



# GET AWAY FRIENDS ADVENTURE TO THE BLUE DANUBE

Featuring - Bratislava, Budapest, Durnstein, Esztergom, Linz, Melk, Salzburg, Vienna

11 May, 2026 - 20 May, 2026

<b>DURATION</b> 8 Nights / 10 Days	<b>GROUP SIZE</b> 30 People	<b>AIRPORT</b> ex Los Angeles	<b>PRICE STARTING FROM</b> Twin Occupancy Price Per person - \$ 6,249.00
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## OVERVIEW

Immerse yourself in the rich culture of Europe's most historic river, filled with magnificent baroque architecture, medieval towns, charming villages, and iconic sights that inspired Strauss and Mozart.

Starting in Budapest, we depart and head north to Esztergom, where we spend the morning exploring its historic center, which was once Hungary's capital. We then continue west to the picturesque town of Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia. As we cruise through Lower Austria, we arrive in the romantic town of Dürnstein. Afterward, we visit the impressive monastery in Melk.

Next, we reach Linz for a guided tour, or you can opt for a short drive to Salzburg to explore its charming old town with a guided tour. Heading back east, we reach the classical beauty of Vienna. Finally, we cruise back into Hungary, arriving in imperial Budapest, where we'll take a guided tour of this stunning city. After our final dinner on board, we enjoy a Hungarian folklore show, a perfect way to end this extraordinary and relaxing cruise.

## ACCOMMODATION

CITY	HOTEL NAME	CHECK-IN	CHECK-OUT	NO. OF NIGHTS
Budapest	Novotel Budapest Centrum	12 May, 2026	13 May, 2026	1 Night
Budapest	Riviera Cruise MS Geoffrey Chaucer	13 May, 2026	20 May, 2026	7 Nights

**For Support Contact : Get Away Friends**

**TEL:** 619-253-1823 / **Email:** [getawaygirlfriends@gmail.com](mailto:getawaygirlfriends@gmail.com)



## Rate Include

- ◆ 01 Night Pre-Cruise Accommodation in Budapest at listed hotels or similar based on DBL / TWN sharing basis
- ◆ 07 Nights on Riviera Cruise accommodation in Emerald deck (lower) in Twin sharing basis (**upgrade options available**)
- ◆ All meals
- ◆ Full board during your cruise from dinner on your day of arrival until breakfast on your final day (except lunch on day 5 if choosing the Salzburg excursion)
- ◆ Free Superior drinks package
- ◆ Complimentary on-board tea and coffee
- ◆ Complimentary on-board Wi-Fi (connection speeds may vary)
- ◆ Visit to Esztergom Basilica
- ◆ Guided tour of Bratislava
- ◆ Guided tours of Durnstein & Melk Abbey
- ◆ Guided tour of Linz or Salzburg
- ◆ Guided tour of Vienna & Live Classical Recital
- ◆ Guided tour of Budapest & Hungarian Folklore show
- ◆ All visits and excursions as mentioned
- ◆ Coach travel as mentioned
- ◆ English-speaking expert guides
- ◆ The services of a Riviera Travel Cruise Director and Concierge
- ◆ Group Airport transfers in Budapest
- ◆ International Return Airfare **ex Los Angeles (Please check with price from other gateways)**
- ◆ Porterage of one piece of luggage in and out of hotels
- ◆ Air taxes and fuel surcharges

## Rate Exclude

- ◆ All other meals & All other sightseeing or Services
- ◆ Gratuities for meals, tourist guides, drivers
- ◆ Visa fee and Travel Insurance
- ◆ Any other services or Items not mentioned above as included



# ITINERARY

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**DAY 1 | 11 May, 2026** Depart Los Angeles [-/-/-]

Prepare yourself! You are leaving today for Budapest to start your magical River Cruise on Danube.

**DAY 2 | 12 May, 2026** Budapest - Arrival [-/-/-]

Upon arrival in Budapest, claim your bags and proceed towards the arrival hall. Our representative will meet you and assist you with your transfer to the hotel. (Standard check-in time is 3:00 pm). Our local representative will assist you with a smooth check-in.

Check-in at the hotel and catch up on your rest. You can unwind or tour the city throughout the remaining part of the day.

Overnight in Budapest

**DAY 3 | 13 May, 2026** Budapest - Embarkation [B/-/D]

Enjoy your breakfast at leisure. Later this afternoon, you will be transferred to Cruise ship. The dedicated crew are there to welcome you on board, ensuring you settle in and familiarise yourself with this first-class floating hotel.

There's always a sense of expectancy and excitement on the eve of a cruise and, after an excellent dinner in the stylish restaurant, conversation is sure to revolve around the delights ahead.

Overnight in Onboard the River Cruise

**DAY 4 | 14 May, 2026** Esztergom [B/L/D]

Overnight we have cruised upstream to Esztergom, one of Hungary's oldest towns, a royal capital during medieval times and today the seat of the country's archbishop. We have a guided tour of the famous neoclassical basilica, standing sentinel over the Danube on the border with Slovakia, and boasting one of the world's largest altarpieces and a wealth of priceless religious artefacts.

