



Contact: Elliot Gillies, (212) 724-7783, [elliott@gilliesandzaiser.com](mailto:elliott@gilliesandzaiser.com)

### **Budapest Shines Bright in Emerald Cruises' Newest Danube River Cruise**

*10-day itinerary includes three days and many ways to explore Budapest*

Hollywood FL (September 2023) – Budapest, Hungary’s thriving capital city, is a sought-after destination for many river cruisers—and it’s easy to see why. Evening sailings through the heart of Budapest reveal a breathtaking scene: thousands of lights define the impressive Hungarian Parliament Building and gothic Fisherman’s Bastion, while Buda Castle glows from its hilltop perch and the sparkling Chain Bridge reflects in the water below. To ensure guests can fully immerse themselves in the “Pearl of the Danube,” [Emerald Cruises](#) created a fresh Danube River itinerary for 2024 that allows Budapest time to truly shine.

The [10-day Danube Explorer & Highlights of Budapest](#) river cruise offers the best of both worlds—iconic ports across five countries in the heartland of Central Europe *and* an extended stay in Budapest aboard one of their modern Star-Ships. Immersive, locally-focused experiences include a hearty Bavarian brunch enjoyed on a farm in Passau, a hands-on torte making workshop in Linz, and an exclusive classical concert in Vienna. It’s easy to stay active while touring iconic sites like Bratislava Castle and Veste Oberhaus with six distinct EmeraldACTIVE hiking and bike tours—and a fleet of bikes at the ready for guests to explore at their own pace.

Three days in Budapest—at the beginning or end of the sailing—allows ample time for touring the UNESCO World Heritage-listed city center, exploring the city’s vibrant nightlife, and enjoying a culinary tour at the Grand Market. Emerald Cruises’ Star-Ships dock close to the city center, making it easy for guests to take in the city at their own pace. For those looking for more structure, a retro tour of post-communist Budapest offers a deeper look into more recent history, while a trip to one of the city’s famed Hungarian baths treats guests to the centuries-old practice of soaking in the thermal waters that originate deep beneath the city.

Cruises run from April through October 2024. Bookings for the Danube Explorer & Highlights of Budapest itinerary as well as other 2023 and 2024 Europe river cruises include [two-for-one fares](#) as well as free, roundtrip air when paying in full within 30 days of booking.

Emerald Cruises offers a diverse lineup of river and yacht cruises on four continents. *Emerald Azzurra*, the line's first ocean-going vessel which debuted in March 2022, is a 100-guest, luxury yacht sailing the warm waters of the Mediterranean and Adriatic Seas, and new for the 2023/2024 season, the Caribbean and Central America. In November 2022, *Emerald Azzurra* was named Best New Luxury Ship in Cruise Critic's 2022 Editors' Picks Awards. *Emerald Sakara*, the brand's second luxury yacht, launched in August 2023. On the rivers, Emerald Cruises sails eight branded Star-Ships in Europe and one on the Mekong. The brand offers innovatively-designed ships, outstanding service and a focus on active shore excursions and onboard wellness offerings through their signature EmeraldACTIVE program. Emerald Cruises is part of Scenic Group, which includes Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours, Mayflower Cruises & Tours and Evergreen Tours in Australia.

Emerald Cruises can be found on Twitter at [@emerald\\_cruises](#), on Facebook as [EmeraldCruisesGlobal](#) and on Instagram as [@EmeraldCruises.global](#).

Additional information can be found by contacting your local travel advisor; on Emerald Cruises' website, [www.emeraldcrucises.com](http://www.emeraldcrucises.com); or by calling the consumer/travel agent reservations line at 844-428-8389. Digital brochure downloads are available on the website.

**Note to editors:**

Videos are available for downloading at: [Scenic Eclipse II Video](#)

Hi-resolution photos are available to download at [Scenic Eclipse II Hi-Res Photos](#)

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Gillies and Zaiser

[www.gilliesandzaiser.com](http://www.gilliesandzaiser.com)

[media@gilliesandzaiser.com](mailto:media@gilliesandzaiser.com)

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