



NEW TO RIVER CRUISE **GUIDE 2021**

CRUISE THROUGH THE HEART OF YOUR DESTINATION



cruising.org

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HELLO THERE!

My first job, some years ago, was as a travel agent – selling holidays over the phone. I was trying to keep up with destinations, airports and resorts through training and recommendations. As cruise holidays were starting to get more popular, I received a number of enquiries – and I didn't really know where to start...

Over time, in my mind, I am delighted to offer you the CLIA New to River Cruise Guide, and I can offer you useful advice from experts, resource material and guidance – created to help you with your enquiries, to give you key information at your fingertips, and to add to the amount of resources we already offer via cruising.org.

My aim is to offer you unique resources, certified learning and inspiring events – so you can get to know us close, and with it our cruise community of over 20 River Cruise Operators. I would love to see you at a CLIA event soon, and in the meantime, happy river cruising!

ANDY HARMER

SVP Membership & Director, UK & Ireland

CLIA



WE RIVER CRUISE

River cruising is growing in popularity, year on year. It started as a small niche, based around a limited number of sailings, it has grown into a key market in its own right.

Europe accounts for the lion's share of sailings led by the Rhine and Danube rivers, but the region has grown increasingly diverse as it expanded from its Germanic roots to include rivers in France, Portugal and Italy.

On the fringes sit the Russian waterways, where such sailings have become a popular way to visit the country's foremost cities and lesser-known hinterland.

But it is Asia that has become the rising star of the river cruising world in recent years, with Mekong sailings through Vietnam and Cambodia sparking the imagination of travellers, along with Myanmar's Irrawaddy River and India's holy river, the Ganges.

Paddle-steamer cruises capturing the romance of The Big Muddy, namely the Mississippi, have propelled the USA on to the river cruise scene, while in South America Amazon cruises have injected a heady flavour of rainforest adventures.

The market continues to grow with floating safari cruises on Africa's Chobe River and lesser-known arteries such as India's Brahmaputra and Myanmar's Chindwin river, opening up routes into remote regions rarely visited by tourists.

But the sector's growth hasn't only been spurred by newcomers. One long established favourite making a comeback is Egypt's Nile, whose evocative mix of ancient Arab and Arabian customs is proving more popular than ever.

is the only association that brings together ocean cruise lines and river cruise operators with travel agents and the wider cruise community.

with river cruise operators around the world, some of which IA globally, and others that work regionally in either Europe or Asia. The river cruise sector has grown rapidly in recent years, with 39 new river cruise destinations and offering holidays on up to 39 river cruise lines around the world.



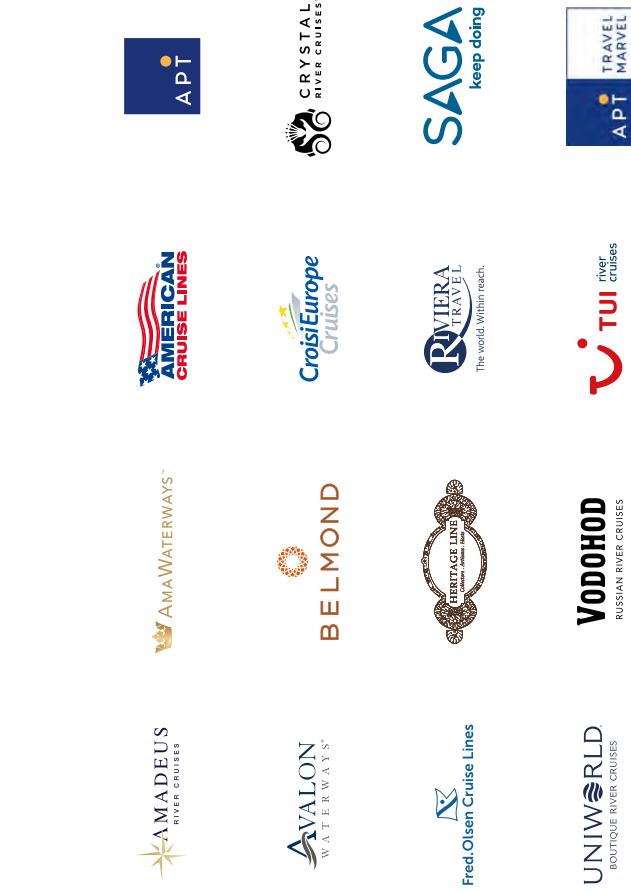
A-ROSA

With 12 modern ships, seven of which are dedicated to the international market, A-ROSA River Cruises is the European River Cruise specialist sailing on the Danube, Rhine, Main, Moselle, Seine, Rhône, Saône and Douro. Flexibility and choice, as well as delicious food and all-inclusive drinks around the clock are combined with exciting destinations, a relaxing atmosphere on board, picturesque riverscapes, comfortable and spacious cabins plus a gym and professional spa on every ship. A-ROSA River Cruises also offers free cruises for children 15 and under, plus kids clubs on selected dates.



Amadeus River Cruises

From the beginning, the ship fleet have always defined the company as Europe's most beautiful river cruise line. Austria as a traditional family business with 40 years of river cruise experience is proud to offer authentic, cultural cruises by tapping into decades of knowledge, introducing our hidden gems of Europe and the comforts of river cruising. Offering the comforts of our multi award-winning A-ROSA fleet offer elegant comfort paired with the professionalism of a passionately professional crew providing gracious hospitality.



AmaWaterways

A family-owned company since 2002, award-winning AmaWaterways offers unforgettable river cruises with 24 ships sailing through Europe, Southeast Asia and Africa. "Ama" means love – and we put love in everything we do, from our exquisite locally-sourced cuisine to our variety of included shore excursions in every port to our warm, personalised service. We are also proud of our innovations, which include our twin-balcony staterooms, fleetwide wellness activities and the AmaMagna, which is redefining the river cruise experience on the Danube River.

American Cruise Lines

American Cruise Lines offer a variety of cruising and coastal cruising options. Year after year, American cruises are voted the newest small ships and the most innovative for exploring and discovering the history, spirit, and beauty of the United States aboard the most modern fleet of modern riverboats in the country. American offers itineraries for exploring and discovering the history, spirit, and beauty of the United States aboard the most modern fleet of modern riverboats in the country. American offers itineraries for exploring and discovering the history, spirit, and beauty of the United States aboard the most modern fleet of modern riverboats in the country. American offers itineraries for exploring and discovering the history, spirit, and beauty of the United States aboard the most modern fleet of modern riverboats in the country. American offers itineraries for exploring and discovering the history, spirit, and beauty of the United States aboard the most modern fleet of modern riverboats in the country.



and operated travel than 90 years of experience. Our tour operator, we offer Essential (four star) river Europe and Asia. Our luxury much included from home Signature Experiences, ver cruises offer flexibility ore at your own pace. We delivering exceptional service, detail is taken care of. Our nced staff are there for you r. That's The APT Difference.



starts a different course Our Suite Ships® feature ama SuitesSM, with the ows in river cruising, the Air BalconySM and beds views. Beyond the view be explored – your way. e selections of Classic, excursions offer a wide When travellers prefer to we can help with all the d gear they need. And when lon's dining options are as s, with our FlexDiningSM



Arena River Cruises

Arena River Cruises (formerly The River Cruise Line) are experts in good value river cruising on the waterways of Europe, offering a personalised service for both individuals and groups and choice of flexible joining options. Renamed earlier this year and part of the Arena Travel portfolio of specialist travel brands since 2017, the company offers a popular range of departures on the Dutch Waterways, Rhine, Moselle, Danube and beyond, with further expansion planned. The fleet includes the MS Arena, a refurbished four-star premium ship on an exclusive long-term charter, which will be fully operational in 2021.



Belmond

Belmond's collection of one-of-a-kind river cruisers reimagine the world of water travel. Uncover medieval treasures and modern indulgence as you sail by barge along glorious waterways with Belmond Afloat in France. From the beauty of Burgundy to the charm of Champagne, explore France's irresistible allure in comfort and style. Each of our seven luxury barges glide through the water with their own character, unique features and personalised routes. For an unforgettable Asian adventure, sail through the heart of Myanmar—a land untouched by modernity. Unveil the soul of the region on an enchanting river cruise aboard Belmond Road to Mandalay. From ancient Bagan



CroisiEurope

With 44 years of experience CroisiEurope is Europe's largest river cruise line. As a family owned French company we offer cruises on rivers, canals and oceans both in Europe and around the world. Our cruises are re-known globally for outstanding French cuisine, all-inclusive drinks, our friendly crew and immaculate service. We welcome passengers from all over the world and create an international and friendly atmosphere. We have always lead the market in terms of innovative sailing technologies enabling us to offer unique cruises on the Loire, Lake Kariba in Zimbabwe, the Guadalquivir, Canale Bianco and the Tisza to name just a few. All this means, along with a focus on environmentally friendly ships, that a cruise with us is something culturally enriching, authentic and very special.



