

Wednesday, August 13th, 2014

Today's Weather: Cloudy
11 – 18 °C / 52 – 64 °F

6:00 - 11:00 AM

Café Breakfast: Coffee, juice and pastries are available at the coffee station in front of The Lounge.

7:00 - 10:00 AM

Continental Breakfast: A selection of beverages and breakfast items are available on The Aquavit Terrace.

7:30 - 10:00 AM

Breakfast: Enjoy a buffet breakfast and a choice of dishes cooked to order in The Restaurant.

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Concierge Desk Hours: Should you need any assistance during your stay onboard please visit the Concierge.

10:00 AM

Nautical Talk: Join us in the Lounge for a nautical Q&A with our staff.

12:00 PM

Lunch: Join us for lunch in The Restaurant.

12:00 PM

Café Lunch: If you prefer, enjoy a lighter, buffet-style lunch on The Aquavit Terrace.

1:00 PM

Welcome to Regensburg: *Viking Atla* arrives in Regensburg, Germany.

1:30 - 3:00 PM

Walking Tour: Regensburg. Join us for a fascinating walk around this historic town.

5:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Concierge Desk Hours: Should you need any assistance during your stay onboard please visit the Concierge.

5:30 - 7:00 PM

Cocktail Hour: Enjoy one of our cocktails and live music in The Lounge.

6:45 PM

Daily Briefing: Program Director Caspar invites you to the Lounge to find out about tomorrow's events and all upcoming optional excursions.

7:00 PM

Dinner: We invite you to join us for dinner in The Restaurant.

7:00 PM

Bar Menu: Enjoy a casual meal on The Aquavit Terrace.

9:00 PM

Live Music: Enjoy an after-dinner drink while listening to the "Sound of Europe: From the Danube to the Adriatic Sea."

10:15 PM

Back On Board: Please be back on board the ship by this time. We will depart Regensburg for Passau shortly thereafter.

REGENSBURG



Did you know? St. Peter's Cathedral

On your walking tour of Regensburg, you will visit this prime example of Gothic architecture in Bavaria. Also known as Dom St. Peter or Regensburg Cathedral, the church has existed since about 700 AD; however, due to several devastating fires, the church was rebuilt and the current high-Gothic-style building was completed in 1320. The cathedral is 279 feet long and 115 feet wide; the nave is 105 feet high and the twin towers are almost 350 feet high—you can see the cathedral from anywhere in the Old Town area.

The exterior features many statues, nearly all of them illustrating biblical themes. Unfortunately one of them is a Judensau, depicting Jews suckling on a large sow, an insulting image placed on the south side facing the old Jewish Quarter. The interior of the cathedral is covered with sculpted imagery depicting Saints Peter and Paul, Saint Ursula, the Virgin Mary and the famous *Smiling Angel*. Everywhere you look, you will see spectacular stained-glass windows, most of which were installed in the 14th century and survive to this day. The windows depict apostles and saints, the life of the Virgin Mary and scenes from the legend of Saint Catherine.

The cathedral is the burial place of several important bishops, including Johann Michael von Sailer (1751–1832) and Georg Michael Wittman (1760–1833); Archbishop Michael Buchberger (1874–1961); and Prince-Bishop Cardinal Philipp Wilhelm von Bayern (1576–1598), who became prince-bishop of Regensburg at the age of 3 and was the brother of Duke Maximilian I of Bavaria.

Concierge tips

Get lost! Wander the town's maze of historic laneways, and stop for refreshment in a leafy beer garden along the riverbank, beneath the soaring spires of the Dom.

Take some time after your guided tour to return to the Alte Kapelle, a church across the street from St. Peter's Cathedral. While it not generally included in the guided tour because it hard to visit with groups, its white-and-gold baroque interior is spectacular.

Word of mouth

"In Regensburg, on the Danube, it was worth the walk across town to discover St. Emmeram Basilica. Absolutely beautiful and awe-inspiring inside."

—Paul Eskridge

IMPORTANT SHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

Your Viking ATLA team wishes you a happy and memorable day!