The castle is also worth exploring; it was the seat of

government until the Ottomans invaded in the 16th century. Nestling below are myriad atmospheric churches resonating with the enchanting sounds of choir; this is the best of provincial Hungary and is little changed since Habsburg times.

## **Cruise towards Bratislava**

As you enjoy your first lunch on board we gently leave Esztergom in our wake, affording a fascinating opportunity to compare the different landscapes, towns and villages of Hungary on one riverbank and of Slovakia on the other.

Overnight on Board the River Cruise

**DAY 5 | 15 May, 2026** Bratislava [B/L/D]

This morning we explore Slovakia's fast-emerging capital city, Bratislava, on a guided tour. Until recently swathed in the drab uniformity of Communism, the city has rekindled the splendour of its imperial past in its beautifully restored Old Town. Equally impressive is the imposing 17th-century castle commanding expansive views across the Danube.

## **Cruise towards Dürnstein**

This afternoon we cruise into Lower Austria, a peaceful, bucolic region and home to some of the country's best wines. By now the stresses of everyday life seem distant as you absorb the ever-changing scenes, we pass children playing on the riverbanks, young couples strolling arm in arm like generations before them, vigneron carefully pruning their vines, and cobbled quaysides lined by half-timbered buildings.

You'll marvel as the Captain skilfully navigates the ship along the serene river and through locks whose mechanisms never cease to fascinate, as we cruise towards Dürnstein.

Overnight on Board the River Cruise

**DAY 6 | 16 May, 2026** Durnstein & Melk [B/L/D]

## **Dürnstein**

Dürnstein is known principally for the ice-blue tower of its abbey, which dominates the view, and the castle where Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned in 1192 after being shipwrecked on his return from the crusades.

This morning we take a guided walking tour to explore this memorable city further. Set on a rocky outcrop high above the river, the castle is now ruined, but it's easy to imagine England's legendary monarch seething with frustration far from home, while waiting for his family to raise funds to pay his ransom.

## **Melk**

After lunch you visit the remarkable Melk Abbey. Nothing quite prepares you for your first sight of this enormous honey-coloured building, standing resplendent above the surrounding countryside. Originally a castle, it was gifted to the Benedictine Order in the 11th-century and, although reconstructed in Baroque style during the 18th century, it has remained a monastic school and monastery ever since.

The Abbey is renowned for its 214-yard-long Emperor's Gallery lined with portraits, many fine rooms and an ornate library. After we re-join the ship, dinner is served during the final part of our cruise upstream through the pretty Nibelungengau, immortalised in the music of Wagner.

Overnight on Board the River Cruise

**DAY 7 | 17 May, 2026** Salzburg or Linz [B/L/D]

Reaching Linz, you will have the choice to stay in the city and take a guided walking tour, exploring its charming baroque old town. At its heart you'll see one of the finest squares in Austria, lined by grand pastel-coloured facades with an impressive central Trinity Column of white marble, crowned by a gilded sunburst. There's also the fortress-like castle, built high above the city by Emperor Friedrich III, now a museum housing a fine collection of nineteenth and twentieth-century artworks.

Alternatively, we drive to Salzburg, once an independent state whose archbishops turned it into one of the most sophisticated cities north of the Alps. Dominating the skyline is one of Europe's largest stone

fortresses, the Hohensalzburg, while beneath its walls church domes and spires rise from the delightful Altstadt, or Old Town. Then there's the wonderful Hellbrunn Palace and the splendid formal gardens of the Mirabell Palace - a must for horticulture fans.

This morning, discover some of the city's main sights in the company of an expert local guide, then you're free to explore as you wish. Everywhere there are sights associated with the city's most famous resident, Mozart, who played the harpsichord aged three, composed rudimentary music at five and wrote his first opera when he was 11!

We return to the ship for another splendid dinner.

Overnight on Board the River Cruise

**DAY 8 | 18 May, 2026** Vienna [B/L/D]

For many, today's visit to Vienna will be one of the highlights of the cruise. The city's very name provokes images of elegance, fine music, wide boulevards, Baroque architecture and a rich tapestry of peoples who were drawn here from all corners of Europe.

For 200 years until the First World War, Vienna was the cultural centre of Europe and many of the showpiece buildings, galleries, aristocratic palaces and magnificent churches you see today were built to reflect its imperial status. The city's most iconic monument is the breathtaking Saint Stephen's Cathedral, whose striking multi-coloured roof and huge Gothic South Tower dominate the skyline.

There's also the colossal Hofburg, the former royal court that is now home to a collection of museums, the Crown Jewels and the Spanish Riding School, and where the Vienna Boys' Choir performs. Then there are the lavish Imperial Apartments and an outstanding collection of relics of the Holy Roman Empire, including, allegedly, the sabre of Charlemagne himself. The Kunsthistorisches Museum, which contains the world's fourth largest collection of paintings, is just across the road.

