



## December 2013 Cruise the Danube with the LSBA

The Louisiana State Bar Association is offering an exciting CLE opportunity while cruising the Danube River. Partnering with Vacations At Sea Travel, the LSBA program will be held Sunday, December 8 through Sunday, December 15, 2013 aboard the Viking Longship Skadi.

The eight-day itinerary takes passengers through four of Europe's most enchanting countries—Austria, Germany, Hungary and Slovakia—along the storied Danube River. Explore Budapest's imperial and Art Nouveau delights, and take a comprehensive tour of beautiful Bratislava's baroque and Gothic buildings and fountains. In Austria, discover why Vienna is "the waltz capital," sail through the spectacular Wachau Valley, and explore the cobblestone streets and charming town squares of Dürnstein. And in Germany, admire Passau's ancient fortress and Italianate architecture. Includes a tour of the 900-year-old baroque Benedictine abbey at Melk and a full-day excursion to the scenic city of Salzburg.

The itinerary will include tours of European Christmas markets. Here, the spirit and romance of the holidays come alive with the scent of gingerbread and the tunes of traditional carols around every corner. Whichever Christmas markets you visit, you'll enjoy a wonderful feast of tasty treats, as well as dozens of stalls brimming with unique and inspiring handcrafted gifts.



Launched in 2013, the Skadi offers state-of-the-art engineering and luxury. Choose from a variety of stateroom types, onboard entertainment options and ship locations from which you can enjoy sailing through the scenery, all the

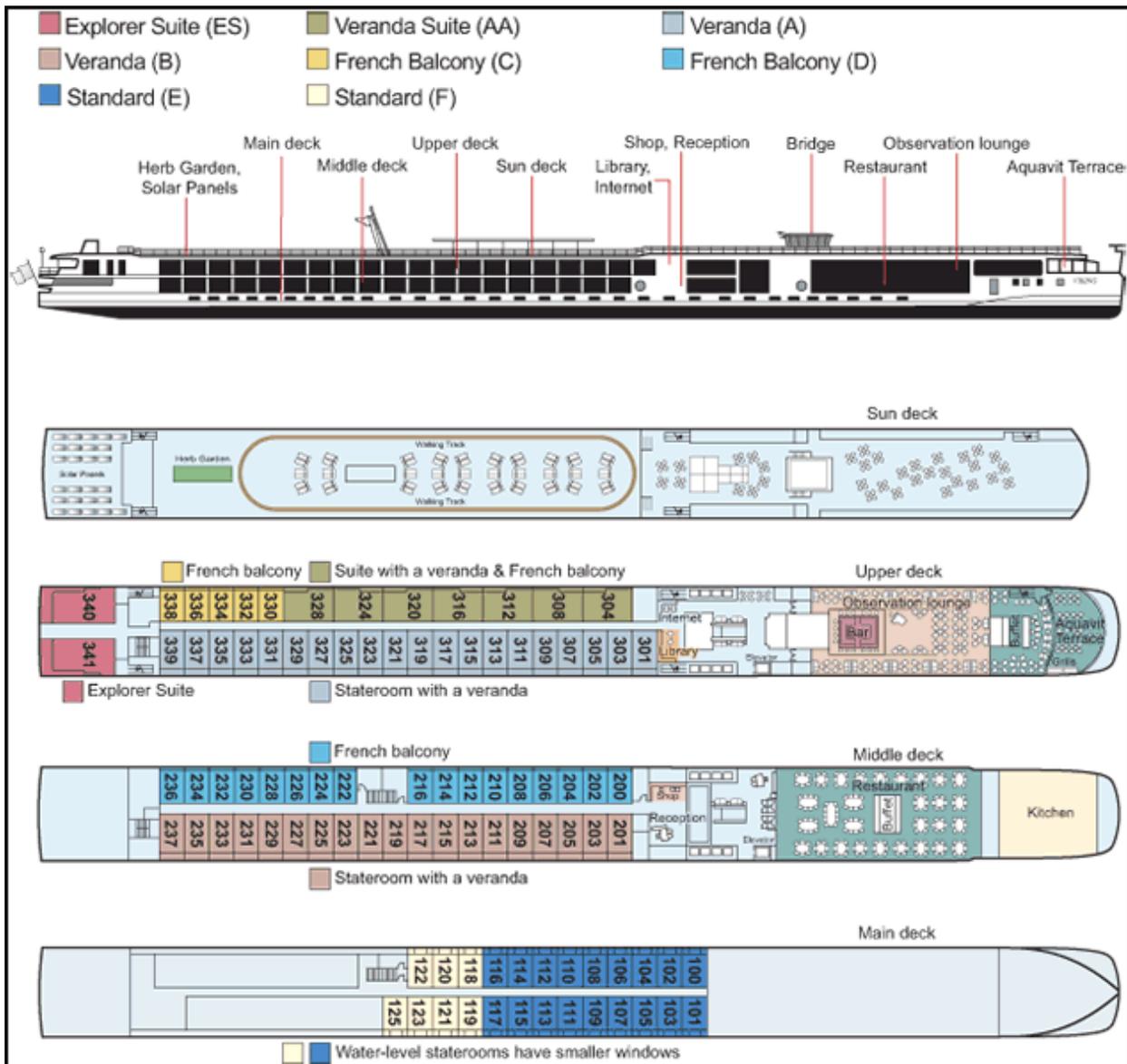
while enriching your time in some of Europe's most remarkable destinations. Enjoy the indoor-outdoor Aquavit Terrace at the bow of the ship, or relax on the Sun Deck. These "green" ships, featuring energy-efficient hybrid engines, solar panels and an organic herb garden, were named to honor prominent members of the Norse pantheon. Each ship carries 190 guests in comfortable, understated elegance, with hotel-style beds and amenities like 26-inch flat-panel TVs and in-room refrigerators.

