

# VMFA

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

*Passage along the*

## Danube River

Vienna to the Black Sea

aboard the Exclusively Chartered  
**Deluxe AMADEUS STAR**

October 10 to 22, 2022

**EARLY BOOKING  
SAVINGS  
EXTENDED  
BOOK NOW!**

# VMFA

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Dear VMFA Members:

The Danube River has ranked among the world's most impressive waterways—following the passage of Roman legions, crusading knights, the indomitable Janissaries of the Ottomans and the proud Hussars of the Habsburgs. A channel for commerce, culture and conquest, the Danube links the heartland of Central Europe with nations beyond the Black Sea. Join us for an extraordinary journey along nearly the entire length of this fabled river, from the Habsburgs' imperial capital of Vienna, a UNESCO World Heritage site, to the captivating Black Sea.

This outstanding travel program features seven countries and the enchanting eastern Danube River Valley, an untouched region steeped in natural beauty. Cruise for nine nights aboard the exclusively chartered, deluxe *AMADEUS STAR* and spend two nights in Romania's elegant capital of Bucharest, where splendid architecture has earned it the nickname "Little Paris."

A rich mosaic of medieval cities, charming villages, rugged countrysides and centuries-old traditions awaits you. Visit the ancient land of Bulgaria, the relatively young territories of Serbia and eastern Croatia, Hungary's fabled *Puszta* (plains) and the UNESCO World Heritage-designated castles, palaces and squares of Budapest. Cruise through the dramatic Iron Gates dividing the Carpathian and Balkan mountains—where no fewer than six languages are spoken—and experience the fascinating Slavic heritage of medieval Belgrade.

Deepen your knowledge of the Danube and Central Europe with our Imperial Vienna Pre-Program Option and the Castles of Transylvania Post-Program Option, including "Dracula's Castle." VMFA is proud to be sharing this departure with travelers from Harvard, Bucknell University, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and other fine organizations. Reserve now while early booking savings are still available.

Sincerely,



Adele "Hutch" Livingston  
VMFA Coordinator of Member Travel

*The safety and well-being of our travelers remains our highest priority. All passengers traveling on our programs are required to present confirmation of a full COVID-19 vaccination, and, as well may have to produce evidence of a recent negative COVID test. All our staff are committed to adhering to all health and safety protocols from the start of your trip to the end as directed by the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention, overseas health officials, as well as those protocols mandated by your cruise company (if applicable). Detailed protocol information tailored to your travel program will be mailed to you along with additional pre-departure information.*



# The Route of Emperors and Kings

*The legendary Danube River is a powerful symbol of the diverse cultures and epic narratives of Central Europe. Fifth-century B.C. philosopher Herodotus declared it “the greatest of all rivers which we know” when Greeks traveled from the Black Sea through the naturally carved Iron Gates. The land was ruled by the Roman, Ottoman and Byzantine Empires, creating intriguing capital cities along its banks. The history and culture of this fascinating region continue to inspire musicians, writers, artists and travelers from all over the world.*

## **U.S./Vienna, Austria Monday and Tuesday, October 10 and 11**

Depart the U.S. on Monday. Arrive in Vienna the next day and embark the deluxe AMADEUS STAR. Attend the Captain's Welcome Reception and dinner Tuesday evening.

## **Bratislava, Slovakia Wednesday, October 12**

Dock in Slovakia's capital in the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains. The festive “little big city” of Bratislava showcases 21<sup>st</sup>-century life amid its 2,000-year-old history. Enjoy a walking tour of the city's *Staré Mesto* (Old Town) and its medieval, Renaissance and 19<sup>th</sup>-century architecture.

Visit the Gothic, 14<sup>th</sup>-century Saint Martin's Cathedral, where 19 Hungarian kings and queens were crowned, and the

elaborate Primate's Palace, famous for its rare collection of 17<sup>th</sup>-century English tapestries. See Michael's Gate, Bratislava's oldest preserved medieval fortification, built in 1300, and the eclectic, 14<sup>th</sup>-century Old Town Hall, embedded with a cannonball fired by Napoleon Bonaparte during his siege of the city in 1809.

