## Danube Symphony Avalon Waterways

By

Hank Schrader

Europe River Cruise Expert

### Route Map From Avalon Waterways



#### The Avalon Artistry II sailing on the Danube



#### Another Picture of the Artistry II



#### Overview

- Experience views to awaken the senses on your Danube River cruise from Germany to Hungary.
- Embark in Vilshofen, Germany, and sail to the lovely city of Linz.
- Here enjoy a guided sightseeing, or a visit to St. Florian Monastery.
- Explore Ybbs on a guided tour of its romantic old town; sail through the picturesque Wachau Valley passing by the Melk Abbey to Krems and explore the small village—seemingly untouched by the modern world.

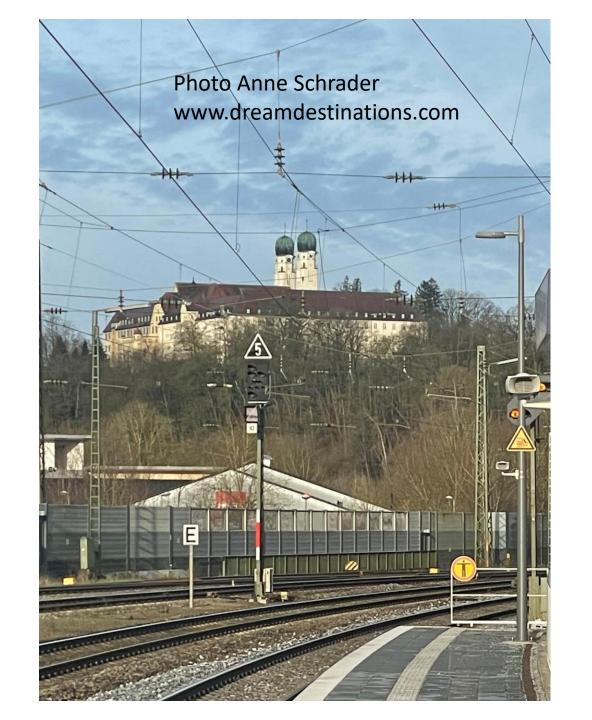
#### Overview

- Next, sail to Vienna—the City of Music.
- You'll marvel at the sights on a guided city tour of Vienna's gilded landmarks—including the Imperial Palace, the world-famous Vienna Opera House, and stunning St. Stephen's Cathedral.
- Visit Bratislava, Slovakia, on your Danube River cruise to explore the quaint streets of Old Town and St. Martin's Cathedral.
- You may decide to join your Avalon Adventure Host on a hike to the castle above!
- Your Danube River cruise concludes in the "Pearl of the Danube" Budapest.

#### Day 1 Vilshofen, Germany

- Welcome to Germany.
- Your Suite Ship® is Ready for Boarding.
- Flights into Munich must arrive by 2 pm.
- Guests must be on board ship by 5 pm.
- EVENING CRUISE TO LINZ

## Schweikberg Abbey Vilshofen



#### Vilshofen



Krempelstein Castle on the way to Engelszell in the Mist



#### Day 2 Linz

- **ACTIVE EXCURSION:** Join an expert guide for a trek up to Mount Pöstlingberg for a whole new perspective of beautiful Linz and its surrounding area, OR:
- **CLASSIC EXCURSION:** Visit the 9th-century St. Florian Monastery-the largest monastery in upper Austria and home to Augustine monks, OR:
- CLASSIC EXCURSION: Take a Guided Walk through the city's historic and beautiful sites along the shore of the Danube and see Hauptplatz—Austria's largest medieval square—and the towering white-marble Trinity Column.
- Extra Cost: Mauthausen Memorial
- Tour the notorious Mauthausen Concentration Camp, one of WWII's largest and most brutal Nazi work camp complexes.
- Enjoy sailing on your way to Ybbs tonight.
- OVERNIGHT DOCKING IN YBBS