Ship Contacts:

Reception: +49 152 225 380 48
Program Director: +49 152 225 381 77

Ship Location:

Regensburg,
Donaulände



Fast facts: River Danube

- The Danube is Europe's second-longest river, after the River Volga. It runs 1,785 miles from the Black Forest in Germany to the Black Sea.
- It flows through or along the borders of 10 countries: Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Serbia, Croatia, Bulgaria, Moldova, Ukraine and Romania.
- It travels through four European capital cities: Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest and Belgrade.
- The Danube Delta is the second largest in the world and is still growing.
- Approximately one third of the river's total length is in Hungary. Hungary's capital, Budapest, is sometimes referred to as the "Queen of the Danube."
- As far back as the 7th century BC, Greek sailors were navigating the Danube, and in Roman times, it served as the northern boundary of the vast Roman Empire.
- The very first river cruises on the Danube took place in the early 19th century.

Agnes Bernauer

In the 15th-century world of strict class conventions, the marriage between a servant girl and a duke seemed only possible in fairy tales. Indeed, marrying for love was unheard of if it meant crossing social boundaries. So the marriage of the Duke of Bavaria, Albert III, to the commoner Agnes Bernauer was more than scandalous: it branded the bride as an enemy of the state—especially, some argue, because she was not considered a beautiful woman.

Agnes had been a servant when the Duke introduced himself at a jousting tournament in Ausburg. Against the wishes of his father, Duke Ernest, Albert married Agnes sometime around 1428. They soon had a daughter and lived in Vohburg and Straubing. Despite her stigma, Agnes became a member of the Munich court, where her self-confidence irritated Albert's sister, Countess Beatrix.

Ernest wanted Albert to marry another duke's daughter, and he believed this shameful marriage would threaten the royal line of succession. While Albert was away on a hunting expedition arranged by his father, Ernest had Agnes arrested and condemned for witchcraft. She was thrown off a bridge in Straubing into the Danube, but she managed to undo her leg bindings and swim free. Her escape, however, was only temporary—when she reached the shore, her executioner was waiting, and he drowned her. Perhaps to appease his son, Ernest built a chapel in Agnes's name in the cemetery of the Church of St. Peter at Straubing, and had her life-sized image carved into a red-marble headstone. Today, poets and writers have immortalized her in many works, and the people of Bavaria still celebrate the memory of the "Angel of Ausburg."



Zoom in: Regensburg

Historic and vibrant, Regensburg is one of Bavaria's most beautiful cities and among the best-preserved medieval towns in Europe. The city is the oldest on the Danube—its history dates back nearly 2,000 years. Still standing are the Roman gates, Porta Pretoria, built in 179 AD. The city center escaped damage in the war, and its architectural gems and half-timbered buildings exude a timeless charm.

Regensburg's Gothic cathedral, **Dom St. Peter** with its twin Renaissance towers, is among the grandest in Bavaria. The vast interior of this twin-spired 13th-century landmark features magnificent stained-glass windows. Construction of the Cathedral was completed in 1525. If you're lucky, you will hear the divine voices of the famous Regensburger Domspatzen ("Cathedral Sparrows"), the Boys' Choir.

The Old Town Hall—**Altes Rathaus**—was the seat of the Reichstag ("government") for almost 150 years. Now, it is home to a tourist office and museum. Guided tours take visitors to the Reichssaal ("Imperial Hall") and the torture chamber in the basement. **St. Emmeram's Basilica** was a Benedictine monastery founded in 739. In 1812, some of the buildings were granted to the Princes of Thurn und Taxis, and the **Schloss Thurn und Taxis** was built. Visitors can tour the exquisite cloister of the abbey as well as the elaborate castle grounds.

A miracle of engineering in its time, the Steinerne Brücke ("Stone Bridge") was built between 1135 and 1146 and was the only solid crossing along the Danube for more than 800 years. The knights of the second and third Crusades used it to cross the Danube on their way to the Holy Land. Regensburg's **Old Stone Bridge** is a masterpiece of medieval construction and, along with the Cathedral, is an emblem of the city.

Wander the city's maze of lanes, and pause for a drink in one of the welcoming bars or cafés.

A taste of Germany: Alte Würstküche

Regensburg is home to Germany's oldest restaurant, Alte Würstküch, or "Old Sausage Kitchen." Enjoy a delicious, finger-sized sausages grilled over beechwood and served with sauerkraut and sweet grainy mustard. The small kitchen and dining room has been in the same spot since 1135. Best of all, it is located right on the river, walking distance from your ship.