

# Orchard View Travelers presents...

## Christmas on the Danube

*featuring a 6-night Danube River Cruise*

with optional 2-Night Magical Christmas Markets of Prague Post Tour Extension  
For Reservations Call 231-760-1376



### *Highlights...*

Würzburg • Rothenburg • Nuremberg •  
Regensburg • Passau • Wachau Valley • Glühwein  
Party • Vienna • Hofburg Palace • Vienna Opera  
House • Christmas Markets

**9 Days • 19 Meals: 7 Breakfasts • 5 Lunches • 7 Dinners**

#### **COLLETTE EXPERIENCES**

- ★ Browse in the famous Christmas markets along the Danube.
- ★ Join a local expert as you explore Würzburg, Nuremberg, Regensburg and Vienna.
- ★ Explore the 900-year-old Benedictine Melk Abbey.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Welcome the winter season with a timeless trip down the Danube River. Your holiday tour begins with an overnight flight to Europe.

#### **Day 2: Würzburg or Schweinfurt, Germany - Tour Begins**

Your tour opens in historic Bavaria, in a town along the banks of the Main River. Enjoy the remainder of the day to relax and soak in the charms of Franconia. Meet your fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner. *Today dinner will be included.*

#### **Day 3: Würzburg/Schweinfurt - Rothenburg - Nuremberg - Board Cruise Ship**

This morning, join a local guide on a leisurely paced walking tour of Würzburg, known as "the jewel of the Main River." Würzburg is an ancient Franconian wine town rich in historic sites, including the magnificent 18th-century residence of the Prince-Bishops which boasts the largest ceiling fresco in the world, and the ornate Alte Mainbrücke, the oldest bridge on the River Main. **Proceed to lovely Rothenburg**, one of the most well-preserved medieval walled towns in all of Germany. Enjoy free time to

explore the town's hidden treasures and its charming Christmas market, plus the chance to meet the locals during a Christmas ornament-making demonstration. Late afternoon you arrive in Nuremberg to meet your cruise ship. Unpack once for a relaxing 6-night Danube River cruise aboard your lovely ship. This beautiful vessel offers the newest technology; a panoramic deck terrace café; panorama salon and bar; excellent cuisine including unlimited wine, beer and soft drinks with all dinners; and outstanding service. This evening, enjoy a special dinner onboard. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

#### **Day 4: Nuremberg**

**A local expert provides an interesting city tour of historic Nuremberg** featuring Old Town, the 900-year-old ramparts that surround the city, and the Imperial Castle. Your city tour concludes with a visit to Nuremberg's Christmas market, Germany's most famous and oldest, dating back to 1628. Nuremberg is a toy-making center and you will have the opportunity to shop for traditional handcrafted nutcrackers and sample its famous Lebkuchen (gingerbread). Later, your cruise continues across the continental divide and through the final stretch of the fascinating Main-Danube Canal to Regensburg. *Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.*

#### **Day 5: Regensburg**

**A guided walking tour of magnificent Regensburg reveals one of Germany's best-preserved medieval cities** with nearly 1,400 historic buildings. Some of the architectural highlights you

may view include the first stone bridge built over the Danube, a 1,400-foot-long span built in the 12th century; the old Town Hall; and the Porta Praetoria, one of only two remaining Roman gates in Germany, built in A.D. 179. This afternoon, take a stroll through Old Town to Regensburg's charming Christmas market and marvel at the festive lights and decorations. Browse and shop at the brightly lit wooden huts that sell Christmas tree ornaments, wooden toys and local handicrafts. Late evening, your ship departs for Passau. *Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.*

**Day 6: Passau**

Amid the early morning light, cruise past scenic valleys and charming riverside towns to Passau, situated at the confluence of the Danube, Inn and Ilz rivers. Enjoy a leisurely paced walking tour of this 2,000-year-old fairy-tale city, exploring the ornate Baroque architecture, the quaint cobblestone streets, St. Stephen's Cathedral – home to Europe's largest church organ – and the charming Christmas market. Then, enjoy free time to explore the town on your own. *Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.*

**Day 7: Wachau Valley, Austria - Emmersdorf - Durnstein - Vienna**

View the picturesque landscapes as you cruise to the charming town of Emmersdorf. Relax and enjoy the surrounding scenery before joining an excursion to the nearby town of Durnstein and the 900-year-old Benedictine Melk Abbey, one of Europe's largest Baroque monasteries. Next, **enjoy a Glühwein Party**

before returning to the ship. This afternoon you **continue cruising through the romantic Wachau Valley**, dotted with magnificent castles and small riverside towns. You arrive in Vienna, Austria's beautiful capital city, in the early evening. After dinner you may choose to join an optional excursion in the imperial city to experience the magic of Vienna by night and visit Vienna's most famous Christmas market, located in front of the "Rathaus" (City Hall). *Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.*

**Day 8: Vienna**

**Join a local expert exploring Vienna's Imperial architecture** including the lavish Hofburg Palace, the impressive Vienna Opera House, the majestic Ringstrasse, and the awe-inspiring St. Stephen's Cathedral. The afternoon is at leisure to explore Vienna's Baroque elegance, stroll along the Karntner Strasse, or sample some of Vienna's famous pastries. If you wish, you may join an optional excursion to the opulent Schönbrunn Palace, the summer retreat of the Hapsburg dynasty. A wonderful farewell evening of food, music and entertainment awaits you at the Captain's Gala Dinner. After a delightful dinner, the ship's orchestra provides a musical Christmas concert for your enjoyment. *Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.*

