

Winter 2024

# Life on the River

Everything you need to know while you're  
onboard your TUI River Cruise

## How we plan a Nile river cruise

An interview with our product  
development team about our newest  
cruises onboard the TUI Al Horeya

## Safety onboard

## Explore ashore

See what experiences  
are on offer

## Discover the Douro

Read about our exciting itinerary  
along Portugal's longest river



Please leave this magazine in your cabin for the next guests





## Welcome onboard

I'm really excited that you've chosen to explore Egypt with TUI River Cruises on our newest ship, TUI Al Horeya.

This winter marks our first season sailing along the world-famous River Nile, and we can't wait to share the carefully crafted itinerary with you.

Everything you need to know about your time on and off the ship can be found in here, and you'll find all the essential need-to-knows on pages 4-7.

You can read all about our new ship, TUI Alma, and its **Douro** itinerary on pages 24 and 25 – the first sailing sets off in summer 2026. And, check out **our quiz** on pages 28 and 29 to see where you should go next.

We've got an **interview** with our Product Development Team as well, and we give you the lowdown on how to use our **Navigate app**, plus there's info on our activities, bars and restaurants.

Happy sailing.

**Katy Berzins**  
Head of TUI River Cruises

## Meet the team

**Customer Experience & Product Executive:** Mollie Milnthorpe

**Customer Experience Manager:** Claire Spriggs

**Senior Marketing & Customer Experience Manager:** Roshni Patel

**Senior Customer Experience & Product Manager:** Donna Barter

**Customer Experience & Product Development Manager:** Simon Austin

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**Design Manager:** Janine Common

## Staying safe and healthy abroad

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office and National Travel Health Network and Centre have up-to-date advice on staying safe and healthy abroad.

For the latest travel advice from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office including security and local laws, plus passport and visa information check [gov.uk/travelaware](https://gov.uk/travelaware) and follow [@FCDOTravelGovUK](https://twitter.com/FCDOTravelGovUK) and [Facebook.com/FCDOTravel](https://facebook.com/FCDOTravel).

See [tui.co.uk/destinations/info/travel-aware](https://tui.co.uk/destinations/info/travel-aware) and [tui.co.uk/destinations/info/travel-with-confidence](https://tui.co.uk/destinations/info/travel-with-confidence) – for travel advice from TUI.

See [travelhealthpro.org.uk](https://travelhealthpro.org.uk) for current travel health news.

The advice can change, so check regularly for updates.

**travel  
aware**  
[gov.uk/travelaware](https://gov.uk/travelaware)





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Speak to your Cruise Experience Manager if you have any questions while you're onboard, and look out for daily port talks from the Egyptologist.

# A complete guide to your cabin and our services

Whether you've cruised before or you're completely new to it, here's everything you need to know to get up to speed with our ships.



## CABIN INFO

### SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES

Every cabin comes with a safety deposit box to store your valuables. They're **free** to use.

### TELEPHONE

You can use your cabin phone to call Reception – you'll see a **pre-set button** on the handset. If you want to call another cabin, just dial the cabin number.

### MOBILE PHONES

Depending on your mobile phone provider, your phone should work throughout your sailing. **International roaming rates will apply**, and prices are set by your operator.

## SHIP INFO

### ONBOARD SHIP ACCOUNT

We operate a cashless system on board. Massage treatments are charged to your onboard account and you can pay for these at the end of your cruise by credit or debit card. You can also pay for them in cash if you prefer, either in Egyptian Pounds or US Dollars. Other extras onboard, such as items from the gift shop, are to be paid as you go, and can't be charged to your onboard account.

### WELLNESS

You can stay on top of your workout routine in the gym, which comes complete with fitness equipment and a space for exercise classes. And, if you want to take things a little easier, you can treat yourself to a massage, which you'll need to pre-book.

### GOING ASHORE

When leaving the ship to go ashore, you'll be given a shore card as you leave, which you'll need to hand back when you get back onboard. This is so we know who is on and off the ship at all times. Before you leave, please take note of the 'all onboard' time, which can be found in reception, as well as in Navigate. Everyone must be back onboard by this time to ensure we can set sail on time.

### DEPARTURE INFORMATION

You'll need to vacate your cabins by midday. This is so our housekeeping team can prepare the cabins for our arriving guests.

## SERVICES

### RECEPTION

Reception's open 24/7, so you can visit them on **Deck 2** or call them on your cabin phone by pressing the pre-set 'Reception' button.

### ONBOARD SHOP

You can buy a variety of merchandise from our gift shop onboard, including jewellery, gifts, books and souvenirs.

### HOUSEKEEPING

Cabin stewards will visit twice a day to make sure everything's spick-and-span, and all cabins have a turndown service, as well. If you'd prefer housekeeping not to visit your cabin, then just pop the 'Do not disturb' sign on your door.

### LAUNDRY

To use our laundry service, simply **request a bag from Reception**. Place your items in the bag, then fill out the laundry slips – where you'll find prices for each item. Once you're finished, just leave the bag on the bed for collection. Just so you know, we don't accept laundry the day before disembarkation, as we can't guarantee it'll be ready before you leave.

### NAVIGATE

Our Navigate app is your one-stop-shop for everything river cruise related – and it's completely free to use. All you need is a smartphone, a tablet, or a laptop.

- Once you've registered your device for Wi-Fi, you'll be directed to the Navigate home page. If this doesn't happen, you can type **navigate.tui** into your web browser.



### WI-FI

There's free Wi-Fi access throughout the ship – speeds and coverage may vary.



Follow us on Facebook and Instagram, and share your river cruise photos and videos with us, at **facebook.com/TUIRiverCruises**, and **@tuirivercruises**.



## SAFETY INFO

### MOVING AROUND THE SHIP

Unlike a hotel, a ship can move around unexpectedly, so take care when walking around the ship and its stairwells. Please use the handrails when you can and take **extra care** when walking through doors, as they might be heavier than you're used to with a **raised lip** to step over. You'll also need to take care when walking around the top deck, as it can become slippery when wet. Don't sit, climb or stand on the handrails. And avoid putting your hands or head over the side of the ship when coming in and out of the port, passing through locks and under bridges, or when opening your cabin window.

### MUSTER STATION

Your muster station is a safe location, where you need to gather in an emergency, and it's located on the top deck. Life jackets can be found in your cabin, and you can find directions for the quickest route to your muster station on the back of your cabin door.

### SMOKING POLICY

Smoking and vaping is only allowed in designated smoking areas, which can be found on the top deck. Please don't move ashtrays into other areas – we want all our guests to have a space where they're comfortable, whether they smoke or not. Any guests found to be smoking in their cabin will be charged for a deep clean to freshen the cabin for future guests.

### MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

If you have any special medical needs and require the use of a **sharps box** or **medical bin**, just let Reception or your Cruise Experience Manager know when you arrive and they'll make arrangements for you. For the safety of our crew, **please don't dispose of any medical needles in the general waste bins**.

