Columbia University
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
PRESENTS

Danube River and Habsburg Empire
aboard the M.S. Amadeus Princess and
MAJESTIC IMPERATOR
Train de Luxe

June 9 to 19, 2006

With Columbia Professor
John Micgiel
Dear Columbian:

Join Professor John Micgiel, fellow alumni and friends on a journey through the heart of Central Europe, once the realm of Habsburg Emperors. Here, in a land of both man-made and natural beauty, soaring Gothic cathedrals tower above medieval cities, ornate Baroque churches look out over peaceful country towns, and the Danube and Vltava rivers carve their way through lush hills, valleys, vineyards and forests.

Your program begins in the cosmopolitan city of Budapest, renowned for its legendary vitality and joie de vivre. Board the deluxe M.S. AMADEUS PRINCESS, one of the finest ships to ply the waterways of Europe, for a four-night cruise on the magical “Blue Danube” to the imperial Vienna of Maria Theresia and Franz Josef, passing the pristine storybook villages of the scenic Austrian countryside.

A high point of this itinerary is to experience the opulence and aura of a bygone era as you travel aboard the carefully restored 19th-century vintage carriages of the Majestic Imperator Train de Luxe. A daylight journey takes you across the rolling hills and woodlands of the Czech Republic and Poland. Our program also features overnights in well-preserved medieval gems — Prague and Kraków — that are open-air museums of Central European history and architecture.

Among the many included features of this program are deluxe accommodations, travel aboard the Majestic Imperator, most meals and a comprehensive schedule of exclusive guided excursions, featuring visits to five UNESCO World Heritage Sites. You have the option of extending your Danube River and Habsburg Empire experience with a two-night post-tour in Warsaw, Poland’s vibrant capital.

Traveling through the heartland of Europe has never been easier or more appealing. This itinerary provides a fresh perspective on a region of wonderful cultural riches and diversity for repeat and new travelers to the Danube and Central Europe. We are pleased to be joined by alumni from UCLA, Georgetown University and Tufts University, among other participants. Because this program sold out quickly in 2005, we encourage you to make your reservations today.

With best wishes from Morningside Heights,

Eric J. Furda
Vice President for Alumni Relations

John Micgiel is an Adjunct Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University and Director of the East Central European Center. He is also Associate Director of the Harriman Institute and Executive Director of the Institute for the Study of Europe. Professor Micgiel's teaching and research interests include the modern history of East Central Europe, and contemporary politics in ECE and Western Europe. He has authored "Coercion and the Establishment of Communist Rule in Poland, 1944-1947," "In the Shadow of the Second Republic," and Polish Foreign Policy Reconsidered: Challenges of Independence. He has been the editor for Wilsonian East Central Europe: Perspectives on Political and Economic Transitions After Communism; State and Nation Building in East Central Europe: The Transformations of 1989-1999: Triumph or Tragedy?; and Contemporary Perspectives, Democracy and Integration in an Enlarging Europe. Micgiel holds a B.A., from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and an M.A. and a Certificate of the Institute on East Central Europe from Columbia, where he also completed his Ph.D. in East Central European history. Professor Micgiel, an experienced faculty host, will travel with alumni once again and looks forward to sharing his insights through formal presentations and informal discussions.

Please note that a minimum number of passengers is required to confirm faculty participation.
“A destination only becomes desirable because the journey lies in between.”

- Empress Elisabeth of Austria

The Habsburg Emperor Franz Josef was the longest-reigning monarch in European history, occupying the Austro-Hungarian throne for 68 years, from 1848 to 1916. He was immensely popular within Austria, and presided over a sustained period of relative stability and prosperity throughout his realm.

The reign of Franz Josef coincided with the Great Age of Rail, when magnificent trains traversed the European countryside. With their classically designed carriages and luxurious decor, they came to embody the ultimate travel experience. Foremost among these elegant conveyances was the Majestic Imperator Train de Luxe, the imperial train of the Habsburgs, specially commissioned for Franz Josef and his consort, the Empress Elisabeth.

