

Europe River Cruises

Hank Schrader
Accredited Cruise Counselor
Certified Europe Destination Specialist

Overview

- What is a Europe River Cruise?
- Comparing an Ocean Cruise vs. a River Cruise
- What does a River Cruise Ship look like?
- Europe River Cruise Line Comparisons
- Why should you use us?
- Possible Europe River Cruise Choices
- 5 Europe River cruises we have taken

What is a European River Cruise?

- It is a 7-21 day or more cruise on one or more of Europe's navigable rivers with meals, lodging & destination tours included on a small sized ship (usually 130-190 passengers).
- Major Rivers are Rhine, Mosel, Main-Danube Canal, Danube & Rhone.
- Others: Douro, Seine & Volga-Baltic Waterways.

Some of Europe's Major Rivers



Seine River



Rhine—Waal River Loop



Douro River



Volga-Baltic Waterway



Comparing An Ocean Cruise vs. A River Cruise

Ocean Cruise

Advantages

- Less Cost to get on ship
- Ship On Board Experiences
- Multiple Dining Options
- Includes room, food entertainment & visits to ports on itinerary

Disadvantages

- Usually Extra Costs during cruise
- Size—too many people?
- Larger Distances between Ports
- Shore Excursions cost extra

River Cruise

Advantages

- Smaller, more contact with crew every day
- A lot more chance to visit historic centers with minimum hassles—see more in less time
- All inclusive—food, wine/beer, shore tours all included
- Always something to see

Disadvantages

- Higher price
- Limited entertainment—no casino or big shows
- People with mobility issues may have limits to participate in all activities

A River Cruise Is

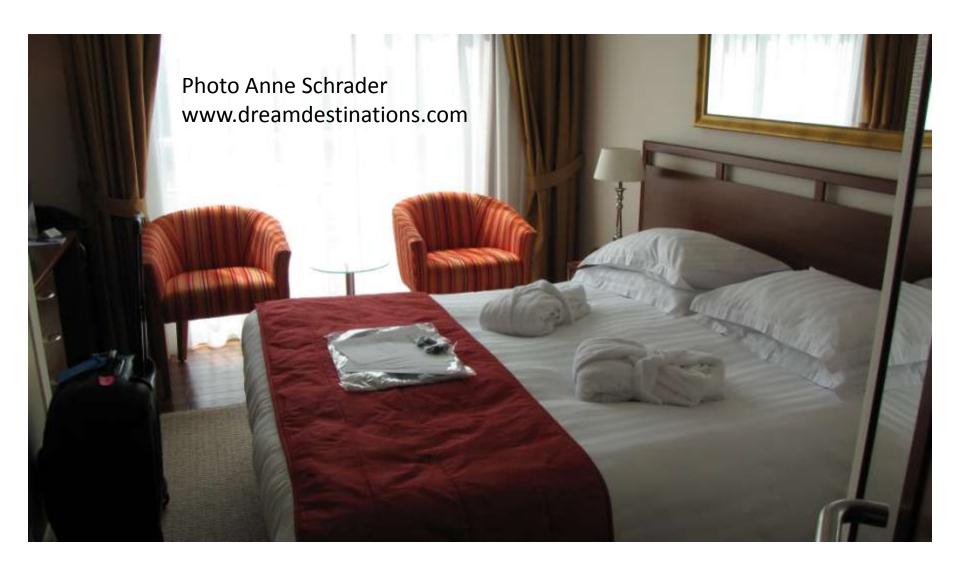
- No waves—always shore near—port every day
- No tenders (smaller boats to get ashore)
- More socialization w/crew/guests
- Meals at specific hours
- Everything is near cabin
- More contact with the ship officers
- Shore excursions included/free Wi-Fi

What do River Cruise ships look like?

