

Spitz an der Donau, Wachau, Austria

One of the Wachau's most authentic wine villages, Spitz an der Donau rewards those who wander — vineyard-draped hillsides, free medieval castle ruins, and some of Austria's best Riesling poured just steps from the pier.

-  Pier (docked, promenade)
-  Typical call: 4–7 hrs
-  Currency: Euro (€)
-  Language: German
-  Wine & apricot country

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Direct pier on the Danube promenade (no tender)

Best For: Wine tastings, castle ruins, cycling the Danube path

Walk to center: 5–10 min from pier to Kirchenplatz

Don't Miss: Hinterhaus Castle ruins — free entry, panoramic Danube views

🚗 Getting around: 🚗 **Taxi** ✅ Varies by destination · 🚗 **Rideshare** ✅ Uber

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Hinterhaus Castle Ruins** — The 12th-century Hinterhaus fortress looms above the village and is completely free to enter.
- **Wachau Wine Tasting at a Heuriger** — Look for a pine branch (Buschen) over the door — that's the sign a Heuriger is open.
- **Danube Cycle Path to Dürnstein** — Hop on a bicycle and follow the flat, paved Donauradweg from Spitz roughly 10 km to picture-perfect Dürnstein (blue church tower, Richard the...)
- **Rotes Tor (Red Gate) Viewpoint** — The last standing medieval town gate offers one of the most-photographed views in Spitz — a sweep of vineyard terraces, river, and rooftops.
- **Schiffahrtsmuseum (Danube Maritime Museum)** — Housed in the baroque Erlahof castle, this museum chronicles centuries of wooden shipbuilding and river trade on the Danube.

BEST WALKS

- **Town Center & St. Mauritius Church Loop** 30–45 min · Flat · Free — From the pier, walk to Kirchenplatz and step inside St.
- **Rotes Tor & Hinterhaus Castle Ruins** 1.5–2 hrs · Moderate uphill · Free — From the church, climb the vineyard lanes toward the Rotes Tor gate for panoramic views, then continue up to the Hinterhaus castle ruins.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Carry cash. Many Heurigen and small wine producers don't accept cards. An ATM is in the village center.
- Wine vocabulary to know: Smaragd = full-bodied top tier; Federspiel = classic everyday; Steinfeder = light and fresh. All are excellent in the Wachau.
- Try Marillenknödel (apricot dumplings) at any café or Heuriger — the local Wachau Marille apricots are famous across Austria and the season peaks in July.
- Wear sturdy shoes. The town is cobblestoned and the castle ruins trail is gravel/dirt with a genuine uphill. Heels are a bad idea.
- Bikes are the best way to explore. Many river cruise ships have bikes on board — ask your cruise director. The Danube cycle path is flat and paved all the way to Dürnstein and Krems.
- Sunday closures apply to shops and grocery stores, but restaurants, Heurigen, and wineries stay open for visitors — so you won't go hungry or thirsty.

Spitz an der Donau, Wachau, Austria — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| 1 Burguine Hinterhaus | Nearly 1,000-year-old castle ruin on a rocky ridge above Spitz with sweeping views over the Danube and vineyards. | 2 Pfarrkirche Spitz (Gothic Parish Church) | 15th-century Gothic parish church in the village center with a tower dating to the 14th century. |
| 3 Tausendeimerberg | Iconic steep, terraced Wachau vineyard hill famous for its centuries-old wine cultivation. | 4 Donaulände Promenade | Pedestrian promenade along the Danube in Spitz, a relaxed spot to watch river traffic and views of the Wachau hills. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |