# Uniworld's inaugural RIVERS OF THE WORLD

47 Days • Cairo to Lisbon • May 20 to July 5, 2023

















Set sail with Uniworld on our first annual Rivers of the World cruise. This 46-night journey will take you through golden deserts, sun-drenched Iberian locales, Alpine lake towns, vineyard-covered river valleys and so much more, all on one trip.

Along the way, you'll find yourself immersed in a plethora of enticing destinations on our longest journey yet. Rivers of the World guests will experience an expertly curated combination of five of our most popular itineraries, enhanced with exclusive inclusions and events.

In addition to Welcome and Farewell Celebrations, each leg of this journey will include an incredible local highlight experience, carefully selected for its cultural importance:

Join an Egyptologist to marvel at the temples of Abu Simbel, masterpieces of ancient Egyptian architecture and modern preservation efforts.

During your stay in the alpine lakes region of Ticino, walk through beautiful Lugano, see the lakeside paradise of Ascona and soak in the natural beauty of he Verzasca Valley.

Embrace the imperial flair of Vienna with a private evening visit to the famous Schönbrunn Palace complex.

Sit for a show at the Moulin Rouge, a particularly exciting way to immerse yourself in a singular piece of French Belle Époque history.

Visit two remarkable destinations on the Portuguese Riviera: Sintra, a resort escape built for royalty, and the classic beach town of Cascais.



1300 552 032 info@chriswatsontravel.com.au

#### **SNAPSHOT**

7 nights on the S.S. Sphinx

**7** nights on the S.S. La Venezia

7 nights on the S.S. Maria Theresa

7 nights on the S.S. Joie de Vivre

7 nights on the S.S. São Gabriel

#### 10 countries

**4** nights in Cairo at the Four Seasons Hotel Cairo with breakfast

**2** nights in Lugano at the Grand Hotel Villa Castagnola with breakfast

**2** nights in Milan at The Rosa Grand Milano with breakfast

**3** nights in Lisbon at the Corinthia (or similar) with breakfast

77 onshore experiences, all fully hosted by English-speaking local experts or Egyptologists

31 UNESCO Heritage Sites

**113** Meals (including 9 Captain's Welcome Receptions and Farewell Dinners Onboard)

Special Traveling Concierge just for Rivers of the World guests

# **BONUS:**

Exclusive \$250 Additional Discount

# 11 Days • Egypt • S.S. Sphinx



#### Day 1 | May 20 | Cairo

Arrive at the Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza. Lush surroundings and elegant design set this waterfront property in heart of Cairo apart.

# Day 2 | May 21 | Cairo

The ancient quarter of Cairo is intense—the colors, the sounds, the density of people—and it's likely been this way for thousands of years. Your local expert will show you a 12th-century citadel, the beautiful Alabaster Mosque and an unsurpassed collection of priceless artifacts, including mind-boggling treasures once buried with the boy king Tutankhamen.

### Day 3 | May 22 | Cairo, Fly to Luxor (Embark), Dendera

Prepare to be amazed at the legendary Temple of Karnak, a massive and absolutely astounding site, with gigantic columns, broad avenues lined with stone sphinxes and halls of truly epic proportions. This evening, you'll revel in a Welcome Reception and Dinner onboard.

# Day 4 | May 23 | Dendera, Luxor

Like its twin shrine, the Temple of Karnak, the Temple of Luxor stands on the site of ancient Thebes, the once fl ourishing capital of Egypt's New Kingdom. It was built over hundreds of years and, even in ruins, it is still an extraordinary place. You'll also visit the Temple of Hathor, dedicated to the goddess of love and beauty.

# Day 5 | May 24 | Luxor, Kom Ombo

The word "colossal" will take on a whole new meaning after today's excursion to the gigantic twin statues known as the Colossi of Memnon. And that's just the beginning—you'll also visit the temple of one of Egypt's rare female pharaohs as well as the Valley of the Kings, used as a royal burial place for nearly 500 years and where the mummifi ed remains of Tutankhamen are on display.

#### Day 6 | May 25 | Kom Ombo, Aswan

After visiting a temple dedicated to a crocodile god today (don't miss the display of some of the 300 mummified crocs found in the local area), hop aboard a small boat for a bird-watching excursion along the Nile.

