

TOGETHER WE TRAVEL!



solo connections



~ Danube Delights ~



Danube Delights 19 Days Fully Escorted 07 - 25 September 2024

ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Vienna
- Esztergom & Szentendre
- Kovacica – Rural Serbia
- Excursion to Vidin
- City Tour of Bucharest
- Danube Delta Nature Experience
- Excursion to Constanta & The Black Sea Coast
- Rousse & Basarbovo Monastery
- The Iron Gates
- Novi Sad & Sremski Kalovci
- City Tours of Budapest & Bratislava
- Winzeer Krems
- And MORE!



INCLUDES:

- **Flights** Return Economy Class including Taxes* - *Business Class Upgrades available on request*
- **Private single category C-1 cruise cabin – Cabin Upgrades Available**
- **Meals** as per itinerary [B=Breakfast/L=Lunch/D=Dinner]
- **Quality** red and white **wines** from the best wine regions of Europe **with dinner**
- 24 hour complimentary coffee, tea, hot chocolate and water
- **Sightseeing** Tours and Transfers as per itinerary – *additional optional sightseeing tours also available*
- Complimentary state-of-the-art audio headsets for all excursions
- Complimentary use of onboard bicycles
- **Tour Host** – travels with group from/ to Brisbane
- English Speaking **Cruise Director**
- Port fees and cruise taxes

From \$15,960* per person
Cabin Upgrade options: B4 Cabin \$17,951*pp / B1 Cabin \$19,131*pp / A1 Cabin \$20,821*pp

Terms & Conditions apply. **Economy class airfare with Singapore Airlines departing Brisbane.** Passengers not residing in Brisbane may need additional domestic flights to connect with the international flights. *Airline Taxes included to the value of \$330. Tipping & Gratuities are NOT included. Luggage allowance at 23kg per passenger. Solo Connections reserves the right to amend all hotels, airlines, restaurants and tours for an equal substitute at any time. Beverages, additional meals, mini bars, laundry, phone calls, items of personal nature not included. Tours subject to availability and changes may occur at the cruise ships discretion. Further booking conditions apply, please check all prices, availability and other information at time of or before booking. Package cancellation fees apply. Denise Marie Falsay trading as Solo Connections. ATAS Accredited A11424. ABN 92 582 582 996.

~ Danube Delights ~



Saturday, 07 - Sunday, 08 September 2024
Brisbane – Passau via Singapore & Munich

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Meet your Tour Host and fellow travellers at Brisbane International Airport for our flights to **Munich**.

On arrival into Munich International Airport, on Monday, we will be welcomed by a representative who will assist with our transfer to **Passau**.

We may not be able to check into our cabins straight away, however we can leave our luggage and take a walk. Upon embarkation of the ship, we have time to settle into our cabins.

This evening, we enjoy a **Welcome Cocktail**, followed by a specially-prepared **Welcome Dinner**.

River Cruise Ship – Amadeus Cara (15 Nights)

Monday, 09 September 2024
Vienna

B-L-D

This morning the ship passes through the charming **UNESCO World Natural Heritage** region of the Wachau and then, in the early afternoon, stops in Vienna.

The Austrian capital effortlessly unites a glorious past with the present in a memorable way. Discover the singular charm of this former imperial metropolis during the course of a **City Tour**.

While it may take days or weeks to fully discover Vienna, this tour will give you an overall impression of the most important sights Vienna has to offer. First, we drive along the famous **Ringstrasse**, passing several magnificent buildings like the stunning opera house, the parliament, the Court Theatre and Vienna's imposing city hall.

The panoramic drive is followed by a guided walk through the city center where we get to know Vienna at its fullest. We begin at the well-known **Hofburg Imperial Palace** walking along the Kohl market and finishing at Vienna's iconic **St. Stephen's cathedral**. Before returning to the ship, enjoy free time to stroll along the pedestrian area.

Duration - approx. 3.5 hours

Walking Grade - Level 2: The excursion by bus is followed by a moderate walk. You may need to climb some stairs.