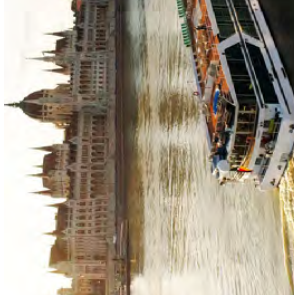
Emerald Waterways

Award-winning river cruise line, Emerald Waterways travels through Europe and Southeast Asia on its nine stylish Star-Ships, with its newest edition launching in spring 2021 – Emerald Luna. Emerald Waterways prides itself on exceptional EmeraldVALUE, including return flights, transfers, gratuities, all on board meals and selected drinks, as well as insightful EmeraldACTIVE and EmeraldPLUS shore excursions, events and experiences that take guests to the heart of local culture. Guests can expect customer care at its finest, with chic suites and staterooms, authentic dining in the Reflections Restaurant, and a pool area that transforms into a cinema at night on



Crystal River Cruises

Crystal comprises Europe's inclusive, all-balcony, all-suite kingsize beds and butler service crew for every three guests of personalised service is available can dine as they wish with cuisine served in three restaurant room service. Ashore, hunched experiences tailored to travel interests utilise Crystal's exclusive coaches. Crystal River ships approximately half the number of similarly-sized ships, affording an and an experience that has been in the world by the reat Leisure and Conde Nast Travel



Fred. Olsen Cruise Line

In 2021, Brabant will transport Europe's most beautiful and areas to the doorstep of inspired packed destinations, on relaxing unforgettable explorations of and Danube rivers. Just like our ocean cruises, Fred. Olsen Cruises are planned to show our smaller-sized river cruises through glorious countryside valleys, world-famous vineyards wonders such as the Middle Gorge. Brabant's proportions



exceptional and unique
 d in Saigon, Vietnam. We
 and build vessels with
 tting and details to create
 d extraordinary living
 uests. Our collection of
 vessels embarks on various
 heast Asia's most enchanting
 etnam, Cambodia, Myanmar
 to providing our guests
 pitality, we also bring untold
 perfect mix of comfort,
 addition, authenticity and
 urreys inspire guests to
 again.



along the Rhine and Danube,
 along the Douro and Russian
 cruises provide the perfect
 and memorable moments,
 r-50s. And from March 2021,
 ship, Spirit of the Rhine, will
 season.
 experience, we understand
 a big difference to our
 every ship has been hand-
 eets our high standards, and
 udes a VIP travel service.



Riviera Travel

Welcome aboard award-winning river cruises from Riviera Travel. With our commitment to outstanding quality and value, we are proud to be the UK leader in river cruising.

Your clients can set sail in style on luxurious ships with included excursions, fine dining and wonderful first-class service from our Swiss-trained staff.

From the Danube to the Douro and the Rhine to the Rhône, Riviera Travel's modern five-star ships cruise all the major European rivers and beyond.



Scenic

Scenic Luxury Cruises and Tours is a leading, award winning luxury operator with over 30 years of experience, offering truly all-inclusive five-star river cruises. With 12 'Space-Ships' in Europe and two custom built boutique ships in Southeast Asia, the luxurious fleet allows guests to discover their sense of wonder in complete comfort and style. Scenic's approach to all-inclusive travel means everything is included in the price, from unforgettable excursions and once-in-a-lifetime Enrich experiences to fine dining in a choice of venues with complimentary beverages. Guests will enjoy class-leading and beautifully proportioned suites, most with private balcony, and on board butler service. In addition, selected European ships



TUI River Cruises

The world's biggest travel company is now offering river cruise holidays with the launch of three adults-only ships. TUI River Cruises combines standout service and culture-packed experiences with top-notch evening entertainment and an easy-going atmosphere. Sail along Europe's iconic waterways and tick off everywhere from Budapest to Amsterdam.

Everything from direct regional flights and meals with drinks and up to £120 shore experience credit is included. Plus, each ship showcases chic interiors and a choice of restaurants and lounges. And with no set dining times, you can tailor your onboard experience to suit you.



Uniworld

Uniworld is elevating luxury river cruising to an entirely new level with immersive, all-inclusive voyages on the rivers of Europe, Egypt, Russia, India, China, Vietnam, Cambodia and now Peru. Surrounded by the elegance of one-of-a-kind, destination-inspired ships and embraced by a passionate staff, you'll notice the Uniworld difference immediately. With an average capacity of 130 guests, exclusive excursions, gourmet cuisine, and one of the highest staff-to-guest-ratios in river cruising - every expectation is exceeded, every destination is uniquely experienced, and every instance of delight is quickly followed by another inspiring moment. Uniworld only delivers the best, because you



APT Travelmarvel

As part of the APT Travel Group, a multi award-winning Australian business with over 90 years of experience, we offer peace of mind with our award-winning service and protection promise and wellbeing always our priority.

With APT Travelmarvel, you have more choice and more experiences on your holiday, meaning the river home will be richer than ever. Discover new destinations, discover all the river destinations, discover all the river destinations, stay in premium accommodation, enjoy authentic meals – all extras you don't want or need.



Vodohod

Vodohod is Russia's largest river cruise operator, owning and operating a fleet of over 100 ships across the 3, 4 and 5-star rating categories annually.

Twelve of the ships are exclusively for the international market. These include the 5-star vessels: the Mustai Karim, the 5-star ship built in Russia in 2010 on the Volga. In addition, the company has a premium expedition ship on the Lena, showcasing Siberia - one of the most wild and unexplored wildernesses on earth.

With over 60 ports of call, Vodohod

Peak – sailings along Europe's most scenic rivers, from the heart of the Continent's historical cities, including Paris and Vienna on the Danube; Strasbourg on the Rhine; Lyon and Rouen on the Seine.

Essential – far-flung waterways that allow you to delve into depths of the Amazon; through the tropical jungles of the Mekong in Vietnam and Cambodia; or ancient temples gleaming in the sun on the Red and Chindwin rivers in Myanmar. Long into the cultural marvels of the region.

Active – sitting on deck and enjoying the constantly-changing views is one of the joys of river cruising, but then there are also options for those who prefer to be on cycling trips, hiking, jogging, or even jogging tours. You can also make a splash on kayaking or canoeing.

Ultimate – with the largest vessels, up to 200 passengers and the most amenities, sailing just a handful of guests, you'll enjoy a more intimate experience. You'll enjoy a more intimate experience as the river flows smoothly as you sail, and the atmosphere is relaxed and conversational.



A family affair – river cruising is crossing the generational divide thanks to dedicated sailings and activities aimed at younger cruisers. Specially-designed family cabins, children's clubs and special child prices are helping to woo more youngsters and their parents, along with multi-generational groups where grandparents come along too.

Classily casual – guests don't need to pack their poshest glad-rags as there are no black-tie events and the dress code is as laidback as the onboard lifestyle. Exclusive nights at private concerts ashore and the Captain's dinner, often on the penultimate evening, are the main occasions that call for smarter attire.

Top marks for value – while river cruise prices are generally higher than for ocean cruises, much more is included. In addition to accommodation and food, rates often include drinks either with meals or 24/7, free wifi,



Smooth sailing – nervous sailors or those who suffer from seasickness do not need to worry about rough conditions on rivers. Vessels tend to sail during the evening and moor up late at night to avoid disturbing guests, before starting off again early the following morning.



Ripe for exploring – excursion options are plentiful and informative and offer a cultural experience. Destinations visited with walking tours, museum visits, mainstay, plus concerts and regional wine tastings, plus cookery classes and trips to local museums and castles.

Culinary feasts – expect to enjoy a variety of river cruises with haute cuisine dinners that follow expansive buffets, plus the chance to top up on a mid-morning snack and afternoon coffee and pastries too.

dramatic castle-topped hills of the Rhine Gorge to the Gothic glory of the Strasbourg parliament building (beautifully restored) and the majestic Iron Gate Gorge.

CENTRAL EUROPE

disputed leader of the river cruising industry, dominated by the Rhine and Moselle, which pass through some of the continent's most spectacular landscape and historic landmark cities.



