

*A Custom Designed Itinerary to  
Prague, Krakow, Budapest and Vienna*

*by*

*IN QUEST OF THE CLASSICS*

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**DAY 1: PRAGUE.** Upon arrival this morning at Prague Airport, you are met and privately transferred into the city for immediate check-in to **Pachtuv Palace**, located in the heart of historic



Prague, on the Vltava River, just fifty meters from the Charles Bridge and five minutes from the Old Town Square. Most historic attractions are within easy walking distance including the National Theatre, National Museum, National Opera, Clementinum Library, Rudolfinum Concert Hall and the old Jewish quarters. [www.pachtuvpalace.com](http://www.pachtuvpalace.com). We include a three night stay in a king bedded junior suite with river view.

**DAY 2: PRAGUE.** Today you will be met at your hotel for a full day private tour of Prague. You can then start exploring at your own pace the five historical districts composed of: The New Town (Vaclavske namesti), with Wenceslas Square, the National Museum and the Anton Dvorak Museum. In the Old Town (Stare Mesto), you will see the Old Town Square, Celetna Street with its baroque townhouses, the Jewish Quarter and Charles Bridge (Karluv most), one of the oldest and most beautiful bridges in Europe. In the Lesser Town (Mala Strana), you can admire the Lesser Town Square with its magnificent baroque church of St. Nicholas, Wallenstein Palace, today the Ministry of Culture and Neruda Street, a street with baroque houses leading to Prague Castle (Hradcany), the seat of



government. In the Castle District, you'll also find St. Vitus Cathedral and the National Gallery (Narodni galerie). Finally, Vysehrad is a fortress town, set up high on a cliff, opposite Prague Castle. Other places of interest that can be substituted for some of the above might be included are St. George's Convent, Wallenstein Gardens and exploring some of the sites/shops you have specified interest in – more details in final program.

**DAY 3: PRAGUE.** A full day to explore Prague on your own.

**DAY 4: PRAGUE / KRAKOW.** A private transfer to the rail station for the train to Krakow, with a train change in Katowice. (We include European East First Class Rail Passes good for each day of rail travel required on this program plus seat reservations where possible). Upon arrival at the rail station in Krakow, you are met and privately transferred to the **Hotel Amadeus**. The hotel is located just steps from Krakow's main square and is built within a 16<sup>th</sup> century town house that has been fully restored to its original splendor. All rooms have been stylishly appointed with tasteful interiors and fitted with all the modern conveniences. [www.hotel-amadeus.pl](http://www.hotel-amadeus.pl). Here we have included a queen bedded room for your four night stay.

**DAY 5: KRAKOW.** To find the soul of Poland, you must seek it in Krakow – wrote the author and critic Wilhelm Feldman at the beginning of this century. Poland’s soul is chiseled into almost every stone of its former capital and this atmosphere can be felt in each of the city’s most visited sites. Visit the 11<sup>th</sup> century Wawel Castle (entrance included), which houses a fabulous collection of



Arras tapestries, portraits and other precious objects.

The heart of the city is Rynek Główny (a great plaza), which is dominated by The Sukiennice (Cloth Hall), Europe’s largest medieval marketplace. Other sites include the Wierzynek Restaurant, the oldest continuously operating restaurant in Europe, the Florian Gate, and much more.

**DAY 6: ZAKOPANE / KRAKOW.** Today we include a full day private tour to Zakopane, located a little under two hours south of Krakow, surrounded by the Tatra Mountains. Famous as a ski resort, Zakopane offers a peaceful respite from your city to city itinerary. Your tour includes a funicular ride up to the top of Gubalowka Hill and some time to see the old wooden houses. Return to Krakow for your overnight.



**DAY 7: KRAKOW.** A free day to explore Krakow on your own.

**DAY 8: KRAKOW / BUDAPEST.** Early this morning a private transfer to the rail station in time to board your departing train to Budapest, with a change of trains in Ceska Trebova CS Upon arrival in Budapest you are met and privately transferred to the **Hotel Andrassy**, a five star hotel built in 1930’s style, originally constructed by the famous architect Alfred Hajos as a boarding house for the Jewish community. After complete renovation it is now a lovely hotel featuring spacious and warmly decorated rooms, beautifully flowered balconies and modern amenities. [www.andrassyhotel.com](http://www.andrassyhotel.com). *Member Small Luxury Hotels of the World*. Here we have included a deluxe king bedded room with balcony for your three night stay.

**DAY 9: BUDAPEST.** Today you will be met at your hotel by an English-speaking guide for a full day city tour by private car. Your guided city tour will acquaint you with the main sights of Budapest, actually two separate cities – Buda is the more interesting of the two; Pest is the more modern city. You’ll have a good view of the city and the Danube from the lookout towers at the Fisherman’s Bastion. Visit St. Matthias Church, first erected in 1247, the Hapsburg Citadel, Heroes’ Square, St. Stephen’s Cathedral and the Hungarian National Museum, where you’ll see the Crown of St. Stephen. This evening enjoy a cruise on the Danube.



**DAY 10: BUDAPEST.** Free day, but we include tickets for a guided tour in English of the Parliament, which lasts for about 50 minutes.

**DAY 11: BUDAPEST/ VIENNA.** This morning you are privately transferred to the rail station in time to board your departing train to Vienna. Upon arrival in Vienna you are privately transferred to the **Hotel Sacher**. The name Sacher has been made world-famous by the matchless good taste of the cake, the original Sacher-Torte that bears its name, and for the elegant luxury and unsurpassed charm of the hotel. This five-star luxury hotel is located in the heart of Vienna’s downtown, directly adjacent to the Vienna State Opera and the Kärntnerstraße, at the beginning of the pedestrian mall. [www.sacher.com](http://www.sacher.com). Here we have included a superior king bedded room for your three night stay.

**DAY 12: VIENNA.** Today you will be met at your hotel by an English-speaking guide for a half day city tour by private car. Most of the places of interest are within the Ring: the Hofburg Palace with the Imperial Apartments where the Emperors of Austria lived; the Imperial Treasury (Schatzkammer) with the crown jewels of the House of Hapsburg; The Spanish Riding School with the famed Lippizaner horses; the Capuchins' Crypt (Kaisergruft) where 12 emperors and 16 empresses are buried; St. Stephen's Cathedral; the Opera; and the house where Mozart lived. Stroll the elegant walking streets lined with sophisticated shops and drop in to a coffeehouse for some famous Viennese coffee accompanied by a rich, cream-filled pastry! The Museum of Fine Arts (Kunsthistorisches Museum) has an excellent collection of pictures assembled by the Hapsburgs. On the outskirts is beautiful Schönbrunn Palace, the summer residence of the Hapsburgs including Maria Theresa, her daughter Marie Antoinette, and Napoleon's short-lived son, the Duke of Reichstadt. It was here that Mozart made his debut at the age of six.



**DAY 13: LOCAL TOURING.** A free morning to explore Vienna on your own and this afternoon you will be met at your hotel by an English-speaking guide for a half day Vienna Woods tour by private car including a visit to Gumpoldskirchen for wine tasting in a lovely wine cellar here. Return to Vienna for dinner on your own. This evening we include tickets to hear a Mozart concert performed by musicians in period costume in the Golden Room at Musikverein.



**DAY 14: DEPARTURE.** Today you will be met at your hotel by an English-speaking driver for a private transfer to the airport in time to check in for your departing flight home.

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