



# Munich and Venice to Budapest

Group Organizer: Mrs. Alyson Weinstein

## Tour Includes

### Departure Date

March 29, 2023

### Overnights

Munich 2 • Venice 2 • Ljubljana 1 • Plitvice National Park area 1 • Zagreb 1 • Vienna 2 • Budapest 2

### Accommodations

Accommodations in centrally-located three-star or four-star hotels. Rooming on a triple basis. Double rooms: \$440 per person.

### Transportation

Round-trip transportation on scheduled airline. Deluxe touring motorcoach.

### Meals

All breakfasts. All dinners.

### Tour Director

Services of a specially-trained **passports** Tour Director throughout.

### Travel Protection

**passports** provides and pays for a Post-Departure Travel Protection Plan that provides coverage for Trip Interruption, Trip Delay, Baggage Loss or Delay, Medical Expense and Evacuation and more.

## Investment

# \$4649

Program Cost \$4749  
-\$100 Early Enrollment Discount  
Total \$4649

*Early Enrollment Discount expires October 15, 2022. Final payment is due 12/9/2022 or, with E-Z Pay, 2/27/2023. Tour cost is based on a group size of 25 participants. Departure from Philadelphia, PA. Adults 24 years or older are automatically charged for double rooms. With doubles, total price is \$5,089.*

## For More Information

- 1 Visit our website  
**[passports.com/enroll](https://passports.com/enroll)**
- 2 Enter Tour ID  
**AWEINSTEIN2023-3**

# Munich and Venice to Budapest

Departs: March 29, 2023



## Days 1-2: Home - Munich

Arrival transfer

Tour director-led orientation walking tour

## Day 3: Munich

Half-day city sightseeing in Munich: Local Guide, Visit to the Nymphenburg Palace and Gardens

Excursion to Neuschwanstein: Guided tour at Neuschwanstein Castle

## Day 4: Munich - Venice

Sightseeing stop in Innsbruck, Brenner Pass and Europa Bridge, Water bus

## Day 5: Venice

Guided walking tour in Venice: Local Guide, Round-trip water bus to St. Mark's Square, Visit to the Doges' Palace, Visit to St. Mark's Basilica, Glass-blowing demonstration

## Day 6: Venice - Ljubljana

Water bus, Round-trip ride to Bled Island aboard a *pletna* boat

## Day 7: Ljubljana - Plitvice National Park area

Half-day city sightseeing in Ljubljana: Local Guide, Ljubljana Castle Courtyards

## Day 8: Plitvice National Park area - Zagreb

Visit to Plitvice Lakes National Park, including a ride in a sightseeing vehicle, a boat ride, and access to trails

## Day 9: Zagreb - Vienna

Half-day city sightseeing in Zagreb's Upper and Lower Towns: Local Guide, Visit to the Cathedral of the Assumption, Visit to the Dolac open-air market, Visit to the Mirogoj Park Cemetery

Graz *\*time permitting*

## Day 10: Vienna

Full-day city sightseeing in Vienna: Local Guide, Visit to St. Stephen's Cathedral, Visit to Schönbrunn Palace with audioguide

## Day 11: Vienna - Budapest

Sightseeing stop in Bratislava

## Day 12: Budapest

Half-day city sightseeing: Local Guide, Visits to the Palace Courtyards and Matthias Church

Danube cruise

## Day 13: Departure

*\*Activities that are marked as 'time permitting' may not be possible if your group experiences a delay earlier in the day. Missed activities marked as 'time permitting' will not be refunded.*

To enroll or view full text itinerary, point your camera here:



# Detailed Itinerary

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## Wednesday 3/29 - Thursday 3/30

### Home - Munich

Arrival transfer

Tour director-led orientation walking tour

Meals included: Dinner

Overnight: Munich

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## Friday 3/31

### Munich

Half-day city sightseeing in Munich: Local Guide, Visit to the Nymphenburg Palace and Gardens

Excursion to Neuschwanstein: Guided tour at Neuschwanstein Castle

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Overnight: Munich

### Days 1-2: Arrival in Munich, Orientation Walking Tour

Depart the U.S. for Europe via scheduled carrier. This is the big day! Watch the morning light gather slowly, first off the left-hand side of the airplane, then everywhere. It's the next day, and Germany!

