



## Christmastime Danube River Cruise Budapest to Vienna with CKNW's Simi Sara

### River Cruise Pricing

Based on Double Occupancy

Category D & E \$5795CDN per person

Category A, B & P \$6795CDN per person

### Prague Extension

Based on Double Occupancy

\$2695CDN per person

Single Pricing on Page 4

Economy Air - From \$1600 CDN per person

### Tour Host Simi Sara

SIMI SARA is an award-winning journalist and broadcaster. Born and raised in Metro Vancouver, she started her career in newspaper and spent almost fifteen years in television news before coming to 980 CKNW where she has been for the past 16 years. You can catch her early weekday mornings covering breaking news, providing reaction and analysis plus talking about all the interesting stories that make up your day. If you catch her when she's not at work or talking about the news, she will probably bake you some chocolate chip cookies. Simi is fun, informative, inquisitive and a delight to travel with. She will fast become a new friend... and then there is her fun husband! We loved our time with her in Kenya... and in Europe! Join us and you will "get it".



### Itinerary Highlights

November 28 to December 3, 2027

Prague Extension December 3 to 6, 2026

Make your holiday wishes come true with a special Christmastime departure to experience Europe's most beautiful Christmas markets and festivities. Enjoy the jolly atmosphere on our decorated ship as you delight in the sights, smells, and tastes of local Christmas traditions along your Danube River cruise. Enjoy stunning winter views on the Danube with the warm glow of Christmas markets, beautifully adorned with ageless traditions. Begin your cruise in Budapest, the capital of Hungary, with guided sightseeing and free time to begin exploring the markets and find one-of-a-kind gifts. Next, you'll sail to the centuries-old Slovakian city of Bratislava with guided sightseeing and time to browse their beautiful Christmas markets. Take a guided tour of its cobblestone streets and Gothic St. Martin's Cathedral. Next, cruise to wonderful Melk for guided sightseeing in Austria's Wachau Valley, including the magnificent Benedictine Abbey perched above the Danube. Continue your festive Danube River cruise to Vienna—the "City of Music." Enjoy guided sightseeing and the glow of sparkling Christmas markets while exploring the Imperial Palace, Vienna Opera House, and stunning St. Stephen's Cathedral.





**November 28, 2027 - Budapest, Hungary—Embarkation (2 nights):**

Welcome to Hungary. Your Suite Ship® is Ready for Boarding. Flights into Budapest must arrive by 3:30 pm. Guests must be on board ship by 5 pm. If you arrive early or have taken the opportunity to enjoy our Budapest Pre-Night Hotel offer, you will have a free day to explore before boarding. -enjoy the Royal Palace grounds in this treasure trove of historical architecture - explore such famous sights as the Chain Bridge -get to know the city's cafés and pubs - don't miss the unique Christmas markets that Budapest hosts every year during the Festive season. Enjoy the warmth and glow of Christmas tradition! **Overnight docking in Budapest** **Dinner**

**November 29, 2027 - Budapest, Hungary - Christmas Lights and Classic Sights:**

**Enjoy one of the included shore excursions -**

**Classic Excursion** - Take a Guided Sightseeing Tour to see majestic Heroes' Square and Budapest's classic sites **or....**

**Discovery Excursion** - Join a Guided Visit to a Christmas decorations manufacturer and marvel at the deft hands of the craftsmen as they shape molten glass into delicate bulbs with intricate details.

**Optional Excursion (Extra Charge)**

**Bites and Highlights of Budapest** - Experience some of Budapest's most famous sights and most delectable foods on this unique guided foodie tour! Duration: 3h 30m



**Art & Architecture of Budapest** - Travel back to the Golden Age of Budapest's Belle Époque on this captivating, guided excursion featuring Andrassy Avenue where you will visit the crown jewel of Budapest: the incomparable Hungarian State Opera House! Duration: 3h 0m

**Enjoy the evening's entertainment onboard as we cruise to Bratislava. Breakfast Lunch Dinner**



**November 30, 2027 – Bratislava, Slovakia - Cathedral Coronations and a Crowning Castle:**

**Enjoy the included shore excursion -**

**Classic Excursion** – Join a Guided Sightseeing Tour of Old Town's cobblestone streets to Town Hall. Visit the Gothic halls of St. Martin's Cathedral, Hungary's centuries-old coronation church. Spend free time browsing the spruce stalls of the Christmas Markets of Bratislava.