## **Budapest, Hungary Thursday, October 13**

Referred to as the “most Hungarian Habsburg,” Austrian Archduke Joseph Anton Johan is credited with creating Budapest— an imperial capital that rivaled the scale and flamboyance of Vienna. Swaths of historical Budapest have been granted UNESCO World Heritage status— the embankments of the Danube, including monuments of the centuries-old twin cities of Buda and Pest; the medieval



Cover photo: Cruise through the Iron Gates between the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains, Serbia and Romania's natural boundary.

Photo this page: Enjoy the perspective of Hungary's Parliament Building from the Sun Deck of the AMADEUS STAR.



Admire the elaborate interior of Saints Peter and Paul's Church in Bratislava.

Buda Castle Quarter, site of the Roman city of Aquincum; and the illustrious palaces, mansions and squares of elegant Andrásy Avenue.

In Pest, see the Gothic Revival Hungarian Parliament Building, completed in 1904. At UNESCO-inscribed Heroes' Square, admire monuments honoring Magyar chiefs who occupied the Carpathian Basin and established the Kingdom of Hungary in A.D. 896. Along Andrásy Avenue, see the 19<sup>th</sup>-century, neo-Renaissance Hungarian State Opera House.

Cross the landmark Széchenyi Chain Bridge, the first stone bridge to link river-level Pest to the hills of Buda. On Castle Hill, visit the late-19<sup>th</sup>-century, neo-Romanesque Fisherman's Bastion and the astonishing Gothic-style Saint Matthias Church, where Charles I, the last Habsburg ruler, was coronated in 1916.

## Kalocsa and Puszta

Friday, October 14

Enjoy views of Hungary's scenic, protected Puszta, one of Europe's largest expanses of rolling

grassland plains, where pastoral traditions have prevailed for over two millennia. Visit a working horse farm to see a performance of authentic Hungarian horsemanship and enjoy a traditional lunch of regional specialties in the farm's restaurant.

In Kalocsa, known for its intricate, brightly hued Hungarian embroidery, visit the House of Folk Art and Paprika Museum for further insights into the spice referred to as "red gold."

## Vukovar, Croatia/Novi Sad, Serbia/ Sremski Karlovci

Saturday, October 15

Explore renewed Vukovar, "The Hero's Town." See restored landmarks and monuments that stand as powerful symbols of resistance, including 18<sup>th</sup>-century Eltz Manor, a paradigm of Croatian Baroque architecture; the iconic Grand Hotel, famously purchased by the city's Labour Movement in 1919; and the imposing red-brick water tower. Visit the Baroque Church of Saints Philip and James and see its intricate stained-glass windows.

"The Athens of Serbia," Novi Sad is Serbia's vibrant second city. Enjoy a walking tour of the pedestrian-only *Stari Grad* (Old Town) to see the city's most beautiful buildings—the neo-Gothic Name of Mary Church and the neo-Renaissance Town Hall. Crowning the Old Town, the 18<sup>th</sup>-century Petrovaradin Fortress, the "Gibraltar on the Danube," is Europe's second largest fortress. On a panoramic tour of quaint Sremski Karlovci, see the 19<sup>th</sup>-century Patriarchate Court and the Orthodox Cathedral of Saint Nicholas with its twin bell towers. Savor regional honey with a tasting in the Museum of Beekeeping.

## Belgrade

Sunday, October 16

Belgrade traces its origins from the Stone Age, and was ruled by Celts, Byzantines, Serbs, Ottoman Turks and Austrians, each leaving a lasting impression. Enjoy a walking tour featuring historical Terazije Square and the domed Temple of Saint Sava, Serbia's patron saint.

Visit the strategic Kalemegdan Fortress, one of the world's oldest fortifications, commissioned by Byzantine Emperor Justinian I in A.D. 535.

See Michael's Gate and regard its elegant copper roof, a prominent symbol of Bratislava.





Ornate frescoes of the Cathedral of the Ascension in Veliko Târnovo.



Visit Bucharest's Palace of Parliament, which took seven hundred architects and 20,000 builders over five years to construct, which today houses three museums.

