

Trip Info

Group Size: Min: 20 | Max: 30

Transportation: Cruise, Cable Car, Coach, Boat, Train

Tips: Payable locally, allow \$130 AUD pp on the coach and \$100 AUD pp on the boat

Destinations Visited: Frankfurt, Rhine District, Heidelberg, Munich, Vienna, Budapest, Wachau, Lucerne, Interlaken, Jungfrauoch, Lake Lugano, Lake Como & Milan.

This delightful journey combines a relaxing river cruise with a coach tour, giving you a unique sightseeing experience. Witness alpine splendour, the romantic Rhine district and explore the meandering Danube River.



Explore the picturesque Rhine District

Our tour starts in Germany where we explore the picturesque Rhine District, one of the most romantic regions of Germany. Here we visit the World-Heritage listed Heidelberg, one of Germany's most beautiful cities and the cosmopolitan Bavarian capital of Munich where highlights include the Marienplatz, Ludwigstrasse and the Koenigsplatz.

Relax while we cruise through Europe

From Germany we board our fantastic 5-night river cruise which will take us through the heart of Europe. While cruising we stop and explore Vienna, the capital of Austria, Budapest Hungary's most beautiful city, Bratislava the charming capital of Slovakia and Duernstein a picturesque gem in the heart of the beautiful Wachau Valley.

Enjoy stunning alpine scenery

After our cruise our tour continues to Lucerne in Switzerland, here we will travel up to the famous panoramic lookout of Pilatus where the alpine scenery is stunning. We then continue on to the wonderfully scenic town of Interlaken which is located between two lakes and at the base of three of Switzerland's most famous peaks – the Eiger, Moench and Jungfrau. From Switzerland we travel into Italy where we spend the final three nights of our tour in the beautiful Lake District – you'll love it!

Itinerary

Day 1 Depart Australia

Day 2 Arrive in Frankfurt

Guten tag, welcome to Germany! On our arrival we will be met by our friendly guide and transferred to our hotel. In the

afternoon we enjoy an orientation tour of Frankfurt, the financial capital of Germany.

Day 3 Rhine District

Today we explore the picturesque Rhine District, one of the most romantic regions in Germany. Our tour includes a cruise along the Rhine to the historic town of Ruedesheim before we return to Frankfurt. [B]

Day 4 Heidelberg

Today we visit the beautiful city of Heidelberg which is set on the River Neckar and surrounded by hills and the imposing Heidelberg Castle. The castle has been partially rebuilt since its demolition in the 17th and 18th centuries and the castle ruins are among the most important Renaissance structures north of the Alps. [B]

Day 5 Frankfurt - Munich

We drive south to the Bavarian capital Munich where our sightseeing includes the Marienplatz, the Church of Our Lady, Ludwigstrasse and the Koenigsplatz. [B]

Day 6 Munich

This morning we visit the Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial which stands in memory to those who suffered here during WWII. The afternoon is at leisure. [B]

Day 7 Munich

Today we visit the delightful holiday region of Chiemsee. We travel by boat across Lake Chiemsee to the wonderfully ornate Herrenchiemsee Castle. The castle was built in 1878, and stands on Herrenchiemsee Island in the centre of Bavaria's largest lake. It is set in French stylized gardens with imposing marble fountains and long winding pathways which lead down to the shores of Lake Chiemsee. We then visit picturesque Frauenchiemsee Monastery. [B]

Day 8 Munich - Passau

This morning we drive to the riverside town of Passau where we have some free time to explore the town before we board our cruise ship, the MS Sofia. [B,D]

Day 9 Cruising - Vienna

We arrive in the Austrian capital Vienna this morning, where our city tour includes a drive along the Ringstrasse - seeing famous landmarks such as the National Opera - before travelling to the heart of the city to Stephansdom. The rest of the day is free to explore the city before our evening departure. [B,L,D]

Day 10 Cruising - Budapest

This morning we stop in Esztergom, Hungary's oldest town and the birthplace of St Stephen. We continue on to Budapest, one of Europe's most beautiful cities, where our tour includes the historic castle district. [B,L,D]

Day 11 Cruising - Bratislava

After a scenic morning cruise we arrive in the Slovakian capital Bratislava mid-afternoon. Here we take in the sights of the old town on foot. [B,L,D]

Day 12 Cruising - Wachau

We cruise back into Austria and visit historic Duernstein, a picturesque gem in the heart of the beautiful Wachau Valley. On top of the mountain you may see the ruins of an old castle - Richard the Lionheart was held in prison in this castle after one of the crusades. [B,L,D]

Day 13 Passau - Bavaria

This morning we disembark in Passau and drive on to the Bavarian region. We continue to the spectacular Neuschwanstein Castle, the most famous and arguably the most beautiful castle in the world. This castle was Walt Disney's inspiration for Cinderella's castle in Disneyland. [B]

Day 14 Bavaria - Lucerne

A scenic day as we drive through the spectacular alpine region of Bodensee into Switzerland. We visit the picturesque town of Appenzell before our arrival in Lucerne. [B]

Day 15 Lucerne

Make sure your cameras are charged as we travel by cable car and the world's steepest cogwheel train up to the famous panoramic lookout of Pilatus Kulm. [B]

Day 16 Lucerne - Interlaken

We drive on to Interlaken which is spectacularly situated between two lakes at the base of three of Switzerland's most famous peaks - the Eiger, Moench and Jungfrau. [B]

