



EUROPEAN CHRISTMAS MARKETS RIVER CRUISE

December 2-10, 2019

Program Guide

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BEFORE YOU GO

PERSONAL TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

Passport: A passport that is valid for at least six (6) months after your return date is required for this program.

Visas: U.S. and Canadian citizens do not need visas for countries visited. Other nationalities should consult the local embassies or consulates for visa requirements.

All documentation required for this itinerary is the sole responsibility of the guest. Brand g will not be responsible for advising and/or obtaining required travel documentation for any passenger, or for any delays, damages, and/or losses, including missed portions of your trip, related to improper or absent travel documentation. It is suggested that copies of important documents, including your passport and visas, be kept in a separate place, in case the originals are lost or stolen.

Travel Protection: While travel insurance is not required to participate in this program, we strongly recommend that each guest purchase a travel protection plan, as unforeseen circumstances can occur both prior to and during travel. If you haven't purchased a policy already, you may do so by contacting your travel agent or Brand g Vacations. You may also get a quote and purchase a policy online from Brand g's recommended travel insurance provider, Travel Insured International by visiting: www.travelinsured.com/agency?agency=53648. Please be sure to carry all policy information with you during your program.

HEALTH AND MOBILITY

Vaccinations: At the time of this printing, no vaccinations are required for entering the countries visited, but it is recommended that all guests discuss available vaccinations and any other health concerns they may have with their personal physician or a travel medicine specialist.

The consulates of the countries to be visited will also provide information on vaccination requirements and/or suggestions. You may also consult your home country's centers for disease control for their current recommendations. Their website in the US is <https://www.cdc.gov/>.

Physical Limitations: This river cruise program is active. While there will be plenty of time to relax, there is much to see and do. Many included excursions require an extensive amount of walking over cobblestone streets, and many sites have numerous steps that may be steeper and narrower than is common in the U.S. For your safety and enjoyment, we recommend that all guests be in good physical condition. Brand g at its sole discretion, reserves the right to refuse passage, or to require a current passenger to end his or her trip, if the passenger's state of health or physical condition may affect his/her own health, safety, or enjoyment or that of other passengers.

Medical: The ship does not employ staff nurses or doctors onboard, nor can the onboard gift shop carry medications that are sold over the counter. Most European nations allow the sale of medications by licensed pharmacies only, therefore guests should bring their medications with them. Should a guest require medical attention it will be done at a local facility. Any medical expenses incurred during the trip are the guest's own responsibility, and Brand g is not responsible for costs of medical service or the quality of medical care received. A travel insurance policy that covers medical expenses while traveling internationally is highly recommended.

Dietary Preferences: Please advise us of any special dietary restrictions at least 30 days prior to your departure. This information will be provided to the proper personnel, and to the extent possible within local conditions and limitations, every effort will be made to accommodate your needs. It is the guest's responsibility to provide us with as much detail as possible concerning any medically related dietary concerns. Not all dietary requests can be accommodated, and we appreciate your understanding in this matter.

LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

While there are no restrictions on the number of bags each guest may bring on board the ship, storage space is limited, and it is suggested that each guest bring only one checked bag. Additionally, all airlines impose restrictions on both size and weight, and many airlines restrict the number of bags per person. Each guest must check with his or her selected air carrier for limitations prior to departure, as luggage restrictions are subject to change. Guests who exceed an airline's luggage restrictions may be asked by the airline to pay the airline's overweight/oversized luggage fees.

An airline's limitations on the weight and size of checked and carry-on baggage are usually found on their website or may be obtained by calling the airline directly. Please remember that international (over the water) and domestic (intra continental) restrictions may not be the same.

Your luggage and all personal belongings are solely your responsibility throughout the trip. Brand g is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged luggage or personal belongings. Selecting a travel insurance plan that will cover lost or stolen luggage and/or personal items is highly recommended.

Please place luggage tags on the outside of all your bags, including carry on and hand luggage, and include a copy of your contact information during the trip on the inside of your checked bags. Valuables and medication should only be packed in your carry-on bags (unless required to be placed in checked bags by your airline).

GETTING THERE

AIRPORT SECURITY AND CHECK-IN

Please be sure to contact your airline prior to departure and verify there have been no changes to the flight number or schedule. If you have an airport transfer confirmed with Brand g, please advise of any schedule change affecting your airport pick up time.