After dinner, the ship will leave the harbor in Vienna and travel towards Hungary



Tuesday, 10 September 2024
Esztergom

B-L-D

Spend a relaxing day cruising the Beautiful Blue Danube or join the excursion to **Esztergom**.

The tour departs from Budapest and travels to the artists' village of **Szentendre**. The town has been the home of many generations of Hungarian artists since the early 20th century. There are many museums and contemporary galleries representing the rich traditions of the visual arts. One of the most visited museums of the whole country, the **Margit Kovács Museum**, is also located here. **Foetér**, the main square, is particularly well worth seeing, as it is surrounded by impressive buildings from the time of the Rococo and the Baroque. The tour continues to the imposing ruined fortress of **Visegrad**, where you have a glorious view of the "knee" of the Danube. Subsequently the excursion travels along the Danube to **Esztergom**, the former residence of the Hungarian kings and seat of the Archbishop, which is one of the highlights of this excursion. Visit the vast **domed basilica** which is the largest cathedral in Hungary. Built in the early 19th century, it incorporates an ornate red marble chapel from an earlier church.

Duration - approx. 5 hours

Walking Grade - Level 4: Moderate walking tour. You may need to climb some stairs.

At lunchtime, the ship stops for those guests on the shore excursion to rejoin. The ship will then continue cruising, making its way to Belgrade.

Wednesday, 11 September 2024
Belgrade

B-L-D

After lunch we arrive in **Belgrade**, one of the oldest European cities and the capital of Serbia. The "White City" is one of the most historically rich and important in all of Serbia and boasts a large number of monuments from different times and cultures.

On today's excursion discover the colorful artists' village of **Kovacica**, which represents a unique oasis of preserved traditions, original art and crafts. Visit to the Slovak - Evangelical Church, built in the late Baroque style. Its interior is enriched by a monumental altar with a painting by Constantine Danilo. The final stop of the tour is the violin maker's studio. Jan Nemček - is a master artisan who builds violins by hand and not machine.

Duration - approx. 3 hours

Walking Grade - Level 3: The excursion by bus is followed by a longer walk. You may need to climb several stairs.

Dinner this evening is onboard as the vessel continues through the countries of the Danube.



Thursday, 12 September 2024
Vidin

B-L-D

Enjoy a relaxing morning cruising the river before reaching **Bulgaria** this afternoon.

We visit **Vidin**, a town renowned for its centuries of history. Join the **walking city tour** to wander through the streets and view the many churches and Renaissance buildings which decorate the town.

Vidin, located in North-Western Bulgaria, is one of the oldest cities in Bulgaria and was once an important Roman trading town. Explore the central main square, the Ploshtad Bdintsi (Bdintsi Square), and the main gate, Stambol Kapia, which date back to Ottoman times. Stroll through the Danube Park, which stretches along the entire riverbank to the Baba Vida fortress. This secluded avenue was designed by Austrian architects and is home to numerous restaurants, cafes and ice cream shops, as well as the Nikola Petrov Museum with Bulgarian art and other artifacts of Vidin.

Duration - approx. 1.5 hours

Walking Grade - Level 5: Considerable walk with long distances. This may include uneven surfaces and some stairs

Reboard the ship and enjoy this evening's dinner.

Friday, 13 September 2024
Oltenita

B-L-D

In the morning, relax on the Sun Deck and enjoy the passing landscapes, before the ship docks in **Oltenita**.

You won't want to miss the bus tour which forms part of the program for today. This full day excursion explores the capital city of Romania, also known as the "**Paris of the East**". Driving along the city's magnificent boulevards, lined with impressive buildings, you will discover its certain Gallic flair. A short guided walk through the newly designed pedestrian area of the historic center will take you back in time 500 years. Among the old commercial streets and buildings, you shall visit **Stravropoleos Church** which is Romanian Orthodox, dating back to 1724, and is one of the oldest churches in the city. The tour ends with a photo stop at the impressive **Palace of the Parliament**. The palace, previously known as the "People's House", is one of the largest buildings in Europe and was constructed between 1983 and 1989.

