

2026

# Life on the River

PLEASE LEAVE THIS MAGAZINE IN YOUR CABIN FOR THE NEXT GUESTS



Safety  
onboard

Discover  
the Douro

Find out about our first ever new-build ship - TUI Luzia - on the Douro River

Spotlight on  
Budapest

A closer look at Hungary's majestic capital, including details of our new Cruise & Stay options

# Welcome onboard

I'm really excited that you've chosen to explore Europe with TUI River Cruises.

Whether you're joining us on a summer sailing or a festive river cruise, there's plenty to see and do, both onboard and in port.

Everything you need to know about your time on and off the ship can be found in this magazine. If it's your first time onboard a TUI River Cruise, or you just need a recap, all the essential need-to-knows are on pages 4-7.

2026 promises to be an exciting year for TUI River Cruises, with lots to look forward to. For starters, our newest ship, TUI Aria, set sail for the first time in March. You can read more about her on pages 24 and 25.

There's our first ever music-themed sailing in November, and our solo sailings are back this summer, too. On top of all that, it's our birthday in August as well, when we celebrate five years of sailing the waterways. How time flies! You can meet some of the team who have

made our first five years such a success on pages 18 and 19, and we shine a spotlight on Budapest, on pages 32 and 33.

Plus, we give you the lowdown on how to use our **Navigate app**, and info on our activities, bars and restaurants.

Happy sailing.

P.S. There's even more to look forward to in summer 2027, when TUI Luzia will set sail on the Douro River. Plus, an eighth member of our fleet will be sailing along the Rhine.



Scan the QR code or visit [tui.co.uk/river-cruises](https://tui.co.uk/river-cruises) for details on our 5th birthday celebrations



Katy Berzins  
Head of TUI River Cruises

## Staying safe and healthy abroad

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

For the latest general FCDO travel advice, including security and local laws, plus passport and visa information, check [gov.uk/travelaware](https://gov.uk/travelaware) and follow [x.com/FCDOtravelGovUK](https://x.com/FCDOtravelGovUK) and [facebook.com/FCDOtravel](https://facebook.com/FCDOtravel)

See FCDO travel advice about individual destinations and sign up for FCDO travel advice email alerts, so you automatically receive the latest travel advice updates and travel requirements for the destinations you want to know about, at [gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice](https://gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice)

For travel advice from TUI, see [tui.co.uk/destinations/info/travel-aware](https://tui.co.uk/destinations/info/travel-aware)

For current travel health news, see [travelhealthpro.org.uk](https://travelhealthpro.org.uk)

Advice can change, so check regularly for updates.

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

## Meet the team

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

**Customer Experience Manager:** Claire Spriggs

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

**Writers:** Darren Notley, Olivia Torre

**Photography Editor:** Faye Delahunt

**Design Lead:** Janine Common

**Designers:** Gabby Bond





# 18

## Meet the team

Get to know a few of the faces behind our TUI River Cruises team



# 28

## Sail like an Egyptian

Meet our two ships sailing along the Nile



# 24

## Introducing our new ships

Get the lowdown on our new ships

A complete guide to your cabin and our services	4
Navigate life onboard	8
All the trimmings	9
A taste of Europe	10
Pick your pace onboard	12
Ship facts	13
Cruise with a conscience	14
Explore iconic waterways	16
Meet the team	18
Explore ashore	20
Social sailing	22
Introducing TUI Aria	24
Discover the Douro	26
Sail like an Egyptian	28
Egyptian escapades	30
Spotlight on Budapest	32
What's new this winter	34
Full steam ahead	35



# A 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.

## Ship info

### Onboard Ship Account

We operate a cashless system on board. Everything you purchase will be charged to your onboard account. You can register your credit card during the first five days of your sailing. At the end of your cruise, a statement will be delivered to your cabin, and we'll charge the outstanding amount to your registered credit card. If you want to settle your account in cash or debit card, you can do so by visiting reception - please note that any cash payments must be made in Euros.

### Going Ashore

When leaving the ship to go ashore, you'll need to collect your shore card from reception and hand it back in when you return. 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 on the digital screens in reception and the coffee area, on the doors as you exit the ship, as well as in Navigate.

### Wellness Area

You can soothe any aching muscles in the Wellness Area. With a sauna and a whirlpool bath, it's the perfect place to

unwind after a day's sightseeing. The Wellness Area is open for everyone to use, however if you'd like to book the area for private use, we have several slots available during your sailing that can be booked directly with reception for a small fee.

### Toilet System

The flushing system used onboard is a vacuum type and is extremely sensitive. Do not discard any bulky objects into the toilet, including facial wipes, sanitary items, moist toilet wipes or excessive amounts of toilet paper. Disposal of items other than small amounts of toilet paper will damage and block the toilet system.

### Departure Information

You'll need to vacate your cabins by 9am. This is so our housekeeping team can prepare the cabins for our arriving guests. If you've booked the Little Extras package, you can stay in your cabin until 11am.

## Cabin info

### Safety deposit boxes

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

### TV

When the ship arrives in port, it'll switch to the local power supply. When doing so, your TV might turn off for a few minutes. Don't worry, it's not broken, so you don't need to report this.

### 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 might apply, and prices are set by your operator.



[Read more](#)





Speak to your Cruise Director if you have any questions while you're onboard. Look out for the port showcase at the start of your sailing and the daily port talks, as well.



## 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 branded TUI River Cruises merchandise onboard.

### Housekeeping

Cabin stewards will visit once a day to make sure everything's spick-and-span. If you'd prefer not to have housekeeping visit your cabin, then just pop the 'Do not disturb' sign on your door. And just so you know, if you're staying in a suite, you'll have a turn down service.

### 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, contact reception, who will arrange for your bag to be collected. 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](http://navigate.tui) into your web browser.



### Wi-Fi

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

### To log on:

You'll be able to access the Wi-Fi once your onboard account has been created. Please note, there may be a small delay between boarding the ship and your account being created.



Follow us on Facebook and Instagram, and share your river cruise photos and videos with us, at [facebook.com/TUIRiverCruises](https://www.facebook.com/TUIRiverCruises), and [@tuirivercruises](https://www.instagram.com/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. It's located on the top deck and is where you'll find life jackets. You can find directions for the quickest route to your muster station on the back of your cabin door.



## 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.



## 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 Director 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.



## 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.



## 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.



## Tap Water

The tap water's safe to drink, and due to international standards, is chlorinated. You can get your water bottle topped up at the bar while you're onboard, too.

## Emergency signal

In the event of an emergency, you'll probably hear several signals and alarms. If you hear this signal, you should stay calm and do the following...

- 01 If you're in your cabin, collect something warm to wear and any prescribed medication, then head straight to your muster station.
- 02 If you're not in your cabin, go straight to your muster station.
- 03 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 Director.

# Navigate life onboard

It's easy to find our restaurant opening times, entertainment schedules, or your most up-to-date bill - just use our free onboard app, Navigate. Here's how it works...

## 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 view your onboard account, or leave feedback.

## What can I use it for?

- Check your most up-to-date bill on your onboard account
- 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
- Find out about our special events while you're onboard



### 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)'.



## 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 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 Director, or pop to reception - they'll be able to help.



# All the trimmings

You can make your river cruise that little bit extra special, with a whole heap of upgrades and add-ons available onboard...



#### All inclusive drinks package

Get all your drinks thrown in outside of mealtimes, from premium Lavazza coffees to classic cocktails. Please note, you'll need to do this during your first day onboard.

#### Wine or Prosecco in your cabin

Treat yourself to a bottle of wine or Prosecco served on ice, in your cabin.

#### Breakfast & bubbles package

Treat yourself to breakfast in bed, with a Continental breakfast and a bottle of Prosecco.



#### Bike hire

Explore ashore on two wheels with our e-bikes for hire. These are available for half days or full days.



#### Celebration package

Celebrating a special occasion? Or just fancy treating yourself? Either way, our Celebration package should hit the spot. It includes Continental breakfast in bed, a bottle of Prosecco in your cabin and a card from the Cruise Director.

#### Little extras package

This package takes a handful of top-notch extras and rolls them up into one big bundle. You'll get Prosecco and chocolates in your cabin, a behind-the-scenes-tour with our Cruise Director, and a later cabin check out on your last day.



