



CST# 2001110-40

**San Francisco Los Angeles New York Chicago Houston Vancouver Beijing**

## 10-Day Enchanting Eastern Europe Tour

Tour Code: UBV10

**Hungary, Poland, Czech Republic & Austria**

Departure Date: (2023) 2/10, 3/10, 4/7, 5/12, 6/9, 7/7, 8/11, 9/8, 10/13, 11/10

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### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Explore many of Budapest's most prominent attractions, including Buda Castle, a world heritage site, the Matthias Church with its magnificent halls and mysterious wall paintings, and the neo-Gothic style Fisherman's Bastion where the breathtaking scenery of the whole city and Danube River is just right in front of your eyes!
- Visit the WWII's ruins Auschwitz Concentration Camp and learn about the history.
- Travel through the historic centre of Prague, recognized as the most beautiful city in Europe and listed as an UNESCO World Heritage Site. Filled in the city are many gothic and baroque style architectures, including the famous St. Vitus Cathedral where the kings of Prague were crowned.
- Stroll around Vienna, the City of Music and immerse into the rhythm of symphony.
- Enjoy the most authentic European taste: traditional Hungarian cuisine, Polish roasted duck with apples, Vienna barbeque ribs, etc.
- Accommodate in 4-star brand hotels throughout the tour.
- Professional Chinese/English speaking guide providing attentive services and detailed narrative.

### ADMISSIONS INCLUDED:

- ❖ Fisherman's Bastion & Matthias Church in Budapest, Hungary
- ❖ Maria Sklodowska Curie Museum in in Warsaw, Poland
- ❖ Prague Castle in Prague, Czech Republic
- ❖ Schonbrunn Palace & Garden in Vienna, Austria



## ITINERARIES:

- 1 **Hometown** ✈️ **Budapest, Hungary**
- 2 **Budapest (D)**  
Hotel: Mercure Budapest Korona Hotel or similar
- 3 **Budapest - Buda Castle District - Fisherman's Bastion (admission included) - Matthias Church (admission included) - Heroes' Square - Hungarian Parliament Building - Chain Bridge - Danube River Cruise (optional) - Szentendre (optional) (B/D: Hungarian traditional cuisine)**  
Hotel: Mercure Budapest Korona Hotel or similar

**Buda Castle District:** The Castle District in Budapest (the capital of Hungary) encompassed Castle Hill, the nerve centre of the city's history and packed with Buda Castle, which is the historical castle and palace complex of the Hungarian kings, and many of the most important museums and major attractions.

**Fisherman's Bastion:** The panoramic viewing terrace with fairy tale towers in Budapest. Built in the 19th century, it served as fortification in Buda and was protected by the guild of the fishermen during the Middle Ages. Now it's a must-visited attraction for the breathtaking scenic views of the Danube River, the opposite Parliament Building, layers of church towers, bridges, etc.

**Danube River:** The second longest river in Europe, originating in Black Forest, Germany and running through other nine countries. Along the River, the Byzantine Empire, the Roman Empire and the Austro-Hungarian Empire have flourished. Its brilliant historical background left behind countless cultural relics while blended with the gorgeous scenery along both sides.

- 4 **Budapest - Auschwitz Concentration Camp, Poland - Krakow (B/D)**  
Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton Krakow Hotel & Convention Center or similar

**Auschwitz Concentration Camp:** A complex of over 40 concentration and extermination camps operated by Nazi Germany in occupied Poland during World War II and the Holocaust. Over 1.1 million people died there. Recognized as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, it taught a lesson from the horrifying history of the WWII.

- 5 **Krakow - Main Square - The Cloth Hall - St. Mary's Basilica - Wieliczka Salt Mine (optional) – Warsaw (B/D: Polish Roasted Duck with Apples)**  
Hotel: Warsaw Marriott Hotel or similar

**The Cloth Hall:** Dating to the Renaissance, it is one of Krakow's most recognizable icons. It is the central feature of the Main Square in the historic Old Town, which since 1978 has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It was once a major centre of international trade. During its golden age in the 15th century, the Hall was the source of a variety of exotic imports from the east – spices, silk, leather and wax – while Kraków itself exported textiles, lead, and salt from the Wieliczka Salt Mine.

**St. Mary's Basilica:** A brick Gotjic church in Krakow. Built in the 14th century, it's 80 meters tall and famous for its wooden altarpiece carved by Veit Stoss. A trumpet signal is played every hour from the top of the St.



Mary's highest tower to commemorate a famous 13th century trumpeter who was shot in the throat while sounding the alarm before a Mongol attack on the city.

**Wieliczka Salt Mine:** As the largest salt mine in Europe and one of the oldest in the world, it excavated from the 13th century and continuously produced salt until 2007. It is now an official Polish historic monument and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, housing the most original shafts and labyrinthine passageways, displays of historic salt-mining methods, and some chapels, statues, paintings and sculptures carved out of rock salt.

