



# Paris to Prague

Along the Rhine and Main Rivers aboard the elegant *River Cloud II*

October 6-19, 2014

CRITERION  
travel





Romantic old world villages set among picturesque winding rivers, vineyards, and rolling hills along with vibrant cities emblematic of a rapidly transforming Europe comprise the culturally rich and historically significant threads of a memorable journey in France, Germany, and the Czech Republic.

This fascinating itinerary is bookended by two of Europe's most vibrant cities—Paris and Prague—connected by a two-hour journey on France's high-speed train, TGV, from Paris to Strasbourg and a scenic river cruise aboard the elegant *River Cloud II* from Strasbourg to Nuremberg.

As you cruise along the Rhine and Main Rivers aboard the lovely 88-passenger *River Cloud II*, chartered for our exclusive use, you will enjoy the amenities of one of the finest river vessels in Europe, including elegant staterooms and public areas, refined cuisine, and impeccable service. A series of presentations will enrich your experience.



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience the elegant atmosphere, impeccable service, and excellent cuisine of the 88-passenger ***River Cloud II***, just over half the size of most riverboats in the region.
- Visit **seven UNESCO World Heritage sites**: The banks of the Seine in Paris; the historic centers of Strasbourg, Bamberg, and Prague; Speyer Cathedral; the Upper Middle Rhine Valley; and the Würzburg Residenz.
- Sample the **diverse cuisines and wines** of Paris, Alsace, Bavaria, and Bohemia during meals and private tastings ashore.
- Enjoy **private musical performances**—from the Bamberg String Quartet to Czech folk music and dance—in memorable settings.
- Attend a guest lecture on European affairs in **Strasbourg**, seat of the European Parliament, and tour the **Nuremberg** Courthouse, site of the war crimes trials.



# DAILY ITINERARY

MONDAY & TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6 & 7

## U.S. / Paris, France

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Paris. Upon arrival, check in to the hotel. gather this evening for a special welcome reception and dinner.

HOTEL SCRIBE (D)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8

## Paris

After a morning orientation, choose between two walking tours of Paris neighborhoods—either the stylish Marais district, including Place des Vosges and the newly reopened Picasso Museum, or the boutique-lined streets and artistic haunts of the latin Quarter. Or, at an additional cost, take a guided coach excursion to Giverny and visit the house where Claude Monet lived most of his life, including the lovely gardens featured in many of his most famous works. The afternoon and evening are free for independent exploration.

HOTEL SCRIBE (B)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

## Paris / Strasbourg (Embark)

Transfer to the train station this morning and board the TGV (high-speed train) to Strasbourg. like many of the region's border cities, Strasbourg has traded hands several times between France and Germany; today, the French capital of Alsace and seat of the European Parliament reflects both cultures—linguistically, architecturally, and gastronomically. Built at the intersection of several Roman roads, Strasbourg features a historic, UNESCO World Heritage-designated city center with 16th-century half-timbered houses and a gothic cathedral built of red sandstone. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant, then explore the city by coach and on foot before embarking the *River Cloud II* late this afternoon.

RIVER CLOUD II (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10

## Strasbourg

This morning, visit the European Parliament for a specially arranged tour and a guest lecture on European affairs. The afternoon is at leisure in port, with time for independent explorations. In the early evening, meander on local boats through the canals of Strasbourg's "Petite France," as the former tanners' and fishmongers' districts are known.

RIVER CLOUD II (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

## Speyer & Heidelberg, Germany

This morning visit Speyer's acclaimed Romanesque cathedral, which houses the largest crypt in Germany. Continue cruising north along the Rhine, then stop for an afternoon guided walking tour of Heidelberg, home to a number of great poets and academics, world-famous castle ruins, and Germany's oldest university.

RIVER CLOUD II (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

## Romantic Rhine

Dock this morning at Boppard, near the confluence of the Rhine and Mosel Rivers, and enjoy a walking tour of a classic Rhine village, followed by a private recital at the impressive Narny Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage site and home of the Princess of Hohenzollern. This afternoon, cruise along the most beautiful stretch of the Romantic Rhine through the Middle Rhine Valley, a storybook landscape of medieval castles and myths. Here, according to German legends, the siren Lorelei calls to sailors from the rocks, and the accursed Niebelungen gold treasure lies submerged beneath the waters. This UNESCO World Heritage site has inspired artists and composers for centuries, including the great 19th-century Romantics Lord Byron, Victor Hugo, and Goethe.

RIVER CLOUD II (B,L,D)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13

## Miltenberg

After a morning of cruising, dock this afternoon at Miltenberg along Bavaria's famous Romantic Road, which runs through the medieval heart of Germany. Miltenberg's strategic location on the Main River allowed it to develop into an important trading center. Enjoy a walking tour among picturesque timberwork houses, followed by a private children's choir concert.