**Afternoon/overnight cruise to Melk    Breakfast   Lunch   Dinner**

**December 1, 2027 – Melk, Austria to Vienna, Austria - Frescoes Above and Vineyards Below:**

**Enjoy the included shore excursions -**

**Melk – Classic Excursion** - Take a Guided Tour of Melk's magnificent Benedictine Abbey to marvel at its frescoed ceilings, statues, incredible library, and ornate pipe organ.

**Later.... sail to Vienna**

**Discovery Excursion** - Enjoy an Austrian Cookies Tasting while sailing through the splendid Wachau Valley to Vienna.

**Optional Excursion (Extra Charge)** - This evening, you may choose to attend an Optional Excursion to a Royal Waltz Concert. Enjoy a spellbinding evening of classical works by Mozart and Johann Strauss, performed brilliantly by professional Salon Orchestra Alt-Wien musicians in one of Europe's prettiest venues. Duration: 2h 45m

**Overnight docking in Vienna**

**Breakfast   Lunch   Dinner**



**December 2, 2027 – Vienna, Austria:**

**Enjoy one of the included shore excursions -**



**Classic Excursion** - Explore the Habsburg empire this morning on a Guided City Tour of Vienna's gilded landmarks. See the Imperial Palace complex—the winter residence of the Imperial Family, the iconic Vienna Opera House, and stunning St. Stephen's Cathedral.

**or...**

**Discovery Excursion** - Explore the city of Vienna and sample local winter specialties on a Guided Walk through the city's Old Town and stunning St. Stephen's Cathedral. **or...**

Spend free time on your own to enjoy the Christkindlmarkt or relax by the fire's glow in a Viennese café this evening.

**Optional Excursion (Extra Charge)**

Join a Guided Optional Excursion to Schönbrunn Palace. This magnificent palace is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and former summer residence of the Habsburg imperial family. Bask in the festive atmosphere of the palace's impressive Christmas Market. Duration: 4h 0m

**Overnight Docking in Vienna**

**Breakfast   Lunch   Dinner**



**December 3, 2027 – A sad farewell to our ship as we disembark... or join us with a 3-night extension to Prague.**

**We would be happy to design a different extension – just let us know where you'd like to go!**

#### **BUDAPEST PRE-NIGHT(S)**

Up to 2 pre-nights are available for you to enjoy free time before the cruise at the InterContinental Hotel – beautifully positioned on the Danube River in Budapest !

**\$275CDN per person per night sharing**

**\$385CDN per person per night single room**

#### **PRAGUE POST-NIGHTS**

**December 3, 2027 - VIENNA (DISEMBARKATION) to PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC (LAND EXTENSION)**

**Hotel Paris, Prague (3 nights):** Your cruise ends with breakfast this morning. For guests who choose to extend, we will be transferred by road approximately 3.5 hours, to the perfectly placed Hotel Paris in Prague for 3 nights.

**December 4, 2027 : PRAGUE** Take a Guided City Walk to visit Hradčany Castle Grounds; see St. Vitus Cathedral and Old Town's

Astronomical Clock. Consider sampling delicious plum dumplings and traditional Pilsner lager. Mingle with the locals and be mesmerized by street performers in Wenceslas Square or admire the arches and statues decorating the Charles Bridge

**December 5, 2027 – Hotel Paris, Prague:** Enjoy a free day in Prague.

**December 6, 2027:** Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning.

**\$2695CDN per person sharing**

**\$3495CDN per person single room**

#### **CRUISE PRICING IN CDN \$ - Based on 2 people sharing**

**Category D or E- \$5795CDN per person - Deluxe Stateroom with 2 upper windows**

**Single Supplement please add \$4000CDN**

**Category P, A or B - \$6795CDN per person - Panorama Suite with wall-to-wall windows**

**Single Supplement please add \$4600CDN**

**Economy Air –** From \$1600CDN per person dependent upon carrier, routing and availability. We would be happy book your air for you or please feel free to use your travel points!

**Payment Options and Dates: Visa, MasterCard, Cheque or Bank Draft**

**\*\*\* Please note all payments are non-refundable. Medical and Cancellation travel insurance is highly recommended. We would be happy to provide a quote for you.**

**Due upon booking - Non-refundable deposit of \$800CDN per person**

**May 1, 2027 – Interim payment of \$1500CDN per person**

**September 1, 2027 - Final Payment**



Join us for the vacation of a lifetime!