### Day 7 | May 26 | Aswan

Today is an epic day, fi lled with wonders from start to fi nish. You'll visit a marvel of modern engineering—the Aswan High Dam—as well as the Unfi nished Obelisk and the beautiful Philae Temple complex, which was moved from one island to another back in the 1970s. But wait, there's more. You'll also take a ride in a felucca—a traditional Egyptian sailboat—and enjoy afternoon tea at a famous hotel depicted in Agatha Christie's novel Death on the Nile.

#### Day 8 | May 27 | Aswan, Edfu

You'll explore ancient monuments across Egypt as you cruise down the Nile, but the most awe-inspiring of all is the massive complex of Abu Simbel. We chose this site as one of our Rivers of the World included highlights in part for the sheer magnitude of the project and its place in Egyptian history, but also the romance behind its story. Of the twin temples of Abu Simbel, one is for Ramses II and one is for his wife, Nefertiti, whose name now carries at least as much weight as her husband's. This makes the complex kindred to the Taj Mahal, though the twin mausoleum for that project was never built.

#### Day 9 | May 28 | Esna, Luxor

On today's excursion, you'll learn how the Temple of Esna was buried under debris for many centuries and is one of the last great Egyptian temples ever built. Your Egyptologist guide will share all sorts of fascinating insights about this significant cultural site and show you the façade bearing the last known hieroglyphic inscriptions ever recorded in Egypt.

# Day 10 | May 29 | Luxor (Disembark), Fly to Cairo

Disembark in Luxor and transfer to the airport for your return fl ight to Cairo. Then, check in to the Four Seasons Hotel at Nile Plaza where you'll have time to relax before dinner.

# Day 11 | May 30 | Cairo

It's a day of Bucket List Moments today as we venture to Ancient Memphis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with a number of amazing monuments to see—including the enigmatic Great Sphinx. After seeing the pyramids from afar last evening, you'll have a thrilling opportunity to view them from an up-close perspective, the only way to fully appreciate their remarkable size and grandeur.



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# 11 Days • Italy & Switzerland • S.S. La Venezia

#### Day 12 | May 31 | Cairo, Fly to Milan, Transfer to Lugano

After your day of travel, check into the Grand Hotel Villa Castagnola, an exclusive stay for our Rivers of the World guests. Surrounded by expansive subtropical gardens, this Italian-style mansion boasts incredible views overlooking its greenery and the lake whose shore is mere steps away from the entrance. It's truly the perfect complement to our Northern Italian journeys, in that it mixes the Bella Vita atmosphere of the Venetian islands with the resort-escape surroundings captured so well by the towns of the Swiss Alps.

#### Day 13 | June 1 | Lugano

Enjoy a full day to experience the pretty lake town of Lugano, nestled into the Alps in Switzerland's Italian-speaking region. Palm trees, spectacular mountain backdrops and glittering lake views abound in this secluded resort city

### Day 14 | June 2 | Lugano, Transfer to Milan

On the way to Milan, explore the resort towns of Como and Bellagio. After, check into the Starhotel Rosa Grand Milano, a stylish luxury property situated right in the historic Piazza Fontana, making it an easy walk from such iconic architectural wonders as Il Duomo.

#### Day 15 | June 3 | Milan

Milan is a mecca for Italian fashionistas, famous for its innovative design and stylish fl air. Venture inside the city's hulking Gothic cathedral, as well as its cathedral to capitalism, Europe's oldest shopping arcade. The highlight today is Da Vinci's revolutionary "The Last Supper" mural.

# Day 16 | June 4 | Milan (Verona/Valpolicella), Venice (Embark)

En route to Venice, you'll stop in the literary hometown of Shakespeare's famously star-crossed lovers to see the sights. Later, enjoy lunch at a historic wine estate owned by descendants of Dante and learn about one of the most unique Italian wines, Amarone di Valpolicella.

# Day 17 | June 5 | Venice

With your early morning arrival at Doge's Palace, you'll be able to marvel at the estate in total peace. Wander through a Venetian neighborhood and experience daily life in an authentic Venetian residential quarter. Later in the evening, cap the day off with a private once-in-a-lifetime experience at an after-hours lighting ceremony inside St. Mark's Basilica without the crowds.

# Day 18 | June 6 | Venice, Mazzorbo (Burano)

Start your morning in one of two of the Veneto region's UNESCO World Heritage cities, Vicenza or Padua. In the afternoon, you'll have the opportunity to join us on a walk in Venice to meet a local gondola artisan before reboarding the ship for scenic sailing across the lagoon as we head towards Mazzorbo and Burano.