### HEALTH & SANITATION

Please use the hand sanitisers positioned around the ship as often as possible. If you begin to feel unwell at any point, please return to your cabin and call reception.

### ELECTRICAL ITEMS

Please take care when using electrical items in your cabin. And don't leave appliances charging when you're not in your cabin, as it's a fire risk. Please don't use electric blankets and water heaters brought from home, since the ship's outlets are only 220 volts. Also, note that the sockets in the bathroom are for shavers only.

### TAP WATER

Please note, the tap water is not safe to drink, and it's advised to use bottled water when brushing your teeth, as well.

## SAFETY DRILL

Here at TUI River Cruises, your safety is our number one priority. Therefore, every guest needs to complete the Emergency Passenger Safety Drill before we set sail. This is where we tell you the procedures to follow in the unlikely event of an emergency situation.

**Here's a step-by-step guide for how to complete the safety drill and muster process.**

1. When you first board the ship, load the Navigate app on your phone or tablet.
2. Click on the My Muster tile and watch the Muster Video.
3. Once you've watched the video, tick the two confirmation boxes that appear on the screen.

If you don't have access to a smartphone or tablet, or you have any questions about the muster process, speak to your Cruise Experience Manager or reception who will be able to assist.

## EMERGENCY SIGNAL

In the event of an emergency, you'll probably hear several signals and alarms.

**The general emergency signal** will be demonstrated during the safety drill. If you hear this signal, you should stay calm and do the following...



If you're in your cabin, **collect something warm to wear** and **any prescribed medication**, then head straight to your muster station.



If you're not in your cabin, go straight to your muster station.



If there's smoke in the corridor, **stay as low to the ground as possible** – the air is clearer here and the lighting will be easier to see.

You'll find further information on what to do during an emergency on the **safety channel** of your cabin's TV. If you've got any questions, please speak to Reception or your Cruise Experience Manager.







# Navigate life onboard

It's easy to find our restaurant opening times and entertainment schedules – just use our free onboard app, Navigate. Here's how it works...



## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

We're committed to making sure our river cruises are the best they can be, so we'd love to hear what you think. You can leave the feedback about all aspects of our cruises – from the dining and the entertainment to the onboard activities – on our app, Navigate.

And, if there's anything that doesn't immediately meet your expectations, please speak to one of our crew, your onboard Cruise Experience Manager, or pop to reception– they'll be able to help.

## WHAT IS NAVIGATE?

It's our free onboard app, which you can use to find out anything you need to know about your cruise – whether it's opening times, entertainment programmes, the weather forecast, or the following day's port. You can also use it to leave feedback.

## WHAT CAN I USE IT FOR?

- See the day's **Entertainment Schedule**
- Find out the **opening times** of onboard bars and restaurants
- View details on the next day's port, schedule and weather forecast
- View maps and information about each port
- **Leave feedback** on your dining and entertainment experience
- View the daily menus for the restaurants

## HOW CAN I ACCESS IT?

Navigate is free to use. All you need is a smartphone, a tablet or a laptop. Once you're connected to the ship's Wi-Fi, Navigate will automatically open up. For easy access, we recommend saving the app to your home screen, where possible. Alternatively, you can go to your browser, and type in '[navigate.tui](https://navigate.tui)'.



# Here's why our customers love our cruises

First-hand accounts from some of our summer 2024 TUI River Cruises customers who sailed on our European fleet.

*I loved my holiday so much that for the first time I really didn't want to come home. My river cruise was great in so many ways, the countries we visited, the food, all of the staff onboard who were so pleasant and friendly.*

*The accommodation was really good and all the other people onboard were very friendly too.*

**Magical Danube – TUI Maya – Andrea**

*We hadn't gone on a river cruise before and so we had no idea what to expect and funnily enough a lot of people we talked to hadn't either. We had such a fantastic time, truly brilliant. We went to Hungary, Slovakia and Austria. Each country blew us away, the staff were most excellent, the food was fantastic and the guides we had on each trip were amazing. Would truly recommend it to all of my friends.*

**Danube Capitals – TUI Maya – Nicola**

*On our recent TUI Skylia cruise, the entire staff were extremely well organized, professional and friendly. The shore experiences were exciting with excellent management. Undoubtedly, we would recommend TUI to anyone contemplating this type of holiday.*

**Magical Danube – TUI Skylia – Nicholas & Jane**

*This is our second river cruise, and it was just as amazing. Lovely cabin, outstanding crew & staff, fabulous food and great trips. Absolutely loved it! Everything was absolutely brilliant, and we can't thank you enough - an amazing start to my retirement. Thank you to you all.*

**Danube Treasures – TUI Skylia – Mary**

*We had a superior cabin, which was spacious, comfortable and very well designed. The food was very good, all the staff were very friendly, attentive, yet relaxed. All the places we visited on the cruise were beautiful and the guided tours we booked were excellent.*

**Danube Treasures – TUI Skylia – Cameron**

*Overall I had a lovely holiday and have already booked a 2025 TUI river cruise since returning home.*

*Shore experiences were excellent, I did the walking tour of Boppard and the wine tasting at Rüdesheim. The tour guides were fabulous.*

**Rhine Gorge Discovery – TUI Isla – Susan**

*This was our first ever holiday abroad and we didn't really know what to expect. The cruise staff were extremely welcoming, polite and helpful. Our cabin was beautiful and tranquil with stunning views of the surrounding area as we travelled. The cuisine onboard was exceptional with a good choice of excellently prepared flavoursome dishes. The entertainment team worked so well together producing lovely professional performances. The shore experiences gave us a very safe feeling whilst exploring the local areas and cultures with some very knowledgeable and entertaining local guides.*

**Rhine Gems – TUI Isla – Helen & John**



\*Please note, some of the comments have been slightly amended for length and clarity.



# Tastes and tipples



With a variety of options for dining and drinks, you can forget about rumbling stomachs and parched lips. Check out what you can look forward to onboard.

## FELUCCA

This al fresco spot's up on the top deck. Light bites are served at lunchtime and there's no need to book – just rock up when you're peckish. For dinner, you'll need to book a table in advance – just pop to reception to make a reservation. You can use the Navigate app to check the opening times.

## LAZEEZA

This is the main restaurant onboard, which is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. There's waiter service for drinks, plus a mix of buffet and show-cooking options with lots of local flavours to try. And you don't need to book a table in advance, just head down when you're ready. Plus, check when Lazeeza's open on the Navigate app.

## OBSERVATORY

This light and contemporary lounge is the ship's main bar, and it plays host to the nightly entertainment onboard. Look forward to local acts, live music, quizzes, movies and more.

## DRESS CODE

During the day, the dress code's pretty relaxed – you just can't wear beachwear in the restaurants. Come evening, things get a little smarter. Men need to wear long trousers or smart tailored shorts, a shirt or polo shirt, and closed shoes.

