Symphony on the Blue Danube

Prague # Passau # Melk # Dürnstein
Vienna # Bratislava # Budapest

aboard the Exclusively Chartered AMADEUS QUEEN

September 5 to 14, 2018
Dear Fellow Columbian,

The Danube River and the resplendent cultural centers of Prague and Vienna inspired classical music’s Great Masters. Join alumni and friends from September 5 – 14, 2018, for this comprehensive itinerary showcasing five countries in the heartland of central Europe. Discover a visual symphony of both natural and man-made architecture—rolling hillsides and lush vineyards in concert with medieval cities and stone castles—encapsulating what centuries of artists and travelers have found so inspiring and resonant.

Our itinerary features private performances of the musical heritage of Europe’s most accomplished composers, including Mozart and Beethoven. Explore six UNESCO World Heritage sites, experience historically rich and culturally dynamic legacies and contextualize the West’s art and architectural masterpieces. Enjoy three nights in Prague, the “City of a Thousand Spires,” in a deluxe, centrally-located hotel before cruising the fabled Blue Danube from Passau, Germany, to Budapest, Hungary. Travel aboard the specially chartered AMADEUS QUEEN—a deluxe river ship with the ability to dock right in the heart of cities on our itinerary.

High notes will include a distinctive schedule of specially arranged expert lectures, private classical music performances, guided excursions in Prague and in each port of call along the Danube River, and an overnight stay in the fin-de-siècle grandeur of Vienna, Austria’s extraordinary capital.

The Columbia Alumni Association (CAA) is a global network connecting Columbians of all Schools to one another and to the intellectual and social fabric of Columbia University, even after graduation. It links 338,000 alumni through more than 100 Regional Clubs and Shared Interest Groups, online resources, and over 200 thought-provoking programs around the world. The CAA Travel Study Program is one of the benefits offered to alumni and is an opportunity to continue one’s Columbia education through new intellectual, cultural, and geographical horizons.

This Symphony on the Blue Danube is a sublime composition; it is sure to strike a chord with virtuosos, art and architecture enthusiasts, historians and travelers of all interests. Please contact the Alumni Travel Study Program office at 866-325-8664 or travelstudy@columbia.edu to reserve your place today.

Sincerely,

Donna H. MacPhee ’89CC, P: ’17CC
Vice President for Alumni Relations
President, Columbia Alumni Association

SUPERIOR
Our programs are classified in three categories: Value, Superior and Luxury
U.S./Prague, Czech Republic
Wednesday and Thursday, September 5 and 6
Depart the U.S. for Prague, the “City of a Thousand Spires,” a UNESCO World Heritage site showcasing 600 years of virtually untouched architecture.
Upon arrival, check into the deluxe INTERCONTINENTAL PRAHA HOTEL. Attend the private Welcome Reception Thursday evening in the hotel.

Prague
Friday and Saturday, September 7 and 8
On the guided walking tour, explore the diverse cultural legacy of Prague, celebrated for its splendid combination of Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque architecture. Walk the winding lanes of the Staré Město (Old Town) to the Orloj, the ornate, 15th-century astronomical clock of the Old Town Hall, and see the iconic Charles Bridge lined with 17th- and 18th-century Baroque statues. Enjoy a brief private performance of Mozart’s music and a specially arranged private tour in the Estates Theatre, where the prodigy’s opera Don Giovanni premiered in 1787. In Josefov, the Jewish Quarter of Prague, visit Europe’s oldest extant Jewish house of worship—the Gothic-style Old-New Synagogue—and walk amongst the moss-covered, 15th-century headstones of the Old Jewish Cemetery.
On Saturday, tour the former residence of Bohemian royalty, the Hradčany complex of castles, churches and museums, whose spires dominate the city skyline. Visit the neo-Gothic St. Vitus Cathedral, the largest and most significant cathedral in Prague, and see the Royal Mausoleum and spectacular St. Wenceslas Chapel.
By special arrangement, view original Beethoven manuscripts and enjoy a private string quartet concert in the magnificent, family-owned 16th-century Lobkowicz Palace.

