



RIVER CRUISE

## FESTIVE CHRISTMAS MARKETS WITH MAGNIFICENT EUROPE

2025

EUMCRBAX22



22 days / 21 nights River Cruise



Berlin to Amsterdam

### 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.



### BERLIN TO AMSTERDAM

22 days / 22 nights River Cruise

DAY 1

#### Arrive Berlin

Your journey begins with a transfer to your hotel, where you will get to know everyone at a welcome reception later this evening.



**Stay:** Three Nights, The Westin Berlin

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## DAY 2

### Berlin

Explore Berlin on a guided tour. This afternoon, wander through the Christmas markets. Come together for a relaxed welcome dinner this evening.

**Daily:** • Breakfast • Dinner

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## DAY 3

### Berlin, Potsdam

Journey to Potsdam, once the residence of Prussian kings. Here, you'll enjoy a discovery of the former summer palace of Frederick the Great, Sanssouci. Return to Berlin and choose how you'd like to explore. The evening is yours at leisure.

#### Freedom of Choice – Spree River Boat Ride

Set off on a charming boat ride on the Spree River, sipping mulled wine as you glide by some of the German capital's greatest sites in comfort and style.

#### Freedom of Choice – Charlottenburg Palace Christmas Market

Visit one of Berlin's most beautiful Christmas markets, the iconic Charlottenburg Palace Christmas Market, which is home to an array of vendors offering delightful treats and souvenirs.

Freedom of Choice:

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

**Daily:** • Breakfast

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## DAY 4

### Berlin, Meissen, Dresden

En route to Dresden, stop at Meissen, where you will set out on your preferred experience.



## Freedom of Choice

### Albrechtsburg Castle

Travel to Meissen and visit the 15th century Albrechtsburg Castle, which rises majestically above the Elbe River Valley.

### Freedom of Choice – Meissen Porcelain Factory

Alternatively, visit the world-famous Meissen Porcelain Factory, which showcases its heritage of fine porcelain art.

Freedom of Choice:

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

**Stay:** Hilton Dresden

**Daily:** • Breakfast • Dinner

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## DAY 5

### Dresden, Prague

This morning you'll have the opportunity to browse Germany's oldest Christmas Market, Striezelmarkt. You'll then enjoy a special Signature Experience. Later, arrive in

, the charming capital of the Czech Republic.

## Freedom of Choice

### Volkswagen's Transparent Factory

Enjoy a guided tour of the Volkswagen Transparent Factory in Dresden. Learn about the future of the electric mobility from an expert and see the production process first-hand.

### Freedom of Choice – Striezelmarkt Christmas Market

Take some time to browse Germany's oldest Christmas market, Striezelmarkt. Founded as a one-day market in 1434, it will celebrate its 590th anniversary in 2025.

### Signature Experience - Nutcracker workshop

Visit an enchanting Nutcracker workshop and perhaps try your hand at making their famous wooden Christmas toys.



**Freedom of Choice:**

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

**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.

**Stay:** Three Nights, Almanac X Alcron Prague

**Daily:** • Breakfast • Lunch

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**DAY 6**

**Prague**

Take a guided discovery of Prague and visit its charming Old Town, spending time wandering its cobblestone streets as well as Charles Bridge. Tonight, indulge in a sumptuous dinner at Alcron Restaurant, a fine dining establishment known for its use of local Czech produce.

**Daily:** • Breakfast • Dinner

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**DAY 7**

**Prague**

Today is set aside for a memorable experience just outside of the city.

**Signature Experience – Chateau Jemništ °**

Savour a day out at Chateau Jemniště, originally designed by the renowned Czech architect, Frances Maxmilián Kaňka. Be greeted by descendants of the Czech Republic's oldest aristocratic family before exploring the 18th century estate on a private guided tour. Admire the spectacular baroque architecture and indulge in a delicious lunch before watching impressive birds of prey fly free during an incredible falconry display.