#### Day 19 | June 7 | Mazzorbo, Burano, Chioggia

Spend the day exploring the northern lagoon of Venice and its captivating islands. Start with a visit to Torcello's famous basilica with an art historian, then stroll through the agricultural island of Mazzorbo and the rainbow-hued island of Burano during your free time after lunch. Alternatively, you can take the afternoon to see the renowned glassblowing artisans of Murano at work.

#### Day 20 | June 8 | Chioggia

Today, you'll admire the greatest sites of charming and coastal Chioggia, including a stop at the local and lively market.

#### Day 21 | June 9 | Chioggia, Venice

This morning, join a sailing excursion where you'll explore the Po Delta where the Po River and the Adriatic Sea meet. Later, during lunch, we sail back to Venice.

# Day 22 | June 10 | Venice

As your water taxi glides past narrow side canals and the Canal Grande, you'll arrive in style at the Rialto Bridge and Fondaco dei Tedeschi. The iconic stone arch bridge sits at the narrowest point of the Canal Grande and holds numerous shops and restaurants.



# 7 Days • Hungary, Austria and Germany • S.S. Maria Theresa



#### Day 23 | June 11 | Venice (Disembark), Fly to Budapest (Embark)

Disembark the ship and transfer to Venice Marco Polo International Airport for your flight to Budapest. After landing at Budapest Ferenc Liszt International Airport, you will transfer to your next ship to continue your journey.

#### Day 24 | June 12 | Budapest

Called the "Queen of the Danube," Budapest presents an array of architectural styles that reveal its long and varied history. You'll have two enticing ways to experience the city—a panoramic guided tour aboard a motorcoach with a visit to the Opera House, or discover the Budapest that the residents love on a special walking tour with a tasting of local treats.

# Day 25 | June 13 | Bratislava, Vienna

Your ship sets sail from Bratislava later this morning and heads for Vienna today. You may relax onboard all day, perhaps enjoying a drink on the Sun Deck and taking in the scenery as the ship winds its way along the Danube Bend. When you arrive in Vienna, you'll cap off your day with a private concert of Mozart and Strauss at a stunning Viennese concert hall.



### Day 26 | June 14 | Vienna

Vienna is a cultural treasure trove revered for its art and music (and sinfully rich pastries). Experience the "City of Waltzes" with your choice of tours, as well as an expertly led tour of an extraordinary collection of art at the renowned Vienna Art History Museum.

#### Day 27 | June 15 | Dürnstein, Melk

Dürnstein is one of our favorite towns along the Danube, a lovely place to wander cobblestone lanes, browse quaint shops and maybe hike up to a ruined castle You can also opt for a tasting or learn all about the world's costliest spice from the Wachau Valley's only saff ron grower. Later, visit the 900-year-old Melk Abbey and its extraordinary baroquestyle library.

# Day 28 | June 16 | Linz (Salzburg)

Salzburg, the birthplace of Mozart, is nestled in a glorious alpine setting. Spend a full day exploring with a local guide here, with a focus on the city's connection to music. Alternatively, see the sights of Linz and visit a local family at their farm in the countryside.

### Day 29 | June 17 | Passau

Passau is a crossroads in more ways than one, as three rivers meet here and three nations nearly do, making for a fascinating cultural mosaic. Get to know the town and its main claim to fame—Europe's largest pipe organ—or head out into nature with an invigorating riverside hike or bike ride.



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# 7 Days • France • S.S. Joie de Vivre



#### Day 30 | June 18 | Passau (Disembark), Fly to Paris (Embark)

Disembark the *S.S. Maria Theresa* and transfer to Munich Airport for your flight to Paris. Upon arrival at Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport, transfer to the *S.S. Joie de Vivre* to continue on to the next leg of your extraordinary journey.

#### Day 31 | June 19 | La Roche-Guyon, Vernon, Giverny

Visit the hilltop Château de La Roche-Guyon, surrounded by beautiful gardens and off ering sweeping views over the Seine. Later, you can visit the home and gardens of Claude Monet. Or take in the beautiful French countryside in a more invigorating way, with a guided bike ride from Vernon to Giverny.

# Day 32 | June 20 | Rouen

Walk in the footsteps of greatness in Normandy's medieval capital, a city with a historic quarter that remains amazingly intact. From the cathedral Monet painted dozens of times to the cross marking the spot where Joan of Arc was martyred, Rouen is a treasure trove for the culturally curious.

