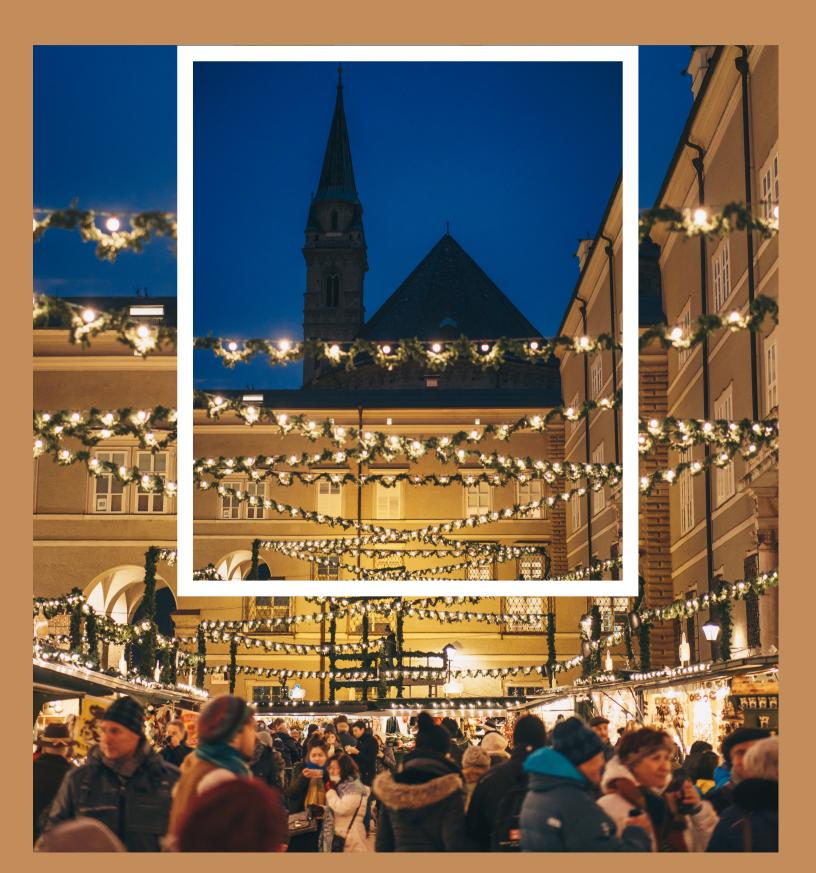
## 6 Special even S ON THE DANUBE TO ADD BEFORE, DURING OR AFTER YOUR RIVER CRUISE





#### 6 FESTIVALS ON THE DANUBE

The Danube River twists and turns its way through some of the most beautiful landscapes in the world while running through some of the most culturally beautiful cities in all of Europe. To take in the cultural landscape of the Danube, here are six festivals that celebrate the cities and regions that line the banks of the river. You might even catch one or two on your river cruise!

#### Christmas Markets

First and foremost, the Christmas Markets that line the Danube are scenes out of fairytales and can be found from Austria to Germany and Hungary.

In Vienna, enjoy the Baroque architecture and how it mixes with the beautiful lights and decorations of the market.

In Nuremberg, order a warm mug of mulled wine for the adults and traditional hot chocolate for the kids.

In Budapest, shop for locally made gifts from vendors as you stroll under the building-sized Christmas Trees.

No matter which of the gorgeous towns or cities you are in, take the time to slow down, smell the trees as they mix with the smell of fresh gingerbread cookies, enjoy the warming cuisine from local purveyors, and remember the twinkle of the decorations and the joy on the faces of everyone around you.

## Oktoberfest

No trip down the Danube would be complete without stopping in Vilshofen for a traditional Oktoberfest experience. If you're not going in late October or November, you'll still love it.

Delight in walking through the picturesque town while embracing one of Germany's most time-honored traditions, enjoying a German Lager!





#### The Wiener Festwochen

Vienna's Festival is a celebration that draws thousands of people each year!

Visitors are mesmerized by the city's energy, and it doesn't take long to see why: from captivating art exhibitions to invigorating theater performances and thrilling concerts - this festival has something for everyone.

### The Old Town Festival

Nuremberg, Germany, knows how to throw a party!

The Old Town Festival has been an annual event in Nuremberg since 1970 and is an absolute favorite of the locals, although all are welcomed as locals to this festival.

Each year the festivities are kicked off by the mayor tapping the ceremonial first keg, and a brass band takes it from there. If you're still not sold by the beer, there is music, dancing, traditional Franconian food, and even rides for the kids.

## Schmankerlfest

Held each year in the Terracotta Arcade Courtyard, this festival is a treat for both the ears and stomach.

Put on by the farmers of the Melk District in Austria; each farmer brings their own regional and family delicacies from across the region.

These culinary delights include cider, schnapps, pumpkin dishes, wild game, and Wachau beef. After your fill, sit back and watch the local musical and dance performers.

## Budapest Wine Festival

For 30 years, Budapest has been hosting an annual wine festival considered the most beautiful in Europe.

This four-day event is held in the Castle District of Buda and

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