...s from Switzerland through the Rhine, flowing into the North Sea at Amsterdam. Many sailings start or finish – such as the Rhine Gorge with its castles.

...e sailings on the Rhine and Moselle through the Netherlands and Germany, and, in season, the Dutch bulbfields.

...om Germany's Black Forest to the Black Sea. Cruises between the Upper Danube, the Czech Republic, and the Lower Danube, the capital Budapest and the Rhine Gorge; and the Moselle, Koblenz, Rudesheim, and the Rhine Gorge with its castles.

Both rivers are linked by the Main Danube Canal, making it possible to sail their length from Amsterdam to the Black Sea, or vice-versa. There are also cruises on Rhine tributaries, such as the Moselle which passes through Trier and Cochem in Germany, and the Main, which flows through Nuremberg.

The Elbe runs from the Czech Republic through Germany, from where guests can visit Prague and Berlin, along with the German cities of Wittenberg, Meissen and Dresden. Though this river is prone to low water levels, which can disrupt sailings.



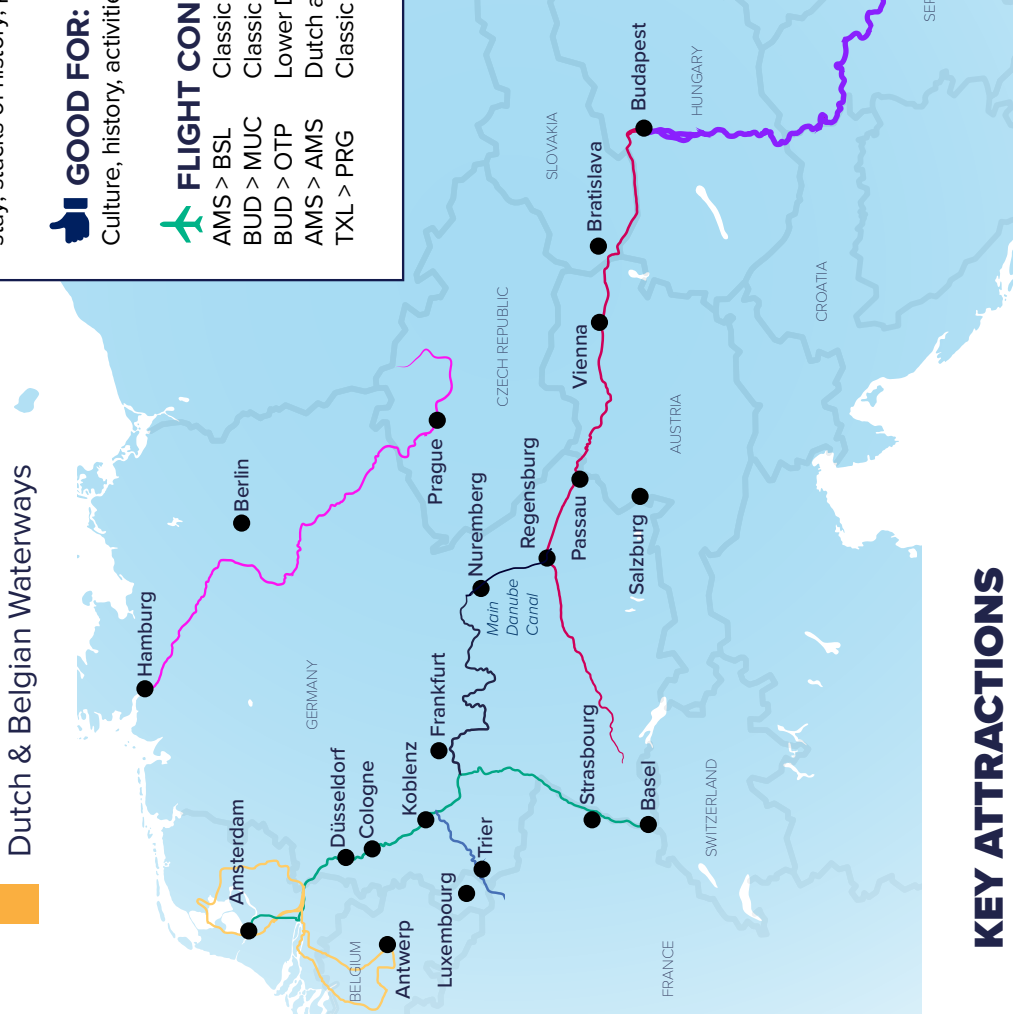
- Rhine
- Upper Danube
- Lower Danube
- Elbe
- Main
- Moselle
- Dutch & Belgian Waterways

- AMS > BSL
- BUD > MUC
- BUD > OTP
- AMS > AMS
- TXL > PRG

GOOD FOR:
Culture, history, activities

FLIGHT CONNECTIONS:
Classic Rhine
Classic Danube
Lower Danube
Dutch and Belgian
Classic Elbe

SELLING POINTS:
Varied cities that lend their history; stacks of history; picturesque



KEY ATTRACTIONS



Dutch & Belgian Waterways:
Keukenhof Gardens
A not-to-be-missed riot of colour every spring, as seven

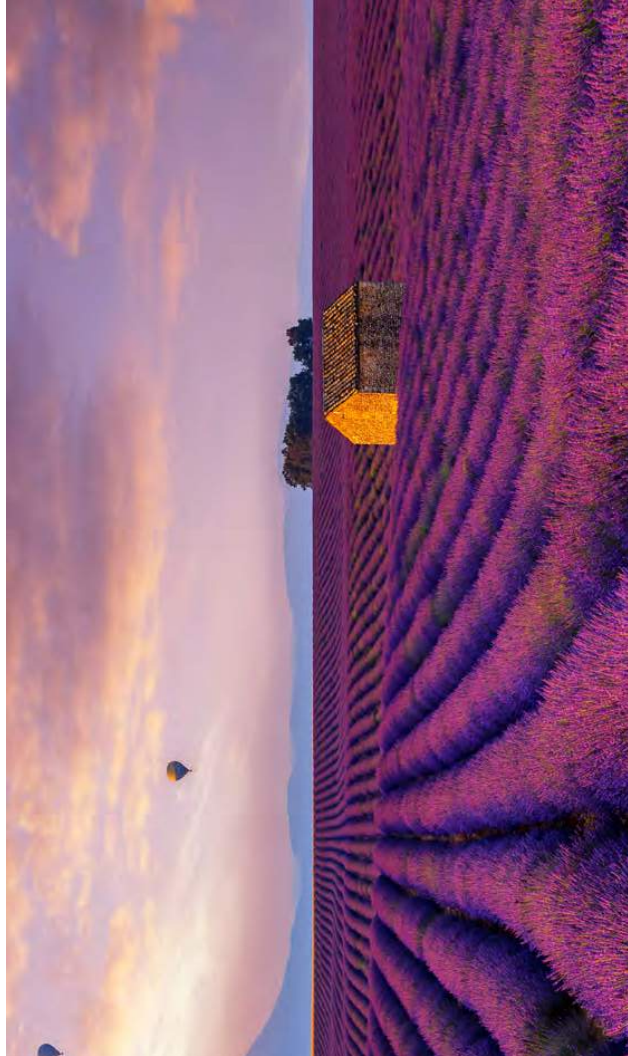


Rhine:
The Rhine Gorge
The popular name for the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, a



Lower Danube:
The Iron Gate Gorge
It forms part of the boundary between Serbia and Romania

river is the Seine, and cruises operate between Paris, through the pretty coastal port of Honfleur, with stops enroute including Rouen and Vernon, famous for the gardens of impressionist Monet at nearby Giverny.



along the Rhône sail between or Avignon and Lyon, where the the Soane, enabling vessels to sail undy.

the historic Avignon, Tournon and the d-d-coming spot for cruises along the d Dordogne rivers into the heart of ups including Bergerac, Bordeaux and her lesser-known spot is the Loire p sailings from Nantes showcase the y's famous chateaux.

y are barging holidays that sail along nd canals, offering a leisurely slice pheric craft that hold anything from p to around 25. Such small groups arty style ambience with attentive r excursions. Barges can be rustic and ffering high class cruises and fin

CRUISING SEASON:

March to November

SELLING POINTS:

Varied cities that lend themselves to cruise-and-stay; stacks of history; picturesque scenery.