You'll be struck by your first impression of Munich and its landmarks, which have been beautifully restored to their pre-war conditions.

### Tour director-led orientation walking tour

Step out and have a first look at your host city in the company of your tour director, who will provide both practical tips and background information.

### Day 3: Munich City Sightseeing, Excursion to Neuschwanstein

#### Half-day city sightseeing in Munich

A sightseeing tour in *München* takes you around the impressive *Theresienwiese*, site of the famous annual *Oktoberfest*. In the center of the city discover the grand set-piece boulevards of the *Ludwigstrasse* and *Maximilianstrasse* with their Neoclassical palaces, and the monumental *Feldherrnhalle* where, in 1923, Hitler failed in his attempt at the *coup d'état* known as the Munich Putsch. See the student area of Schwabing, *Königsplatz*, the *Residenz*, the *Frauenkirche*, whose 300-foot-high onion-domed towers symbolize the Munich skyline, and the historic *Marienplatz*. The tour ends with a performance of the red-coated mannequins in the Town Hall *Glockenspiel*.

A half-day local guide, well-educated and specially-trained on the history and culture of Munich, will accompany your group.

#### Visit to the Nymphenburg Palace and Gardens

Visit Nymphenburg Palace, once the summer residence of the Bavarian sovereigns. See rooms decorated in their original Baroque style from the 17th century, as well as Rococo and Neoclassical decor. The gardens were landscaped in the 18th century by an employee of André Le Nôtre, who designed the gardens of Versailles.

#### Excursion to Neuschwanstein

Today's excursion takes you along a scenic route into fantasyland.

Enter the dream castle built by Bavaria's "mad" King Ludwig II. About Neuschwanstein, the model for Walt Disney's *Sleeping Beauty's* castle, it is said that Ludwig employed a stage set designer rather than an architect. The result is pure theatrical fantasy, stimulated by the King's fancy for Wagnerian music: from artificial grottoes to ornate rooms to dazzling views of the Alps from the belvedere.

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## Saturday 4/1

### Munich - Venice

Sightseeing stop in Innsbruck, Brenner Pass and Europa Bridge, Water bus

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner  
Overnight: Venice

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## Sunday 4/2

### Venice

Guided walking tour in Venice: Local Guide, Round-trip water bus to St. Mark's Square, Visit to the Doges' Palace, Visit to St. Mark's Basilica, Glass-blowing demonstration

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner  
Overnight: Venice

## Day 4: Innsbruck, Venice

### Travel to Venice, via Innsbruck,

Travel to Innsbruck, which hosted the Winter Olympic Games twice, in 1964 and 1976.

On a sightseeing stop in Innsbruck, you will see that the city's historic center is concentrated in a few small blocks. Landmarks include the Hofburg Palace (summer residence of Austria's Hapsburg monarchs), the Cathedral, the Little Golden Roof (tiled with hundreds of gold coins in the 1500s), the rococo-style *Helblinghaus* and the medieval Belfry.

Today's drive takes you across the Po River Valley, then over the Alps with many a twist and turn through the mountains of northern Italy. You'll cross the Brenner Pass at the 600-foot-high Europa Bridge before reaching the Austrian mountain resort of Innsbruck, which hosted the Winter Olympic Games twice, in 1964 and 1976.

Follow the *autostrada* along the fertile plain of the Po River to Venice, the "Pearl of the Adriatic."

Remember Marco Polo, who set out from this magnificent harbor in 1271, at the age of 18, on a fantastic journey to Asia.

## Day 5: Venice Guided Walking Tour

### Guided walking tour in Venice

After a water bus ride, discover the greatest square in the West, *Piazza San Marco* with its grand monuments dominated by the *Campanile*.

A half-day local guide, well-educated and specially-trained on the history and culture of Venice, will accompany your group.

#### *Visit to the Doges' Palace*

Enter the Doges' Palace, built in the 14th century, and see how it reflects Venice's Golden Age as a center of trade and exploration. Visitors marvel at architectural treasures such as its Golden Staircase, decorated with gold leaf, the Giants' Staircase, all marble, the Compass Room, and, above all, the Chamber of the Great Council, which is one of the largest rooms in Europe. Its lavish decoration includes priceless paintings.