Tour the famous "House of Flowers" memorial dedicated to former Yugoslavia's longstanding leader, Josip Broz Tito.

### **Donji Milanovac for Lepenski Vir/ Cruising through the Iron Gates Monday, October 17**

Tour Lepenski Vir, an exceptional Paleolithic site (6500 to 5500 B.C.) and archaeological exhibition center. Stone idols found in Lepenski Vir, including the famous 9,000-year-old Foremother sculpture, represent the oldest stone sculptures in Europe.

Enjoy spectacular views of the Danube Gorge in its dramatic, autumnal glory. Cruise through southeastern Europe's picturesque scenery, passing the Golubac Fortress, guardian to the legendary Iron Gates, naturally carved by the Danube River.

### **Nikopol, Bulgaria, for Arbanasi and Veliko Târnovo Tuesday, October 18**

Dock in Nikopol and continue to the 12<sup>th</sup>-century hillside village of Arbanasi, where nearly 90 historical buildings are protected monuments. Learn more about the life of a 17<sup>th</sup>-century merchant in the perfectly preserved Konstantsaliev House and admire elaborate icons and frescoes in the 15<sup>th</sup>-century Church of the Nativity of Christ.

Continue to the medieval town of Veliko Târnovo, capital of the Second Bulgarian

Empire between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. Savor lunch in a local restaurant and enjoy a walking tour of the town center—an open-air museum of National Revival architectural splendor.

### **Constanța, Romania, Wednesday, October 19**

Cruise the Danube-Black Sea Canal to the principal Romanian seaport of Constanța was established in the sixth century B.C. as the Greek trading settlement of Tomis. The port later became a part of the Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman Empires. Explore Constanța's Old Town and view the Roman poet Ovid's famous statue in Ovidiu Square. Later, see the many elegant mansions and hotels that remain from the 19<sup>th</sup> century when King Carol I revived Constanța. Visit the Natural History & Archaeological Museum. This afternoon, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant and time at leisure.

Attend the Captain's Farewell Reception and dinner this evening.

### **Fetești/Bucharest Thursday, October 20**

Disembark the ship in Fetești and drive through the rolling Romanian *campii* (plains) to the diverse capital city of Bucharest. Along the Grand Boulevard, visit the Palace of Parliament—the infamous vision of Nicolae Ceaușescu and valued as the world's most expensive administrative building.

Discover Belgrade's Temple of Saint Sava, the world's second largest Orthodox church and a beacon of culture.

View the Patriarch's Cathedral of the Ascension, crowning the medieval citadel of Veliko Târnovo.





## EXCLUSIVELY CHARTERED, DELUXE AMADEUS STAR

The elegant and meticulously crafted AMADEUS STAR, launched in 2019, features all the comforts of a refined and traditional hotel.

The 82 stylish Staterooms and Suites are among the most spacious of any European river vessel (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 a private bathroom with shower.

The stylish restaurant offers scenic views through panoramic windows and continental cuisine featuring fresh, local ingredients. Daily meals include early-risers' coffee, breakfast, afternoon tea, lunch and four-course dinner with complimentary wine and beer, and late-evening snack.

For your leisure time on board there are two bars, the River Terrace open-air lounge, a beauty salon, a boutique, a massage room, a fitness studio and the Sun Deck. Complimentary Wi-Fi access is available and an elevator serves all passenger decks except the Sun Deck. There is no doctor on board. The AMADEUS fleet has earned the important "Green Globe Certificate" of environmental sustainability.

### Stateroom



### Panoramic Restaurant



Check into the ideally located, Five-Star ATHÉNÉE PALACE HILTON BUCHAREST.

### Bucharest

**Friday, October 21**

Visit the National Art Museum in the 19<sup>th</sup>-century Royal Palace, housing Romania's finest collection of artistic treasures— and the

open-air National Village Museum. Enjoy the Farewell Reception in the hotel this evening.

### Bucharest/U.S.

**Saturday, October 22**

After breakfast, continue on the Castles of Transylvania Post-Program Option or transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S.

