



Christkindlmärkte of Austria & Germany

December 4, 2026 - December 12, 2026

Program Overview

Step into a living fairytale this Yuletide on a first-class, seven-night Danube River cruise from Nuremberg to Vienna. Drift through Europe's most enchanting Christmas landscapes as twinkling lights, spiced aromas and centuries-old traditions fill the air. Wander festive holiday markets in Vienna, Passau and Regensburg, where wooden stalls glow and carols echo through cobblestone streets. Marvel at the baroque splendor of Melk Abbey, and delight in hand-selected Traveler's Choice excursions showcasing iconic treasures like Schönbrunn Palace. Unpack just once aboard your exclusively chartered river ship and let the magic of the season come to you — storybook Christmas moments unfolding at every bend of the river.



Salzburg winter skyline



Schonbrunn palace, Vienna, Austria, Christmas



Gingerbread Christmas cookies

Program Highlights

- Cruise for 7 nights from Nuremberg, Germany, to Vienna, Austria, through the picturesque Wachau Valley aboard an exclusively chartered, first-class river boat.
- Traveler's Choice: Enjoy a Salzburg tour featuring its beautiful highlights and Christmas market, or a "Silent Night" tour to lovely Austrian towns connected to the song.
- Three UNESCO World Heritage sites: Old Town of Regensburg, Germany; Wachau Cultural Landscape, Austria; and Historic Center of Vienna, Austria.
- Included meals | 2 receptions, 7 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 7 dinners.
- Vienna Optional-Tour Extension. (Available at additional cost).



Day-by-Day Program Itinerary

- The Activity Level ratings indicate each excursion's physical expectations. To make the best personal choice, please evaluate each excursion's rating and your ability to meet the tour's physical demands.

Mild excursions involve:

- Walking for 1.5 hours or more over uneven terrain
- Walking on challenging surfaces: cobblestones, uneven paths and/or pavements
- Climbing stairs and hills and crossing rail tracks
- Ascending and descending narrow (and sometimes steep) gangplanks
- Stepping on and off motorcoaches with 3-6 steep steps

Moderate excursions could involve the above, plus:

- Walking for 3 hours for distances of a mile or more
- Walking on uneven terrain: narrow cobblestone streets, stone floors, and/or slippery surfaces. There may be several flights of stairs, some without railings

Active excursions could involve the above, plus:

- Walking on uneven terrain: sandy or rocky beaches and/or steep inclines
- Standing for 2 hours or more at a time, possibly without areas to sit
- Climbing 100 stairs or more
- Additional challenges, such as long jeep rides, bumpy boat rides or hikes

- Depending on the excursion, more leisurely alternatives to active excursions may be available.

Day 1 | Depart Home City

Depart for Nuremberg, Germany.

Day 2 | Nuremberg, Germany/Embark

Arrive at Nuremberg Airport. Transfer with the group to embark the Amadeus Imperial. Join your fellow passengers for the Captain's Welcome Reception this evening, followed by dinner on board.

Day 3 | Nuremberg, Germany

Home to Europe's first printing press, Nuremberg is often associated with expansions in science and technology. Ancient city walls from the 14th and 15th centuries lead to an array of medieval gates and towers.

Your walking tour begins in Nuremberg's old town, where you can see the original city walls and visit the castle complex. Admire the medieval, Gothic-style St. Lawrence Church, damaged during World War II and later masterfully restored. In the Hauptmarkt, or market square, see the Frauenkirche Gothic church, and the Schöner Brunnen fountain before returning to the boat for lunch on board.

Return to the city for an afternoon at leisure to explore the Nuremberg Christkindlesmarkt, one of the oldest holiday markets in the world. In addition to Old World Christmas decorations, the market is renowned for preserving Nuremberg's famous Rostbratwurst and Lebkuchen, a 17th-century gingerbread recipe. Enjoy dinner back on board as the ship sails to Regensburg.

Day 4 | Regensburg, Germany

Regensburg is our next port of call. Once a booming merchant city, Regensburg today is dotted with impressive Roman ruins, Gothic, Romanesque and Baroque churches, and colorful houses from the 12th and 13th centuries. Enjoy breakfast, lunch and time at leisure on board. Regensburg Walking Tour. Designated a UNESCO World Heritage site for its many bridges, cathedrals and squares, the city of Regensburg has a history that spans more than 2,000 years. Its old town center was once the site of a Roman stronghold, reflected in remnants of walls that remain to this day. Even though it suffered repeated bombing during World War II, most of its medieval structures survived. Take a stroll back in time during a walking tour through Regensburg. Festooned with pine boughs and sparkling lights, the city features four enchanting Christmas markets — each purveying distinctive handmade pottery, carved figures and Bavarian delicacies.