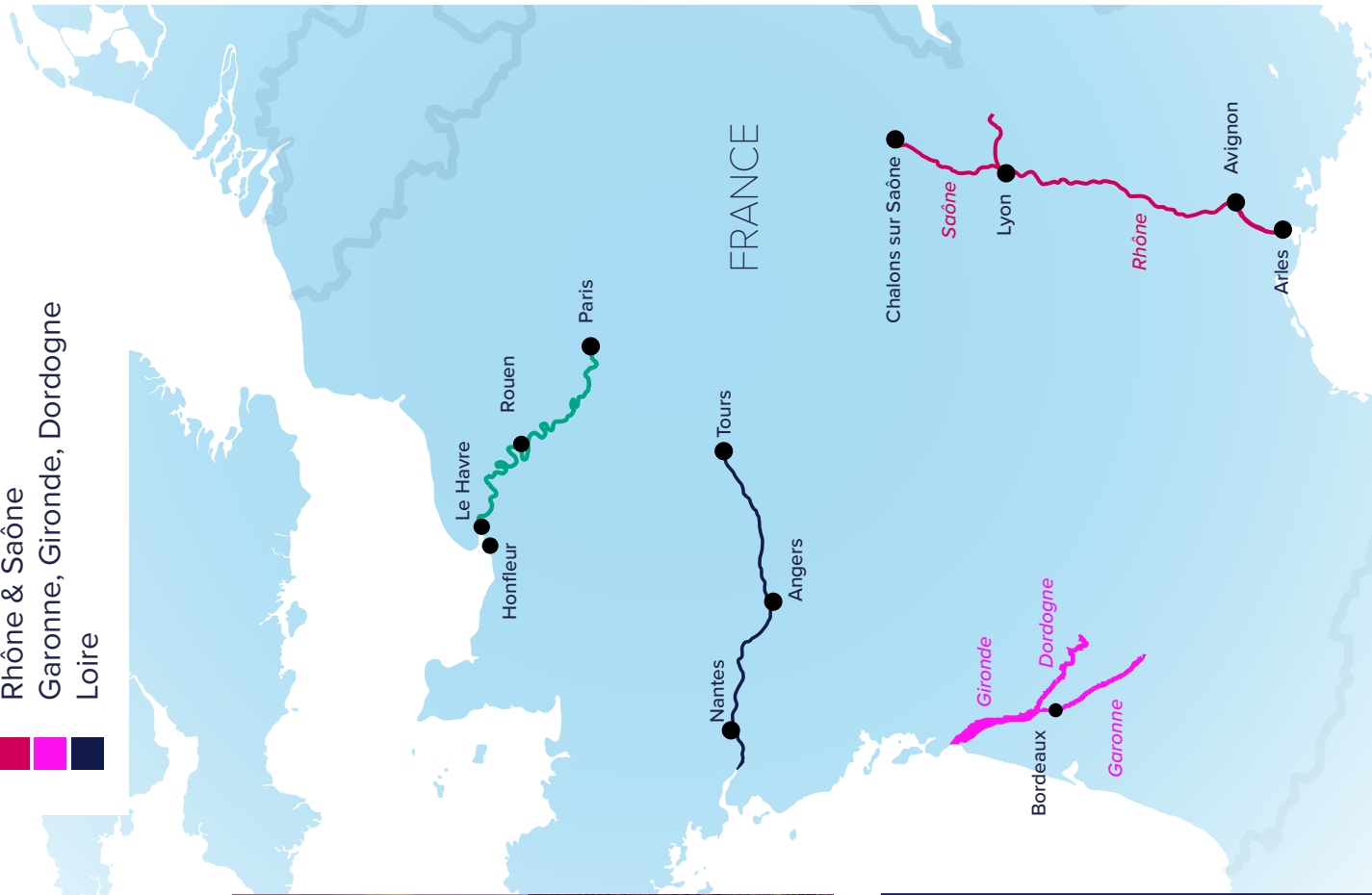
GOOD FOR:

Francophiles, wine-lovers, French cuisine, culture, history, architecture

FLIGHT CONNECTIONS:

- CDG > CDG Classic Seine
- MRS > LYS Classic Rhône
- BOD > BOD Classic Bordeaux
- NTE > NTE Classic Loire

- Seine
- Rhône & Saône
- Garonne, Gironde, Dordogne
- Loire



Seine: Normandy



Seine: Monet's



Loire: Nantes



Bordeaux: St Emilion

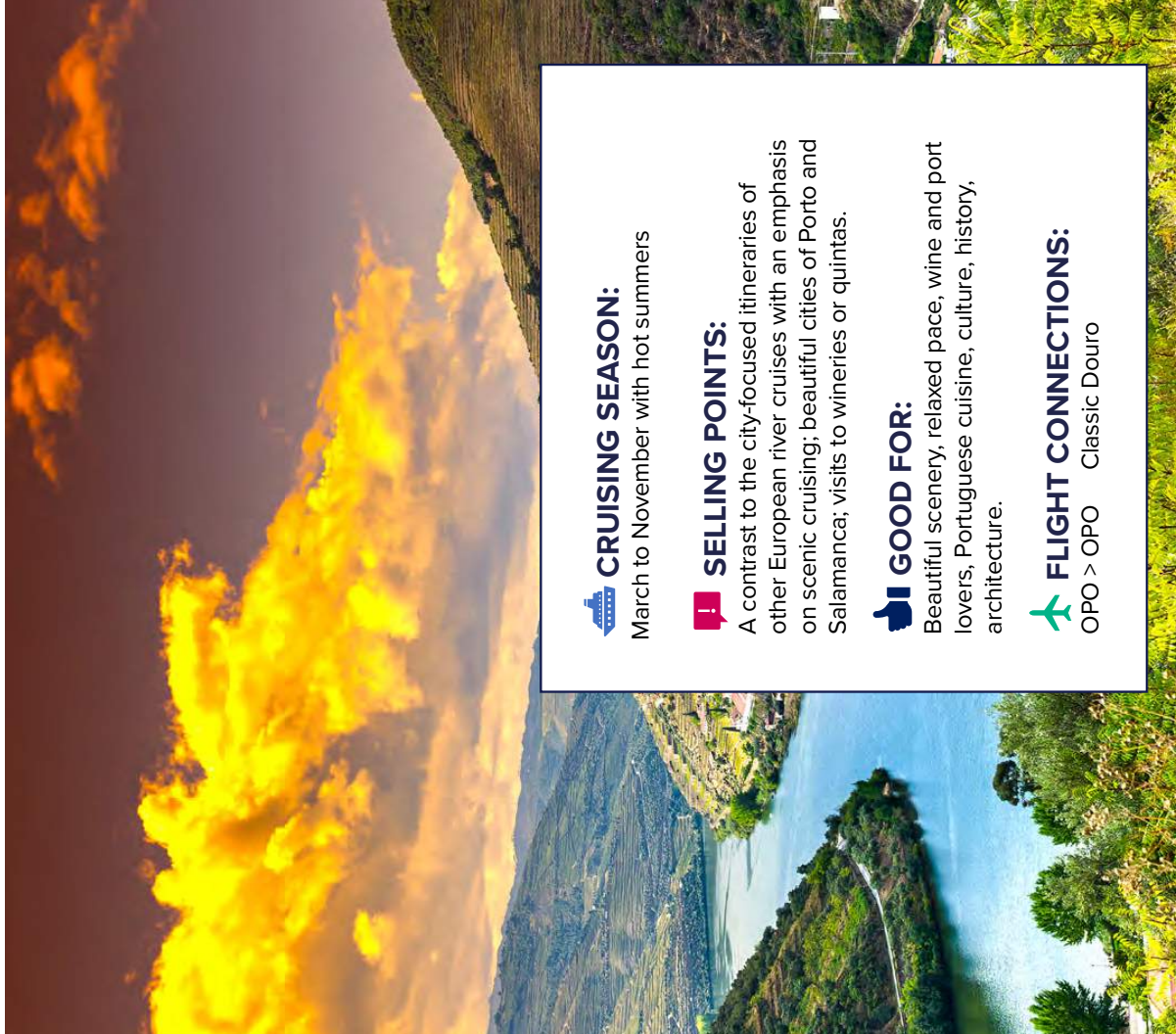


Rhône & Saône

UGAL & SPAIN

The Douro River, navigable from Vega de Terron on the Spanish border to the heart of the Douro Valley, is a spectacular Douro Valley and the heart of the Douro wine region. With tours to the Spanish city of Salamanca, and Vila Real to see the Mateus Palace (famously featured on bottles of Mateus Rose wine).