#### Shop onboard

You can also buy branded TUI River Cruises merchandise onboard.



Just head to reception to book any of our packages, find out up-to-date prices, hire e-bikes or to buy your merchandise.



#### Private session in the wellness area

If you fancy having the wellness area to yourself, you can book a 45-minute private session.



#### Itinerary maps

Create a keepsake of your cruise with a customised itinerary map. Scan the QR code to find out more, or visit [thecruisemaps.com](https://www.thecruisemaps.com)

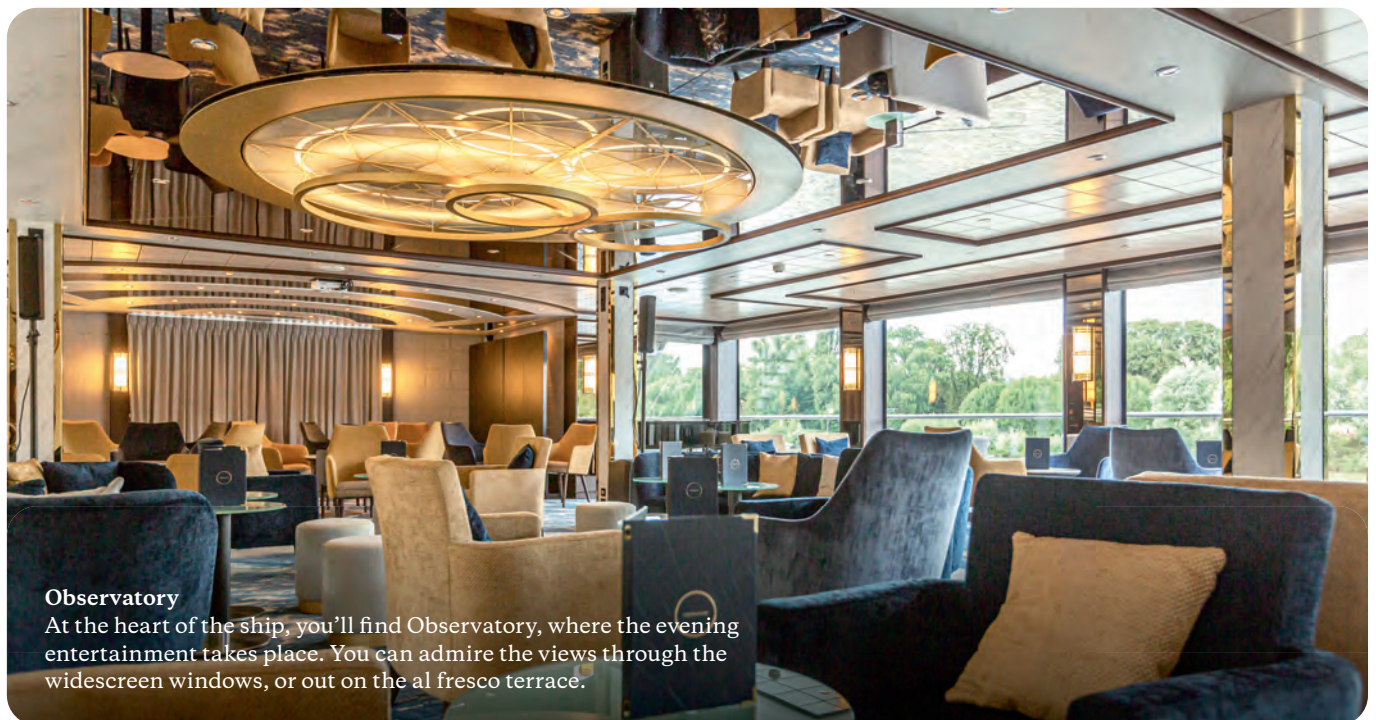


#### Shore experiences

Don't forget our range of shore experiences either. There's everything from city tours to wine-tasting sessions on the cards. See page 20-21 for details.

# A taste of Europe

You don't need to go ashore for some European flavour, our onboard restaurants and bars serve seasonal dishes and regional wines, too. Take a look at where you can drink and dine onboard.



## Observatory

At the heart of the ship, you'll find Observatory, where the evening entertainment takes place. You can admire the views through the widescreen windows, or out on the al fresco terrace.



## Verdastro

The menu changes daily at our main waiter service restaurant, which is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. It's made up of fresh, seasonal produce, sourced from local suppliers. You can pick from the likes of sea bream, tortellini and lamb shank.



## Bistro

This is our second restaurant, which you'll find next door to Verdastro. And, just like its neighbour, it's open for breakfast, lunch and dinner.



## Club Lounge

This lounge is the place to come for a fix of premium Lavazza coffee\* during the day. And, after dark, it transforms into an elegant cocktail bar.





### Upgrade to All Inclusive

All our European ships are Full Board Plus as standard, which means you get tea, coffee, soft drinks, wine or beer with meals. There's the option of house white, red or rosé wine at lunch and dinner, or you can try the specially selected wine from the region at dinnertime.

Any other drinks need to be paid for, or you can upgrade to All Inclusive. This way, you'll get a wider selection of drinks included, like draught beers, branded spirits, cocktails and premium Lavazza coffee. For select cabins, your minibar\*\* will be part of the package when you upgrade to All Inclusive, too.

Upgrades apply to all guests in each cabin.



### Afternoon tea

Afternoon tea is served once per cruise on sailings of five nights or more, where a variety of sweet and savoury items are on the cards.



### 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'.



### Dress Code

During the day, the dress code's pretty relaxed, then come evening, things get a little smarter. Items like long trousers smart tailored shorts, shirts and polo shirts are fine, but it's best to leave the sportswear and vests in your cabin.



### Gala Dinner

There's a six-course gala dinner - plus petit fours - on our sailings which are five nights or longer. You can get your glad rags on, too, if you like, but there's no obligation to dress up.



Look out for some special festive dishes on our Christmas and New Year sailings.



### Local Eats

From waffles to strudel - here's a pair of **sweet treats** you can tick off en route...

### Stroopwafel

Unlike a typical fluffy Belgian waffle, this Dutch variety is a thin and crunchy wafer cookie, filled with a caramel syrup. Locals put it on top of their tea to warm it up.

### Strudel

Layers of crispy pastry are wrapped around sweet fillings in this Austrian pudding. Apple - or apfelstrudel, as the locals say - is the most popular.

And if you're joining us on a festive sailing, here are a couple of seasonal specials to look out for...

### Bethmannchen

Marzipan dough gives these cookies their distinctive flavour. Locals in Frankfurt have been baking them since 1838, and during the festive period you'll find them in just about every chocolate shop or bakery in town.

### Glühwein

Things don't get more Christmassy than glühwein, AKA mulled wine. This traditional German drink - made with red wine and spices - is a great way to warm up while wandering the market stalls.

\*Lavazza coffee isn't included as part of the Full Board Plus package. You'll need to upgrade to the All Inclusive drinks package, or pay extra. \*\*Complimentary minibar only applies if you upgrade to All Inclusive and are staying in a Superior French Balcony or French Balcony Suite cabin.

# 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 get crafty, our daytime timetable lets you do it all. Check out Navigate for our entertainment schedule.



### Wellness

Get your muscles moving at a Yoga session, dance, or stretch class



### Downtime

Watch a movie at the Observatory, use the digital games table in the Club Lounge, curl up with a book from our little library, play cards or delve into our board games. You can also check out our destination podcasts, listen to your Cruise Director's commentary as you sail past iconic locations, and try our E-puzzlers - these online games include the likes of wordsearches.



### Local lingo

Pick up some key phrases from the destinations you visit with our language classes.



### Games

You can try the likes of minigolf, quoits - which is like ring toss - and sjoelbak - a type of shuffleboard.



## Night

In the evening, there's a whole host of nightly entertainment in the Observatory, including lively shows from our entertainment team - some with a festive theme.



### Musical shows

Sing and dance along to familiar favourites at our musical shows. We've got some new ones for 2026, too.



### Quizzes and silent discos

Our interactive gameshows and quizzes feature the latest technology, like buzzers, 'fastest finger first' and LED screens. There's jukebox bingo, too, where songs replace numbers. And, don't forget our old favourite - the silent disco.