Gather with friends tonight for a delicious dinner and conversation.

Day 5 | Passau, Germany

Arrive in Passau, nestled at the confluence of the Danube, Ilz and Inn rivers. Picturesque Passau has been called "one of the most beautifully situated towns in the world." Passau. In the heart of old town, step into St. Stephen's Cathedral, famous for its Baroque architecture and the world's largest cathedral organ, with 17,974 pipes and 233 registers, creating a majestic sound. This has been the cathedral's site since the 8th century, with the current structure completed in 1688. The breathtaking baroque interior features elegant white and gold stucco adornments

and ornate ceiling frescoes depicting biblical scenes in stunning detail. Return to the boat for lunch on board.

After lunch, savor the aromas of Christmas as you explore the Passau Christkindlmarkt. Shop the stalls and taste the gingerbread and other aromatic treats with the splendor of the city all around.

As we depart Passau, relax in your cabin or find your favorite chair out on the deck before enjoying dinner on board this evening.

Day 6 | Linz/Salzburg/Linz

Arrive in Linz, Austria. Disembark after breakfast for your selected full-day excursion.

Traveler's Choice | Choose one of the following included excursions. **Salzburg City Tour.** Enjoy the scenery on a drive from Linz to Salzburg. This UNESCO World Heritage-inscribed city flourished from the Middle Ages through the 19th century as the center of art and culture — attracting artists and architects from throughout Europe with styles that ranged from Gothic to baroque. Begin your discovery of this legendary city with a walking tour of its historic center and old town. See St. Peter's Cemetery, the Residenz Palace and Festival Halls before strolling along the 12th-century Getreidegasse shopping boulevard. Walk past Mozart's birthplace at Getreidegasse No. 9 before arriving at the Mirabell Castle Cathedral for a Mozart string quartet concert. After the concert, continue past the majestic Dom Cathedral for a visit to the traditional Salzburg Christkindlmarkt on Dom and Residenzplatz Square, one of the world's oldest Advent markets. Enjoy a lunch of local specialties for lunch before visiting the 11th-century Fortress of Hohensalzburg, the largest, fully preserved fortress in central Europe.

Linz Walking Tour. Step off the ship and discover the charming city of Linz on foot. Your tour will begin with a visit to the Mozart House, followed by the historic Landhaus. Next, you'll admire the impressive Neuer Dom, the largest church in Austria, where you'll also find one of the country's most elaborate Nativity scenes. Take a break at a local café to sample the famous Linzer Torte, a beloved regional treat. The tour concludes at the festive Christmas Market, where you'll have time to soak in the seasonal atmosphere. Afterwards, return to the ship for lunch and enjoy a relaxing, free afternoon to explore Linz at your own pace.

Return to the ship for dinner on board this evening.

Day 7 | Emmersdorf/Melk/Dürnstein

After breakfast, visit the former site of an ancient Roman garrison and a legendary abbey, built high atop the town with views over the lower Alps and the Danube below.

Encounter this 900-year-old Benedictine abbey complex, a landmark that includes remnants of an 11th-century castle where Austria's Babenberg rulers once lived and a baroque-style façade built in the 18th century. The abbey's elaborate cloister has been ruined and rebuilt over the centuries and contains such artistic treasures as original frescoes, statuary and medieval manuscripts.

Return to the boat for lunch on board as we cruise to the picturesque Austrian town of Dürnstein, nestled in the heartland of UNESCO-inscribed Wachau Valley's wine country. Tiny and charming, Dürnstein is most famous for its

Künringer Castle, where England's King Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned on his way back from the Third Crusade. Your walking tour begins at the Dürnstein Abbey, which began in 1372 as a small chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Look above to view the ruins of Künringer Castle, situated high on a hill, before enjoying a short organ recital at the cathedral in Dürnstein.

Once you're back on board, you can enjoy dinner of local cuisine, after which you can relax under the nighttime sky.

Day 8 | Vienna, Austria

Linger over a satisfying breakfast on board, then venture out for an insightful tour of Vienna. From its ancient origins as the site of Celtic and Roman settlements, medieval Vienna was at the epicenter of the Baroque movement. In addition to ushering in the golden age of Viennese classical music, Austria's capital city is home to stunning architecture and splendid gardens. The UNESCO World Heritage-designated historic city center features baroque castles and the impressive late 19th-century Ringstrasse, lined with landmark monuments and parks.