3 Typical Europe River Boats in port



French Balcony Cabin



Balcony River Cruise Boat



French Balcony Cabin 2012





Some Cabin Friends





Infotainment System



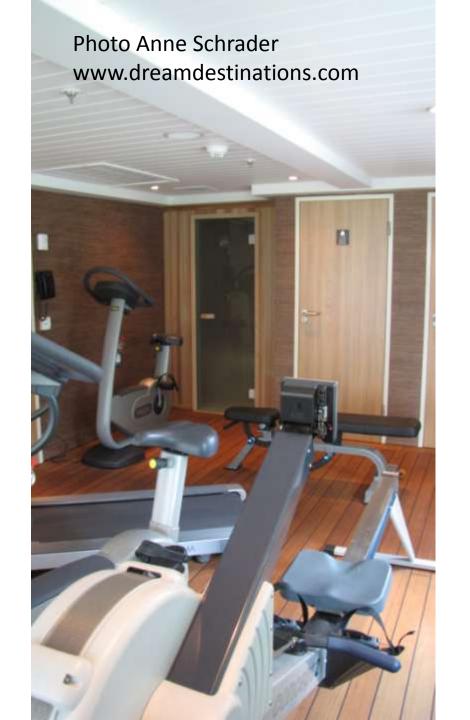
Aft Lounge



Evolving—now specialty Aft Dining Room 2012



Exercise Room



Whirlpool 2009 Cruise



River Cruise ships are evolving bigger Pools—now with an outside bar 2012



Bicycle Storage Area



Main Lounge



Restaurant



Main River Cruise Companies for the US Market

- AMAWaterways—"Leading the Way in River Cruising"
- **Avalon**-- "Comfortably upscale... more-spacious-than-average-cabins."
- Tauck—"Never Settle for Ordinary"
- Uniworld-- "the world's only authentic boutique cruise line"
- Viking— "Exploring the world in comfort"

My Personal River Cruise Line Ratings

- # 1 AMAWaterways
- Best food/wine; best overall

- # 4 Avalon
- # 2 Tauck
- # 2 Uniworld
- # 5 Viking

- Operated by Globus
- Best Tours
- Elegant Cabins
- Best price, only 2 choices for some meals; some extras, not CLIA member



AMAWATERWAYS Overview

- AMAWATERWAY'S dream is to provide the most exceptional river cruise experience possible. They believe they achieve this by:
- Providing custom-designed ships
- Providing the Premium Experience
- Being the only River Cruise Line inducted into the Chaines Des Rotisseurs, the oldest & largest food & wine society in the world—most observers feel they have the best food & wine in Europe River Cruising
- Small group Excursions led by expert local guides
- Providing Complimentary Limited Edition Tours.
- Complimentary Bicycles & guided bicycle excursions



Legendary river cruises. Inspired design."

Avalon Overview

- Avalon has two goals in their approach to river cruising.
- First, they believe their clients deserve more choices and they follow through with a long list of options that can be added for an extra fee.
- Second, they want to be known as the "floating room with a view"—most cabins have floor to ceiling windows that open up.

TAUCK® RIVER CRUISING

Tauck River Cruise Overview

- 4 Cornerstones of Tauck River Cruising
- Uncommon Access to included shore excursions
- All-inclusive Value
- Personalized Cruising from 4 on-board Tauck staff
- Intimate Club-like atmosphere



Uniworld Overview

- The world's only authentic boutique river cruise line
- All-inclusive
- one-of-a-kind ships—operates 13 in Europe-each is different
- stylish décor
- thoughtful personal touches
- welcoming ambiance
- superb cuisine
- gracious service



Exploring the World in Comfort®

Viking Overview #1

- Viking provides All-inclusive itineraries—a great value.
- A Viking journey includes:
- Exceptional Accommodations
- Attentive Service
- Enriching Daily Shore Excursions
- Engaging Cultural Enrichment
- All Onboard Meals
- Complimentary wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & diner
- Free onboard internet service

Viking Overview # 2

- Has 55 ships deployed in Europe (they have introduced 18 or 19 new ships in the last 2 years & seem determined to keep up this pace). 40 are longships (135 m or 443 ft) & carry 190 passengers.
- Has over 50% of all river cruises ships in Europe.
- Heavy advertising campaign—brand is most well known river cruise company

Why Use Us?

WE ARE RIVER CRUISE EXPERTS!