### Vocal performances

Our entertainment team provide the soundtrack each evening with a variety of popular hits.



### Local guest acts

You'll be entertained by a range of local guest acts, including dancers and singers.



If you're sailing with us over the festive period, look out for our themed activities, like Christmas movies, Christmas jumper competitions and festive quizzes.



# Ship facts

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



#### Artwork

Keep an eye out for the artwork in the Atrium or our French Balcony Suites. The pieces were created exclusively for us by Dutch artist **Simone van den Berg**. Simone has a special connection with water, having been born and raised in **Lemmer**, on Holland's biggest lake.

#### Double Docking

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

**Inaugurated in 2011**  
TUI Isla & TUI Maya

**Inaugurated in 2010**  
TUI SkyLa

**Renovated in**  
2020

**135m**  
long

beam width

**11.4m**

**220V**  
electrical supply



**79**  
cabins  
TUI Isla &  
TUI Maya

**77**  
cabins  
TUI SkyLa

**Low Bridges**  
We have to pass under bridges on some of our sailings, so sometimes the top deck will be out of use for periods of time while it's collapsed.



**Did you know**, each of the ships in our European fleet has two engines and three generators?

TUI Isla & TUI Maya **155**  
passengers

TUI SkyLa **151**  
passengers



# Cruise with a conscience

Ever wonder what we're doing to reduce the environmental impact of our sailings?

Here are some of the things we do to keep the waterways beautiful and help local communities, plus a few ways you can lend a hand, too....

## What we're doing

**We've cut down on single-use plastic water bottles.** Instead, you'll find reusable bottles in your cabin, which you can keep. There are refill stations onboard, too.

**We use recycled materials.** Some of the carpets around TUI Isla, TUI Maya and TUI Skylä are made from recycled fishing nets.

**No more plastic straws or bags.** We've said goodbye to plastic straws in our drinks and replaced them with paper ones. Plus, our packed lunches are provided in cardboard boxes rather than plastic bags.

**Local guides.** Most of our shore experiences are delivered by locally-employed guides, which supports the local economy.

**Local acts.** Our evening entertainment is provided by local acts at least three times per week.

**Less paper.** You'll find Cruise News on TV screens around the ship, and on our Navigate app rather than in paper form. You can read a digital version of this magazine and our brochures, too.

**Cleaner rivers.** We're preventing untreated sewage from entering rivers on our European fleet, thanks to our advanced membrane bioreactor type sewage treatment plant. Plus, we use Ecolab laundry detergent, which prevents harmful chemicals from entering waterways.

**Reuse.** We reuse all our Christmas decorations, and we sell reusable tote bags and Christmas mugs on our European fleet.

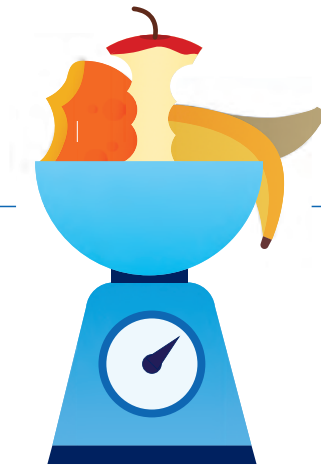
**Stay cool.** We use reflective window foil on TUI Isla, which keeps the ship cooler, reduces our use of air-conditioning and reduces our fuel consumption.

**Reduced emissions.** Our European fleet have onshore power supply capability, which is used wherever it's available. This means emissions are zero while we're docked at some ports.

**Reduced water usage.** We have vacuum toilets onboard, which reduces water consumption.

**We're all for charity.** During the refurbishment of our ships, we donate all the old furniture to local charities.

**Responsible.** From the uniforms our crew wear to the linens and textiles in your cabin, we use responsibly-sourced fabrics that prioritise people and the planet.



### Reducing food waste.

We've installed special equipment in the galley to determine the amount of food waste and reduce it.



### Reduced electricity usage

Our LED lights use less electricity and reduce our fuel consumption.



### Awards and recognition

Last but not least, our commitment to reducing our environmental impact has been recognised with a few awards. TUI Isla and TUI Maya have picked up a Silver Green Award, while TUI Skylä has picked up a Bronze Green Award. And, we're signed up to the Sustainable Maritime Interiors Declaration, which means we pledge to design, build, and maintain ship interiors with sustainability in mind.



## What you can do

**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.

**Hang up your towels.** By doing this, you're letting our crew know you don't need your towels to be washed every day.

**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.

**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.

**Eat like a local.** Avoid eating at restaurant chains and instead, visit markets, local neighbourhoods or street vendors for your foodie needs.



### Recycle.

You'll find a couple of recycling stations onboard in the public areas.



 TUI CARE FOUNDATION

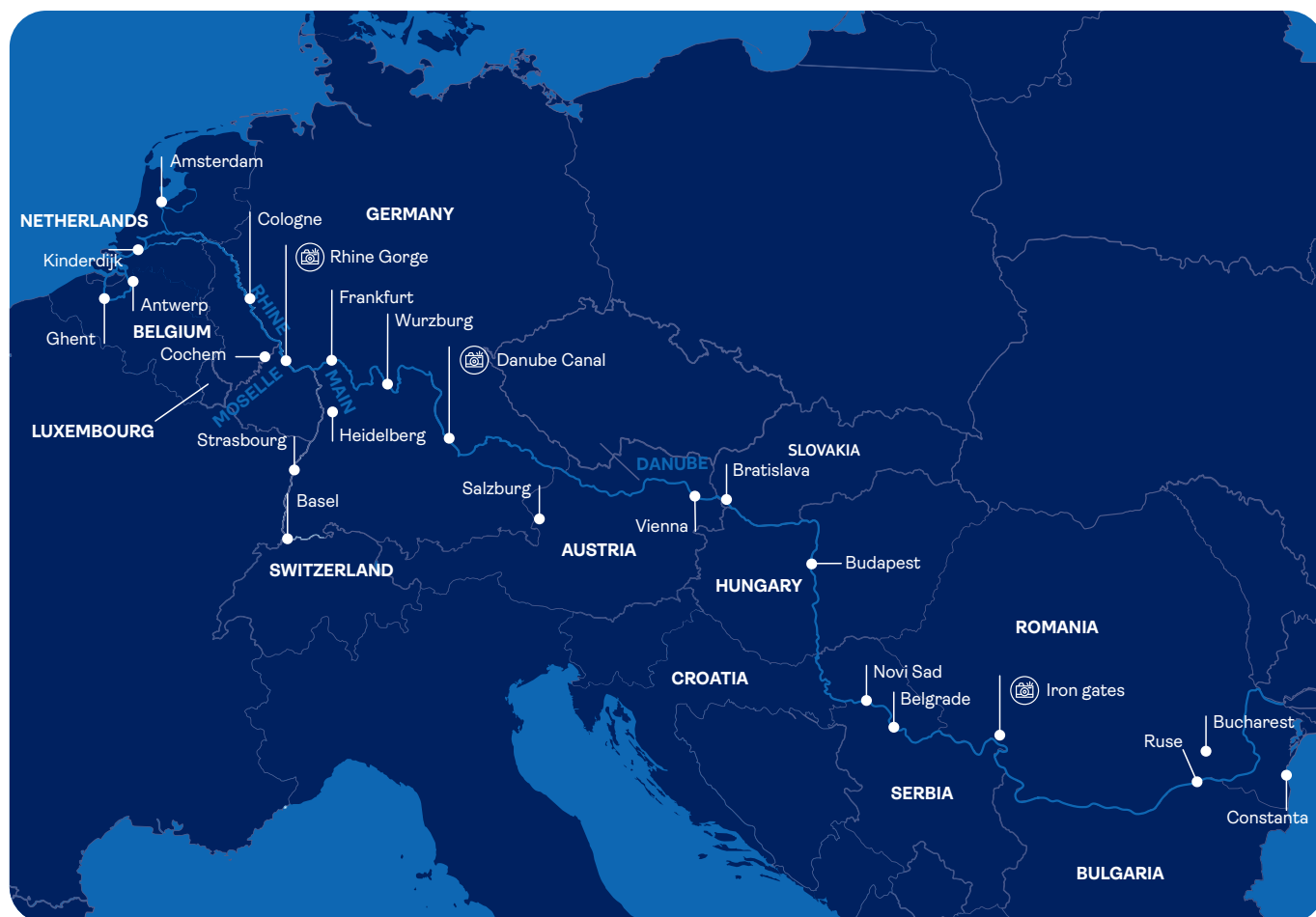
## Caring for our world

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 Douro and 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...

