##### Devin Castle (half day)

Situated on a rocky spur in an enchanting setting, Devin Castle offers a breathtaking panorama, at the confluence of the Danube and Morava rivers. Ramparts, chapel, turret... these impressive ruins bear witness to the past splendors of the castle, destroyed by Napoleon in 1809.

Price per person (from): €50 in 2024 and €60 in 2025

Departure at 2:00 p.m. for Budapest.

Lunch and dinner on board.

# Day 6



## Hungary / Budapest

Budapest is a treasure trove of history, culture, and breathtaking scenery. From the stunning Gothic architecture of Buda Castle to the bustling streets of Pest, there's something to captivate every visitor. Dive into the city's rich thermal spa culture, sample delicious Hungarian cuisine at local markets, and cruise along the Danube for panoramic views of its iconic landmarks. Budapest promises an unforgettable journey through its enchanting streets and iconic landmarks, making it a must-visit destination for travelers seeking an immersive European experience.

### DAY 6: BUDAPEST (Hungary)

In the morning, guided tour of the "Pearl of the Danube". Walk on the Buda side, the historic city, through the alleys of the castle, the Matthias Church, the Fisherman's Bastion. On the other side of the Danube, discovery of Pest, the modern city, with the Heroes' Square and the City Forest. Lunch on board. Free afternoon or participation in the optional excursion. Dinner on board. In the evening, night navigation to admire Budapest illuminated.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION

##### Gems of Budapest (half day)

Visit the National Opera, in neo-Renaissance style. Built from 1875 to 1884 by Miklós Ybl, it is one of the most prestigious in Europe. Inside, the grand staircase, lamps, sculptures, frescoes and other chandeliers make up a sumptuous decor. Then, visit the Parliament. Majestically located on the banks of the Danube, in neo-Gothic style, it is one of the symbols of Budapest. Its construction began in 1885 and lasted 17 years. It houses the Crown Jewels and today houses the Presidency of the Republic.

Please note: The Parliament tour may be closed without notice. This tour must be booked before departure, subject to availability.

Price per person (from): €80 in 2024 and €90 in 2025

# Day 7



## Croatia / Vukovar

Town

In the north-east of the country, far from the atmosphere of the Adriatic coast, the region of Slavonia reveals a little-known face of Croatia, rural and wild. The Danube and its tributaries, the Sava and Drava, criss-cross its rich plains with fertile land dotted with forests. Depart in the morning for a walking tour of Vukovar. Although the town was sadly notorious for being besieged during the war in the 1990s, it has now been given a new lease of life and a new look.

### DAY 7: MOHACS (Hungary) - VUKOVAR (Croatia)

Arrival in the morning in Mohacs. Free time on board with lunch or disembarkation to participate in the optional excursion. In the morning, the MS Amadeus Silver II continues its navigation to Vukovar where it arrives in the late afternoon. Dinner on board.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION

