

Danube River Cruise, Romania to Budapest

September 7 - 18, 2027



Iron Gate Gorge



Belogradchik Fortress



Budapest, Hungary



Veliko Târnovo, Bulgaria



Pécs, Hungary

Danube River Cruise

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Embark on an unforgettable voyage along the Danube River, beginning with sightseeing in Bucharest, Romania's vibrant capital, before boarding the luxurious Avalon Passion for a river cruise to include breathtaking landscapes of the Balkans, surreal rock formations of Belogradchik, the ancient archaeological site of Lepenski Vir, a cruise through the Iron Gates Gorge and guided tours of Belgrade and Osijek—ending in Budapest, Hungary's dazzling capital, where centuries of history unfold along the riverbanks.



Included Features

- Local transfers to/from the airport
- Roundtrip airfare from/to Minneapolis
- Superior first class hotel stays:
 - (1) Bucharest InterContinental Athenee Palace
 - (1) Budapest Marriott
- 8-Night River Cruise aboard the Avalon Passion
- Deluxe motor coach transportation
- Professional tour director & local guides
- All meals as listed
- Complimentary sparkling wine with breakfast, regional beer, wine and soft drinks with lunch and dinner
- Personalized headset system
- Complimentary bicycles onshore



Belogradchik Rocks



Ports You'll Visit

- Bucharest, Romania
- Oltenita, Romania
- Rousse, Bulgaria
- Veliko Târnovo, Bulgaria
- Arbanassi, Bulgaria
- Vidin, Bulgaria
- Iron Gates Gorge, Serbia
- Lepenski Vir, Serbia
- Belgrade, Serbia
- Novi Sad, Serbia
- Ilok & Vukovar, Croatia
- Mohács & Pécs, Hungary
- Budapest, Hungary

Extend your trip with an *optional two-night stay in Transylvania*, featuring an *exclusive evening dinner at Dracula's Bran Castle*. Details on back!



Cabin Categories

Cat E: \$7,969.00 per person, Indigo Deck Forward

Cat D: \$7,969.00 per person, Indigo Deck

Cat B: \$9,999.00 per person, Panorama Suite, Sapphire Deck Aft

Cat A: \$10,149.00 per person, Panorama Suite, Sapphire Deck Forward

Cat P: \$10,249.00 per person, Panorama Suite, Royal Deck

Cat S: \$12,399.00 per person, Royal Suite

Price is per person, based on double occupancy and subject to availability. Includes airfare.

Day to Day Itinerary

Sept 7-8: Flight to Bucharest, Romania

Board your overnight flight to Bucharest and awaken in Romania's dynamic capital—a city where grand boulevards and elegant architecture meet a lively modern spirit. Upon arrival, enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure to begin exploring this fascinating gateway to Eastern Europe.

Sept 9: Bucharest to Oltenita, Romania

Discover Romania's vibrant capital on a guided excursion through Bucharest, where centuries of history and modern energy converge. Visit Royal Palace Square, a landmark forever etched in history as the site of the 1989 revolution that ended Nicolae Ceausescu's rule. Admire wide boulevards, Belle Époque architecture, and poignant reminders of the city's dramatic past. Later, travel to Oltenita to board the luxurious Avalon Passion river ship and begin your evening cruise along the Danube toward Rousse. (B, D)

Sept 10: Rousse, Bulgaria | Excursions to Veliko Târnovo & Arbanassi, Bulgaria

Set out on a full-day guided tour to Veliko Târnovo, the former capital of Bulgaria and one of the country's most historic treasures. Perched high above the winding Yantra River, the city enchants with its dramatic stone houses cascading down the cliffs and its storied past as a hub of medieval culture and power. Trace history back to 4300 BC as you wander through one of Bulgaria's oldest settlements, then continue to the nearby village of Arbanassi. Here, admire beautifully preserved examples of 15th century Bulgarian Revival architecture, with ornate churches and traditional homes offering a glimpse into a bygone era. In the evening, return to your luxurious ship and begin your overnight cruise towards Vidin. If you do not wish to participate in the full-day excursion, stay on board and relax or join a guided tour of Rousse. (B, L, D)

Sept 11: Vidin, Bulgaria

Set out on a guided excursion to the western slopes of the Balkan Mountains to witness the breathtaking Belgradchik Rocks—otherworldly formations shaped over 200 million years by nature's hand. Alternatively, immerse yourself in Bulgarian's winemaking traditions with a tour and tasting at a historic family-owned vineyard. Later, explore the charming port town of Vidin on a guided sightseeing tour before returning to your ship. This evening, delight in an authentic Bulgarian folklore performance on board as you cruise overnight towards Donji Milanovac. (B, L, D)

Sept 12: Iron Gates Gorge, Serbia | Excursion to Lepenski Vir, Serbia

This morning, cruise through the breathtaking Iron Gates Gorge, a dramatic passage where the Danube carves its way between towering cliffs, marking the natural border of Serbia and Romania. After lunch on board, step back in time with a guided tour of Lepenski Vir, a fascinating Mesolithic archaeological site that reveals the art, culture, and daily life of Europe's earliest civilizations, all set against the stunning backdrop of the Danube Gorge. Continue your journey to the mighty Fortress of Golubač, one of Europe's best-preserved medieval strongholds, before rejoining your ship for an overnight cruise to Belgrade. (B, L, D)