Images are for illustrative purposes only



### ALL INCLUSIVE AS STANDARD

All your meals and drinks onboard come as part of the package.



### TEA, COFFEE AND CAKE

Tea, coffee and cake are served every afternoon in Felucca, on the top deck.



### AFTERNOON TEA

Afternoon tea is served once per cruise, where a variety of sweet and savoury bites are on the cards.



### GALA DINNER

There's a six-course gala dinner on every sailing. You can get your glad rags on, too, if you like, but there's no obligation to dress up.



### DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

If you've got any dietary requirements, just let us know when you arrive and we'll set up a meeting with the maitre d'.

## LOCAL EATS

From koshari to kofta – here are some must-eats you can tick off en route...

### FUL MEDAMES

This bean stew dish is typically served at breakfast, and you'll find it at street stalls and restaurants. It consists of fava beans stewed with tahini and seasoned with garlic, cumin, and lemon, and it's often served with bread and salad.

### KOSHARI

This dish is a national favourite – it's a mix of rice, lentils, macaroni, chickpeas, fried onions and a spicy tomato sauce.

### HAMAM MAHSHI

This dish has been an Egyptian favourite for centuries. The main ingredient is pigeon, which is stuffed with a mixture of wheat or rice, onions, cinnamon, cumin, and nuts, then grilled or roasted until the skin is a crispy golden-brown colour.

### OM ALI

This dessert translates to 'Ali's Mother', and while the origins of the name are up for debate, it definitely has a warm and homely feel to it. The dessert itself is a bread pudding made of pastry blended with nuts, raisins, coconut, cinnamon, cream and plenty of sugar. It's pretty similar to bread pudding in the UK, but it's a bit lighter and milkier.

### KOFTA

Forget the English post-clubbing snacks – Egyptian kofta kebabs are tasty stuff. Pop in to one of the traditional restaurants in the souks and order one of these thick, sausage-sized rolls of spicy minced lamb with a bowl of savoury rice and a bit of salad.



# Pick your pace onboard

Exploring ashore's not the only option with TUI River Cruises. There's an AM to PM programme of entertainment to keep you busy in between.

## DAY

Whether you want to keep fit, join a tournament or listen to a podcast, our daytime timetable lets you do it all. Check out Navigate for our entertainment schedule.



### WELLNESS

Get your muscles moving at a Yoga session, stretch class, or in the onboard gym.

## DOWNTIME

Curl up with a book from our little library, delve into our collection of board games, or check out our destination podcasts. You can try our E-puzzlers, too – these online games include the likes of wordsearches and puzzles.

### GAMES

Head up to the top deck where you'll find different games to take part in.



## NIGHT

In the evening, there's a whole host of nightly entertainment in the Observatory, including solo cabaret performances from our Entertainment manager.

### QUIZZES AND SILENT DISCOS

Our interactive gameshows and quizzes feature the latest technology, like buzzers and 'fastest finger first'. And don't forget our old favourite – the silent disco.

### JUKEBOX BINGO

Grab your bingo sheet and listen along to the songs. As soon as you hear one of yours being played, tick it off and fill your card out.



### VOCAL PERFORMANCES

Our entertainment manager provides the soundtrack each evening, with solo cabaret performances.

### LOCAL GUEST ACTS

Sample some local culture with a range of Egyptian guest acts, including a Nubian performance and a folkloric show.



# Pick your pace ashore

To get even more out of your river cruise, you can head out on one of our shore experiences. In our River Cruises Collection, we've got a handpicked line-up of highly rated shore experiences, just for our TUI River Cruise customers

All experiences in our River Cruises Collection include pick-up from the ship by an experienced local guide, who will give you all the need-to-know information about the places you visit.

If you'd prefer to explore at your own pace though, we also have a range of attraction tickets that you can pre-book. Just so you know, attraction tickets do not include a transfer or a guide.

You can check out the shore experiences on offer for your itinerary, current prices, availability and book these at **[rivercruises.gotui.com/uk](https://rivercruises.gotui.com/uk)**

Check out some of our favourite shore experiences and attraction tickets on page 20-21

Don't forget, you've got a couple of shore experiences included in your itinerary at no extra cost. One's a guided tour of the Temple of Horus in Edfu, and the other's a guided tour of Kom Ombo Temple.

Scan the QR code below





# Ship facts

If you're a fan of ship stats, this page is for you...



TUI Al Horeya

148 PASSENGERS

74 CABINS

74 CREW

5 DECKS

14.4M BEAM WIDTH

72M LONG

RENOVATED IN 2023  
FOR WINTER 2024

220V ELECTRICAL  
SUPPLY

## LOW BRIDGES

We have to pass under a low bridge on this sailing, so the top deck will be out of use for a short period of time while it's collapsed.

## DOUBLE DOCKING AND TRIPLE DOCKING

In some ports, we might need to berth next to another ship, or even two, due to space. So, to get on and off our ship, you might have to walk across the top deck of the ships we're berthed next to, or even through them.



# Cruise with a conscience

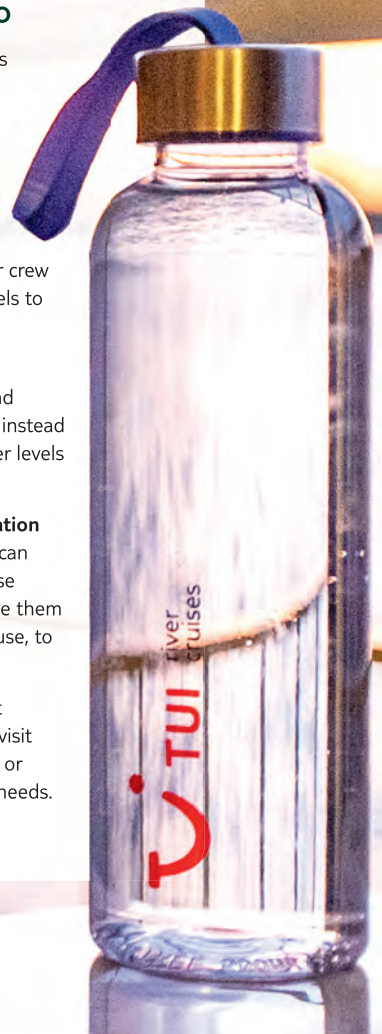
At TUI River Cruises, we believe the waterways we sail along are beautiful, and we want to keep them that way. Here are some ways we can all reduce our environmental impact and help local communities...