This morning we have a tour with a local guide offering insights into why Vienna is one of Europe's great capitals - the seat of the Habsburg emperors and home to some of the world's finest classical composers,

including Beethoven, Brahms, Mozart and, of course, a whole family of Strausses.

During the afternoon you're free to explore as you wish. Take a stroll in the Prater, notable for the huge Ferris wheel that features in several Cold War spy thrillers. Or, for something quite different, visit the Schönbrunn Palace, a former royal residence now housing a range of world-class museums and galleries. Perhaps, though, just take a stroll through Vienna's atmospheric side streets, or enjoy a coffee and a slice of delicious Sachertorte in one of the lovely coffee houses.

This evening we have something special in store. Not only do we have our indulgent Chef's Dinner, but we've also organised for a live musical experience on board. So after this special dinner, sit back and enjoy an intimate classical recital. To hear this exquisite music in Vienna - where it was created - is truly the icing on the cake.

Overnight on Board the River Cruise

DAY 9 | 19 May, 2026 Budapest [B/L/D]

### **Cruise towards Budapest**

Enjoy a leisurely morning as we cruise majestically through Hungary's peaceful pastoral landscape towards Budapest. After breakfast head up onto the magnificent sun deck to enjoy some fabulous river views as we cruise along the 'Danube Bend', surrounded by historic and picturesque cities like Visegrad and Szentendre. Castle ruins, churches, pretty houses perching on the hills, and thick forests are reflected in the waters of the river. Squeeze in a spot of reading on the sun deck or simply recline, letting the gentle breezes lull you into a relaxing doze.

After lunch we enjoy a sightseeing tour of this captivating city, which truly lives up to its reputation as the 'Pearl of the Danube'.

The twin cities of Buda, built around the hilltop fortress, and Pest, with its wide boulevards, were fought over through the centuries. The Ottomans ruled here for 150 years before being ousted in the late 17th century, but their legacy lives on in the many thermal baths fed by hot springs, giving rise to Budapest's other sobriquet - the 'City of Spas'.

After the end of Ottoman rule, Budapest became an imperial city of the Habsburg Empire, attracting great cultural and commercial wealth. Castle Hill is Budapest in microcosm: two churches, seven museums and a theatre among streets and squares with their own special atmosphere and a dramatic view across the river to the awe-inspiring neo-Gothic Parliament Building. Budapest's endless galleries, museums, outstanding Art Nouveau architecture and excellent shopping offer a fittingly elegant end to your Danube cruise.

This evening's dinner closes with a Hungarian folklore show, giving you time to bid farewell to your travelling companions and reflect on all the inspirational places, sights and sounds you have experienced on a truly 'imperial' cruise.

Overnight on Board the River Cruise

DAY 10 | 20 May,  
2026

Budapest Disembarkation and  
Departure [B/-/]

Your incredible tour of Danube Cruise comes to an end today. Your tour concludes after breakfast this morning. You will be transported to the airport for your return flight at the appropriate time.

## Payment Policy

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**Deposit: US\$ 500 per person [Non-refundable / Non-transferrable]**

**Booking and Deposit Date: 20 April 2025**

50% Deposit: 20th November 2025

Full Balance: 13th February 2026

(Once the deposit is paid, the travelers can then pay any amount on any date. Travelers to ensure that the payment deadlines are met as above)

## Insurance & Get Away Friends Booking Terms and Agreement

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We consider adequate travel insurance to be essential. Travel insurance is widely available to purchase. It is the personal responsibility of each traveler to ensure that they have adequate travel insurance coverage. Please read the policy details carefully. It is each traveler's personal responsibility to ensure that the insurance cover purchased is suitable and adequate for their particular needs. Voyages Hub will not be responsible or liable for any consequence of any nature arising from the failure to comply with the responsibility of providing adequate travel insurance cover.

Please contact Jean Freeman for your Travel Insurance Needs

**Please refer to the Get Away Friends Booking Agreement. Your booking and payment constitute acceptance of those terms.**

<https://www.voyageshub.com/getaway-friends-booking-terms-conditions>

## Cancellation Policy

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- ◆ Starting from the booking date until November 20, 2026, a cancellation will incur a **\$500** per person non-refundable/non-transferable deposit fee plus any interruption insurance costs if bought.
- ◆ From November 21, 2026 to February 13, 2026, canceling will result in cancellation of 50% of the tour price
- ◆ From February 14, 2026 to May 11, 2026, canceling will result in the full tour price being charged as cancellation with no possibility of a refund.

**Note:**

A person becoming single because of the roommate's cancellation must pay the single supplement

All payment cut-off dates are firm, and missing deadlines without approved extensions will result in cancellations without refunds being offered.

**PLEASE NOTE**

Voyages Hub reserves the right to levy a surcharge commensurate to the fuel increase at the time of operation of this movement.



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