



RIVER CRUISE

BALKAN JEWELS WITH BUCHAREST AND TRANSLYVANIAN

2026

EUJCBB12



12 days / 11 nights River Cruise



Bucharest to Budapest

ITINERARY

To view the itinerary in greater depth, simply click on your preferred day from the interactive list to unveil its details. Discover daily activities, immersive experiences and insider local tips that make your travel unforgettable.



BUCHAREST TO BUDAPEST

12 days / 12 nights River Cruise

DAY 1

Arrive Bucharest

Arrive in Bucharest and be transferred to your hotel, where you will join us for a welcome dinner.

Stay: Two Nights, Bucharest, Radisson Blu Hotel

📞 1300 336 932



Daily: • Dinner

DAY 2

Bucharest

Set out on a guided exploration of Bucharest's Old City this morning. The area has recently undergone a decade of refurbishments, transforming the city's historic core into a vibrant, walkable quarter. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before a visit to the Palace of the Parliament. Started in 1984, and still unfinished, this enormous building was constructed under the command of former dictator Nicolae Ceaușescu and has over 3,000 rooms.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch

DAY 3

Bucharest, Braș–öv

Travel to

Salina Slănic Prahova

, Europe's largest salt mine. Descend 208 metres underground to discover some of the 14 chambers, as well as the museum. The pure air inside the mine is known for its respiratory healing effects. Later, enjoy dinner before continuing to your hotel in Brașov.

Stay: Two Nights, Radisson Blu Aurum Hotel, Brașov or similar

Daily: • Breakfast • Dinner

DAY 4

Braș–öv, Bran

This morning will be spent exploring Bran Castle, also known as 'Dracula's Castle'. Perched atop a rocky hill overlooking the town of Bran, the castle's striking orange turrets tower above a thick forest of trees in the Carpathian Mountains. Wander through its many rooms and admire the 19th-century antiques before returning back to Brașov for lunch. This afternoon, delve deeper into Brașov's history on a walking tour.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch

DAY 5

Braș–öv, Sinaia, Giurgiu, Embark Ship



Today, you'll visit picturesque Peleş Castle, nestled at the foot of the Bucegi Mountains in the town of Sinaia. This neo-Renaissance masterpiece was commissioned by Romania's first king, Carol I, and took 40 years to build. Enjoy free time for lunch in Sinaia, then travel to your ship in Giurgiu.

Stay: Seven Nights, APT Ostara

Daily: • Breakfast • Dinner

DAY 6

Ruse, Veliko Târnovo

Discover the wonders of Veliko Târnovo

with an expert local guide. Uncover this charming Bulgarian city's rich history as you wander through its cobbled lanes and fortified walls. Its centrepiece is the spectacular restored Tsarevets Fortress, a medieval citadel of the Second Bulgarian Empire. Savour a delicious lunch at a local restaurant before returning to the ship.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

DAY 7

Vidin, Belogradchik

Explore Baba Vida Fortress in Vidin. Raised upon the remains of the ancient town of Bononia, the medieval castle dates back to the 10th century. Afterwards, venture to Belogradchik and visit its ancient fortress, perched on the northern slopes of the Balkan Mountains. You'll also see the town's unique rock formations.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

DAY 8

Scenic Cruising

The day is yours to relax on board, sleep in and take it easy, or awake early and take in stunning views from the Daystar Deck.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner



DAY 9

Novi Sad

Choose how you'd like to spend the day in Novi Sad, Serbia's second largest city.

Freedom of Choice

Guided City Discovery

Enjoy a guided tour of Novi Sad, situated on the banks of the Danube River. Discover the city's iconic sights found along the main walkway of Zmaj Jovina.

Freedom of Choice

Local Farmstead

Visit a local farmstead for a real dose of Vojvodinian culture, featuring a traditional breakfast, music and freshly-made doughnuts.

Freedom of Choice:

Give your holiday a personal touch with a choice of included sightseeing or dining options to suit your interests.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

DAY 10

Kalocsa, Puszta

Enjoy a Signature Experience today.

Signature Experience – Folk Art House and Horse Show

Visit the Folk Art House, where local handicrafts are on show. Then, visit a producer of one of Hungary's spiciest exports, paprika. Afterwards, a farm in Puszta is the perfect setting for a stellar horse show and authentic Hungarian lunch.

Signature Experience:

These all-inclusive, once-in-a-lifetime moments allow you to experience an unforgettable world of exclusive moments, incredible cultures and charming surprises.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

DAY 11

Budapest



Set out on your chosen sightseeing activity. This evening, enjoy a captain's farewell dinner.

Freedom of Choice – Hospital in the Rock

Embark on an insightful tour of the Hospital in the Rock, a museum dedicated to a former secret emergency hospital and nuclear bunker.

Freedom of Choice – Hike to Gellért Hill

Take a guided hike up Gellért Hill and admire the panoramic views over the Danube River. You'll also see the St Gellért Monument, honouring the Italian bishop and martyr who played a key role in spreading Christianity in Hungary in the 11th century.

Freedom of Choice:

Give your holiday a personal touch with a choice of included sightseeing or dining options to suit your interests.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

DAY 12

Disembark Ship, Depart Budapest

Say your farewells, disembark your ship and be transferred to the airport.

Daily: • Breakfast