Familiarize yourself with current airport security procedures and arrive at the airport at least two and a half (2.5) hours prior to your scheduled departure. During peak travel times, you may want to arrive three (3) hours prior to your scheduled departure time.

CUSTOMS

Entry documents will be required at all border crossings, so please carry proper identification with you at all times, and never place it in checked luggage.

When arriving by airplane, it is not unusual for a border guard to ask you questions such as "where you are from," "where are you going," "how long will you be there," or "what is the purpose of your trip." Always answer honestly and politely.

If you are bringing laptops, cameras, or other electrical equipment with you on your trip, you may be required to register these items with the local customs authority to ensure you are not charged duty on these items when you return home.

Most items you purchase internationally can be brought back into the US and Canada. We do recommend, however, that you check with both your home country's customs office for current restrictions, as well as with the embassies of the countries you are visiting for any restrictions on items that may be unlawful to take outside their borders.

When you return to your home country, you should be prepared to declare everything you purchased or acquired while traveling. Many countries will ask you to complete a customs form, which will require descriptions and values of the items. These forms are easier to complete if you keep your sales receipts easily accessible. Most countries have set customs duty exemptions for both quantity and value of certain items. We suggest that you familiarize yourself with these allowances and limits prior to your travel.

HOTEL CHECK-IN/HOTEL CHECK-OUT

Please be advised that most hotels do not allow check-in earlier than 3:00pm. If you arrive at the hotel before 3:00pm, you may need to wait until the room becomes available. Hotel check-out is usually no later than 11:00am. If your arrival or departure schedule does not coincide with these times, you may ask the hotel to store your luggage while you explore independently. Please note that every effort is made to ensure that your hotel room is available and ready for occupancy upon your arrival at the hotel, but this is not always possible. A short wait for your room to become available may be unavoidable. Depending on your scheduled arrival or departure, you may wish to purchase an early check-in or late check-out, or an additional hotel night, to guarantee availability of your room. Feel free to contact your travel agent or Brand g to review your arrival and departure and discuss any special check-in and/or check-out needs.

TRANSFERS

Arrival Transfers: Guests arriving at Munich's Franz Josef Strauss Airport (MUC) will be met by our local representatives and transferred to the Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten Kempinski. Please refer to the *Transfer Information* page of your personalized travel documents to determine if your arrival flight details are listed correctly. If you feel the information listed on that page is not correct, please contact Brand g at 1-800-433-4303 (toll free within the U.S.) or 952-405-9309, email info@brandgvacations.com, or contact your travel agent immediately.

For those with transfers, our representatives will welcome you in the arrival's hall (after customs) with a Brand g logo sign. You will enter the arrivals hall after passing through passport control, collecting your luggage and after proceeding through customs. If you do not see our representative immediately, please wait at least 20 minutes. If no one arrives, or if you have any other problems with your airport pick-up, please call our local representative whose number will be provided on your *Transfer Information* page of your personalized travel documents.

Guests are responsible for providing their most up-to-date flight details. Please inform us immediately if you receive notice of changes to your arrival flight.

Departure Transfers: In Vienna, those guests departing from the ship on the program end date, or those departing from the Bristol Hotel Vienna post cruise extension property, will be transferred to the Vienna International Airport. Your Brand g tour leader will provide you with the exact meeting point and time for meeting your transfer prior to the end of the trip.

Flight information for all guests must be provided to Brand g no later than 45 days prior to departure for transfers to be properly arranged. Your flight arrangements must also be made in accordance with Brand g's recommended transfer guidelines. Guests are responsible for providing their most up-to-date flight details.

Travel Delays: If you experience a travel delay while still in your home country, after working with your air carrier to revise your flight schedule, please contact Brand g's Minneapolis-based Operations Office at 1-800-433-4303 (toll free within the U.S.) or 952-405-9309 to advise us of your revised arrival date and time. If the line is busy or you are calling outside of general business hours, please leave a message.

If you have already departed your home country, please contact our local staff at the numbers provided on the *Communication Information* page that is included with your personalized travel documents.

If you purchased travel insurance that covers flight delay and cancellation expenses, you will also want to contact your travel insurance company to start a claim for expenses incurred during your delay. If the delay is serious enough that you will miss the starting point of your cruise, any additional hotel, and/or flight arrangements necessary to meet your group will be at your expense.

