

Imperial Cities

featuring Prague, Vienna & Budapest



Highlights...

Prague • Hradcany Castle • Choice of Prague Folklore Show & Dinner or Tour & Dinner at a Brewery • Cesky Krumlov • Vienna • Grinzing Evening • Schoenbrunn Palace • Danube River Cruise • Bratislava • Budapest • Matthias Church • Fisherman's Bastion • School Visit • Visegrad • Renaissance Dinner

11 Days • 14 Meals: 9 Breakfasts • 5 Dinners

COLLETTE EXPERIENCES

- ★ Enjoy a stop in the fairy-tale town of Cesky Krumlov.
- ★ Tour Prague's majestic Hradcany Castle.
- ★ Get to know Bratislava's history on a city tour with a local expert.

MUST-SEE INCLUSIONS

- ★ Embark on a magnificent tour of the "Golden City" of Prague.
- ★ Board a cruise on the Danube River.
- ★ Make a stop in Melk for a visit to the famous Abbey.

CULINARY INCLUSIONS

- ★ Choose either a folklore show and dinner, or dinner and brewery tour at one of Prague's most famous restaurants.
- ★ Enjoy dinner and sample regional wine in picturesque Grinzing.
- ★ Savor a Renaissance-style dinner at a medieval castle restaurant near Budapest.

Day 1: Overnight Flight

Set out on an exciting cultural experience in the Imperial Cities of Central Europe featuring traditional entertainment and a scenic cruise along the Danube River.

Day 2: Prague, Czech Republic - Tour Begins

After arriving in Prague, find out why it is called the "Golden City" or "The City of 100 Spires." You will adore the city's unique culture and architecture. This evening, join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner. *Today dinner will be included.*

Day 3: Prague

Your introduction to this fairy-tale city begins with a panoramic tour. Tour the majestic Hradcany Castle, including the gothic St. Vitus Cathedral. Then stroll down the quaint, colorful Golden Lane. Afterward, **discover the lovely statue-lined Charles Bridge**. This afternoon, it's your time to explore. Perhaps shop for famous Bohemian crystal or visit one of the city's many outstanding museums, such as the Lapidarium, home of stone sculptures dating from the 11th century to the present. This evening **you choose your dining experience**. You may choose to get to know traditional Czech culture during a folklore show and dinner featuring local drinks. As a special treat, meet the dancers and learn some of the moves yourself during a private dance lesson. Or, perhaps you would prefer to dine at one of Eastern Europe's oldest breweries. Take in the traditional ambiance while sipping on a pint; then tour the brewery to see the process of making this famous beer that has been brewed for 500 years. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

Day 4: Prague

Today enjoy the freedom to explore Prague on your own. Take a stroll to the Old Town square, home to the famous Orloj which functions as a clock, calendar and primitive planetarium. You may also choose to join an optional excursion to Prague's Old Jewish Quarter to see its historic Jewish Museum and Europe's oldest surviving Jewish cemetery, founded in 1478. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 5: Prague - Cesky Krumlov - Vienna, Austria

A scenic ride through the countryside takes you from Prague into the grand city of Vienna, the former capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. En route, make a stop in the fairy-tale town of Cesky Krumlov. Have free time to explore the well-preserved streets lined with Baroque architecture before continuing on to Vienna. Tonight you will enjoy dinner featuring regional wine and a meal highlighting the local cuisine in the quaint winemaking region of Grinzing. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

Day 6: Vienna

This morning, join a local resident for a visit to magnificent Schoenbrunn Palace, the summer retreat of the Habsburg dynasty for more than 200 years. Continue on to get acquainted with Vienna's city center. Along the way, behold the beautiful architecture, scenic parks and gothic spires that fill the city. This evening you may choose to join an optional dinner followed by an unforgettable classical music concert featuring many fine melodies from the great composers — Mozart and Strauss. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 7: Vienna - Danube River - Melk - Vienna