Prague/Passau, Germany
Sunday, September 9
Travel through the bucolic wooded Czech and German countryside to Passau, where three legendary rivers—the Danube, Ilz and Inn—converge. Enjoy lunch in a historic, traditional German restaurant before the walking tour.

St. Stephan’s Cathedral organ is a technical marvel.

Walk through the “Golden Lane,” a quaint byway lined with small, Mannerist-style houses and workshops once occupied by castle goldsmiths, alchemists, artisans and guards. Author Franz Kafka was said to have lived here between 1916 and 1917. Discover more of Prague’s time-honored treasures during the afternoon and evening at your leisure.

Melk, Austria/Dürnstein
Monday, September 10
Visit the prestigious 900-year-old Benedictine Abbey of Melk. The impressive cloister is an Austrian Baroque masterpiece

Cover photo: Budapest’s Gothic Revival Parliament Building is a proud symbol of Hungary’s national rebirth. Photo this page: Prague’s famous Charles Bridge links the medieval Old Town with the Baroque palaces of the Little Quarter.
by Paul Troger, showcasing stunning 18th-century ceiling frescoes and priceless relics. The beautiful kirche (church), houses the perfectly intact, multi-panel, 16th-century altarpiece by Danube School master Jörg Breu the Elder. A prestigious center of scholarship throughout the Middle Ages, the abbey’s library is today a repository of 100,000 medieval manuscripts.

Later, dock in the charming medieval village of Dürnstein, situated below the hilltop ruins of Castle Kuenringer, where Richard the Lionheart was held prisoner after the Third Crusade. Stroll through the storybook village, stopping in the 15th-century Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Abbey Church for a short, private organ concert.

This evening, cruise the Danube’s fabled Wachau Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site, where terraced vineyards blanket hillsides dotted with haunting medieval castle ruins.

**Vienna**

**Tuesday, September 11**

Former seat of the Habsburg Empire, Vienna’s historic center is a UNESCO World Heritage open-air museum of splendid Baroque architecture. Its famous Ringstrasse, commissioned by Austro-Hungarian Emperor Franz Josef, showcases the impressive Vienna State Opera house and Hofburg Palace. Visit the iconic, Gothic-style Stephansdom (St. Stephen’s Cathedral).

Enjoy a private, specially arranged performance of Mozart and other composers’ music in the extraordinary, intricately painted Sala Terrena, Vienna’s oldest concert hall and where Mozart worked, performed and resided. Further peruse the cultural treasures of Vienna this afternoon and evening at your leisure.

**Vienna/Bratislava, Slovakia**

**Wednesday, September 12**

Enjoy a free morning in Vienna or join the optional excursion to the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Schönbrunn Palace and Gardens, the lavish summer estate of the imperial Habsburgs. It was here, in one of the pricelessly adorned grand salons, that a six-year-old Mozart first performed for Empress Maria Theresa and her daughter, the future Queen of France, Marie Antoinette.
This afternoon, en route to Bratislava, cruise through Austria’s fertile Donau-Auen National Park, which preserves the last remaining major wetlands in central Europe. Bratislava is nestled in the foothills of the impressive Carpathian Mountain range, overlooking the broad banks of the Danube; beautifully restored since the end of the Cold War, Slovakia’s charming capital city depicts 21st-century life amidst its 1000-year-old history. On a guided tour of the Old Town, walk among a sampling of central Europe’s finest medieval, Renaissance and 19th-century architecture. Visit the Romanesque, 14th-century Cathedral of St. Martin and the elaborate Primatial Palace, and see St. Michael’s Gate, Bratislava’s oldest preserved medieval fortification, originally built in 1300.

This evening, enjoy a delightful performance of classical music on board the ship.

Budapest, Hungary
Thursday, September 13

Austrian-born, nevertheless the “most Hungarian Habsburg,” Archduke Joseph is credited with creating in Budapest an imperial capital that rivaled Vienna. The embankments of the centuries-old twin cities of Buda and Pest facing each other across the Danube and the famous Buda Castle Quarter are a designated UNESCO World Heritage site.

