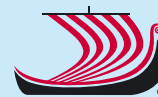


# Why Viking River Cruises?



**VIKING**  
**RIVER CRUISES**  
*Exploring the World in Comfort®*



**EXPERIENCE:** With over 175 years heritage in European river cruising, Viking River Cruises is by far the most knowledgeable company in the business. Over half a million passengers have enjoyed superb service and magical journeys with Viking through Europe, Russia and China.

**WORLD'S LARGEST FLEET:** Viking River Cruises owns 19 deluxe vessels built specifically for river cruising. All ships are fully operated by their own Swiss hotel management and staff.

**ELEGANT, COMFORTABLE SHIPS:** Viking ships are Scandinavian in design, with open airy interiors and panoramic views from the picture window of your outside stateroom. All rooms have private facilities, climate control, telephone, satellite TV and quality amenities.

Each ship has an impressive observation lounge, restaurant with expansive picture windows, sun deck with 360-degree views and a cosy library. There is free wireless Internet [bring laptop] in Europe, and in Russia and China computers are available in Internet cafés at a nominal charge.

The Viking Swiss management team recruits and trains its entire staff from stateroom stewards up to Hotel Managers and Cruise Directors to ensure you receive the very best level of service.

**BEST SHIPS:** Viking's 5-star ships in China are the best on the Yangtze River, with a balcony in every spacious stateroom. In Russia, Viking Surkov and Kirov have had complete refurbishments and upgrades to offer by far the very best cruise ships available. And in 2009 the new Viking Legend joined the European fleet – a state-of-the-art vessel featuring deluxe staterooms with French balconies or picture windows. Viking River Cruises is the leader in the design and building of new river cruise vessels.

**OLD WORLD HIGHLIGHTS®:** This programme complements the shore excursions with onboard learning and enhancement. Hands on cooking classes, Tai Chi lessons and seminars on Russian history and culture are just a few examples of the activities. Travel isn't only about seeing the sights; it's about discovering its people, culture and history – exploring its very heart.

**COMPREHENSIVE SHORE EXCURSIONS:** Each day you will enjoy at least one escorted shore excursion and in most ports there is also free time for you to just relax on board or explore the city at your leisure. And now there are portable headsets, to ensure that you hear your guide's comments no matter where you stand.

**DINING:** For breakfast choose from fruit, cereals, pastries, cheeses or many hot dishes made to order. For lunch, select from the soup and sandwich bar or choose from the luncheon menu. At dinner a five-course menu awaits with regional specialties like Viennese schnitzel or Barbary duck. Seating is free style. Crisp tablecloth linens, sparkling china and crystal, flowers and candles, complemented by impeccable service, guarantee that dining with Viking is an elegant experience.

**CRUISE ITINERARIES:** Viking River Cruises offers by far the largest and most comprehensive range of cruise itineraries of any operator. Choose from Amsterdam to Budapest, Kiev to Odessa, St Petersburg to Moscow, Budapest to Nuremberg, Avignon to Chalon-sur-Saône, five China itineraries and many, many more. Nobody offers you greater choice.

## EARLYBIRD DISCOUNT

Save \$3,000 per couple

Book & pay in full by 18 December 2009

Applies to all cruises & cruisetours

Includes 2 complimentary glasses of wine with dinner on board

## PAST PASSENGER DISCOUNT

Save \$400 per couple

If you book within one calendar year of your previous trip and \$200 per couple if you book within two calendar years

## EXCLUSIVE FLEXI-BONUS

to spend on what you wish – accommodation, private sightseeing, transfers to and from the ship or simply deduct the amount from the cost of your cruise. Ask for details.