To Book Your Cruise Cabin on this Exclusive Group

Please Contact Carol Petersen at

Expedia Cruises – West Vancouver Office Only

**\*\*Carol Direct (604) 947 9005 - Toll Free 1 866 949 3007**

**or Cruise Office (604) 926-0029**

**[capetersen@expediacruz.com](mailto:capetersen@expediacruz.com)**

**CRUISE ALL INCLUSIVE OF:**

- Predeparture package & meetings
- Transfers
- Buffet breakfast & lunch, Afternoon Tea, Four Course dinners with choice of appetizers, soups, salads entrées and dessert/cheese.
- Complimentary soft drinks all day
- Complimentary wine or beer with lunch and dinner.
- Daily happy hour including house beer, wine, and spirits prior to dinner.
- Tours & entry fees as stated.
- WIFI (don't expect it like home!)
- Gratuities for ship crew and cruise director
- AND.... Special surprises!
- Tour hosted by Simi Sara of CKNW Radio
- Tour led by Carol Petersen, Expedia Cruises, West Vancouver, BC

**WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED:**

- International Air (we'd be happy to help you)
- Travel medical and/or cancellation insurance (we'd be happy to help you)
- Meals & drinks not specified
- Gratuities for guides and drivers on included and optional excursions unless specified
- Laundry
- Any new Government taxes.

**BUDAPEST PRE-NIGHTS ALL INCLUSIVE OF:**

- Breakfast
- Transfer from Airport to Hotel and Hotel to Ship
- Coordination onsite by Carol Petersen, Expedia Cruises, West Vancouver, BC

**WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED**

- Gratuities
- Any other meals and activities – Carol will have some ideas for you!

**PRAGUE POST-NIGHTS ALL INCLUSIVE OF:**

- Transfer from ship to Prague hotel.
- Breakfast each day
- Prague City Tour with a local guide
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers
- Transfer from Prague hotel to airport
- Tour hosted by Simi Sara of CKNW Radio
- Tour led by Carol Petersen, Expedia Cruises, West Vancouver, BC

**WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED**

- Any other meals and activities

## Your Host – Simi Sara, CKNW

Hi Everyone! Simi here with news of another excellent travel opportunity!! I am unbelievably excited to be going on this bucket list trip of a lifetime. I have dreamed of going to these Christmas Markets and I know we are going to have the time of our lives. We have made great friends and gotten to know so many wonderful listeners on our trips to Kenya and on our Rhine and Moselle River cruise. I can't wait to get to know more of you and see the sights together!"



## Your Tour Leader – Carol Petersen, Expedia Cruises, West Vancouver BC



Wildlife photographer Carol Petersen is an avid traveler spending the last 36 years leading groups to Africa, India, Galapagos, Antarctica as well as many oceans and rivers around the world. She has a keen interest in our environment and different cultures. Carol will ensure you are well cared for and create moments that will become lasting memories !

Email: [capetersen@expediacruzises.com](mailto:capetersen@expediacruzises.com)

Phone: (604) 947-9005

## Our Partners

**730 | CKNW**  
Vancouver's News. Today's Talk.



CKNW is proud to partner with Avalon Waterways and Expedia Cruises in West Vancouver to bring you this exceptional river cruise experience. We've had the pleasure of working with tour leader Carol Petersen on three highly successful trips, and we're thrilled to embark on another adventure together. Our goal is simple: to offer our listeners unforgettable vacation opportunities hosted by the voices you know and love from our broadcasts. We're delighted to share this remarkable river cruise and land package with you, and we hope it brings you relaxation, discovery, and memories to last a lifetime.

At Expedia Cruises®, we are navigators of spectacular vacation experiences. From the unbeatable value of today's most popular cruise lines to luxury and river sailings, we offer every option — all at Expedia® prices. Beyond the water, we're your trusted partner for land, sea, and air travel, including customized itineraries, coach and rail tours, and comprehensive insurance coverage. We're here to support you before, during, and after your journey.