## 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.

**Must-Do Experience:** River Cruises Collection: Mannheim City Discovery

## 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.

**Must-Do Experience:** Cochem and Reichsburg Castle Tour



## 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.

**Must-Do Experience:** River Cruises collection: Beer and sausage tasting in Regensburg

## 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.

**Must-Do Experience:** River Cruises Collection - Salzburg City Tour & Mozart's House

## Douro

Running across the entire width of northern Portugal, this leggy river goes straight through the oldest recognised wine region in the world - the UNESCO-ticked Douro Valley.



## 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.

**Must-Do Experience:** River Cruises Collection: The New Grand Museum & Giza Pyramids

## Dutch & Belgian Waterways

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.

**Must-Do Experience:** River Cruises Collection: Discover Rotterdam and visit the Euromast



# Meet the team

Get to know a few of the faces behind our TUI River Cruises team, and why they can't get enough of life on the water.



**Branislav Bokur - Hotel Manager**  
- 5 years' service & **Tammy Biddle**  
**Specialist Customer Service Advisor**  
- 6 years' service

**Q: What does your role involve? And what do you enjoy most about it?**

**A: Branislav:** I look after everything that keeps the hotel side of the ship running smoothly - from crew schedules and training, to making sure our guests are happy and comfortable. The best bit? Creating a great working environment for the crew. A happy crew means happy guests and seeing that all come together onboard is really rewarding.

**Q: Where's your favourite port of call, and why?**

**A: Branislav:** That's a tough one, I love so many. Passau holds a special place in my heart because it's where I first fell in love with river cruising. It's where the Danube, Inn, and Ilz rivers meet, and the views as you sail in are breathtaking. The city itself is packed with history, Gothic churches, and Baroque architecture.

**A: Tammy:** Vienna's definitely my favourite port. It's such a beautiful city with incredible experiences, like 'A Sound of Vienna' evening concert or a visit to the famous Spanish Riding School stables. There's always something magical to discover.

**Q: Tell us about a memorable moment onboard.**

**A: Branislav:** When Skyla won 'Ship of the Season' in 2024. I was so proud of the crew, it felt like all our hard work really paid off.

**A: Tammy:** One of my favourite moments was the gala dinner followed by the silent disco - it's a truly unique experience. Another highlight was the Bratislava City Train tour excursion, which was fantastic value and so much fun.

**Q: What is your favourite port of call?**

**A:** Koblenz, where the Rhine and Moselle rivers meet. You can take the cable car up to the fortress for views of valleys full of vineyards - it's a world-class spot for wine lovers, too.

**Hazem Said Ahmed -**  
**Receptionist - 3 years'**  
**service**



Learn more about our shore experiences on pages 20 and 21.





**Mollie Milnthorpe - Customer Experience & Product Executive - 6 years' service**

**Q: What does your role involve? And what do you enjoy most about it?**

**A:** I look after our customer experience from start to finish - from content & marketing, right through to onboard experiences and post-holiday feedback. I even get to put together this magazine. I love shaping the journey, so every guest has a brilliant time.

**Q: Do you have any top tips for river cruise customers?**

**A:** Take loads of photos - your river cruise will be packed with special memories. And don't forget to share them with us, as we love featuring guest photos on our social channels.

**Q: Tell us about a memorable moment onboard.**

**A:** The blessing ceremony for TUI Al Horeya was a highlight for me. Seeing our first ever Nile ship being blessed before its first sailing was really special.

**Q: What's your favourite thing about river cruising?**

**A:** River cruising is pure calm and adventure rolled into one. Unpack once, relax on deck, and explore new places while everything else like food, drinks and comfort is taken care of.

**Louise Smith - Specialist River Cruise & Tours Agent - 31 years' service**

**Q: What is your favourite port of call?**

**A:** Bratislava is such a gem - small but full of history. You can take a little train up to the castle, or head to the UFO Tower for panoramic views.

**Emily Warner - Specialist River Cruise & Tours Agent - 7 years' service**



**Naomi Karanja - Waitress - 3 years' service**

**Q: What's your favourite thing about river cruising?**

**A:** I love waking up in a new city every day - it's like living in a floating hotel and you only unpack once. As a waitress, I get to create a warm atmosphere for our guests during meals and seeing them smile makes every service special.

**Q: Where's your favourite port of call, and why?**

**A:** Cologne - the UNESCO-listed Gothic cathedral never fails to take my breath away, no matter how many times I visit. Plus, the shops are right by the port, making exploring - and shopping - super easy.

**Q: Tell us about a memorable moment onboard.**

**A:** My first Christmas cruise was magical because it was my first time experiencing snow. The Christmas markets felt like something out of a fairytale.



**Lauren Spooner - Planning & Destination Experience Manager - 2 years' service**

**Q: What does your role involve? And what do you enjoy most about it?**

**A:** My role is focused on enhancing the overall customers' destination experience. I work closely with other teams to refine itineraries, manage the day-to-day planning side and quickly replan itineraries when river conditions change. What I enjoy most is seeing the ideas we develop turn into memorable experiences for our customers and the energy that comes from pulling together as a team when quick action is needed. No two days are the same, which I also love.

**Q: What's your favourite thing about river cruising?**

**A:** I love the sense of peacefulness it brings. There's nothing quite like sitting out on deck, watching the scenery drift by, or relaxing in my cabin with the French balcony doors open and the gentle sound of the river in the background. It's such a calm and unique way to travel - you can take in the beauty of each destination at a slower pace, but still enjoy the comfort and excitement of knowing a new place is waiting just around the bend. That perfect mix of relaxation and discovery.

**Q: Where's your favourite port of call and why?**

**A:** Rudesheim is my absolute favourite - a beautiful, quirky little town full of charm. You must try a Rudesheimer coffee - it's a local speciality and a real treat. The Christmas shop is an unforgettable experience, too - it's open all year and full of festive magic. And if you're lucky enough to catch the sunset, the views are breathtaking.

# 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...



### 01 River Cruises Collection: Old Amsterdam cheese and wine tasting

Tick off sights, cheese and wine on this three-and-a-half-hour walking tour in Amsterdam. Starting at the waterfront, you'll head into the city centre via the Damrak and lively Dam Square - home to the city's Royal Palace. Then it's time to taste Old Amsterdam - a bold, creamy Gouda cheese. You'll sample five varieties, learn how it's aged, and enjoy a tot of wine if you fancy. Wrap up with an hour of free time to shop or explore before heading back to the ship.

Available in Amsterdam



### 02 River Cruises Collection: Cologne City Tour & Time Ride

The 2,000-year-old city of Cologne sits on the banks of the Rhine River. On this two-hour tour, you'll tick off some of its most famous Gothic architecture with an expert guide, including the iconic twin-spired UNESCO cathedral. Then, jump into the 45-minute TimeRide VR and watch Roman Cologne, Medieval markets and WWII-era scenes come to life in cutting-edge virtual reality.

Available in Cologne





### 03 River Cruises Collection: Bratislava Segway Tour - Small Group

Swap the ship for a two-hour Segway tour, whizzing through Bratislava's hotspots. After a quick helmet fit and training, it's ready, set, go. Marvel at the hilltop castle with its snow-white stone and terracotta turrets, zoom across the UFO Bridge with its saucer-shaped observation deck, and weave through the old town's Medieval streets, where the turquoise-tinted Art Nouveau church and gold detailing make every corner camera-worthy.

Available in Bratislava



### 04 River Cruises Collection: Paprika tasting and a horse show

Paprika and horses might sound an odd pairing, but in Kalocsa it's pure tradition. You'll kick things off with a short coach ride to Bakodpuszta to learn how Hungary's famed paprika's made - tastings included. From there, head to the horse arena for traditional folk music, snacks, and wine, followed by a thrilling 45-minute show as a lone horseman guides 10 horses across the open grasslands. Wrap up with a carriage ride, a sip of Palinka - the local brandy-like spirit - and a peek in the stables before returning to the ship.

