

Prague, Bohemia and the Elegant Elbe



TRIP OVERVIEW

Discover the many hidden treasures of Bohemia as you journey between the charming cities of Prague and Dresden and cruise along the picturesque Elbe and Vltava Rivers. Bohemia's idyllic landscapes, peppered with grand castles built by the nation's nobility, is only the start of the treasures you will uncover during this trip.

ITINERARY AND DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information that you require for a smooth and comfortable trip along the Elbe and Vltava. Please take the time to read this dossier to familiarise yourself with all the aspects of our river cruise. It includes important information such as visa requirements and travel insurance.

Your included meal guide:

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner.

Day 1: UK to Prague D

Depart the UK on your scheduled flight to Prague where you will transfer to your vessel. Board at 18:00, and once on board, sample a welcome cocktail as you are introduced to the crew before dinner.

Day 2: Prague to Stechovice B/L/D

This morning your boat will cruise along the Vltava River to Stechovice. Nestled in peaceful surroundings, take in the view as you sail past rural landscapes. Once known for its gold mines, Stechovice is now famous for its traditional handmade pottery. This afternoon join an excursion to Konopiste Castle. This 13th-century gothic fortress became the Habsburg's hunting lodge and has been renovated throughout history in Renaissance and 19th Century styles. Lavishly decorated, the castle was the former home of Archduke Franz Ferdinand who lived here prior to his assassination in Sarajevo which triggered the first world war. Enjoy an evening of entertainment on board.

Day 3: Stechovice and Slapy to Prague B/L/D

Continue your cruise on the Vltava to the Slapy dam, following the river as it winds past castles in romantic, restful landscapes so typical of central Bohemia. The reservoir made by the dam is a popular bathing site for residents of Prague, with numerous recreational activities available. Later that afternoon the ship will return to Prague where you will stop for the night.

Day 4: Prague B/L/D

This morning enjoy a guided tour of Prague's Old Town. Stroll through the city's narrow streets and discover one of the most important places in Bohemian history as you visit the Jewish quarter, the old town hall with its famous astronomical clock and the Charles Bridge. After lunch on board either spend the afternoon relaxing or disembark again to explore Prague's Castle district. Visit the St. Vitus Cathedral; one of the most stunning Gothic cathedrals in Europe; the Old Royal Palace; and the Golden Lane, famed for the many goldsmiths who set up shop here in the 17th Century. Return to the ship for an evening of traditional entertainment on board.

Day 5: Prague to Melnik B/L/D

This morning cruise to Melnik, at the confluence of the Elbe River. After lunch on board, join a tour of Nelahozeves Castle, birth house of Antonin Dvorak - one of the greatest composers of the 19th century, and one of the most beautiful Renaissance castles in Bohemia. The castle's elaborate interiors are adorned with Italian-style stucco home to an incredible collection of art including works by Rubens and Velazquez collected over time by one of the oldest Bohemian noble families. Finish the tour with a wine tasting from the castle's own vineyard before returning to the ship for an evening at leisure.

Day 6: Melnik and Dresden to Prague B/L/D

Enjoy a full-day excursion to the German city of Dresden, known as the "Florence of the Elbe" and former seat of the Dukes of Saxony. Picturesquely situated on the banks of the Elbe, Dresden offers a wide variety of attractions, including several fascinating museums and beautiful promenades along the riverbank. Have lunch in a local restaurant before a guided tour of the Royal Palace in the afternoon. Return to the ship for a farewell gala evening as you continue back to Prague.

Day 7: Prague to the UK B

After breakfast on board, disembark at 09:00 and transfer to the airport for your return flight to the UK.

Meals

Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily are taken onboard the ship. Tables seat 6 people, so you'll be able to converse and socialise with new friends, whilst never feeling crowded together. Tea & coffee are available on board ship as well as unlimited soft drinks and alcoholic drinks, including a variety of wines & beer, both during meals and at the bar. (Premium brands are available at an extra cost).

Any dietary requirements and dislikes should be made known to our reservations staff at the time of booking.