RIVER CLOUD II (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14

## Würzburg

One of the most magnificent Baroque buildings in southern Germany—the Würzburg Residenz Palace—rises high above the Main. In the 16th century, the medieval castle was converted into a magnificent palace with five grand halls, 300 bedrooms, a mirrored gallery, and an enormous, recently restored ceiling painting by Tiepolo. Enjoy a guided tour of the Residenz, followed by a private tasting of Franconian wines in its historic cellar.

RIVER CLOUD II (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15

## Bamberg

After a morning of cruising, call at Bamberg, founded in 902 and situated on seven hills, with a network of canals winding their way around splendid baroque buildings. Enjoy a walking tour of its beautifully preserved Old Town and a private concert by the excellent Bamberg String Quartet. During a final evening of cruising, transit the Main-Danube Canal, an engineering triumph originally conceived by Charlemagne in the 8th century and completed in 1992.

RIVER CLOUD II (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

## Nuremberg, Germany / Prague, Czech Republic

Arrive this morning in Nuremberg and disembark the *River Cloud II*. Visit the Third Reich parade grounds and tour the courthouse, site of the Nuremberg trials. Enjoy a typical Bavarian lunch at a local restaurant before driving through scenic countryside and across the Czech border to Prague.

INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL (B,L)



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

## Prague

Enjoy a special private visit to the Strahov Monastery library, with two Baroque rooms housing an impressive collection of precious ancient manuscripts. Continue with an exploration of the ancient Prague Castle complex, which dominates a hilltop on the left bank of the Vltava River and offers lovely views over the city. Prague Castle, a royal residence in the 9th century, today comprises a rich variety of churches, gates, chapels, palace halls, and towers from every period of its history, including the gothic St. Vitus Cathedral, built over a 600-year period, and the Old Royal Palace, with its beautiful Late-gothic Vladislav Hall. The evening is at leisure to take advantage of the many musical offerings in Prague.

INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL (B,L)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

## Prague

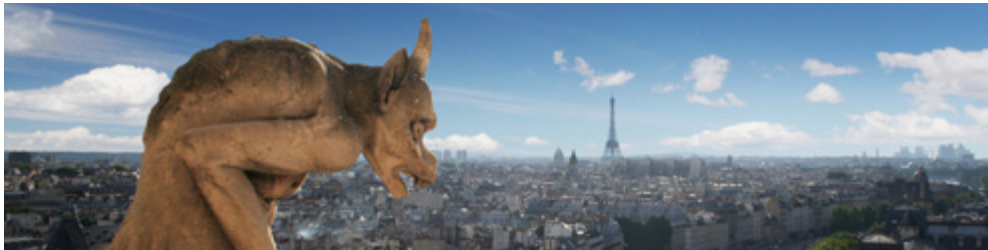
Discover the fairy tale-like setting of Prague's Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site, during a guided walking tour that showcases six centuries of architectural styles lining cobbled streets. Also visit such Art Nouveau treasures as the Municipal house and the Alfons Mucha Museum, dedicated to the works of the well-known Art Nouveau painter. The afternoon is at leisure. This evening gather for a private farewell gala at Lobkowicz Castle, a lovely ancestral palace within Prague Castle.

INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL (B,D)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

## Prague / U.S.

This morning transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)



Contact us with any questions or to make your reservation today!

888-328-2089

res@criteriontravel.com





## RIVER CLOUD II

Launched by the owners of the legendary *Sea Cloud*, the five-star *River Cloud II* combines nostalgic luxury with state-of-the-art marine technology to create an elegant and intimate cruising experience. The 44 outside cabins each offer a large queen or two twin beds, individually adjustable air conditioning, minibar, TV/video, personal safe, cozy robes, fresh flowers, and private bathroom (with shower) appointed in marble with brass and gold fixtures. Cabin deck staterooms feature brass-rimmed portholes; Promenade deck staterooms feature panoramic arched windows. The public areas include a spacious lounge with a custom-built Steinway grand piano, paneled mahogany library, large sun deck with teak deck chairs and bar, small boutique, hair salon, and a dining room that accommodates all guests in a single, unassigned seating. Refined Italian-influenced cuisine is prepared by outstanding European chefs incorporating local ingredients fresh from the market, and a fine selection of wines from regional vintages is included with lunches and dinners on board.



## RATES

	Double	Single
CATEGORY C (Cabin Deck forward)	\$8,995	\$13,495
CATEGORY B (Cabin Deck)	\$9,995	\$14,995
CATEGORY A (Promenade Deck)	\$11,595	

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare from major U.S. gateways to Paris with return from Prague is approximately \$1,200 as of February 2014 and is subject to change without notice. In order to give you as much flexibility as possible with the variety of air travel options available, you are free to make your own air arrangements for this program.