Anne Schrader

- Certified Travel Counselor (CTC) & Accredited Cruise Counselor (ACC)
- Certified Destination Specialist Western Europe
- '86 U of Houston grad in hotel & restaurant management
- Earned over 20 specialty designations from individual travel vendors



Hank Schrader

- West Point '71, MS U. of Washington, MBA Long Island U
- Accredited Cruise Counselor (ACC)
- Certified Destination Specialist Western Europe
- Visited 66 countries—Europe at least 10 times
- Retired HS World Geography & AP Human Geography Teacher

Why You Should Use Us #1

- #1 Reason—It costs you nothing for us to plan your travel!
- 18 years experience—we are true professionals
- We help you avoid the hassle & get the best value for your dollar--saves time & money
- We will help you protect your travel investment
- We can help you avoid problems & help you resolve travel problems—book it yourself & you are on your own

Why You Should Use Us #2

- We will research & advise you on the best possible trip
- We are honest, hard working with one goal to serve you—we will do what is best for you, not us
- We are small enough to give you personalized service, but big enough & experienced enough to get you the right trip

Possible River Cruise Choices

Route/River

Rhone/Douro

Rhine—Waal Loop

Middle Rhine/Mosel

Upper Danube

Lower Danube

Why Go on this Cruise?

Best for Wine lovers/single country

Tulip time March/April,
Netherlands/Belgium

Castles/Scenery/half timbered villages

4 countries

Eastern Europe

Rhone Trip Map



Historic sights



Les Baux de Provence Battering Ram



Roman Amphitheater Arles France



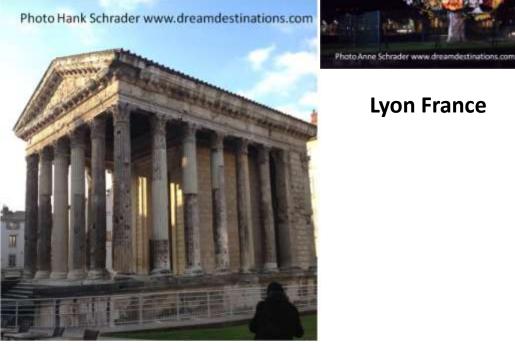
Town Walls Avignon France



Popes Palace Avignon France



Grignan France



Lyon France

Vienne France Roman Temple

Wine Cruise



Wine Tasting Tournon France

Tulip Time Cruise





Amsterdam Canals, Netherlands



Town Hall Antwerp Belgium

Sights



Giant Frites, Antwerp Belgium

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Windmill Netherlands

Northern Europe



Ghent Canals, Ghent Belgium



Keukenhof Gardens Netherlands

Middle Rhine/Mosel Trip Map



Cool Towns



Residenz Palace Wurzburg Germany



Miltenberg Germany



Town Hall Bamburg Germany



Rudesheim Germany Wine Stubbe



Pfatzgrafenstein Toll Station, Germany



Reichburg Castle Cochem Germany



Rheinstein Castle, Rhine River Castles

Castles



Marksburg Castle, Germany

Upper Danube Trip Map



Capital Cities



Budapest Hungary



Bratislava, Slovakia



Schonbrunn Palce, Vienna, Austria

Wachau Valley & Danube



Dunstein Austria



Melk Abby, Melk Austria



Schonbuhl Castle, Austria



Regensburg Germany

Black Sea Voyage—the lower Danube



Photo Hank Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Belogradchik Fortress



Kalemegdan Fortress

Mighty Fortresses



Baba Vida Fortress



Petrovaradin Fortress



Bucharest Romania

Open Air Museum—Rustic homes reassembled



Vlad Tepes in the Lipscani district,



Palace of the Parliament

Belgrade Serbia



St Sava Cathedral

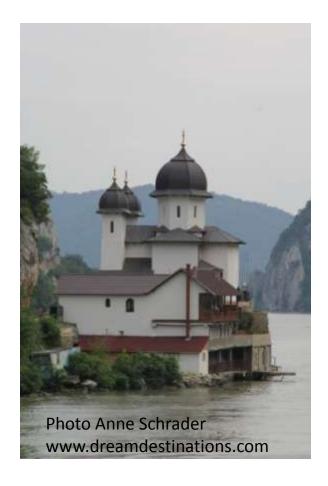
Parliament



Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Stunning River Scenes The Iron Gates





Dream Destinations

Your Journey Begins Here!



- We want to be your travel consultants!
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