



EXPLORERS

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

# DISCOVERING EASTERN EUROPE

September 19-October 5, 2015

**17 days from \$4,897 total price from Boston, New York**  
(\$4,195 air & land inclusive plus \$702 airline taxes and departure fees)



This tour is provided by  
Odysseys Unlimited,  
six-time honoree  
Travel & Leisure's World's  
Best Tour Operators award

A Small Group Tour for  
Alumni and Friends of the University of Illinois

Tour membership limited to 24 alumni and friends

# DISCOVERING EASTERN EUROPE

**17 days from \$4,897 total price from Boston, New York**  
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**W**hether you're seeking to recapture your ancestral heritage or simply to discover a beautiful and poignant part of the world, this small group tour offers ample opportunity for enrichment, enlightenment, and enjoyment. Both leisurely and comprehensive, it provides a generous overview of five distinctly different – and fascinating – nations.



## Day 1: Depart U.S. for Warsaw, Poland

**Day 2: Arrive Warsaw** After arriving in the Polish capital late this morning, we have free time before we gather for tonight's welcome dinner at our hotel. **D**

**Day 3: Warsaw** Virtually destroyed during World War II, Warsaw was rebuilt in the decades that followed. With the fall of Communism, the city has become more dynamic and progressive while retaining much of its distinct character. We tour this phoenix city today, visiting the faithfully rebuilt Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site; and the Royal Castle, whose origins date to the late 13<sup>th</sup> century. We also tour the area of the former Jewish Ghetto and the Jewish Cemetery. This afternoon is free for independent exploration; before dinner on our own tonight we enjoy a private classical piano recital. **B**

**Day 4: Warsaw/Auschwitz/Krakow** Today we journey south to the industrial city of Oswiecim — Auschwitz in German — and the concentration camp that is now a museum chronicling the horrors of the Nazis' Final Solution. We tour Auschwitz and also visit the vast camp at Birkenau before traveling on to Krakow, arriving late this afternoon. **B,L,D**

**Day 5: Krakow** A major center of Polish culture and education, Krakow survived World War II intact, leaving it with more historic buildings and monuments than anywhere else in the country. Its authentic Old Town is a UNESCO cultural site, and the Main Market Square the largest medieval square in Europe. This morning's tour includes the historic area; St. Mary's Church; the Royal Chambers of Wawel Castle, seat of royalty for more than 500 years; and Wawel Cathedral, the national church. The remainder of the day is free to explore this charming city independently. **B**

Avg. High (°F)	Sep	Oct
Warsaw	66	55
Budapest	74	61
Vienna	68	56

## Your Small Group Tour Highlights

Warsaw sightseeing ... Guided visits to Auschwitz and Birkenau concentration camps ... Wieliczka Salt Mines, Krakow ... Comprehensive Budapest touring ... Scenic Danube Bend ... Vienna sightseeing and classical music performance ... Old-world Bratislava ... Tour of elegant Prague, including Old Town Square, Prague Castle, Charles Bridge

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Warsaw		
2-3	Warsaw	Polonia Palace	Sup. First Class
4-6	Krakow	Stary Hotel	Not rated
7-9	Budapest	Hilton Budapest	Deluxe
10-12	Vienna	Hilton Vienna Plaza	Deluxe
13	Bratislava	Radisson Blu Carlton	Sup. First Class
14-16	Prague	Grand Bohemia Praha	Sup. First Class
17	Depart Prague for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference. Unrated hotels may be too small, too new, or too remote to be listed.

Cover Photo: Our tour ends in beautiful medieval Prague. Pictured: Charles Bridge



*The Danube runs through the heart of Budapest.*

**Day 6: Krakow** This morning we tour the Wieliczka Salt Mines, a UNESCO World Heritage site. This afternoon is at leisure. *B*

**Day 7: Krakow/Slovakia/Budapest** Heading south today we travel through the snow-capped Tatra Mountains into the country of Slovakia, where we stop for lunch. We reach our hotel in Buda's elegant Castle District early this evening. *B,L*

**Day 8: Budapest** Today's half-day tour of the Hungarian capital begins adjacent to our hotel with a visit to Matthias Church, the symbol of Buda's Castle District, and a stroll around Fisherman's Bastion for outstanding views of the Pest side of the city across the river. Then we cross the Chain Bridge into Pest where we tour Dohany Synagogue, Europe's largest. The remainder of the day is at leisure. Tonight we enjoy a typical Hungarian dinner at a local restaurant. *B,D*

**Day 9: Budapest** We're free to discover the "Paris of the East" on our own today. *B*

**Day 10: Budapest/Danube Bend/Vienna** Today we pass through the countryside of Western Transdanubia as we travel by coach to Vienna. En route we visit Szentendre, a small town packed with artisans' shops and a museum showcasing the work of acclaimed ceramicist Margit Kovacs. We continue on to the village of Neszmely where we stop for lunch; we reach the Austrian capital late this afternoon. *B,L*

**Day 11: Vienna** A half-day tour of this jewel of the Habsburg Empire includes a visit to the ornate

Vienna Opera House, one of Europe's grandest; and an inside visit to majestic Schönbrunn Palace. The afternoon is at leisure. Following dinner at a local restaurant we attend a concert of classical music in this most musical of all cities. *B,D*

**Day 12: Vienna Woods** This morning we enjoy a tour of the Vienna Woods, which gained renown during the heyday of the Austrian Empire. We visit the medieval abbey of Heiligenkreuz and the health spa town of Baden before returning to Vienna where the remainder of the day is free to explore as we wish. *B*

**Day 13: Vienna/Bratislava** Mid-morning we depart for Bratislava, capital of the independent nation of Slovakia. Upon arrival we embark on a coach and walking tour of the historic Castle area, including a visit to the 18<sup>th</sup>-century