#### *Visit to St. Mark's Basilica*

Enter the *Basilica di San Marco*, which dates back to the 11th century and houses precious treasures behind its elaborate façade.

#### *Glass-blowing demonstration*

Watch a glassblower in action to better appreciate the manufacture of the world-renowned Venetian glass.

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## Monday 4/3

### Venice - Ljubljana

Water bus, Round-trip ride to Bled Island aboard a *pletna* boat

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner  
Overnight: Ljubljana

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## Tuesday 4/4

### Ljubljana - Plitvice National Park area

Half-day city sightseeing in Ljubljana: Local Guide, Ljubljana Castle Courtyards

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner  
Overnight: Plitvice National Park area

## Day 6: Lake Bled, Ljubljana

### Travel to Ljubljana via Lake Bled

Slovenia was the first of the former Yugoslav republics to gain its independence in 1991 after centuries of incorporation within foreign political entities, from the Roman Empire to Eastern Europe's Communist block. Contrary to neighboring countries, Slovenia's population of just over two million is rather homogeneous: over 80% ethnic Slovenes who speak a Slavic language written in the Roman alphabet, and a similar majority of Roman Catholics.

#### *Travel to Bled*

Your destination is a picturesque town set in the foothills of Slovenia's Julian Alps.

The focal point in Bled, is Slovenia's only island, set in Lake Bled

#### *Round-trip ride to Bled Island aboard a pletna boat*

Enjoy the lake cruise to and from the island aboard a wooden rowboat called *pletna*, which can transport up to twenty passengers. It's propelled by a rower (*plenar*), who rows standing up. You'll have a half-hour on the tiny island before the return journey.

#### *Travel to Ljubljana*

Proceed to Slovenia's capital city, Ljubljana, whose name means "Beloved" in Slovene. It has been compared to Prague because of its elegant architecture and vibrant cultural life.

## Day 7: Ljubljana City Sightseeing, Travel to the Plitvice National Park

### Half-day city sightseeing in Ljubljana

Your motorcoach tour in Ljubljana will introduce the city, set below its castle. See landmarks such as the 18th-century Cathedral of St. Nicholas; the old Church of St. Peter, known for the work of the architect Ivan Vurnik (1884-1971) and his wife Helena Vurnik; the statue of the national poet-hero France Prešeren (1800-1849); the unusual Triple Bridge designed by Ljubljana native Joze Plecnik (1872-1957), who became a world-renowned architect; and the Dragon Bridge, built in 1901 and adorned with four dragons, the dragon being the symbol of Ljubljana.

On City Square, you will see a replica of the famous Robba Fountain, made of Carrara marble in the 1750s by the Italian sculptor Francesco Robba (the original has been moved to the National Gallery).

A local guide, well-educated and specially-trained on the history and culture of Ljubljana, will accompany your group.

#### *Ljubljana Castle Courtyards*

Visit the Courtyards of Ljubljana Castle, which the native architect Joze Plecnik called the Slovenian Acropolis because it's set on a hill from which there are spectacular views of the city, and it recapitulates the history and culture of Slovenia.

### Travel to the Plitvice National Park

Head out to the verdant region that's home to a national park regarded as one of Europe's most beautiful natural wonders, with its string of sixteen beautiful lakes connected by a series of waterfalls, caves and cascades.

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## Wednesday 4/5

### Plitvice National Park area - Zagreb

Visit to Plitvice Lakes National Park, including a ride in a sightseeing vehicle, a boat ride, and access to trails

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner  
Overnight: Zagreb

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## Thursday 4/6

### Zagreb - Vienna

Half-day city sightseeing in Zagreb's Upper and Lower Towns: Local Guide, Visit to the Cathedral of the Assumption, Visit to the Dolac open-air market, Visit to the Mirogoj Park Cemetery

Graz (time permitting)

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner  
Overnight: Vienna

## Day 8: Plitvice Lakes National Park, Travel to Zagreb

### Visit to Plitvice Lakes National Park, including a ride in a sightseeing vehicle, a boat ride, and access to trails

Explore this stunning park site once known as Devils Garden for its karst formations. It's now a UNESCO World Heritage Site famous for its clear lakes, waterfalls, abundant flora and wildlife.

