

# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION EUROPEAN RIVER CRUISE JOURNEYS

## PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for at least six (6) months after your journey and should have a minimum of one (1) blank visa page for entry and exit stamps for each country visited.

**Holders of U.S. and Canadian passports are not required to obtain a tourist visa for entry into in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Slovakia and Switzerland.**

Dutch law requires that everyone over the age of 14 carry some form of official identification at all times. A U.S. passport suffices for these purposes.

In Hungary, local law requires that you carry photo identification, such as your passport, at all times.

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient U.S. passport and visa processing. Visit them online at [visacentral.com/abercrombiekent](https://visacentral.com/abercrombiekent) or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

## VACCINATIONS

There are no vaccinations required to enter Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Slovakia and Switzerland.

## STAY HEALTHY ON THE ROAD

Visitors are required to maintain medical insurance that is valid for the cost of emergency care and evacuation for the duration of their stay in Czech Republic. You may be required to show proof of medical insurance upon arrival.

## CASH & CREDIT CARDS

The currency on board the river ships is the euro. Guest accounts may be settled by cash (euro or U.S. dollars) or credit card (AMEX, Diners Club, MasterCard or Visa). No exchange facilities are available on board the ships.

Major credit cards are widely accepted here and ATM outlets are widespread. In smaller cities, shops and cafes may prefer cash payment for goods and services. Banks and exchange facilities may refuse US dollar denominations of \$50 and \$100 if they are not equipped with devices to identify counterfeit currency.

Non-European Union resident tourists can, in most cases, apply for a refund of the VAT paid on gifts and merchandise bought for export out of an EU country. The refund should be requested at the last port before departure from the EU. Please note: Switzerland is a non-EU country and you cannot obtain a VAT customs stamp or VAT refund for goods purchased in the EU when departing Switzerland.

# PACKING LIST

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Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to find and manage your luggage for you.

### PACKING LIST

Choose versatile, casual clothing that can be layered if the weather (or level of air-conditioning) requires. Cotton and other light fabrics are comfortable choices for summertime. Spring and autumn temperatures dictate medium-weight clothing selections. Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Formal clothing is not necessary.

For special occasions on board and ashore, a “jacket and tie” is appropriate for gentlemen with an equivalent standard of evening wear for ladies.

Cathedrals, churches, and other religious sites require conservative dress. Arms and shoulders should be covered.

#### Clothing

- Casual slacks
- Walking shorts
- Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses
- Long sleeve shirts or blouses
- Comfortable walking shoes with low or no heels and non-slip soles
- Lightweight raincoat and umbrella
- Sweater or fleece jacket
- Brimmed hat or visor for sun protection
- Sleepwear
- Personal garments
- Socks
- Swimwear/cover-up

#### Other Recommended Items

- Sunglasses
- Sun block and lip balm
- Simple first-aid kit
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Smartphone
- Charging cables for electronics
- Global travel adapter

Laundry service is available at most hotels and dry cleaning is available in larger cities. Check costs and return times before using these services.

## TIPPING GUIDELINES EUROPEAN RIVER CRUISE JOURNEYS

While decisions regarding tipping rest entirely with you, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars) depending on the type of journey:

	<b>European River Cruise Journeys</b>	<b>Tailor Made Journeys</b>
Resident Tour Director or Group Extension Guide	\$20 per person, per day	Not applicable
Local Guides	Included	\$25 per person, per day (full day)
Drivers	Included	\$15 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	Included	\$5 per person, per transfer
Cruise staff on board river ships	Included	n/a.
Local guides/drivers on optional cruise line shore excursions	At your discretion; 1€ per person, per excursion for your driver and guide is suggested.	n/a
Housekeepers	Included	\$2 per person, per night
Included Meals	Included	Included
Restaurants or Room Service on own	10-15% unless already added	10-15% unless already added

For extra nights or Tailor Made services added to a European River Cruise Small Group Journey, please follow the Tailor Made Journeys guidelines for these days only.

## LIFE ON BOARD EUROPEAN RIVER CRUISE VESSELS

Cabins on board each ship are fully air-conditioned and heated with adjustable climate control. All cabins and suites feature an en suite bathroom with shower and hair dryer, satellite television, personal safe, spacious wardrobe and toiletries. Suite category cabins feature a mini-bar, with bathrobes provided for guest use. Laundry and ironing services are available for a fee; dry cleaning is not available.

All river ships featured on European River Cruise Journeys have an elevator which goes to all decks except the Sun Deck.

Each vessel has a 24-hour staffed reception desk; library with a selection of books, magazines and daily newspapers; five bicycles and helmets for passenger use; complimentary fitness room open 24 hours; deck chairs, chess board and walking track. 'Amadeus Provence' has an outdoor pool and 'Amadeus Queen' features an indoor pool with a partially retractable-roof. The ships do not have a medical doctor on board. Hair dresser and massages are available by appointment. An onboard shop sells small souvenirs, post cards, accessories and a limited supply of everyday products.

On board your river ship, all meals are included and served in the Restaurant which accommodates all guests in one seating. Tables are especially reserved for the A&K group on board. Breakfast is served buffet-style with egg dishes cooked to order. Lunch consists of buffet specialties in the restaurant or a light lunch alternative is offered in the Panorama bar. Dinner is usually four courses. Expect "international style" menus flavored by the cuisines of Central Europe. A&K programs include one bottle of water in your cabin daily and bottled water, coffee, tea, soft drinks, beer and house wine are included with lunch and dinner. Other alcoholic beverages can be purchased and charged to your passenger account. All bottles of wine or champagne brought on board by passengers for consumption in the ship's restaurant, bar or public areas are subject to a €10.00 corkage fee per bottle. Coffee and tea are also available at a self-serve coffee/tea station throughout the day.

Smoking is not permitted anywhere on board except designated exterior areas.

On board your river ship each cabin features a GSM direct-dial telephone. The current cost of GSM (cellular) is € 2.00 per minute for calls within Europe and € 4.00 for calls to the USA (rates subject to change).

Wireless internet connection is available aboard all ships and is complimentary for all A&K guests on a Connections European River Cruise Journey. The connection may be weak in certain areas (especially below bridges and next to high buildings) and cannot be compared to the regular hotel standard on land.