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WARWICK
TRAVEL
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Personal Service at its Best!

Est 1975

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 **PRINCESS®**

Explore the world on a Princess Cruise!

A journey of exploration and discovery awaits you with a cruise on Princess by delivering you to diverse destinations, introducing you to new places, cuisine and people and opening your mind to a new perspective of the world. It isn't just a chance to connect with your favorite people and the world, it's one of the best vacation values around. Exploring multiple destinations, unpacking only once, multicourse meals to remember, Broadway-style shows, comedy acts and bands, a comfortable stateroom – what more could you ask for?

From its modest beginning in 1965 with a single ship to Mexico, Princess has grown to become one of the premier cruise lines in the world. The Princess fleet currently consists of 15 ships: Island Princess, Coral Princess, Grand Princess, Sapphire Princess, Diamond Princess, Ruby Princess, Emerald Princess, Crown Princess, Caribbean Princess, Royal Princess, Regal Princess, Majestic Princess, Sky Princess, Enchanted Princess, and Discovery Princess. The new Sun Princess is due in Feb 2024 and Star Princess due in Aug 2025.

No matter where your sense of adventure inspires you to go, a world of discoveries awaits more than 330 destinations across the globe. Whether you love to relax on a beach in the Caribbean, enjoy rich culture and cuisine in Europe or marvel at glaciers in Alaska, every experience on a Princess cruise is one you'll always remember. On board, the exploration continues with enriching presenters, programs and authentic local flavors inspired by your travels.

With Princess Medallion Class offered on all ships, the quarter-sized, wearable device enables everything from faster boarding to locating your loved ones anywhere on the ship, as well as enhanced service like having whatever you need delivered right to you wherever you are on the ship.

Princess recently unveiled their new Princess Perfect Weddings at Sea packages.

Embark on a voyage of celebrations with your loved ones to celebrate a birthday, anniversary, graduation, or special occasion.

Rejuvenate at the Lotus Spa with a hot stone massage. Visit the Fitness Center for Yoga or Zumba classes or their outdoor jogging track. Relax in The Sanctuary offering sweeping sea views and spa cuisine.

At Camp Discovery, kids can make new friends and participate in activities specially designed to play, create,

and discover in The Tree House (for younger kids) and The Lodge (for older kids).

In between excursions, spend time exploring all the enticing activities and pastimes aboard their ships. From souvenir hunting to testing your luck at the casino, see what's waiting for you on a Princess cruise.

Expand your understanding of the world around you with local culture, local immersion, local eats, and local experts who specialize in art, history, cuisine, and other areas of interest. Come feel the love of every single moment on a Princess cruise.

There is a lot to consider when planning a cruise or cruise tour. To find the perfect cruise destination, the Travel Advisors at Warwick Travel will guide you through the planning process. That is their profession – they do it every day!





Egypt Highlights & Nile Cruise

Janis Belch



Step into a land of history and wonder where pharaohs once ruled, and ancient architectural phenomena still stand.

Your 9-day adventure begins in Cairo. Continue to Luxor and glide down the Nile on a cruise with regular stops for private excursions. Explore the Valley of the Kings, Valley of the Queens, and King Tut's tomb. Learn about the Pyramids of Giza with the help of an experienced private Egyptologist guide. See the Khan Khalili Bazaar at night.

Customize your tour by adding Abu Simbel, a historic site comprising two massive rock-cut temples built by the Egyptian King Ramses II, to your journey as well as Jordan to visit Petra, one of the world's most famous archaeological sites dating back to around 300 B.C. It is half-built, half-carved into the rock and is surrounded by mountains riddled with passages and gorges – a "must" to see!

The Travel Advisors at Warwick Travel will gladly guide you as you plan your exciting adventure to this fascinating destination.



Ultimate Southern France

Marion Liffick



Your small group journey through Southern France begins on the French Riviera in Monte Carlo.

Explore Nice where you will visit the opulent Villa and gardens of Ephrussi de Rothchild, home to over 5,000 art objects.

Step into the glamour of St. Tropez as you discover ancient walls and medieval towers in this cosmopolitan picturesque town. You will find great shopping, amazing beaches, and buzzing nightlife.