Enjoy dinner in a Romanian restaurant before departing the city to join the ship.

Duration - approx. 7.5 hours

Walking Grade - Level 2: The excursion by bus is followed by a moderate walk. You may need to climb some stairs.



Saturday, 14 September 2024
Danube Delta/ St George Village

B-L-D

Spend the morning cruising **Sfantu Gheorghe** (Saint George), one of the 3 main channels that make up the Danube Delta. At the meeting of the Black Sea and the Danube, this UNESCO site hosts 27 different ecosystems and is home to many unique species of birds, fish, and other creatures. From the fisherman's village of **Saint George**, observe daily life for the people who inhabit this fertile delta.

For those wishing to delve further into the scenic waterways, the **Delta Safari boat excursion** awaits. This unforgettable tour takes you through the Danube Delta, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with unique flora and fauna. The trip takes you through the **Sahalin Lagoon**, the **Ciotica Channel** and passes by the oldest fish processing centers in the Danube Delta. Discover the unique habitat of waterfowl, fish and a plant world that is still largely untouched in its beauty. In fact, the Danube Delta has the largest reed-covered area in the world.

Duration - approx. 2.5 hours

Walking Grade - Level 2: The excursion by bus is followed by a moderate walk. You may need to climb some stairs.

During dinner, enjoy sunset over the waters of the Danube Delta as our vessel departs and begins the journey back up the Danube.

Sunday, 15 September 2024
Hirsova / Fetesti

B-L-D

Relaxation is on the schedule today as the vessel plies the waters of the Danube.

The afternoon offers an opportunity to discover **Constanta**, the biggest port of Romania by a guided tour. This ancient metropolis by the sea, founded by Greek colonists under the name of Tomis during the 6th century BC, is considered Romania's longest continually inhabited city, as well as its chief port. A walk into the historic part of the city features views over the Great Mosque, the Casino and the Genovese Lighthouse.

A short visit to the **History and Archaeology museum** will reveal the city's 2.5 millennia history and detail its blend of cultures.

Duration - approx. 5 hours

Walking Grade - Level 3: The excursion by bus is followed by a longer walk. You may need to climb several stairs.

The ship stops in Fetesti for those on the excursion to rejoin before dinner this evening.



Monday, 16 September 2024
Rousse - Svishtov

B-L-D

Continue to enjoy your experience onboard, consider a massage or relax in the lounge and view the passing scenery.

This morning, join the **Rousse City tour** and visit of the **Basarbovo Monastery**, an active cave monastery which was built in the 16th century, about 35 meters above the river. Discover the church of St. Dimitar and its fascinating history, spectacular panoramic view and imposing frescoes. After the visit, return back to Rousse, a 2000 year old city on the Danube, with rich cultural life and traditions. The buildings in the city center testify to the economic prosperity of the city at the beginning of the 20th century. Entire streets illustrate the influence of the architectural style in Vienna, Budapest and Bucharest, with characteristic elements of Baroque, Renaissance, Secession and Empire. The highlight of this architectural ensemble is the State Opera House and the imposing Freedom Monument in the City Garden. Explore the city center on foot and enjoy a refreshment break in a typical restaurant, with a glass of Bulgarian wine and "banitza" (cheese pastry).

Duration - approx. 5 hours

Walking Grade - Level 5: Considerable walk with long distances. This may include uneven surfaces and stairs.

Rejoin the vessel in **Svishtov** as lunch is served and we continue cruising.

Tuesday, 17 September 2024
Iron Gates – Cruise Day

B-L-D

On deck there is much natural beauty to take in as you cruise the mighty Danube River and the picturesque "Iron Gates."

The **Iron Gates** is a narrow gorge between the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains which forms a natural border between Serbia and Romania, featuring breathtaking scenery. This part of the river is named the Iron Gates for the two hydroelectric dams that control the water flow. Keep an eye out for the many caves and rock sculptures hiding among the steep hills.

