UC Davis Cal Aggie Alumni Association

Symphony on the Blue Danube

Prague • Passau • Melk • Dürnstein
Vienna • Bratislava • Budapest

aboard the Exclusively Chartered AMADEUS QUEEN

September 16 to 25, 2019
Dear UC Davis Alumni and Friends,

Goethe once said, “Music is liquid architecture, [and] architecture is frozen music.” The Danube River and the resplendent cities of Prague and Vienna, which inspired classical music’s Great Masters, are a visual symphony of landscape and architecture—rolling hillsides and terraced vineyards are in concert with medieval cities and stone castles—inspiring centuries of artists and resonating with travelers.

Join us for this comprehensive itinerary showcasing five countries in the heartland of central Europe. Our specially created itinerary features private performances from the musical heritage of Europe’s most accomplished composers, including Mozart and Beethoven; and opportunities to explore six UNESCO World Heritage sites, experience the rich history and dynamic legacies that contextualize the West’s art and architectural masterpieces. Enjoy three nights in the world-class city of Prague, the “City of a Thousand Spires,” in a deluxe, centrally located hotel before cruising the celebrated Blue Danube from Passau, Germany, to Budapest, Hungary. Travel aboard the exclusively chartered AMADEUS QUEEN—a deluxe river ship launched in 2018 that docks right in the heart of the cities we visit.

High notes of your experience include a distinctive schedule of exclusive, 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.

This Symphony on the Blue Danube is a sublime composition that will strike a chord with virtuosos, art and architecture enthusiasts, historians and travelers of all interests. I encourage you to book now as this popular program has sold very quickly in the past.

Regards from UC Davis,

Stephanie Taczek Shimada
Aggie Adventures Travel Director
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AVAILABLE TO ALUMNI, THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

Cover photo: Admire the beautiful Gothic and Rococo Revival architectural mix of Budapest’s Parliament Building, a proud symbol of Hungary’s national rebirth.
U.S./Prague, Czech Republic
Monday and Tuesday, September 16 and 17
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 Tuesday evening in the hotel.

Prague
Wednesday and Thursday, September 18 and 19
On our guided walking tour, explore the diverse cultural legacy of Prague, celebrated for its grand 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 specially arranged private tour and brief Mozart musical performance in the Estates Theatre, where the prodigy’s opera Don Giovanni premiered in 1787. Visit Europe’s oldest extant Jewish house of worship—the Gothic-style Old‑New Synagogue in Josefov—and walk amongst the moss-covered, 15th-century headstones of the Old Jewish Cemetery.

On Thursday, 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; see the Royal Mausoleum and the gem-encrusted St. Wenceslas Chapel, a Czech Gothic masterpiece.

By special arrangement, view original Beethoven manuscripts and enjoy a private string quartet concert in the magnificent, family-owned 16th-century Lobkowicz Palace.

Walk through the quaint “Golden Lane,” 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.

Prague/Passau, Germany
Friday, September 20
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, authentic German restaurant before the walking tour along the cobblestone streets of Altstadt, Passau’s Old Town. Visit the Baroque-style St. Stephan’s Cathedral, consecrated in the 12th century, and home to the largest pipe organ in Europe.

Embark the AMADEUS QUEEN, attend the Captain’s Welcome Reception and, following dinner, enjoy a short concert of classical music on board.

Melnk, Austria/Dürnstein
Saturday, September 21
Visit the prestigious 900-year-old Benedictine Abbey of Melk, an Austrian Baroque masterpiece by Paul Troger, showcasing stunning 18th-century ceiling frescoes and priceless relics. The museum of the palatial kirche (church) displays the perfectly intact, multi-panel, 16th-century altarpiece created by Danube School painter Jörg Breu the Elder.

Photo this page: See the Charles Bridge in Prague, linking the Old Town and the Baroque palaces of the Little Quarter.
A prestigious center of scholarship throughout the Middle Ages, today the abbey’s library is 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 Dürnstein Stiftskirche for a short, private organ concert.

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

Vienna
Sunday, September 22
Former seat of the Habsburg Empire, Vienna’s historic center is a UNESCO World Heritage open-air museum of splendid Baroque architecture. The Ringstrasse, or Ring Boulevard, commissioned by Austro-Hungarian Emperor Franz Josef, showcases the impressive Vienna State Opera House and Hofburg Palace. Visit the Gothic-style Stephansdom (St. Stephen’s Cathedral). In the intricately painted Sala Terrena, Vienna’s oldest concert hall where Mozart worked, performed and resided, enjoy a specially arranged performance of Mozart’s various composers’ music. Peruse Vienna’s cultural glories this afternoon and evening at your leisure.

Vienna/Bratislava, Slovakia
Monday, September 23
Pursue your interests this 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. Here, in one of the grand salons, 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. Nestled in the foothills of the dramatic Carpathian Mountain range, Bratislava overlooks 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 the guided tour of the Old Town, walk among some 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; 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
Tuesday, September 24
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 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.