Follow the footsteps of Paul Cezanne along the Old Town and tree-lined boulevard of Cours Mirabeau in Aix-en-Provence. Stroll or cycle the Chateau gardens in Calanques National Park.

On to Avignon where you will discover Arles first century Roman Amphitheater. Your journey will take you to Carcassonne, one of the largest surviving medieval walled cities in Europe.

Continue to Carcassonne and the Languedoc Region. Cruise along the Canal du Midi, a historic canal in the Languedoc wine region arriving in Bordeaux.

Enjoy a stroll through Bordeaux, take a leisurely bike ride around the Garonne River, relish the hotels spa offerings, and explore St. Emilion, the oldest wine producing appellation in Bordeaux.

A 3-night Paris extension is offered from Bordeaux. For a detailed itinerary, dates, and rates of this 12-day adventure, call the Travel Advisors at Warwick Travel.



Destination Weddings

Sharon Flick

There are many things to consider when choosing your destination wedding location.

The first step is to determine your budget as your budget will determine the type of venue you can afford at your destination plus the additional expense of flying.

Think about the climate you want for your wedding as that will inspire the type of destination you choose for your big day – beachfront or mountains, city, or countryside, tropical or snowy. Weather and climate could impact your wedding day plans.

Would you like an exclusive private villa overlooking the ocean or an all-inclusive resort with wedding package options including a wedding on a beach? Do you plan to spend your honeymoon in the same location as your destination wedding?

Finalizing your guest list is very important as all guests might not be able to attend. If traveling out of the country, everyone will need a passport for most destinations.

The Caribbean and Mexico are likely to be your best bets for beachy destination wedding locations as they're far away enough that they feel like a vacation, but not too far so your guests can travel to them relatively easily.

A travel advisor can assist in many ways and put you in touch with a wedding planner for the destination of your choice.

At Your Service:

Your Warwick Travel Staff

During the Global Pandemic, Warwick Travel consolidated their offices.

Everyone is working in the Newport News office at:

**10858 WARWICK BLVD., STE. C
757-599-3011**

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Newsletter Editor*

Janis Belch, CTC
Travel Advisor

Gerry Siekirsi
Group Specialist/Co-Owner

Amy Hill
Travel Advisor

Dee King
Assistant Manager

Sharon Flick
Travel Advisor

Emily Barker
*Business Development/
Marketing Manager*

Marion Liffick
Travel Advisor

Linda Waynick
Travel Advisor

Susan Adams
Operations Manager



Wonders of the Galapagos & Machu Picchu

Emily Barker



Abercrombie & Kent

Discover natural and man-made wonders, from Ecuador to Peru, on a small group journey that includes a four-night cruise in the wildlife-rich Galapagos Islands, an exclusive visit to a village in the Sacred Valley and a guided exploration of Machu Picchu, the awe-inspiring "Lost City" of the Incas.

Cruise for four nights in an expedition vessel that offers comfort and flexibility for exploring. Explore some of the most intimate and up-close wildlife encounters in the world, both on land and in the water such as the entertaining blue-footed booby, the giant tortoises and land iguanas.

Explore the Galapagos on twice-daily shore excursions that include nature walks led by a certified naturalist guide, and choose from activities such as kayaking, light trekking or relaxing on shore.

Then, on to Lima, Peru, to begin your Peruvian adventure. Meet people of the Sacred Valley of the Incas when you privately visit their remote village to gain insight into their centuries-old weaving and farming techniques.

Discover magnificent Machu Picchu firsthand in the company of a local expert guide and stay at the only hotel on-site for access to the ruins before most other visitors arrive.

For a detailed 12-day itinerary, rates, and dates, call the Travel Advisors at Warwick Travel. This tour is limited to 18 guests per tour date.

ETIAS

European Travel Information and Authorization System

Visitors from several countries – including the US – will need a travel pass to visit certain parts of Europe next year. The new travel authorization known as the **ETIAS** will come into effect in 2024.

It is a new travel requirement US, UK, and other passport holders must obtain for visiting 30 European countries in 2024.

An exact date of implementation has not yet been declared. Once applications open, you will be able to apply on the official **ETIAS** website for a fee – around \$7.79. The pass lasts for either three years or until your passport expires – whichever comes first.

