May 18–June 1, 2007

2007

Danube and the Black Sea
Cruising Aboard the 98-Passenger Sound of Music

COLUMBIA alumni ASSOCIATION
Cruise along the Danube through the countryside of Eastern Europe, which seems to have been created by an artist’s brush. Delight in the beauty of Austria’s charming Wachau Valley as you sail between Melk and Vienna, with its imposing medieval abbey looking down on the river from high atop steep cliffs. Experience romantic Vienna, one of Europe’s most important historic cultural centers. Explore Budapest and discover its intriguing landmarks — architectural buildings, sweeping bridges, the Castle Hill district. Visit Belgrade, one of Europe’s most ancient cities, and sail through the beautiful Iron Gate Gorge — a fjordlike canyon that connects the Balkan and Carpathian mountain ranges. In the fortress city of Veliko Turnovo, situated on a hillside in Bulgaria’s Rousenski Lom River Valley, step back in time to discover a way of life that has all but disappeared. In the nearby town of Arbanasi, stroll along shady streets bordered by 16th- and 17th-century residences and churches. You’ll also explore gracious old Bucharest, where life retains a small-town intimacy. Spend three nights in exotic Istanbul at the end of your cruise.

May 18–June 1, 2007

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

1  Depart U.S.A.
2  Munich/Passau (Embark), Germany
3  Melk/Weissenkirchen (for Wachau Valley)/Vienna, Austria
4  Vienna
5  Bratislava, Slovakia
6  Budapest, Hungary
7  Osijek, Croatia
8  Belgrade, Serbia
9  Cruising the Iron Gate Gorge
10  Rousse (for Veliko Turnovo and Arbanasi), Bulgaria
11  Oltenita (for Bucharest), Romania
12  Constanta (Disembark), Romania/Istanbul, Turkey
13-14  Istanbul
15  Return to U.S.A.
DAY 1 Depart U.S.A.

DAY 2 Munich/Passau (Embark), Germany
Arrive in Munich and transfer to Passau, where you will embark the Sound of Music. This afternoon walk around this 2,000-year-old city, located at the confluence of the Ilz, Inn, and Danube rivers. Built on a narrow, rocky tongue of land between the Danube and the Inn, Passau faces the wooded cliffs and the fortress of Oberhaus. Originally a Celtic settlement, the city was a commercial and religious center during the Middle Ages. Enjoy the captain’s welcome dinner while cruising the beautiful Danube River.

DAY 3 Melk/Weissenkirchen (for Wachau Valley)/Vienna, Austria
Melk is home to a magnificent 900-year-old Benedictine abbey, one of Europe’s largest baroque monasteries, with wonderful frescoes and medieval manuscripts. As the setting for Umberto Eco’s historical mystery novel, The Name of the Rose, it enjoys a reputation as a focal point in the formative years of Austria’s history. Delight in Weissenkirchen, with vineyards climbing the nearby hillsides. You will have a chance to sample the region’s wine during a tour of the breathtaking Wachau Valley. Dine as you watch the passing Danube landscapes on your way to Vienna.

DAY 4 Vienna
Enter elegant Vienna, “City of Waltzes,” framed by Innsbruck’s snow-capped peaks. You will see St. Stephen’s Cathedral, with its 390-foot twin spires that dominate the skyline, and Hofburg Palace. Originally a medieval castle, today only the chapel shows signs of its medieval past. Step into the world of baroque culture with a visit to Schönbrunn Palace, the 18th-century home of Maria Theresa, with its lush gardens and park. The evening is free to explore more of Vienna on your own.

DAY 5 Bratislava, Slovakia
Explore this amazing Slovakian capital enveloped on one side by the Little Carpathian Mountains and by the Danube on the other. Bratislava Castle sits 300 feet above the river. Devin Castle, a fortress at the confluence of the Morava and Danube rivers, is one of the most significant archaeological sites in Slovakia, as is Michael’s Gate, with foundations that date to the first half of the 14th century. Enjoy an afternoon on the beautiful Danube as you cruise toward Hungary.

DAY 6 Budapest, Hungary
Legendary Budapest began as a Celtic stronghold in the third century B.C., then became part of the Roman Empire before falling under the hold of Attila the Hun. Budapest’s spell will entrance you as you explore its historic boulevards and museums. The Danube cuts through the city, separating the Buda hills and old city from modern Pest. Enjoy the afternoon at your leisure, then dine on board while cruising to Osijek.
DAY 7 Osijek, Croatia Today, you have an exciting opportunity to visit the largest city in eastern Croatia. Osijek, on the Drava River, is a powerful industrial center producing everything from matches (a factory established in 1856) to footwear. The city boasts a notable cultural and historical heritage, including the baroque-style Tvrda — one of the most attractive structures in Slavonia. The city also enjoys a culinary reputation with Slavonic-style specialties such as kulen, a paprika-flavored sausage, and a famous paprika fish stew. Late this evening, continue sailing the tranquil Danube toward Belgrade.