Begin your tour in Pest to see the iconic neo-Gothic limestone Parliament Building, built between 1884 and 1904 on the river’s banks. Pass through Heroes’ Square and admire the monuments honoring the Magyar chiefs who conquered Hungary in A.D. 896. The 19th-century, neo-Renaissance Hungarian State Opera House is one of the most beautiful performing arts venues in the world; the guided visit highlights its interior, which is decorated with frescoes by Mór Than and Károly Lotz. Here, enjoy a private, specially arranged aria performance. Cross the imposing Chain Bridge, linking river-level Pest to the hills of Buda on the opposite side of the Danube. Visit the late-19th-century, neo-Romanesque Fishermen’s Bastion on Castle Hill. Here, the terrace’s turrets symbolize the seven Magyar tribes that settled in the Carpathian Basin, and the views are exceptional. Nearby is the Gothic-style St. Matthias Church, where Charles I, the last Habsburgian ruler, was coronated in 1916.

On board the ship this evening, attend the Captain’s Farewell Reception and Dinner followed by a Hungarian folklore performance.

Budapest/U.S.
Friday, September 14

Continue on the Hungarian Tradition in Budapest Post-Program Option or transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S.
Exclusively Chartered ms Amadeus Queen

The elegant precision of Austria’s native son Mozart inspired the meticulous crafting of the new Amadeus Queen, launching in 2018 and featuring the comforts of a refined and traditional hotel.

The 81 stylish Staterooms and Suites are among the most spacious of any European river ship (172 to 284 square feet). Suites include a private balcony, and select Staterooms feature a unique floor-to-ceiling window that can become a French balcony at the touch of a button. Accommodations have two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control, sitting area and private bathroom with shower. Most have a minibar.

The delightful restaurant offers scenic views through panoramic windows as well as continental cuisine featuring fresh, local ingredients. Daily meals include early-risers’ coffee, buffet breakfast and lunch, afternoon tea, four-course dinner with complimentary wine and beer, and late-evening snack.

For your leisure time on board there are two bars, an open-air lounge, complimentary Wi-Fi, beauty salon, boutique, massage room, fitness studio, indoor pool and Sun Deck. Complimentary bicycles are available for independent pursuits on shore. An elevator serves all passenger decks except the Sun Deck. There is no doctor on board.

The Amadeus fleet has been awarded the rare “Green Certificate” of environmental preservation.

Historic Prussia and Saxony

Berlin • Dresden

Pre-Program Option

Known for its world-class museums and eclectic architecture, Berlin is one of Europe’s preeminent cultural centers. Following a city tour, visit the Wall Museum at historic Checkpoint Charlie, the former border crossing between East and West Berlin. Explore the Pergamon Museum on UNESCO World Heritage-designated Museum Island. En route to Prague, enjoy oft-overlooked Dresden, known as the “Jewel Box of Germany” for its splendid architecture and its cultural and artistic significance. Accommodations are for three nights in the deluxe Westin Grand Berlin Hotel.

Hungarian Tradition in Budapest

Pre-Program Option

Extend your stay in captivating Budapest, amid the majestic hills of Buda and the artistic, bohemian avenues of Pest. Enjoy an excursion into Hungary’s great protected Puszta (plains), including a display of master horsemanship and a traditional regional lunch and visit the stately, Gothic Revival-style Parliament Building. Accommodations are for two nights in the Five-Star Kempinski Hotel Corvinus.

Pre-Program and Post-Program Options and the Schönbrunn Palace and Gardens Optional Excursion are available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
Included Features

In Prague, Czech Republic
◆ ◆ Three nights in the centrally located, deluxe InterContinental Praha Hotel, with breakfast each morning.
◆ ◆ Welcome Reception in the hotel.
◆ ◆ Visit to the magnificent Hradčany Castle complex, including its Gothic-style St. Vitus Cathedral.

Scenic transfer from Prague to Passau, Germany, and a walking tour of Passau featuring its charming Altstadt (Old Town), a visit to the 12th-century St. Stephan’s Cathedral and lunch.