The following European countries will require the pass: **Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden & Switzerland.**



Spirit of the Desert: The National Parks of the Southwest

Dee King

TAUCK WORLD DISCOVERY

Stunning landscapes so arresting that they'll live forever in your mind's eye... impossible red rock arches opening before you like grand entryways, offering a sense of endless possibility... canyons and immense cliffs, seemingly carved by a giant to form an island in the sky... how the human spirit is cheered and fortified by the spirit of the desert.

From Moab, Utah, to Las Vegas, Nevada, you will explore six key national parks of the American west: Arches, Canyonlands, Capitol Reef, Bryce Canyon, Zion, and Grand Canyon national parks.

Fly over the remote reaches of Capitol Reef and see the Grand Canyon from the air enroute to Las Vegas. Spend two nights on the Grand Canyon's North Rim for a fresh, "new" perspective of the park, enjoyed by fewer than 10% of park visitors.

Enjoy independent sunrise and sunset spirit-of-the-moment experiences in the national parks... and gain insights through filmed vignettes by Ken Burns and Dayton Duncan, sharing their own personal stories and of those who shaped the creation of the national parks.

This 10-day itinerary offers small group departures in May, Jun, Aug, Sep, and early Oct. Call the Travel Advisors at Warwick Travel for a detailed itinerary, dates, rates, and a Pre-Tour Extension in Porto. This amazing 14-day tour takes place from April through October.



Icelandic Adventure

Linda Waynick

collette
guided by travel

Encounter a world of untamed beauty as you discover Iceland's adventurous landscapes and rich cultural heritage on this small group exploration. Discover the dramatic contrasts – from ethereal lava fields and thundering waterfalls to charming coastal villages.

Discover the culture and history in Reykjavik, Iceland's capital. Travel the Golden Circle to see Iceland's most iconic natural wonders, including the Mid-Atlantic Ridge in Thingvellir National Park where you can walk between two continents.

Continue to Akureyri to visit the unique volcanic landscape that surrounds Lake Myvatn and explore the Hverir geothermal area. Join expert whale watchers on a cruise on Skjalfandi Bay.

Journey to the Snaefellsnes Peninsula with its camera-ready black sand beaches, mountain peaks, volcanic craters, rocky coastlines, and tiny fishing villages.

In Borgarnes, visit the Langjokull Glacier where you will experience the purest blue ice color in the world's largest man-made tunnel. Visit the famous Blue Lagoon and enjoy the warm, mineral-rich waters of this iconic geothermal pool.

To learn more about this 10-day adventure in Iceland, call the Travel Advisors at Warwick Travel and book your 2024 tour now.



Cruise News



Homeport Cruising from Norfolk - 2023

CARNIVAL CRUISE LINE

Bermuda 4-Night Cruise on the Magic, Oct 5-9, 2023
Bahamas 5-Night Cruise on the Magic, Oct 9-14, 2023

Canada/New England Cruise on the Magic, Oct 14-22, 2023
Bahamas 5-Night Cruise on the Magic, Oct 22-27, 2023

Ocean Cruises – 2024

ATLAS OCEAN VOYAGES

Island Hopper 7-Night Cruise on the World Voyager, May 2-9, 2024 • Bridgetown, Barbados to Phillipsburg, St Marten. Visit St. Lucia, Martinique, Guadeloupe, St, Kitts, St. Barts & Anguilla.

AZAMARA CRUISES

European Gems & Icons 13-Night Voyage on the Onward, May 17-30 • 2024, Istanbul, Turkey to Venice, Italy. Visit Canakale, Turkey; Kavala, Thessaloniki, Athens, Santorini, Corfu, Crete & Katakolon, Greece.

CELEBRITY CRUISES

Caribbean 8-Night Cruise on the Beyond • May 18-25, 2024, Roundtrip Ft. Lauderdale. Visit Oranjestad, Aruba; Kralendijk, Bonaire & Willemstad, Curacao.

DISNEY CRUISE LINE

Western Caribbean 5-Night Cruise on the Disney Dream, Jun 22-27, 2024, Roundtrip Ft. Lauderdale. Visit Cozumel, Mexico & Disney Castaway Cay.

HOLLAND AMERICA LINE

Canada & New England Discovery 7-Night Cruise on the Volendam, Sep 28-Oct 5, 2024 • Boston to Montreal. Visit Rockland, Maine; Halifax, Sydney & Prince Edward Island, Canada.

NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE

Bermuda & The Caribbean 10-Night Cruise on the Getaway, Apr 19-29, 2024 • Roundtrip New York. Visit Bermuda, St. Maarten, Puerto Rico & Dominican Republic.

OCEANIA CRUISES

Tahitian Legends 10-Night Cruise on the Nautica, Feb 9 & 19, 2024 • Roundtrip Papeete. Visit Moorea, Fakarava, Nuku Hiva, Rangiroa, Bora Bora & Raiatea, French Polynesia.

REGENT SEVEN SEAS CRUISES

Cliffs, Coasts & Culture 10-Night Voyage on the Seven Seas Navigator, May 24-Jun 3, 2024 • Venice to Monte Carlo. Visit Italy, Croatia, Greece, France, Spain & Monaco.

ROYAL CARIBBEAN CRUISES

Bahamas & Perfect Day 4-Night Cruise on the Utopia of the Seas, Jul 29-Aug 2, 2024 • Roundtrip Orlando (Port Canaveral). Visit Nassau & Perfect Day at CocoCay, Bahamas.

SILVERSEA CRUISES

Iceland 10-Night Cruise on the Silver Wind, Aug 1-11, 2024 • Roundtrip Reykjavik. Visit Stykkisholmur, Flatey Islands, Vigur Island, Bolungarvik, Seydisfjordur, Djupivogur, Vestmannaeyjar, Iceland & Klaksvik, Faroe Islands.

VIKING OCEAN CRUISES

Canadian Discovery 12-Night Cruise, Aug 3-14, 2024 • New York to Toronto. Visit Halifax, Prince Edward Island, Cap-aux-Meules, Sept-iles, Saguenay, Quebec City, Trois-Rivieres & Toronto, Canada.

WINDSTAR CRUISES

Captivating Canary Islands 8-Night Cruise on the Star Pride, Apr 20-28, 2024 • Lisbon to Las Palmas. Visit Funchal, Portugal; Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands; San Sebastian & Lanzarote, Spain.

River Cruises – 2024

AMA WATERWAYS

Tulip Time 7-Night Cruise on the AmaSerena, April 18-25, 2024 • Roundtrip Amsterdam. Visit Hoorn, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands; Bruges, Ghent, Antwerp, Belgium.

AMERICAN QUEEN VOYAGES

Lower Mississippi River 7-Night Cruise on the American Queen, April 21-28, 2024 • New Orleans to Memphis. Visit Nottoway, Pointe Coupee, Louisiana; Natchez, Vicksburg & Greenville, Mississippi.

AVALON WATERWAYS

Fascinating Vietnam, Cambodia & The Mekong 12-Night Cruise, Vietnam to Cambodia. Visit Ho Chi Minh City, Vinh Long, Cu Lao Gieng, Chau Doc, Phnom Penh, Konpong Louang, Kampong Tralach, Angkor Ban, Wat Hanchey & Siem Reap.

TAUCK RIVER CRUISES

Impressions from the Seine: Paris to Normandy 7-Night River Cruise on the MS Sapphire, May 23-30, 2024 • Roundtrip Paris. Visit Versailles, Rouen, Caudenbec-en-Caux, Les Andelys, & Vernon, France.

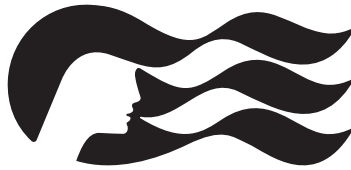
UNIWORLD BOTIQUE RIVER CRUISES

Vineyards & Villages Along the Doro, Apr – Nov 2024 • Roundtrip Porto. Visit Entre Os Rios, Peso da Regua, Pocinho, Barca d'Alva, Caldas de Aergos & Porto, Portugal.

VIKING RIVER CRUISES

Rhone River 7-Night Cruise, Jun 19-26, 2024 • Avignon to Lyon. Visit Avignon, Arles, Viviers, Tournon & Lyon France. Extend your trip with 3 days in Paris.

Unless otherwise noted, fares are cruise only, per person rates based on double occupancy; subject to availability and capacity controlled by the cruise line. Amenities apply. Government fees, taxes and airfare are not included unless specifically stated in offer.