On embarking the ship, you will be greeted by the captain, crew and staff and treated to welcome cocktails.

SHIP INFORMATION & ROUTE MAP

Ship information - 5★ MS Elbe Princesse II

Inaugurated in 2018, this elegant vessel is a unique paddle riverboat and hosts 42 well-appointed cabins across two decks. Decorated to a high standard, all cabins feature twin beds, a TV, air-conditioning and either a French balcony or high windows. Offering a cosy and chic allure, spend the day soaking up the sun on the large sun deck before dining in the luxurious restaurant, surrounded by panoramic windows. The paddle riverboat also features an attractive lounge and bar where fun-filled evenings of cocktails, games, dancing take place.

Facilities

■ Lounge/bar with a dance floor ■ Restaurant ■ Large sun deck with loungers and a large shaded area ■ Terrace ■ Wi-Fi on board

Length: 101.93m
Cabins 42 cabins

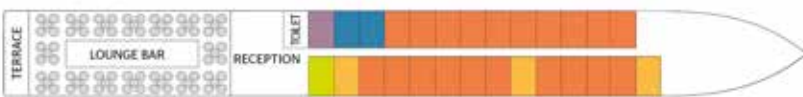
Width 10.50m
Passengers: 81 passengers



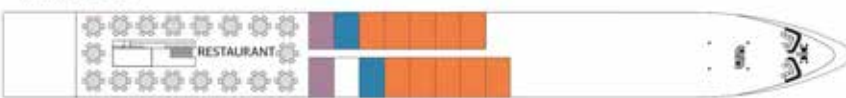
SUN DECK



UPPER DECK



MAIN DECK



- Double cabin Cat. A 14 m²
- Double cabin Cat. B 14 m²
- Double cabin Cat. C 14 m²
- Single cabin Cat. A 11.50 m² and 12 m²
- PRM cabin⁽¹⁾ Cat. C 12.50 m²

The Cabins

All cabins are equipped with shower and toilet, hair dryer, TV, telephone, air-conditioning, Wi-Fi, and a safe.

Upper deck: 28 cabins with French balcony, sliding windows.

- **Cat A** - 21 double cabins with 2 adjustable twin beds, 1 single cabin with 1 bed, and 2 single cabins with 1 large bed.
- **Cat B** - 2 double cabins with 2 adjustable twin beds.
- **Cat C** - 1 double cabin with 2 adjustable twin beds and 1 PRM cabin with 1 large bed.

Middle deck: 14 cabins with high windows.

- **Cat A** - 10 double cabins with 2 adjustable twin beds.
- **Cat B** - 2 double cabins with 2 adjustable twin beds.
- **Cat C** - 2 double cabins with 2 adjustable twin beds.

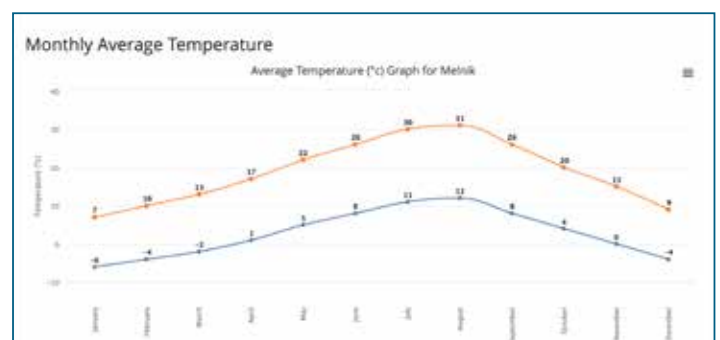
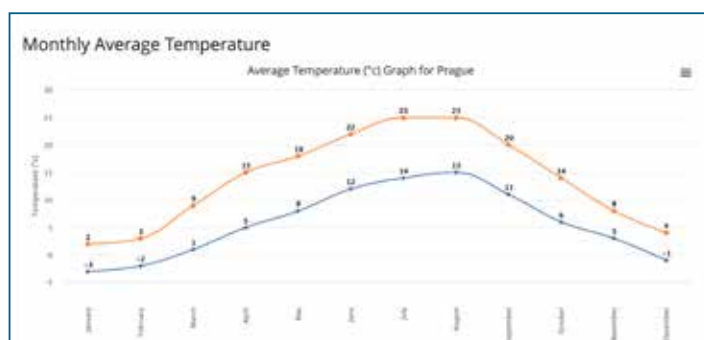


Double Cabin



WEATHER AND CLIMATE

Weather can vary quite considerably throughout the year, so please familiarise yourself with the climate charts below.