Over dinner this evening recount the beauty of the day with your fellow travellers.



Wednesday, 18 September 2024
Novi Sad - Vukovar

B-L-D

Late morning we arrive in **Novi Sad**, the second largest city in Serbia, known for its 19th century buildings and stunning parks. We'll take the **City Tour** and stroll through the city which recalls the time of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy. During the tour you will see the **Catholic St. Mary's Church**, the **Orthodox Church of St. George** and the home of **Albert Einstein**.

On the way to **Sremski Karlovci** we pass the fortress **Peterwardein**, which was built by the French architect Vauban and was one of Europe's largest defence structures in the 18th century. Sremski Karlovci awaits with a series of cultural and historical monuments. Discover the cathedral during a tour of the Baroque old town, as well as the **Patriarch's Palace** and the theological school.

Duration - approx. 3 hours

Walking Grade - Level 2: The excursion by bus is followed by a moderate walk. You may need to climb some stairs.

Rejoin the ship for lunch as we continue on. This evening the vessel stops in **Vukovar**, located on an important trade route at the confluence of the Vuka and Danube rivers. All would pass by on the way to Budapest and Vienna upstream and Romania downstream.

This evening you may like to enjoy a discovery **walking tour** through Vukovar where you will see the city center and the historic and important buildings including the new water tower, the church of St. Philip and Jacob, the white marble stone cross memorial, the old water tower, the historical Hotel Grand, the Town Hall, and the birth house of the first Croatian Nobel prize winner Leopold Ružicka – **optional tour***.

Thursday, 19 September 2024
Mohacs - Kalocsa

B-L-D

This morning take some time to relax on deck or perhaps venture out on the **walking tour** of the tiny harbor town of **Mohács**, a melting pot of nations – **optional tour***.

This afternoon you may like to join the **Tradition of the Hungarian Puszta** excursion to enjoy the scenery of the endless plain, where the sky stretches into the horizon – **optional tour***.

The ship docks this evening in Kalocsa to meet those on the excursion.



Friday, 20 September 2024
Budapest

B-L-D

Very early this morning we dock in **Budapest**, the capital and largest city of Hungary. Budapest, the “Queen of the Danube”, is one of the most beautiful cities in the world and has managed to retain a charm of its own with the help of renovations in recent years. The Danube flows through the heart of the city, dividing it into two parts: Buda and Pest.

This morning's tour first takes us through **Pest**, past the **Great Market Hall** with its outstanding gourmet shops and stalls. We will see splendid Baroque buildings such as the **Hungarian State Opera** in Neo-Renaissance style and the incomparable parliament building, which was finished in 1904 and has been an emblem of the city ever since then.

There's an opportunity for a photo stop at the **Heroes' Square**, famous for its monuments to many Hungarian kings. Continue across one of the seven bridges into **Buda** and go up to **Castle Hill**, where you will visit **St. Matthew's Church**.

Duration - approx. 3.5 hours

Walking Grade - Level 2: The excursion by bus is followed by a moderate walk. You may need to climb some stairs.

In the afternoon our spirited excursion begins with a visit to the **Market Hall**. Built in 1896, this impressive building is the oldest and largest indoor market in Budapest and offers a variety of Hungarian specialties such as tokaj wine, langos and Hungarian paprika. Next, we continue by bus to the **City Park**, where we see the romantic **Vajdahunyad Castle** and the beautiful **Széchenyi Baths** - one of the largest and most popular thermal baths in Europe.

Afterwards, ride the second oldest metro in Europe to the city center and visit one of Budapest's numerous pastry shops, where you can enjoy a slice of fluffy cake and a cup of coffee, and finally view the astonishing **St. Stephen's Basilica**.

Duration - approx. 3 hours

Walking Grade - Level 3: The excursion by bus is followed by a longer walk. You may need to climb several stairs.

A special treat this evening awaits, as musicians come onboard to entertain with traditional music of Hungary, as the vessel cruises the Danube to see this beautiful city by night.