Today the Majestic Imperator Train de Luxe rolls once again through the heartland of Central Europe. Nearly a century after its inaugural service, these classic carriages have undergone meticulous restoration and reproduction based on the original train designs. Each vintage carriage evokes the grandeur of an age when luxury travel by train was a matter of course for European royalty. Traveling aboard this living piece of imperial rail history, savor local cuisine and delight in an elegant, exclusive journey, one truly designed for monarchs and emperors.
U.S./BUDAPEST, HUNGARY
Day 1 and Day 2
Depart from the U.S. for Budapest.
Arrive on Sunday and embark the M.S. AMADEUS PRINCESS, which remains in port overnight. Join your traveling companions at a private welcome toast and dinner this evening.

BUDAPEST
Day 3
For centuries, the twin cities of Buda and Pest have faced one another across the Danube River. When the Habsburg Archduke Joseph, son of Emperor Leopold II, became Palatine of Budapest in 1797, he undertook a building program on an unprecedented scale. By the time this “most Hungarian Habsburg” died in 1847, Budapest rivaled Vienna as an imperial capital of the first rank. Begin your morning tour of the “Pearl of the Danube” in Pest, whose elegant limestone Parliament Building rises beside the river. Pass through Heroes’ Square and admire its monuments to the Magyar chiefs who conquered Hungary in A.D. 896. Next, cross the imposing Chain Bridge linking low-lying Pest to the hillier Buda side of the Danube. On Castle Hill, visit the Gothic Matthias Church, built in the 1200s and renovated in the 17th and 19th centuries, and the neo-Romanesque Fishermen’s Bastion, which commands a panoramic view of the city.
Depart Budapest at midday and cruise up the historic Danube River.

VIENNA, AUSTRIA
Day 4
Seat of the Habsburg Empire and a marvelous example of primarily Baroque architecture, Vienna owes its present appearance to the Austro-Hungarian Emperor Franz Josef, who demolished the city’s defense walls in order to create the Ringstrasse, a ring road that showcases some of the city’s finest landmarks – the Austrian National Opera, the University, the Burgtheater and the Town Hall – all of which you will see during a city tour. The focal point of Vienna is the Stephansdom, the great 13th-century cathedral renowned for the dazzling zigzagged tiles that adorn its roof. Late this evening cruise upstream to Melk.

MELK
Day 5
Rising above a bend of the Danube River, Melk Abbey glows in mustard-yellow hues from the top of a high granite bluff. The original monastery, founded by an Irish monk, dates from 1089. In the 18th century, local architect Jakob Prandtauer was commissioned to create the present structure, a repository for valuable relics, 100,000 medieval volumes, and magnificent artwork by the 16th-century “Danube School” masters Paul Troger, Albrecht Dürer and Lucas Cranach. Tour the abbey and note the intricate Baroque decor of its marble hall, library and spiral staircase.
Resume your cruise after lunch. This evening attend the captain’s farewell reception.
PASSAU, GERMANY/PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC
Day 6
Disembark in Passau and travel across the rolling, wooded German and Czech countryside, with the spires and onion domes of village churches appearing in the distance. Upon arrival in Prague, check in to the deluxe Hotel Le Palais.

PRAGUE
Day 7
The Czech Republic’s Velvet Revolution of 1989 heralded the end of the Soviet era and the resurgence of Prague, with its streets once again filled with life, and its Baroque and Art Nouveau buildings restored to their former splendor. From Wenceslas Square, a former horse market, stroll down the narrow streets and lanes of Prague’s Staré Mesto (Old Town), a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and view the Orloj, the ornate 15th-century Astronomical Clock on the tower of the town hall. Continue through the historic Josefov (Jewish) Quarter to visit the Gothic Old-New Synagogue, Europe’s oldest Jewish house of worship, and the Moorish-styled Spanish Synagogue, famed for its gilded interior. Then walk among the moss-covered headstones of the Jewish Cemetery.
You have the afternoon free for independent exploration; lunch and dinner are on your own.

PRAGUE/KRAKÓW, POLAND
Day 9
Board the Majestic Imperator Train de Luxe after breakfast and relax in an atmosphere of 19th-century elegance as you enjoy a scenic passage across the northern Czech Republic and southern Poland. Arrive in Kraków late this afternoon and transfer to the deluxe Kraków Sheraton Hotel for dinner on your own and an evening at leisure.