Contact us with any questions or to make your reservation today!

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[res@criteriontravel.com](mailto:res@criteriontravel.com)

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Program Rates Include

A full program of briefings, lectures, and presentations by study leaders and local guides • All accommodations and meals as specified in the itinerary • All excursions, including entrance fees, as specified in the itinerary • Tickets aboard the TGV from Paris to Strasbourg • Airport transfers for all participants on program arrival and departure days • Baggage handling gratuities to porters, guides, drivers, wait staff, and shipboard personnel for all group activities • Port fees and embarkation taxes • House wine, beer, and soft drinks at all group lunches and dinners • Welcome and farewell receptions • Bottled water on excursions • Complete packet of pre-departure information • Professional tour manager throughout

## Program Rates Do Not Include

U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport and visa fees • Medical expenses and immunizations • Trip cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance • Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour • Excess-baggage charges • Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals • Alcohol or soft drinks except where indicated as included • Private transfers or transfers not on program arrival and departure days • Personal items such as room service; email, telephone, and fax charges; and other items of a personal nature

## What to Expect

The pace of this program is moderately active, with a few miles of walking each day. Most of the historic city centers have large segments that are closed to motor coaches, and city tours involve walking on cobbled streets or uneven terrain, and may involve extended periods of standing in museums and churches. Participants must be in good health and able to keep up with the group without assistance from tour staff.

## Group Size

This program is limited to 74 participants, including travelers from Smith and Stanford.

## Insurance

Travel insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended, and we hope that you will obtain it for this expedition. Trip cancellation policies that apply to this expedition are included in this brochure. Please be sure to carry the details of your travel insurance coverage with you on the program. Travelers are free to purchase the travel insurance of their choice. It is recommended that travelers

clearly understand the difference between "primary" and "secondary" travel insurance.

## Reservations and Deposits

To reserve space, please complete the reservation form and mail it with your check or credit card information to the address at the top of the form. You may also fax the form to (650) 560-6400 and your reservation will be held for five working days pending receipt of your check or credit card information. If you have questions, please call (888) 328-2089 or email [res@criteriontravel.com](mailto:res@criteriontravel.com). Final payment deadline is June 9, 2014, 120 days prior to departure.

## Cancellations and Refunds

Upon payment of a \$1,000 deposit per person, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be effective until they are received in writing and confirmed by the Criterion Travel. Deposits are refundable (less a \$250 per person administration fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of reservation; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. Final payment is due June 9, 2014 (120 days prior to departure). Cancellations within 120 days of departure are 100% nonrefundable. For this reason we strongly urge participants to purchase trip cancellation insurance. If the program is cancelled by the Criterion Travel, you will receive a full refund, without further obligation on our part. No refunds will be made for any part of this program on which you choose not to participate. Note: Criterion Travel does not accept liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in conjunction with this tour.

## Itinerary Changes

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, Criterion Travel reserves the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

## Reservation Contact

(888) 328-2089 or [res@criteriontravel.com](mailto:res@criteriontravel.com)

California Seller of Travel Program  
CST #2088800-40

# RESERVATION FORM

To reserve a place on **Paris to Prague** please complete and return this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel. Mail to: 145 Forest Ave. Palo Alto, CA 94301. For more information or to reserve by phone, please call (888) 328-2089 or (650) 328-2089, or email [res@criteriontravel.com](mailto:res@criteriontravel.com)

NAME #1 (as on passport)

BIRTHDATE

NAME #2 (as on passport)

BIRTHDATE

STREET ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP / POSTAL CODE

HOME PHONE

WORK PHONE

FAX

E-MAIL(s)

## PAYMENT

☐ Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$1,000 per person), to reserve \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) on **Paris to Prague**

OR ☐ Charge the deposit to my credit card (circle one):

VISA

MC

AMEX

Diners Club

Discover

NAME ON CREDIT CARD

CARD #

EXP. DATE

SECURITY CODE

SIGNATURE AS IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD

DATE

## CATEGORY PREFERENCE

1st Choice \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

Bed Preference (not guaranteed): ☐ One bed ☐ Two beds

## SINGLE TRAVELERS

☐ I prefer to have single accommodations.

OR ☐ I plan to share accommodations with: \_\_\_\_\_

OR ☐ I'd like to know about roommates. I am a ☐ Non-smoker ☐ Smoker.

*I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of June 9, 2014, I will pay the single rate.*

☐ I/We have read the Terms & Conditions section of this brochure and understand and agree with them as stated herein.

SIGNATURE

DATE

SIGNATURE

DATE

Contact us with any questions or to make your reservation today!

888-328-2089

[res@criteriontravel.com](mailto:res@criteriontravel.com)