## WHAT WE'RE DOING

- 1 We've cut down on single-use plastic water bottles.** You'll find reusable water bottles in your cabins, which you can keep.
- 2 We use recycled materials.** For example, some of the carpets on our European fleet are made from recycled fishing nets.
- 3 No more plastic straws.** We've said goodbye to plastic straws in our drinks and replaced them with paper ones.
- 4 Local food.** Lots of the produce used in our restaurants is sourced locally, which supports communities in our cruise destinations.
- 5 We're all for charity.** During the refurbishment of our European ships, we donated all the old furniture to a charity in the Netherlands.
- 6 Less paper.** We've taken our Cruise News digital. You'll find it on our Navigate app, rather than in paper form.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

- 1 Buy locally made products.** It's an easy way to support a local community. Plus, items that are flown or shipped in from overseas have a much larger carbon footprint.
- 2 Hang up your towels.** By doing this, you're letting our crew know you don't need your towels to be washed every day.
- 3 Try a few vegetarian meals.** While you're onboard or out and about, try veggie-based dishes instead of meat – meat produces higher levels of greenhouse gas emissions.
- 4 Use apps and online confirmation for bookings.** This means you can save on paper. And if you do use tourist maps or brochures, leave them behind for the next person to use, to save on more printing.
- 5 Eat like a local.** Avoid eating at restaurant chains and instead, visit markets, local neighbourhoods or street vendors for your foodie needs.



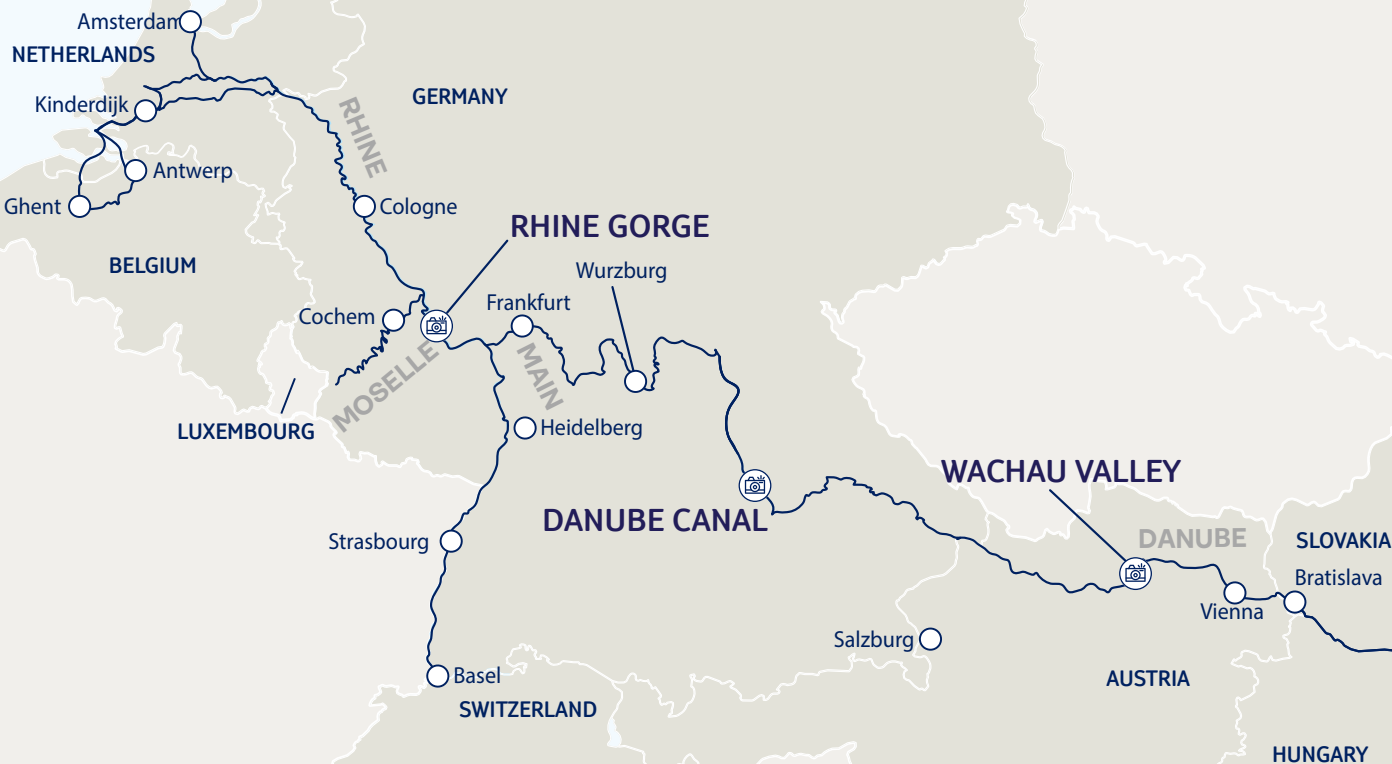
## CARING FOR OUR WORLD

The **TUI Care Foundation** is an independent charity, supporting projects in holiday destinations around the world that improve the lives of young people, care for the natural world and help local communities thrive. When you book a cruise with us, you have the option of donating £1 to the **TUI Care Foundation** to support sustainable tourism in a way that benefits the local people and

environment – now and in the future. For instance, our Turtle Aid programme has protected over one million turtles and created turtle-friendly habitats around the globe.

Find out more at [tui.co.uk/destinations/info/sustainability](https://tui.co.uk/destinations/info/sustainability)





# Explore iconic waterways

From the Rhine to the Nile, our cruises take you along some of the longest and most beautiful rivers in the world, ticking off time-warp villages and wide-awake cities along the way. Here's a look at the places you can go...

## DANUBE

Europe's second-longest river flows through 10 countries. It also passes four grand capitals – Budapest, Vienna, Bratislava and Belgrade – which you can visit on our itineraries.



## NILE

One of the world's most iconic rivers, the Nile winds its way past loads of Egypt's historic hotspots, including Luxor – a city that's been dubbed an open-air museum in itself.



## DOURO

Stretching the entire width of northern Portugal and nudging into Spain, the Douro's a must if you like port wine – it's in the only region in the world that can legally produce it.



## DUTCH & BELGIAN WATERWAY

This network of canals, waterways and rivers lets you sail past historic cities and windmill-sprinkled countryside - not to mention colourful tulip fields in spring.



## RHINE

On its journey from the Alps to the North Sea, the Rhine ticks off cities and vineyard-backed villages. Plus, the Rhine Gorge is home to more castles than any other valley in the world.



## MOSELLE

Wine, wine and more wine – that's the name of the game along the Moselle. First-class Rieslings grow in terraced vineyards, making the views just as good as the vino.





Find out more about  
our itineraries and  
ports of call at  
[tui.co.uk/river-cruises](http://tui.co.uk/river-cruises).

