

Budapest, Prague, Cesky Krumlov, Vienna

The Austro-Hungarian empire was ruled by despots, and yet it numbered amongst its many subjects a nation of people who gave their name to *the very epitome of free-living – the Bohemians.*

Budapest is two cities in one - Buda and Pest. We explore all of the sights on both sides of the river: Margaret Island, the landmark Parliament Building and St Stephan Basilica. By day there is culture galore in the Museum of Fine Arts and the National Gallery; by evening an opera, a ballet or a symphony concert.

Prague has become a byword for the new Eastern Europe,

with its internet cafés and visiting film stars, but it really is a must-see city with its Old Town, Little Quarter and Hradcany.

We take you on two private tours – backstage at the Estates Theatre, and into the library of the Strahov Monastery. From

Prague we travel to Cesky Krumlov, a thirteenth century town famous for its castle, and then to Ceske Budejovice, a beautiful unspoiled village.

Vienna was the capital of the Austro-Hungarian empire, and the Hapsburgs lived as much on the grand scale as their counterparts, the Romanovs and the Hohenzollerns. Our tour gives you plenty of time to see the sights such as Schonbrunn, the Opera House, the Spanish Riding School and the Hofburg.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Two nights Budapest, three nights Prague, one night Cesky Krumlov, three nights Vienna. Extensive private excursions to major museums in each city, **backstage tour** with Maestro Pavel Vondruska at the **Estates Theatre and VIP visit to the Strahov Monastery in Prague.**

An escorted tour on selected dates. May also be customised for independent travel. You may choose to substitute Vienna with St Petersburg.