On Board the Exclusively Chartered, Deluxe AMADEUS QUEEN
◆ ◆ Five-night cruise along the legendary Danube River from Passau, Germany, to Budapest, Hungary.
◆ ◆ River-view, air-conditioned Suite or Stateroom.
◆ ◆ All meals aboard ship.
◆ ◆ Complimentary house wine and beer are served with lunch and dinner.
◆ ◆ Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
◆ ◆ Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the ship.
◆ ◆ Tour of the magnificent Benedictine Abbey of Melk, a Baroque masterpiece.
◆ ◆ Guided tour of Bratislava’s medieval Old Town.

Specially Arranged Music Highlights
◆ ◆ Private tour of Prague’s Estates Theatre with a short, exclusive performance of Mozart’s compositions.
◆ ◆ Guided tour of Lobkowicz Palace with private concert of classical music.
◆ ◆ Two classical music performances on board the ship.
◆ ◆ Walking tour of picturesque Dürnstein, with a brief, private organ recital inside Dürnstein Abbey Church.
◆ ◆ Exclusive Hungarian folklore performance on board the ship.

UNESCO World Heritage Site Highlights
◆ ◆ Walking tour of Prague’s historic center, through the Staré Město (Old Town) and Josefov, the old Jewish Quarter.
◆ ◆ Cruise through the scenic Wachau Valley.
◆ ◆ Panoramic tour of the historic center of the world-class city of Vienna, featuring a private performance of Mozart and other composers’ music.
◆ ◆ Tour of Budapest, highlighted by a visit to the Hungarian State Opera House and a private, specially arranged, brief aria performance.

Enhanced Travel Services
◆ ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
◆ ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
◆ ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
◆ ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom on board the ship and on excursions.
◆ ◆ Optional excursion to Vienna’s UNESCO World Heritage-designated Schönbrunn Palace and Gardens available at additional cost.
◆ ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship and in the hotel.
◆ ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
◆ ◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
◆ ◆ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.
Since the 18th century, the lands encompassing the Danube River Valley—Austria, Hungary, and Germany—and the Czech Republic have bequeathed to the world an unparalleled musical legacy. The 1700s saw the creative genius of Johann Sebastian Bach, Franz Josef Haydn, Johann Pachelbel and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. In the 19th century, such musical titans as Ludwig van Beethoven, Franz Schubert, Johannes Brahms, Franz Liszt and Johann Strauss II reigned over the courts and orchestra halls of central Europe, backed by the generous patronage of the Habsburgs in Vienna.

This exclusive journey highlights the musical traditions of master composers and their enduring vitality. See the stage in Prague’s prestigious Estates Theatre where Mozart premiered his famous opera Don Giovanni and attend a private performance of the great composer’s works. Admire Europe’s largest cathedral pipe organ in Passau’s St. Stephan’s Cathedral. View a collection of Beethoven’s original manuscripts and attend a private performance of musical works by Beethoven and other master composers in royally commissioned Lobkowicz Palace. Enjoy a short organ recital within the 15th-century Dürnstein Abbey Church. Stroll through the historic center of Vienna in the footsteps of Beethoven and Brahms, see the famous Vienna State Opera house and attend a private performance of Mozart’s music at Sala Terrena, the oldest concert hall in the city. Enjoy classical music performances on board the ship.

The golden statue of Johann Strauss II immortalizes Vienna’s rich musical legacy.
**SYMPHONY ON THE BLUE DANUBE RESERVATION FORM**

**Send to:**
Columbia Alumni
Travel Study Program
P.O. Box 930
Riverside, CT 06878
or fax: (203) 724-0844

**For more information:**
Phone: (866) 325-8664 (toll free)
email: travelstudy@columbia.edu
www.Alumni.Columbia.edu/Travel

**Title**   **Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)**  **School/Degree/Year**

**Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)**

**City**    **State**    **ZIP Code**

**Telephone:** (Home)    (Mobile)    (Business)

**Email Address**

**Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s)**

**Tour No.** 027-09/05/18-021

**Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Historic Prussia and Saxony Pre-Program Option and/or $200 per person Hungarian Tradition in Budapest Post-Program Option.**

- Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________ as deposit.
- Make checks payable to 2018 Symphony on the Blue Danube.
- I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to:
  - Visa
  - MasterCard

**Card Number**    **Exp. Date**

**Signature as it appears on credit card**

**All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by June 1, 2018.**

By forwarding the deposit for this travel program, I/we acknowledge that I/we have read and accept the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement in this brochure.

