



MS GEOFFREY CHAUCER · BLUE DANUBE · DEPARTING 9 SEPTEMBER 2026

Your ship is sailing, with a new shape to your week

Thank you for your patience while we finalised arrangements. The trip departs on 9 September as booked, and you keep Vienna, Dürnstein, Melk and Salzburg or Linz, guided tours of Budapest and Bratislava, and gain a morning at Göttweig Abbey. This sailing will not reach Esztergom, you join and leave the ship in Vienna, and there are five nights on board your ship rather than seven.

In addition, the train from Budapest to Vienna is a new highlight: the comfortable Railjet crosses the Danube by rail bridge, for a final view of the capital, then runs through the Hungarian countryside past Győr and on into Austria.

WHY THE ROUTE HAS HAD TO CHANGE

A dry summer has left the free flowing stretch below Vienna, which your ship needs to reach Budapest, around 60 centimetres under its long term low water mark. The Wachau above Vienna is holding more water, so rather than cancel we have rebuilt your week around that stretch. Our river cruise partner's nautical team and our own in house team read the gauges daily, judging what they mean for your ship rather than the Danube in general; levels can move either way, and we will tell you promptly if anything alters.

JOINING AND LEAVING YOUR SHIP

You board in Vienna on day two and leave the ship there on day seven. Outbound is a direct train from Budapest, just under three hours, with lunch on board before you set off. Coming back you visit Bratislava on the way, about an hour by coach from Vienna with €25 per person for lunch, then continue to Budapest by train. Your first night is aboard MS Gloria, a hotel ship moored in Budapest, and your last night is in a Budapest hotel with dinner and breakfast.

YOUR ITINERARY, DAY BY DAY

Day 1	Fly to Budapest and spend the night aboard MS Gloria, your hotel ship in the city.
Day 2	A guided tour of Budapest, lunch on board, then the 15:30 train to Vienna to join your ship.
Day 3	Vienna: a guided tour of the city, then sail into the Wachau.
Day 4	Dürnstein's blue tower and vineyards, then the great abbey at Melk.
Day 5	Salzburg, Mozart's birthplace below its fortress, or a guided morning in Linz.
Day 6	Krems, and a morning at Göttweig Abbey high above the Danube valley.
Day 7	Leave your ship in Vienna for a guided tour of Bratislava, then on to Budapest and your hotel.
Day 8	Breakfast in Budapest, then a transfer to the airport for your flight home.

THE CHOICES OPEN TO YOU

Please let us know within 24 hours, as your trip departs on 9 September.

Travel, and take a voucher: worth 50% of your cruise price, for any Riviera river cruise in 2026 or 2027 (validity of 6 months)

Travel, take cash and a voucher: 10% refunded now, plus a voucher worth a further 20% (validity of 6 months)

Transfer to next year: the same cruise in 2027, like for like, at no extra cost.

Cancel: we will refund everything you have paid.

YOU WILL BE WELL LOOKED AFTER

Nothing changes on board: the same ship, the same cabin and the same crew, with the dining, all inclusive drinks and local entertainment you booked. Your Cruise Director and Cruise Host will keep you informed throughout.

For the latest on river conditions and our 5-point promise:

[**rivieratravel.com/update**](https://rivieratravel.com/update)

Any questions at all, please do call us.