Start in Porto, cruising upriver to the border and retracing the route



CRUISING SEASON:

March to November with hot summers

SELLING POINTS:

A contrast to the city-focused itineraries of other European river cruises with an emphasis on scenic cruising; beautiful cities of Porto and Salamanca; visits to wineries or quintas.

GOOD FOR:

Beautiful scenery, relaxed pace, wine and port lovers, Portuguese cuisine, culture, history, architecture.

FLIGHT CONNECTIONS:

OPO > OPO Classic Douro

KEY ATTRACTIONS



Douro:

Port houses of Gaia across the river from Porto



Douro:

The cathedral of Salamanca, Spain



Douro:

Mateus Palace, Portugal



Douro:

Porto, Portugal



RIVERS

 Douro

 Guadalquivir

In Spain, cruises along the Guadalquivir and Guadiana rivers in the country's southern region of Andalusia – famous for its flamenco and fiestas, while overflowing with history re

RUSSIA

While not strictly Europe, the waterways of Russia are a key cruising ground. Not only showcases the architectural and historical wonders of Moscow and St. Petersburg, but the country's unexplored hinterland. Cruises generally follow these two cities, following different waterways that make up the route of interest including Uglich, one of Russia's oldest cities, and Yaroslavl, two cathedrals and churches. New cruise destinations in the Yenisei and Lena rivers were added in 2020. Clients need visas that must be arranged in advance.

KEY ATTRACTIONS



Russian Waterways: Griboedova Canal with Church on Spilled Blood (or Resurrection Church of Our Saviour) in St Petersburg, Russia



Russian Waterways: Moscow Kremlin

...er, the Po, flows into the Adriatic near Venice, though only part of it is ...ising. The longest section, between the Venetian Lagoon and along ...l through the Po Valley to the Renaissance city of Mantua, can only ...smaller craft that ply this route. Sailings also feature coach trips to ...and Verona, but the main attraction is the chance to explore Venice



KEY ATTRACTIONS



Po: Venetian Lagoon



Po: Verona - Roman amphitheatre which stages opera performances.



SEASON:

POINTS:

...the Venetian Lagoon; ...such as Murano and ...ic and medieval Italian ...a and Ferrara.

...story, culture, an ... Venice

CONNECTIONS:



RUSSIA

CRUISING
May to October

SELLING

Cruises often inc...
Russia and St Pe...
days to sightsee...
Petersburg's Bol...
Russia's lesser-k...

GOOD

Russian culture a...
World War II hist...
June and July m...
White Nights sea...

FLIGHT
MOW > LED - CI

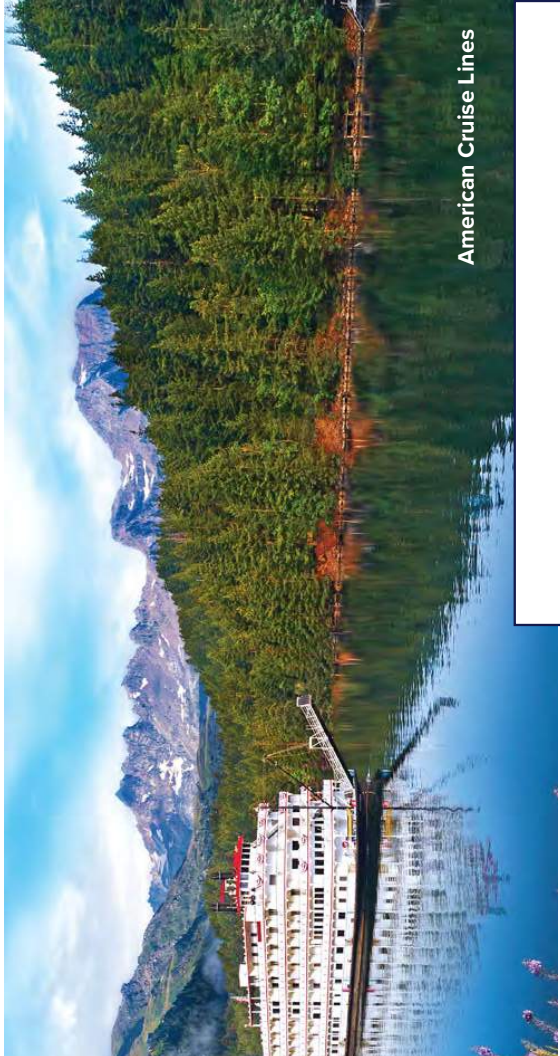
RIVERS

RIVERS

Po

ICA

unlocks the heart of America's Southern States with sailings that musical heritage, Civil War battlefields plus the slave history of the s. Most cruises are between Memphis and New Orleans, though take in the Upper Mississippi between St Louis and St Paul.



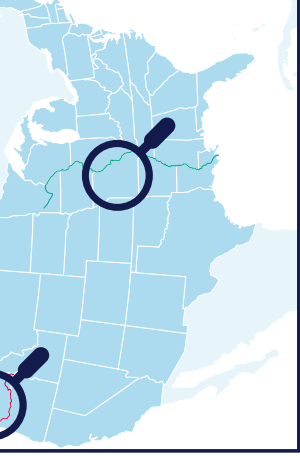
American Cruise Lines

own Columbia and Snake gh the country's north-west, e taken by American explorers 00 years ago.

een Portland in Oregon and ington State, from where admire the contrasting scenery on's history.



Porter, New Orleans



Columbia & Snake: Oregon Trail



Columbia & Snake: Portland, Oregon



Mississippi: The Crescent City Connection Bridge on the Mississippi River and downtown New Orleans, Louisiana



Mississippi: The mighty Mississippi River aerial view

RIVERS



Mississippi
Columbia and Snake

KEY ATTRACTION

CRUISING SEASON:

February to June and October-December for the Lower Mississippi and July-October for the Upper Mississippi; April to November for the Columbia & Snake rivers.

SELLING POINTS:

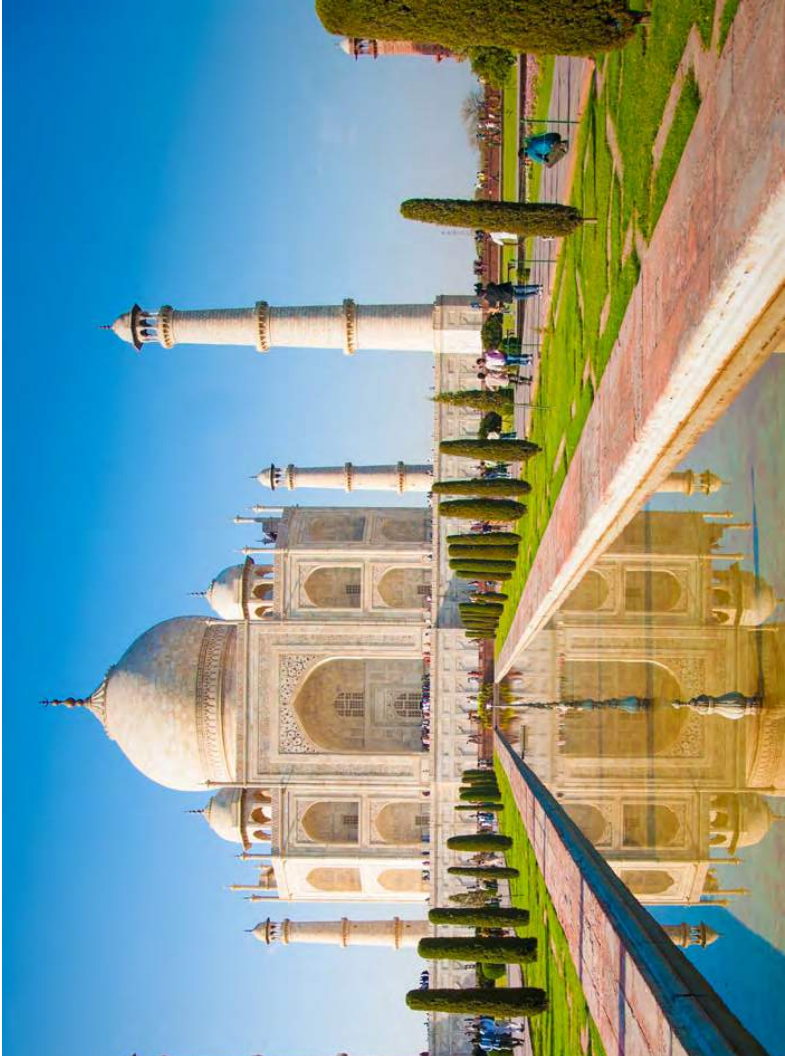
Mississippi: Links to Elvis in Memphis, musical heritage of Memphis and New Orleans, civil rights history, grand antebellum mansions.
Columbia & Snake: pioneering history of the Oregon Trail, contrasting scenery that ranges from verdant landscapes to desert.

