

11 Days

ENCHANTING CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S

S.S. MARIA THERESA

From: **\$5,199** per person

"It was magical." – *Trudie*

UNIQUELY UNIWORLD

- **Exclusive Experience** sparkling wine reception at Artstetten Castle with a member of the Habsburg royal family.
- Attend Christmas Eve Mass at Passau Cathedral.
- Wander around the famous Melk Abbey and its medieval library.
- Enjoy a **Masterpiece Collection** Puppet Theater performance at Schönbrunn Palace.
- Attend an exclusive **Morning with the Masters** at the Vienna Art History Museum.
- Sip Champagne in Budapest's countryside on a **Masterpiece Collection** excursion.

DAY 1: PASSAU (EMBARK) 🚢 ⚡ D

Arrive at Munich Airport. If your cruise package includes a group arrival transfer, or if you have purchased a private arrival transfer, you will be greeted by a Uniworld representative and transferred to the ship docked in Passau.

DAY 2: PASSAU 🚢 BB L WD

Old-town Passau is built on a spit of land that looks almost like a ship with its narrow prow jutting into the water, a fitting shape for a city that has been an important center of river trade since it was founded by the ancient Romans. Today a local expert shows you the highlights of this delightful and accessible town located at the confluence of three rivers—the Danube, Inn and Ilz.

Featured Excursion: Passau walking discovery tour with Christmas Market.

After Hours: This evening, you'll have the opportunity to attend a Christmas Eve Mass and organ concert at Passau Cathedral.

DAY 3: LINZ (SALZBURG AND OBERNDORF) 🚢 BB L D

Mozart's birthplace, Salzburg, is nestled in a glorious alpine setting that sparkles like a winter wonderland. Fans of "The Sound of Music" may recognize locations from the Oscar-winning film in the city's Old Town, the site of a grand cathedral and a wonderful Christmas Market. You'll also visit the nearby town of Oberndorf, where the world's most beloved Christmas carol was composed and performed for the first time. Your ship docks in Linz today. From there, you'll travel to the alpine cities of Salzburg and Oberndorf for a delightful full-day excursion.

Featured Excursion: Full-day Salzburg and Oberndorf.

DAY 4: LINZ ▶ GREIN 🚢 BB L D

Your diary entry for today will say "Cocktails with the princess at the castle." Raise a glass with a bona fide member of Austrian royalty at her 13th-century home, Artstetten Castle, and hear some intriguing tales about her Habsburg ancestors. Also on the agenda—a walk through charming Grein and a peek inside Austria's oldest theater.

Featured Excursions: Choice of Grein walking tour and oldest Austrian theater or exclusive sparkling wine reception at Artstetten Castle with a member of the Habsburg royal family.

Evening Entertainment: Get ready for a night of dancing with an onboard dance band.

DAY 5: GREIN ▶ MELK ▶ DÜRNSTEIN 🚢 BB L D

Melk Abbey has an unexpectedly opulent library filled not only with rare and precious books but

also secret doors and optical illusions. After your visit, cruise the Wachau Valley to the tiny village of Dürnstein, where you can browse the shops selling apricot schnapps, hike up to the ruins of a castle, taste mulled wine and attend an organ concert at a local church. Your river adventure today takes you through one of the most beautiful regions in Austria, bookended by two picturesque and historic towns, Melk and Dürnstein.

Featured Excursions: Choice of Melk Abbey with library visit or Dürnstein village stroll with exclusive spiced wine tasting and organ concert in a monastery church.

Back Onboard: Later today, you'll cruise the gorgeous Wachau Valley to the tiny village of Dürnstein.

DAY 6: DÜRNSTEIN ▶ VIENNA 🚢 BB L D

Renowned for its art and architecture, its classical music, its decadent pastries and its lengthy list of famous former residents, the refined city of Vienna is a cultural treasure trove. Experience the city with your choice of tours, followed by an evening concert of Mozart and Strauss, performed at a 12th-century monastery.

Featured Excursions: Vienna—Imperial City highlights or "Taste of Christmas" Vienna walking tour and exclusive Mozart and Strauss concert at Klosterneuburg.

DAY 7: VIENNA 🚢 BB L D

An extremely rare treat awaits you today—early-morning VIP access to an extraordinary collection of artwork at one of the top fine arts museums on the planet. These remarkable artistic treasures were collected by generations of the Habsburg family over many centuries, and to see them in complete privacy is a perk reserved solely for Uniworld guests.

Featured Excursion: Exclusive "Morning with the Masters" at the Vienna Art History Museum.

Your Call: With your afternoon of leisure in Vienna, we recommend attending a "Masterpiece Collection" Puppet Theater performance at Schönbrunn Palace.

DAY 8: VIENNA ▶ BRATISLAVA 🚢 BB L D

Once hidden from the world behind the "Iron Curtain," Slovakia retains an air of mystery and intrigue, and its small capital city has an unexpectedly colorful history. You'll learn more about Bratislava's past from a local expert, then have free time to check out the whimsical street art and sample delicious delicacies found only in Slovakia.

Featured Excursion: Bratislava—small but precious walking tour.

Back Onboard: This evening, join us for a cocktail hour, featuring folk musical stylings.

DAY 9: BUDAPEST 🚢 BB L GD

Located on opposite sides of the Danube, Buda and Pest each has its own distinctive character and allure. Get a taste of this dynamic capital city with your choice of tours. The highlight of the day comes after darkness falls, with a glorious exclusive New Year's Eve gala dinner and dancing at a historic ballroom.

Featured Excursions: Choice of Budapest—panoramic highlights, Opera and Highstreet shopping or Budapest Opera House tour and exclusive New Year's gala dinner and dance.

DAY 10: BUDAPEST 🚢 BB L FD

Start off the New Year on a high note with an excursion to a village of talented artisans and craftspeople who live and create beautiful things together. The village is also home to two museums you're welcome to visit—one devoted to lovely ceramics and the other to the art of marzipan.

Featured Excursion: Szentendre Artists' village.

DAY 11: BUDAPEST (DISEMBARK) ⚡ 🚢 CB/BB

Disembark the ship. If your cruise package includes a group departure transfer, or if you have purchased a private departure transfer, you will be transferred to the Budapest Ferenc Liszt International Airport for your flight home.

CRUISE SNAPSHOT

- 🌊 10 Nights Cruising
- 🍽️ 29 Meals Including 1 Welcome Dinner, 1 Gala Dinner and 1 Farewell Dinner
- 🏰 16 Included Excursions
- 🎭 4 Exclusive Experiences
- 🏛️ 4 UNESCO Heritage Sites

CRUISE START DATES

Passau to Budapest **Dec 23**
S.S. Maria Theresa

GERMANY

SLOVAKIA

AUSTRIA

HUNGARY

- 🟡 EMBARK/DISEMBARK
- 🚢 PORT
- 🚶 EXCURSION
- 🏛️ UNESCO SITE

- 🚢 Embark/Disembark
- 🏛️ UNESCO Site
- 🚗 Motorcoach

- ✈️ Flight
- 🚤 Boat
- 🍳 CB/BB Cont'l Breakfast/Buffer

- L Lunch
- GD/D Gala Dinner/Dinner
- WD/FD Welcome/Farewell Dinner

Bratislava, Slovakia