



CRUISE THE

GRAND DANUBE PASSAGE

featuring PRAGUE & SOFIA

NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
FOR SOLO TRAVELERS



JULY 30-AUGUST 13, 2015

Full Price Starting from	Special Savings	Special Price Starting from
\$4,845	\$250	\$4,595*

*Special Price valid if booked by 10/1/2014.

VAT is an additional \$395 per person. All cabins have remote-controlled TV & DVD, refrigerator and security safe.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air program costs (unless otherwise stated) and valid until October 1, 2014. Please contact us for current pricing and information. Single supplement waived for solo travelers! (Limited availability.)



800-556-2586

www.uiaa.org/explorers/

GRAND DANUBE PASSAGE

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Described by Napoleon as “the king of Europe’s rivers,” the Danube is steeped in legend and epic lore. Discover the scenic banks that have witnessed

centuries of human history and the rise and fall of civilizations. Natural wonders abound in the vineyard-clad Wachau Valley, the narrow, twisting Danube Bend and the formidable Iron Gate Gorge. Begin your experience by delving into the rich culture of Prague, and explore its Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Embark on a eight-night cruise of the Danube, offering a feast of ancient capitals, picturesque villages, Roman ruins, magnificent churches, palaces and medieval castles. Continue to Sofia, the historic capital of Bulgaria, where ancient ruins and chic boutiques coexist among tree-shaded boulevards.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy a eight-night **Danube River cruise** aboard the exclusively chartered **MS Amadeus Silver**.
- **Luxurious hotel accommodations**, renowned for every modern convenience and service, in **Prague**, capital of the Czech Republic and in **Sofia**, capital of Bulgaria.
- Discover beguiling scenery in **eight countries** and **13 cities and towns**.
- Experience **Eastern European culture and cuisine**. See marvelous old-world capitals, medieval castles, beautiful churches, monumental cathedrals, picturesque villages and incomparable Danube River landscapes.
- Cruise through some of the most historic and beautiful stretches of the storied Danube — the incredible **Iron Gate Gorge**, the twisting **Danube Bend** and the breathtaking **Wachau Valley**.
- **Four educational lectures** offer insight into local history and culture.

INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations

- Three nights in **Prague, Czech Republic**, at the deluxe **Art Deco Imperial Hotel**.
- Eight nights aboard the first-class **MS Amadeus Silver**.
- Two nights in **Sofia, Bulgaria**, at the deluxe **Sofia Hotel Balkan**.

Transportation

- All deluxe motor coach transfers in the Land/Cruise Program itinerary and baggage handling on these transfers are included.

Activities and Events

- **Informative educational programs** presented by **local experts** will enhance your insight into the region.
- **All excursions** as outlined in your program itinerary.
- **Personal VOX listening device** to hear every word from your expert English-speaking guides.
- Attend two **Welcome Receptions**.
- Gather for a **Farewell Reception and Dinner**.

Extensive Meal Program

- Enjoy 13 breakfasts, eight lunches and nine dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Sample **authentic regional specialties** during select meals at featured local restaurants.
- Take advantage of **leisure time** to try the **local cuisine** independently.

MANY INCLUDED EXTRAS

- Consultation services of a dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of an experienced **Travel Director** throughout your stay.
- **Tipping** of excursion guides and drivers.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in planning.
- Complimentary travel wallet.

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DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1 ~ IN TRANSIT

Depart for Prague, Czech Republic.[†]

[†] Provided for AHI FlexAir participants.

DAY 2 ~ PRAGUE

Upon arrival, transfer[†] to the Art Deco Imperial Hotel. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure to explore or relax.

Attend a Welcome Reception tonight.

DAY 3 ~ PRAGUE

Excursion: Prague Castle and Old Town.

Visit Prague Castle and the Old Town. See the Royal Palace, St. Vitus Cathedral, St. George Basilica and Charles Bridge.

DAY 4 ~ PRAGUE

Excursion: Prague's Historic Jewish Quarter.

Explore Josefov, Prague's historic Jewish Quarter, and visit the National Jewish Museum.

DAY 5 ~ PASSAU

Transfer to Passau, and embark the MS Amadeus Silver.

Excursion: Picturesque Passau.

See the old town hall, St. Stephen's Cathedral and royal residences.

Attend a Welcome Aboard Reception.

DAY 6 ~ MELK/DÜRNSTEIN

Excursion: Melk.

Marvel at Melk's magnificent Benedictine Abbey.

Cruise through the Wachau Valley.

Excursion: Dürnstein.

Visit the Stiftskirche, with its striking façade and baroque tower.

DAY 7 ~ VIENNA

Educational Focus: Vienna.

Excursion: Imperial Vienna.

See the historic sights of Vienna, including the Imperial Apartments of Hofburg Palace, the Houses of Parliament and the Vienna State Opera House.

DAY 8 ~ BRATISLAVA

Educational Focus: The Velvet Revolution.

Excursion: Bratislava.

Tour this medieval capital of the Slovak Republic. See St. Martin's Cathedral, St. Michael's Gate and the Primate's Palace.

DAY 9 ~ BUDAPEST

Educational Focus: The Velvet Revolution.

Excursion: Budapest.

Tour both banks of this striking capital city. See Heroes' Square, the Castle District, Parliament Building, the Opera House

and Fisherman's Bastion.

