

23 June
-
12 July
2026



Heart of Europe River Cruise

Budapest to Amsterdam



Main River Village



WHAT BETTER WAY TO EXPERIENCE THE HEART OF EUROPE BY FIVE STAR RIVER BOAT FROM BUDAPEST TO AMSTERDAM ALONG THE ICONIC RHINE, MAIN AND DANUBE RIVERS.

Visit quintessential European towns and villages; castles and medieval cities. Wander cobblestone streets, see magnificent Vienna and be captivated by the bridges of Budapest.

Drink beer, enjoy German sausages and pastries at a famous cafe in Vienna and sip a cold Riesling along the way – always returning to your comfortable ‘home’ aboard ‘Avalon Expression.’ There is also the opportunity to extend your holiday to other European destinations.

June 2026

Tuesday 23 Auckland - Dubai

Depart in the evening on Emirates Airlines for a direct flight to Dubai.

Wednesday 24 Dubai - Budapest D

Morning arrival, change planes and continue onto Budapest. Arrive midafternoon with time to rest before a Welcome Dinner.

Thursday 25 Budapest (Embarkation) B D

After a leisurely breakfast we transfer to the ‘Avalon Expression’ for embarkation with time to settle into your home for the next 14 nights. This afternoon there is free time to explore, before a ‘Meet the Crew’ welcome reception in the evening.

Friday 26 Budapest (Hungary) B L D

Spanning the banks of the Danube, Budapest is one of Eastern Europe’s liveliest cities. See the massive hilltop castle complex with its remarkable Fishermen’s Bastion and the city’s eight bridges which connect ancient Buda on the right with Pest on the left. Free afternoon to shop, visit a café or walk one of the iconic bridges. Evening departure out of Budapest.

Saturday 27 Bratislava (Slovakia) B L D

After breakfast enjoy a guided walk of Bratislava with its fascinating Old Town of cobbled streets and alleyways. Afternoon free to explore on your own.

Sunday 28 Vienna (Austria) B L D

Arrive early morning in Vienna, known as the ‘City of Music’ and once the centre of the mighty Hapsburg Empire. Your guided tour includes many of the city highlights. An optional evening concert is available.

Monday 29 Durnstein – Wachau Valley – Melk B L D

After breakfast, join a guided walking tour where we hear tales of England’s King Richard the Lionheart. Later, sail through the Wachau Valley past vineyards, castles and charming villages on the way to Melk for a guided tour of Benedictine Abbey (A UNESCO site).

Tuesday 30 Passau (Germany) B L D

Passau is uniquely located where the Inn, Liz and Danube rivers converge. Today choose from two optional excursions
a) Salzburg – the city of Mozart
b) Cesky Krumlov in the Czech Republic – a city on the Vitava River with its 13th century castle. Alternatively, stay on the ship as you cruise into Passau. A guided walk of this charming town will take in a maze of narrow, cobblestone streets lined with beautiful patrician houses.

July

Wednesday 01 Regensburg B L D

Located at the confluence of the Danube, Naab and Regen rivers, Regensburg is one of Germany’s best-preserved medieval cities and was the only German city not bombed during WWII. The walking tour highlights the best of the city.

Thursday 02 Roth – excursion to Nuremberg (Bavaria) B L D

Today we have three options to choose from:

- a) Enjoy a sightseeing tour of the Bavarian town of Roth with its half-timbered houses, market square and 1535 hunting lodge – Schloss Ratibor.
 - b) A tour of Nuremberg’s medieval architecture, gilded fountain, Gothic Cathedral and Kaiserburg Castle.
 - c) A tour of the historic Nuremberg Rally grounds used by the Third Reich.
- In the afternoon relax on board as you cruise the Main – Danube Canal.

Friday 03 Bamberg (Bavaria) B L D

Your guided walking tour of medieval Bamberg, a World Heritage Site takes in the historic centre, winding streets and 18th century mansions. Relax as you cruise along the Main River towards Wurzburg.



Saturday 04 Wurzburg (Bavaria) B L D

Wurzburg, surrounded by verdant hillside vineyards, is known as ‘The Pearl’ with its imposing fortress and 15th century bridge. Your morning sightseeing tour includes visiting the largest ceiling fresco ever painted. Afternoon free to explore the city.



Melk



Wurzburg

Sunday 05 Main River Village (Miltenburg)

B L D

On the banks of the Main River there are small towns, many of them tucked away behind walls and towered gates. Relax on board this morning as you sail along the tranquil Main River. An afternoon guided walk of a picturesque small town will acquaint you with the town's delightful features.

Monday 06 Rudesheim – Rhine Gorge

B L D

On your included morning shore excursion in attractive Rudesheim, visit Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum. Later cruise through the dramatic Rhine Gorge where ancient castles stand sentry on lofty cliffs high above the river.

Tuesday 07 Cologne (Germany)

B L D
Morning arrival in Cologne, one of Germany's largest cities which straddles both sides of the Rhine and is known for its twin-steepled gothic cathedral. Choose between a guided city walk, or a Jewish heritage walk. Be sure to sample Kölsch beer – locally brewed for more than 100 years.

