Abercrombie & Kent



A TALE OF THREE CITIES

On this journey, you'll become acquainted with Eastern Europe's three most cultured capitals – Budapest, Vienna and Prague. Each of these elegant cities has a rich history, revealed by your expert guides, much of it explored on foot.

Tailor-Made Journeys, Suggested Itineraries

Europe, Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary

9 days from AU$17,320 pp

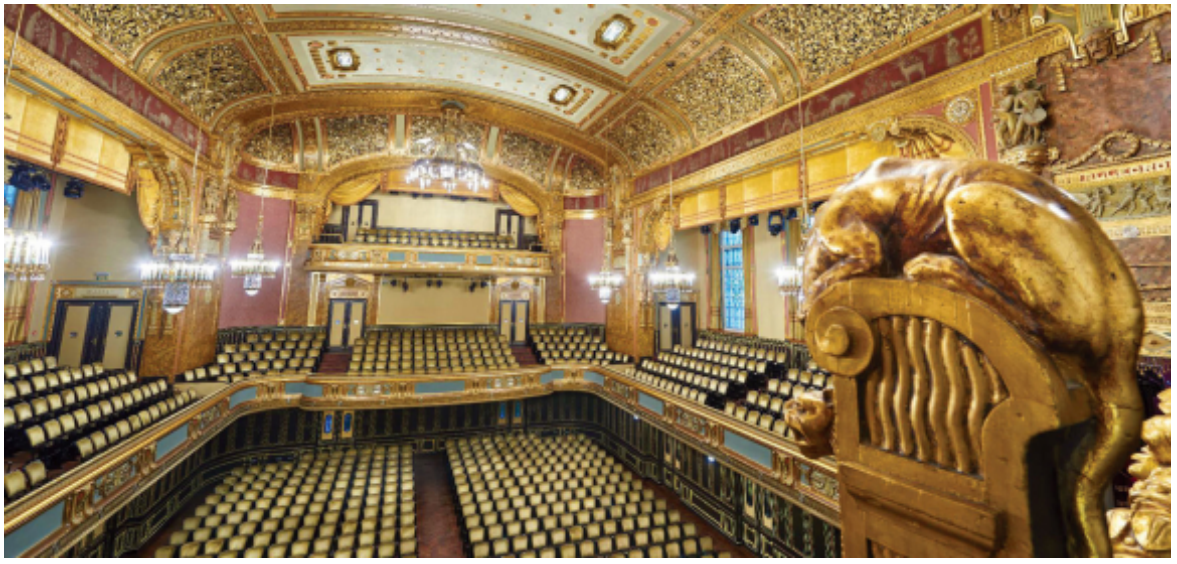
Private

Journey Overview

On this journey, you'll become acquainted with Eastern Europe's three most cultured capitals – Budapest, Vienna and Prague. Each of these elegant cities has a rich history, revealed by your expert guides, much of it explored on foot. From music to art and architecture, special experiences are included to add a delightfully different flavour

Journey Highlights

- Uncover two sides of the Hungarian capital – Buda and Pest
- Visit a renowned Viennese coffee shop, an important imperial tradition
- Venture inside Hungary's most famous musical university, the Franz Liszt Academy, and admire its valuable manuscripts and the concert hall
- Go behind the scenes of Prague's famous Municipal House and Strahov Library
- Choose to explore the magnificent Schönbrunn Palace and gardens or Klosterneuburg Monastery



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Budapest, Hungary

Upon arrival at Budapest airport you are be met by your Abercrombie & Kent ‘Guardian Angel’ and privately transferred to your hotel. The remainder of today is at leisure to relax.

Four Seasons Gresham Palace

Day 2: Budapest

A city of two personalities this morning you explore the old imperial enclave of Buda on the western bank of the Danube. Cross the graceful Chain Bridge on foot and ascend by funicular to Castle Hill where the former Royal Palace gracefully towers over the Danube. Meander through the cobbled and colourful streets of this ancient Royal district and visit the Matthias Church, which has witnessed the coronation of many Hungarian Kings.

