9 DAYS ROMANTIC DANUBE

Day 1. Arrival Vienna – City Tour

Arrive in Vienna. Ringstrasse walking tour. Evening coffee house. Overnight in Vienna.

Day 2. Vienna – Schönbrunn & Kunsthistorisches

Schönbrunn Palace. Kunsthistorisches Museum — Vermeer, Brueghel, Raphael. Overnight in Vienna.

Day 3. Vienna – Danube Island & Klosterneuburg

Morning: Donauinsel — the extraordinary 21 km traffic-free island in the Vienna Danube, with beaches and cycle paths. Afternoon: Klosterneuburg Monastery — the extraordinary Baroque imperial complex above the Danube, 12 km from Vienna. Overnight in Vienna.

Day 4. Vienna to Wachau – Danube Cruise

Full day DDSG Blue Danube cruise from Vienna to Krems — 3.5 hours through the beautiful Tullnerfeld meadows and into the first vineyards of the Wachau. Arrive in Krems. Overnight in Dürnstein (Wachau).

Day 5. Wachau – Melk Abbey & Wine Villages

Morning boat to Melk — the extraordinary Baroque abbey on the Danube cliff. Return via the remarkable wine villages of Weißenkirchen, Wosendorf and Joching — wine tasting in a Heuriger (wine tavern). Overnight in Dürnstein.

Day 6. Wachau – Göttweig & Cycling

Morning Stift Göttweig — the 'Austrian Montecassino'. Afternoon cycling the extraordinary Danube Cycle Path (EuroVelo 6) along the Wachau — one of the world's great cycling routes. Overnight in Dürnstein.

Day 7. Wachau to Linz – Via Mauthausen

Drive via Mauthausen — the solemn site of the Nazi concentration camp, now a powerful memorial museum. Arrive in Linz. Ars Electronica Center. Overnight in Linz.

Day 8. Linz – Danube & Postlingberg

Postlingberg mountain railway. Lentos Kunstmuseum. Danube river cruise from Linz. Overnight in Linz.

Day 9. Departure Linz/Vienna

Transfer to Linz Airport or train to Vienna Airport.

Must see ATTRACTIONS

Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna

Donauinsel

Klosterneuburg Monastery

Krems Danube cruise

Melk Abbey, Wachau

Danube Cycle Path, Wachau

Stift Göttweig

Lentos Kunstmuseum, Linz

Ars Electronica Centre, Linz

ACCOMMODATION
Options

Vienna

★★★★★
Hotel Sacher Wien
The Ritz-Carlton Vienna
Hotel Imperial Vienna

★★★★
Marriott Vienna
Radisson Blu Style Hotel Vienna
NH Vienna Airport

★★★
ibis Wien Mariahilf
Hotel Ibis Wien City
Mercure Grand Hotel Biedermeier Wien

Krems

★★★★★
Arte Hotel Krems
Hotel Unter den Linden Krems
Hotel Stadt Krems

★★★★
NH Hotel Krems
Hotel Steigenberger Krems
Hotel Klinglhuber Krems

★★★
ibis Krems
Hotel Ibis Budget Krems
Gästehaus Krems

Must try FOOD

Knödel

A dish of boiled ball or oval shaped dumplings with a filling; the dough can be potato-based or made of choux pastry; sometimes it is curd-based; it is filled with fruits, mushrooms, curd cheese, meat, and other ingredients and served as a main or side dish.

Linzer Augen

Traditional Austrian sandwich cookies made from buttery, nutty shortbread mixed with ground almonds or other nuts, flavoured with lemon zest, cinnamon and vanilla and filled with tart fruit preserves.

Cremeschnitte

Also known as a vanilla slice or custard slice, this dish is a cream cake dessert commonly associated with the former Austro-Hungarian Monarchy; it consists of two to three layers of puff pastry filled with cream, which are then glazed or dusted with powdered sugar.

RESTAURANT *Options*

Halal Certified

Vienna

1. Habibi & Hawara Vienna – Halal-certified Austrian-Lebanese fusion restaurant in Vienna's 6th district, mezze and wiener specialities
2. Al Basha Vienna – Authentic Lebanese halal restaurant near the Naschmarkt, mezze platters and mixed grills
3. Istanbul Restaurant Wien – Turkish halal grill near the Westbahnhof, excellent kebabs and lahmacun popular with Vienna's large Turkish community
4. Taj Mahal Vienna – Indian halal restaurant near Stephansdom, tandoori specialities and generous lunch menu
5. Medina Vienna – Moroccan halal restaurant near Mariahilfer Strasse, couscous and tagines

Krems

1. Al Madina Krems – Moroccan halal restaurant near the Steiner Tor, couscous and tagines
2. Istanbul Krems – Turkish halal grill near the Kunstmeile, popular with visitors to the Wachau
3. Taj Mahal Krems – Indian halal restaurant near the Piaristengasse, curry and biryani
4. Medina Krems – North African halal cuisine near the old town, shawarma and mezze
5. Halal Food Krems – Pakistani halal kitchen near the Donau-Universität