Baggage Delays: Baggage delays unfortunately occur from time to time, especially during peak travel periods. If you discover any bag did not make it to your destination, do not leave the airport baggage area without completing a Lost Baggage Report with your air carrier. This report is essential to the tracking of your claim. If you have an airport transfer scheduled, and are traveling with a companion, we recommend

that one person exit the baggage claim area and locate the representative to inform him or her of the situation. This will allow the representative to ensure that the transfer is properly provided. Give the air carrier a copy of your travel itinerary, along with the hotel and ship contact information. Report your lost baggage to your Brand g host and provide them with a copy of your Lost Baggage Report. Brand g is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged baggage and/or personal belongings. Selecting a travel insurance plan that will cover lost or stolen luggage and/or personal items is highly recommended.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

CONTACTING HOME

The ability to stay in touch with friends and family is an important part of travel, and many guests choose to bring cell phones on the trip. International roaming charges can be expensive, and it is advisable to contact your domestic carrier to determine the charges and plans available for each country you are visiting, then select the best available plan for your expected usage. In some countries, SIM cards are available for purchase that can be used in an unlocked phone (call your carrier to determine if your phone is, or can be, unlocked), providing a local number that can be used both locally and internationally, usually at a significantly lower rate.

Making international calls from the hotel and ship is possible, but costly. Connection fees are usually applied, in addition to other charges.

Onboard *Amadeus Star* the ship features free internet and Wi-Fi access. The Brand g host hotels also offer free Wi-Fi.

CURRENCY AND MONEY MATTERS

The official currency in Germany, Austria and onboard *Amadeus Star* it is the Euro. The ship operates on a 'cashless' system and all charges are billed directly to each guest's onboard account. While onboard, guests will sign for all purchases and pay their charges at the end of the cruise with a credit card; cards accepted are American Express, MasterCard, and Visa. Credit cards will be charged in Euros. Debit cards and Travelers Checks cannot be accepted for settling the onboard account.

ATMs: ATMs connected to bank networks such as PLUS or Cirrus are widely available in most major metropolitan areas, airports, city centers, and some hotels. Fees for transactions vary. ATMs are not available onboard the ship and may be limited in the smaller towns and villages along the Danube River. Your bank can tell you which network your ATM card can access, and whether a debit or credit card must be used. It is also recommended that guests bring an overseas contact number for your bank or credit card company in case you require assistance while traveling.

We recommend that you change or withdraw enough local currency while in larger cities, as ATMs and banks may not be readily available in some of the smaller towns along the itinerary. Also, we recommend that you not carry bills in large denominations, as many merchants are hesitant to accept them due to counterfeiting. Local banks can break the larger bills into smaller denominations for you.

Credit Cards and Travelers Checks: Visa and Mastercard are the most widely accepted credit cards internationally. American Express is accepted at most major hotels and large vendors. Smaller vendors and particularly restaurants may not accept American Express for payment. Visa, MasterCard, Diners Club, and American Express cards are all accepted onboard.

There may be some stores or locations where cash is preferred (especially for small purchases) or where a card cannot be used for purchases. We recommend bringing at least one major credit card as well as an ATM card that is both a debit and credit card.

Please contact your bank and/or credit card companies to let them know that you will be leaving the country to avoid any problems using your credit or debit cards overseas.

ELECTRICAL CURRENT

The voltage in hotels and onboard ship is 220v, European standard. To use any electrical products from the US or Canada you will need a plug adaptor and any device that is not dual voltage will require an electrical converter. Many electronic devices have built-in electrical converters, however, please check the manufacturer's specifications for specific details.

EXCURSIONS

Your tour program includes comprehensive shore excursions led by a local English-speaking guide; these excursions have been designed to provide you with the best possible experience. Your Brand g host will provide details on each day's excursion(s) and timing. Brand g will arrange a "gentle walkers" group, for those who wish to take excursions at a slower pace for any reason. If you are concerned about any aspect of an excursion, please inform your Brand g tour leader.

FACILITIES FOR THE DISABLED

Please note: the American with Disabilities Act does not apply in Europe and accessibility to some sights may be limited for those with mobility impairments. Embarkation and disembarkation facilities may also be impossible to navigate with wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, or any other mechanical device.