PRINCESS®

Princess Perfect Weddings at Sea

Princess Cruises is launching a new line-up of weddings, vow renewal, and marriage proposal packages.

Twenty-five years ago, Princess set the standard for weddings at sea with The Love Boat. They're doing it again with their new Princess Perfect Weddings at Sea packages offering couples a range of options from intimate gatherings to grand celebrations with family and friends.

All packages include a dedicated wedding specialist who works with you on everything from selecting the venue to arranging decorations, flowers, and photography. With all weddings at sea, the ships captains serve as the ceremony officiant.

In addition to the ceremony and reception, couples and all guests can enjoy the amenities and entertainment onboard the ship.

Weddings at Sea are gaining in popularity!

Call Warwick Travel to book your Weddings at Sea for you and your group.

Ocean Cruises - 2024

Western Caribbean 7-Night Cruise on the Caribbean Princess, Feb 11-18, 2024 • Roundtrip Ft. Lauderdale. Visit Princess Cays, Bahamas; Ocho Rios, Jamaica; Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands; Cozumel, Mexico.

Eastern Caribbean 7-Night Cruise on the Sky Princess, Feb 24-Mar 2, 2024 • Roundtrip Ft. Lauderdale. Visit Princess Cays, Bahamas; San Juan, Puerto Rico; Grand Turk, Turks & Caicos & Amber Dove, Dominican Republic.

Eastern Caribbean 7-Night Cruise on the Enchanted Princess, Apr 6-13, 2024 • Roundtrip Ft. Lauderdale. Visit Princess Cays, Bahamas; San Juan, Puerto Rico; St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

Voyage of the Glaciers 7-Night Cruise on the Grand Princess, May 29-Jun 5, 2024 • Whittier to Vancouver. Visit Anchorage, Hubbard Glacier (cruising), Glacier Bay National Park (Cruising), Skagway, Juneau & Ketchikan, Alaska.

Voyage of the Glaciers 7-Night Cruise on the Grand Princess, Jun 26-Jul 3, 2024 • Whittier to Vancouver. Visit Anchorage, Hubbard Glacier (Cruising); Glacier Bay National Park (Cruising); Skagway, Juneau & Ketchikan, Alaska.

Denali Explorer 11-Night Cruise/Tour on the Sapphire Princess, Jul 6-17, 2024 • Vancouver to Whittier. Visit Vancouver, Canada; Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay (Cruising), College Fjord (Cruising), Whittier, Alaska & a 4-Night Land Tour to Denali National Park.

Off the Beaten Path 15-Night Cruise/Tour on the Grand Princess, Aug 14-29, 2024 • Vancouver to Whittier. Visit Vancouver, Canada; Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay (Cruising), College Fjord (Cruising) & Whittier, Alaska & a 8-Night Land Tour to Denali National Park & Talkeetna.

Classic Canada & New England 10-Night Cruise on the Emerald Princess, Sep 17-27, 2024 • Boston to Quebec. Visit Rockland, Maine, St. John, Halifax, Sydney, Charlottetown & Quebec City, Canada.

Canada & New England 7-Night Cruise on the Enchanted Princess, Oct 12-19, 2024 • Roundtrip New York. Visit Newport, Rhode Island; Boston, Massachusetts; Bar Harbor, Maine; Halifax, Canada.

Canada & Colonial America 14-Night Cruise on the Emerald Princess, Oct 17-31, 2024 • Quebec to Ft. Lauderdale. Visit Quebec City & Halifax, Canada; Portland, Maine; Boston, Massachusetts; Norfolk, VA; Charleston, SC.

Warwick Travel Advisors are passionate about travel.

For 48 years, we've been serving our loyal customers/guests with their travel needs.

We love what we do!



Agent Spotlight:

Amy Hill

Amy is currently celebrating 27 years working in the travel industry. She started her career after moving to Virginia from her home state of Pennsylvania in 1996. Over the years, she has worked as a front-line agent

and a manager in a previous agency. She joined the team at Warwick Travel in February 2012.

Her travels have taken her to Alaska, the Caribbean, England, Costa Rica, the Canadian Rockies, Italy, Greece, Croatia, Mexico, Arizona, California, New York, and Florida (Walt Disney World, Universal Studios & St. Augustine). Cruising and all-inclusive vacations are also a passion of hers.