Available in Kalocsa, Hungary



### Looking for inspiration?

There's a port showcase at the start of your sailing, along with daily talks from the Cruise Director about each destination, 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.

## 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. Everything from museum passes to hop-on hop-off bus tours are on the cards, and you can pre-book at [rivercruises.gotui.com](https://rivercruises.gotui.com). Here are just a couple of our favourites...

### Leopold Museum Vienna - skip-the-line tickets

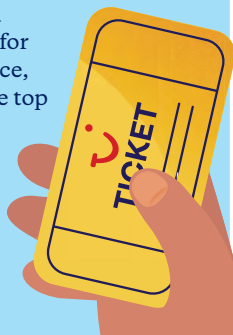
Avoid the queues and head straight into the Leopold Museum in Austria's grand capital where more than 5,000 works of art are on show. This place is one of the most important collections of modern Austrian art in the world and displays masterpieces from the Wiener Secession to Art Nouveau and Expressionism.

Available in Vienna

### Budapest Guided E-Scooter Tour by Night

Discover Budapest in all its illuminated glory, with a nighttime guided tour on a MonsteRoller e-scooter. Don't worry if you've never ridden one before, as you'll be led by a professional guide for the whole experience, which covers all the top sightseeing spots on both sides of the river.

Available in Budapest



### How to book

You can book shore experiences by visiting [rivercruises.gotui.com/uk](https://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. If you don't have a tablet or smart phone, you can use one of the tablets from Reception.

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 of river cruisers over the years. Take a peek at some of our guests' best pictures below, then head to our Facebook and Instagram pages to give us a follow...



### Snap like a pro

Got a great river view? We're all eyes. Here's a trick or two for capturing the best pics from the water.

**Pick your frame** - portrait suits stories and reels, or switch to landscape for wider shots.

**Zoom smart** - stick to 1x or 0.5x for crisp close-ups or wide scenic views.

**Stay steady** - hold your phone with both hands or rest it on a solid surface to avoid blur.

**Lighting** - tap your screen and slide up or down to adjust brightness, especially for sunrise snaps.





#### Send us your shots

Whether you use social media or not, you can get your TUI River Cruises pictures and videos featured on our social channels. Just scan the QR code below or visit [tui.co.uk/content/river-cruises-moments](https://tui.co.uk/content/river-cruises-moments) to upload your content to our new River Cruises Moments hub, and we'll feature the best ones on our Facebook and Instagram pages. Your photos could even end up in the next edition of this magazine, or our brochure.



facebook.com/TUIRiverCruises  
@tui rivercruises





# Introducing TUI Aria

Since her March 2026 debut, TUI Aria's been gliding the Rhine, the Moselle, and the Dutch and Belgian waterways. It's all eyes on the pool, with a fleet-first retractable roof, so swimming all-year-round's part of the itinerary.

Let's take a closer look...

## Dining

It's a Full Board Plus set-up onboard, so three meals - plus drinks at mealtimes - are included in your package.

The main restaurant - Verdaströ - serves up breakfast, lunch and dinner with full waiter service. Floor-to-ceiling windows mean there's always scenery on the menu, and the space feels familiar if you've sailed on our other European ships.

On cruises of five nights or longer, enjoy a six-course gala dinner - dress up if you fancy, or keep it casual - plus a classic afternoon tea of freshly-made sandwiches and cakes.

## Bar

The lounge bar - Observatory - is your go-to for evenings onboard. Get comfy, grab a drink, and enjoy live music, local acts, quizzes and film nights. And with its floor-to-ceiling windows, the river's always part of the show.



### Reflections

TUI Aria's pool has a party trick up her sleeve - with a retractable roof, it doubles as an indoor or outdoor spot, so you can swim whatever the weather. Panoramic windows let you soak up the scenery as you float, and afterwards, the sauna is perfect for a post-swim unwind. By evening, the space transforms into a dining area serving Italian-style light bites, plus occasional live music.

### Cabins

All the cabins on TUI Aria are bright, modern, and come with air-conditioning, a hairdryer, a flatscreen TV, a safe, and tea and coffee-making facilities. Choose from the likes of Superior French Balcony or Superior Cabins for sliding doors and big-picture windows, Standard cabins with picture windows, or Single cabins for solo travellers.

### Top deck

The top deck's a spacious zone for relaxing and activities. Stretch out on a lounge for some sunbathing, join a yoga session, or try shuffleboard. There's even a small putting green if you fancy a few holes between ports. And keep your cameras handy - castles, vineyards, and storybook towns line the Rhine, Moselle, and the Dutch and Belgian waterways.



Here's a sneak peek at some of the itineraries you can look forward to with TUI Aria...

#### The Moselle Valley: Vines & Views

This cruise introduces you to the oh-so-romantic towns and landscapes of the Moselle Valley. Vineyard-framed views in Bernkastel-Kues, traditional taverns in Rudesheim, and crumbling castles in Cochem are all on the line-up - with a tipple of Riesling or two.



#### Mistletoe & Rhine

If browsing for baubles and sipping mulled wine sounds like your kind of festive fun, this five-night Rhine cruise is one to pick. You'll get to explore Christmas markets in Dusseldorf, Cologne's glittering Cathedral Market, and watch Koblenz town hall light up like a giant advent calendar.



#### A New Year Sailaway

Sail into 2027 with a seven-night cruise that starts in Dusseldorf, sails through Koblenz, and lands in Cologne just in time for a dazzling New Year's Eve fireworks display. You'll start the new year in Nijmegen - the oldest city in the Netherlands - before two days discovering Amsterdam's iconic canals and museums.



Images for illustrative purposes only. Final appearance may differ slightly.

# Discover the Douro

Meet TUI Luzia, who'll be the magic number seven in our fleet when she launches in June 2027. She'll be our first new-build river cruise ship, sailing the Douro River and its UNESCO-listed wine region, with plenty of scenic stops along the way.

Our seven-night Douro Discovery itinerary will start and end in Portugal's second-biggest city, Porto. In between, you'll stop off in cosy, scenic villages and towns like Entre-os-Rios, Barca d'Alva and Peso de Régua. You'll be able to pop across the border into Spain, too, and visit the preserved Old City of Salamanca - it's within easy daytripping distance from Vega de Terron. And if you're a wine lover, you're in luck - the banks of the river are teeming with vineyards and whitewashed barrel warehouses.

Port highlights...

## Vega de Terron

Spain's just a stone's throw away from here. Hit Salamanca's Old City for Roman walls, a cathedral, and tapas-filled plazas.



## Barca d'Alva

A sleepy riverside gem. Almond and olive trees mingle with vineyards, and the Douro's scenery does all the talking.

## Porto

Tile-covered streets, riverside cafés, and the swooping Dom Luís I Bridge. Don't leave without trying a pastel de nata straight from a local bakery.



## Peso de Régua

Vineyard heaven. Wander terraced hills or pop into a quintinha - or winery - for a cheeky glass of the region's famous Port.



# About the ship

There's plenty to look forward to on our brand new ship. Let's take a closer look at what you can expect...



Fancy a little extra? Extend your trip with our Cruise & Stay options on the Douro. Visit [tui.co.uk/river-cruises](https://tui.co.uk/river-cruises) or call 0204 578 0993.

## The Retreat

By day, The Retreat is the ideal spot to relax and unwind with a coffee or juice and take part in one of our wellness sessions. Then at night, it's a cosy and intimate lounge bar, which is perfect for quiet drinks.



## Atrium

The Atrium's where you'll find the ship's reception area, as well as the Cruise Director's desk.

## Novo Lounge

This light and modern space is the ship's main bar and social hub, hosting craft workshops and film screenings during the day, and live music, local acts, and interactive quizzes in the evenings.

## Cabins

All our modern and stylish cabins come with either a picture window, a French Balcony, or a balcony. So, they make the perfect space to watch the world go by. You can choose from the likes of Single cabins, Standard cabins, French Balcony cabins, Balcony cabins and French Balcony Suite cabins. They all come with a TV, a safe, and tea and coffee-making facilities.