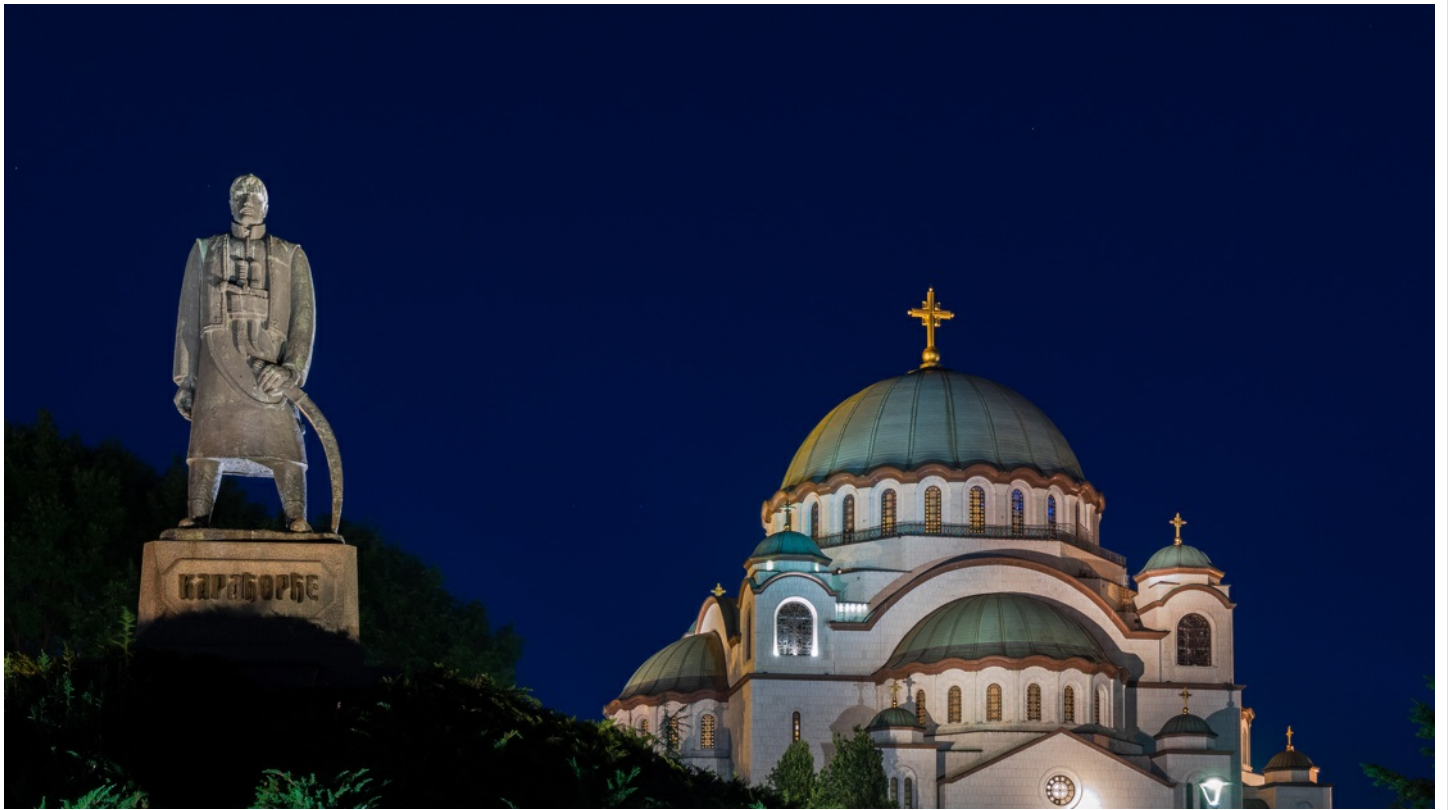
##### Faces of Slavonia (day trip with lunch)

In the north-east of the country, far from the atmosphere of the Adriatic coast, the region of Slavonia reveals a little-known face of Croatia, rural and wild. The Danube and its tributaries, the Sava and the Drava, crisscross its rich plains with fertile lands dotted with forests. In the morning, departure for the Kopacki Rit Nature Park. A natural jewel of Slavonia, it is one of the largest natural marshes in Europe. Covering an area of 238 hectares, it forms an inland delta composed of marshes, alluvial forests with magnificent trees, canals and lakes. No less than 44 different types of fish and 290 species of birds have been recorded there. Discovery of the park on foot and by small boat. Then visit Osijek, the capital of Slavonia. Walk through the baroque city center and discover the remains of the Tvrdra fortress, along the Drava.

Continue to Karanac, in the heart of Baranja, for a timeless experience. Lunch in this ethno-village where ancestral traditions still exist. The day ends in Vukovar. Although the city was sadly known for being besieged during the war in the 1990s, it is finding a second wind and now presents a new face. Visit to the Museum of Archaeological Culture of Vučedol, a civilization that developed in the Danube plain between 3,000 and 2,400 years BC, and spread over a large part of Croatia and the countries of Central Europe. Re-embark in Vukovar.

Price per person (from) : €110 in 2024 and €120 in 2025

# Day 8



## Serbia / Belgrade

City

Belgrade, the dynamic capital of Serbia, boasts a rich history and vibrant culture. Explore the iconic Belgrade Fortress for stunning city views. Wander Knez Mihailova Street for shopping and historic charm. Dive into Skadarlija for bohemian vibes and traditional cuisine. Visit the Nikola Tesla Museum to discover the legacy of the famed inventor. Belgrade offers an unforgettable blend of history, culture, and excitement.