**6 Warsaw - Old Town Square - Warsaw Mermaid - Royal Castle - Maria Skłodowska Curie Museum (admission included) - Holy Cross Church – Wrocław (B/D)**

Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Wrocław or similar

**Warsaw Mermaid:** Mermaids with sword and shield have been the symbol of Warsaw for long time, representing on the city's coat of arms as well as in a number of statues and other imagery. The original sculpture of the mermaid in Warsaw's Old Town square was designed by local sculptor Konstanty Hegel and was placed here in 1855.

**Royal Castle:** Situated in Castle Square at the entrance to Warsaw's Old Town, the Castle served as a royal residence of Polish monarchs. Since the 16th century until the final partition of Poland in 1795, it housed the administrative offices of the kings and the royal court. During WWII, it was the seat of the Polish head of state and president. After the War, it was reconstructed and regained its original 17th century appearance. Today, it serves as a national museum attracting over half million visitors each year, and one Warsaw's most recognizable landmarks.

**Maria Skłodowska Curie Museum:** A museum devoted to the life and work of Polish two-time Nobel laureate Maria Skłodowska-Curie (1867–1934). Located in Warsaw's New Town district where Maria was born and spent her last year of life, it is the only biographical museum in the world devoted to the discoverer of polonium and radium.

**Holy Cross Church:** A Roman Catholic church built in 1757 in the city centre of Warsaw. It was once demolished in a war in 1526 and then refurbished and extended repetitively until the current appearance. The heart of the great musician Frederic Chopin was buried under one of the pillars there marked with "HERE RESTS THE HEART OF FREDERICK CHOPIN".

**7 Wrocław - Old Town - Tumski Bridge - Cathedral Island – Prague, Czech Republic - River Cruise Dinner (optional) (B)**

Hotel: Occidental Praha or similar

**Tumski Bridge:** A steel bridge over the north branch of the Oder River in Wrocław. It's also called Lovers Bridge as there are full of lover locks which lovers leave to cherish their forever love and pledges to each other.

**Cathedral Island:** The oldest part of the city of Wrocław and formerly an island between branches of the Oder River. Archaeological excavations have shown that the western part of the Island, between the Church of St. Martin and the Holy Cross, was the first area to be inhabited. The first, wooden church (St. Martin), dating from the 10th century, was surrounded by defensive walls built on the banks of the river. It had about 1,500 inhabitants at that time.



**8 Prague - Charles Bridge - Old Town Hall - Astronomical Clock - Prague Castle (Admission & Guided Tour included) - St. Vitus Cathedral - Vienna, Austria (B/D: Hong Kong style Chinese)**

Hotel: Imperial Riding School Renaissance Vienna Hotel or similar

**Charles Bridge:** Known as Prague's landmark, the 520m long Charles Bridge has its history over 600 years and crosses over Vitava River to connect Prague Castle and the Old Town. This oldest and longest stone bridge in Europe is decorated by 30 baroque statues of saints and is thus named as Europe's open-air baroque art gallery.

**Astronomical clock:** A medieval astronomical clock attached to the Old Town Hall in Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic. The clock mechanism has three main components — the astronomical dial, representing the position of the Sun and Moon in the sky and displaying various astronomical details; the statues of 12 Catholic saints standing on either side of the clock and the other moving Apostle figures and sculptures showing the hours; and a calendar dial with medallions representing the months.

**Prague Castle:** Founded in the 9<sup>th</sup> century, Prague Castle has been served as royal palace and underwent several reconstruction and extension. It is the largest ancient castle in the world and now the residence of the President of the Czech Republic.

**St. Vitus Cathedral:** Located within Prague Castle, the Gothic styled St. Vitus Cathedral is the largest and most important church in Czech. Apart from religious services, the coronation of Czech kings and queens and their burial also take place here.

**9 Vienna - Schonbrunn Palace & Garden (admission included) - Heldenplatz - Hofburg Place - Hundertwasserhaus House - Vienna State Opera - St. Stephen's Cathedral - Free at Leisure - Vienna Concert (optional) (B/L: Barbequed Ribs)**

Hotel: Imperial Riding School Renaissance Vienna Hotel or similar

**Schonbrunn Palace & Garden:** A former imperial summer residence located in Vienna. The 1,441-room Baroque palace and its vast French garden is one of the most important architectural, cultural and historical monuments in Austria. Inside the sculpted garden space called Great Parterre, there are 32 sculptures to represent deities and virtues.

**Heldenplatz:** A public space in front of the Hofburg Palace where houses two equestrian statues of Austrian heroes. The statue of the great Austrian military leader Archduke Charles represents the highest glory of Habsburg Dynasty as under his leadership Austria had ever won the strongest victory at Napoleonic Wars. The second statue is Prince Eugene of Savoy who was one of the most successful military commanders of his time, and rose to the highest offices of state at the Imperial court in Vienna.

**Hundertwasserhaus:** An exceptional and impressive apartment house in Vienna, Austria, built after the idea and concept of Austrian artist Friedensreich Hundertwasser who presents a concept of harmony with nature and man by efficient use of irregular designs and recycle materials.

**10 Vienna ➤ Hometown (B)**

After breakfast, transfer to airport for return flight.

< Itineraries may be subject to change. >