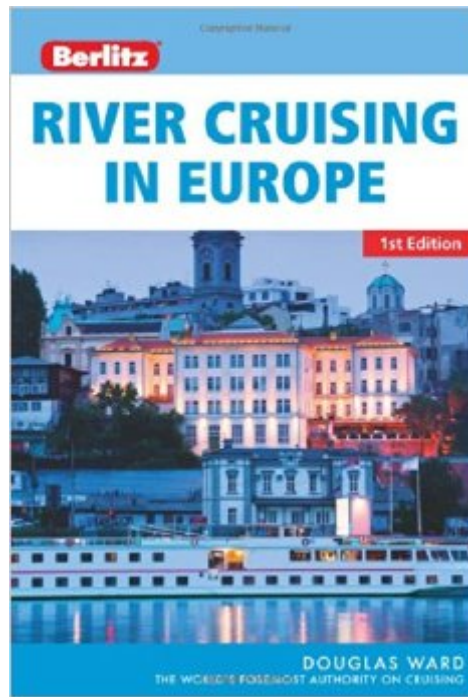


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# Berlitz River Cruising In Europe



## Synopsis

A river cruise is undoubtedly the most civilized way to see the best of Europe; you can relax in the comfort of a small vessel as you glide through beautiful towns and spectacular scenery. But how do you choose which cruise company, which kind of rivership, and where to go? The Berlitz guide to River Cruising in Europe will tell you everything you need to know about taking a cruise along Europe's beautiful rivers and waterways. The book cuts through the brochures' hype – almost every river cruise company promises you luxury. But what does 'luxury' really mean? The guide gives you unbiased advice on the different kinds of river vessels and the facilities they offer, helping you to make an informed choice. We take you on a journey along Europe's rivers and waterways, describing the highlights along the way – the historic cities and majestic scenery of the Danube, the castles and vineyards of the romantic Rhine, and much more. Also included are listings for over 200 river vessels, which are described in detail and impartially rated, so that you can easily compare ships and their facilities.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I'm a travel agent specializing exclusively in river cruises, so this book was a must-read for me! I found it to be well-researched, well-organized and engaging. I especially appreciated the ship-by-ship rating section, which was a treasure trove of little tidbits you normally wouldn't know unless you experienced each ship for yourself. I haven't yet sailed on every river and every ship (I'm trying to, trust me!), but Douglas Ward's River Cruising in Europe is, without a doubt, the next best

thing.

For the first edition of a book that requires assimilating a lot of information I guess this is not a bad effort. The river cruise fleets are increasingly made up of a lot of highly standardised vessels, and describing them all separately when they to all intents and purposes the same is unnecessary. The background information is good and I agree with the author's overall assessment that AMA Waterways is probably top dog in this increasingly crowded market.

This is a comprehensive look at river cruising in Europe. It discusses the ins and outs of river cruising, the various routes, what to expect, and best of all, a rating of the various companies plying the waters of Europe. Although I bought it after booking a cruise, it still provided some crucial information, and best of all, confirmed my choice.

No travel guide can cover everything well without reading more like a dictionary than a book, but this one finds a nice balance between providing reasonably up to date information on available cruises and the characteristics of different cruise lines and offering practical advice.

I have used Berlitz Cruise Ship Rating books for years and found them to be excellent so I was anxious to receive Douglas Ward's new River Cruising in Europe book. This book does a very good job of outlining river boat cruising, what to expect and what to look for in river boats. As always Ward's books are truthful and forthright in their descriptions. Unfortunately their simple yes or no about elevators is misleading since many elevators only run between a couple decks, forcing people to walk stairs to the remaining decks. Also I would like to know the square footage of the cabins on each ship since I know they vary from 66 sq ft to over 200 sq ft and that would make a difference in my selection. Overall this book is well cross-referenced and very helpful to clients selecting a river boat.

Very helpful reviews of river cruises, the river cruise ships, and the companies providing the cruises. We have booked a cruise on Viking, and look forward to enjoying it. This book will cause us to consider AMA in the future for cruises, as well as Viking.

The initial chapters are interesting, but the bulk of the book is individual ratings of the available riverships and is of marginal interest. It might have been better to discuss the various operators and

their advantages/disadvantages, rather than too-brief description of each ship.

This is the first "objective" review of the many European river cruises. While Mr. Ward may be more opinionated than others, his ratings of the various lines and ships is extremely helpful. This kind of book is overdue. Thanks, Berlitz, for making it happen.

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