

## Weather & Destination Specific Information

# Grand Adventure – Danube & Rhine River Cruise

### WEATHER & DESTINATION SPECIFIC INFORMATION

**Time Zone:** The destinations are 6 hours ahead of U.S. Eastern Time Zone and 7 hours ahead of U.S. Central Time Zone.

**Weather:** Average High/Low

| City                   | July      |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Budapest, Hungary      | 82°F/63°F |
| Vienna, Austria        | 81°F/65°F |
| Prague, Czech Republic | 79°F/60°F |
| Lucerne, Switzerland   | 77°F/59°F |
| Amsterdam, Netherlands | 71°F/55°F |

**Accommodations:** Hotels have been carefully selected and inspected to meet and maintain the standards of comfort, cleanliness, and customer service that we require, and you deserve. Air conditioning is not a standard feature in European hotels and restaurants. Those that offer air conditioning may not produce the amount of cool air you are accustomed to at home. Room size, amenities, and configurations will vary from the United States. Hotels do not provide king-size beds and queen-size beds consist of two single beds pushed together. Guest rooms may have coffee makers, hair dryers, irons, and ironing boards. Amadeus cabin amenities include an in-room safe and hair dryer.

**Amadeus Audio System:** All shore excursions include the use of earbuds and a receiver to hear your guide's explanations.

**Currency:** Currency in the countries through which you travel:

- Austria – Euro (EUR)
- Czech Republic – Czech crown (CZK)
- Germany – Euro (EUR)
- Hungary – Hungarian forint (HUF)
- Lucerne – Swiss Francs (CHF)
- Netherlands – Euro (EUR)
- Slovakia – Euro (EUR)

Though currency differs in the various countries, Euros are also accepted in Czech Republic and Hungary. Currency exchange rates fluctuate daily. A helpful website for referencing current rates is [www.oanda.com](http://www.oanda.com).

**Cruise Packing Tips:** There is not a specific dress code aboard the Amadeus fleet, but smart casual dress is recommended for dinner. Light clothing and comfortable shoes are suggested during shore excursions and a pullover or jacket for cooler evenings. Flat rubber-soled walking shoes are recommended for onboard the riverboat.

**Docking Etiquette:** European river waterways are not large enough to support large docks often making it necessary for riverboats to tie up alongside one another, called "rafting." For passengers to disembark in these instances, it is sometimes necessary to walk across other ships to reach shore.

**Electrical Current:** The electric current in Europe is 220 volts, 50 cycles. Electric outlets and plugs are different from those in North America. An adapter is required to plug your device into an electrical socket. However, a voltage converter is only required if your device is not compatible with 220 volts. If the tag on your device lists 110-220 volts, then you will not need a converter. Adapters and converters are available at luggage, department, and electronics stores.

Electricity on board all Amadeus ships is 220 volts, 50 cycles. We suggest using a 2-pin adapter for 110V appliances.



**Gratuities Aboard Ship:** It is customary to provide gratuities for your cabin steward, server, and cocktail server. A suggested gratuity of 13 Euros per guest per day can be added to your shipboard account to cover all relevant staff members.

**Internet Aboard Ship:** As part of your cruise package, Holiday Vacations includes wireless Internet connection. Please be aware that the Internet connection on board may be weaker areas and will not be up to the standard of a hotel Internet connection. Failures in these onboard systems may occur. Internet reception is poor while transiting the locks and may not be available in certain locations along the route.

**Laundry Aboard Ship:** Valet laundry service and ironing service is available onboard the riverboat for a fee. Travel irons are not allowed in staterooms. Dry cleaning is not available onboard.

**Meals on Your Own:** The suggested gratuity for wait staff serving non-included meals is approximately 10%.

**Money Aboard Ship:** The pricing for purchases aboard the vessel is in Euros. You will sign for your purchases, then settle your shipboard account in Euros with one convenient transaction at the end of the cruise whether by cash or credit card. Visa, MasterCard, and American Express credit cards are accepted. These credit cards are also generally accepted while in ports. If using cash for your onboard account, a deposit will be required.

**Phones Aboard Ship:** Mobile phone coverage is intermittent aboard the ship. Check with your provider on rates prior to departure. Your relatives and friends may contact you aboard the cruise ship by calling 011-43-664-812-9206 for the Amadeus Queen. They will need to have a credit card, ship name, and your name available when making the call.

**Souvenirs:** The following is a list of souvenirs travelers often like to bring back:

- **Hungary:** linens, embroidery, paprika, Palinka or fruit brandy
- **Slovakia:** cornhusk ornaments, ceramics
- **Austria:** Swarovski Crystal, Edelweiss decorations
- **Germany:** wood carvings, cuckoo clock, beer steins, Alpine hats and clothing
- **Czech Republic:** Czech glass, crystal, garnet jewelry, Czech puppets & marionettes
- **Switzerland:** watches, chocolate
- **Netherlands:** clogs, Delftware, tulip bulbs (ensure it can be imported to the US)

**Smoking Aboard Ship:** Smoking (including e-cigarettes) is only allowed in designated areas aboard ship.

**Water Level:** Fortunately, changes in water levels rarely occur. If water levels are too high or too low, the cruise company may require adjustments to the itinerary or by using motorcoach travel between cities.