WHAT YOU NEED FOR YOUR TOUR

Visas

A visa is not required for British nationals travelling to the Czech Republic or Germany. Further advice should be sought from the applicable tourist authority for other nationalities and for general queries. We strongly advise you check your destinations' Tourist Board or Embassy for the most up-to-date guidelines regarding passport validity.

Tour Guides

An English-speaking Cruise Director will be on board your cruise to help with any queries that you may have. While on excursions included in your itinerary, you will be accompanied by an English-speaking local tour guide. When exploring locally during your leisure time you will not be accompanied by a tour guide.

Shared cruise

Please note: your cruise is shared with international clients from other companies.

Tipping

Tipping is at your discretion. There is an envelope in your cabin for these purpose that can be handed to reception at the end of your cruise.

Currency Exchange

The currency in the Czech Republic is the Czech koruna (Kč) and the currency in Germany and onboard ship is the Euro (€). We recommend that you exchange your currency before you leave the UK, however cash machines are available in all cities to withdraw money in the local currency.

Personal Expenses

This cruise is All-Inclusive, so you will only need to take a little extra money with you to cover any premium drinks on board and souvenirs, drinks and snacks purchased when off the ship, as well as any optional excursions you wish to book.

Credit Card Information

Credit cards are accepted on board ship and throughout all major cities.

Electricity Supply

The electricity supply is 220V. You will need a European two pin round plug adapter in the Czech Republic and Germany.

Itinerary Changes

The Captain and Croisieurope reserve the right to alter/modify an itinerary at any time, should safety or external circumstances make this necessary, changes are also subject to tides. Some of the highlights may only be seen on optional excursions at an additional cost, or by exploring independently.

Health and Vaccinations

It is your responsibility to check any health and vaccination requirements applicable to your booked arrangements. We can only provide general information about this. Health and hygiene facilities and disease risks vary from country to country. You should take health advice about your own needs as early as possible and in good time before your departure. Sources of information include; www.fco.gov.uk, www.travelhealthpro.org.uk/, www.hpa.org.uk, your General Practitioner or a specialist clinic.

Physical Accessibility

This river cruise is accessible to most people with an average level of fitness and normal mobility. It involves moderate days of walking on cobble streets, steep steps and getting on and off the cruise ship. This cruise is not suitable for anyone with walking difficulties.

Insurance

We strongly recommend that you and all members of your party are suitably insured as soon as you book your holiday. It is a condition of booking that you must have suitable travel insurance. It is important that you purchase travel insurance that suitably covers your participation in whatever activities you may undertake at the time that you make your booking. To assist you with this, we have arranged travel insurance in partnership with Holiday Extras. To arrange your travel insurance with Holiday Extras, please call **0800 781 4237** and quote **'WK830'** for preferential rates. Please ensure you provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24 hour emergency contact number as soon as possible. Mercury Holidays will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

Passport Information

Your Passport Information is required for this cruise, including place of birth. This information is required at least 70 days prior to your departure. Failure to provide this information on time may result in your booking being cancelled with loss of deposit.

DRESS CODE AND WHAT TO PACK

Dress Code

There is no official dress code on board, however you'll be most comfortable during the day in smart casual clothing. You may wish to bring items that do not wrinkle easily as there is no iron provided on board ship. There are also no laundry facilities available. Bring a variety of clothing for the weather expected on your cruise, including light clothing and bathing suits for hot weather, a jumper or jacket for cooler weather and of course a raincoat and/or small umbrella.