### Linz Docks



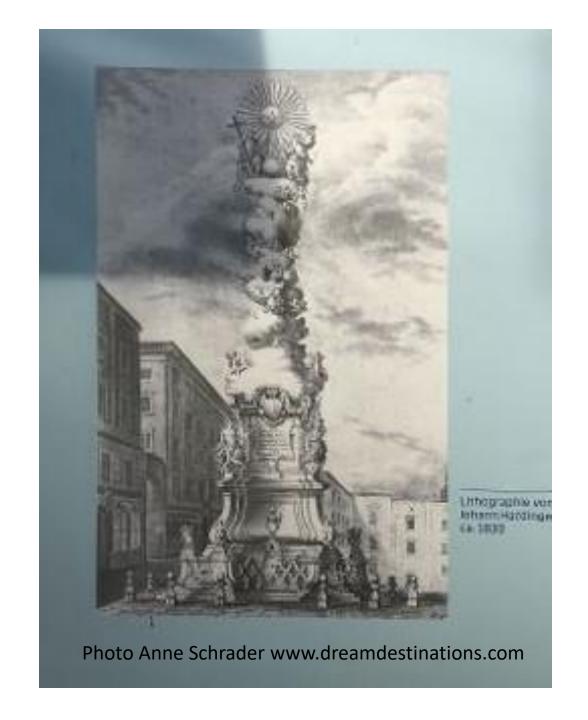
## Avalon Ship docked at Linz



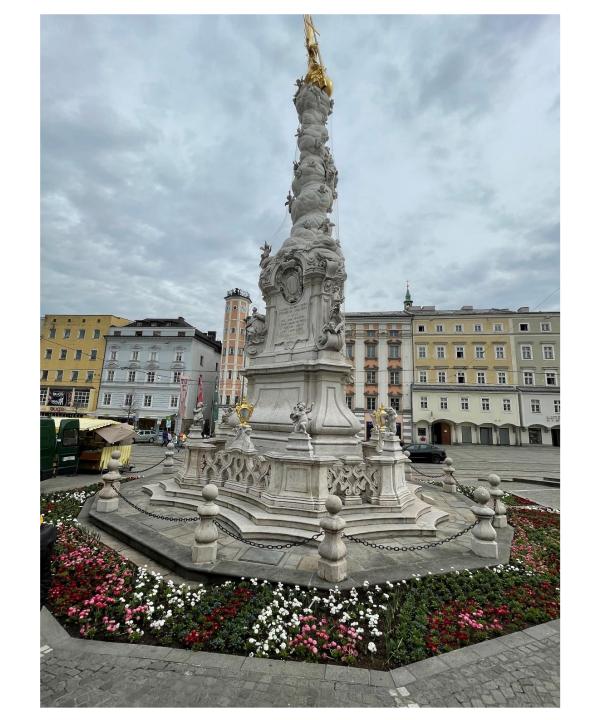
The 13<sup>th</sup> –century Hauptplaz is the largest medieval square in Austria 2019



Illustration of the Trinity Column on a protective cover. Often key landmarks need to be protected or are under repair as the column was during our 2019 visit to Linz



# The 20-meter Trinity Column 2023



A tourist train in Linz Hauptplaz 2023. In the background is the Old Cathedral (the green church with 2 towers)



