

GRAND AMERICAN TOURS PRESENTS CLASSICAL DANUBE

(BUDAPEST TO PASSAU)

WITH AMADEUS RIVER CRUISES ON THE MS AMADEUS BRILLIANT 8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS ~ SEPTEMBER 2 – 9, 2020

Air departs US on September 1st in order to arrive in Budapest on September 2nd.

This quintessential cruise along the beautiful Danube connects Passau with Budapest, Hungary's exuberant capital. Traverse four of Europe's most important countries while visiting three world famous capital cities.

This scenic cruise through beautiful landscapes, including the UNESCO protected Wachau Valley, is full of culture, history and charm. A visit to the Benedictine abbey of Melk and a drive through the picturesque Wachau district are also memorable. On this journey you get to know much about the heart of Europe - its countries, peoples and cultures.

DAY 1 | BUDAPEST

Overnight

Welcome to your Danube cruise! Your journey begins in Budapest, where you will embark in the afternoon. Subsequently you will be greeted in style by the on-board personnel at a Welcome Cocktail. Thereafter you can explore your AMADEUS ship. In the evening a Welcome Dinner awaits you, followed by an atmospheric evening cruise through Budapest, as well as a Hungarian folklore show.

DAY 2 | BUDAPEST (Departure at 1:30pm) > ESZTERGOM (6:30pm - 7:00pm)

On the first day of your cruise, discover the beautiful sights and attractions of the Hungarian capital. Take a walk or a city tour to explore the Buda and the Pest sides of the city, both of which boast beautiful Baroque buildings. Your ship leaves Budapest at lunchtime. In the afternoon you can join an excursion to two picturesque destinations, both with a rich history, namely the former imperial residence and capital of Hungary, Esztergom, as well as the artists' town of Szentendre. Your ship arrives in Esztergom in the evening, where passengers who chose to take part in the afternoon's expedition will rejoin the ship. During dinner your ship will depart for Slovakia. **Included Excursion:** City Tour of Budapest.

DAY 3 | BRATISLAVA

8:00am - 11:00pm

In the morning, we call at our next capital city - the Slovakian capital of Bratislava. Walking through the city, see the home of the Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra, the old city walls, the summer residence of the archbishop and the current residence of the president of Slovakia. You can also walk through the restored old town, from Michael's Gate, and admire sights such as the Primatial Palace and St. Martin's Cathedral, a former coronation cathedral for Hungarian kings. This afternoon's optional excursion offers the opportunity to visit impressive Schloss Hof, a former Imperial Palace acquired in 1726 by Eugene of Savoy and redesigned to impress Empress Maria Theresia - with its aristocratic palace, terraced garden and tranquil estate farm. Enjoy dinner onboard before the vessel departs Slovakia, and crosses into Austria. **Included Excursion:** City Tour of Bratislava.

DAY 4 | VIENNA

7:00am to 2:00am on Day 5

There is much to see in Imperial Vienna: its palaces, Museums Quarter displaying works by artists Egon Schiele and Gustav Klimt, the impressive buildings along the Ringstrasse, St. Stephen's Cathedral and the famous Vienna State Opera among many others. This afternoon perhaps venture to Schönbrunn Palace, the sumptuous summer palace and gardens of Empress Maria Theresia and the Habsburg empire. This evening offers an optional excursion to attend the "Sound of Vienna" and listen to the "Alt Wien" orchestra play popular pieces from Vienna's classical era - a perfect end to your Vienna experience. **Included Excursion:** City tour of Vienna.

DAY 5 | DURNSTEIN (8:00am to 12:00pm) > MELK/EMMERSDORF (3:00pm to 7:00pm)

The romantic Wachau is one of the most beautiful landscape regions of Austria. In the morning your AMADEUS ship docks in Dürnstein, a town well-known for its first-class wines, which you can taste during the morning sightseeing walk. At lunchtime, your



cruise continues towards Melk and Emmersdorf. Enjoy magnificent architecture and fascinating glimpses into history on a visit to the Benedictine Abbey of Melk, which is approximately 900 years old and is the largest Baroque abbey in Austria. In the evening, your ship leaves the Wachau and heads for Linz. **Included Excursions:** Durnstein walking tour and wine tasting and Guided tour of Melk Abbey.

DAY 6 | LINZ (7:00am to 8:30am) > ASCHACH (11:00am to 11:30am) > PASSAU (5:00pm to 6:30pm)

Early in the morning, your ship reaches the erstwhile cultural capital of Linz. You have a choice between a full-day excursion to the Mozart-town of Salzburg, or a sightseeing walk through Linz. Those who opt for the latter will reembark at Aschau at lunchtime and cruise towards the Bavarian town of Passau. In Passau, you have the opportunity to take part in a sightseeing walk, whereafter the guests who opted for the Salzburg tour will rejoin the ship. This eventful day culminates in an elegant Gala Dinner, to which the captain will invite you personally. In the meantime, your ship will continue to Regensburg. **Included Excursion:** Full-day excursion to Salzburg including Salzkammergut and lunch.

DAY 7 | REGENSBURG

10:00am to 8:00pm

In the morning, your ship arrives in Regensburg, which boasts one of the most beautiful old towns in Germany. After breakfast, enjoy the cultural treasures of this romantic town during a sightseeing walking tour, while in the afternoon, you can visit the well-known Weltenburg Abbey with its own brewery, where you can taste its famous, dark Weltenburg beer. In the evening, a traditional Bavarian dinner awaits you on board and afterwards, your ship heads for Passau. **Included Excursions:** Regensburg walking tour and Excursion to Weltenburg Abbey.

DAY 8 | PASSAU

Arrive 8:00am

In the early morning, you reach Passau, the last stop of your cruise. After a generous breakfast, the entire AMADEUS crew thanks you for your patronage, bids you farewell and wishes you a safe journey home.

Small Panoramic Window	Haydn C-4	\$2,486	French Balcony	Mozart A-1	\$3,724
French Balcony	Strauss B-1	\$3,436	French Balcony	Mozart Suite	\$4,290

Rates are per person double occupancy.

1 FREE FOR EVERY 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 March 2, 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.