## Dining

The ship's Full Board Plus, which means three meals a day and drinks at mealtimes are included in your price. You've also got the option to upgrade to All Inclusive, too

## Vinha

Vinha's open in the evenings for dinner. There's full waiter service, and the menu focuses on dishes with local flavours.

## Sorriso

This bright, modern space is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, serving up a mix of buffet spreads and à la carte options.

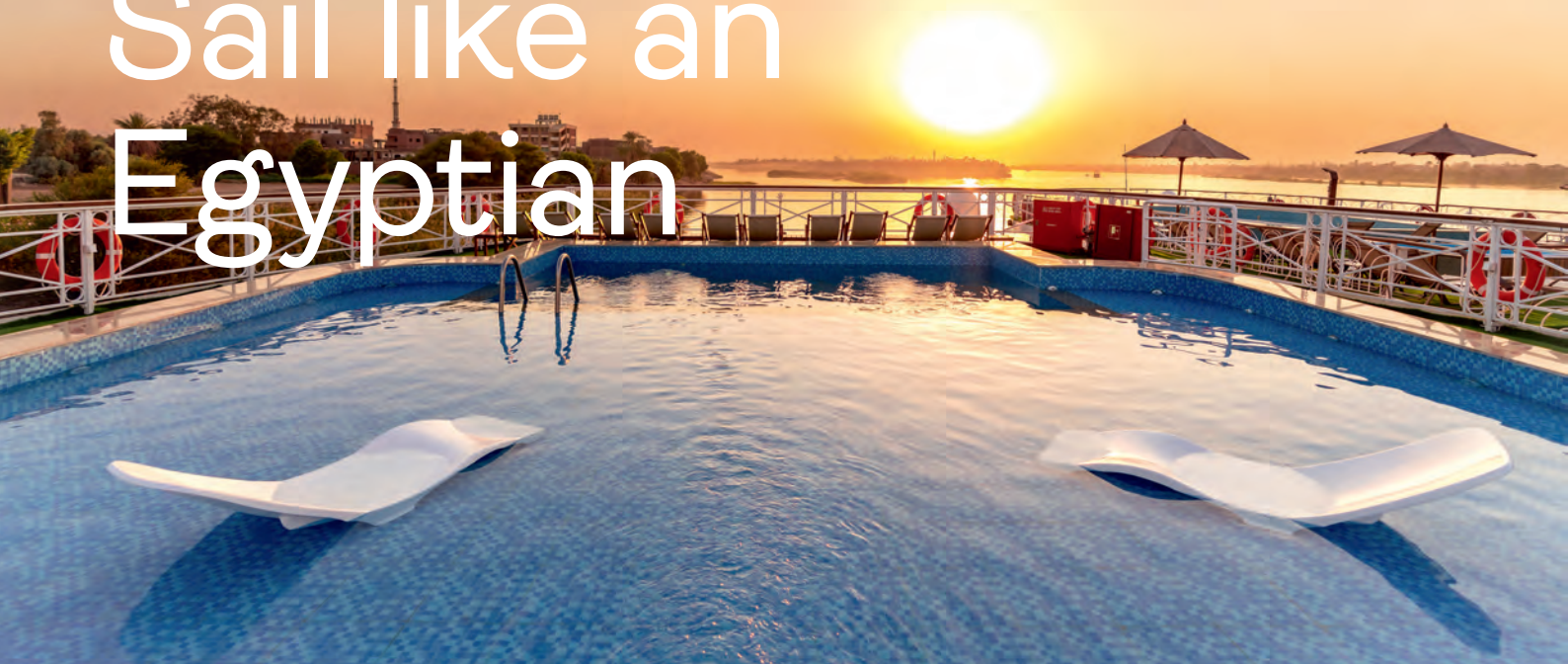
## Cinder

Up on the top deck, this bar and dining area's open daily for self-serve lunches, plus barbecue lunches from time to time.



Images are for illustrative purposes only - facilities are subject to change.

# Sail like an Egyptian



## TUI Bahareya

Since her launch in 2025, TUI Bahareya has become our second ship to sail the River Nile. Arabic-inspired interiors meet modern touches onboard, and expert Egyptologists bring the sights to life as you cruise.

And just so you know, it's All Inclusive as standard, so any drinks outside mealtimes are covered. Let's take a look at what else is in store...

### Dining

Like all our river cruise ships, there are flexible dining times and an open seating policy.

Belhana is the ship's main restaurant for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Enjoy a mix of vibrant buffet spreads, live show-cooking and à la carte dinners with a local twist.



You'll find Sofra up on the top deck, open for light bites at lunch, as well as tea, coffee and cake every afternoon. In the evening, à la carte dinners showcase Egyptian-inspired dishes with river views. The decor here's like a modern-day Arab palace - think criss-cross arches, plush cushions, and warm white-and-brown tones.

### Bars

The Observatory lounge is the ship's main bar and your hub for evening entertainment. Enjoy live music, quizzes, film nights, and local acts - from traditional Nubian performances to whirling dervish shows. By day, relax in the lounge and let the Egyptologists bring the river sights to life, all framed by floor-to-ceiling windows.

Up on the top deck is the Felucca bar - named after the traditional Nile sailboat. The Arabic-style decor continues here, and cocktails, wines, beers, and soft drinks are all on the menu, too.

### Atrium

The Atrium is the main hub of the ship, where you'll find the reception desk and the shore experiences desk. There's a self-serve tea and coffee station here that's on hand 24/7, as well.

### Hetep

Step into Hetep, the ship's wellness area. Relaxation rooms, a sauna and massage



rooms\* are just the spot for a little 'me time' after a day of sightseeing.

### Top deck

The top deck's split into different zones, with space for relaxation, dining and activities. There's a pool up here with plenty of sunloungers dotted around it, and you'll find the Felucca bar and Sofra restaurant.

### Cabins

All the modern and stylish cabins come with a TV, a safe, and tea and coffee-making facilities as standard. You can choose between a number of cabins, including French Balcony Suite cabins and Balcony Suite cabins. There are a few little extras, too, such as bathrobes and slippers, complimentary mini bar on arrival, one 30-minute massage per person, and breakfast in bed a couple of times per week.





## TUI Al Horeya

TUI Al Horeya was the fourth ship to join our fleet, and she's sailing along the world-famous River Nile in Egypt. The layout onboard is a little different to our European fleet, and this one's All Inclusive as standard, so all of your drinks outside of mealtimes are part of the package.

Let's take a closer look at what's onboard.



### Dining

Like all our river cruise ships, there are flexible dining times and an open seating policy.

Lazeeza is the main restaurant. It's a bright and modern space, which serves up a mix of buffet and show-cooking options for breakfast and lunch, and à la carte meals for dinner.

You can dine al fresco, as well, at Felucca. This spot's on the top deck, and is open for light bites at lunch, as well as tea, coffee and cake every afternoon. In the evening, it's an à la carte restaurant with waiter service, where dishes with a local flavour are served. There's a buffet-style afternoon tea served here once per sailing, too.

### Bars

The Observatory is the ship's main bar. It's a light and contemporary lounge which hosts nightly entertainment, where you can expect everything from local acts to live music, quizzes and films - plus weekly talks from Egyptologists. Felucca Bar, meanwhile, is on the top deck, and it's the perfect spot to sit back on comfy chairs and sofas while watching the world go by.



### Atrium

The Atrium is the main hub of the ship, where you'll find the reception desk and the Cruise Director's desk. They're on hand to help with any questions, and you can book your shore experiences here, too.

### Wellness area

This 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 for a little extra.

### Top deck

The top deck's the idea spot for soaking up the scenery. Half of it is home to sunloungers, a pool and a couple of hot tubs, while the other half's where you'll find a restaurant, a bar and loads of comfy seating.

### Cabins

All our modern and stylish cabins come with a TV, a safe, and tea and coffee-making facilities. You can choose from the likes of Single cabins and Superior French Balcony cabins, or opt for our Balcony Suite cabins. As well as the standard amenities, these come with a few extras, too, like bathrobes and slippers, a Continental breakfast twice per week, and a 30-minute massage.

# Egyptian escapades

Africa's longest river just got twice as nice. Two itineraries mean double the chances to explore Egypt's iconic sights, from the temples of Edfu and Kom Ombo to the bustling streets of Luxor. Fly direct from London Gatwick or Manchester, and you'll be soaking up winter sun along the Nile in no time.