Budapest

Novi Sad

Belgrade

SERBIA

ROMANIA

IRON GATES

Bucharest

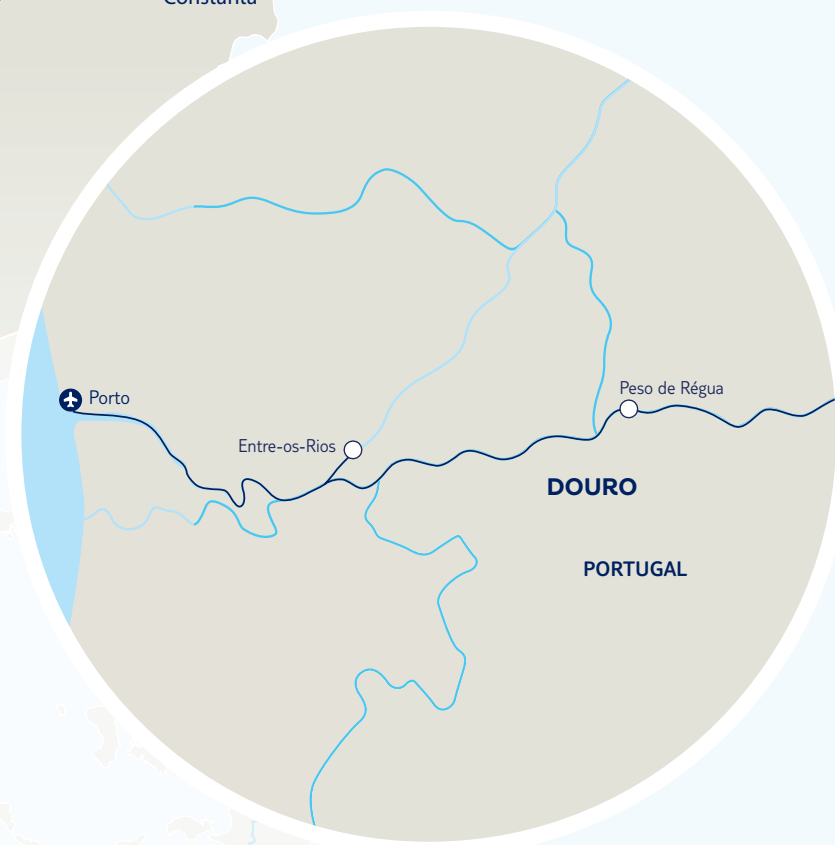
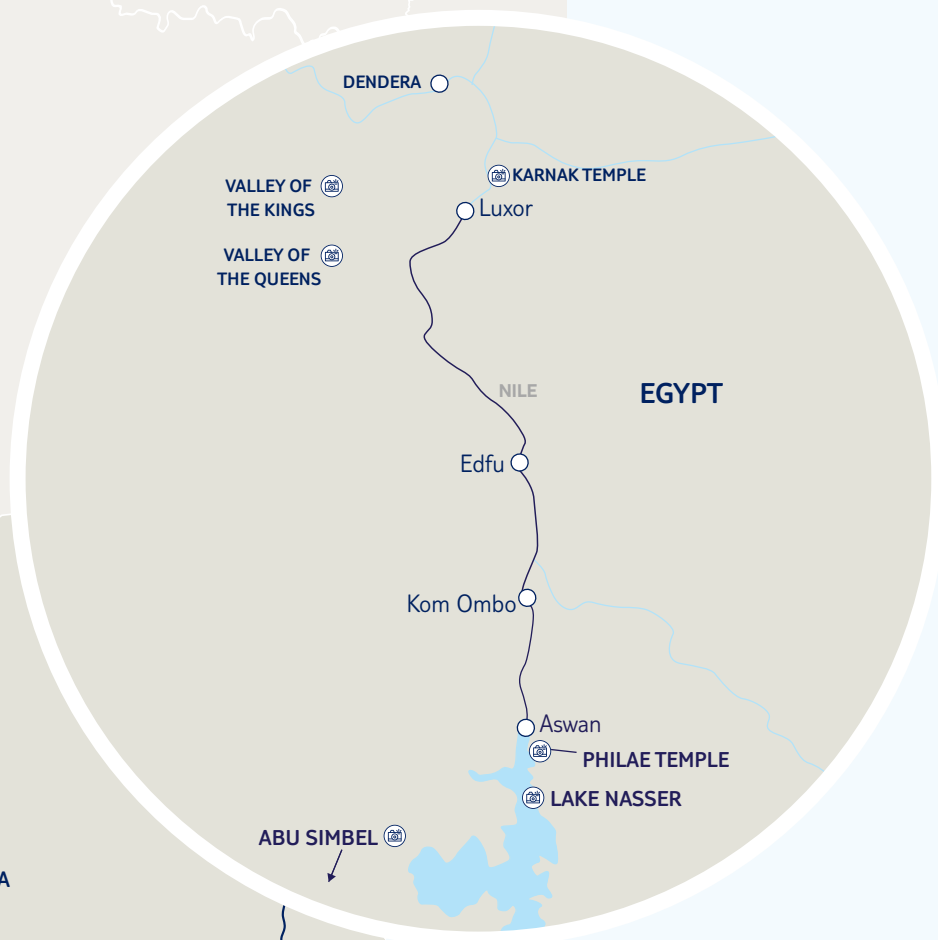
Ruse

Constanta

BULGARIA

## MAIN

See Germany at its prettiest on a Main river cruise. You'll have the chance to hop off at castle-crowned cities and villages full of timber-framed houses.









# Navigating the Nile – launching our latest TUI River Cruise

Simon Austin and Donna Barter from our Product Development Team tell us a bit more about their role with TUI River Cruises, including how they planned our first ever cruise along the Nile. Plus, they give us a taste of what's to come on our second Nile ship, TUI Bahareya.

**Q Can you tell us a bit about your role? What do you do day-to-day?**

**A Simon:** As the new Customer Experience and Product Development Manager, I evolve our new products from start to finish. I support designs, set service standards and work with the team to make our product stand out in the UK market. Day to day, I'll collaborate with shipyards and ship designers to brief, oversee and approve designs. I also focus on the onboard experience for our customers, ensuring the fleet keeps evolving, getting better and better.

**A Donna:** I'm involved in product development for TUI River Cruises, working closely with the marketing side of the Customer Experience team and looking at gaps in the market to spot what our customers are looking for, and designing products around this. I'm always looking at new and exciting destinations to take our customers to, plus I'm responsible for the entertainment proposition onboard and the extras you can add on to your cruise.

**Q How did you choose the River Nile as our new destination?**

**A Simon:** A Nile river cruise is an amazing way to dive into Egypt's rich history and impressive scenery. You get to visit iconic landmarks like the temples of Luxor, Karnak, and Aswan, all without constant packing and unpacking. Plus, you'll enjoy incredible views of the Nile and rural Egypt, and experience local life along the riverbanks. It's a journey you won't forget!

**A Donna:** Because I'm one of the newest members of the team, the Nile proposition had already been scoped out when I joined, however, having spoken with fellow colleagues and having been in TUI for almost 15 years, I know that the Nile was always a popular destination when we operated smaller ships on there some years ago. It's something our customers have been asking for, for some time, and there's absolutely a gap in the market.