*Explore Novi Sad's iconic Freedom Square, known for its remarkable 18<sup>th</sup>-century architecture.*



## Included Features

### On Board the Exclusively Chartered, Deluxe AMADEUS STAR

- ◆ Nine-night Danube River cruise from Vienna, Austria, to Fetești, Romania.
- ◆ Deluxe, river-view air-conditioned Suite or Stateroom.
- ◆ All meals on board.
- ◆ Complimentary wine and beer served with lunch and dinner.
- ◆ Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- ◆ **Complimentary Wi-Fi access.**
- ◆ Guided tour of **Bratislava's** well-preserved medieval *Staré Mesto*, including visits to the Gothic Saint Martin's Cathedral and the opulent Primate's Palace.
- ◆ Tour of **Budapest**, including visits to Heroes' Square, the Fisherman's Bastion and Saint Matthias Church.
- ◆ Excursion to the **Hungarian Puszta** for a demonstration of horsemanship and lunch in a farm's traditional restaurant.
- ◆ Tour of the House of Folk Art and Paprika Museum in **Kalocsa**, renowned for its fine Hungarian embroidery.
- ◆ City tour of emotive **Vukovar**, featuring views of its restored Eltz Manor and symbolic water tower.
- ◆ Tour of vibrant **Novi Sad** to see its celebrated *Stari Grad*.
- ◆ Excursion to **Sremski Karlovci** to see the Patriarchate Court and the Orthodox Cathedral of Saint Nicholas, and taste honey in the Museum of Beekeeping.
- ◆ Tour of Serbia's capital of **Belgrade**, including the city center and the storied Kalemegdan Fortress.
- ◆ Excursion to the world-renowned archaeological excavation site of **Lepenski Vir**.
- ◆ Passage through the dramatic **Iron Gates**, dividing the Carpathian and Balkan mountains.
- ◆ Excursion to quaint **Arbanasi** with visits to the Konstantsaliev House and the Church of the Nativity of Christ.
- ◆ Walking tour of **Veliko Târnovo**, the Second Bulgarian Empire capital, with lunch.
- ◆ Excursion on **Constanța** including a walking tour of the Old Town, with lunch.

**Scenic transfer from Fetești to Bucharest.**

### In Bucharest, Romania

- ◆ Two nights in the Five-Star **ATHÉNÉE PALACE HILTON**, with breakfast each morning.
- ◆ Farewell Reception in the hotel.
- ◆ Visit to the **Palace of Parliament**, with lunch.
- ◆ Tour of the open-air **National Village Museum**.
- ◆ Visit to the **National Art Museum** inside the 19<sup>th</sup>-century Royal Palace.

### Always Included



- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides. Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom aboard ship and on excursions.
- ◆ Hospitality desk in the hotel and aboard ship.
- ◆ 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.



## **Imperial Vienna Pre-Program Option**

The former seat of the Habsburg Empire and one of Europe's most vibrant cultural centers, Vienna showcases an open-air museum of splendid Baroque architecture in its historical center—a UNESCO World Heritage site. Along the famous Ringstrasse, see this remarkable city's most important landmarks. Visit Hofburg Palace and see the Gothic-style *Stephansdom* (Saint Stephen's Cathedral). Learn more about the Austrian Empire in Schönbrunn Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the Habsburgs' summer estate. Accommodations are for two nights in the historical, Five-Star HOTEL IMPERIAL VIENNA.