### DAY 8: BELGRADE (Serbia)

After breakfast, guided tour of Belgrade, the capital of Serbia: Kalemegdan Fortress, the lively central districts with Republic Square and Knez Mihajlova Street, Saint Sava Cathedral. Lunch on board. In the afternoon, free time or participation in optional excursions. Dinner on board or possibility to attend an optional folklore evening.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

Novi Sad and Krusedol Monastery (half day)

Visit the Orthodox monastery of Krusedol. Founded in the 16th century, it is decorated with sumptuous paintings. Continue to Novi Sad: the city center is centered around the main square which displays its Austro-Hungarian accents through the architecture of its buildings.

Price per person (from): €60 in 2024 and €70 in 2025

OR

Belgrade Royal Palace and Tito Museum (half day)

Located in the upscale Dedinje district, the palace of the Karadjordjevic dynasty comprises two majestic buildings: the Royal Palace and the White Palace. Visit the Royal Palace with its marble interiors, library, richly decorated salons and reception hall, as well as the Royal Chapel. The tour continues with the Tito Memorial, located within the Museum of Yugoslavia.

Price per person (from): €60 in 2024 and €70 in 2025

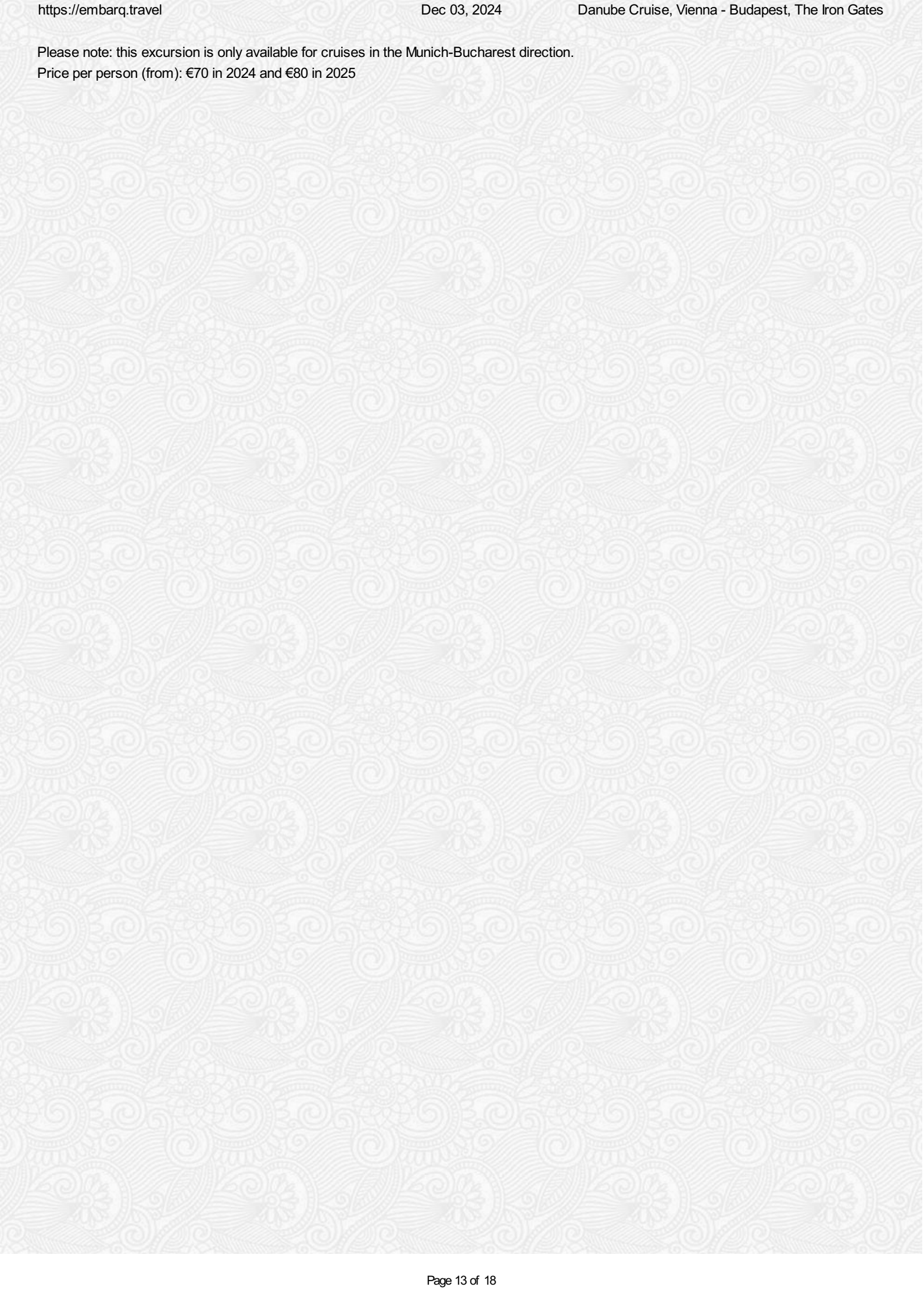
AND/OR

Folklore evening

Departure by coach to the old town to attend a show of traditional Serbian music and dance. The evening will be accompanied by a tasting of local specialties.

Please note: this excursion is only available for cruises in the Munich-Bucharest direction.

Price per person (from): €70 in 2024 and €80 in 2025



# Day 9



## Navigation

### **DAY 9: SAILING THROUGH THE "IRON GATES" (Serbia)**

Between Romania and Serbia begins the parade of the Iron Gates. Embedded in the mountains, the Danube forms impressive gorges. Lunch and dinner on board.

# Day 10



## Bulgaria / Orjahovo

Town

Orjahovo, a charming town on the Danube in northern Bulgaria, offers serene beauty and tranquility. Visitors enjoy scenic river walks and access to nearby forests and wildlife reserves for outdoor adventures. It's the perfect escape for nature lovers and those seeking relaxation.

### DAY 10: ORJAHOVO (Bulgaria)

Early in the morning the ship docks in the small port of Orjahovo on the Bulgarian bank of the Danube. Free discovery of the city and lunch on board or participation in the optional excursion. Dinner and folk show on board.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION

Sofia (day with lunch)