Four Seasons Gresham Palace | Meals: B

Day 3: Budapest

Today you immerse yourself in the more vibrant, populous Pest starting at the market hall, well known for the vast array of produce and crafts on sale. Continue on to visit the ornate Great Synagogue which is the largest in Europe and its Jewish Museum. See the vast Heroes’ Square with its impressive Millennial Monument and St. Stephen's Basilica, the city's largest church. Later, venture inside the Franz Liszt Academy on a private tour. Founded in 1875 by the illustrious composer, this attractive Art Nouveau building is home to several valuable books and manuscripts from Liszt’s private collection and is Hungary’s most prestigious music university. Soak up the rich surrounds as your eyes are drawn to the stunning frescoes, Zsolnay porcelain and grand chandeliers at this leading concert venue. Afternoon at leisure.

Four Seasons Gresham Palace | Meals: B

Day 4: Budapest – Vienna, Austria

Travel with A&K's Concierge Rail service into Austria and the former capital of the Hapsburg dynasty, Vienna. Take a walking tour this afternoon of this elegant city visiting the Hofburg Imperial Palace, St Stephen's Cathedral and the famous 'Ringstrasse'. Continue on foot this afternoon to the Hofburg Palace visiting the Imperial Treasury, the Gothic St. Stephen's Cathedral with its glazed tile roof and the famous 'Ringstrasse' with its 19th century buildings. Later in the evening, attend a performance at the Vienna State Opera (additional cost).

Hotel Sacher | Meals: B

Day 5: Design Your Day Vienna

Explore the Austrian capital your way. Choose between a tour to Schönbrunn Palace, the summer home of the Habsburgs, which contains over 1400 rooms. Visit, among other attractions, the 'Hall of Mirrors' where Mozart performed for the Empress Maria Theresa when he was only six years old. Stroll through the extensive formal gardens and the Carriage Museum. Or take a scenic drive through the Vienna Woods for a beautiful view over the city below. As you emerge from the woods, the picturesque town of Klosterneuburg comes into sight. Steeped in history and culture, Klosterneuburg was the site of one of the most important Roman fortresses which later became a monastery, founded in 1133, under the Babenberg ruler Leopold III. Visit the medieval cloisters of the Augustinian abbey that dominates the town, with its treasured "Verdun Altar". This splendid example of Augustinian architecture is also the largest private wine producer in Austria. Be sure to sample some of the varietals before returning to Vienna.

Hotel Sacher | Meals: B

Day 6: Vienna – Prague, Czech Republic

You will be met and delivered to the railway station to board your train to Prague.

Four Seasons Prague | Meals: B

Day 7: Prague

This morning explore the ‘Golden City’ of Prague on foot starting at the Old Town Square with its network of narrow streets that make-up the heart of the city. Visit the Jewish Quarter, birthplace of Franz Kafka, the Jewish Museum, which houses the largest collection of Judaica in Europe, the Old-New Synagogue and the Jewish Cemetery. Later, focus on Prague’s musical heritage when you tour the city’s finest Neo-Classical building, the Estates Theatre, venue for the premiere of Mozart’s ‘Don Giovanni’ in 1787. Later step inside the Art Nouveau Municipal House which is home to the Czech National Symphony Orchestra and the glorious Smetana Concert Hall. Admire Karel Spillar’s stunning frescoes dotted around the walls, its elegant restaurants, music salons and American-style bar. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure.

Four Seasons Prague | Meals: B

Day 8: Prague

Prague’s Castle District is your destination this morning. Start off at Hradcany Castle, the seat of Bohemian kings and holy Roman emperors. Visit the Cathedral of St. Vitus, one of the finest and most richly endowed in central Europe and the Basilica of St. George, which was founded in 905. Amble along the Golden Lane, a row of tiny houses dating from the 16th century and visit the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Loreto, an important place of pilgrimage. Lastly explore the Strahov Monastery with a private tour of the ornate Strahov library. Afternoon at leisure.

Four Seasons Prague | Meals: B

Day 9: Depart Prague

Transfer to Prague Airport where your journey ends.