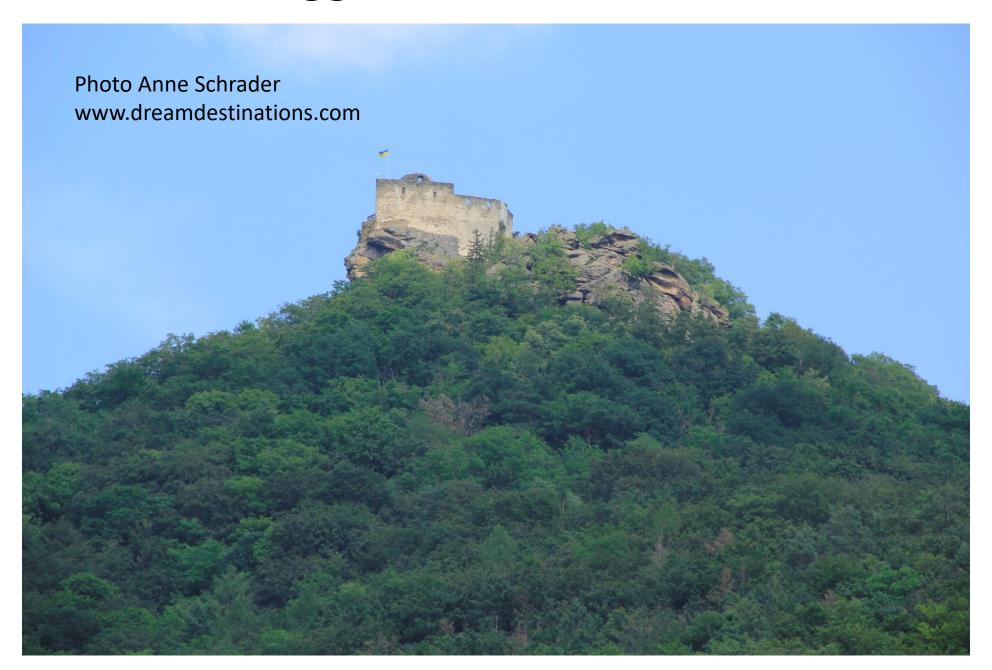
#### Day 3 Ybbs—Wachau Valley--Krems

- **ACTIVE EXCURSION:** Bike your way around Ybbs with your Adventure Host, OR:
- CLASSIC EXCURSION: Visit the Lower Austrian little town of Ybbs. Walk through the doors of Austrian history with a guided sightseeing tour of Artstetten Castle.
- Relax on board and enjoy the picturesque Wachau Valley scenery as you cruise to Krems.

