

Danube Bike & River Cruise: Nuremberg to Budapest

Pre-Trip-Extension - Prague Pre-Trip Extension

2 Nights from \$245 per person, double occupancy

- 2 nights at the Mamaison Riverside Hotel Prague
- Daily breakfast
- 3-day Prague Transportation Pass
- Airport and ship transfers
- City Information

Only available with the Air Inclusive Package.

DAY 1: Depart home / Fly overnight to Prague

Depart home for the Czech Republic. The particulars of your arrival overseas are detailed with your flight itinerary.

DAY 2: Arrive in Prague / Begin your trip extension

Upon arrival at the Prague airport, claim your luggage and clear customs. If your luggage is lost, fill out a PIR form before leaving the customs area—VBT representatives are not allowed in the customs area. Make certain your VBT luggage tags are affixed to your bag so your VBT representative can identify you as you enter the arrival hall. Your VBT representative will be holding a VBT sign and will help you transfer via taxi or van (approximately 30 minutes, depending on traffic) to your centrally located Prague hotel. If your VBT representative is not immediately in sight, there is a “Meeting Point Column” just outside of the Arrivals gate. Please wait there, as the VBT representative may be transferring with an earlier arrival. He or she should arrive within 30 minutes.

Your hotel room may not be available until after 2:00 p.m. If you arrive early, you may store your luggage with the reception desk. The rest of the day is free to relax or begin your exploration of the city with your included 3-day Prague Transportation Pass.

At the hotel, your VBT representative Barbora Zúkalová will be available to provide tips to help you get around, point you to restaurants and sites that suit your interest, and help you purchase tickets for some of Prague's many high-quality classical music venues. You may also book a walking tour of the city (at an additional cost of approximately €22-28 per person). Barbora's schedule varies and is dependent on group members' arrivals. Her actual schedule will be relayed to you upon your arrival at the hotel. If you wish, you may reach Barbora in advance by email at b.zukalova@volny.cz. to make guided tour reservations in Prague.

In addition, VBT provides you with City Information that includes information and recommendations on what to see and do during your stay in Prague.

Hotel: Mamaison Riverside Hotel Prague

DAY 3: Independent exploration of Prague

Explore Prague's unsurpassed culture and history. You may wish to visit Prague Castle, perched above the Vltava River across the Charles Bridge. Originally constructed during the ninth century, the castle has been expanded over its nearly 1,200 years from a wooden fortress surrounded by earthen bulwarks into an imposing citadel. Today, it anchors an entire district spread over 18 acres and is the largest ancient castle in the world, stretching some 1,870 feet long and 420 feet wide. Among its fascinating mix of architectural styles, the classical Baroque façade dates to the 18th-century reign of Maria Theresa. It's easy to spend a day among this fortress-like village of royal buildings and courtyards. Browse the art galleries at the Convent of St. George and at the Lobkovicz Palace and peer inside the stunning St. Vitus Cathedral.

Hotel: Mamaison Riverside Hotel Prague

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 4: Independent exploration of Prague

Perhaps you will visit the Jewish Quarter of Josefov, named after the Emperor Josef II, whose reforms

helped to ease living conditions there. Located in the Old Town, or Staré Mesto, the Jewish Quarter includes the remains of Prague's former Jewish ghetto. Since many Jewish people died during World War II or were forced by the Communist regime to leave the country, the current Jewish community in Prague numbers only 5,000 to 6,000 people.

First recorded as early as 1091, the Old Town is the oldest of Prague's quarters. Its center, the Old Town Square, is dominated by the Gothic-style Church of Our Lady Before Tyn, with its distinctive twin gables, and the Town Hall. You might also wish to explore the "New" Town, founded in the 14th century.

Hotel: Mamaison Riverside Hotel Prague

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 5:

Independent exploration of Prague / Transfer to Nuremberg

At 9:00 a.m., meet your VBT representative in the hotel lobby to transfer to Nuremberg, Germany (approximately 3.5 hours). You will stop just before the German border to stretch your legs and perhaps purchase a coffee or water. Arrive at the dock in Nuremberg at approximately 12:30 p.m. and board your Emerald Waterways ship.

Your cabin may not be ready for you until 3:00 p.m. However, you are welcome to enjoy lunch on board, served between 12:30 and 3:30 p.m., relax in the ship's common areas, take a walk, or enjoy the nearby beer garden. Unusually, Nuremberg's cruise dock is located four miles from the city's train station and downtown. Taxis and buses are available for those who would like to head into town to explore or enjoy a traditional German lunch of bratwurst and beer.

At 1:45 p.m., meet your trip leaders and fellow travelers on board for introductions and a safety and bike-fitting session, followed by a warm-up ride on a local bike path along the Main-Danube Canal. Later, enjoy a welcome dinner on board. The ship sails for Regensburg this evening.

Please note regarding WiFi on board the ship: Due to the nature of the ship movements, internet access is not always available. If stable internet access is critical to you, VBT recommends that you purchase your own bundle before traveling overseas.

Please note regarding Ride with GPS: There is limited WiFi on board. If you wish to use Ride with GPS on your smartphone, VBT also recommends that you download your VBT Maps & Route Notes from a WiFi zone prior to arrival on the boat. During your vacation, you will be able to follow these route notes on your smartphone with turn-by-turn voice navigation as you ride. As always, VBT also provides our traditional printed maps and route notes during the tour.

Hotel: MS Emerald Sky/Emerald Destiny/Emerald Dawn

Meals: Breakfast

Independent exploration of Prague / Transfer to Nuremberg

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Meals: Breakfast