Our seven-night sailings - Legends of the Nile and Ancient Gods and Famous Pharaohs - start and finish in Luxor, with stops in Edfu, Kom Ombo and Aswan in between. Both ships alternate between itineraries, and you'll call into the same ports of call on both - just with some slight changes in schedules. Choose Legends of the Nile if you're keen on more time ashore to explore the ports, or Ancient Gods and Famous Pharaohs if you'd rather kick back and enjoy the sailing.

Plus, some of our more bespoke experiences include the likes of a tour of the Abu Simbel Temples, or a sound and light show at Karnak Temple. English-speaking guides will be with you on every shore experience, too.



#### Big-Hitting Sights Temple of Horus, Edfu

This place is one of Egypt's largest and most intact pharaonic temples. Step through the 36-metre-high gateway into a complex that's dedicated to Horus - a god with the body of a man and the head of a falcon.

#### Karnak Temple, Luxor

Karnak's famed for its collection of sanctuaries, kiosks, pylons and obelisks. It also hosts a 90-minute sound and light show, which gives you a glimpse into the lives of the pharaohs.



#### Hidden Gem: Aswan, Egypt

As the country's southernmost city, Aswan was once dubbed the gateway to ancient Egypt. These days, it's a destination in its own right - albeit a little under-the-radar. Check out its botanical gardens, or set eyes on unearthed artefacts in one of its museums.



#### Foodie Find: Koshari, Luxor

Koshari's eaten so often in Egypt, you'd think it counted as the sixth food group. This

national dish is made from rice, lentils, chickpeas and macaroni, all topped with tomato or garlic sauce. It's easy to track down in Luxor - most street food stalls and traditional restaurants serve it.

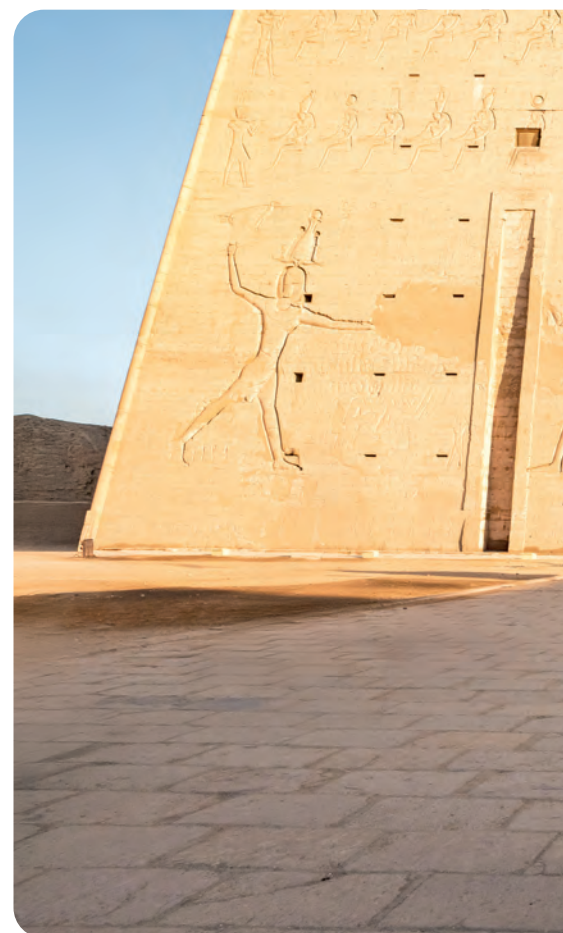


#### Perfect Picture: Sphinx Avenue, Luxor

When it comes to first-rate photo stops, Sphinx Avenue easily makes the cut. This three-kilometre-long walkway is lined with - you guessed it - sphinxes, with tall palms and the Luxor Temple as the backdrop.

#### Insider Info

One of the reliefs along Sphinx Avenue has a hieroglyph of Queen Cleopatra on it, which means she probably visited here on her Nile trip. Ask your guide to point it out to you, if you visit.





Find out more about our  
Cruise & Stay options, at  
[tui.co.uk/river-cruises/  
info/river-cruise-and-stay](https://tui.co.uk/river-cruises/info/river-cruise-and-stay)

#### Fast Facts



**Average temperature:**  
17 - 34°C



**Currency:** Egyptian Pound



**Sailings available from**  
September 2026 - May 2027



#### Key sights:

Valley of the Kings, Hatshepsut  
Temple, Edfu Temple Luxor  
Temple, Kom Ombo

#### Cruise & Tour

You can also tag a tour on  
to the start or end of your  
cruise. Our **Highlights of  
Luxor** tour includes visits  
to Luxor Temple and The  
Valley of the Kings, while  
our **Ancient Wonders of Egypt**  
tour stops off at  
Alexandria and the  
Pyramids of Giza.

## Cruise & Stay, or Stay & Cruise

You'll be sightseeing your heart out on these itineraries, so how about adding a few days' relaxation in one of Egypt's top destinations? With our Cruise & Stay, or Stay & Cruise holidays, you can tag a seven-night stint in a Luxor hotel, either before or after your cruise. Or, book a few days in the beach resort of Hurghada - you can add an eight-night stay before your cruise, or a six-night stay after. Here are some of our handpicked hotels that you can choose from...



#### TUI BLUE Makadi Gardens - Hurghada

This adults-only hotel takes you on a culinary trip around the world with its global theme nights. A pair of pools, a private beach and a couple of seafront bars are on hand, too.



#### Iberotel Luxor Luxor

This hotel's standout feature is its swimming pool, which floats above the River Nile. It's even got a bar for company, which means your lazy days by the water are all sorted.



#### Steigenberger Achi Resort - Luxor

This place covers all the must-haves, from a pair of pools to a trio of restaurants, including an open-air Egyptian à la carte with views over the Nile.

# Spotlight on Budapest

Hungary's capital is a city of two halves - both in name and geography. It's split down the middle by the Danube, with hilly Buda - and its imposing fortress - to the west, and lively Pest - with its famous ruin bars - to the east. Let's dig a little deeper on what to expect once your feet hit the cobbles...



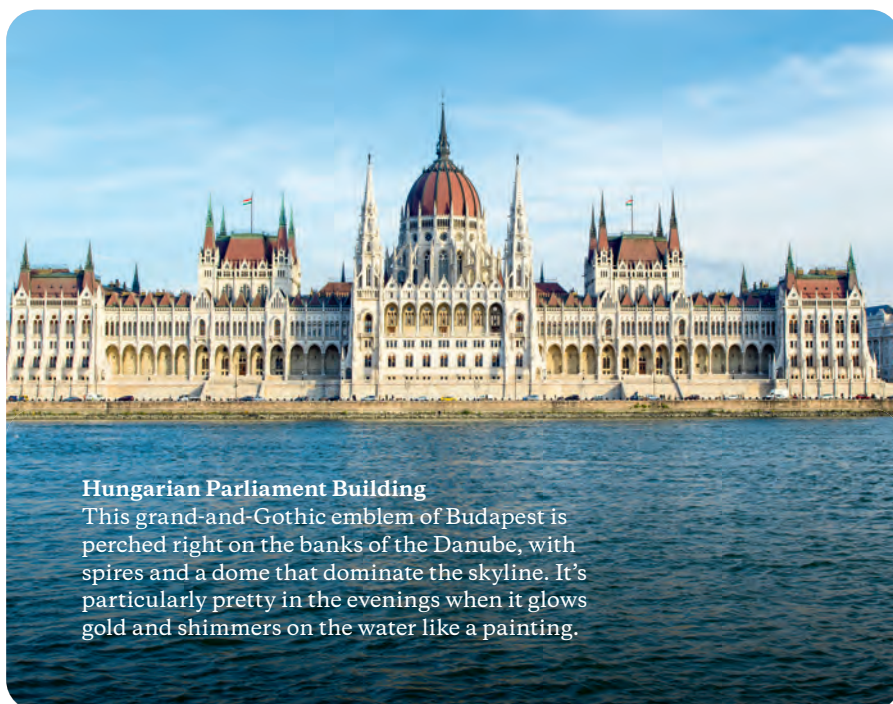
## Foodie finds

### Langos

This deep-fried flatbread is popular on street food stalls, and it's usually slathered in sour cream and cheese

### Goulash

Hungary's national dish is a cross between stew and soup, with beef, carrots, onions and a hint of paprika all making the mix.