#### Schonbuhl Castle



#### Aggstein Castle Ruins



#### St. Michael's Fortified Church



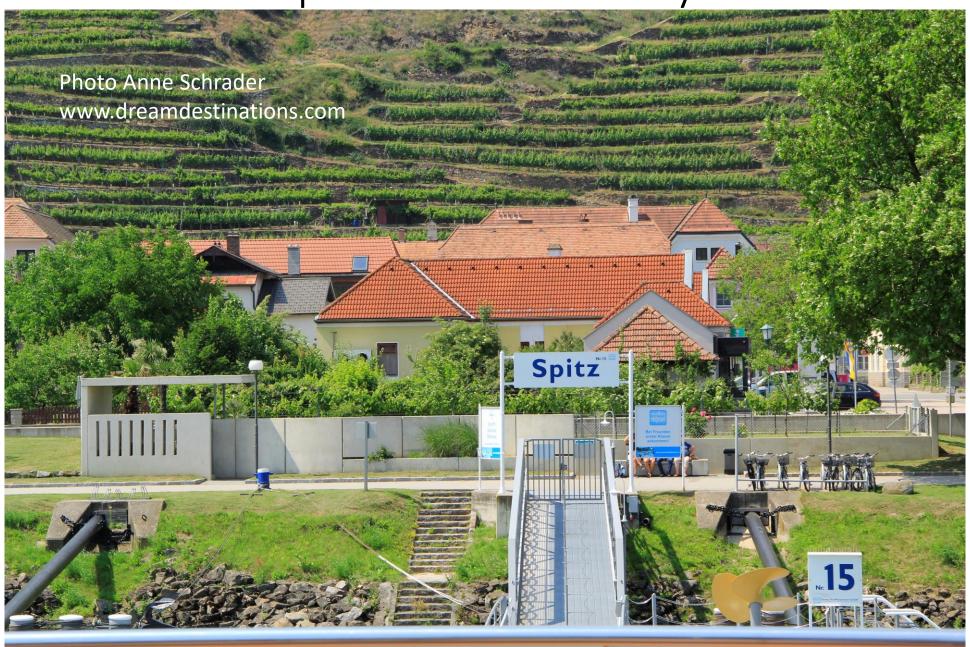
#### Weisskirchen Wachau Valley 2012



#### Wachau Valley



Spitz Wachau Valley



#### Hinterhaus Castle Ruins Above Spitz

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



## Church of Spitz





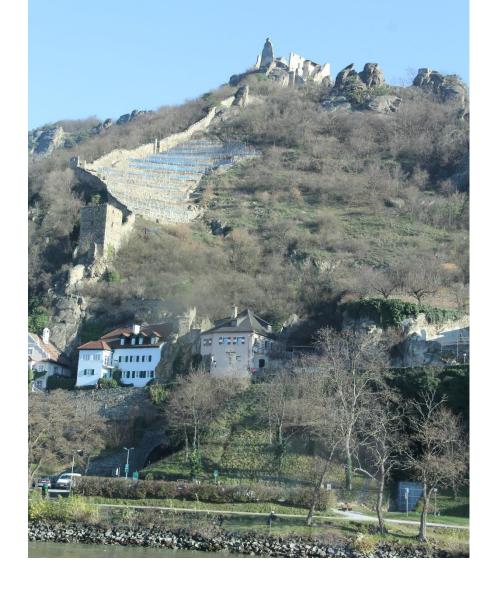
Dürnstein from the Danube. The Blue Tower is part of Dürnstein Abbey

Ruins of Dürnstein Castle where Richard the Lionheart was held for ransom in 1192

#### Dürnstein, Austria



#### Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



#### Dürnstein



## Dürnstein Abbey Entrance



#### Day 3 Krems

- ACTIVE EXCURSION: Experience Wachau valley by bike with your Adventure Host, OR:
- **DISCOVERY EXCURSION:** Join an interactive Wine World Experience with wine tasting, OR:
- CLASSIC EXCURSION: Join a Guided Walk to explore this small valley town, seemingly untouched by the new world.
- Later, enjoy live entertainment on board.
- OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO VIENNA

#### Krems



#### Day 4 Vienna

- ACTIVE EXCURSION: Explore Vienna's Danube Island by bike with your Adventure Host, OR:
- CLASSIC EXCURSION: After a short walk of Vienna, join a Guided Visit of Austria's largest museum, the legendary Kunsthistorisches Museum (Museum of Fine Arts), OR:
- CLASSIC EXCURSION: Explore the Habsburg empire with a Guided City Tour of Vienna's gilded landmarks. See the Imperial Palace complex—the winter residence of the Imperial Family, the iconic Vienna Opera House and stunning St. Stephen's Cathedral.
- Optional tours today include a Guided Tour of magnificent Schönbrunn Palace, the former imperial summer residence of Habsburg royalty.
- Alternatively, you can choose to spend your free time strolling Austria's famed Kärtnerstrasse and stop in a local café to enjoy Sachertorte or Apfelstrudel.
- OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO BRATISLAVA

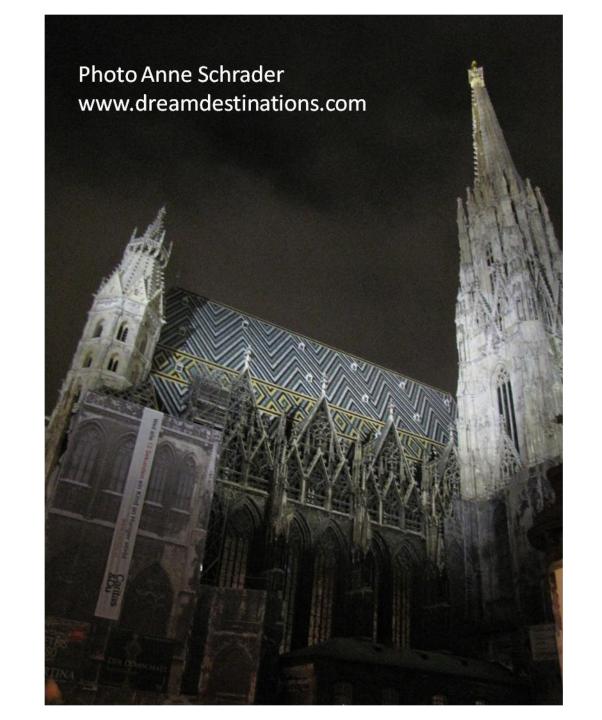
## Day 4 Habsburg Palace Vienna



#### Vienna Opera House at the end of Karntner Strasse



St.
Stephens
Cathedral
Vienna
Day 4



### Tiled Roof of St Stephen's Cathedral

The 2 Eagle side of the roof. These are the Coat of Arms for Austria and the coat of arms of Vienna.