**Q How did you develop TUI Al Horeya? What went into planning, decorating, choosing what to include etc.?**

**A Simon:** The success of any ship launch hinges on strong relationships. This involves collaboration between the shipyard and interior designers, including things like approving furniture or artwork and visiting the ship at every stage. Weekly meetings are held to discuss practicality and concepts, and I work with Egyptologists and locals to create an amazing experience that gives guests a true taste of Egyptian culture.

**A Donna:** We looked at customer feedback and homed in on what their key priorities are from a holiday, then started an ideas board around this. As my first time designing a ship, it's been great fun bringing out my creative side and working with lots of different colleagues both internally and externally to bring things to life. We wanted to expand on our successful European fleet and ensure we brought in a stylish yet authentic feel to this ship. People travelling on the Nile want to be immersed in culture and enjoy some winter sun, so these are the themes we've worked with.

**Q What are you most looking forward to about sailing the River Nile?**

**A Simon:** Sailing on the River Nile is such an adventure! Imagine visiting ancient temples and monuments like the Karnak Temple and the Valley of the Kings, and really getting a taste of Egyptian culture with local cuisine, music, and dance. The scenic views along the Nile, with lush greenery and beautiful sunsets, are going to be breathtaking. Plus, there's the relaxation factor – just unwinding on the deck with the gentle river breeze. And let's not forget the unique experiences, like learning from Egyptologists and locals about the rich history and culture of Egypt.

**A Donna:** I'm excited about the ship launch and seeing all our hard work come to light. We're creating a special blessing ceremony for the ship and our colleagues will be joining us to share the experience. Egypt is such a unique country, and I know that our customers are so excited about being able to sail and see some of the historic and famous sights.

**Q Can you tell us a bit about TUI Bahareya, our second ship on the Nile? And what differences will there be from TUI Al Horeya?**

**A Donna:** TUI Al Horeya offers a nice blend of authentic experiences and some home-from-home comforts, so you can enjoy a balance of local experiences, whilst also enjoying and relaxing with some winter sun.

When it launches in winter 2025, TUI Bahareya will offer a fully immersive cultural experience.



**Simon Austin**  
Customer Experience & Product Development Manager



**Donna Barter**  
Senior Customer Experience & Product Manager

# Explore ashore

If you fancy scratching beneath the surface of our destinations, you can choose between our guided River Cruises Collection shore experiences, or explore independently with our tickets and attractions. Let's dive in and take a closer look...



## RIVER CRUISES COLLECTION SHORE EXPERIENCES

Our River Cruises Collection shore experiences are all led by English-speaking guides, and you'll be picked up and dropped off back at the ship. Here are some of our favourites...



### LUXOR BY HOT AIR BALLOON

Get a birds-eye view of Luxor and find out why it's dubbed the 'world's greatest open-air museum'. You'll start with a motorboat crossing to the Nile's West Bank, where you'll meet your pilot, crew, and fellow passengers. Once the hot air balloon's good to go, you'll hop in the basket and soar into the skies, where you'll be able to look down on sights like the Valley of the Kings, the Temple of Hatshepsut and the city centre.

Available in Luxor



### SOUND AND LIGHT SHOW AT KARNAK TEMPLE

This action-packed, 90-minute show looks back at the history of Thebes and the lives of the pharaohs. It starts at the avenue of Sphinxes, passes through the first pylon to the Great Court, and on through the Great Hypostyle Hall to the grandstand of the Sacred Lake for the big finale. Along the way, you'll hear stirring music and tales from the ancient pharaohs, while the ruins are illuminated by a dazzling light show.

Available in Luxor



### TOUR OF LUXOR MUSEUM & MUMMIFICATION MUSEUM

You'll tick off two of Luxor's top museums on this three-hour trip, which starts with a visit to the Luxor Museum on the banks of the Nile. The museum houses hundreds of artefacts which document the city's colourful history, including items from Tutankhamun's tomb. You'll then be taken over to the Mummification Museum just down the road, where you'll get a full insight into the mummification process, including its religious significance.

Available in Luxor

\*Availability of tickets and attractions is itinerary dependent





### WHAT TO EXPECT

All our River Cruise Collection shore experiences are led by expert, English-speaking guides. And, when you book with us, there's no need to worry if the cruise changes or your tour gets held up – our team will step in and sort things out.



### TICKETS AND ATTRACTIONS

Tickets and attractions are ideal if you want to explore independently. You won't have a guide to show you around or a transfer from the ship, so you can plot your own path and go at your own pace. Just head to [rivercruises.gotui.com](http://rivercruises.gotui.com) to pre-book.



### TOUR OF THE HIGH DAM, UNFINISHED OBELISK AND PHILAE TEMPLE IN ASWAN

You'll head to three of Aswan's top attractions on this trip. First up's the Aswan High Dam. It was built in the 1960s to stop the Nile from flooding every year, and it also formed Lake Nasser – the world's largest artificial body of water. You'll also visit the Unfinished Obelisk, which lay undiscovered for thousands of years, before hopping on a traditional motorboat and heading to the island of Philae, where you'll have a tour of its temple.

**Available in Aswan**



### TOMBS OF THE NOBLES & KITCHENERS ISLAND WITH A FELUCCA EXPERIENCE

This trip starts with a ride on a felucca. These traditional wooden boats have been sailing on the Nile for centuries, and you'll float around Aswan's Nile islands on one before getting off at your first stop, the Tombs of the Nobles. These tombs mark the resting place for some of Ancient Egypt's princes, governors, and other dignitaries. After, you'll hop back on the felucca and head to Kitcheners Island. Aswan's botanical garden can be found here, and you'll have some time to wander among the exotic plants before heading back.

**Available in Aswan**

### LOOKING FOR INSPIRATION?

The Cruise Experience Manager holds daily talks about the next day's port, so you can get a feel for what to do. They're also on hand to answer any questions about our experiences or exploring on your own. Make sure to check the Navigate app for the time of each talk.

### HOW TO BOOK

You can book shore experiences by visiting [rivercruises.gotui.com/uk](http://rivercruises.gotui.com/uk), up until 24 hours before the tour's due to depart. Just enter your details and pick the experience you want to go on.

You'll need to pay via card – you can't pay using cash or charge them to your onboard account.

Just so you know, attraction tickets have a different cancellation policy to guided shore experiences. You can find out the exact cancellation terms for each attraction when you book.



# Social sailing

We've built up quite a fanbase in a pretty short space of time. Check out some of our customers' best pictures below, then head to our Facebook and Instagram pages to give us a follow...