Viking River Cruises is the World's Best River Cruise Line in the *Travel + Leisure* 2012 World's Best Awards readers' survey and has consistently placed high on competitive rankings like *Condé Nast*

Traveler's Gold List, Reader's Choice and Best Small Ships awards. Viking has also been honored by prestigious international organizations like the World Travel Awards. Travel agents have likewise recognized viking with awards including *TravelAge West's* Best Line for River Cruising and *Travel Weekly's* #1 River Cruise Line. And Viking is featured in National Geographic's *The 10 Best of Everything*.

Special LSBA pricing, available only through Vacations At Sea, represents a savings of \$125 per person off of the lowest available rates:

- Category A Veranda \$2,980.50 per person
- Category B Veranda \$2,780.50 per person
- Category D French Balcony \$2,430.50 per person
- Category E Standard \$1,830.50 per person



Cruise fare includes:

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|---------------------------|---|
| • Accommodations          | Seven (7) nights in river view stateroom                  |
| • Daily shore excursions  | Six (6) included guided tours                             |
| • Onboard meals           | Seven (7) breakfasts; five (5) lunches; seven (7) dinners |
| • PLUS                    | Visit four (4) Unesco World Heritage Sites                |
| • Port charges            | Included on all itineraries                               |
| • Complimentary beverages | Wine, beer & soft drinks with onboard dinner and lunch    |
| • LSBA CLE programming    | Specifics dates and times of programs to be announced     |
| • Internet access         | Free wi-fi; connection speed may vary                     |

Air taxes, fees, fuel surcharges and transfers are also included when airfare is purchased through Viking.

## ON BOARD VIKING

When you cruise with Viking you sail with the world's leading river cruise company, and you enjoy the rewards of more than 175 years of heritage and a level of expertise second to none. Inspiring destinations, beautifully crafted itineraries, expert tour guides, luxurious ships, fine cuisine, excellent service, remarkable value – Viking's success is defined by all these things, and something else, too: personal attention to every detail.

Sleek and sophisticated, the elegantly understated interiors offer a serene environment in which to unwind and watch the world go by. A choice of lounge areas, bars and a well-stocked library offer plenty of room in which to relax.

### Staterooms

Spacious, light and airy, every stateroom is beautifully appointed, with elegant décor. Cool cottons, warm wools, furniture crafted from the finest materials and televisions with CNN, CNBC and ESPN make it everything you wish for. With hotel-style beds, clever storage and spacious closets, all rooms have a private bath with shower, and most have individual climate control. As always, it is the little things that count: complimentary bottled water, wooden clothes hangers, premium bath products and comfortable slippers to slide into after a busy day exploring.

Whether you choose a stateroom with a picture window, French balcony with sliding glass doors or a suite with your own veranda, every room makes the most of the spectacular scenery. For a lovely breath of fresh air, the majority of windows open; suites and category A and B staterooms are on the upper decks for best views.

### Dining

Viking's pledge to bring you exceptional choice extends to your dining experience, with a variety of cuisine that you can enjoy where and when you like. Have a leisurely breakfast in the restaurant. Or, take a plate of freshly baked pastries to the sun deck. For a lunch less ordinary, enjoy one of the daily specials in the restaurant or something lighter in the lounge. Lighter choices, vegetarian dishes – Viking chefs work with nutritionists to provide a selection of balanced options. Help yourself to 24-hour cappuccino, coffee or tea.