Her greatest moments as a travel advisor, other than her own travels, have been when her clients come home to tell her what a memorable vacation they experienced. Amy prides herself on making sure all the details are taken care of so her clients can travel worry-free.

Her greatest love for travel is working with families and groups, having herself traveled with family and loved ones of all ages many times over the years. Alaska, Costa Rico, and the Canadian Rockies are her favorite destinations, both for their natural untouched beauty, plentiful wildlife, and outdoor activities.

Amy is a specialist in independent travel itineraries, as well as escorted tours and cruises, and continually updates her knowledge and training with various cruise lines and destinations.

Warwick Travel is proud to have her as a member of our team. Please give her a call to make an appointment with her for assistance in planning your next vacation.

Clients Corner

Brian Rich & Janet Gandy Alcoa, TN

Marion Liffick may be new to Warwick Travel, but she has been our "go-to" Travel Agent for many years. Marion is an efficient and tireless professional who listens and understands what we need when we travel. She anticipates what will be in our interest, and tenaciously fights to get us the best travel deals. We hesitate to calculate just how much she has saved us, allowing us to travel more often and in better style. She found us a suite for a 32-day cruise next year and saved us an additional \$5,000. Marion is a gem!

Garland & Mary Beth Dalton Williamsburg, VA

Dee King has made all the arrangements for our voyages since we started with Warwick Travel, and she is outstanding. We never have to worry about a detail as she always has every option covered. Her calm demeanor is so reassuring and her personal experience in visiting many of the same places to which we are traveling means her suggestions for visiting local sites, ground transportation, hotels, and parking are always spot-on. She is an absolute joy to work with!



Gerry's Adventures

Gerry Siekirski

2024

**FEBRUARY 8 – 24:
AUSTRALIA – NEW ZEALAND**

What an exciting 16-day voyage on Oceania's Regatta from Sydney to Melbourne (overnight) – then on to Tasmania and arrive in Milford Sound to start your adventure in New Zealand.

The New Zealand ports of call are Dunedin, Christchurch, Picton, Wellington, Gisborne, Rotorua, Whangarei, the Bay of Islands ending in Auckland! Awesome coverage of New Zealand with lots of time to learn about the Maori Heritage.

Airfare from major gateways included as well as complimentary prepaid gratuities for the group and 4 free shore excursions.

At present we have a small group of 15 cabins and the ship is almost sold out. Final payment is due September 11.

2025

**JANUARY 12 – FEBRUARY 14:
SINGAPORE TO TOKYO**

Join our ASIA Adventure's sailing on Oceania's Riviera from Singapore to Tokyo on a 33-day voyage! Ports of call are Ko Samui-Thailand, Bangkok, Cambodia, Saigon, Nha Trang, Hue Hanoi and on to Hong Kong.

It is possible to disembark in Hong Kong or continue your voyage on to Taiwan, Okinawa, South Korea & Japan. Japan ports of call: Nagasaki, Hiroshima, Kochi, Kyoto, Nagoya disembarking in Tokyo.

WOW! This cruise really covers the best of ASIA. We currently have 12 "Great Adventures" on this sailing – hope you will join them. This sailing is almost sold out. You can hold a cabin now with a refundable deposit. Airfare is included from a major gateway.

Call Gerry for more information about these exciting adventures.

*Warwick Travel encourages
appointments.*

Please call 757-599-3011

Budapest, pearl of the Danube

By Nancy B. Alligood, CTC, Warwick Travel Service



Budapest, Hungary, was a bucket list trip of mine for many years. Although I had cruised the beautiful Blue Danube River several times, I had never made it to Budapest. I had heard about this fascinating city and felt I really needed to visit all of Eastern Europe. Thus, I added it to my travel list!

Budapest is the capital and largest city of Hungary. It is one of the largest cities in the European Union and is recognized as a political, cultural, commercial, industrial and transportation center. Buda and Pest were once two cities; however, in 1873, it became a single city, occupying both banks of the river Danube with Buda on the west bank, Pest on the east bank and the magnificent Chain Bridge connecting the two sides.