What to Pack

- Comfortable walking shoes such as trainers for sightseeing excursions
- Sun cream and a hat with a big brim for sunny days
- Sunglasses
- Ruck sack or light bag per person
- Personal toiletries
- Insect repellent
- Personal first aid kit containing travel pills, rehydration powder, plasters, stomach settlers, antiseptic creams, aspirin etc.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

IMPORTANT: Please note that final flight details, including terminal, airline and baggage allowance, will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure. A printed E-ticket is no longer required at check-in, all you need to do is present your passport to the staff at the desk and your boarding pass will be given to you.

Airport Extras

If you wish to arrange Airport car parking or accommodation at preferential rates, we recommend you book this in advance with Holiday Extras on 0871 360 2000, quoting HX313.

ON YOUR ARRIVAL

On your arrival in Prague you will be met by a representative from our local agent, CroisiEurope, holding a sign displaying: "Mercury Holidays". The Mercury Holidays/CroisiEurope representative will show you to your transfer vehicle. If you need to contact your representative during your stay the details will be given on your arrival.

EMBARKING AND DISEMBARKING

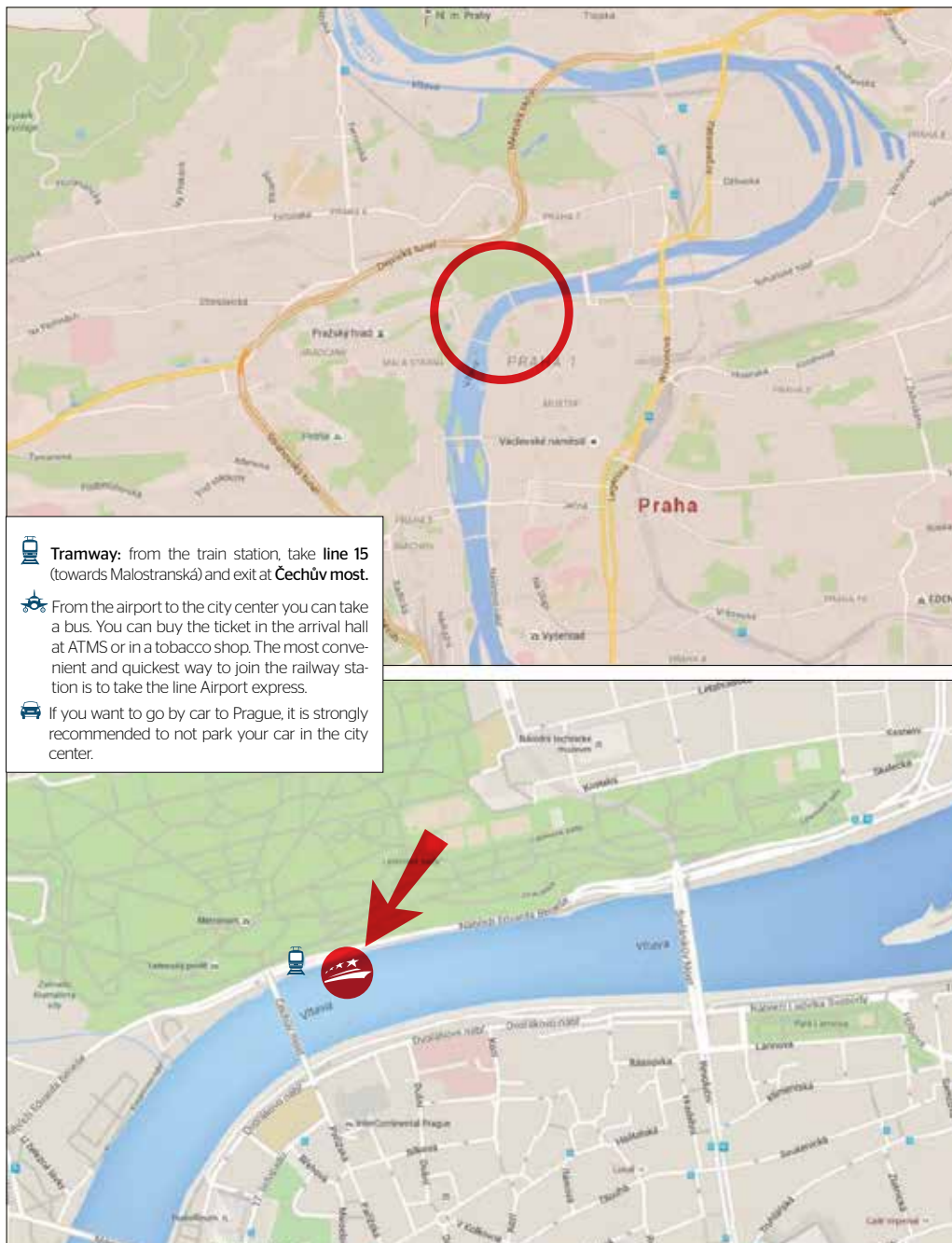
Embarkation Time: 18:00


Disembarkation Time: 09:00


If your arrival is before this time, you will be transferred to the docking area where you will be able to leave your luggage. You are then free to explore the city at your own pace until it is time to board your ship.


BOARDING DETAILS

Please see below for details of your boarding quay. Your cruise company is **CroisiEurope**.



 **Tramway:** from the train station, take **line 15** (towards Malostranská) and exit at **Čechův most**.

 From the airport to the city center you can take a bus. You can buy the ticket in the arrival hall at ATMS or in a tobacco shop. The most convenient and quickest way to join the railway station is to take the line Airport express.

 If you want to go by car to Prague, it is strongly recommended to not park your car in the city center.

 **PRAGUE**

The boat is moored next to the bridge **CECHUV** (Čechův most), along the quay **Nábřeží Edvarda Beneše**.

BOAT PHONE NUMBER (in case of emergency):

MS Elbe Princesse: **+33 (0) 7 72 34 29 41**