GOOD FOR:

American culture and history; musical heritage of the Mississippi; hallmark cities, hinterland scenery

FLIGHT CONNECTIONS:

MSY > MSY Classic Mississippi
MEM > MSY Lower Mississippi
STL > MSP Upper Mississippi



An immense mausoleum of white marble, built in Agra between 1631 and 1648.

Heart of India's Ganges River
 The interest and sailings are
 with the Golden Triangle,
 known Brahmaputra in
 for wildlife, tea plantations
 Himalayas.

Yar in Myanmar (formerly known
 waddy, where the thousands
 are one of the main draws
 es of Yangon and Mandalay.
 country is the Chindwin River,
 s into more remote areas
 border.



CRUISING SEASON:

In India, the best time is generally between October and April. In Myanmar, the main season is from September to April, though some longer Chindwin sailings depart in August.



SELLING POINTS:

Heading off the beaten track to areas where tourists rarely visit, strong culture, tribal traditions and wartime history of Myanmar, enchanting people.



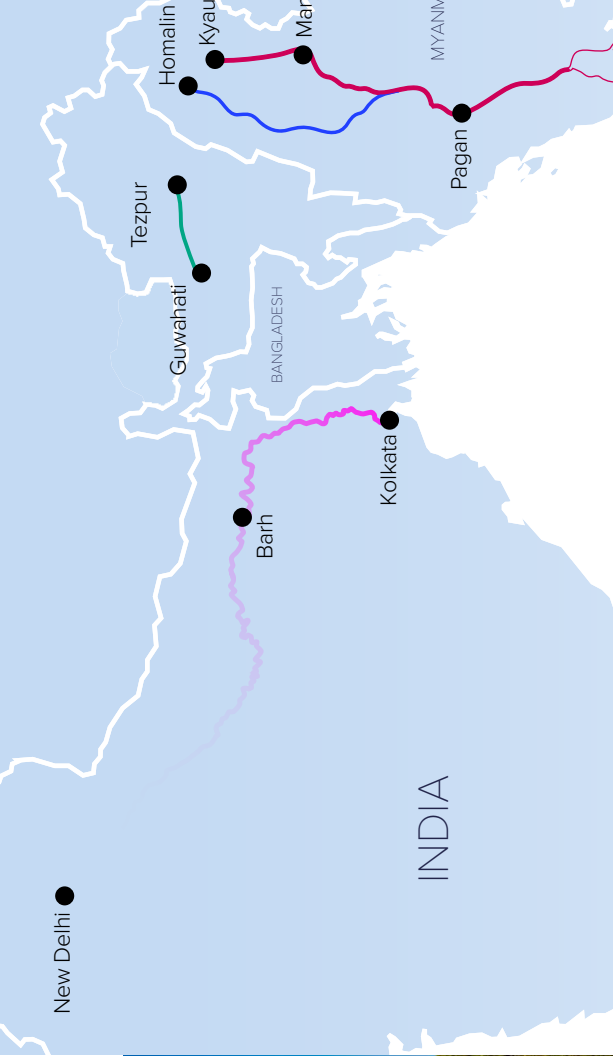
GOOD FOR:

Tropical lush scenery, remote villages, religious culture, friendly locals, colonial and war history



FLIGHT CONNECTIONS:

- JRH > GAU Classic Brahmaputra
- CCU > DEL Classic Ganges
- RGN > RGN Classic Irrawaddy



KEY ATTRACTIONS

Brahmaputra:

Kolkata, Guwahati,
Kaziranga National Park,
 and it can be combined
 with the Golden Triangle.



Ganges:

Showing the colorful traditional
 clothing and Hindu religious ritual
 of bathing in the Ganges River
 from the ancient ghats of Varanasi.



Irrawaddy:

Yangon and the magnificent
Shwedagon Pagoda,
 Mandalay and the U Bein
 teak bridge, Bagan and its
 temples, pagodas and stupas.



Chindwin:

Mandalay, teak
 monasteries of Mingkin,
 colonial history of Mawlaik,
 World War II history of
 Sithaung.



ASIA

Experience of cruising through Asia has brought added cachet to the Lower Mekong has become increasingly popular for sailings from Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam and the Cambodian city Siem Reap, best known for its ancient temples of Angkor.

The Yangtze River is a lesser-known stretch of this river with sailings through Laos that generally travel through Vientiane and Chiang Saen in Thailand, with stops at remote villages.

The Yangtze River through the famous Three Gorges are a popular mainstay as part of a cruise from Beijing, Xian and Shanghai, with sailings generally three or four nights long.

The massive temple complex of Angkor Wat in Siem Reap, Cambodia, is the world's largest religious monument.



SELLING POINTS:

Several destinations in one trip, cultural immersion, less explored areas, fascinating history, Unesco World Heritage treasures

GOOD FOR:

Centuries-old temples, buzzing cities, remote villages, natural and man-made wonders, lush scenery and friendly inhabitants

FLIGHT CONNECTIONS:

- SGN > REP Classic Lower Mekong
- PVG > PEK Classic Yangtze
- VTE > CEI Classic Upper Mekong

CHINA



RIVERS

- Lower Mekong
- Yangtze
- Upper Mekong

KEY ATTRACTIONS



Lower Mekong:

Ho Chi Minh City, Siem Reap, Phnom Penh, floating markets, Ratanak Kiri temples



Yangtze:

Beijing and the Great Wall, Xian and the Terracotta Warriors, Shanghai, Three Gorges



Upper Mekong:

Luang Prabang, Vientiane, Laos, Siem Reap, Cambodia

H AMERICA

ne legendary river on this continent and its Peruvian stretch is better
ises as it is narrower and quieter, offering rainforest adventures,
and indigenous tribes who live along its banks. Sailings generally start
Peruvian city of Iquitos and explore Amazon tributaries and lakes.

ainforest Peru, South America.



Year-round

CRUISING SEASONS



SELLING POINTS:

Jungle trips by boat and on foot, wildlife
adventurous activities



GOOD FOR:

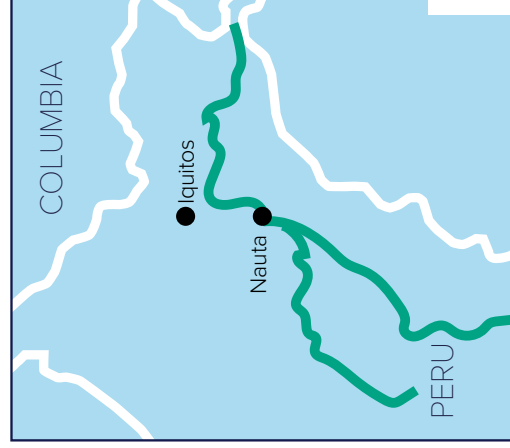
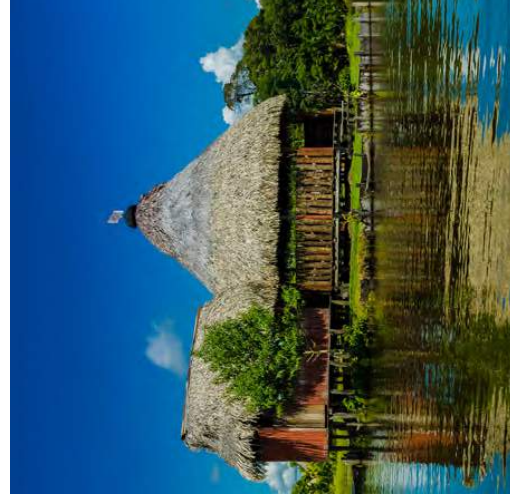
Getting off the beaten track, discovering
villages, indigenous cultures and exotic



FLIGHT CONNECTION

IQT > IQT

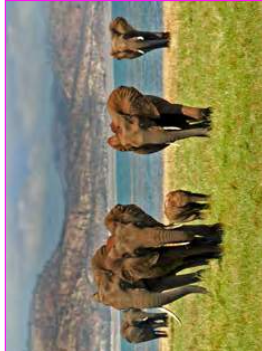
Classic Peruvian Amazon



North Africa meets
and its famous
when a longstanding
making a strong
political unrest led to
cruises are between
with highlights
ley of the Kings and
including Karnak