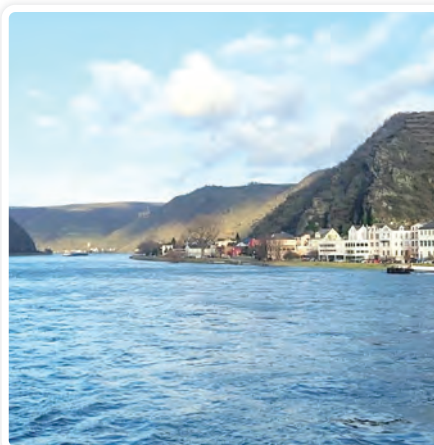
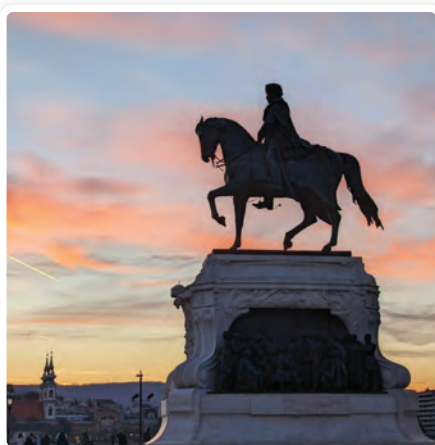


If you fancy seeing your snaps appear in our next edition of Life on the River, head over to our Facebook and Instagram pages, and share them with us, at [facebook.com/TUIRiverCruises](https://facebook.com/TUIRiverCruises), and [@tuirivercruises](https://instagram.com/tuirivercruises)

Scan the QR codes below







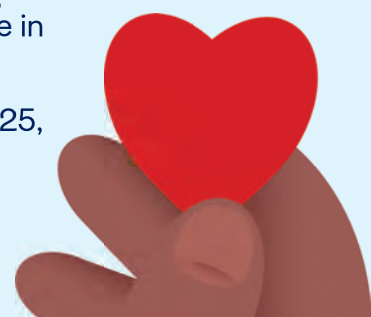
## Win **£100** towards your next TUI River Cruise!

That's right, we're offering you the chance to win a **£100 voucher** for your next TUI River Cruise.

To enter, just upload your TUI River Cruise pictures to our Facebook or Instagram page and tag us using **@tuirivercruises** and **#TUIRCAdventures** to be in with a chance of winning.

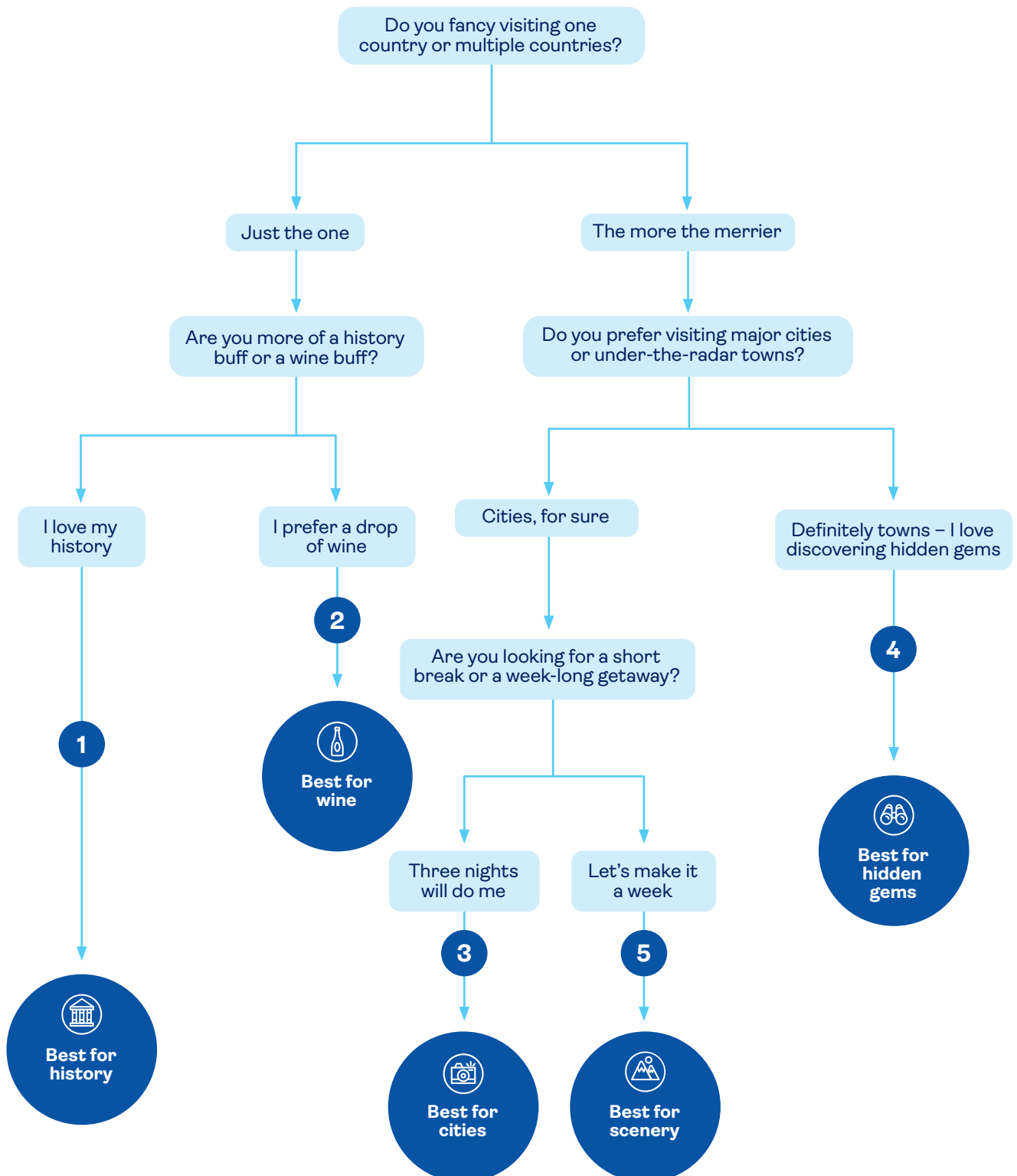
We'll pick one lucky winner at the end of April 2025, and if it's you, we'll be in touch via Facebook or Instagram.

Good luck!



# Which river cruise should I go on next?

Ok, we know this one's not over yet, but that doesn't mean you can't start thinking about your next getaway, does it? Here's our handy quiz to help you decide where to head on your next TUI River Cruise...





1



### **Ancient Gods and Famous Pharaohs | 7 nights | TUI Al Horeya & TUI Bahareya**

Few countries have a history to match Egypt's, and you'll get to uncover plenty of it on this seven-night itinerary along the iconic River Nile. You'll start and finish in one of the world's oldest inhabited cities, Luxor – it's dubbed 'the world's greatest open-air museum' for its smorgasbord of ancient sights. Sandwiched in between are stops in the ancient cities of Edfu, Kom Ombo and Aswan, where you can visit a tonne of temples. And to top it off, you'll have a certified Egyptologist with you for the whole river cruise.

2



### **Douro Discovery | 7 nights | TUI Alma**

Step onboard our first new-build river cruise ship, TUI Alma, for our newest itinerary along the Douro River in Portugal. The Douro Valley – which the river runs through – is the oldest recognised wine region in the world, and it's the only place that's legally allowed to produce port wine. The cruise starts and finishes in Portugal's second-biggest city, Porto. And in between, you'll stop off in cosy, scenic villages and towns, like Entre-os-Rios, Barca d'Alva and Peso de Régua where vineyards and whitewashed barrel warehouses are on the cards.