# Day 33 | June 21 | Caudebec-en-Caux (Honfl eur or Étretat)

Caudebec-en-Caux, a lovely little town on the right bank of the Seine Estuary, is your base for one of two very diff erent excursions. You could drive through the beautiful Calvados countryside to Honfl eur, a delightful seaside harbor and city of painters, or head to the windy cliff s of Étretat for a round of golf.



#### Day 34 | June 22 | Rouen (Normandy Beaches)

There are moments when we travel that move us on an otherworldly level—experiences that stir a profound emotional connection. The Normandy beaches certainly have that eff ect. On your full-day outing, you'll visit Normandy's beaches, including Utah Beach and Ste-Mère-Église, with a choice to venture to either the American, British and Australian or Canadian beaches. After, you'll go to the American cemetery and partake in a private ceremony at the Omaha Beach Memorial.

# Day 35 | June 23 | Mantes-la-Jolie (Versailles)

How did France's rulers live over the centuries? Step into the private rooms of the Palace of Versailles, the lavish palace built by the Sun King, to find out.

# Day 36 | June 24 | Paris

Whether you're a fi rst-time visitor to the "City of Light" or you've been here many times before, there's something for everyone today in Paris. Enjoy a panoramic overview of the city, join a local expert for a walk through two much-loved neighborhoods, or pedal your way along the Left Bank, a fresh and fun way to take in the sights.



# 11 Days • Portugal & Spain • S.S. São Gabriel



#### Day 37 | June 25 | Paris (Disembark), Fly to Porto (Embark)

Disembark the *S.S. Joie de Vivre* and transfer to Charles de Gaulle Airport for your fl ight to Porto. Transfer to the *S.S. São Gabriel* to continue on to the fi nal leg of your journey. The all-revitalizing sunshine, picturesque natural surroundings and a casually uplifting atmosphere of the Douro River Valley is an exceptional place to end your voyage.

# Day 38 | June 26 | Porto, Entre-os-Rios

Portugal's second city (after Lisbon), Porto gave its name to the nation's most famous export, Port wine, and to the nation itself. Today, choose between two distinctively Portuguese ways to explore Porto.

# Day 39 | June 27 | Entre-os-Rios, Régua, Pinhão

Today is all about wine, which has been cultivated in the Douro River Valley since ancient Roman times. Get a crash course on the history of Port during your visit to the Douro Museum.

# Day 40 | June 28 | Pinhão, Pocinho, Vega de Terrón

Head ashore for a choice of excursions, including a tasting at a prestigious Port wine estate or a vineyard hike with a wine tasting at a local Quinta. Later, lace up your hiking boots and unleash your inner Indiana Jones with an up-close gander at some prehistoric carvings at an archaeological park.

#### Day 41 | June 29 | Vega de Terrón (Salamanca), Barca d'Alva

Today, you can visit the historic university town of Salamanca—the "Golden City"—famous for its sand-colored buildings and abundance of churches. Upon your return to the ship, feel the centuries fall away as your ship winds its way through the pristine, dramatic UNESCO-protected landscapes of the Douro River Valley.

# Day 42 | June 30 | Barca d'Alva, Régua

Go medieval today at Castelo Rodrigo, the name of both a hilltop castle as well as the village that surrounds it. The view from the top is incredible and the village is a charming place to relax and replenish.

# Day 43 | July 1 | Régua (Guimarães), Porto

Explore Guimarães, the town where Portugal was born. Its well-preserved architecture and stylish young residents make it a pleasure to visit. Or opt for a leisurely walking tour through Ribeira's quaint cobbled streets.

# Day 44 | July 2 | Porto (Disembark), transfer to Lisbon

Disembark the ship and board a motorcoach, heading south through Portugal's picturesque countryside to Lisbon where you will check in to the Corinthia Lisbon. Perched on a hill overlooking the city, this five-star hotel off ers incredible views of Lisbon's colorful cityscape.

# Day 45 | July 3 | Lisbon

Everything old is new again in the Portuguese capital. Get to know this hilly metropolis with a city tour that shows you all the top sights and treats you to an iconic, locally made pastry.

# Day 46 | July 4 | Lisbon

Join us in Sintra and Cascais or experience your own "Age of Discovery" in Lisbon with a full day to explore however you wish.

# Day 47 | July 5 | Lisbon (Depart)

If your cruise/tour package includes a group departure transfer or if you have purchased a private departure transfer, you will be transferred to Lisbon Portela Airport for your flight home.

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