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## DANUBE WALTZ ITINERARY

(MEALS INCLUDED – B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D = Dinner)

### Day 1 Passau

Arrive in Munich, then transfer to your ship in Passau.\* After boarding, use free time to explore—or join our “welcome walk” to stretch your legs and start getting oriented. (D)

### Day 2 Passau

Today you will take a walking tour of this elegant town, called the Dreiflüssestadt (City on Three Rivers), which is situated at the confluence of the Danube, Ilz and Inn Rivers. You will see the impressive *Veste Oberhaus*, a 13th-century fortress that served as a bishop’s stronghold for several centuries. This afternoon, you are free to explore Passau. See the sights and experience the local culture, or simply relax on board before dinner. (B, L, D)

### Day 3 Linz & Salzburg

Today’s activity is an excursion to the legendary Austrian city of Salzburg, known as the location for the film, *The Sound of Music*. Ride through the scenic Austrian countryside to Salzburg’s Old Town area, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and take a walking tour featuring the birthplace of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and the Hohensalzburg Fortress just above the city center. Take free time to explore Salzburg’s narrow cobbled streets and colorful buildings and get lunch in one of the charming cafés; return aboard for dinner and a late-evening departure. (B, D)



### Day 4 Melk & Dürnstein

This morning, visit the 900-year-old abbey at Melk, a Benedictine monastery that was originally one of Leopold II’s castles. See its spectacular wall and ceiling frescoes, note the library’s comprehensive collection of medieval manuscripts and admire the graceful spiral staircase. After lunch aboard, we stop at the picturesque Wachau Valley town of Dürnstein, where you can explore on your own, or you may choose to sample some local vintages from this famous wine-producing region on an optional wine-tasting. Dine aboard as you depart. (B, L, D)

### Day 5 Vienna

Today we tour the Austrian capital of Vienna. Ride along the *Ringstrasse*, which replaced the city walls in the mid-19th century. See some of the city’s baroque architecture, including the world-famous Opera House, St. Stephan’s Cathedral and Hofburg Palace. Return to your ship for lunch. The rest of the day is yours to further explore—as always, your Program Director can help you plan your free time. Or you may take an optional tour to Schönbrunn Palace, the Versailles of Vienna, graced by a number of formal gardens, classical statuary, the world’s oldest zoo and the “Roman ruin” erected in 1778. After dinner, relax or enjoy an optional classical concert. (B, L, D)

### Day 6 Bratislava

Arrive in Bratislava this morning and embark on a walking tour of Slovakia’s charming capital—the only national capital that borders two other countries, Austria and Hungary—with a long and fascinating history. See attractions like the medieval Town Hall complex and fortifications at Michael’s Tower, baroque Jesuit

Church and Gothic St. Martin's Cathedral, and pass by several Habsburg-era baroque palaces before returning to your ship for lunch and departure. Enjoy relaxing Danube cruising; sail into Budapest late this evening. (B, L, D)

**Day 7 Budapest**

Today we visit highlights of both the older "Buda" and more cosmopolitan "Pest" sides of the city, starting with Pest's National Opera House and historic Heroes' Square. In Buda, walk along Fishermen's Hill to Fishermen's Bastion and Matthias Church. Enjoy lunch aboard with the rest of the day to explore on your own—you may wish to visit the Art Deco Gellért Spa or one of the many other lavish facilities in this "City of Healing Waters." Return to your ship for a traditional Hungarian farewell dinner. (B, L, D)



**Day 8 Budapest**

After breakfast, disembark and proceed to the airport for your return flight.\* Or, extend your journey with 2 additional nights in Budapest, giving yourself more time to explore the Hungarian capital. (B)

**BOOK YOUR LSBA CLE ADVENTURE TODAY**

A deposit of \$500 per person plus the passport names and dates of birth of all passengers are required to hold a cabin. Space is extremely limited and categories can sell out. Final payments must be paid by June 20, 2013. Changes or cancellations are subject to penalties imposed by both Viking and Vacations At Sea.

Travel insurance is available through the cruise line or an independent company. Viking also offers airfare and transfers, and pre- and post-cruise hotel stays. Information is available through Vacations At Sea. For more information or to book, contact Jill Wall at 504-482-1572; 800-749-4950; or [jwall@seavacations.com](mailto:jwall@seavacations.com).