

Christmas on the Danube featuring a 6-Night Danube River Cruise



On a boat cruise along the Danube, explore charming Christmas markets and see Europe dressed in its holiday best. Discover Würzburg, an ancient Franconian wine town. Explore Nuremberg, home to one of the oldest and largest Christmas markets in the world. Float through the Wachau Valley, dotted with castles and hillside houses. Visit the 900-year-old Benedictine Melk Abbey, one of Europe's largest Baroque monasteries. Enjoy a Glühwein Party — a German holiday gathering with mulled wine. Join a local expert and explore historic Vienna. Relax as you are transported to beloved riverside towns and delve into local holiday traditions.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Würzburg, Rothenburg, Nuremberg, 6-Night Danube River Cruise, Regensburg, Passau, Choice on Tour: Passau City Walk or Veste Oberhaus Fortress, Wachau Valley, Glühwein Party, Vienna, Christmas Markets

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Dec. 3, 2025 — Overnight Flight

Welcome the winter season with a timeless trip down the Danube River. Board your cruise and relax as you are transported along beloved cities, where age-old culture is interwoven into seasonal specialties. Peruse handcrafted trinkets, traditional sweets, and infectious holiday cheer as you make your way through some of Europe's most renowned Christmas markets. Your holiday tour begins with an overnight flight to Germany.

DAY 2: Dec. 4, 2025 — Würzburg, Germany — Tour Begins

Start in a historic Bavarian town along the banks of the Main River. Enjoy time to unwind and soak in the charms of Franconia. Meet your fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner and toast to your upcoming adventure.

Meals Included: Dinner

DAY 3: Dec. 5, 2025 — Würzburg — Rothenburg — Nuremberg — Board Cruise Ship

Join a local guide on a leisurely paced walking tour of Würzburg, an ancient wine town. Your journey takes you to Rothenburg, a town of medieval walls, fairy-tale houses, and Christmas markets. Continue on to Nuremberg to board your ship. Your home for the next six nights, this vessel has modern amenities such as the newest technology, panoramic deck café, panorama salon and bar, exceptional service, and delicious cuisine and wine with every dinner. This evening, enjoy a special dinner onboard.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 4: Dec. 6, 2025 — Nuremberg

After walking along the pier to your coach, join a local expert on a panoramic tour that will give you a taste of the city. Then, continue with a walking tour of Nuremberg that will take you on a stroll through the historic city for more than an hour. See Old Town, the 900-year-old ramparts, and the Imperial Castle. Your city tour concludes at Nuremberg's 17th-century Christmas market, which is Germany's oldest. Wander along the local goods and perhaps you'll shop for handcrafted nutcrackers or treat your taste buds to Nuremberg's famous *Lebkuchen* (gingerbread). Spend the afternoon cruising across the continental divide and through the Main-Danube Canal to Regensburg.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5: Dec. 07, 2025 — Regensburg

With an expert guide, discover Regensburg, one of Germany's best-preserved medieval cities. See the first stone bridge built over the Danube and the Porta Praetoria — a Roman gate built in A.D. 179. 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 holding seasonal ornaments, wooden toys, and local handicrafts. Or perhaps you'll join an optional excursion and experience the beauty and magic of the romantic Christmas market at Thurn and Taxis Palace in Regensburg.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6: Dec. 08, 2025 — Passau

Amid the early morning light, cruise past scenic valleys and charming riverside towns to Passau, situated at the meeting point of the Danube, Inn, and Ilz rivers. This morning **it's your choice!** Enjoy a leisurely paced guided walking tour of Passau, the 2,000-year-old fairy-tale city also known as the "City of Three Rivers" and take in its ornate Baroque architecture, the cobblestone streets, and St. Stephen's Cathedral, home to Europe's largest church organ **OR** spend time at one of the largest preserved castle complexes in Europe, the Veste Oberhaus, perched high above the old town of Passau.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 7: Dec. 9, 2025 — Wachau Valley, Austria — Emmersdorf — Dürnstein — Vienna

Cruise to the quaint town of Emmersdorf. Relax and take in the scenery before visiting the cobblestone streets of Dürnstein and the 900-year-old Benedictine Melk Abbey. Enjoy some time dedicated to exploring this ancient town. Later, get a taste of local tradition at a Glühwein party before continuing through the Wachau Valley, dotted with

castles and hillside houses. As the day draws to a close, say hello to Vienna, Austria's capital city.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 8: Dec. 10, 2025 — Vienna

It is time to step off the ship and explore. After walking along the pier to reach your coach, join a local expert and explore Vienna's architecture, including Hofburg Palace, the Vienna Opera House, the Ringstrasse, and the awe-inspiring St. Stephen's Cathedral on a panoramic city tour. Then, discover Vienna on foot while walking through the city's charming cobblestone streets. (Use caution, as these cobblestones may become slick with frost.) The afternoon is yours. Perhaps you'll join an optional excursion to Schönbrunn Palace, the Habsburgs' summer retreat that shines a little differently in the magical winter months. Celebrate the end of your trip at the Captain's Gala Dinner, followed by a special Christmas concert performed by the ship's orchestra.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 9: Dec. 11, 2025 — Vienna — Disembark Ship — Tour Ends

Disembark after breakfast and say goodbye to the iconic Danube.

Meals Included: Breakfast

AVERAGE TEMPERATURES & WHAT TO PACK

Average Temperatures:

In December, Nuremberg, Germany, has an average temperature of 43°F, with a maximum of 52°F during the day and a minimum of 18°F at night. The average maximum temperature increases by 37% by the end of the month, from 34°F to 46°F.

What to pack:

Now that you have reviewed the luggage restrictions, it is time to think about what to pack. If you are taking prescription medication, please be sure to take an adequate supply for your tour and a few additional days in original prescription containers. Medication should be packed in your carry-on baggage. Do not place it in your checked luggage. You may want to carry an extra prescription in a separate bag in case medication is lost.

As you prepare to explore Germany and Austria, enjoy a casual dress style, and be sure to pack comfortable walking shoes!

As this tour runs in the wintertime, travelers should prepare for a range of temperatures.

You may want to pack layers of clothing that may be added or removed as the temperature changes.

Please bring a sweater and jacket to guard against the cold temperatures, along with a hat, gloves, and scarf.

In case of rain or snow, it is a good idea to pack an umbrella.

While on board the ship, the outside decks may be windy, so you may wish to pack a windbreaker.

While dress aboard the ship is casual, we recommend bringing a jacket & tie or a dress for the Welcome Dinner and the Captain's Gala Dinner.

Ships move under engine power, so all cabins will experience light engine noise when the ship is in motion. It is worthwhile to pack earplugs if you are a light sleeper.

You will have many opportunities to capture those unforgettable moments while on your trip. Do not forget to bring a camera, memory cards, film, and batteries, and be sure to bring enough photography supplies for your entire trip. If you have a video camera, bring an extra battery plus proper recharging equipment. Because of security screening, we recommend storing your equipment in your carry-on luggage.

Other helpful items to pack include a travel alarm clock, a travel sewing kit, and an alcohol-based gel hand sanitizer for when soap and water are inaccessible.

Pack items that may leak in plastic bags. Do not pack any articles of value in your checked luggage.

As a precaution, we suggest you divide your suitcase's contents with your traveling companion.

Avoid over-packing, and leave room for souvenirs that you plan to bring home.

TRIP DETAILS

- Dates: December 03-11, 2029
- Length of Trip: 9 Days •19 Meals
- Vendor: Collette 19 Meals
- [Book Now!](#)
- Call 800.581.8942 — Booking Number: #1215506