Sept 13: Belgrade, Serbia

Discover Belgrade, one of Europe's oldest cities, dramatically set at the confluence of the Danube and Sava Rivers. With a local guide, explore the city's highlights, including the magnificent St. Sava Cathedral—the largest Orthodox church in the world. During your free time, wander through lively pedestrian streets lined with inviting cafes or stroll the leafy paths of Kalemegdan Park, which surrounds the city's iconic fortress. From its ancient walls, take in sweeping views over the rivers that have shaped this vibrant capital for centuries. (B, L, D)

Sept 14: Novi Sad, Serbia

Savor the sweet life in Serbia with a visit to Sremski Karlovci, where you'll enjoy a tasting at the Museum of Beekeeping and the renowned Živanović Wine Cellar. Alternatively, choose a guided tour of Novi Sad, Serbia's second-largest city, celebrated for its charming Austro-Hungarian old town, elegant baroque architecture and impressive fortress overlooking the Danube. This evening, continue your journey with an overnight cruise to Ilok. (B, L, D)

Sept 15: Ilok, Croatia to Vukovar, Croatia

Experience the best of Eastern Croatia with a choice of excursions in Ilok—pedal along the city walls and visit historic landmarks on a guided bike tour or delve into 1,000 years of winemaking tradition with a guided tour, complete with a tasting in a local cellar. After a leisurely lunchtime sailing, arrive in Vukovar, the heroic town on the Danube, where you can choose between a guided walking tour with a beer tasting or a classic stroll through the city's historic streets and bustling river port. Return on board for an evening of live entertainment as you set sail overnight for Mohács. (B, L, D)

Sept 16: Mohács, Hungary | Excursion to Pécs, Hungary

This morning, arrive in Mohács, Hungary and travel into Pécs. Established by the Romans in the 2nd century, this was a flourishing and important town for Christianity by the 4th century. These early Christians left behind many underground burial chambers with memorial chapels above ground. (B, L, D)

Sept 17: Budapest, Hungary City Tour

Conclude your journey with a final breakfast on board before exploring Budapest's rich history. See Heroes' Square as well as the massive hilltop castle complex with its remarkable Fishermen's Bastion and 11th-century Matthias Church, the coronation spot of several Hungarian monarchs. After checking into your overnight hotel your evening is free to visit the Chain Bridge, markets or stroll the Danube Promenade. (B)

Sept 18: Budapest, Hungary

Depart Hungary this morning for your return flight home with unforgettable memories of this unique old world area of the lower Danube River. (B)

(B) = Breakfast (L) = Lunch (D) = Dinner

Transylvania Add-On Castles & Culture

September 5 - 8, 2027

\$899.00 pp

Join us for a once-in-a-lifetime journey through the heart of Romania, culminating in a private evening at the iconic Bran Castle—widely known as Dracula's lair. This immersive experience blends history, folklore, and breathtaking scenery for an unforgettable adventure, featuring an exclusive evening at Dracula's Bran Castle!



Included Features

- (2) Kronwell Brasov Hotel
- Peles Castle & Cantacuzino Castle
- Old Town Sightseeing
- Bran Castle with Dracula's Dinner

Price is per person, based on double occupancy and is an add-on to the Danube River Cruise price. An additional \$100.00 deposit per person is required to confirm your pre-cruise reservation.

For More Information Contact:



Day to Day Itinerary

Sept 5-6: Flight to Bucharest, Romania

Board your overnight flight to Bucharest, and awaken in Romania's dynamic capital, a city where grand boulevards and elegant architecture meet a lively modern spirit. Upon arrival, enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure to begin discovering this fascinating gateway to Eastern Europe.

Sept 7: Bucharest, Sinaia & Brasov, Romania

Journey deep into the picturesque Carpathian Mountains, where your first stop is the charming town of Sinaia, home to the fairytale-like Peles Castle. This stunning Neo-Renaissance masterpiece, once a royal summer residence, dazzles with its ornate interiors and breathtaking mountain backdrop. Along the way, pause to explore the legendary Cantacuzino Castle, an architectural gem surrounded by spectacular alpine scenery, before savoring a traditional Romanian lunch at a local restaurant. Later this afternoon, continue to the medieval city of Brasov, where cobbled streets, colorful Baroque buildings, and the dramatic Carpathian peaks set the stage for an enchanting overnight stay at the Kronwell Brasov Hotel. (B, L)

Sept 8: Brasov, Romania

Begin your day with a guided sightseeing tour of Brasov, where you'll stroll through the medieval Old Town, admire the Black Church and discover the charming squares and colorful Saxon architecture that gives this Transylvanian gem its storybook atmosphere. Enjoy some free time to explore at your own pace before this evening's highlight—a visit to the legendary Bran Castle, forever linked with the Dracula legend. After exploring its dramatic towers and hidden passageways, savor a memorable dinner in this atmospheric setting. (B, D)

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