GRATUITIES

Gratuities for the included components of this program have been pre-paid. At your discretion, you may choose to provide additional tips for exemplary service. It is best to provide these tips in cash, directly to the individual or individuals you wish to reward.

PROGRAM STAFF

A Brand g Tour Leader will be with you during your travel program to handle all the details, leaving you to relax and enjoy your vacation.

SECURITY

As in all big cities, pickpockets are not uncommon, and caution is encouraged. We recommend wearing purses and cameras across your body when walking and holding them securely when entering and exiting taxis and buses. We also recommend leaving jewelry and other valuables at home.

Personal, in-room safes are provided in each hotel and on board the ship. Brand g cannot be held liable for loss of money, jewelry, or other valuable items from the ship, from a hotel, or while on an excursion.

SHOPPING

Many shops in Europe are closed on Sundays and holidays. There is often free time built into the schedule for shopping or other activities. Additionally, we try to allow shopping during excursions where possible. On excursions where shopping is possible, the actual amount of time available may be limited due to tour constraints.

SMOKING

On the ship, smoking is allowed only on designated parts of the Sun Deck. The hotels have open areas where smoking is allowed and may offer smoking areas in specific sections of some indoor lounges. All hotel rooms and ship staterooms are non-smoking.

WATER

The ship has been outfitted with a sophisticated filtration system, and the tap water in each stateroom is safe for drinking. In addition, bottled water is provided in your stateroom for your comfort.

WEATHER

Generally, the temperature range for this trip will be 28° to 40° F (-3° to 4° C). Average precipitation is 1-2 inches of rain, sleet or snow. Weather forecasts are widely available on the Internet, and some of the favorites for large, international cities are <https://weather.com/> and www.cnn.com/weather.

WHAT TO BRING

Travel Essentials: It is recommended that you bring duplicates of prescription eyewear, copies of prescriptions for any medications (generic equivalents are usually easier to obtain), copies of credit card information, and copies of your passport information pages and visas.

Clothing: Comfortable, casual clothing is appropriate both onshore and onboard and we suggest clothing that can be layered. Keeping dry will help you stay warm for the winter festivities and outdoor excursions. Consider packing insulated waterproof walking shoes/boots, warm socks, gloves, and multiple layers including a waterproof jacket with hood. **Brand g will be providing you with a cozy warm stocking cap and scarf as a special thank you for booking this program.** However, if you prefer your own style/fit, you should also pack these items.

You may wish to bring something a bit dressier for one or two dinners on board and in case you wish to attend a concert or have a special dinner off the ship. Mix-and-match color schemes work best to help keep baggage light. You will participate in a significant amount of walking over uneven terrain during your time ashore. We recommend comfortable walking shoes/boots with good ankle support.

ONBOARD AMENITIES AND SERVICES

ABOARD THE AMADEUS STAR

Dining: The ship's onboard restaurant provides a relaxed environment and accommodates all guests with open seating. It offers international and local cuisine. Breakfast and lunch are sumptuous buffets, with evenings featuring chef's specialties and regional dishes.

In addition, an early riser breakfast and a light lunch alternative is offered in the Panorama bar. There are also afternoon and late-night snacks served in the Panorama bar.

Please notify Brand g in advance if you have any special dietary concerns or considerations that need to be considered. We will do our best to ensure that your request is accommodated but cannot guarantee all dietary needs and preferences can be met.

Complimentary coffee, tea, water, soft drinks, select wines and draft beer are included at lunch and dinner. Complimentary alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages are served in the Panorama Bar throughout the cruise.

All mealtimes are scheduled around tour departures, and breakfast may take place very early in the morning.

Fitness Center and Salon: The Fitness Center offers modern fitness equipment. The hours of operation are generally from 6:00 am to 10:00 pm but may be adjusted based on each day's program. Use of the equipment is at your own risk. The Salon offers massage and hair services (by appointment onboard).

GIFT SHOP

There is a gift shop onboard with a limited selection of souvenirs and other sundries. All purchases are charged to your shipboard account. The hours of operation are adjusted to each day's program.

Please note: No over-the-counter medications are available, in accordance with European laws.