Your admission ticket includes a ride on a panoramic vehicle, a ride on an electric boat, and access to the hiking trails.

Visitors can explore Plitvice Lakes National Park by following lakeshore paths and footbridges. Electric shuttle buses are available to reach the starting points on the trails.

### Travel to Zagreb

Continue to Slavonia, a region of plains and low mountain ranges in eastern Croatia that's home to the country's capital city.

## Day 9: Zagreb City Sightseeing, Travel to Vienna via Graz

### Half-day city sightseeing in Zagreb's Upper and Lower Towns

Discover Zagreb's landmarks on a city tour that will take you through the Old Town, or Upper Town, centered around Ban Jelacic Square. See Zagreb Cathedral, still the tallest building in Croatia, and the Archbishop's Court; the Croatian Building, then the Lotrscak Tower, which dates back to the 13th century.

Then, see the Lower Town, established in 1830. It's known for its museums, the Croatian National Theater.

A half-day local guide, well-educated and specially-trained on the history and culture of Zagreb, will accompany you today.

#### *Visit to the Cathedral of the Assumption*

Enter the Catholic sanctuary dedicated to the Assumption of the Virgin Mary and to the kings St. Stephen and St. Ladislaus. Its twin spires are the city's best-known landmarks, as well as Croatia's tallest buildings. Begun in 1093, this cathedral was rebuilt several times through the centuries.

#### *Visit to the Dolac open-air market*

Visit the lively Dolac open-air market, where colorful piles of fresh fruits and vegetables greet shoppers, along with cheeses, meat, fish and baked goods.

#### *Visit to the Mirogoj Park Cemetery*

View one of the most beautiful, park-like cemeteries in Europe, famous for its pavilions, arcades, monumental tombs, and sculptures. It's the resting place of both ordinary and prominent Croats of all religions, among them composers, authors, and poets.

### Travel to Vienna via Graz

Travel to Austria's elegant capital city.

Take a stroll in the Old Town. Harken to the music, which floats everywhere in the air. Why not treat yourself to a slice of *Sachertorte* at Café Demel, which is renowned for its fine pastry chefs?

#### *Graz (time permitting)*

Arrive in the "small fortress" town of Graz, now Austria's second largest city. Its park-like beauty, mild climate and proximity to the Styrian forests make it a popular year-round resort. Discover the Altstadt, the compact old quarter around the Hauptplatz, which was first laid out in 1164. See the Archduke Johann Fountain, the Schlossberg (castle hill) with its Clock Tower, the 15th-century Dom and the Glockenspielplatz, where wooden figures emerge from a wall at regular intervals to dance the hours away.

#### *Travel to Vienna*

Travel to Vienna, Austria's elegant capital city.

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## Friday 4/7

### Vienna

Full-day city sightseeing in Vienna: Local Guide, Visit to St. Stephen's Cathedral, Visit to Schönbrunn Palace with audioguide

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner  
Overnight: Vienna

## Day 10: Vienna City Sightseeing

### Full-day city sightseeing in Vienna

A wealth of sights is yours to discover today. See the Opera House, the Houses of Parliament and Emperor Franz Joseph's Hofburg Palace. A city within a city with more than 2,600 rooms, the Hofburg also houses the Imperial Treasury and the *Burgkapelle*, which features the world-renowned Vienna Boys Choir. See the *Heldenplatz*, where Hitler announced the *Anschluss* (Annexation) of Austria to the German Reich in 1938.

#### *Local Guide*

A well-educated and specially-trained on the history and culture of Vienna, will accompany your group today.

#### *Visit to St. Stephen's Cathedral*

Enter *Domkirche St. Stephan*, one of Vienna's most famous landmarks, distinguished by its steep tile-covered roof and tall Gothic steeple known as Old Steffel. Consecrated in 1147, but rebuilt in the 15th century, St. Stephen's Cathedral is filled with ornate altars, chapels, artwork and tombs, in particular the imposing sarcophagus of the Holy Roman Emperor Frederick III.

#### *Visit to Schönbrunn Palace with audioguide*

Enjoy a visit to a royal hunting lodge which was transformed into a magnificent summer palace for the Hapsburg monarchs. Outside and inside, *Schloss Schönbrunn* presents a dizzying display of Baroque and Rococo art. The park, with its fountains, is one of the finest examples of 18th-century landscape architecture.