## Post-Tour Extension

October 5-7, 2015

### PRAGUE – ON YOUR OWN

3 days/2 nights for \$295 total price

Single Supplement: \$195

*Extend your stay in the alluring  
Czech Capital.*

### Your Tour Price Includes

- 2 nights' accommodations at Grand Bohemia Praha (Superior First Class)
- 2 meals: 2 breakfasts
- Transfer to airport

“CITIES, LIKE DREAMS,  
ARE MADE OF DESIRES  
AND FEARS ...”  
– ITALO CALVINO

classical-style Archbishops Palace. After checking in at our hotel, we have time to refresh before dinner tonight at the restaurant of a local family. **B,D**

**Day 14: Bratislava/Brno/Prague** We leave this morning for Prague, proud capital of the Czech Republic. Along the way we stop for lunch in Brno and a brief tour of the country’s second largest city. We reach Prague late afternoon and join our tour director for an informal walk through Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site. **B,L**

**Day 15: Prague** We spend the morning exploring the Hradcany (castle) district, home of the distinctive castle towering above the Vltava River. Dating to the 9<sup>th</sup> century, the castle today is the seat of the president of the Czech Republic. Among the highlights of our tour: a visit to Gothic St. Vitus’ Cathedral and a stroll along Golden Lane, with its picturesque artisans’ cottages. The remainder of the day is free to continue exploring this enchanting city as we wish. Restaurants abound for lunch and dinner on our own today. **B**

**Day 16: Prague** This morning’s visit to Josefov, Prague’s historic Jewish ghetto, includes the Old Jewish Cemetery with its centuries-old headstones and generations buried atop one another, as well as several of the once-thriving synagogues now part of the Jewish Museum of Prague. Then the remainder of the day is at leisure, perhaps to stroll through Old Town Square or visit Wenceslas Square, site of the demonstrations that led to the Velvet Revolution. Tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner in a palace in the Prague Castle complex. **B,D**

**Day 17: Depart for U.S.** We transfer to the airport early today for our connecting flights to the U.S. **B**

### Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 15 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe, Superior First Class, and unrated hotels
- 25 meals: 15 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 6 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



Vienna’s majestic Schönbrunn Palace

### Tour Departs: September 19, 2015

Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

Boston, New York	\$4,897
Philadelphia, Washington, DC	\$5,097
Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Miami, Orlando, Tampa	\$5,197
Dallas, Denver, Houston, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle	\$5,297
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$3,795

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, fuel surcharges and departure fees of \$702, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,195. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, fuel surcharges and departure fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: \$3,595 per person in addition to the above costs. (Upgrades are subject to availability and pricing is subject to change.)

**Please note: This trip involves considerable walking. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to the fullest.**

**For information and reservations, please contact our EXPLORERS office toll-free at 1-800-556-2586**



EXPLORERS  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

**Dear Alumni and Friends,**

We invite you to join fellow EXPLORERS on a small group tour to beautiful Eastern Europe. Your odyssey to this remarkable region spans five countries and weaves together the area's deep history with the monumental events of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Discover the charm of Budapest, Vienna, Warsaw, Krakow, and Prague, and explore significant cultural, historical, and scenic sites along the way. Highlights include touring Vienna's majestic Schönbrunn Palace, and seeing Josefov, Prague's historic Jewish ghetto. Explore the unique Wieliczka Salt Mines near Krakow, and visit the concentration camps of Auschwitz and Birkenau. Traveling in a small group allows for unique flexibility and personal encounters along the way, such as a dinner in Bratislava at the restaurant of a local family and a private classical piano recital in Warsaw. Also, there is ample free time for independent exploration.

We are pleased to share this departure with alumni from the University of Iowa. Tour participation is limited to 24 guests total, so please call today to register!

Sincerely,

Loren R. Taylor  
President and CEO  
University of Illinois Alumni Association

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS RESERVATION FORM: DISCOVERING EASTERN EUROPE**

Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$500 per person) for \_\_\_\_\_ person/people on **Discovering Eastern Europe** departing **September 19, 2015**. I/we understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure (or by June 16, 2015). Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA or by personal check. **Please make check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., and send (with completed reservation form) to: University of Illinois Alumni Association, 200 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60606. Or call our EXPLORERS office toll-free at 800-556-2586.**

Full Passport Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

Full Passport Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Ph. (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Badge Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please book my/our air from \_\_\_\_\_ I/we request a Business Class upgrade

I will share a room with \_\_\_\_\_ I request a single room (limited availability)

**Post-Tour "Prague" Extension:** Please sign me/us up

**Please Note:** The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for **Discovering Eastern Europe, Sep. 19-Oct. 5, 2015**, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms & Conditions.

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Method of Payment**  Check  American Express  Discover  MasterCard  VISA

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Cardholder \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure, and is payable by check or credit card.

## GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a \$500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

### Not included in tour price

Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; optional sightseeing; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities \$10-\$15 per day, per traveler); travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline prior to departure.

### Cancellations, refunds and changes

If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your written notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **Cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; Cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price; Cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; Cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; Cancel 29-0 days before departure: No refund.** If a guest makes any changes to their reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure. Upon reservation you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and your gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.**

### Responsibility

The liability of the University of Illinois Alumni Association, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. The University of Illinois Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

### Health and Medical Issues

We request that you be in good health to participate in this Odysseys Unlimited tour. There is a reasonable amount of walking, and **you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches on your own.** We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that our itineraries cannot accommodate wheelchairs. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and the University of Illinois Alumni Association assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

### Air Transportation – Important Information

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown and contracts with those airlines they feel provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignments on your international flight are usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and departure fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**



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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Presorted  
Standard  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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