HEALTH AND HYGIENE

As part of a commitment to a clean, safe, and healthy onboard environment, the *Amadeus Star* practices a strict sanitization protocol. To assist in this important matter, the ship kindly asks all guests to wash their hands frequently and to consistently use the hand-sanitizer machines when entering the ship and when entering the restaurant. The machines are located just inside the main entrance to the ship and at the entrance to the restaurant.

INTERNET

Complimentary wireless Internet access (Wi-Fi) is available and you may access the system using your own laptop computer or other Wi-Fi equipped device.

Please note: The Internet connection might not be available in remote areas or when transiting locks. Expect the connectivity speed to be slower than your home connection.

LAUNDRY

Full-service laundry is available on board. Please inquire at the Front Desk for a list of services and fees. There is no self-service laundry facility.

LOUNGES AND COFFEE STATION

The Panorama Bar provides spectacular, expansive views at every turn. Relax in the comfort of soft chairs and sofas upholstered in fine fabrics and leathers. Enjoy the full-service bar and entertainment on select evenings. Coffee and tea are available here 24 hours a day.

MOORING AND DOCKING FACILITIES

Local river authorities allocate docking space around ship arrivals and departures in port. Typically, river ships dock facing upstream. Occasionally port conditions require ships to tie up alongside each other, in which case guests may be required to walk through another ship to access their own ship. This is part of the river cruise experience and is perfectly normal and beyond the control of Brand g and the ship company. Guests may experience obstructed views from staterooms when the ship is docked.

Moving About the Ship: As the ship is often in motion, and the decks are sometimes slippery, please take care when moving about the decks. Stairs may be steeper than you are used to, and it is best to always use the handrails.

STATEROOM AMENITIES

Every stateroom is appointed with an individual thermostat for air-conditioning, a flat-screen TV, a hair dryer, a spacious wardrobe, a safe, and a bathroom provided with shower gel, shampoo, conditioner and body lotion. Amadeus Suites are additionally equipped with a minibar and a comfortable seating area. Electrical current is 220V, the European standard. Most staterooms have hotel-style beds that can be positioned separately or together. Your stateroom will be serviced by your Stateroom Attendant daily. Security and maintenance checks may also be performed.

VISITORS

Visitors are generally not permitted onboard the ship and are not allowed to join any shore excursions. Please make arrangements to meet your friends and relatives onshore.

HOTEL AMENITIES AND SERVICES

HOTEL VIER JAHRESZEITEN KEMPINSKI - MUNICH

Hotel Amenities:

- ☐ Schwarzreiter Tagesbar
- ☐ Jahreszeiten Bar
- ☐ 24-hour business center
- ☐ Health club & spa with workout facilities, 2 saunas, fitness center, full-service spa
- ☐ Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout hotel
- ☐ Concierge service

Room Amenities:

- ☐ Premium cable/satellite TV with in-room movies
- ☐ Wi-Fi, telephone and voicemail
- ☐ Individually controlled air conditioner
- ☐ In-room safe
- ☐ Hair dryer, Bathrobe and slippers
- ☐ Complimentary coffee, tea facilities, and Minibar (additional charge)

HOTEL BRISTOL (optional post hotel)

Hotel Amenities:

- ☐ Bristol Lounge
- ☐ Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the hotel
- ☐ Concierge Services
- ☐ 24-hour Fitness Center
- ☐ 24-hour Business Center

Room Amenities:

- ☐ Premium cable/satellite TV with in-room movies
- ☐ Bathrobe & Hair Dryer
- ☐ Complimentary coffee, tea facilities a Minibar (additional charge)
- ☐ In-room safe

ITINERARY

MUNICH, GERMANY to VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Monday, December 2, 2019

MUNICH, GERMANY

9:00am - 5:00pm: Hospitality Desk - You will find a Brand g hospitality desk in the lobby of the Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten Kempinski. We will be there to assist you with any questions you have concerning the program. Kindly stop by the desk to check in so that we may provide you with additional updates and with paper luggage tags for the transfer to Nuremberg on the 4th. If you arrive outside of these hours or are otherwise unable to stop by the desk, we will communicate updates (if any) by leaving a message for you at the hotel front desk.

6:00pm - 7:00pm: Hometown Welcome Party - We are planning a Home Town Welcome Party at the Maximilian I Ballroom in the Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten Kempinski. Wear something that represents the place you call home. It could be as simple as a cap or a t-shirt, or as elaborate as you want to make it! Stop by to meet your fellow travelers for the week. We will be liquid refreshments and light snacks. This is also a great opportunity to find dining companions for the evening as dinner is not provided as part of the program.