Vienna City Tour. This panoramic excursion passes the magnificent Vienna State Opera House, which opened in 1869 with Mozart's "Don Juan" to an audience that included Emperor Franz Joseph and Empress Elisabeth. It is today considered one of the most important opera houses in the world. From there, witness the Austrian Parliament; the 19th-century Burgtheater (known locally as "The Burg"); the historical Vienna City Hall; and several unique Catholic church buildings — culminating with the spectacular St. Stephen's Cathedral. Admire the Gothic beauty of St. Stephen's, or Stephansdom, a structure that represents eight centuries of architectural history on your way to visit the Spanish Riding School. (Moderate) Spanish Riding School. Visit the magnificent riding hall of the Spanish Riding School, an institution that demands the Renaissance tradition of classical dressage. Watch a training practice by the world-famous white Lipizzan stallions. These equines are famous for their classic physique and grace and are recognized as Europe's oldest cultural horse breed, a cross between Spanish, Arabian and Berber horses. (Moderate) Enjoy lunch on your own. Perhaps try experiencing Viennese coffee house culture, an integral part of the Viennese lifestyle. Pair your coffee with a slice of Sacher torte, a decadent chocolate sponge cake made with layers of apricot jam and a chocolate ganache topping! Traditionally served with whipped cream, the recipe is a closely guarded secret!

Traveler's Choice | Choose one of the following included excursions.

Schönbrunn Palace.>/b> Recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage site, the baroque Schönbrunn Palace was originally commissioned by Emperor Leopold I at the end of the 17th century as an imperial hunting lodge. By the end of the 18th century, the chateau grew into the palatial imperial residence you will see today. Gain insight into the Austrian empire and its extravagant Hapsburg rulers as you stroll through these lavish hallways and enjoy leisure time in the palace park.

Christkindlmarkt of ViennaPeruse Vienna's most famous ! Held on the square front of Vienna's City Hall, the Wiener Christkindlmarkt is surrounded by Vienna's largest display of holiday lights, decorations and the remarkable Rathaus Christmas Tree with a large nativity scene at its foot. The lively atmosphere is comprised of a variety of incredible market stalls, including endless food options featuring traditional seasonal cuisine.

Return to the boat for a special a cappella performance by Alpine carolers. Tap your toes during some delightful Christmas music.

Join your fellow passengers for the Captain's Farewell Reception this evening, followed by dinner on board with views of Nuremberg at night.

Day 9 | Vienna/Disembark/Return to Home City

Following breakfast, disembark and transfer to Vienna Airport for your return flight home.

Travel Expert

Kristina von Trapp Frame | Featured Guest Speaker

Kristina von Trapp Frame serves as the Executive Vice President of the Trapp Family Lodge in Stowe, Vermont, a 2,600-acre resort founded by her family. As a granddaughter of Maria and Captain von Trapp, Kristina grew up immersed in the family legacy celebrated by the iconic film "The Sound of Music." Alongside her husband Walter, she manages the lodge, focusing on outdoor activities such as trail running and cross-country skiing, as well as overseeing guest programs that share the von Trapp family history.



Accommodations

Luftner Cruises - Amadeus Imperial - 2026

The stylish 84-cabin MS Amadeus Imperial, evocative of a grand European hotel, is part of the elegant Amadeus fleet. Step aboard and embark on a cruise where your comfort and enjoyment are the highest priority. The crew is dedicated to taking care of each traveler with renowned Austrian hospitality. In addition to attentive, friendly service, the Amadeus Imperial has a distinctly timeless ambience. From the beautifully appointed surroundings to gourmet dining to generous and comfortable public spaces, your floating luxury hotel provides a stress-free stay while showcasing Europe's most stunning rivers.

All suites and staterooms are river-view and feature: en-suite bathroom; sitting area; individual climate control; direct dial telephone; flat-screen TV; hair dryer; in-room safe; 2 twin beds convertible to one queen.



Dates & Rates

Travel Dates: December 4, 2026 - December 12, 2026

All rates are in U.S. dollars per person, based on double occupancy, unless otherwise stated, and include taxes. The deposit is \$1,500 per person. The Final Payment is due at least 120 days prior to departure. Single accommodations are subject to availability.