DAY 8 Belgrade, Serbia Enjoy the treasures of the Danube this morning as you cruise through the countryside of Serbia. The famed Kalemegdan fortress towers over Belgrade, the ancient capital of Serbia and Yugoslavia. Within the fortress is the Military Museum on the battlements of the citadel. Take advantage of free time at the city’s beautiful Orthodox cathedral in the Square of the Republic. After lunch on board, you can explore on your own before returning to the ship for dinner.

DAY 9 Cruising the Iron Gate Gorge Relax on deck as you follow along the picturesque landscapes of the Danube. You will see the medieval fortresses of Smederevo and Golubac, and the Trajan Table marks the spot where the Roman emperor crossed the Danube to conquer Dacia (modern Romania). The spectacular scenery will take your breath away as you pass through the Iron Gate, a narrow gorge on the Danube between the Carpathian and Balkan mountains. This gorge, one of the most dramatic sights in Europe, forms a natural border between Serbia and Romania.

DAY 10 Rousse (for Veliko Turnovo and Arbanasi), Bulgaria Today’s destination is one of the most romantic spots in Eastern Europe. Located on three hills surrounding the Yantra River, Veliko Turnovo features ancient stone houses perched on top of each other, clinging to the steep riverbank. See the old fortress walls, royal palaces, and church on Tsarevets Hill, and shop for handicrafts in the town market. Then continue to the museum town of Arbanasi, perfect for an afternoon of...
Mosques and minarets line Istanbul’s historic horizon.

exploration, especially its 17th-century Church of the Nativity.

DAY 11 Oltenita (for Bucharest), Romania
After breakfast, enjoy a full-day tour of Bucharest, Romania’s capital. Visit Nicolae Ceausescu’s “House of the People,” the world’s second-largest building after the Pentagon, and the 17th-century Patriarchal Cathedral. Explore Revolution Square, then tour the Village Museum for insights into Romanian culture. Dine on board this evening as you cruise toward the Black Sea.

DAY 12 Constanta (Disembark), Romania/Fly from Constanta to Istanbul, Turkey
Disembark the ship after breakfast and transfer to the Constanta airport for your included flight to Istanbul. Upon arrival, check in at the Hyatt Regency Istanbul. The remainder of the day is at leisure for independent exploration.

DAY 13 Istanbul
Both culturally and geographically, Istanbul embraces two continents, one arm reaching out to Asia, the other to Europe. Explore this vibrant and exhilarating city, and examine its heady mixture of cultures and traditions during your tour beginning in the Sultanahmet district. Visit one of the most famous monuments in Islamic and Turkish culture — the 17th-century Blue Mosque, distinguished by six slender minarets and an interior completely covered with thousands of blue Iznik tiles. Alongside the Blue Mosque is the second-century Hippodrome, the nucleus of Roman entertainment. Across the park is Hagia Sophia; originally built by Constantine and rebuilt by Justinian in 537, it is now considered a masterpiece of Byzantine art. Used as a mosque for almost 500 years, Hagia Sophia is a dramatic juxtaposition of Christian and Islamic architecture. Enjoy an included lunch at a local restaurant before crossing from the European side of the Bosporus to the Asian, visiting magnificent Beylerbeyi Palace, an elegant late-Ottoman imperial summer residence that boasts a treasure trove of priceless art. Spend the evening at leisure.

DAY 14 Istanbul
Continue your exploration of Istanbul’s dichotomies today. Visit Topkapi Palace, the residence of the sultans and their harems for centuries; and the Yerbatan Sarnici (sunken cistern), the most impressive part of an underground network of cisterns created by Constantine. Browse the historic Grand Bazaar, a flurry of activity with merchants hawking their wares. Enjoy lunch on your own along with time for independent exploration of this lively city. Toast your journey during a farewell Bosporus cruise tonight.

DAY 15 Return to U.S.A.
Following breakfast, transfer to the airport for your return flight to the United States.
Your INTRAV Adventure Includes

- Accommodations aboard the elegant Sound of Music in luxurious, spacious cabins with private bath facilities
- Three nights at the Hyatt Regency Istanbul Hotel; breakfast daily and one lunch
- All meals during the cruise, starting with dinner on the day of embarkation and ending with breakfast on the day of disembarkation, served at single leisurely seatings; wine is included with dinners
- Welcome aboard and farewell receptions
- All sightseeing and shore excursions
- All port charges and departure fees
- Included flight between Constanta and Istanbul
- Distinguished onboard experts enhance your understanding and enjoyment
- Services of a professional INTRAV cruise staff throughout the journey
- All airport/ship/hotel transfers for INTRAV—Air passengers traveling on scheduled dates of departure and return, including tips to ship/hotel porters for luggage handling
- Full pretrip information and assistance

**RATES PER PERSON** are in U.S. dollars, based on double occupancy, and include all sightseeing. Airfare to/from is not included.

