


DISCOVER YOUR NEXT RIVER CRUISE



ABSOLUTELY THE BEST WAY TO CRUISE AND SEE EUROPE

CUSTOM EUROPEAN EXPERIENCES FROM LIFE IS BETTER TRAVELING

A scenic view of a river valley. The hillsides are covered in terraced vineyards and greenery. A large cruise ship is moving along the river, leaving a white wake. In the foreground, a modern building with a red roof and a parking lot is visible. The sky is clear and blue.

*Oceans take you to countries,
Rivers take you through them*



WELCOME

TO LIFE IS BETTER TRAVELING

Welcome to the Life is Better Traveling's resource guide for European river cruising. A river cruise is a relaxing journey down inland waterways. It allows you to immerse yourself in multiple cultures through new smells, tastes, and sights.

Our travel agents help clients every year plan their river cruise vacations. Choosing the right river cruise can be an overwhelming decision from where to start, which cruise line to choose, and which destinations. This resource guide provides information to help you feel less overwhelmed and more confident in taking that river cruise. When you are ready to book your European river cruise, our Life is Better Traveling travel agents are ready to help you plan.



Reasons to take a River Cruise



ALL-INCLUSIVE REASON #1



From a variety of daily shore excursions to a multi-course tasting menu at The Chef's Table to high-quality Wi-Fi to various beverages, your all-inclusive journey awaits.

Each river cruise line is different in what they include in their pricing. Most river cruise lines include shore excursions, meals, and some alcoholic beverages. If you are looking for pure luxury and pampering, some river cruise lines include gratuities, spa, transfers, and pre & post city excursions in addition to the aforementioned. You want to make sure your Life is Better Traveling travel agent talks with you about what is included and which of Life is Better Traveling preferred river cruise lines offer additional amenities

A LIFE IS BETTER TRAVELING FAVORITE ALL-INCLUSIVE PART IS THE CHEF'S TABLE ON ALL AMAWATERWAY'S RIVER CRUISES. WE ENJOYED AT LEAST ONE NIGHT AT THE CHEF'S TABLE WITH MULTI-COURSE DELICIOUS MENU PAIRED WITH LOCAL WINES.

"Mary planned a wonderful trip to France for us. Our Riverboat experience was amazing! Look forward to working with her again. Highly recommend her services."

*-- Jackie
(Virginia Beach, VA)*

INTIMATE SETTING

REASON #2



A river cruise provides a relaxing environment for those who don't want large crowds. If you are not looking to be part of a pre-set motorcoach tour or an ocean liner cruise, then a river cruise would be a good fit. There are several relaxing areas on the ship to grab a cocktail or coffee and unwind. These spaces are designed to give passengers enough room so you don't feel as though you are crowded together.

As there are various excursions to choose from, some of the excursions may be small groups of 15 people or less. These smaller groups really help in immersive excursions making you feel like a local.

AT LIFE IS BETTER TRAVELING ONE OF OUR FAVORITE THINGS ON THE SHIP IS THE BARISTA MACHINE AVAILABLE TO GUESTS 24/7. THIS HELPS US KEEP UP OUR ENERGY ALL DAY LONG SO WE DON'T MISS A THING.

"Mary was SO patient with us; we had a million questions! She met us and worked with us off and on for 2 years before our trip. She took care of so many things, we didn't have to worry about anything when we got there. We couldn't have done it without her!"

-- Angela and Noelle
(Pittsburgh, PA)

SPACIOUS CABINS

REASON #3



Each cabin has a view that allows plenty of sunlight into your cabin as you take in the ever-changing scenery. You have the best of worlds with a small balcony inside your cabin and an outside balcony so you can choose where to sip your coffee.

Each room gives passengers space so they feel like they are staying in a boutique hotel. Large bathrooms with heated floors, sitting areas, and queen size beds with luxury linens makes everyone feel like royalty. Some cruise lines even have in-cabin entertainment systems giving you port updates in real time and your favorite shows and movies. If you can't leave work at home, settle into your sitting area and tap into the onboard WiFi, included in pricing. Get some work done before enjoying the next city.

AT LIFE IS BETTER TRAVELING ONE OF OUR FAVORITE THINGS DO TO IN OUR CABIN IS DRINK OUR COFFEE ON THE BALCONY IN THE MORNING WHILE WE TAKE IN THE SCENERY OF THE NEWEST CITY.

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"We had been abroad before but felt uneasy planning a trip for 12 of us including boarding a cruise ship in Barcelona. Mary handled the whole trip for us. She found us a great apartment hotel in Barcelona, gave us suggestions on how to spend our day there, arranged transfers to and from the ship which was crucial. Booked our flights, answered any and all questions about the trip and cruising questions, provide. Documentation of our itinerary to which we referred throughout the week and was readily available by email. "

-- Gina
(Pittsburgh, PA)

IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCES

REASON #4



If you want to immerse yourself into various cultures, visit bustling cities and quintessential European villages while only unpacking once, then a river cruise is for you.