The Optional Extension(s) is available at an additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

For Terms & Conditions, visit: miss.gohagantravel.com/terms/

Double Occupancy Rates

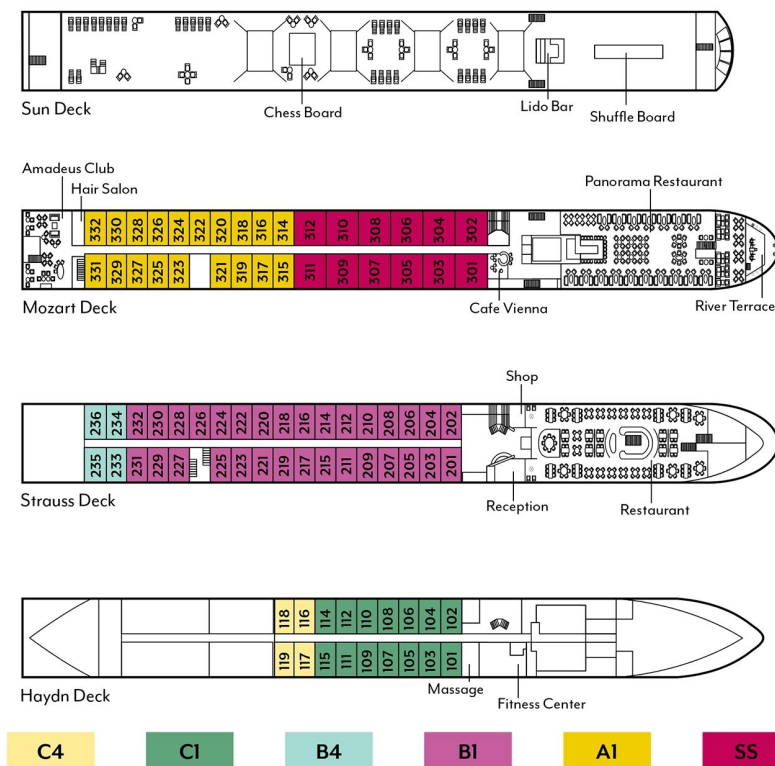
Category	Description	Standard Rate
C4	Stateroom with panoramic window (cannot be opened); spacious wardrobe. 172 sq ft Haydn Deck, mid.	\$3995.00
C1	Stateroom with panoramic window (cannot be opened); spacious wardrobe. 172 sq ft Haydn Deck, mid.	\$4395.00
B4	Stateroom with French balcony; drop-down panoramic window; walk-in closet. 188 sq ft Strauss Deck, aft.	\$4995.00
B1	Stateroom with French balcony; drop-down panoramic window; walk-in closet. 188 sq ft Strauss Deck, mid/aft.	\$5195.00
A1	Stateroom with French balcony; drop-down panoramic window; walk-in closet. 188 sq ft Mozart Deck, aft.	\$5695.00
Suite	Suite with walk-out private balcony; walk-in closet; corner sofa; bathrobes. 284 sq ft Mozart Deck, mid.	\$5995.00

Single Occupancy Rates

Category	Description	Standard Rate
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C1	Stateroom with panoramic window (cannot be opened); spacious wardrobe. 172 sq ft Haydn Deck, mid.	\$5383.00
B4	Stateroom with French balcony; drop-down panoramic window; walk-in closet. 188 sq ft Strauss Deck, aft.	\$6133.00
B1	Stateroom with French balcony; drop-down panoramic window; walk-in closet. 188 sq ft Strauss Deck, mid/aft.	\$6383.00
C4	Stateroom with panoramic window (cannot be opened); spacious wardrobe. 172 sq ft Haydn Deck, mid.	\$7545.00
A1	Stateroom with French balcony; drop-down panoramic window; walk-in closet. 188 sq ft Mozart Deck, aft.	\$10945.00
Suite	Suite with walk-out private balcony; walk-in closet; corner sofa; bathrobes. 284 sq ft Mozart Deck, mid.	\$11545.00

Luftner Cruises - Amadeus Imperial - 2026



Vienna Optional Post-Tour Extension

Discover layers of history and vibrant holiday traditions in Austria's capital city, renowned for its baroque architecture and walkable city center. Marvel at the ornate Hofburg Palace, the former winter residence of the Habsburgs, on a tour, and view masterpieces by prominent Austrian artists including Gustav Klimt at the Belvedere Palace. Listen to Mozart's exquisite music at Sala Terrena, Vienna's oldest concert hall, and relish the good cheer that abounds at the Christmas market in Rathausplatz. Enjoy accommodations for two nights at the InterContinental Vienna.



Optional Extensions are available at an additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

All information is accurate as of September 20, 2026. For up-to-date details, please visit:
miss.gohagantravel.com/programs/christkindlmarkte-along-the-danube-river-2026-clone-2