All cabins have lower beds, individually adjustable air-conditioning, private bath facilities with shower, flat screen televisions, and telephone.

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<td>6/Suite</td>
<td>Danube Deck; sliding glass door/ French balcony; two bathrooms</td>
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**Single Supplement (based on Category 1)** From $2,150

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<th>Departure Fees/Port Charges</th>
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Reservations: A deposit of $500 per person is required to confirm reservations. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure.

Optional Cancel-For-Any-Reason Protection Plan and insurance coverage for baggage, accident, and trip cancellation/interruption are available.

INTRAV—Air offers a comprehensive air program. At right are sample round-trip economy and business airfares between Munich, Istanbul, and the listed cities.

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<th>Economy/Business</th>
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CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: Final payment for all tours is due 120 days prior to departure. All cancellations, for any reason whatsoever, are subject to a $150 per-person administrative fee, which can be applied toward a future INTRAV trip within two years of the date of cancellation. In addition, cancellations made from 119 to 60 days prior to departure are subject to a twenty-five percent (25%) of total trip cost cancellation fee; cancellations made within 59 days of departure or nonappearance will result in forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. Airfares are subject to applicable airline cancellation fees, are subject to change without notice, and are not included in the trip cancellation fee above. All cancellations or claims for refund must be submitted in writing to INTRAV. RESPONSIBILITY: TOUR PARTICIPANT CONTRACT — IMPORTANT! Columbia University, its agent, TSS LLC, operator, INTRAV, Inc., and its affiliated subsidiary companies, agents, and sponsoring organizations (collectively, INTRAV) act only as agent for the suppliers of transportation, accommodations, food, and other goods and services provided to the tour participant and assume no liability for acts beyond its control. INTRAV has no responsibility or liability for the acts, omission, or negligence of any of its suppliers of services and the tour participant hereby waives any such claim. INTRAV reserves the right to change the itinerary without prior notice. If the tour is cancelled by INTRAV for any reason, INTRAV shall have no liability beyond the refund of all tour participants’ deposits received by it. INTRAV may increase the tour price in the event of cost increases, including tariffs, exchange rates, or fuel surcharges. INTRAV may decline to accept or retain any tour participant as a participant on the tour at any time. If any tour participant leaves or is removed from the tour, no refund shall

Printed on recycled paper.
The 98-Passenger Sound of Music

A new state-of-the-art vessel, Sound of Music is equipped to provide services that have never before been offered on a European river vessel. The single-seating restaurant and panorama lounge were built for 150, thus allowing for plenty of space for 98 guests. Cabins have large picture windows or sliding glass doors with French balconies as well as lower beds, individually adjustable air-conditioning, private bath facilities with shower, robes, flat screen televisions, and telephone. With a spa of approximately 1,200 square feet, the Sound of Music provides wellness treatments including beauty and massage. True Austrian hospitality and exquisite cuisine with complimentary wine at dinner will also add to the enjoyment of your cruise.
Celebrate spring along one of Europe’s most scenic waterways — the legendary Danube — at a time of year when the surrounding landscapes are especially beautiful. Aboard the new, exclusively chartered, 98-passenger Sound of Music, glide leisurely through the countryside of Eastern Europe. Delight in the dramatic panoramas as you pass by majestic scenery, and visit magnificent ports of call in Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, and Romania. You’ll also explore Turkey’s Istanbul, one of the most exciting and lively cities in the world!

For reservations or more information please call Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program toll free at 866-325-8664 or e-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu.
Dear Fellow Columbian,

I am delighted to invite you on our wonderful riverboat cruise along the legendary Danube River. Join returning Professor Mark von Hagen, fellow alumni, family, and friends in celebrating the timeless beauty, history, and culture of one of Europe’s most scenic waterways at the perfect time of year.

**Departing May 18, 2007**, this relaxing and in-depth exploration of the lands bordering the Danube begins in Germany’s Bavarian jewel of Passau, from where we’ll cruise to Austria’s Melk and Weissenkirchen, at the heart of the breathtaking Wachau Valley, en route to sparkling Vienna, with its magnificent architecture and elegant lifestyle. Then we’ll sail to the very core of Danube River country, through the scenic Iron Gate Gorge, past castles and rolling fields that give way to the deep forests, reed beds, and the shallow waterways of the Danube Delta and the vast expanse of the Black Sea.