There are 230,000 tiles on the roof



## Day 4 VIENNA Apfelstrudel.



# Day 4 Sachertorte



# Day 4



## Day 4 Optional Tours (Extra Cost)

- Schönbrunn Palace, Cultural Gem of Austria
- Visit magnificent Schönbrunn Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and former summer residence of the Habsburg imperial family.
- Classical Concert
- Enjoy a spellbinding evening of classical works by Mozart and Johann Strauss, performed brilliantly by professional Salon Orchestra Alt-Wien musicians in one of Europe's prettiest venues.

#### Schönbrunn Palace



#### Schönbrunn Palace



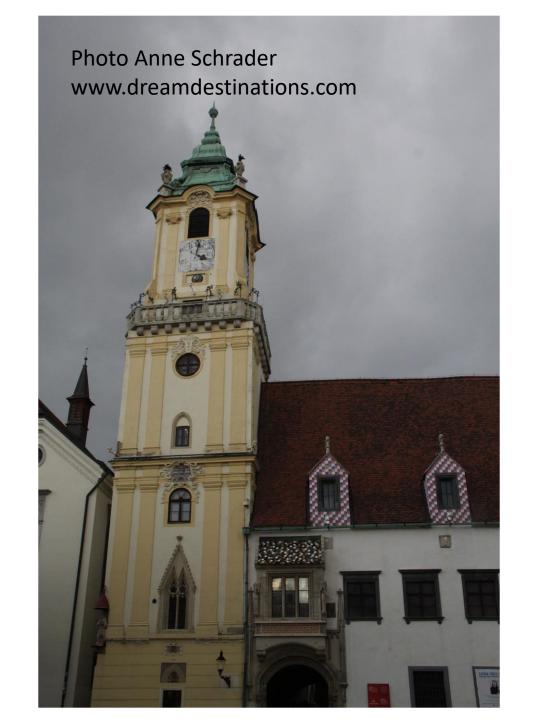
### Day 5 Bratislava

- **ACTIVE EXCURSION:** Follow your Avalon Adventure Host on a short hike to lofty Bratislava Castle, OR:
- CLASSIC EXCURSION: Take a Guided City Walk, including quaint streets of Old Town, Town Hall, and the royal coronation site of St. Martin's Cathedral.
- AFTERNOON/OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO BUDAPEST

### Bratislava Castle



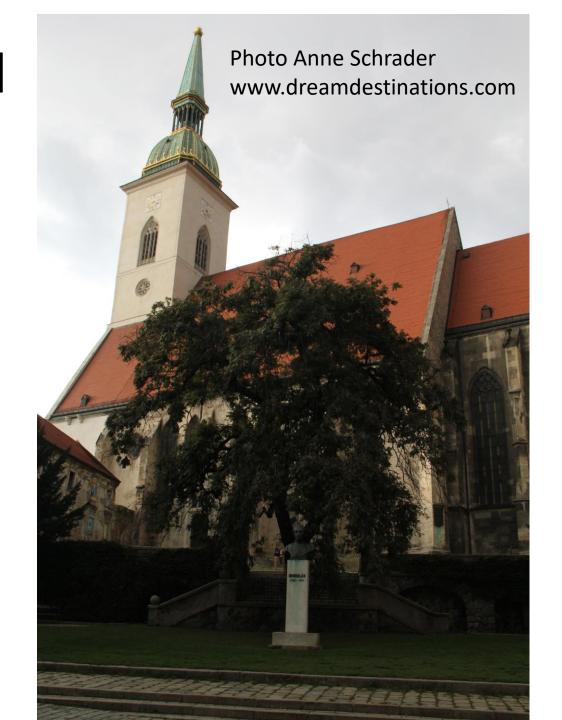
# Old Town Hall Bratislava



Michael's Gate
This gate is the only
remaining gate from
the walled city of
Bratislava



# St Martin's Cathedral Bratislava



### Primacial Palace Bratislava



#### Slovak National Theater Brsatislava



## Day 6 Budapest

• Your cruise ends this morning with breakfast.

### Buda Castle Budapest



# Chain Bridge Budapest at Dusk



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