Travel along the banks of the Danube to the medieval town of Durnstein where you embark on a scenic Danube River cruise.* "Waltz" across one of the most breathtaking bodies of water in the world, immortalized by Strauss, and travel through the historic Wachau Valley. Later, visit the 11th-century Melk Abbey, famous for its production and collection of manuscripts. A leisurely ride back to Vienna concludes this marvelous day. You have a free evening to enjoy the city. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 8: Vienna - Bratislava, Slovakia - Budapest, Hungary

This morning you journey to Bratislava, former coronation city and Imperial capital of the Habsburg Empire. During your visit, get to know the city's multilayered history on a tour with a local expert. Continue to Budapest, the "Queen of the Danube," truly one of the world's most beautiful cities. Upon arrival, drive through this majestic capital while making your way to your hotel. Have time at leisure to relax or explore before gathering for tonight's dinner in the city. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

Day 9: Budapest

Join a local expert who brings the city to life. Discover Matthias Church, site of many coronations of kings. Next, be enamored by the Fisherman's Bastion with its white walls, towers and arcades for spectacular views. Continue to historic Old Buda and Gellert Hill, followed by the Parliament. At Heroes Square, admire the imposing Millennium Monument, completed in 1904, which memorializes the 1,000th anniversary of Hungarian dominion. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 10: Budapest - Visegrad - Budapest

Begin your day with a visit to a school** in Budapest where you will get a glimpse into the daily life of the locals while meeting the young students in their classroom. In the afternoon, venture outside the city to the former Renaissance

capital of Visegrad for a magnificent view of the Danube Bend and the Borzsony Mountains. Travel back in time with a visit to a 14th-century castle where knights with colorful costumes and authentic weaponry recreate the days of chivalry. Then, **enjoy a special Renaissance-style dinner at the castle restaurant** and re-enact the days of medieval times. Complete your fascinating cultural journey with an evening of wine and music. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

Day 11: Budapest - Tour Ends

Today breakfast will be included.

Experience It!

Prague Old Town

For many world travelers, the Prague Old Town is the epitome of what a European square and Old Town (Stare Mesto in Czech) should look and feel like. This medieval settlement was once separated from the outside by a moat and city wall that was connected at each end to the Vltava River. The moat is now covered up by the city streets, but where it once was is considered to be the boundary of the Old Town. Cobblestone streets, sweeping views of Prague Castle from the riverside promenade or from Charles Bridge, cellar restaurants, and the classic square have all made this a must-see destination for the traveler to Europe. Other must-see sites include the Old New Synagogue and Old Town Square with its Astronomical Clock. The Charles Bridge spans the river Vltava and connects the Stare Mesto to the Lesser Quarter (Malá Strana in Czech), a sprawling set of winding roads and lanes that lay at the foot of Prague Castle, which dominates the skyline of this side of the river.

YOUR ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2 – 4	Hotel Yasmin, Prague
Days 5 – 7	Hotel Am Konzerthaus MGallery Collection, Vienna or Imperial Riding School Renaissance Hotel, Vienna or Mercure Grand Hotel Biedermeier, Vienna
Days 8 – 10	NH Budapest, Budapest

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

"Leisure Stays" are tours in which the itineraries are designed to allow for multiple-night stays in two or more cities. This allows you a more leisurely pace and more time to explore the destinations on your own.

Please Note:

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of purchasing these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at prescheduled times.

We pride ourselves on bringing travelers the very best experiences a destination offers. Our itineraries include many activities and may consist of walking on uneven terrain, heavy walking on uneven terrain or heavy walking at times. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motorcoaches, especially in historic areas. For your comfort, we recommend bringing walking shoes.

*The Danube River Cruise to Melk Abbey is available mid-April to mid-October. Outside of these times, a cruise through Vienna will substitute.

**During summer break and holiday periods, the school in Budapest is closed. At these times, a visit with a local family in their home will be substituted.