DAY 10 ~ PÉCS

Excursion: Pécs. The ship arrives in Kalocsa. Transfer to the historic city of Pécs. Founded by the Romans, this pretty Hungarian city has an excellent collection of Roman ruins. The city grew in importance during the Middle Ages, and it fell under Ottoman rule in the mid-16th century.

DAY 11 ~ BELGRADE

Educational Focus: Modern Serbia.

Excursion: Belgrade. Discover one of Eastern Europe's oldest capitals. Explore the Cathedral of St. Sava, the Orthodox cathedral and the Old Town. Enjoy a folk show onboard the ship.

DAY 12 ~ IRON GATE GORGE/DROBETA-TURNU SEVERIN/ORSOVA

This afternoon, cruise by the dramatic cliffs of the stunning Iron Gate Gorge.

Excursion: Drobeta-Turnu Severin and Orsova.

The three hamlets — Drobeta, Turnu and Severin — that compose this village date from Roman times. Tour the city center, then drive through the scenic Iron Gate region to Orsova for an organ concert at the Catholic cathedral.

DAY 13 ~ VIDIN/SOFIA

Excursion: Vidin. Explore one of the oldest towns along the Danube's Bulgarian banks. Visit the Baba Vida fortress and St. Pantaleimon Church. Disembark the ship and transfer to the Sofia Hotel Balkan in Sofia.

DAY 14 ~ SOFIA

Educational Focus: A Prologue to the Bulgarian Revival.

Excursion: Sofia. Tour the highlights of Bulgaria's capital, including the ruins of Serdica, Alexander Batenberg Square, St. Alexander of Neva Cathedral and chic Vitosha Boulevard.

Tonight, attend a Farewell Reception and Dinner, featuring a lively folk show.

DAY 15 ~ IN TRANSIT

Transfer to the Sofia airport for the return flight to your gateway city.[†]

NOTE: The information presented is preliminary. Itineraries, included features and schedules are subject to change. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking.

ACCOMMODATIONS

ART DECO IMPERIAL HOTEL

Combining modern technology and luxury, this hotel is located in the heart of Prague's historic city center, making it the perfect starting point for an exciting day of sightseeing, browsing the fashionable shops or exploring the city's nightlife. The hotel features a fitness center, spa, steam bath, sauna and whirlpool, as well as the swank Prime Bar and the famous Café Imperial restaurant. Each guest room features a marble bathroom with heated mirrors and floors.

MS AMADEUS SILVER

The state-of-the-art MS Amadeus Silver debuted in 2013 as a flagship of the innovative Lüftner cruise line. This stylish ship, named Kreuzfahrt Guide's 2013 River Boat of the Year, offers the utmost in service and comfort. Step into the elegant reception area and immerse yourself in an ambience reminiscent of a high-end hotel. Relax on the sun deck, challenge a friend to a game of chess or shuffleboard, browse in the boutique or connect with family at the Internet station. Practice your golf game on the putting green, exercise in the fitness room or treat yourself to a massage. Savor international cuisine at the restaurant's breakfast and lunch buffets, and enjoy regional specialties served with wine at dinner. At the end of each day, return to your cabin, featuring a river view, a satellite TV and a bathroom with a shower.

SOFIA HOTEL BALKAN

This elegant hotel offers luxury and the finest amenities within walking distance of Sofia's historic town center. Dine on international selections at Stardust Restaurant, or enjoy a piano bar atmosphere at Lobby Bar Pliska. The hotel also has a fitness center, sauna, salon, casino, gift shop and laundry service.

Previous page (top to bottom):

Iron Gate Gorge
Melk



AHI Travel
International Tower
8550 W. Bryn Mawr Ave.
Suite 600
Chicago, IL 60631

Reserve your Danube cruise today!

Flyer:1-22143

Send to: University of Illinois Alumni Association
EXPLORERS Travel Program
200 S. Wacker Drive Illini Center, 2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60606



Please contact our EXPLORERS office at **800-556-2586** or fax **312-575-7832** with questions regarding this trip or to make a reservation.

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

(1) _____
 Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

(2) _____
 Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home: (_____) Cell: (_____) _____

Sharing with _____ . (Form sent separately.)

Name(s) you would like on your name badge(s):

(1) _____ (2) _____

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Cruise and AHI FlexAir Program

I/we reserve the Cruise Program and request AHI FlexAir to Prague, Czech Republic, with a return from Sofia, Bulgaria, to depart from:

Departure City _____

- Please contact me regarding air options.
- Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

Cruise Program

- I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

Cabin Category Requested:

- I prefer single accommodations (supplement waived, limited availability).

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first come, first served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by May 16, 2015 (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa or Discover. Make checks payable to AHI International.

The EXPLORERS program is open to alumni of the University of Illinois, their families, and friends.

I accept the conditions as stated in this brochure, including the statement regarding Responsibilities, and submit my reservation(s) as indicated.

Signature _____ Date _____
Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600 per person required)
to reserve _____ place(s).

- Accept my check made payable to **AHI International**.
- Charge my: MasterCard Visa Discover

Card # _____

Expires _____ / _____

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI International constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

800-556-2586

NOT INCLUDED-Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas, entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature.

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CANCELLATION-In addition to airline cancellation penalties, all cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a \$250 per person administrative fee. (Please note that you may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year following.) Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75-30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE. All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI International Corporation.

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