**Please make my/our reservation(s) in Stateroom Category:**

1st Choice    2nd Choice

- Double occupancy (two twin beds).
- Double occupancy (one queen bed).
- Single accommodations.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

**Please make my/our reservation(s):**

- Historic Prussia and Saxony
- Berlin - Dresden

**Pre-Program Option**

- Double at $1495 per person.
- Single at $7295 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

**Hungarian Tradition in Budapest Post-Program Option**

- Double at $795 per person.
- Single at $1195 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

- I/We want you to book my/our air, at additional cost to be advised, from:

  - (fill in departure city)

**Note:** Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.

- Economy Class
- Upgraded Economy
- Business Class
- First Class

**I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.**

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*Prices are an additional $195 per person and are subject to change.†

‡**AMADEUS QUEEN** has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

**SYMPHONY  on the BLUE DANUBE reservation form**

**Land/Cruise Tariff** excluding taxes*

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<th>Stateroom Category</th>
<th>Early Booking Tariff* through March 13, 2018</th>
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**Junior Suite**

- Suite with private balcony, (sliding glass doors with railing), sofa, bath robes and minibar. Mozart Deck, forward.

- Suite with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to create a French balcony, minibar. Strauss Deck, mid aft.

- Suite with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to create a French balcony, minibar. Strauss Deck, mid.

- Suite with small window.

Singles are available in category 2 at $9295* and in category 1 at $9995* on or before March 13, 2018. Add $1000 for reservations made after March 13, 2018.

*Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.
RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

RESPONSIBILITY: Columbia University, its agent, TSS LLC, and operator, The Alumni Travel Study Program Company, and its and their employees, shall be, in all respects, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (collectively "Gohagan"), do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide any services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation companies, guides or guide services, local ground operators, providers or originators of optional excursions, hosts of any hotel or cruise lines, or other independent contractors. As a result, Gohagan is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity or of any other third party.

In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the transportation of any goods or services other resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts of government, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, bites from or attacks by animals, insects or pests, and may not be liable for any costs or expenses incurred or paid to or on behalf of any hotel or cruise line.

In the sole discretion of the hotel or cruise line, Gohagan reserves the right to decline to accept as a trip participant, or remove from a trip, without notice. Furthermore, for any reason, with or without notice, and Gohagan shall not be liable for any increased costs will be passed on after final payment except for subsequently imposed governmental tax increases.

CANCELLATION: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effectual until received in writing in the offices of the Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program. Should you fail to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a $200 ($50 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 121 days prior to departure; from 99 through 120 days prior to departure, $800 ($200 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person; from 61 through 94 days prior to departure, 40% of the published full regular tariffs; from 45 through 60 days prior to departure, 55% of the published full regular tariffs; from 22 through 44 days prior to departure, 70% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 21 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may be charged.

TRIP INSURANCE: We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Additional information on insurance options will be sent upon receipt of your reservation.

RATES: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. On land and/or cruise programs, even after full payment, Gohagan reserves the right to increase the trip price in the event of increased costs due to changes in supplier costs, currency fluctuations or fuel or energy surcharges and all such increases are to be paid by Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases. On programs which include Gohagan purchased interstate or international (which originates or returns to the United States), no increased costs will be passed on after final payment except for subsequently imposed governmental tax increases.

REGISTRATION: CST#: 2031886-40, WST#: 601 767 666, OST#: TA 9095.

BINDING ARBITRATION: Any dispute concerning, relating or referring to this Agreement, the brochure or any other literature concerning the trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration pursuant to the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. Sections 1-16, either according to the then existing Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) or pursuant to the Comprehensive Arbitration Rules & Procedures of the JAMS. Such proceedings will be governed by substantive (but not procedural) Illinois law and will take place in Chicago, IL. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. Please understand that under these terms and conditions, the participant and Gohagan are waiving the right to a trial by jury.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability which would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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