**Signature Experience:**

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**Daily:** • Breakfast • Lunch

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**DAY 8**

**Prague, Velké Bílovice, Budapest, Embark Ship**



Travel to historic Velké Bílovice, then continue to Budapest and board your river ship.

**Stay:** 14 Nights, APT Solara or APT Ostara

**Daily:** • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

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## DAY 9

### Budapest

Perhaps take a guided discovery of Budapest and delve into its most fascinating sights, then get into the festive spirit with a visit to two of the city's charming Christmas markets, where you'll have the chance to sample mulled wine and some local delicacies. Alternatively, delight in your chosen sightseeing option. Later, set sail for Vienna.

#### Freedom of Choice – Budapest Highlights

Join a city tour of Budapest, visiting historic monuments along the way. See Heroes' Square and St. Stephen's Basilica  
. Afterwards, stroll through the Great Market Hall and savour tastings of local produce.

#### Freedom of Choice – Fisherman's Bastion

Enjoy a funicular ride up to Castle Hill and take in the sweeping views over the river, then walk to Fisherman's Bastion, a beautiful historical monument.

#### Freedom of Choice – Budapest Thermal Baths

Relax in the thermal springs of one of Budapest's popular thermal baths.

Freedom of Choice:

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**Daily:** • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

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## DAY 10

### Vienna

Take in Vienna's Ringstrasse, plus enjoy a visit to St Stephen's Cathedral. Afterwards, wander through the Christmas markets and perhaps pick up a souvenir or two. As the scent of mulled wine and gingerbread fills the wintry air, you'll be reminded that the festive season in Europe is nothing short of magical.



**Daily:** • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

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## DAY 11

### Vienna

Spend this morning on your preferred activity. In the evening, an extraordinary Signature Experience awaits.

#### **Freedom of Choice – Explore Schönbrunn Palace**

Perhaps visit the 1,441-room Schönbrunn Palace and its gardens, including the traditional Christmas market in the Parade Court.

#### **Freedom of Choice – Visit Bratislava in Slovakia**

Tick another country off your list and journey to Slovakia's Bratislava, where a mixture of 18th-century rococo design and communist era architecture make this a city of alluring contrasts. See some of the architectural landmarks that were built during the city's time under communist rule. These include the UFO bridge, Slovak Radio building and Hotel Kyjev.

#### **Signature Experience – Cocktail Party and Private Performance at Vienna's City Palace**

After dinner, head to the princely family of Liechtenstein's City Palace in the heart of Vienna, where we have arranged an exclusive cocktail party and private recital, just for you. A full orchestra will perform classical masterpieces by Mozart and Strauss, and you will also be enchanted by an operatic recital.

Freedom of Choice:

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Signature Experience:

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**Daily:** • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

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## DAY 12

### Dürnstein, Melk

Enjoy free time to explore

Dürnstein

before cruising through the picturesque Wachau Valley to Melk. Here, visit striking Melk Abbey, one of the finest Baroque buildings in the world.



## Freedom of Choice – Wachau Valley Scenic Cruise

Admire stunning landscapes dotted with vineyards, charming villages and historic castles nestled amid lush hills.

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

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DAY 13

## Linz, Salzburg, Passau

Take a guided tour of Salzburg before a Signature Experience.

### Signature Experience – Gaisberg Mountain Lunch and 'Sound of Music' Show

Be welcomed by a Jagdhornbläser – a hunting horn blower – into a rustic, traditional restaurant on the Gaisberg mountain overlooking Salzburg. Enjoy a welcome drink as you soak in the scenery before savouring a delicious lunch, followed by a show featuring music from the classic film, 'The Sound of Music'.

Signature Experience:

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**Daily:** • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

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DAY 14

## Regensburg

Discover Regensburg and explore its atmospheric World Heritage-listed city centre. With a history dating back to the Roman times, this incredible city was the first capital of Bavaria. Afterwards, visit one of Bavaria's most beautiful Christmas markets, located in the courtyard at Thurn and Taxis Palace. Wander the various stalls selling handicrafts from the region and enjoy a tasting of local delicacies.