In 2017, I had the opportunity to take a river cruise that started in Prague, Czech Republic, and ended in Budapest, where we spent two glorious days exploring the two sides of this fascinating city.

On the Pest side, we visited the beautiful St. Stephen's Basilica, the largest church in Budapest holding up to 8,500 people; Heroes' Square, noted for its iconic statues; the Jewish Quarter, where streets were filled with a mix of happy locals and curious tourists; the neo-gothic Hungarian Parliament, with its many historic features; and the Covered Market, where you could purchase food, wine, clothing, souvenirs—a shoppers paradise!

On the Buda side, we visited the Budapest Castle, an historical castle and massive Baroque palace complex of the Hungarian kings in Budapest and Fisherman's Bastion, world famous for its turrets and spires, where locals and tourists come to enjoy the city views. Next, we saw the Hospital in the Rocks Nuclear Bunker Museum, created in the caverns under Buda Castle in the 1930s in preparation for the Second World War, one of the most unique and fascinating attractions of Budapest.

I knew right away I wanted to visit this city again.

In 2018, I returned to Budapest with a group of Warwick Travelers who had never traveled to Eastern Europe. We spent three glorious nights there. I hired Daniel, a local guide, who took us outside the city on a full-day Danube Bend Tour, a most scenic stretch of the Danube River, where we visited three quaint and very interesting villages—Esztergom, Visegrad and Szentendre.

Esztergom's massive basilica, sitting high above the town and Danube River, is an incredible sight. This picturesque town is packed with historic attractions.

Visegrád is a small castle town in Pest County. It is north of Budapest on the right bank of the Danube in the Danube Bend and is famous for the remains of the Early Renaissance summer palace of King Matthias Corvinus of Hungary and the medieval citadel. While in Visegrad, Daniel had made lunch reservations at the Renaissance Restaurant, and we enjoyed a fabulous medieval feast served by a friendly costumed staff representing a true renaissance atmosphere. We were each given a gold crown to wear during our



St. Stephen's Basilica in Budapest

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WARWICK TRAVEL



Daniel, our guide, in Visegrad



Entertainment in Esztergom

meal. What great memories!

Szentendre is known for its baroque architecture, churches, colorful houses and narrow, cobbled streets. The main square and the alleyways around it were lined with art galleries, museums and shops. This may have been our favorite, especially for the shopping!

The next two days were filled with visiting the historic sites on both sides of the city, Buda and Pest.

One evening, Daniel took us on a Danube River Hungarian Dinner Cruise, one of our highlights as we viewed beautiful Budapest at night. It was such a pleasure to have him join us.

I continue to stay in touch with Daniel by email and Facebook. His mom is now hosting his groups in her home for a Hungarian dinner. Yes, I have been invited to her home for dinner—a true home-cooked Hungarian dinner!

Budapest, another bucket list trip crossed off my list! And yes, I do hope to return, as it is the Pearl of the Danube! ◀

Nancy B. Alligood, CTC is general manager/owner of Warwick Travel Service, Inc. and can be reached at 757-599-3011 or at n_alligood@warwicktravel.com.

TAUCK
EUROPEAN RIVER CRUISING

DISTINCTIVELY INCLUSIVE RIVER CRUISES

The Blue Danube...

Our most popular river cruise! From Prague to Budapest, castles of all descriptions have watched over the landscapes from their royal perches for centuries. With Tauck, get a unique glimpse into their treasures with an exclusive dinner and tour in Lobkowitz Palace... an exclusive Imperial Evening of dining and classical entertainment at a private palace in Vienna... access other visitors don't have at the Baroque Strahov Monastery libraries... plus a private visit to a family home in Austria... all included!

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Million Dollar Club

Congratulations to **Linda Waynick** and **Gerry Siekirski** for their Million Dollar Sales in 2022. Warwick Travel is very proud of these two Travel Advisors reaching their goal.

Join Warwick Travel!

**For Lunch and Learn on Alaska Cruises
Princess Cruises**

October 11, 2023
12:00 noon

Women's Club of Hilton Village
87 Main Street
Newport News VA 23601

RSVP by September 27, 2023
(757) 599-3011

Seating is limited

**Call the Professional Travel Advisors at Warwick Travel for all your travel needs.
We're ready to assist in making your travel dream come true! 757-599-3011**