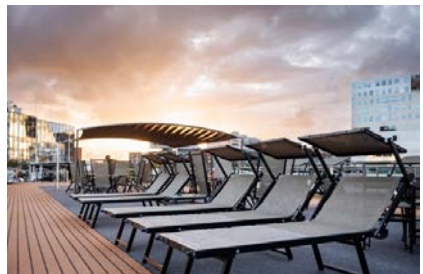
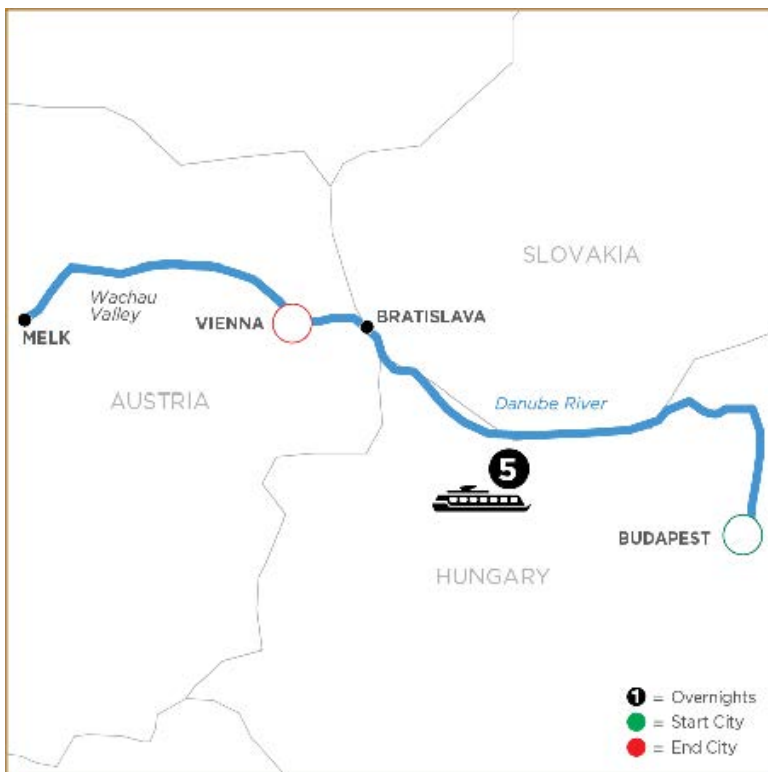
At Avalon Waterways, we navigate with both elegance and ease to deliver a "just right" experience - the perfect pace, the perfect amenities, and the perfect views. Along Europe's legendary rivers, we blend enriching activities, included excursions, mouthwatering cuisine, and exceptional service to create a beautifully balanced journey of relaxed indulgence. This is the Avalon Difference. With river cruising's only Open-Air Balcony™, wall-to-wall, floor-to-ceiling windows that open wider than any other, the boundary between outside and in simply disappears. Even seasoned travelers discover Europe in a whole new way.

## Our Ship



### Avalon Imagery II

If image is everything, the Avalon Imagery II is the real thing. The Avalon Imagery II embodies all of Avalon's outstanding traditions to deliver exceptional cruise experiences and service. Passengers can choose from two full decks of Panorama Suites, featuring wall-to-wall, floor-to-ceiling panoramic windows that transform the living space into river cruising's only Open-Air Balcony. At a spacious 200 square feet, our Panorama Suites are more than 30% larger than the industry standard, affording the incomparable opportunity to awaken each morning with Europe's splendid scenery at your feet. Onboard amenities include complimentary Starlink Wi-Fi access, Fitness Center, elevator, alternative light menu options in the Panorama Bistro or al fresco grill lunch at the Sky Bistro. Relax to your heart's content on the expansive Sky Deck's premium lounge chairs, take a dip in the whirlpool, get cool in the shade on deck, and play deck games too! Your image just got a lot more relaxed.



**Deluxe Stateroom, Indigo (Lower) Deck 172 Sq. FT**  
**\$5795CDN PP Sharing      Single please add \$4000CDN**  
**Category D and E (Lower) Deck Forward/Aft**



**Panorama Suite, Royal and Sapphire Decks 200 Sq. FT**  
**\$6795CDN PP Sharing      Single please add \$4600CDN**  
**Category P Royal (Upper) Deck**  
**Category A and B Sapphire (Middle) Deck Forward/Aft**



**Please see the attached ship information sheet for more details.**  
**As accommodation is based on availability, please contact Carol as soon as possible to secure the stateroom or suite of your choice.**