### Hungarian Parliament Building

This grand-and-Gothic emblem of Budapest is perched right on the banks of the Danube, with spires and a dome that dominate the skyline. It's particularly pretty in the evenings when it glows gold and shimmers on the water like a painting.

### Thermal baths

Often called the 'City of Spas', Budapest bubbles away with thermal springs dotted around the city, so you'll want to bring your swimwear as well as your walking shoes. **Széchenyi Baths** is the most famous, with outdoor pools steaming beneath butter-yellow colonnades and locals playing floating games of chess. **Gellért Baths** is another popular spot - known for its pretty mosaics and stained glass. For something a bit less touristy, try **Rudas Baths**. It comes complete with a rooftop hot pool overlooking the Danube.



## Perfect picture

Hop on the funicular up to Castle Hill and Fisherman's Bastion and you'll tick off one of the best vantage points in the city. Alongside fairy tale towers, turrets, and terraces, you've also got unbeatable views of the Parliament building. It's ultra-photogenic, especially at sunset.

# Cruise and Stay

Want to squeeze even more out of your Budapest trip? City tours, festive sailings, and adding a few extra days are all on the menu... here's the lowdown...



If you fancy seeing some of the sights up close, you can join one of the shore experiences in our River Cruises Collection:

### River Cruises Collection: Budapest City Tour

This half-day trip starts with Budapest's street-level highlights and works its way up to Castle Hill. Hop on a scenic coach ride to the top, then hop off for a guided tour of this fairytale district to see museums, dainty churches, and tucked-away cafés.

Wrap things up at the 19th-century citadel where you'll snag sweeping views of Parliament, Budapest Castle and some of the ornate Danube bridges before heading back to the ship.

To book, just visit [rivercruises.gotui.com/uk](http://rivercruises.gotui.com/uk). Please note, all shore experiences are subject to availability and early booking is recommended.

### Budapest Cruise & City Stay

Add an extra three nights in Budapest to your cruise to really see the sights - whether that's hunting for bargains on Váci Street, crossing the Chain Bridge, or wandering the cobbled streets of the Castle District. You'll stay at a city centre hotel, and transfers are included, too.

### Budapest Cruise & Lake Balaton Stay

For a slower pace and a spot of R&R, why not extend your river cruise with a seven-night stay at Lake Balaton - Central Europe's largest lake. All your transfers are included and there's also a stellar line-up of hotels to choose from.



### Deck the Danube

Budapest at Christmas has that little extra sparkle - and our festive Danube sailings are the perfect way to beat the winter blues.

The city's famous Christmas markets are a must-see, especially at St. Stephen's Basilica and Vörösmarty Square, with stocking-stuffer stalls and gifts you'll definitely want to make space for.

Warm up with chimney cakes, mulled wine, and other spiced treats, or escape the cold in one of the city's steamy thermal baths - they're like an open-air spa against the winter chill. Keep your eyes peeled for the Christmas trams, too, top to toe in lights, twinkling along the streets.



### Budapest Cruise & Cruise

Why stop at one cruise when you can have two? Stay on the ship for another seven nights and make it a two-week trip. You can add another seven-night cruise to any of our Budapest round-trip itineraries with TUI flights. And all transfers are included.

### Budapest Cruise & Go as you Please

This one's all about doing Budapest your way. Add an extra two or three nights to the end of your cruise at a hotel of your choice. Explore old favourites, discover something new, or book a spa day. Transfers to the ship are included, too, but you'll have to make your own way to your hotel and back to the airport at the end of your trip.



For more information on any of our Cruise & Stay options, just pop into your local TUI Store or give us a call on 0204 578 0993.

# What's new this winter

Winter cruising's stepping up this year. With festive Christmas and New Year sailings, TUI Aria's first winter season, and Rhine and Danube cruises kicking off from early November, there's plenty to look forward to once the temperatures drop.

## The Nile

Our Nile sailings are in full swing for winter, too, with TUI Bahareya and TUI Al Horeya gliding along Africa's longest river on our Legends of the Nile and Ancient Gods and Famous Pharaohs sailings, alternating between the two ships. Both itineraries start and finish in Luxor, and include trips to Edfu Temple and Kom Ombo Temple.

The season's longer than ever this year, running from September through May, so you've got even more time to sail.



## New Year

New Year's covered, too, with our seven-night New Year's Eve sailings. On our New Year on the Danube itinerary, you'll end the year in Budapest before ringing in 2027 in Kalosca - the 'Paprika Capital of the World'. Or, hop on the A New Year Sail Away itinerary to count down to midnight in Cologne, before finishing off in Amsterdam. And, back by popular demand, there's our A Danube New Year and A New Year on the Rhine itineraries.

**Christmas markets**  
Our four and five-night Christmas market itineraries include the likes of Flavours of Christmas, where highlights include Budapest's fairy-lit stalls. Or choose between Rhine Festive Flavours and East Danube Christmas Charm. The latter visits Vienna - home to the world's largest Christmas market.



Celebrate Christmas Day with us and take your pick from our seven-night sailings - North Rhine Noel, Festive Fairy Tale, A Magical Danube Christmas, and Danube Christmas Wonderland. The festivities onboard continue long after the big day's over and the Christmas markets keep their magic long after the stalls close, too.



Head to [tui.co.uk/river-cruises](https://tui.co.uk/river-cruises) for more details and to see our full range of itineraries, including our Enchanting Danube: Solo traveller sailing - exclusively for solo travellers.



# Full steam ahead

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

## Say hello to summer 2027

Summer 2027 is shaping up to be our biggest yet. With over 30 itineraries running from March to October, plus 11 brand-new routes, a shiny new ship and our first sailings on a new river - there's plenty to get excited about. Add in cruise lengths from three to 14 nights, and there's more flexibility and choice than ever.

Let's take a look...

### Upper Rhine Splendours

Bob along the Upper Rhine on this eight-night cruise, drifting past vineyard-framed towns, Gothic cathedrals, and chocolate-box villages. Sip Riesling where it's grown in Mainz, wander Strasbourg's Petite France, nibble spiced gingerbread in Basel, and finish off with a dash of Frankfurt flair.

We've got big news on the horizon... summer 2027 brings another new ship to the fleet. She'll set off along the Rhine, gliding past castle-dotted hillsides, cobbled river towns, and bend-after-bend vineyard views.

### Moselle & North Rhine

You'll bob between Germany's traditional river towns on the Rhine and Moselle, getting up close to castles, Roman ruins, and fairy-tale half-timbered houses. The grand finale? Two days in Amsterdam, where canals and riverside windmills set the scene.



### Magical Danube

Four countries, three capitals, and one river - that's what's on the menu for this seven-night Danube cruise. Take a soak in Budapest's thermal baths, wander Vienna's stunning palaces, peek up at Bratislava's hilltop castle, and finish with a couple of easy days back in Budapest.



### Rhine Gems

You'll find out exactly why this UNESCO-ticked stretch of the Rhine has inspired artists, authors, and composers for centuries - with pretty riverside towns like Koblenz and Mannheim, vineyard-framed bends, Breisach's wine hills, and Gothic cathedrals drift past your window.

Psst... TUI Luzia's making her debut on the Douro River in 2027. She's our first ever new-build, and the first of our fleet to glide down this UNESCO-listed river valley. Roll past terraced vineyards and charming riverside towns while getting a taste of Portugal - and, of course, a sip of its famous Port wine.



Head to [tui.co.uk/river-cruises](https://tui.co.uk/river-cruises) or pop into your local TUI store for the latest ships, itineraries and sailing dates

# Summer 2027 now on sail

Our summer 2027 programme is guaranteed to wow, with sailings all over Europe, including our brand new ship along the River Douro in Portugal and another fresh face joining the fleet on the Rhine. 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 30 itineraries, plus our Cruise & Stay options in Budapest and Amsterdam.



Check out the latest ships, itineraries and sailing dates at [tui.co.uk/river-cruises](https://tui.co.uk/river-cruises)