3



### **Three Grand Capitals 2 | 3 nights | TUI Maya, TUI Isla, & TUI Skyla**

Our shortest itinerary's very aptly named, as you tick off three capital cities in four days. You'll start in Austria's premier city, Vienna, then glide along the Danube to Slovakia's leading light, Bratislava, before wrapping things up in Hungary's foremost city, Budapest. There's plenty of time to see each city's major sights, like Vienna's opulent Schönbrunn Palace and Bratislava's hilltop castle. And on the last night, the ship docks in Budapest, so you can head out and visit the city's iconic ruin bars without having to worry about rushing back.

4



### **Magical Danube | 7 nights | TUI Maya, TUI Isla, & TUI Skyla**

Ok, for full disclosure, this itinerary still ticks off some big cities, like Budapest, Bratislava and Vienna, but the middle part of the cruise is reserved for some towns and cities on a lesser-trodden tourist path. On day three, you'll visit the Austrian town of Krems, which has an Art Mile dedicated to galleries and museums. The following day, you'll have a few hours in the snug German city of Passau, which is the only place in the world where three rivers meet – the Danube, the Inn and the Ilz. Then it's onto Linz, with its stellar collection of extravagant churches, abbeys and Baroque buildings. This place is Austria's third-biggest city, but with a population similar to Portsmouth, it never feels too crowded.

5



### **Danube Capitals | 7 nights | TUI Maya, TUI Isla, & TUI Skyla**

On this itinerary, you'll visit the same three cities as you do on our Three Grand Capitals itinerary, but with a bit longer to explore them all. Budapest is up first on days one and two, then it's onto Bratislava for day three. You'll follow that up with a couple of days in Vienna, then it's back to Bratislava for a day, followed by another couple of days in Budapest to round things off.



**Pssst... did you find yourself saying yes to everything? In that case, check this itinerary out...**

#### **Icons of Europe**

#### **15 nights | TUI Isla & TUI Maya**

This mammoth itinerary ticks off five countries and four capital cities, plus mighty metropolises like Cologne and Frankfurt, and smaller towns like Miltenberg and Würzburg.

Wine buffs will be right at home in Koblenz, where the surrounding valleys are teeming with terraced vineyards and world-class wineries, while Nuremberg's a must-see city for history lovers, as the home of the infamous Nazi Party rally grounds and the Nuremberg Trials courthouse.



# Full steam ahead

No matter what time of the year it is, we've got the perfect river cruise for you, from festive sailings to sunny getaways.

## Say hello to summer 2026

There's plenty to look forward to next summer, including our brand-new Douro Discovery itinerary. And with more than 20 itineraries in total, ranging from three to 15 nights, there's lots of flexibility and choice.

Here are some of our favourites...



### RHINE EXPLORER

You'll find out exactly why the Rhine is one of Europe's best-loved waterways on this eight-day river cruise. It starts in **Amsterdam** in the Netherlands, sails through Germany – including stops in **Cologne** and **Koblenz** – before wrapping up in Medieval **Basel**, in Switzerland.

Psst, in case you hadn't heard, **TUI Ria** will be joining the rest of our fleet along the Rhine, the Moselle and the Dutch and Belgian waterways from summer 2026. She'll also be our first ship to feature an indoor pool, complete with a retractable roof.



### DANUBE TREASURES

From **Vienna's** palaces to **Budapest's** bathhouses, this seven-night itinerary dances you along the Danube, stopping at must-see cities and past picture-perfect villages in between.



### EAST DANUBE EXPLORER

From Hungary's Paprika Capital – **Kalocsa** – to Serbia's first city, **Belgrade**, this seven-night cruise navigates east to explore some of Europe's less-trodden destinations. And it starts and finishes in 'the City of Spas' – **Budapest**.



### DOURO DISCOVERY

This seven-night itinerary takes place onboard our first ever new-build ship, **TUI Alma**. You'll sail through northern Portugal's famous wine-making region, the Douro Valley, with stops in cosy towns like **Peso de Regua** and **Entre-os-Rios** sandwiched in between stops in the country's second-biggest city, **Porto**.



# What's new next winter

We've got all the festive treats lined up on our winter programme next year, including the arrival of TUI Bahareya on the Nile. And with the Danube joining our list of winter waterways next year, too, there's more choice than ever.



## CHRISTMAS MARKETS

Our four-night Christmas market itineraries are brand-new for winter 2025, and include the likes of Christmas Carols & Castles, where highlights include eyeing up **Koblenz's** building-sized advent calendar. Or choose between Glühwein on the Rhine and Austrian Christmas Flavours. The latter visits **Vienna** – home to the world's largest Christmas market.



If you want to be away on Christmas Day, pick from our seven-night sailings - North Rhine Noel, Festive Fairy Tale, and Danube Christmas Treasures. The festivities onboard continue long after the big day's over and the Christmas markets have pulled down their shutters.



## NEW YEAR

New Year's covered, too, on our seven-night New Year's Eve sailings. On our A New Year on the Rhine itinerary, you can see the twin-spired cathedral in **Cologne**, eye up **Rudesheim's** life-sized nativity scene, and spend New Year's Day in the Netherlands' oldest city, **Nijmegen**. Or, get onboard our A New Year Sail Away itinerary. You'll count down to midnight in **Koblenz**, and finish off your sailing in **Amsterdam**. And don't forget our new-for-2025 sailing, A Danube New Year. You'll see in the New Year in **Budapest**, before kicking off 2026 in **Esztergom** – a Hungarian city best known for its huge basilica by the river.



## THE NILE

Don't forget, our Nile sailings will be in full swing again next winter, too, and TUI Bahareya will be joining its sister ship, TUI Al Horeya, along Africa's longest river. Our existing Legends of the Nile itinerary will be joined by our Ancient Gods and Famous Pharaohs sailing, and they'll alternate between the two ships. Both itineraries will start and finish in Luxor, while trips to Edfu Temple and Kom Ombo Temple will be included in your package.

Exciting news... our newest ship, TUI Bahareya will join our Nile river cruise sailings in 2025 - so you'll have two ships to choose from.



Aswan



Head to [tui.co.uk/river-cruises](https://tui.co.uk/river-cruises) for more details and to see our full range of itineraries.





# Summer 2026 now on sail

Our summer 2026 programme is guaranteed to wow, with sailings all over Europe, including our brand-new itinerary along Portugal's Douro River. You can also pick from cruises that sail through Austria, Belgium, Serbia and many more.

There's a huge range of durations and destinations to pick from, with more than 20 itineraries.



Find out more at your local  
store or [tui.co.uk/river-cruises](https://tui.co.uk/river-cruises)