... sailings along the Chobe
sembles a floating safari
fewing opportunities. This
uises on Zimbabwe's Lake
ineraries finish with a visit

ACTIONS



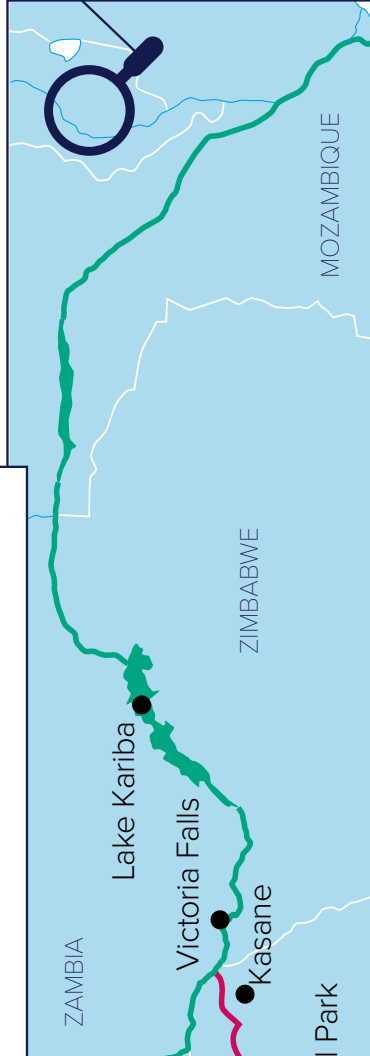
...ariba, Zimbabwe



Zambezi River: Victoria Falls, Zambia

Zambezi

Chobe



CRUISING SEASON:

October to April for the Nile and year-round for the Chobe, though high season is April-November

SELLING POINTS:

Unforgettable experiences on the Nile of exploring Ancient Egyptian antiquities, or spotting elephants, leopards and hippos against the African landscape on the Chobe or Lake Kariba

GOOD FOR:

Bucket list moments, cultural contrasts, remote settlements, ancient antiquities on the Nile and African safari game drives on the Chobe

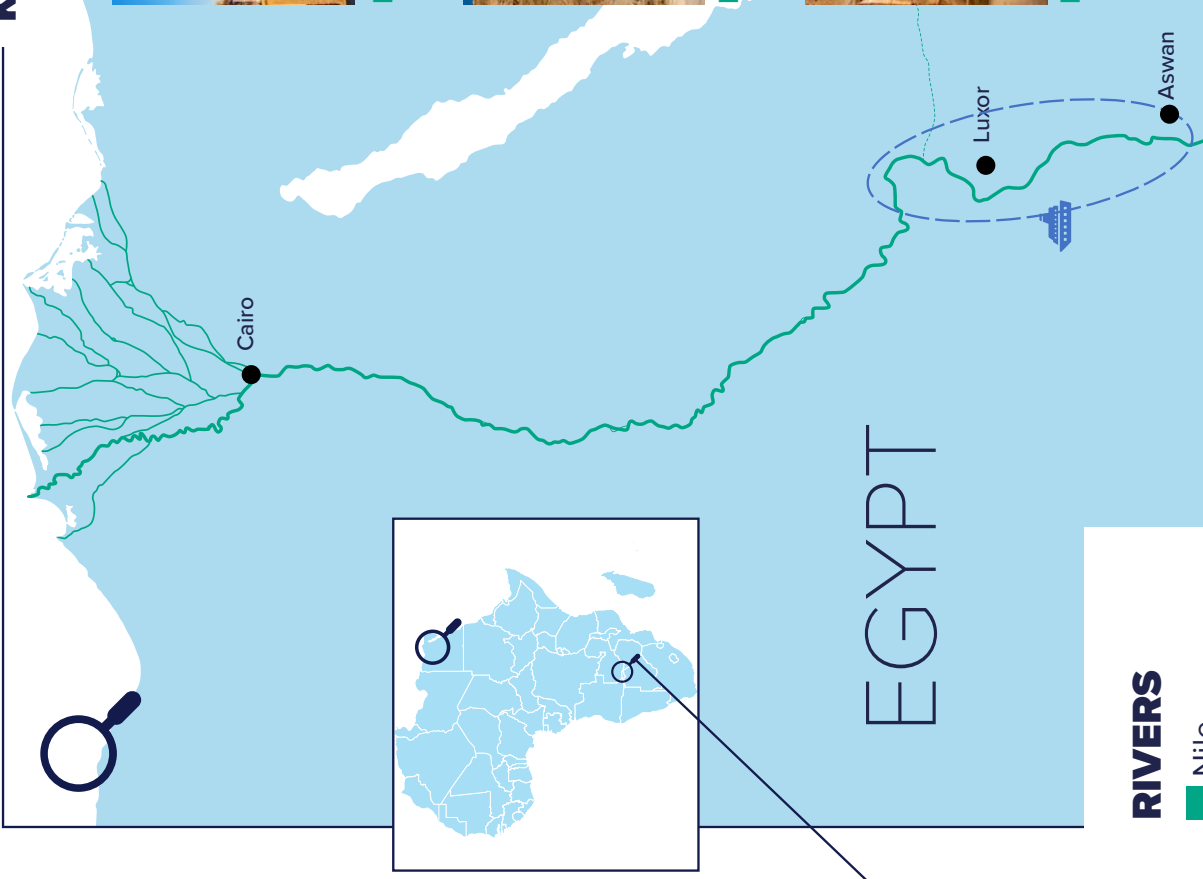
FLIGHT CONNECTIONS:

LXR > LXR Classic Nile
JNB > JNB Classic Chobe



Nile: Aswan

KEY AT



Nile: Horus



Nile: Valley



Nile: Karnak

RIVERS

Nile



AmalWaterways



A-ROSA

Dining experiences

Quality rather than quantity is the mantra when it comes to the culinary appeal of river cruises.

Lack of space means river ships cannot match the choice and variety of dining venues found on ocean vessels but, instead, they offer a more select and exclusive experience.

Restaurants on river ships are smaller, giving them a more upmarket ambience and there's more chance of being able to bag a prime spot by the window as seating is not pre-allocated.

Many river cruise companies still have set dining times, particularly for evening meals, though some

River vessels increasingly have additional dining venues that supplement the main restaurant. These are generally smaller, with some adopting a more casual atmosphere and serving lighter bites or, alternatively, focusing on haute cuisine and a more upscale feel.

They often require reservations and there may be limits on how many times passengers can dine there during a sailing. There may also be an extra charge, but aside from this, all food is generally included.

Another factor that marks out river cruises is the complimentary wine, beer and soft drinks often included at meal times.

While dinner courses or breakfasts consisted of fare, complete with freshly-made

Anyone not a breakfast restaurant or a pared down bites in the they can talk they wish.

Between an early-riser breakfast and coffee, and afternoon and dinner drinks up with plenty ensuring the of guests



Staterooms

River cruise cabins are generally more compact than the ocean equivalent, and the smaller size of vessels means there are less categories and no interior cabins either.

Generally speaking, there are four types of cabin:

- Window / River View
- French balcony
- Verandah
- Suite

Lead-in accommodation tends to be on the lowest deck often with small, narrow windows.

On higher decks (most riverboats have two or three decks), cabins have larger windows which can often be turned into French balconies at the flick of a switch that lowers the top section of glass, or with doors that slide open, with a safety rail.

Selected river ships have full walk-out balconies and in some cases, these also have windows that can be closed to create a sun-lounge.

Suites on river ships will often offer a combination of full and French balconies, though some suites may be just slightly larger than the average cabin while others

We recommend that you check when researching options for your stay if a stateroom has a verandah, it will give you the square footage of the room.

The variation between river cruise staterooms reflected in diverse decor styles. French balconies, double flat-screen TVs, wardrobes and tables and seating.

There is often a fridge or minibar provided free of charge. Cabins are well designed and have a standard being common.

The new generation of river cruise ships has brought accessible cabins offering modified facilities, plus inter-connecting accommodation aimed at families.

On certain vessels, beds face the stern for all-encompassing views, but remember that ships are moored up two or three times a day so the view is temporarily obscured by themselves looking into someone else's cabin.



Onboard Wellness

More modern river ships are leading a wave of onboard wellness and fitness facilities on the waterways. Several vessels now have hot tubs and/or deck pools, some of which are under cover, but have retractable roofs.