**Daily:** • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

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DAY 15

## Nuremberg



Set out on a guided exploration to discover Nuremberg's history, with its Gothic churches and World War II sites. Afterwards, explore the Christmas market, one of the oldest and most well-known Christmas markets in the world. You'll also have the opportunity to sample glühwein, traditional German spiced wine.

**Daily:** • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

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DAY 16

## Bamberg

On arrival into Bamberg, join an exploration with a local expert to uncover everything this World Heritage-listed city has to offer.

**Daily:** • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

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DAY 17

## Würzburg

Your day unfolds on your terms thanks to a choice of activities today.

### Freedom of Choice – Visit the Würzburg Residence

The immense architectural beauty of Würzburg is on display today as you stroll through this fascinating city to the Würzburg Residence. An 18th-century palace that once belonged to the Prince-Bishops of Würzburg, this regal building is home to a number of historic wonders. Inside, you'll marvel at the intricate tapestries, gilded stucco work and ceiling frescoes by famed Tiepolo.

### Freedom of Choice – Explore Rothenburg

Travel to the walled town of Rothenburg and immerse yourself in medieval life. Wander the narrow cobblestone streets and admire the colourful houses as you stroll. During free time, you may wish to visit

Käthe Wohlfahrt

's 'Christmas Village', where you'll find the largest selection of German Christmas decorations in the world.

### Freedom of Choice – Hike to Marienberg Fortress

Enjoy a hike to Würzburg's most visible landmark, Marienberg Fortress, an imposing castle overlooking the city, which boasts a fascinating history dating back many centuries.

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

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DAY 18

## Miltenberg

Step ashore in Miltenberg today and set out on a guided exploration. Wander through the cobblestone streets and admire the town's enchanting half-timbered houses before time at leisure to explore on your own.

**Daily:** • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

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DAY 19

## Rüdesheim

Dock in Rüdesheim, where you'll choose your activity, followed by free time to enjoy the festive atmosphere or perhaps sample a local Rüdesheimer coffee in a cosy cafe.

### Freedom of Choice – Gondola Ride

Glide over the emerald vineyards of the Rhine Valley in a gondola, enjoying stunning vistas. Arrive at the Niederwald Monument, commemorating the unification of Germany in 1871.

### Freedom of Choice – Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum

Take a tour of Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum, an eccentric and unique museum which is home to a beautiful collection of fascinating automated musical instruments from all stages of history.

### Freedom of Choice – Visit a Historic Wine Cellar

Visit a historic wine cellar for a tasting of Rhine Valley wines. Discover why this location is one of Germany's most well-known wine regions.

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

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DAY 20

## Andernach



Today, enjoy a Signature Experience. The afternoon will be spent cruising onwards to the Netherlands.

### **Signature Experience – Namedy Castle**

Princess Heide von Hohenzollern graciously welcomes APT guests into her home, Namedy Castle, a 14th-century residence set near the Rhine River in Germany. Go beyond the gates and wander about the rooms, hidden nooks and manicured grounds. You'll then enjoy a morning tea where a pianist playing classical music sets the mood.

Signature Experience:

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**Daily:** • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

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DAY 21

## **Amsterdam**

Arrive into Amsterdam and set out on your chosen activity. Tonight, enjoy a captain's farewell dinner.

### **Freedom of Choice – Glass-Top Boat Canal Cruise**

A peaceful way to see the best of Amsterdam, board a glass-top boat and admire the city's unique architecture as you cruise the maze of World Heritage-listed canals for which the city is famous.

### **Freedom of Choice – Old Amsterdam Cheese Store Visit**

Visit the Old Amsterdam Cheese Store for a cheese tasting perfectly matched with wine.

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

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DAY 22

## **Disembark Ship, Depart Amsterdam**

Your incredible journey comes to an end today. Following breakfast, say goodbye and be transferred to the airport.

**Daily:** • Breakfast

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