**Day 9: Vienna - Disembark Ship - Tour Ends**

After breakfast you disembark the ship as your tour comes to an end. *Today breakfast will be included.*

*Experience It!*

*Nuremberg*

**Christmas Market**

A Christmas market, also known as *Christkindlesmarkt*, is a street market associated with the celebration of Christmas during the four weeks of Advent. These markets originated in Germany, Austria and the Alsace. The history of Christmas markets goes back to the Middle Ages in the German-speaking part of Europe. The Nuremberg Christmas market, first held in 1628, is one of the oldest Christmas markets in the world. It attracts 2 million visitors annually and has over 250 wooden stalls offering traditional ornaments, gifts, handicrafts and fresh food. Generally held in the town square and adjacent pedestrian zones, accompanied by traditional singing and dancing, the market sells local food, drink and seasonal items from open-air stalls.

**YOUR ITINERARY AT A GLANCE**

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Day 2	Mercure Hotel Würzburg am Mainufer or Panorama Hotel
Days 3 – 8	<i>MS Amadeus Princess or Elegant</i> On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

**Please Note:**

- Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.
- Gratuities for cabin stewards, bus boys and waiters on board the ship are not included.
- Single accommodations are extremely limited. Triple and child accommodations are not available.
- Ports of call are subject to change based on pier availability and weather conditions.
- Coffee or tea is included at all meals. Wine, beer and soda are included with each dinner onboard the ship.

Cabins are available on lower (Hadyn), middle (Strauss) and upper (Mozart) decks. Please note that river cruises are smaller ships and only have a finite number of each cabin category available. Specific categories are available on a first come first served basis. Every effort will be made to accommodate your cabin choice at time of booking; however, if that cabin category is no longer available, the closest available category will be offered. Please inquire through our Client Care Center for any upgrade fees which will apply for different cabin categories. Suites are available (Amadeus Suites) on a very limited basis and are not available to guests traveling as singles.

Smart casual wear is recommended throughout the trip. For the welcome and farewell dinners, a dinner dress for the ladies and jacket and tie for the gentlemen is recommended. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended throughout the tour.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

This itinerary is subject to change due to unforeseen changes in water levels, delays at the locks and other circumstances that may arise along the waterways. These changes may include items being missed during

the tour; however, every effort will be made to substitute another attraction if possible.

Air passengers will arrive into Frankfurt, Germany airport and depart from Vienna, Austria airport. All transfers will depart from/return to these airports.

The cruise line reserves the right to charge a supplemental fuel charge. Should this charge be incurred, you will be notified in advance.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

An early morning departure from the cruise ship may be required due to air schedules to some U.S. and Canadian cities.

Embarkation on day 3 is after 4:00 p.m.; on day 9, disembarkation is normally at 9:00 a.m.

Due to tour scheduling, arrival flights must arrive prior to 4:00 p.m.

Return flights should not be booked prior to 10:00 a.m. on the last day of your tour.

This tour includes moderate physical activity. The itinerary blends some longer days with shorter days and more leisure time. Walking tours, as well as walking slightly longer distances, up stairs or on uneven walking surfaces should be expected.

## Extend Your Vacation With...

### Optional 3 Days 2-Night Magical Christmas Markets of Prague Post Tour Extension

Rate: \$599.00 USD per person, double, land only

2 Meals: 2 Breakfasts

#### Day 9: Vienna, Austria - Prague, Czech Republic

This morning you say goodbye to your cruise ship as you board your vehicle for a drive through the lovely European countryside. Your destination is Prague, the cultural capital of Bohemia. Upon arriving in Prague, you will be met by a local representative who will help orientate you to your hotel and the surrounding city sights.

#### Day 10: Prague

Your introduction to this fairy-tale city begins with a panoramic tour as you drive through the city and arrive at the amazing Hradcany Castle where you will stroll down the Golden Lane. Afterwards, enjoy your visit to the beautiful St. Vitus Cathedral as well as the lovely statue-lined Charles Bridge. Then your local guide will introduce you to the magical Christmas markets where you may sample sausages, sip mulled wine, and shop for ornaments. *Today breakfast will be included.*

#### Day 11: Prague - Tour Ends

Your tour ends this morning. *Today breakfast will be included.*

#### Please Note:

This extension is hosted by your Tour Manager who will provide all included services.

Extensions are subject to availability and applicable charges at time of request.

Due to additional airline costs, passengers departing from Prague for the extension program will be assessed an additional fee.

Visitors are required to have travel/health insurance to travel to the Czech Republic. The health insurance must cover medical services abroad. The **minimum coverage** of the insurance has to meet the Czech Republic standards for tourist travel. These standards can be found by contacting the Czech Republic Embassy in the US. If you have **purchased our Travel Protection Plan**, your coverage meets this requirement. If you opted not to purchase our travel protection, you will be required to have **proof of your own coverage** for the minimum insurance requirement applicable at the time of your travel to that country. We certainly encourage you to buy our comprehensive travel protection that not only covers this requirement; but also allows a full refund for cancellation any time up to the day prior to departure.

A minimum of 15 passengers is required for this extension to operate.

This extension requires average physical activity. You should be in good health, able to climb stairs and walk reasonable distances, possibly over uneven grounds and cobblestone streets.