

THE MAGICAL WHITE CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR TOUR  
BRATISLAVA - BUDAPEST – CESKY KRUMLOV – PRAGUE -- VIENNA  
**Daily Itinerary**

**Included Features:**

**Meals: Full Buffet Breakfast & Dinners Daily, Xmas Dinner, New Year's Dinner inc drinks**

**Tours: All Sightseeing Tours and Entrance fees, Opera, Concert, Theatre – Premium tickets**

**Day 1: Thursday 25 December Depart Sydney**

Check in Counter at Sydney Airport opens at 16:50. Depart with Emirates Flight EK 419 at 19:50 via Dubai.

**Day 2: Friday 26 December - Bratislava**

Arrive Vienna at 12:20 lunch time. We transfer to Bratislava, capital of Slovakia only 64 km away. Here we check into the luxury 5 star Radisson Carlton hotel in the heart of the old town that is filled with beautifully restored baroque city palaces. Orientation tour on arrival.

**6 PM** Special Xmas Dinner and informal introduction night at the Hotel.

**Day 3: Saturday 27 December - Bratislava**

**10 AM** We start the tour with a visit to the Habsburg style Opera House next door to our hotel followed by a bus / walk sightseeing tour. Enjoy the unique atmosphere of this historic city with winding streets of the pedestrian Old Town, see the neoclassic Archbishop's Palace, medieval Michael's Gate and Tower, Bratislava Castle, symbol of Slovakian statehood, St. Martin's Cathedral, site of coronation for several Hungarian kings, the picturesque Old Town district and beautiful views of the Danube River. Afternoon at leisure.

**7 PM** Dinner at the Hotel

**Day 4 Sunday 28 December Bratislava - Budapest**

**11 AM** Depart for a 3 hour drive to Hungary and on to Budapest. Our luxury Spa Hotel Thermal is located in the heart of Budapest, on Margaret Island in the river Danube that divides Buda & Pest. This tranquil, picturesque island is named after the daughter of King Bela IV, who lived in a Dominican convent on the island in the C 13<sup>th</sup>. The ruins of the convent still stand near the Franciscan church. Explore the 100 year old park, the open air theatre and UNESCO listed water tower. After an orientation tour you can relax and unwind in one of the thermal pools where the healing properties of the waters are as preventative as they are soothing and revitalizing.

Every night in Budapest we dine at one of the hotel's two restaurants offering a superb buffet dinner - one with gypsy band and the other featuring a harp player; both sure to please lovers of folklore.

**8 PM** The day will finish with a **1 hour spectacular cruise with glass of champagne on the famous Danube River**

**Day 5 Monday 29 December Budapest**

After breakfast, indulge in a prepaid spa treatment. Take advantage of the hotel's exceptional spa facilities, before meeting our local guide.

**10 AM** Meet in the lobby for a 5 hour Grand City Tour of Budapest, home of C15<sup>th</sup> Castle also listed on UNESCO heritage list. We'll see the historic beauty spots. Stop at the Central Market Hall built in the neo Gothic style and marvel at the variety of fresh produce, flowers and souvenirs.

**Day 6 Tuesday 30 December Budapest**

**11 am** Indulge in a spa treatment & relax in the thermal pool before we depart to the spectacular neo-gothic Parliament House, Budapest landmark & home of the 1000-year old Holy **Crown** and coronation jewels. After the 1 hour tour we'll drive 26 km north of the city and visit the picturesque Baroque village of Szentendre. The village is famous for its colonies of artists, painters and sculptors both past and present. Here you'll have the chance to taste a real Hungarian goulash or traditional Hungarian fish soup.

**Day 7 -Wednesday 31 December New Year's Eve Budapest**

Enjoy a full day at leisure exploring or re-visiting your favourite places in this charming city. Take a bus outside the hotel to the Westend City centre, the biggest shopping centre in Budapest built in the unique Western Railway or visit the New York café on Erzsebet korut - the most beautiful of all the cafes with ornate golden decoration, marble, chandeliers & precious paintings.

In the afternoon rest, then get ready for tonight's New Year celebration.

**20:00 New Year's Eve Gala Dinner** with entertainment at our hotel!

**Day 8 – Thursday 1 January– New Year's Day Budapest – Cesky Krumlov**

After breakfast pack your luggage and be ready to depart straight after the midday concert at our hotel.