Saturday, 21 September 2024
Bratislava

B-L-D

Discover the Slovak capital of **Bratislava** this afternoon on a **city tour**. During this tour get to know the capital of the young Slovakian Republic. This gorgeous old town has maintained its **Gothic-Baroque** style.

The tour passes **St. Martin's Cathedral** and the **Grassalkovich Palace** and continues up to the hill, where we will have a stunning, panoramic view of the city and surrounding areas. Afterwards, you have the opportunity to participate in a guided walking tour through the restored old town.



From **Michael's Gate** take a leisurely stroll through the historic city center, where you can admire sights such as the **Primateal Palace** and **St. Martin's Cathedral**, a former coronation cathedral for Hungarian kings, as well as the Academia Istropolitana, the oldest university of the city, which dates back to the 15th century. In addition to numerous palaces, you will also walk past the main square with the old **City Hall**, the **Opera House** and **Maximilian Fountain**.

Duration - approx. 3 hours

Walking grade - Level 2: The excursion by bus is followed by a moderate walk. You may need to climb some stairs.

Sunday, 22 September 2024
Durnstein – Wachau Valley

B-L-D

This morning arrive in **Dürnstein**, a tiny village surrounded by vineyards, which serves as a jumping off point for our tour to **Winzer Krems vineyard and winery** in **The Wachau Valley**, the heart of the Austrian wine region.

The Krems winery unites 980 vineyards from Krems and the surrounding wine-growing villages. Embark on a journey through the variations of the noble grape and peak behind the scenes of the wine growing industry. Taste different wines of the region before returning to the ship.

Duration - approx. 3 hours

Walking grade - Level 5: Considerable walk with long distances. This may include uneven surfaces and some stairs.

If you have chosen to stay on the ship, during the day the vessel winds its way through picture perfect scenery in the UNESCO protected Wachau Valley. Rich fields of vineyards line the shores with pretty houses dotting the landscape.

This afternoon with all travellers safely back onboard, the vessel cruises toward the port where this magnificent voyage began.

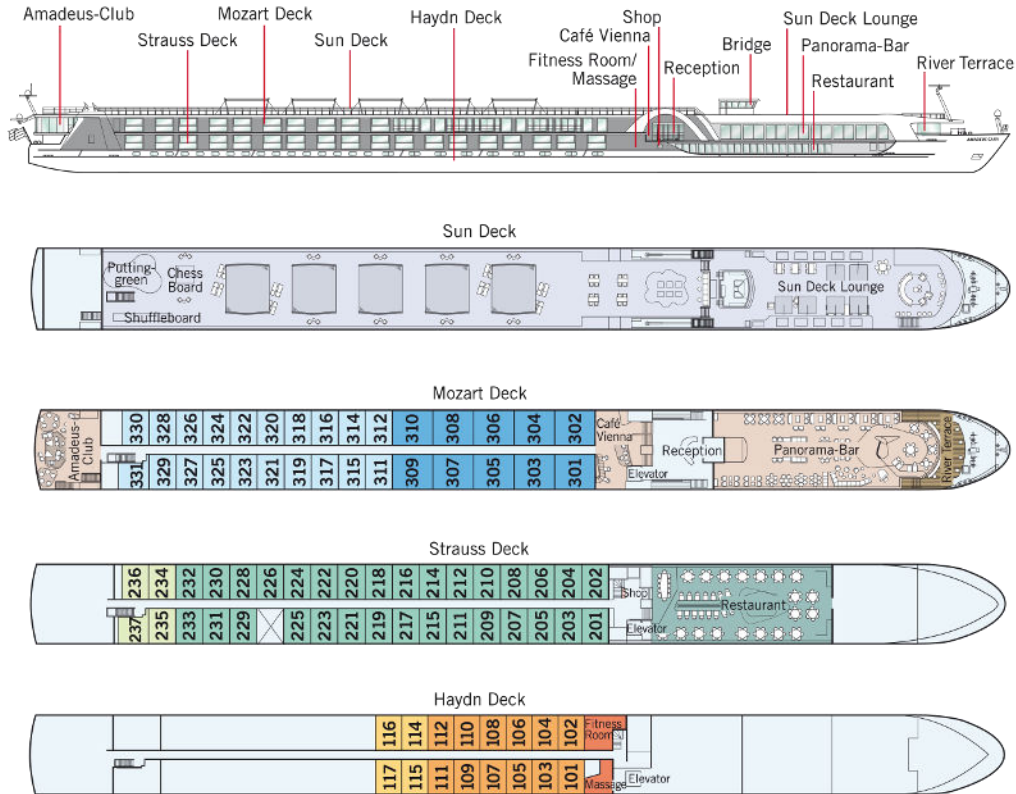
Enjoy the **Captain's Gala Dinner** onboard this evening.