The expansive top decks allow room for walking or jogging tracks and areas where al fresco yoga and keep fit sessions are held to a backdrop of river views.

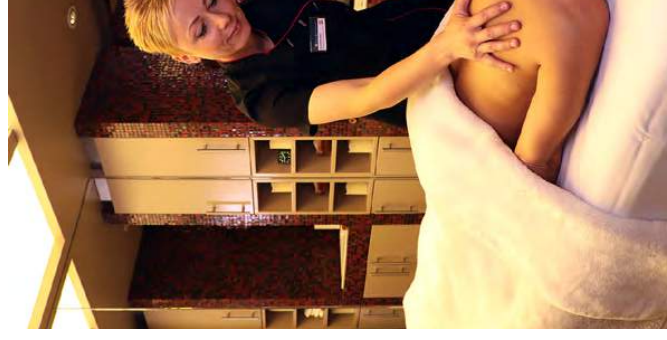
Several companies employ fitness hosts who organise classes or co-ordinate activities in onboard fitness rooms that generally include a handful of cardio machines (running, cycling, rowing) and free weights.

Some vessels have small spas that include saunas and relaxation areas while most, at the very least, have a treatment room for massages and other therapies, plus a small hairdressing salon.

Onboard fitness sessions help to complement activities ashore with a growing range of keep-fit excursions, from cycle rides and energetic hikes (which may be split into ability-based groups), to canoeing, kayaking and jogging.

Rising numbers of river craft now have their own fleet of bikes that passengers can use during cycling excursions.

More companies also highlight their locally sourced dinner menus and use locally sourced ingredients.





Excursions

Excursions have become more informative than those on ocean cruises, offering cultural riches as they sail through.

Each trip has been the focus of such cruises with city tours, historical and architectural notes.

Crucially, cruising has brought a range of options, with more hands-on experiences such as cooking classes with a focus on local dishes, wine-tastings and lectures. The focus is on giving clients a more immersive experience at various destinations along the route.

Excursions to locals' homes, where guests can enjoy a snack or meal and see how they live their lives.

Other activities, such as orchestral concerts, visits to palaces and castles, and even a private tour and a glimpse into local nobility, are also popular.

A growing trend is the rise of more active-based outings, from bike rides and kayaking adventures to hiking trips and jogging excursions. Many riverboats carry their own fleet of bicycles, enabling guests to help themselves and cycle off under their own steam if they don't wish to join a tour.

Family-friendly cruises have excursions to match with scavenger hunts, fun-filled water play sessions and visits to local attractions with accompanying activities designed to appeal to younger tastes.

Two other factors that differentiate river cruise excursions is that at least one excursion per day/port may be included within the price, and walking tours normally involve the use of wireless audio headsets which enable passengers to hear their guide from several metres away, making life easier all round.





Avalon Waterways

es include three meals a day in the fares, but many throw lots more . Here's a useful guide to the frequent inclusions which your guests en looking for the right river cruise:

EXCURSIONS / ACTIVITIES / ONBOARD FACILITIES

- Daily Excursions (often with a choice of options)
- of wireless audio headsets is often available on tours so you never miss a thing!
- On-board bikes
- Internet and Wi-Fi access
- Some ships offer evening entertainment onboard
- lines now include activities or wellness programmes, and some river ships have gym facilities or spa treatments
- In-room movies
- Onboard Pools, Jacuzzis or Cinema facilities on select ships
- Butler service for Suite guests



TRAVEL & CHARGES

- Flights, coach, ferry or rail travel
- Overseas Transfers
- Home Pick-Up
- Pre-cruise hotel nights
- Taxes and port charges
- Gratuities

FLEXIBILITY IN DINING

- Relaxed, casual breakfast
- Lunch onboard
- Enjoy afternoon teas, or snacks or complimentary drinks on some cruise lines during Dinner onboard, often including wine, and sometimes with a choice of dining venue and
- Some operators include all alcoholic and soft drinks throughout the cruise
 - 24-hour tea and coffee station / In-cabin options
 - Speciality dining
 - Pre-dinner cocktail hour
 - In-room dining





A WHOLE NEW WOR

As the world continues to address challenges regarding COVID-19, CLIA has been communicating with River Cruise Operators around the world, as well as leading authorities and our partners across the wider travel community, to help coordinate the ongoing suspension of worldwide operations.

River cruise operators go to great lengths to support the health and wellness of all indeed, the health, safety and wellness of guests and crew is the highest priority at to their operations.

From cleaning practices to public health inspections and onboard guest hygiene to screening, river cruise operators work vigorously to help keep guests and crew he

Proximity to shore means there is close access to local emergency services through allowing your guests to cruise with confidence.

assume that anyone can cruise will be a die-too, that isn't necessarily

to start from, but for every apply opt for both types of cruise, will only ever consider a river y not even consider it to be a sense.

es between river cruises and city during holidays makes these two s from which to switch sell.

being able to tick off several y, with having to unpack only he comfort and security of the g point

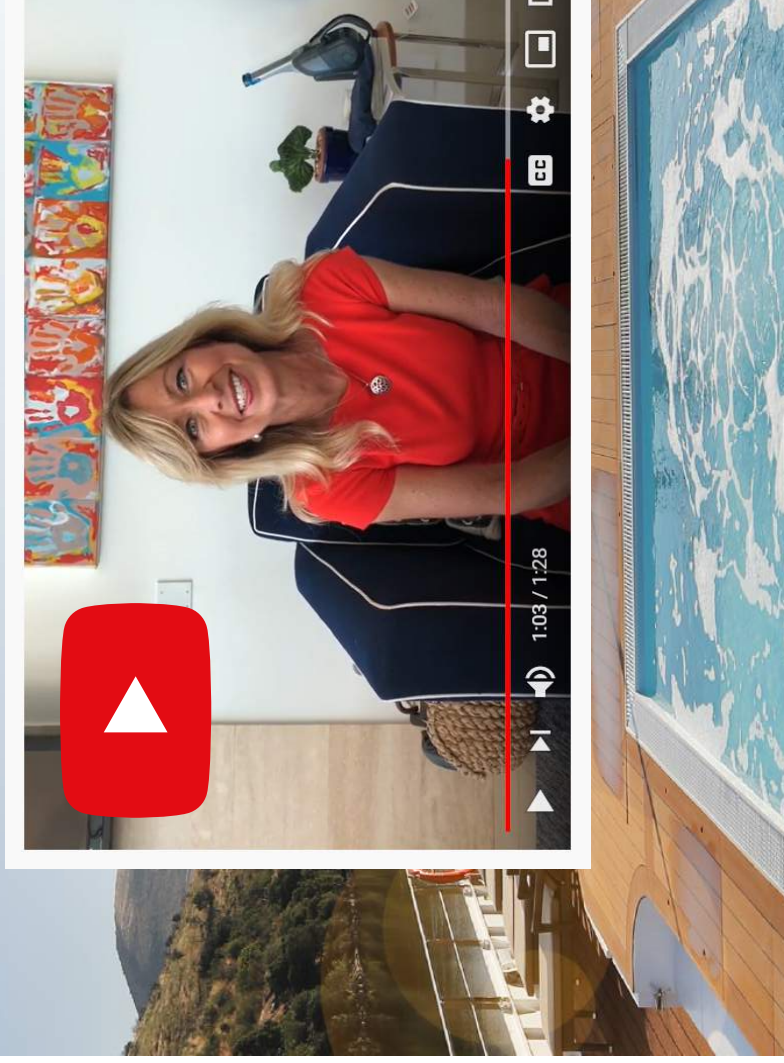
for anyone who has never those wanting to explore more t wary of having to organise It also makes river cruises ideal

Travellers interested in getting under the skin of each destination will be tempted by some of the culturally-rich itineraries or sailings themed around subjects such as Jewish heritage or classical music.

The chance to cruise with a smaller number of fellow travellers and in a relaxed and sociable environment are points to highlight, along with the ease of exploring ashore both as part of an excursion or independently.

There's also much to tempt families as several companies are now targeting this market with family-friendly sailings and facilities, such as on-board swimming pools, family-focused accommodation, fleets of bikes and active excursions, designed to appeal to younger cruisers.

Combining river cruises with hotel stays at either end of the voyage, or as part of a longer tour – particularly in Asia which lends itself to such arrangements – is an ideal way to introduce clients to cruising with an initial first taste. Of course, for anyone who suffers from seasickness or is wary of spending days aboard a ship with no sight of land, river cruises are the perfect



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RIVER CRUISE
PODCAST

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