**12 noon** enjoy the New Year's Day concert with glass of champagne.

**1:15 SHARP** Depart across the border through farming country into Czech Republic's medieval town

of Cesky Krumlov. This stunning village is one of the most perfectly restored in Central Europe. We spend 2 nights at the Renaissance Hotel. Dinner at the local restaurant

**Day 9 Friday 2 January Cesky Krumlov**

**10 AM** Guided tour of this unique town. Marvel at the 82% of the town's building that are officially registered as cultural monuments. Afternoon at leisure. **6 PM** Dinner at the local restaurant.

**Day 10 Saturday 3 January Cesky Krumlov - Prague**

**10 AM** Depart for a 2 ½ hour drive to Prague, capital of the Czech Republic and check into Hotel Fenix, just a few steps from Wenceslas Square, city's most fashionable boulevard. Afternoon at leisure.

**4:45 PM** meet in the hotel lobby for a short walk to the Prague State Opera. We'll dine at the Garden at the Opera restaurant before attending a performance of Puccini's opera *La Boheme*.

**Day 11 Sunday 4 January Prague**

**10:00 AM** Meet our local guide for a Grand Tour of Prague. Uncover the rich history of this beautiful city and enjoy 3 course meal at the Novomestky Pivovar – Prague's first microbrewery and the chance for you to sample the delights of its own brand light and dark wheat beer. Tonight we attend the Black Light Theatre to enjoy poetry, humour and irony without using words!

**Day 12 Monday 5 January Prague**

**10:00 AM** Continue with walking tour of Prague & the famous Jewish Quarter also called Josefov where history dates back to 13<sup>th</sup> century – once the biggest Jewish ghetto in Europe. We visit some Synagogues including the Old New Synagogue completed in 1270 – Europe's oldest active Synagogue and also the C 15<sup>th</sup> Jewish cemetery . Dinner in the local restaurant.

**Day 13 Tuesday 6 January Prague**

A full day at leisure to further explore Prague. Stroll the city, enjoy the architecture and discover history dating back to the Roman Empire. Make sure to sample the Czech sausages & the local beer from one of many street vendors!

**6.30 PM** meet in the hotel lobby for a short stroll to a local restaurant for a traditional 3 course Czech dinner and enjoy one of Prague's fine jazz bands.

**Day 14 Wednesday 7 January Prague - Vienna**

**10 AM** Depart for Vienna where we check into Hotel City Central , ideally located in the heart of Vienna. After check in we'll have an orientation tour of the area.

**6:30 PM** Meet in the lobby and walk next door to the elegant Kronprinz Rudolph restaurant for dinner.

**Day 15 Thursday 8 January Vienna**

**10:00 AM** Meet in the lobby for a 5 hour Vienna City Tour including inside visit to Shonbrunn Palace, the former summer residence of the Habsburgs.

**6 PM** Short walk for Dinner to Vienna's oldest restaurant the historical Griechenbeisl – favoured by famous personalities, whose framed autographed photos on the wall ensure their presence lives on.

**Day 16 Friday 9 January Vienna - Vienna Woods**

**10 AM** Meet in the lobby for a 5 hour tour of the most beautiful sights of the southern part of the Vienna Woods. Highlights include the Cistercian Abbey at Heiligenkreuz, the former hunting lodge at Mayerling, (where Crown Prince Rudolf committed suicide with his mistress Baroness Vetchera) and, finally, some free time in the delightfully compact, historical spa town of Baden.

**6 PM** Meet in the lobby for a short bus drive to the City Park and the famous Kursalon -- where the first Johann Strauss' concert took place in October 1868. **6:30 PM** Dinner at the stylish Johann Restaurant is followed by a world class Strauss & Mozart concert in the Kursalon's historical setting.

**Day 17 Saturday 10 January Vienna**

Breakfast. A full day at your leisure to visit the museum quarter, The Spanish Riding School morning exercise at Hofburg, walking distance from our hotel. Explore the shops or just relax over an authentic Vienna coffee and cake in a sidewalk café.

**7 PM** Farewell Dinner at the Kronprinz Rudolf restaurant Hotel Stephanie – next door to our hotel.

**Day 18 Sunday 11 January Vienna - Dubai**

**11:30 AM** Depart for Vienna Airport for 3 PM flight .

**11:35 PM** Arrive Dubai. Sydney travelers will overnight in Dubai

**Day 19 Monday 12 January January Dubai - Sydney.**

**07:00 AM** After breakfast transfer to the airport for the 9 AM flight to Sydney

**Day 20 Arrive Sydney Tuesday 13 January at 08:45 am.**