## Day 11: Bratislava, Budapest

Travel on to the capital city of Slovakia, which straddles the River Danube and was once the capital of nearby Hungary.

Known during the Austrian occupation by its German name, Pressburg, Slovakia's capital city can be traced back to a fort built by the Romans on the edge of their empire. Its castle testifies to centuries of Slavic invasions and stormy struggles between the kings of Central Europe.

See landmarks such as the castle's Gothic gateways, the Castle Steps, patrician houses clustered below Castle Hill, the Cathedral of St. Martin, where Hungary's kings were crowned, the Baroque Town Hall, the Archbishop's Palace, and the site of a university founded in 1465.

#### *Travel to Budapest*

Cross the lush farmland of *Transdanubia* on your way to Hungary's capital city, which lies on either side of the River Danube. *Buda* is the picturesque part of town, where a medieval jumble of lanes cling to the hills overlooking the river; the newer part, *Pest*, offers a perfect contrast, impressing with its grand neo-classical boulevards, large squares and splendid vistas.

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## Saturday 4/8

### Vienna - Budapest

Sightseeing stop in Bratislava

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner  
Overnight: Budapest

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## Sunday 4/9

### Budapest

Half-day city sightseeing: Local Guide, Visits to the Palace Courtyards and Matthias Church

Danube cruise

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner  
Overnight: Budapest

## Day 12: Budapest City Sightseeing, Budapest, Danube Cruise

### Half-day city sightseeing

A sightseeing introduction to Budapest provides an unforgettable panorama of Hungary's thousand-year history.

Drive up Gellért Hill for a spectacular view embracing the beautiful parks on Margaret Island, the proud Danube bridges, and the 110-foot-high Liberation Memorial.

Continue across the Danube and tour the new town of Pest. Among its most breathtaking monuments are the Parliament buildings, facing the river, and the monumental Square of the Heroes.

A half-day local guide, well-educated and specially-trained on the history and culture of Budapest, will accompany your group.

### *Visits to the Palace Courtyards and Matthias Church*

Visit Castle Hill, where you'll stroll through the Palace Courtyards to visit Matthias Church and see the celebrated neo-Gothic fantasy of the Fisherman's Bastion.

### Free time in Budapest

Make plans with your tour director.

Don't miss the great Neo-Gothic building completed in 1897 that has been celebrated as a "symphony of iron." Known as the Great Market Hall, it houses on its lower floor stalls selling produce, meat, fish, and cheeses. Head to the upper floor to view Hungarian arts and crafts, or to check out the food court and its local specialties.

Consider a visit to the House of Terror (*Terror Háza*), a chilling museum housed in the former headquarters of the State Protection Authority, the dreaded Hungarian Communist secret police which ruled between 1945 and 1956. The building was first used by the Nazis in 1944. The museum memorialize the victims of Fascism and Communism, in particular those who were tortured and murdered on the premises.

### Danube cruise

Enjoy a leisurely look at Budapest's landmarks as you cruise along the River Danube.

## Day 13: Departure

On your drive to the airport, and as your plane flies over Budapest, take in the harmonious cityscape: there are no skyscrapers to block the view, thanks to a city code that regulates building height. Then, fly westward. You'll be home tonight.

*\*Activities that are marked as 'time permitting' may not be possible if your group experiences a delay earlier in the day. Missed activities marked as 'time permitting' will not be refunded.*

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## Monday 4/10

### Departure

Meals included: Breakfast



# Cost Breakdown

<b>Itinerary</b>	Munich and Venice to Budapest
<b>Departing</b>	March 29, 2023
<b>Departure City</b>	Philadelphia, PA
<b>Rooming</b>	Triples
<b>Program Cost</b>	\$4,749
	-\$100 Early Enrollment Discount for enrollments before 10/15/2022
<b>Total Cost</b>	\$4,649
<b>Monthly Payment</b>	\$775 with <b>\$0 deposit</b>
<b>Standard Final Payment Deadline</b>	12/09/2022
<b>E-Z Pay Final Payment Deadline</b>	02/27/2023
<b>Available Add-ons not included in price</b>	Double rooms: \$440 per person - 11 @ \$40 per night (mandatory for adults 24 years and older)