Included breakfasts are buffet breakfasts.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Visitors are required to have travel/health insurance to travel to the Czech Republic. The health insurance must cover medical services abroad. The **minimum coverage** of the insurance has to meet the Czech Republic standards for tourist travel. These standards can be found by contacting the Czech Republic Embassy in the US. If you have **purchased our Travel Protection Plan**, your coverage meets this requirement. If you opted not to purchase our travel protection, you will be required to have **proof of your own coverage** for the minimum insurance requirement applicable at the time of your travel to that country. We certainly encourage you to buy our comprehensive travel protection that not only covers this requirement; but also allows a full refund for cancellation any time up to the day prior to departure.

This tour includes moderate physical activity. The itinerary blends some longer days with shorter days and more leisure time. Walking tours, as well as walking slightly longer distances, up stairs or on uneven walking surfaces should be expected.

IMPORTANT RESERVATION INFORMATION

IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity from date of return home. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that our clients traveling abroad take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

***Airfare:** For your convenience, we offer airfare for purchase with all vacation packages. If you purchase an air inclusive program, your airfare will be quoted inclusive of all fuel, taxes and fees. Your rates are subject to change until paid in full. Seats are limited and may not be available on every flight or departure date.

Checked Baggage Charges: Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies.

Cancellation Charges for this tour: After your seat reduction date has passed, a non-refundable deposit will be retained. For Cancellation between 60-16 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 30% of total price. For

cancellation between 15-1 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 50% of total price. For cancellation on the day of departure and after: 100% of total price. For Ocean Cruises: For cancellation between 90-61 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 35% of total price. For cancellation between 60-31 days prior to departure: 60% of total price. 30 or fewer days prior to departure: 100% of total price. For River Cruises: including Europe, Russia, Egypt and China, 90-61 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 50% of total price. For cancellation between 60-31 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 85% of total price. For cancellation 30 or fewer days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 100% of total price. For Galapagos and Antarctica: A cancellation fee of 60% will apply for cancellation between 120-90 days prior to departure; A cancellation charge of 100% will apply for cancellation less than 90 days prior to departure. Cancellation protection is highly recommended and must be purchased at time of deposit. Air rates are subject to change until tour is paid in full. If Travel Protection Plan has not been purchased and a reservation is cancelled for any reason prior to departure - Air is 100% non-refundable once paid in full. Cancellation charges also apply to reservations made for "pre" and "post" night accommodations. Payment of a Per Person Travel Protection Plan Fee guarantees a full refund of all payments (including deposit), except the Travel Protection Plan Fee itself, made to Collette for travel arrangements in case of cancellation of your travel plans for any reason prior to the day of departure. The Travel Protection Plan Fee with Air only covers airline tickets you have purchased from Collette. Exception: If you originally purchased non-refundable airline tickets, the Travel Protection Plan

does not provide a refund for the airline tickets, taxes or fees, in the event of cancellation. This air ticket is covered by Collette's travel protection plan under Part B, if you cancel your trip for covered reasons (see Part B for more details). The Travel Protection Plan Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. However, the Part B travel insurance includes a single supplement benefit of \$1,000 for certain covered reasons as detailed in Part B. In this case, the single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. Division of this charge between the two passengers involved is solely their responsibility. If insufficient funds are deducted from the canceling client, the traveling client will be charged the remaining portion of the single supplement. Cancellation waiver protects you from penalties in the event you have a need to cancel your entire inclusive tour package up to the day prior to departure. Cancellation waiver does not indemnify you from penalties if you chose to cancel partial tour components or air. If you chose to partially cancel your vacation, you will be responsible for a revision fee as well as any penalties that are incurred at the time of the cancellation. Upon cancellation of transportation or travel services where you, the customer, are not at fault and have not canceled in violation of the terms and conditions above, you will be refunded 100%. Please see your sales agent for more information, or review our brochure for details.

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