PASSAU, GERMANY/PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC
Day 8
Drive to the Hradčany Quarter for a guided tour of majestic Prague Castle. For more than 1,100 years this vast complex of palaces, churches, halls and towers — once the residence of Bohemian royalty — has dominated a hilltop on the left bank of the Vltava River. Walk through the castle’s courtyards; visit stately St. Vitus Cathedral, a masterpiece of Late Gothic architecture; and stroll past the picturesque cottages of the Golden Lane, where jewelers and goldsmiths once lived and worked.
You have the afternoon at leisure; lunch and dinner are on your own.

PRAGUE
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You have the afternoon at leisure; lunch and dinner are on your own.
KRAKÓW
Day 10
For more than one thousand years, Kraków has been the cultural and spiritual capital of Poland, serving as the country's seat of government from 1038 to 1596. Kraków is the only major Polish city to have emerged from World War II unscathed, and its Old Town is a UNESCO World Heritage Site whose treasures remain undiminished through the centuries. Begin your walking tour in the old Jewish Quarter of Kazimierz, where Jewish life following World War II has undergone a reawakening, and 16th-century synagogues have been restored to approach their former magnificence. Continue to the complex of Wawel Hill, which includes the Royal Castle and the Cathedral of Sts. Stanislaus and Wacław. The cathedral, dating from the 14th century, is a sanctuary of national history — all of Poland’s kings were crowned here and lie in the crypt below the church. The castle, the seat of the monarchy for 500 years, blends 16th-century Florentine architecture with Polish motifs, thanks to the tastes of an Italian queen who married into the Polish royal house, and houses the state art collection. A highlight is the Great Courtyard. Walk in the Rynek Główny, or “Main Market Square,” an enormous plaza surrounded by ornate houses and towering spires, and view the 14th-century Mariacki Church (St. Mary’s), one of the finest Gothic structures in Poland. From the church’s tower a lone trumpeter sounds a haunting call every hour on the hour, in commemoration of a warning of an impending attack by the Tatars in medieval times; the trumpet stops in mid-note, signaling the death of the watchman by an enemy arrow. En route to the hotel, pass by the residence of John Paul II while he was Archbishop of Kraków.

You have the afternoon free for independent exploration. Alternatively, you may join the optional excursion to Auschwitz-Birkenau, a memorial to those who perished in the Holocaust. It was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1979.

This evening enjoy the farewell reception and dinner.

KRAKÓW/U.S.
Day 11
Transfer to the airport to board your return flight to the U.S.
Scheduled for launching in 2006, the deluxe M.S. AMADEUS PRINCESS will be one of the finest vessels to ply the waterways of Central Europe. Deluxe accommodations and superb service are perfectly complemented by sleek lines, impeccable construction and state-of-the-art technology.

All 81 tastefully appointed staterooms are outside and, at a standard 160 square feet, more spacious than those typically found on river ships. Cabins feature two twin beds (convertible to one double bed), private bathroom with shower, air conditioning, telephone, television and writing desk; cabins on the Mozart and Strauss Decks feature a panoramic window with French balcony. The two 236-square-feet suites are equipped with a lounge area, sofa bed and minibar.

Meals are served in a single, open seating in the restaurant, where guests savor gourmet Continental cuisine while enjoying views of the passing landscape. The ship has two bars, one featuring nightly musical entertainment; sun deck with lounge chairs and walking track; hair salon; boutique; fitness center with masseuse services; and small pool.

The M.S. AMADEUS PRINCESS’ experienced Austrian crew affords participants an unmatched level of service distinguished by professionalism, efficiency and personal attention. The ship also meets the highest international safety and environmental standards.