MS Elbe Princesse II: **+33 (0) 6 43 75 11 13**


CroisiEurope
Cruises

PLEASE NOTE: In the unlikely event that your cruise does not operate, then you may be asked to change to a different date. A full refund will be made available, should the alternative dates offered be unsuitable.

Prague City Stay Extension

If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0333 003 0522



TRIP OVERVIEW

Enjoy an extended 2-night stay in the capital city of the Czech Republic - Prague. Prague is a political, cultural, and economic hub of central Europe, with a rich history and Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque architecture. Discover this fascinating city further, at your own pace.

ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your beach extension to Prague.

Hotel (2 nights)

Your stay in Prague will take place at the **4★ Hotel Royal Prague** on a Bed and Breakfast basis.

The boutique-style Hotel Royal Prague elevates modern, contemporary elegance to a higher level. Its elegant design accentuates the tradition of modern and timeless architecture. The hotel is strategically located in the district of Karlín. It is located right in the middle of the Business City, just 4 subway stations from Prague's centre. It is close to all major Prague landmarks and Prague Castle. The Old Town Square is walking distance from the hotel and takes only 35 minutes.

Hotel Information

4★ Hotel Royal Prague

Address: Thámová 688/36, 186 00 Karlín, Czechia
Tel: 00420 296 686 900

Tour Guides

Your stay in Prague is not escorted by a tour guide and your time will be free to explore the area at your own pace. Transfers are included.

Transfers

Arrival transfer: 09:00am transfer from your ship to Hotel Royal Prague
Return transfer: Pick up at 17.30pm at Hotel Royal Prague to Prague airport. (Luggage can be stored at hotel until return transfer).
Supplier: Travel Europe - Emergency contact 00420 221 59 7700 or 0043 (0)5242 6900

Meals

Your stay will be on a Bed and Breakfast basis.

Personal Expenses

You will need to take money with you to cover any lunches, as well as personal purchases, such as souvenirs and drinks.



FLIGHT INFORMATION

Please note: Final hotel and flight details will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.

For any further enquiries or for more information call us on **0333 003 0522**