

GRAND AMERICAN TOURS PRESENTS DANUBE RHAPSODY

(PASSAU ~ BUDAPEST ~ PASSAU)

WITH AMADEUS RIVER CRUISES ON THE MS AMADEUS BRILLIANT 8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS ~ OCTOBER 28 – NOVEMBER 4, 2020

Air departs US on October 27th in order to arrive in Passau on October 28th.

This fascinating journey takes you along the most beautiful stretches of the Danube, into the heart of the once-illustrious Habsburg monarchy. From the Bavarian "Three-Rivers City" of Passau, cruise to Budapest, the "Queen of the Danube". Visit four of Europe's most important countries and three world-famous capital cities (Vienna, Budapest and Bratislava). Cruise through diverse landscapes such as the "Schlögener Schlinge", the picturesque, myth-enshrouded Wachau region, and the Danube-knee at Visegrad. Admire imposing architectural buildings along the banks, such as Melk Abbey and the Esztergom Basilica. The cruise is also a journey through the art and cultural landscape of Europe's several thousand year history.

DAY 1 | PASSAU

Departure at 5:00pm

This afternoon, embark the vessel and get settled into your cabin. This evening, enjoy a Welcome Cocktail, followed by a specially-prepared Welcome Dinner.

DAY 2 | EMMERSDORF (9:00am to 1:00pm) > VIENNA (Arrive at 7:15pm)

In the early morning, dock in Emmersdorf, in the heart of the UNESCO-protected, cultural heritage landscape, of the Wachau Valley. Spend the morning discovering this typical small town in Lower Austria or travel across the river to nearby Melk and its magnificent Benedictine abbey - the largest in Austria. Back onboard, the vessel continues its journey to Vienna, arriving just in time to go ashore and enjoy an optional performance of the "Sound of Vienna", at Vienna's Kursalon, where the "Alt Wien" orchestra plays popular melodies from Vienna's classical era. Remain overnight. **Included Excursion:** Excursion to Melk Abbey and wine tasting.

DAY 3 | VIENNA

Departure at 7:00pm

There is much to see and do in this Imperial capital city. Drive the ringstrasse with its impressive buildings, see the famous Vienna State Opera House, the Museums Quarter with historic and contemporary buildings with works by Egon Schiele, Gustav Klimt and other artists, St Stephen's Cathedral and numerous other important sites. In the afternoon continue your exploration or perhaps venture to Schönbrunn Palace, the sumptuous former summer palace and gardens of Empress Maria Theresia. After a full day of exploration, enjoy a relaxing dinner onboard as the vessel departs. **Included Excursions:** City Tour of Vienna and Guided Tour of Schonbrunn Palace.

DAY 4 | BUDAPEST

Arrive at 11:30am

After a relaxing morning onboard, arrive in Budapest shortly before lunch. Spend the afternoon in this capital city which uniquely straddles the Danube River. A large portion of this city is a World Heritage Site, including the banks of the Danube, Andrassy Avenue, the Buda Castle quarter, Heroes' Square, and the Millennium Underground Railway. With 80 geothermal hot springs, the third largest Parliament building in the world, and the second largest Synagogue, there is truly something for everyone to enjoy in this bustling metropolis. A special treat this evening awaits, as musicians come onboard to entertain with traditional music of Hungary, as the vessel cruises the Danube to see this beautiful city by night. Remain overnight. **Included Excursion:** City Tour of Budapest.





DAY 5 | BUDAPEST (Departure at 1:30pm) > ESZTERGOM (7:00pm to 7:15pm)

This morning offers time to discover more of Budapest or an opportunity to explore rural Hungary with a visit out to the 'Puszta' or countryside. The vessel departs Budapest shortly after lunch and continues to Slovakia. Relax onboard or join the optional excursion to visit Szentendre, an artist's village with galleries and art museum and Esztergom, the seat of the Hungarian Catholic church and former capital city. Those on excursion rejoin the vessel in Esztergom before dinner. Watch the departing lights of the city as the vessel continues on its way. **Included Excursion:** Excursion to the Puszta.

DAY 6 | BRATISLAVA

8:00am to 1:00pm

Discover the Slovak capital of Bratislava, it's home to the Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra, its old city walls, the summer residence of the archbishop and the current residence of the president of Slovakia. Take a leisurely stroll from Michael's Gate through the historic city center and the Primatial Palace and St. Martin's Cathedral. The Academia Istropolitana is the oldest university in the city, dating back to the 15th century. Cruise the Danube this afternoon and enjoy the Captain's Gala Dinner this evening. **Included Excursion:** City Tour of Bratislava.

DAY 7 | LINZ

2:00pm to 10:00pm

Enjoy a relaxing morning onboard before reaching Linz, the third largest city in Austria. See the Mozarthaus and the Renaissance villas here, along with the main street and square, which are marked with unique churches and concert venues. Time permitting, taste a piece of the famous Linzer Torte before returning to the ship. Join your fellow travellers for your last evening onboard. **Included Excursion:** Linz Walking Tour.

DAY 8 | PASSAU

Arrive 7:30am

After breakfast, the Amadeus crew bids you farewell.

Small Panoramic Window	Haydn C-1	\$2,430
Large Panoramic Window	Strauss B-1	\$2,961
Large Panoramic Window	Mozart A-1	\$3,238

Rates are per person double occupancy.

1 FREE FOR 9 PAYING PASSENGERS, 10TH GOES FREE!!!

This Trip Includes:

- Large, outside river-view staterooms, most with French balconies
- Free-flowing red & white wines from Europe's famous wine regions, beer & soft drinks with every lunch and dinner onboard
- Gourmet dining onboard
- Early Riser (reduced breakfast buffet in the Panorama-Bar)
- Buffet Breakfast with omelette service, Lunch, Light Lunch in Panorama-Bar, Dinner (5 courses, 3 choices for main course), Coffee & tea, iced water with meals, midnight (late night) snack.
- Cocktail Reception, Welcome Dinner and Captain's Gala Dinner

- Services of an experienced English-speaking onboard Cruise Director
- 24 hour coffee and tea station
- Music program every day in the bar by a pianist or by the Amadeus music group
- All onboard entertainment including talks, cooking demonstrations, musical performances and nightly piano music
- Fitness room (open 24 hours)
- Bottled water in every stateroom
- In-stateroom infotainment center
- Complimentary Wi-Fi onboard
- Complimentary use of onboard bicycles
- Complimentary state-of-the-art audio headsets for optional excursions
- All local taxes & port charges included

PASSPORT REQUIRED

DEPOSIT POLICY: An initial deposit of \$500 per person double occupancy or \$1000 per person single occupancy is required in order to secure reservations and assign cabins. <u>Final payment is due by April 28, 2020.</u> **\$100 OF YOUR DEPOSIT IS NON-REFUNDABLE UP UNTIL TIME OF FINAL PAYMENT. THEN NORMAL CANCELLATION PENALTIES APPLY.** Those who book early get the best prices and the best cabin locations.