WARSAW/ CZESTOCHOWA POSTLUDE OPTION
Day 11 through Day 13
Extend your journey with a special two-night extension in Warsaw, Poland’s thriving political and cultural capital. Visit Czestochowa, the most venerated Catholic shrine in Central Europe. In Warsaw, enjoy inviting accommodations at the deluxe Hotel Le Meridien Bristol; walk through the beautifully restored streets and squares of its Old Town, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1980; visit the Royal Castle and Historical Museum; and view the Monuments to the Heroes of the Ghetto and the 1944 Warsaw Uprising. Complete details will be sent with your reservation confirmation.
INCLUDED FEATURES

ABOARD THE M.S. AMADEUS PRINCESS
◆ Four-night cruise on the scenic Danube River from Budapest, Hungary, to Passau, Germany, with calls at Vienna and Melk, Austria.
◆ Comfortable accommodations in a tastefully appointed outside cabin.
◆ All meals each day, featuring fine Continental cuisine – early risers’ coffee, American breakfast buffet, lunch, dinner and midnight snack – served at a single, unassigned seating.
◆ Welcome dinners and farewell receptions aboard ship.
◆ Cruise through the scenic Wachau Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
◆ All shore excursions:
  • Half-day tour of Budapest’s highlights, including visits to the Matthias Church and the Fishermen’s Bastion;
  • Half-day city tour of Vienna, a UNESCO World Heritage Site featuring the Stephansdom;
  • Tour of the magnificent Benedictine Abbey of Melk, a Baroque masterpiece.

ABOARD THE MAJESTIC IMPERATOR TRAIN DE LUXE
◆ A splendid journey during daylight hours while traveling aboard this luxury train through scenic countryside from Prague, Czech Republic to Kraków, Poland.
◆ Welcome drink.
◆ A three-course lunch while traveling to Kraków.

IN PRAGUE
◆ Three nights in the deluxe Hotel Le Palais, an intimate, belle-époque property. Breakfast is included each morning.
◆ Half-day walking tour of Prague from Wenceslas Square through the Staré Mesto (Old Town) to Josefov (old Jewish quarter) and to the historic Charles Bridge.
◆ Half-day city tour, including Hradčany Castle, and featuring a guided tour of the Royal Palace and a visit to St. Vitus’ Cathedral.

IN KRAKÓW
◆ Two nights in the deluxe Kraków Sheraton Hotel. Breakfast is included each morning.
◆ Walking tour of historic Kraków, a UNESCO World Heritage Site featuring the Kazimierz district, the Wawel Hill complex, the Rynek Główny and the 14th-century Mariacki Church.
◆ Farewell reception and dinner.

ENHANCED TRAVEL SERVICES
◆ All transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants who have purchased their air tickets through Gohagan & Company and who are traveling with the group on tour dates.
◆ All excursions and visits, as outlined in the itinerary, with experienced local English-speaking guides.
◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers.
◆ A hospitality desk aboard ship and in hotels.
◆ Experienced Travel Directors to accompany you throughout the program.
◆ Travel document wallet, name badge, and predeparture material for each participant.
◆ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
The Old Town Hall and the Church of Our Lady before Týn rise above Prague's Old Town Square.

CONTRACT:  TERMS AND CONDITIONS

NOT INCLUDED:  Airfare; federal inspection fees; passport fees; personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls, meals, and alcoholic beverages not listed in the “Included Features” section; services other than those specifically mentioned in the “Included Features” section; gratuities to ship personnel; transfers and baggage handling to/from airport/hotel on day(s) of arrival and/or departure 1) if you have not purchased your air arrangements through Thomas P. Gohagan & Company, or 2) if you are arriving or departing earlier and/or later than the departure of the group transfer(s); accident/nickness, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; and excess baggage charges on aircraft.

AIRFARE:  Approximate airfare is based on rates as of September 2005, is subject to change and availability and is non-refundable. Your airline ticket constitutes a contract between you and the airline (not Thomas P. Gohagan & Company), even if purchased through Thomas P. Gohagan & Company. Airfare purchased through Thomas P. Gohagan & Company is subject to all Terms and Conditions printed herein.

LUGGAGE:  Airlines have various policies concerning the number of bags and weight allowed without excess baggage charges. Check the specifics with your airline.

HEALTH:  Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must be reported in writing when you make your reservation.

DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS:  Discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program in writing, accompanied by the required deposit, by November 23, 2005. In the event a “discounted” reservation must be cancelled, no “replacement” reservation can be substituted at the discounted rate. A “replacement” reservation is, in effect, a new reservation and can be substituted only at the full-fare tariff. Change and/or cancellation fees apply as outlined in this “Contract: Terms and Conditions” for the “replacement” reservation and the cancelled reservation.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:  Cancellations for all or any part of the trip will not be effective until they are received in writing in the offices of Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program. Should you have to cancel, the following cancellation terms will apply: reservations are subject to a $100 per person cancellation fee from the time of booking, through 121 days prior to departure; 95 through 120 days prior to departure, $500 per person; 61 through 94 days prior to departure, 40% of the published full regular tariff; 45 through 60 days prior to departure, 55% of the published full regular tariff; 22 through 44 days prior to departure, 70% of the published full regular tariff; cancellations 21 days or less prior to departure, no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariff. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees and administrative fees will be assessed.

WARSAW CANCELLATIONS:  Should you have to cancel, the following cancellation terms apply: reservation cancellations are subject to a $50 per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 121 days prior to departure. Later cancellations will be subject to the following charges: from 95 through 120 days prior to departure, $200 per person; from 61 through 94 days prior to departure, 40% of the published full regular tariff; 45 through 60 days prior to departure, 55% of the published full regular tariff; 22 through 44 days prior to departure, 70% of the published full regular tariff; cancellations 21 days or less prior to departure, no-show or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariff. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees and administrative fees will be assessed.

We strongly recommend for your protection that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. Further information on insurance options will be sent upon receipt of your reservation.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT:  By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms and conditions of this contract.
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<th>T A R I F F (per person based on double occupancy)</th>
<th>Land/Cruise Only</th>
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<tr>
<td>Description - Ship: All cabins are outside with two twin beds convertible to one double bed, private bathroom facilities with shower, a desk and chair, air-conditioning, telephone, television and radio. Hairdryers are available.</td>
<td>Early Booking Price through November 23, 2005</td>
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<td>Cabin Category</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Ship: Small window. (160 sq. feet). Haydn Deck, Fwd.</td>
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<td>Train Carriages: Ambassador or Excelsior Dining in Vintage carriage, sitting in Classic Carriage</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Ship: Small window. (160 sq. feet). Haydn Deck</td>
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<td>Train Carriages: Ambassador or Excelsior Dining in Vintage carriage, sitting in Classic Carriage</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Ship: Floor to ceiling window with French balcony. (160 sq. feet). Strauss Deck</td>
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<td>Train Carriages: Ambassador or Excelsior Dining in Vintage carriage, sitting in Classic Carriage</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Ship: Floor to ceiling window with French balcony. (160 sq. feet). Mozart Deck</td>
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<td>Train Carriages: Elisabeth or Salon I Dining and sitting in Vintage carriage</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Ship: Suite with two floor to ceiling windows with French balcony. (236 sq. feet). Mozart Deck</td>
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<td>Train Carriages: Elisabeth or Salon I Dining and sitting in Vintage carriage</td>
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* Singles are available upon request in Cabin Category 4 at $5495 and Cabin Category 3 at $5895 on or before November 23, 2005. Add $500 for reservations made after November 23, 2005. 
* Port taxes are an additional $295 per person and are subject to change.

**DANUBE RIVER AND HABSBURG EMPIRE RESERVATION FORM**

Send to: Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program P.O. Box 169 New York, New York 10028 e-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu

Name(s) (as appears on passport)

First Initial Last School/Year

First Initial Last School/Year

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

City State ZIP Code

Telephone (Home) (Business)

Email Address

Preferred name(s) on badge(s) Tour No. 007-06/09/06-021

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $_________ as deposit ($500 per person, plus $200 per person Warsaw Postlude optional extension). Make check(s) payable to 2006 Danube River and the Habsburg Empire.

Deposits can also be made by credit card; however, all FINAL payments are required to be made in cash, by check or wire transfer by March 6, 2006.

I/we authorize you to charge my/our deposit to: ❑ Visa ❑ MasterCard

Card No. Exp. Date

Signature as it appears on credit card

By forwarding the deposit for this travel program, I/we acknowledge that I/we have read and accept the Terms & Conditions in this brochure.