## **Castles of Transylvania Post-Program Option**

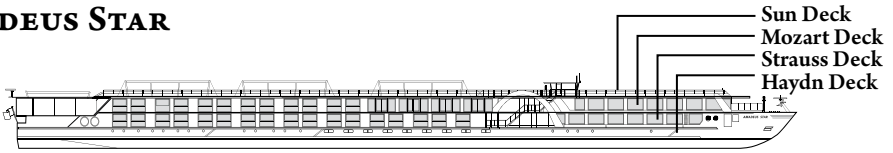
Enjoy mystical Transylvania, Latin for “the land beyond the forest,” and learn more about central Romania's rich medieval heritage. Admire the auburn splendor of the Carpathian Mountains, an evocative backdrop for grand castles with soaring spires where the Gothic narrative of Count Dracula lives on in local lore. Tour the 19<sup>th</sup>-century fairy-tale Peleş Castle, one of the most beautiful castles in Europe; the imposing, 14<sup>th</sup>-century Bran Castle; and Romania's beloved Queen Marie's former summer residence. See the Gothic Black Church in Braşov; visit the UNESCO World Heritage-designated, 14<sup>th</sup>-century Sighişoara, the birthplace of Vlad Țepeş; and explore UNESCO-inscribed Prejmar, the largest fortified church in southeast Europe. Spend two nights in the ideally located, deluxe ARO PALACE in Braşov and one night in the Five-Star ATHÉNÉE PALACE HILTON BUCHAREST.

*Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*





# AMADEUS STAR



Category	LAND/CRUISE RATES <i>excluding taxes</i> <i>Per person, based on double occupancy</i>	Early Booking Savings	Rate after
7	Stateroom with small panoramic window. <i>Haydn Deck, aft.</i> (limited availability)	<b>\$4395</b>	<b>\$5055</b>
6	Stateroom with small panoramic window. <i>Haydn Deck, forward.</i> (limited availability)	<b>\$4695</b>	<b>\$5395</b>
5	Stateroom with small panoramic window. <i>Haydn Deck, midship.</i>	<b>\$4995</b>	<b>\$5745</b>
4	Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to <b>French-balcony</b> height and a minibar. <i>Strauss Deck, aft.</i> (limited availability)	<b>\$5395</b>	<b>\$6195</b>
3	Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to <b>French-balcony</b> height and a minibar. <i>Strauss Deck, forward.</i> (limited availability)	<b>\$5695</b>	<b>\$6545</b>
2	Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to <b>French-balcony</b> height and a minibar. <i>Strauss Deck, midship.</i>	<b>\$5995</b>	<b>\$6895</b>
1	Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to <b>French-balcony</b> height and a minibar. <i>Mozart Deck, midship and aft.</i>	<b>\$6395</b>	<b>\$7355</b>
<b>Junior Suite</b>	Suite with <b>private balcony</b> (sliding glass doors with railing), sofa, bath robes and a minibar. <i>Mozart Deck, midship.</i>	<b>\$6995</b>	<b>\$8045</b>

Singles supplements apply across all categories at 160% of the per person double price.

Taxes are an additional \$95 per person.

AMADEUS STAR has been specially contracted for this program and the deck plan is available online or at request from Gohagan & Company.

## PASSAGE ALONG THE DANUBE RIVER REGISTRATION FORM

Send to: Virginia Museum of Fine Arts  
c/o Gohagan & Company  
209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500  
Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446

127-10/10/22-346

Please make my/our reservation(s):

Category: \_\_\_\_\_  
1<sup>st</sup> Choice      2<sup>nd</sup> Choice

- Double occupancy (two twin beds).
- Double occupancy (one queen bed).
- Single accommodations.
- Single but prefer to share and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

### Imperial Vienna Pre-Program Option

- Double at \$895 per person.
- Single at \$1245 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

### Castles of Transylvania Post-Program Option

- Double at \$995 per person.
- Single at \$1245 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

I/We want you to book my/our air from:

\_\_\_\_\_ (fill in departure city)

- I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

**FINAL PAYMENT due in full at time of booking.**

Title Full Name

Title Full Name

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

City State Zip Code

Home Telephone Cell Phone

Email Address Business Telephone

Program reservations require a deposit of \$800 per person

- Enclosed is my/our check(s) for \$ \_\_\_\_\_.  
Make check(s) payable to **Gohagan & Company.**

- I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to:  
 American Express    Discover    MasterCard    Visa

- I/We request that you contact me/us via telephone or email for payment by ACH.

Card Number Exp. Date

Signature as it appears on credit card

**For full terms and cancellation policy, visit [gohagantravel.com/terms/](http://gohagantravel.com/terms/)**

First participant's signature Date

Second participant's signature Date

**Requirement:** VMFA travel opportunities are open to all members of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. For additional information about joining the museum, please call 804-340-1519.

VMFA

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