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

MUNICH, GERMANY

6:30am - 10:30am: Breakfast is included in the Schwarzreiter Tagesbar and Restaurant in the Kempinski Hotel today, and each day of your stay at the hotel, which has been booked through Brand g. You are welcome to enjoy the full breakfast today in the restaurant. As an alternative, due to the early start today, the restaurant will also have a limited supply of boxes so that you may take away some pastries and fruit to enjoy on the bus ride to Neuschwanstein.

7:20am – approx. 5:00pm: Full Day Neuschwanstein Castle Tour - All guests meet in the lobby of the hotel ready to depart promptly at 7:30am for full day tour including lunch. Germany's picturesque countryside brings us to Neuschwanstein. It is one of three castles built by 'mad' Ludwig II of Bavaria, who was born in 1845 and died in 1886. Its Neo-Romanesque architecture imitates that of a medieval castle and, in turn, Neuschwanstein was the inspiration for Disney's Magic Kingdom. The natural splendor of the surrounding Alps provides the perfect backdrop for this iconic fairytale wonder.

The trip from Munich to the castle parking is approximately 2 hours. Upon arrival there will be a short break at the parking area before we begin the ascent to the castle. The scenic hike from the parking area to castle Neuschwanstein takes approximately 1 – 1.5 hours including guide commentary and photo stops (the time allotted is generous and allows ample time for a leisurely ascent to the castle).

Parts of the hike are at a significant grade and could be slippery and wet depending on weather conditions. We recommend warm winter clothing, including hat, gloves and sturdy warm boots or hiking shoes with good grip.

There are a limited number of horse carriages and depending on weather conditions there may also be mini-buses available to those who do not care to or cannot physically endure the hike. However, for those with mobility challenges, please keep in mind the final 15-minute hike to the castle is still by foot, and there are also many steps to enter the castle. Please note the carriages and buses are not reserved solely for Brand g guests and as a result there may be a long queue.

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 (Continued)

If you would like to join the tour, but do not wish to visit the castle, you may trade your castle ticket for entrance to the museum of the Bavarian Kings. There is also a small lake where you can take photos of the castle, while waiting for the groups to return from the hike.

Those who hike up and visit the castle return to the parking area by the same path (it takes about 1 hour). After your group has gathered at the parking area, then board the motor coaches for a 10-minute drive to the town of Fussen for lunch. After lunch, we return to Munich with an approximate return time of 5:00pm. Tonight's dinner is not included and is on your own. (B/Lunch provided for touring guests)

Walking grade 5/5: Walking long distances on uneven surfaces and includes some stairs.

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

MUNICH/NUREMBERG, GERMANY (EMBARKATION)

6:00am - 10:30am: Breakfast is included in the Schwarzeiter Tagesbar and Restaurant in the Kempinski Hotel.

8:45am: By this time, place the paper luggage tags (provided to you by Brand g staff at the hospitality desk) on each piece of your luggage. Place your larger pieces of luggage outside of your hotel room door for collection by the porters. You will not see this luggage again until you check into your room on the Amadeus Star and therefore you should pack anything you need for the day in your hand carry luggage.

Personally bring hand carry luggage containing anything you need for the day and any valuables, including your passport with you to the lobby when you are ready to depart. A Brand g representative will be there to collect these items and keep them secure along with your larger checked luggage until we depart for the Amadeus Star in Nuremberg later today.

If participating in this morning's Munich city tour, you should also be checked out of your room by this time and have paid any incidental charges with the front desk. Hotel check-out time is Noon and therefore your room will no longer be available following the tour.

8:55am - Noon: Munich City Tour - The morning bus tour explores the highlights of Munich including Königsplatz, and along the magnificent avenues Ludwig and Prinzregentenstraße with their significant buildings and museums, including Ludwig's Church, the Theatiner Church, the Feldherrenhalle (Hall of Generals), the House of Arts, the Bavarian National Museum, as well as the impressive statue Angel of Peace overlooking the city. We also visit Maximilian Street, which leads to the Residence and National Theatre/Opera House among many other famous places. We will make stops at Nymphenburg palace and the BMW World for photo taking and guide commentary.

