

# EXETER INTERNATIONAL

The Bosphorus to the Baltic  
on board the Danube Express  
(Istanbul to Warsaw)



We are proud to introduce Europe's newest (yet historic) luxury train, the Danube Express. As the very first train to offer understated luxury, modern comforts and traditional service along the scenic routes of Central and Eastern Europe, the Danube Express is changing the way we experience travel in this part of the world. Finally, a train that makes getting there just as much fun as being there.

## Day 1

### *Istanbul*

Transfer to the Istanbul Sirkeci station for your late afternoon departure. Relax and settle in on board as the train travels towards Bulgaria and dinner is served in the dining car.

**Exeter Services:** Transfer

**Meals Included:** Dinner

## Day 2

### *Kazanlak & Veliko Turnovo*

This morning the Danube Express arrives in Kazanlak, capital of the Valley of the Roses and the center of rose oil production. You will have the opportunity to visit the Thracian tomb, a UNESCO World Heritage Site where the vaulted brickwork and splendid murals date back to the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC.

Return to the train and enjoy lunch as you journey over the Shipka mountain pass for an afternoon arrival in Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria's ancient capital which lies nestled in a picturesque mountain setting and stone houses are perched one above the other on the steep bank of the Yantra River. You will visit one of the seven ancient monasteries and the superbly preserved medieval Tsarevets Hill and Castle.

This evening you may wish to join your fellow travelers in the lounge car before dinner which is served on board as the train heads towards the Romanian border.

**Services provided by the Danube Express**

**Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner**

## Day 3

### *Brasov & Sigishoara*

As dawn breaks the track twists and turns towards Brasov where you will visit Bran Castle, a beautiful 14<sup>th</sup> century building situated amongst stunning mountain scenery.

Lunch is served on board the train as the journey continues to Sigishoara where you will be able to enjoy a walking tour of this wonderfully preserved medieval city, rumoured to be the birthplace of Dracula.

Back on board the Danube Express dinner is served as you travel on towards Hungary

**Services provided by the Danube Express**

**Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner**

## Day 4

### *Kecskemét – Lajosmizse – Budapest*

This morning enjoy the opportunity for some free time in Kecskemét the 8<sup>th</sup> largest town in Hungary with a Gothic style city hall, synagogue and ancient church.

The next stop will be in Lajosmizse, considered the meeting points for routes from the north, south, east and west and inhabited since the Bronze Age. You will have the opportunity to see a Putzsa equestrian display here.

Enjoy the lunch on board the train with an afternoon arrival in Budapest's Nyugati station followed by a reception in the Royal Waiting Room.

Transfer you to the Hotel Astoria and enjoy the evening at leisure.

### **Services provided by the Danube Express**

**Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch**

## Day 5

### *Budapest*

Today is at leisure to enjoy Budapest. You may wish to explore Hero's Square, the Jewish quarter, the parliament or the main cathedral or cross the Danube to visit St Matthias Church and breathtaking views from Fisherman's Bastion. If you wish to arrange for additional sightseeing with a private guide please contact us for details and pricing.

### **Services provided by the Danube Express**

**Meals Included: Breakfast at your hotel**

## Day 6

### *Budapest*

Today is at leisure in Budapest. We recommend a half day out of the city to visit the artist's colony at Szentendre. If you wish to arrange for additional sightseeing with a private guide please contact us for details and pricing.

### **Services provided by the Danube Express**

**Meals Included: Breakfast at your hotel**

## Day 7

### *Budapest - Bratislava*

This morning transfer to the rail station for a reception in the Royal waiting room and mid-morning departure of the Danube Express. Lunch is served on board the train as you travel through the Slovakian countryside following the Danube with views of the Visegrad Castle

This afternoon you will arrive in Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia. A tour of the city includes the Old Town and the stunning castle perched high above the city on a hill overlooking the Danube.

This evening relax with in lounge car before dinner as the journey continues into the Czech Republic through the Moravian countryside.

**Services provided by the Danube Express**

**Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

**Day 8**

*Krakow - Wieliczka*

This morning you will arrive in the city of Krakow, the ancient royal capital of Poland and now also a UNESCO World Heritage site. A guided tour provides an insight to the city's colourful past from Wawel Castle to the Old Town with its medieval Market Square, magnificent Cloth Hall and in St. Mary's church, an elaborate gothic altarpiece carved by Veit Stoss.

After lunch in a local restaurant travel by coach to Wieliczka, one of the world's oldest salt mines and operational from medieval times until the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Now a UNESCO World Heritage site its galleries display artworks sculpted in the salt.

Return to the train and enjoy dinner on board as the Danube Express heads north across the Polish plain.

**Services provided by the Danube Express**

**Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

**Day 9**

*Malbork & Gdansk*

This morning the Danube Express arrives in the charming city of Malbork, once the stronghold of the Teutonic Knights. You will have the opportunity to visit the castle, a magnificent 13<sup>th</sup> century edifice standing on the banks of the River Nogat and now a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Lunch will be served on board the train as you journey to Gdansk. Historically a free city, it became synonymous with freedom as the birthplace of Solidarity and home of the flame that set in motion the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe.

During your city tour you will visit the reconstructed Old Town with its picturesque Burger houses and quaint harbour, St Mary's which is the world's largest brick-built church and the Neptune Fountain.

This evening you may wish to join your fellow travelers in the lounge car for a drink before dinner is served in the restaurant car.

**Services provided by the Danube Express**  
**Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner**

## **Day 10**

*Warsaw*

Enjoy breakfast on board before arriving at Warsaw's Wschodnia station. Your driver will meet you on the platform for transfer to your hotel or the airport.

**Exeter Services: Transfer**  
**Meals Included: Breakfast**

**Danube Express – The Bosphorus to the Baltic (9 Nights) –  
Danube Express 3 Nights; Hotel Astoria, Budapest 3 Nights; Danube Express 3 Nights**

**Istanbul to Warsaw**

\$7,975.00                      June 24 – July 03, 2012

Single Supplement: \$3,675.00

All prices are per person, double occupancy.  
Transfers to and from hotel or airport are included.  
Prices do not include any airfare

**Pre and Post train options are available and may include hotels and sightseeing.  
Please contact Exeter International for more details.**

**Accommodations on board the Danube Express:**

Exeter International offers accommodations in Deluxe Class cabins each of which has two lower beds (convertible during the day to a sitting area), individually controlled air-conditioning, and en suite amenities including power showers. Deluxe Class cabins have an area of 83 square feet.



While on the train, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included in the beautifully appointed restaurant car. All guests have beer and wine with dinner included.

*Please note that sightseeing may vary dependent on dates of travel and closure days of certain museums or sites.*

*All arrangements are subject to availability and modification if necessary.*

*Prices are subject to change if necessary until paid in full.*

**Exeter International**

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