Cruise leisurely across Eastern Europe, visiting great cities and little-known villages — such fascinating places as Bratislava, Budapest, Osijek, Belgrade, Veliko Turnovo, and Arbanasi — in Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, and Bulgaria. Our adventure continues with stops in the vibrant capital of Bucharest, where we’ll experience true Romanian culture and tradition, and Oltenita. Disembark in Constanta and fly to exotic Istanbul for three nights, where you’ll have ample time to explore this fascinating historic city.

Riverboat cruising represents the best way to explore the Danube and Black Sea regions in terms of convenience, comfort, and dollar value. We are privileged to be joined by alumni from the University of Texas and Washington University. The ship is your floating hotel from the moment you embark and, in its comfortable setting, you can forget the hassle of daily packing and unpacking.

Having celebrated her inaugural season in 2006, the brand-new, 98-passenger Sound of Music is the most ultradeluxe 5-star vessel sailing Europe’s waterways. Offering Austrian hospitality and a crew-to-passenger ration of 3:1, the ship promises a level of service never before offered on a European river vessel. Spacious public areas include the panorama lounge and a dining room that serves all passengers at single leisurely seatings. The sun deck affords a relaxing vantage point from which to view the lovely countryside and enjoy the weather. Beauty and wellness treatments, including massage, will be available in the ship’s state-of-the-art spa. Generous-sized cabins feature twin beds that can be converted to queen-size configuration, large picture windows or interior French balconies, individual temperature control, Internet access, flat-screen televisions, and private bath facilities with shower. On board, an informal, casual atmosphere prevails that will make you feel right at home. And, exquisite cuisine with complimentary wine at dinner will add to your enjoyment.
IMPORTANT — This trip represents a great travel value. The rates shown in the enclosed brochure include 10 nights aboard the *Sound of Music*, 3 postcruise nights at the Hyatt Regency Istanbul with breakfast daily, all meals during the cruise, flight from Constanta to Istanbul at the end of the cruise, all sightseeing and shore excursions, and all departure fees and port charges.

The *Sound of Music* accommodates just 98 passengers, so I urge you to avoid disappointment and make reservations without delay. Please call our office toll free at 866-325-8664, fax us at (203) 724-0844 or email travelstudy@columbia.edu.

Come join us for this delightful late spring cruise!

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Eric J. Furda ’94TC
Vice President for Alumni Relations

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COLUMBIA STUDY LEADER MARK VON HAGEN

Mark von Hagen is the Boris Bakhmeteff Professor of Russian and Eastern European Studies at Columbia University where he teaches Russian, Ukrainian, and Eurasian history. A Russian and Eastern European scholar, Professor von Hagen brings a unique historical and cultural prospective to our Danube River and the Black Sea program. He is the author of *After Empire*, and is co-editor and author of several books and articles covering topics ranging from civil-military relations to nationality politics and minority history.

Professor von Hagen studied at Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) and Moscow State Universities, and holds degrees from Georgetown University (B.S.) and Stanford University (Ph.D.). He served as Associate Director and then Director of Columbia University’s Harriman Institute (1989-2001), the nation’s oldest university-based research and teaching center on the states and societies of post-Soviet Eurasia. He is a member of the Europe and Central Asia Steering Committee of Human Rights Watch Eurasia. Professor von Hagen looks forward to returning to Europe and is excited to share his insights with alumni.

*Please note that a minimum number of passengers is required to confirm faculty participation.*
MAIL RESERVATION FORM AND DEPOSIT INFORMATION TO:
Columbia University
Alumni Travel Study Program
245 Mill Street, 2nd Fl.
Greenwich, CT 06830

FAX RESERVATION FORM AND
DEPOSIT INFORMATION TO:
(203) 724-0844

SEND E-MAIL TO:
travelstudy@columbia.edu

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
toll free (866) 325-8664

Danube and the Black Sea
May 18–June 1, 2007

_enclosed is my deposit of $_________ ($500 per person) for Danube & the Black Sea. I understand that reservations must be paid in full 120 days before departure. Cabin categories are assigned in the order reservations are received.

My cabin category preferences are: 1st __________ 2nd __________ 3rd __________

-Qaeda is a deposit check, made payable to INTRAV, Inc.

-charge my deposit to: □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

-card number ____________ / ____________

-fax number: (______) ________________________  e-mail address __________

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-card number ____________ / ____________

-card number ____________ / ____________

-signature (as it appears on your card)

-yes, I need round-trip air transportation from __________

-departure city

-Do not reserve round-trip air transportation.

-yes, I/We have read the abbreviated Terms & Conditions in the brochure and agree to its terms:

-signature

-signature

---SUPERIOR---

Our programs are classified in three categories:
Value, Superior and Luxury

---Danube & the Black Sea---

rates are in U.S. dollars, based on double occupancy, and include all meals and sightseeing. Airfare is not included.

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