

Danube Symphony Avalon Waterways

By

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Europe River Cruise Expert

Route Map From Avalon Waterways



The Avalon Artistry II sailing on the Danube



Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Another Picture of the Artistry II

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



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

Photo Anne Schrader
www.dreamdestinations.com



Krempelstein Castle on the way to Engelszell in the Mist

Photo Anne Schrader

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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



Photo Anne Schrader
www.dreamdestinations.com

Avalon Ship docked at Linz



Photo Anne Schrader
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The 13th –century Hauptplatz is the largest medieval square in Austria 2019



Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

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



Lithographie von
Johann Haidinger
ca. 1830

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

The 20-meter Trinity Column 2023



A tourist train in
Linz Hauptplatz
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

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Aggstein Castle Ruins

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St. Michael's Fortified Church



Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Weisskirchen Wachau Valley 2012

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Wachau Valley

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Spitz Wachau Valley

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Hinterhaus Castle Ruins Above Spitz

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Church of Spitz

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Dürnstein, Austria



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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



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Dürnstein

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Dürnstein Abbey Entrance



Photo Anne Schrader
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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

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



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

Photo Hank Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Vienna Opera House at the end of Karntner Strasse



Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

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.



Photo Anne Schrader
www.dreamdestinations.com

Day 4 Sachertorte

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Day 4

Photo Anne Schrader
www.dreamdestinations.com



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

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Schönbrunn Palace

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



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

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Old Town Hall Bratislava

Photo Anne Schrader
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Michael's Gate

This gate is the only remaining gate from the walled city of Bratislava



St Martin's Cathedral Bratislava



Photo Anne Schrader
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Primacial Palace Bratislava



Photo Anne Schrader

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Slovak National Theater Bratislava

Photo Anne Schrader
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Day 6 Budapest

- Your cruise ends this morning with breakfast.

Buda Castle Budapest

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Chain Bridge Budapest at Dusk

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