Some European river cruise itineraries will stop in 5 countries in one week. Docking in the heart of the city allows you to choose between a tour or an afternoon of adventure on your own. If you are in Vienna along the Danube you may want to opt for a food tour. Enjoy various strudels and coffee.

While on the Rhone river, Tournon is a great small french city to mill around visiting the Tournon Castle which includes a museum of this beautiful French town.

AVIGNON, IN PROVENCE REGION, WAS THE SEAT OF THE CATHOLIC POPES. IT REMAINED UNDER PAPAL RULE UNTIL BECOMING PART OF FRANCE IN 1791. VISIT THE MASSIVE PALAIS DES PAPES (POPES' PALACE) IN THE CITY CENTER.

"Mary was great! She worked with us to ensure that the trip would "fit" with what we wanted."

-- Jim

(Slippery Rock, PA)

UNPACK ONCE

REASON #5



Taking a river cruise is a great way to see multiple countries in one vacation. Depending on the itinerary you could travel through 14 different European countries, if you have 45 days to mill around Europe. Other itineraries may have you immersing yourself in one country, and other itineraries, up to five countries in your seven night journey.

After boarding the ship, unpack once and enjoy your journey seeing multiple cities while learning about new cultures.

AT LIFE IS BETTER TRAVELING TWO OF OUR FAVORITE THINGS TO PACK WHEN WE GO TO EUROPE IS MULTI-COUNTRY ADAPTER AND A SMALL LAUNDRY BAG.

←—————→
"Mary was amazing. She not only was very knowledgeable but she was very patient, accommodating, and accessible. She was never in a hurry to rush me through any of my families decisions. She always gave her professional and personal opinions without rushing the process. She was very fun to work with!! "

-- Lorena
(Pittsburgh, PA)

LONGER TIMES IN PORT

REASON #6



A river cruise is much different from an ocean liner cruise. The ships are not restricted to ports and towns like an ocean liner cruise.

The ships can dock right in the city center so all you have to do is walk right off the ship and be in the city. One of our favorite recommendations is to take advantage of being in the city at night.

After-dinner take a stroll through the city, pop in a pub or a church, and see how different the city looks at night.

AT LIFE IS BETTER TRAVELING WE LOVE TO HEAD BACK OUT INTO THE CITY AFTER DINNER TO DRINK WITH THE LOCALS. WE HAVE MET SO MANY AMAZING PEOPLE AT VARIOUS PUBS AND BARS.

"Mary was professional and super helpful every step of the way. She was eager to answer all the many questions I had and was able to find us what we were looking for in the price range we needed. I would definitely work with Mary again and appreciate all the hard work and effort she put into making this trip special."

-- Jen

(Flemington, NJ)

MORE SPACE ON THE SHIP

REASON #7



A river cruise may hold up to 200 passengers on their ship compared to an ocean line cruise which can hold up to 3000 or more passengers. A river cruise allows you to stay in port longer. The ship will dock in the city and stay there most of the day, sometimes even into the night. Some ships travel at night to get from city to city as some ports are only three hours apart.

If you are prone to motion sickness, a river cruise may be a great option for you as there is less motion on the smaller ships. At Life is Better Traveling we like to call a river cruise ship a floating hotel helping you see many amazing European cities in one trip.

AT LIFE IS BETTER TRAVELING WE LOVE THAT THE SHIPS MOVE FROM PORT TO PORT AT NIGHT OR WHILE WE ARE ON OUR EXCURSIONS.

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"Mary and her staff saved our vacation! We had booked a European Christmas Market river boat cruise through Life is Better Traveling. We were cruising between Budapest and Nuremburg, Germany. We cannot thank Mary and her staff enough for all they did for us! All our accommodations were excellent!"

-- Christine
(Ocala, FL)

QUICK BOARDING PROCESS

REASON #8



Boarding a river cruise is also an easy process. Unlike immigration when boarding an ocean liner cruise, you simply come to the gangway of your river cruise and check-in.

Once you have checked in, you board the ship. No lines to get onto the ship, and the crew will make sure that your luggage gets to your cabin.

If you board early before the your cabin is available, enjoy the top deck with a few drinks or enjoy lunch.

After lunch, take a stroll around the city maybe taking in a museum or historical sight.

AT LIFE IS BETTER TRAVELING WE BOARD EARLY SO WE CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF HAVING LUNCH ON THE SHIP AND THEN HEADING INTO THE CITY TO EXPLORE.

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"Mary covers all details and provides prompt response with questions. This is the second cruise she planned and the group of friends are so much fun. She suggested some fantastic tours and made our trips memorable"

-- Kathryn
(Bradenton, FL)

NO LANGUAGE BARRIERS

REASON #9



Traveling to multiple countries means that you will get to immerse yourself in various cultures and learn new languages. Even if you don't speak the language, several of the crew members and tour guides speak multiple languages including English.

AT LIFE IS BETTER TRAVELING WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE CREW MEMBERS WHO SPEAK MULTIPLE LANGUAGES ON BOARD AND AS TOUR GUIDES FOR THE EXCURSIONS.