Departure for the visit of Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, lively and cosmopolitan (duration of the transfer: approximately 3 hours). Walk on the main arteries of the center and visit of the Saint-Alexandre-Neovski cathedral. Built in neo-Byzantine style, imposing with its golden domes, it is one of the largest Orthodox cathedrals in the world and the symbol of Sofia. Lunch at the restaurant. Visit of the archaeological museum which presents remarkable collections, including magnificent Thracian treasures.

Price per person (from): €115 in 2024 and €125 in 2025

# Day 11



## Bulgaria / Redhead

Town

Rousse, in northeastern Bulgaria, sits on the Danube River. Known for its history, architecture, and cultural scene, it boasts elegant Orthodox churches, historic buildings, and 19th-century mansions. Visitors enjoy riverside strolls, boat trips, and exploring local art and history. Rousse offers a delightful blend of history, culture, and natural beauty for tourists to enjoy.

### DAY 11: ROUSSE (Bulgaria)

After breakfast, free walk in the city of Rousse with lunch on board or participation in the optional excursion to Veliko Tirnovo. Farewell dinner. Departure to Giurgiu.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION

Veliko Tirnovo (day trip with lunch)

Veliko Tirnovo is the ancient capital of Bulgaria. Discovery of the Tsarevets fortress and lunch at the restaurant. Visit of the village of Arbanassi renowned for its decorated churches. Private concert of Orthodox liturgical music at the Church of the Archangels Michael and Gabriel.

Price per person (from): €115 in 2024 and €125 in 2025



# Day 12



## Romania / Bucharest

City, Nightlife

Bucharest, the vibrant capital of Romania, is a captivating blend of history, culture, and modernity. Visitors are drawn to its stunning architecture, including the grand Palace of Parliament and the charming Old Town with its lively cafes and vibrant nightlife. Known as "Little Paris" for its elegant boulevards and Belle Époque buildings, Bucharest offers a unique atmosphere that is both nostalgic and dynamic. From its bustling markets to its impressive museums and parks, there's no shortage of things to explore in this eclectic city. Whether you're interested in history, arts, or simply soaking up the vibrant energy of urban life, Bucharest has something for everyone.

### DAY 12: GIURGIU - BUCHAREST (Romania) - FRANCE

Disembarkation and departure for Bucharest (transfer duration: approximately 2 hours). City tour of the capital of Romania: Revolution Square and University Square, the Triumphal Arch, the Palace of Parliament, built under Ceausescu (exterior view). Transfer to Bucharest airport and flight to France on a scheduled flight.