Wednesday 08 Amsterdam (Holland)

BL D
After arriving in Amsterdam, a unique perspective of the city on an included Canal Cruise, floating along the elegant grachten [canal] lined with stately homes. Free time in the afternoon – you may like to join an optional cycling tour [weather permitting].

Amsterdam, the Netherlands's sophisticated, 700-year-old capital, has elegant and classic architecture, cafés and restaurants, a lively market place, canals and waterways and more than 400km of cycle paths.



Thursday 09 Amsterdam

B D
After breakfast, we bid farewell to our floating home and disembark 'Avalon Expression'. Enjoy our city tour which includes Rijksmuseum and Anne Frank's House. Check into our hotel to refresh before our Farewell Dinner.

Friday 10 Amsterdam – Dubai

B
A day to relax before an evening transfer to the airport for your flight to Dubai or continue with your European holiday.

Saturday 11 Dubai – Auckland

Arrive Dubai early morning, change planes for a mid-morning flight to New Zealand.

Sunday 12 Auckland

Arrive Auckland mid-morning

* Itinerary subject to change

Ask about extending your stay in Europe



Amsterdam

ESTIMATED COST Per Person*

Auckland to Auckland

	Twin	Single
Category P [Royal]	\$ 20,447	N/A
Category A [Sapphire]	\$ 20,210	\$29,608
Category A [Sapphire] (Only 2x Singles SPECIAL)		\$23,026
Category D [Indigo] [2x Only]	\$ 16,259	\$23,116

EK Premium Economy Class Upgrade

T.B.C

EK Business Class Upgrade

T.B.C

Early Booking Discount if booked before 06 June 2025

\$150 per person

Previous International Pukekohe Travel Client

\$100 per person

*This is a cash or direct debit price. Credit cards will incur a 1.5% fee *Itinerary and costs subject to change, airline and fuel charges and currency fluctuations prior to final payment

Inclusions

- Return Emirates economy air Auckland – Dubai – Budapest // Amsterdam – Dubai – Auckland
- Includes all gratuities on board 'Avalon Expression'
- One night Budapest pre cruise
- One night Amsterdam post cruise
- 14 nights cruise on board 'Avalon Expression'
- Captain's Welcome and Farewell Dinners
- All meals, afternoon teas and night fare onboard
- Complimentary wine, beer and soft drinks at dinner on board
- On-board enriching activities · wine tastings
- talks by experts · local artisan demonstrations · performances by local entertainers
- Included selected guided shore excursions
- Most entrance fees
- Meals as specified
- English speaking guides throughout
- Pukekohe Travel escort subject to 20 persons travelling

Exclusions

- Travel Insurance – compulsory- Please ask for a quote
- Items of a personal nature
- Items not specified
- Airport and airline taxes (approx NZD\$275)

Booking Conditions

- A deposit of \$1,250 per person will secure a place on this tour
- Full payment is due no later than 25 February 2026

Cancellations and Refunds

- From the date of booking until 25 February 2026 – loss of deposit
- After 25 February 2026 – no refund

Documentation

- A current passport is required, valid six months beyond date of travel
- No visa is required for New Zealand passport holders
- All other passport holders please ask

Health and Mobility

- A good standard of health and fitness is required as walking and standing are an important part of this itinerary.
- The ability to walk at least 500 metres unaided on uneven surfaces and negotiate flights of stairs is essential.
- It is expected you will arrive on tour fit, healthy and ready to travel.

General Information

Weather	Max °c	Min °c
Amsterdam	18	10
Vienna	23	13
Budapest	24	13

Clothing

On board 'Avalon Expression' by day – comfortable touring clothes and walking shoes; By night – smart casual

Currency

Euro

Terms and Conditions

For full terms and conditions please visit our website www.pukekohetravel.co.nz/termsandconditions or please ask our tour consultant for a copy

Travel Insurance

Travel Insurance is essential. Please feel free to contact us for a quote.

Earn points while you cruise!

Avalon Waterways is a proud partner with Qantas Frequent Flyer.

Provide us with your frequent flyer number and we will add it to your cruise booking.



'Avalon Expression'

Custom Built For European Waterways

· Built	2013
· Length	135m
· Capacity	130
· Crew	47

Featuring two full decks of Panorama Suites with wall-to-wall, floor-to-ceiling panoramic windows that transform the living space into river cruising's only Open-Air Balcony. With 200 square feet, Panorama Suites are more than 30% larger than the industry standard, affording you the incomparable opportunity to wake each morning to splendid passing scenery from your window-facing bed.

Included for every Guest

- Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the ship
- Panoramic windows throughout the ship
- Elegant, contemporary design & decor
- Friendly, English-speaking crew & Cruise Director
- Sky Deck with whirlpool, shade awnings, game area and premium lounges
- Covered Observation Lounge
- Club Lounge with 24-hour self-serve beverage station with complimentary cappuccinos, lattes, tea, hot chocolate and premium coffees, as well as treats throughout the day
- Elevator
- Non-smoking interior and staterooms



Category P
19 sqm



Category D
16 sqm

December 2024



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