Day 17 Jungfrauoch

An unforgettable day as we travel up the Jungfrauoch to Europe's highest railway station. Here, on top of the world, at a height of 3,454m, we find an icy wonderland of dramatic peaks. [B]

Day 18 Interlaken - Lugano

This morning we continue on to Lugano, in the heart of the Italian Lake District. This region is famed for its stunning lakes surrounded by beautiful green mountains. [B]

Day 19 Lugano

Our morning is at leisure before we set off to explore the city and enjoy a cruise on Lake Lugano in the afternoon. [B]

Day 20 Lugano - Como

We cross the border and travel on to Lake Como in the heart of Italy's Lake District. Lake Como has an area of 146 km², making it the third-largest lake in Italy, after Lake Garda and Lake Maggiore. At more than 400 m deep, it is one of the deepest lakes in Europe. The bottom of the lake is more than 200 metres below sea level. [B]

Day 21 Depart Milan

This morning we transfer to Milan Airport to start our journey home. [B]

Day 22 In transit

Day 23 Arrive in Australia

Inclusions

- Pre-departure information dossier
- Return economy class flights from Australia to Europe
- 14 nights' accommodation in good quality hotels with private facilities (3-4 star)
- 5-night river cruise on the 4-star MS Sofia in a standard outside cabin with private facilities
- 19 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 5 dinners
- English-speaking, locally-based tour director
- Expert English-speaking guides on excursions while cruising
- Half-day orientation tour of Frankfurt
- Tour of the Rhine District from Frankfurt. Tour includes a scenic drive along the Rhine to St Goarshausen, followed by a river cruise to the historic town of Ruedesheim
- Visit World Heritage-listed Heidelberg, one of Germany's most beautiful cities. Our tour includes a visit to the famous castle
- Enjoy a city tour of the cosmopolitan Bavarian capital, Munich
- Visit the Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial which stands as a powerful tribute to those who suffered here during WWII
- Enjoy a full-day tour of the Chiemsee region which is renowned for its beautiful lakes, forests and mountains. We cruise on Lake Chiemsee, visit picturesque Frauen Island and the wonderfully ornate Herrenchiemsee Castle
- Enjoy a five-night scenic Danube River cruise on the MS Sofia from Passau, visiting Vienna, Duerstein and the Wachau Valley in Austria, Esztergom and Budapest in Hungary, and the Slovakian capital Bratislava. Includes all meals on board
- Comprehensive program of included shore excursions while cruising. These tours are provided by the cruise company and we'll be joined by other passengers on board. Touring is provided in Vienna, Esztergom, Budapest and Bratislava
- Visit Neuschwanstein Castle, the most famous and arguably the most beautiful castle in the world
- Spend two nights in the beautiful Swiss city of Lucerne
- Travel by coach, cable car and the world's steepest cogwheel train up to the alpine lookout at Pilatus Kulm
- Spend two nights in the alpine town of Interlaken which is spectacularly located between two stunning lakes and at the foot of three of Switzerland's most famous peaks - the Eiger, Moench and Jungfrau
- Enjoy an unforgettable day as we travel to the top of the world at Jungfrauoch. Here, at a height of 3,454m, you'll find a stunning alpine wonderland of eternal ice and snow
- Enjoy numerous scenic drives as you travel from Bavaria through Switzerland and on to the Italian Lake District
- Spend two nights in beautiful Lugano where we explore the historic city centre and enjoy a cruise on the beautiful lake

- Spend the night in Como, in the heart of the beautiful Italian Lake District

Dates & Prices

No dates available for this tour at present. Please call us on 1300 664 170 or check back on the website for future tour dates.

Accommodation

The hotel and cruise ship listed below are meant as an indication only and are subject to change.

Wallis Hotel

Hotel Wallis is an intimate 3 star hotel with 54 rooms that oozes Bavarian ambience. It is conveniently located in the city centre, just a stone's throw from the main tourist attractions. There are also plenty of local shops, cafes and restaurants for you to enjoy



M/S Sofia, Passau

The classic M/S Sofia cruise ship provides plenty of space for all passengers. The friendly Bulgarian crew will ensure that you have an amazing time on board. You will enjoy delicious food, sporting activities, the sun deck and swimming pool.



Weather

Munich	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Ave Max C	1	3	9	14	18	21	23	23	20	13	7	2
Ave Min C	-5	-5	-1	3	7	11	13	12	9	4	0	-4
Rainy Days	16	16	13	15	15	17	16	16	13	13	15	15

Currency

In Germany, Austria, Slovakia & Italy:

Euro (€) = 100 cents.

Notes are in denominations of €500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10 and 5. Coins are in denominations of €2, 1 and 50, 20, 10, 5, 2 and 1 cents.

In Hungary:

Hungarian Forint (HUF; symbol Ft) = 100 fillér.

Notes are in denominations of Ft20,000, 10,000, 5,000, 2,000, 1,000, 500 and 200. Coins are in denominations of Ft100, 50, 20, 10 and 5. A large number of commemorative coins in circulation are legal tender.

In Switzerland:

Swiss Franc (CHF; symbol SFr) = 100 cents (called centimes in French, rappen in German and centesimi in Italian).

Notes are in denominations of SFr1,000, 200, 100, 50, 20 and 10. Coins are in denominations of SFr5, 2 and 1, and 50, 20, 10 and 5 centimes.



Disclaimer

Prices shown are per person based on twin-share. Prices and itineraries are correct at time of downloading from the website but are subject to change. Taxes and fuel surcharges change regularly so levies shown as a guide only. For full terms and conditions please visit our website or call 1300 664 170 for details.