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"Mary was extremely helpful every step of the way. This was my first time planning a major international trip and Mary's advice helped to guide me in the right direction. I always felt assured that I was making smart decisions with Mary's advice."

-- Alyssa
(Reading, PA)

ONBOARD ENTERTAINMENT

REASON #10



Even though river cruise ships are small with no theaters to provide Broadway style shows, many companies bring on local entertainment. Whether it's traditional Bavarian music, a local quartet or modern piano favorites, there is an eclectic schedule of entertainment on board daily.

On the nights when the ship is docked later, getting off the ship for some after dinner drinks at the local pub is another great way to immerse yourself into the culture.

AT LIFE IS BETTER TRAVELING WE LOVED SINGING CHRISTMAS CAROLS WHILE ON A CHRISTMAS TIME CRUISE. IT REALLY PUTS YOU IN THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLIDAYS.

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"My husband and I had never used a travel agent before, and had this strange idea that we would automatically be roped into lots of large group tours and overly-typical tourist destinations. Everything we assumed was wrong, and we couldn't have been happier."

-- Danielle
(New Jersey)

1 WEEK DANUBE

SAMPLE ITINERARY



Destination

Budapest, Hungary



Destination

Bratislava, Slovakia



Destination

Vienna, Austria



Destination

Durnstein, Austria



Destination

Linz, Austria



Destination

Passau, Germany

1 WEEK RHINE

SAMPLE ITINERARY



Destination

Cologne, Germany



Destination

Amsterdam, Netherlands



Destination

Heidelberg, Germany



Destination

Rudesheim, Germany



Destination

Strasbourg, Germany



Destination

Riquewahr, France



Destination

Basel, Switzerland

EUROPEAN ITINERARIES



RHINE RIVER ITINERARY

- Visit 4 countries: Netherlands, Germany, France, and Switzerland
- Multiple quintessential Germany towns, and mesmerizing historical sites.
- Include a pre-stay and post-stay onto your itinerary in Zurich, Lucerne, and/or Amsterdam

PRICING STARTING FROM \$3699 PER PERSON



DANUBE RIVER ITINERARY

- Visit up to 4 countries: Hungary, Slovakia, Austria, and Germany
- Visit beautiful cities that almost seem stuck in time, and eat like kings with strudel and schnitzel.
- Include a pre-stay and post-stay onto your itinerary in Budapest and/or Prague

PRICING STARTING FROM \$2899 PER PERSON



RHONE RIVER ITINERARY

- Visit the Provence Region of France
- Visit Papal towns, artistic epicenters, and savor the beauty of legendary vineyards.
- Include a pre-stay and post-stay onto your itinerary in Barcelona and/or Paris.

PRICING STARTING FROM \$3299 PER PERSON

HOW TO BOOK:

Contact Mary Yohannan at Life is Better Traveling.

Email: Mary@lifeisbettertraveling.com

or

Phone: 919-606-4604

OCEANS TAKE YOU TO COUNTRIES
RIVERS TAKE YOU THROUGH THEM



LIFE IS BETTER TRAVELING HAS
11 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE HELPING
CLIENTS PAIR THE PERFECT RIVER CRUISE.
LET'S PAIR THE RIGHT CRUISE FOR YOU!



QUESTIONS

TO ASK YOUR TRAVEL AGENT

WE HAVE PROVIDED YOU SOME SPACE
TO WRITE DOWN YOUR QUESTIONS

Your next step is to contact Mary Yohannan at [Life is Better Traveling](https://www.lifeisbettertraveling.com) to help you plan.

Email: Mary@lifeisbettertraveling.com

or

Phone: 919-606-4604

NEXT STEPS

WHERE TO START TO PLAN YOUR RIVER CRUISE

- 1.** Fill out the "Questions for your Travel Agent" page.
- 2.** Contact Mary Yohannan at Life is Better Traveling, see Mary's information below.
- 3.** Mary will contact you to set-up a time to talk on the phone to start the planning process including deciding which rivers you want to sail.
- 4.** Mary will plan with you, give you tips, and help you pick the perfect river cruise for you.

Your next step is to contact Mary Yohannan at Life is Better Traveling to help you plan.

Email: Mary@lifeisbettertraveling.com

or

Phone: 919-606-4604

ABOUT LIFE IS BETTER TRAVELING AND MARY YOHANNAN

Life is Better Traveling has 11 years of experience helping clients pair the perfect river cruise. We have helped thousands of people plan their European vacations.

We have won multiple awards including 3 Magellan awards for being the "best" in the travel industry.

Mary Yohannan herself has helped hundreds of clients plan amazing European vacations from river cruises to a more customized experience.

She has grown Life is Better Traveling from just herself to a team of over 15 agents.

She holds two certifications with the Travel Institute, has multiple marketing awards, and loves to travel to Europe at least once a year.

She has visited 20 European countries and looks forward to seeing more.