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 Fisherman’s Bastion on Castle Hill. The terrace's turrets symbolize the seven Magyar tribes that settled in the Carpathian Basin; enjoy the exceptional views. Nearby is the Gothic-style St. Matthias Church, where Charles I, the last Habsburg 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.
Wednesday, September 25
Continue on the Hungary’s Parliament and Plains Post-Program Option or transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S.

View majestic Bratislava Castle, built in the ninth century, dominating the skyline high above the Danube River.

During your leisure time, enjoy the opulence of the Vienna State Opera House, visible in its foyer.

Admire the Charles Bridge and its Baroque statues, the lively streets of Prague’s Old Town, or Stare Mesto, then watch the medieval Astronomical Clock.

Enjoy your visit to the Fisherman’s Bastion.

Choose to experience Rococo grandeur of Schönbrunn Palace and Gardens, a UNESCO World Heritage site, an optional excursion.

During your leisure time, enjoy the opulence of the Vienna State Opera House, visible in its foyer.

Admire the Charles Bridge and its Baroque statues, the lively streets of Prague’s Old Town, or Stare Mesto, then watch the medieval Astronomical Clock.

Enjoy your visit to the Fisherman’s Bastion.
The elegant precision of Austria’s native son, Mozart, inspired the meticulous crafting of the new AMADEUS QUEEN, launched in 2018 and featuring all 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 lowers to French-balcony height 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 distinguished “Green Globe Certificate” for sustainable travel and ongoing environmentally friendly operations.

Berlin • Dresden
Prussia and Saxony Revealed
Pre-Program Option

Known for its world-class museums and eclectic architecture, Berlin is one of Europe’s preeminent cultural centers. Enjoy the city tour, cruise along the Spree River and visit the Wall Museum at 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, tour the “Jewel Box of Germany,” Dresden, celebrated for its architecture and its cultural and artistic significance. Accommodations are for three nights in the deluxe WESTIN GRAND BERLIN HOTEL.

Hungary’s Parliament and Plains
Post-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 lunch of fresh regional specialties at the farm. Then visit the stately, Gothic Revival-style Parliament Building. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe INTERCONTINENTAL BUDAPEST.
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 the Gothic-style St. Vitus Cathedral.

Scenic transfer from Prague to Passau, Germany, and a walking tour of Passau, featuring 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 served with lunch and dinner.
♦ Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions and Farewell Dinner.
♦ 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 and a short, exclusive performance of Mozart's compositions.
♦ Guided tour of Lobkovicz Palace with a 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 the Dürnstein Stiftskirche.
♦ 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, pending the renovation schedule.

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 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 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. Admirer Europe’s largest cathedral pipe organ in Passau’s St. Stephen’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 Stiftskirche. 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: Gohagan & Company
209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500
Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446

For further information, call the offices of Gohagan & Company at (800) 922-3088 or (312) 609-1140.

Title Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport) UC Davis Class Year
Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please) 
City State ZIP Code
Telephone: (Home) (Mobile) (Business)
Email Address (FAX)

Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s) Tour No. 027-09/16/19-230

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Prussia and Saxony Revealed Pre-Program Option and/or $200 per person Hungarian's Parliament and Plains Post-Program Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $ as deposit. 
Make checks payable to Gohagan & Company.

I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $ to:
Visa MasterCard

Card Number Exp. Date

Signature as it appears on credit card

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).

Hungary's Parliament and Plains Post-Program Option
Double at $945 per person.
Single at $1395 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).

Please make my/our reservation(s):
Berlin + Dresden
Prussia and Saxony Revealed Pre-Program Option
Double at $1545 per person.
Single at $2345 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).

Membership: One participant of each travel party must be a member of the Cal Aggie Alumni Association. After trip reservation is processed, CAAA will follow up with the traveler to confirm membership status and coordinate payment if a $60 annual membership needs to be purchased. Membership is open to all alumni and friends of UC Davis.
RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

RESPONSIBILITY: Gohagan & Company, Cal Aggie Alumni Association, and its agents, employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (collectively “Gohagan”), do not own or operate any entity which is or to do or provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation companies, guides or guide services, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions, food service or entertainment providers, etc. All such persons and entities are 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 or death caused by any agent, contractor, employee or vendor in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts of government, acts of war or civil unrest, in direction or revolt, bites from or attacks by animals, insects or pests, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof, sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of aircraft, vessels, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely.

If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend an additional night, you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner’s risk. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a trip participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person Gohagan judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other participants, or who in any other way detracts from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room/cabin assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel or cruise line.

Gohagan is not liable for any injury or death caused by any agent, contractor, employee or vendor in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts of government, acts of war or civil unrest, in direction or revolt, bites from or attacks by animals, insects or pests, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof, sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of aircraft, vessels, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely.

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DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS: Discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of Gohagan in writing, accompanied by the required deposit, by March 5, 2019. In the event a “discounted” reservation must be cancelled, no “replacement” reservation can be substituted at the discounted rate. A “replacement” reservation is a new reservation and can be substituted only at the full-fare ticket. Cancellation penalties may apply.

CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including