*Walking grade 2/5: Moderate walking tour. You may need to climb some stairs.

If you decide not to join the tour, you are welcome to stay in your room, and keep your luggage until Noon. At that time, you should check out with the front desk, and leave your luggage with the bell staff, who will place it with the other Brand g luggage and keep it secure until departure time.

Noon – 1:45pm: Free time for lunch – Following the Munich city tour we will return to the hotel, where you will have time to enjoy lunch on your own.

1:45pm – 2:00pm: Collect hand carry luggage and board coaches – during this time we ask you to claim your hand carry luggage from your Brand g hosts in the lobby of the hotel, and board the motor coaches. Your larger pieces of luggage will already be loaded under the coaches. Promptly at 2:00pm we will depart Munich for Nuremberg, where we plan to board the Amadeus Star at approximately 4:00pm.

Upon embarkation, and after checking into your stateroom, you will have time to settle in, unpack and explore the ship. Later this evening there will be a welcome reception, introduction of key ship staff and a festive welcome dinner followed by Brand g's signature entertainment in the Panorama lounge. (B/D)

Following are the highlights of each day's tours included during the cruise. You will receive a schedule in your stateroom each night aboard the Amadeus Star, providing detailed descriptions and timings for each day's activities. There will also be daily ship wide announcements and afternoon briefings to keep you informed.

Thursday, December 5, 2019

NUREMBERG, GERMANY

Your 4-hour morning city tour of Nuremberg* leads you to the major sites and highlights of the city, from its medieval beginnings as a free imperial city to presently being the second largest city in Bavaria and the capital of Franconia. During the reconstruction work following the devastation of the Second World War, the style of the old town was maintained. Ringed walls, towers and the castle provide a vivid image of the town as it may have looked during medieval times. After passing the Palace of Justice, the venue of the Nuremberg trials, the coach will take you to the old town at the heart of Nuremberg. The walk through the narrow medieval alleyways starts at the foot of the castle. The tour will take you to the most significant monuments and sights in picturesque Nuremberg. Before returning to the ship take in one of the most famous Christmas markets in the world where Christmas is at home. Don't miss the opportunity to visit this romantic Christmas market and taste the world-famous Nuremberg lebkuchen (gingerbread). (Breakfast/Lunch*/Dinner)

* Walking grade 5/5: Walking long distances on uneven surfaces and includes some stairs.

Friday, December 6, 2019

REGENSBURG, GERMANY

After a leisurely breakfast enjoy spending a full day exploring the festively adorned, historic Regensburg "the magical destination where time seems to stand still". During your 2-hour morning walking tour* you will explore the city which is undoubtedly one of the best-preserved medieval cities in Germany with its very impressive historic buildings. Among these architectural treasures are churches, monasteries, the town hall and one of Europe's oldest bridges that has spanned the Danube since the 12th century. During this walk you will feel the former power and wealth of this city, which once controlled the trade route to the Orient. During a short visit to the Regensburg Cathedral, dedicated to St. Peter, you can admire this masterpiece of Gothic architecture in southern Germany (Visits depend on the opening hours of the Cathedral and/or if a mass is celebrated, etc.).

After lunch onboard enjoy a 2.5-hour afternoon visit to Christmas Market at the Thurn and Taxis Palace in Regensburg. Enjoy magical and unforgettable moments at the "Romantic Christmas Market" at the Thurn and Taxis Castle of Regensburg. A short visit to the palace shows you the gorgeous marble staircase in the south wing, ascending to the splendid chambers of the princely residence. Guests are traditionally greeted at the foot of the impressive staircase. The entire interior decoration in Neo-Renaissance style is modeled on Roman antiquity. In the courtyard of the palace you will see the beautifully decorated and wood-fire heated huts that are the perfect place to pass the time. The bough-covered wooden stalls offer unique products, obviously chosen for their quality and beauty. It's one of the most beautiful Christmas markets in the world. You will have an unforgettable evening. (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)

*Walking grade 4/5: Moderate walking tour. You may need to climb some stairs.