Meals: B

Map


POLAND
Prague
CZECH REPUBLIC
SLOVAKIA
Vienna
AUSTRIA
Budapest
HUNGARY
ARRIVE/DEPART
ROAD

Accommodation

Hotel Sacher, Vienna



The world-famous Hotel Sacher is as much part of Vienna as the State Opera, the Ferries Wheel, the Fiaker and the Lipizzaner Horses and is ideally located in the very heart of this fabulous city, opposite the State Opera and only five minutes from the 'Hofburg' Imperial Palace.

All the bedrooms have been equipped meticulously and are decorated with elaborate antiques and renowned paintings in order to discover the original Viennese art de vivre. The hotel features two gourmet restaurants, the 'Rote Bar' and the 'Grune Bar', offering original Austrian dishes. The Sacher Spa is located high above the roofs of the Austrian city. This distinctive Spa offers special treatments such as rejuvenating massages or regenerating body rituals.

Why we like it

- Perfectly located behind the Opera for walking through Vienna
- Founded in 1876 by Eduard Sacher, son of the creator of the famous Sacher Torte
- Classically elegant 5* hotel with great coffee house and spa
- No visit to the hotel is complete without sampling the famous Sacher Torte

Four Seasons Prague



Set in the lively Stare Mestro quarter, one of Prague's finest locations, the Four Seasons Prague is formed from three superbly restored historic buildings - each embodying a different architectural and interior design school. Accordingly, this hotel is a celebration of five centuries of Czech culture.

Inside, cool white marble and pale wood in the reception areas give way to darker, toned down Biedermeier-esque furnishings in the rooms. Naturally, the rooms and suites are beautifully appointed and very well equipped.

Away from the hotel, wander the historic streets, squares, museums and galleries of vibrant Prague, or further afield, explore the region's gothic palaces, imposing castles and ancient limestone caves.

Why we like it

- This magnificent hotel sits on the bank of the Vltava River close to the St. Charles Bridge and overlooking the historic Hradcany Castle
- Rooms and suites are spread across distinct buildings, each with their own style - from the Baroque, Neo-Classicist and Neo-Renaissance periods
- CottoCrudo showcases traditional and authentic Italian dishes with a modern touch
- The Spa offers a variety of massages in two private treatment rooms
- Facilities and activities include a well equipped fitness centre and Health Club, children's facilities and, nearby, four excellent golf courses

Four Seasons Gresham Palace, Budapest



A glittering jewel on the banks of the Danube, Four Seasons Hotel Gresham Palace is one of Europe's finest art nouveau buildings. Original features have been lovingly restored, re-inventing this architectural wonder as a vintage hotel with a modern twist - with sweeping staircases, stained glass, mosaics and soaring vaulted ceilings combining effortlessly with ultra-modern touches.

The Gresham Palace's 179 rooms, including 17 suites, reflect the grandeur and beauty of the art nouveau period and offer sensational views - taking in intimate interior courtyards, the sparkling Danube and Chain Bridge, the Royal Castle and the Buda Hills beyond. From the elegant Premier Rooms with marble bathrooms and immaculate styling to the gloriously decadent Royal Suite, reserved for VIPs, the hotel's rooms are flawlessly luxurious.

The Four Seasons offers an ideal base from which to explore a plethora of theatres, galleries and historic buildings - including the impressive Heroes' Square, where the Archangel Gabriel gazes down upon the Museum of Fine arts and the Kunsthalle from atop the towering Millennium Monument.

Why we like it

- The Gresham Palace offers spectacular view of the Danube, the Castle Palace and the hills of Buda
- Many of the rooms and suites reflect the architectural heritage of Gresham Palace, with vaulted ceilings and private step-out balconies
- The Gresham Restaurant offers modern Hungarian and International cuisine in an elegant setting
- The spa, inspired by Budapest's rich spa heritage, offers an extensive range of

massages and treatments
- The hotel has a rooftop, indoor pool with infinity edge

Abercrombie & Kent

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