Monday, 23 – Wednesday, 25 September 2024
Passau – Munich – Brisbane via Singapore

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After breakfast, we bid the ship farewell and are transferred to Munich for our return flights to Brisbane.

Ship Deck Plan



Cabin Category

- **Stateroom A-1 \$20,821* pp**
- **Stateroom B-1 \$19,131* pp**
- **Stateroom B-4 \$17,951* pp**
- **Stateroom C-1 \$15,960* pp**

The 5-star-vessel AMADEUS Cara, entered service in 2022, once again making the AMADEUS fleet one of the youngest and most modern river cruise fleets in Europe. The new ship offers space for 162 guests on a length of 135 meters. In addition to the Panorama Restaurant, the Panorama Bar and Lounge, the "Café Vienna", the Amadeus Club, the open-air "River Terrace" lounge and a fitness and massage room each, guests can expect an inviting, newly designed sun deck with a lower sun deck lounge. The very spacious interior concept is based on the multiple award-winning design of the AMADEUS Silver series, which allows for the highest level of living comfort: the staterooms on the Strauss and Mozart decks feature panoramic drop-down windows.



Optional Excursions

Vukovar Evening Walking Tour – EURO 33

Enjoy a discovery walking tour through Vukovar where you will see the city center and the historic and important buildings including the new water tower, the church of St. Philip and Jacob, the white marble stone cross memorial, the old water tower, the historical Hotel Grand, the Town Hall, and the birth house of the first Croatian Nobel prize winner Leopold Ružicka. At the end of the tour you will have some free time to explore the city before returning to the ship.

Duration - approx. 2 hours

Walking grade - Level 5: Considerable walk with long distances. This may include uneven surfaces and some stairs.

Visit to a 700 years old mill with Oven Pie Tasting – EURO 55

The water mill monument in Mohács is one of the few of its kind where grinding is still carried out by means of millstones. A variety of tools can be tried out, showing the development of grain processing from prehistoric to modern times. An extraordinary sight at the mill building is the treadmill machinery driven by human power, which is unique in the whole world. At the end of the tour you will have the opportunity to taste one of the typical pies of the country before your bus will take you back to the ship.

Duration - approx. 3.5 hours

Walking grade - Level 2: The excursion by bus is followed by a moderate walk. You may need to climb some stairs.

Traditions of the Hungarian Puszta – EURO 78

After departing the harbour we drive out of Budapest. We will have the chance to see the landscape of the country side with some villages and cultivated areas, while our guide gives us information on present day life in Hungary. Upon arrival, you will be welcomed with typical regional specialties such as Palinka (apricot schnapps) and Pogácsa, which is served as an aperitif together with salty snacks. Afterwards, you can admire the fantastic relationship between Hungarian horsemen and their horses during a horse show. If you would like to ride a horse without saddle, you will have the chance after the show. You are also invited for a tasting of Hungarian salami and paprika and to enjoy a glass of local wine in the Csárda restaurant of the farm. At the end of the tour our coach will bring us back to the vessel.

Duration - approx. 3.5 hours

Walking grade - Level 2: The excursion by bus is followed by a moderate walk. You may need to climb some stairs.