Saturday, December 7, 2019

PASSAU, GERMANY

During breakfast, arrive in Passau, also known as the "City of Three Rivers", situated at the confluence of the Danube, Inn and Ilz Rivers. Enjoy a 2-hour guided walking tour* of the romantic old town with its historic buildings. During this walk around the old quarter of Passau, your knowledgeable guide will point out many buildings that bear witness to the historical importance. You can admire picturesque lanes, promenades and squares and find out some interesting facts about the Bishopric. High above the rivers the Veste Oberhaus Castle and the Maria Hilf monastery are enthroned. In particular, you will be impressed by the Baroque St. Stephen's Cathedral, with the world's largest organ, the new Bishop's residence and the town hall. We will take in the wonderful traditional Passau Christmas market before having lunch on board. (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)

*Walking grade 5/5: Considerable walk with longer distances. Includes uneven surfaces and some stairs.

Sunday, December 8, 2019

MELK/WEISSENKIRCHEN/VIENNA, AUSTRIA

In the morning, we reach the UNESCO World Natural Heritage region of the Wachau. You will depart the ship in Emmersdorf to board coaches to begin your 4.5-hour excursion to the Wachau with Melk Abbey & Mulled Wine Party. We begin with Melk Abbey, which is an Austrian Benedictine abbey and one of the world's most famous monastic sites. The impressive Baroque abbey was built between 1702 and 1736. The abbey's church and the impressive library with countless medieval manuscripts and frescos are particularly noteworthy. A guided tour takes you through the abbot's chambers, along the emperor's walk, through the marble hall, the balconies and the library. We then continue by coach to Dürnstein, one of the best-known wine villages in the Wachau. Situated in the heart of the magnificent valley, on the banks of the mighty river Danube, the charming town offers the unique combination of breathtaking scenery, traditional architecture and places of historic interest. A walk through the town allows you to appreciate its beauty before we invite you to enjoy a mug of hot mulled wine, after which you will return to your ship now docked in Weissenkirchen.

On returning to the ship enjoy a leisurely lunch followed by a Christmas cooking demonstration followed by some festive fun or simply enjoy the afternoon's sailing, where you will have a wonderful view of the passing winter landscapes as your cruise ship travels towards Vienna.

In the evening, we recommend that you join us for an early dinner followed by 3-hour tour ** to see the atmospheric "Sound of Vienna" concert, which will present a kaleidoscope of Viennese classical music. In the very place where Johann Strauss himself once directed his orchestra from his position as first violin, the true essence of Vienna's classical music can once again be heard daily. The "Salonorchester Alt
Sunday, December 8, 2019 (continued)

Wien", one of the best-known interpreters of classical Viennese music, presents an evening full of Viennese charm with the lilting sound of waltzes, polkas, arias and duets, as well as operetta and piano concert melodies. Accompanied by excellent opera singers and enchanting ballet soloists, Vienna's classical music reveals itself as a living firework display for the senses. (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)

*Walking grade 3/5: The excursion by bus is followed by a longer walk. Considerable walk with longer distances. Includes uneven surfaces and some stairs.

**Walking grade 1/5: Minimum walking.

Monday, December 9, 2019

VIENNA, AUSTRIA

This morning's tour* takes you past the most beautiful sights of the Austrian capital. First, we drive along the famous Ringstrasse, passing several magnificent buildings like the stunning opera house, the parliament, the Court Theatre and Vienna's imposing city hall.

The panoramic drive is followed by a guided walk through the city center. Begin at the well-known Hofburg Imperial Palace, walk along the Kohl market and finish at Vienna's iconic St. Stephen's cathedral. Before returning to the ship, enjoy free time to stroll along the pedestrian area.

After lunch onboard the Amadeus Star join us for a tour of the magnificent Schönbrunn Palace**. As one of the most important cultural heritage sites in Austria, Schönbrunn Palace and its gardens were declared a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site. The reign of Maria Theresia signified the most splendid era for Schönbrunn. The castle and park were the center of court and political life. Under the personal guidance of the Empress, it was remodeled and expanded to become a royal residence. Visit many of the ceremonial rooms and then have the opportunity to walk around the beautifully designed gardens of the palace and enjoy its famous Christmas market. (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)

*Walking grade 2/5: The excursion by bus is followed by a moderate walking tour. You may need to climb some stairs.

**Walking grade 2/5: Moderate walking tour including some steps.

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Your Christmas Markets cruise concludes this morning with disembarkation after breakfast and a transfer to the Vienna airport or to the Bristol Hotel, Brand g's optional post-cruise extension hotel. (Breakfast)

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OMISSIONS

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