THE LOWER DANUBE: MEDIEVAL TO MODERN
VIENNA TO BUCHAREST ABOARD ROYAL CROWN
WITH DR. MICHAEL SHINAGEL
Lecturer on English
June 10–21, 2016
DISCOVER VIENNA, AUSTRIA, CELEBRATED CITY OF MUSIC AND THE ARTS ON THE DANUBE, BEFORE A CRUISE ABOoard THE LUXURIOUS ROYAL CROWN.

Call at Bratislava, Slovakia, and Budapest, Hungary, to tour stunning palaces. In Kalocsa, Hungary, known for its paprika production and colorful embroidered folk art, you will be treated to an equestrian demonstration. In lively Belgrade, Serbia, tour landmarks including the Kalemegdan Fortress and the Serbian Orthodox Temple of St. Sava. Cruise through the awe-inspiring Iron Gates, where the Danube narrows as it winds through a series of magnificent cliff-lined gorges between Serbia and Romania. In Vidin, Bulgaria, explore the fortress of Baba Vida, built by the Bulgars in the 10th century and the only entirely preserved medieval castle in the country. Visit the attractive city of Veliko Tarnovo, the former capital of Bulgaria. In Bucharest, Romania, tour the immense Palace of Parliament commissioned by Ceaușescu and stroll through the Village Museum.
HARVARD STUDY LEADER

Michael Shinagel PhD ’64 served as dean of continuing education and University extension at Harvard from 1975 to 2013. When he retired he was acknowledged as the longest-serving dean in the history of Harvard University. After receiving his PhD in English from Harvard in 1964, he taught at Cornell University and Union College, where he was professor and chairman of the English Department before returning to Harvard in 1975. For more than 30 years he was a senior lecturer on English, teaching courses in the College on the novel and on satire. He has also been a lecturer at Harvard Extension School since 1975, teaching graduate courses on the English and American novel. From 1986 to 2001 he served as master of Quincy House. Shinagel remains a Distinguished Service Lecturer in Extension at Harvard, teaching graduate seminars on the English and American novel as well as professional development seminars in the Division of Continuing Education. He has been a lecturer and study leader for more than a dozen HAA trips over the years, and he looks forward to more travel adventures with the HAA.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Educational program with HAA lecturer, Michael Shinagel
- Ten-night cruise aboard the luxurious Royal Crown
- Visits to stunning palaces in Bratislava, Slovakia, and Budapest, Hungary
- An equestrian demonstration in Kalocsa, Hungary
- A full day of cruising through the Iron Gates, where the Danube narrows as it winds through a series of cliff-lined gorges
- Visits to fine museums, historic synagogues, and medieval fortresses
- A private concert in Vidin’s opera house and other special performances
SCHEDULE BY DAY

Friday, June 10
U.S.
Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Vienna.

Saturday, June 11
VIENNA, AUSTRIA
Arrive this morning in Vienna, elegant city of music and the arts on the Danube. Admire the Art Nouveau architecture before lunch at a famed Viennese coffee house. In the afternoon, board the luxurious Royal Crown. Enjoy an onboard performance by local musicians and toast your upcoming cruise with a glass of champagne or Austrian wine.

Sunday, June 12
VIENNA
Discover the treasures of the Habsburg Empire on a tour of the Kunsthistorisches Museum. Highlights of the collection include paintings by Pieter Bruegel the Elder, Rembrandt, and Caravaggio, and the fine pieces of the Kunstkammer. The museum also houses an impressive collection of musical instruments. Following lunch on board, the afternoon is free to walk in the charming city center or visit another of its fine museums. Attend the captain’s welcome dinner before Royal Crown sails this evening.

Monday, June 13
BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA
Arrive this morning in Bratislava, situated in the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains. Drive by Palffy Palace, where a six-year-old Mozart gave a concert, and see the stunningly restored Mirbach Palace during a walking tour. There will be time to browse in the tempting crafts shops before returning to the ship for lunch and an afternoon cruise to Budapest. Gather for a lecture at teatime. Dinner is on board.

Tuesday, June 14
BUDAPEST, HUNGARY
Spend the morning in Buda, on the west bank of the Danube. On Castle Hill, see the grand Royal Palace and the neo-Gothic St. Matthias Church, built in the 13th century and decorated with beautiful Zsolnay ceramic tiles. This afternoon, walk in the bustling Central Market Hall, built in the late 19th century, and visit the Great Synagogue. The second-largest active synagogue in the world, it is noteworthy for the Romantic, Moorish, and Byzantine design elements. Alternatively, drive to Memento Park, where statues from the Communist era have been turned into a sculpture park. A Gypsy band will perform after dinner.

Wednesday, June 15
KALOCSA
Step ashore in Kalocsa, best known for its paprika and colorful embroidered folk art. During a morning tour, learn about the importance of paprika to this area and visit the cathedral to hear the magnificent pipe organ, first played by Franz Liszt. You will also see the treasures of the Archbishop’s Library and attend a special equestrian demonstration before returning to the ship. Learn about upcoming visits during an afternoon lecture.

Thursday, June 16
BELGRADE, SERBIA
Arrive in Belgrade, capital of Serbia and a lively city of museums and galleries, food and music, and eclectic

FOR DETAILED ITINERARIES, VISIT ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/HAA/TRAVEL.
architectural. Tour landmarks including the Kalemegdan Fortress and the Serbian Orthodox Temple of St. Sava. Stop at the tomb of Marshal Tito and view highlights of the vast collection of the National Museum. Rejoin Royal Crown for lunch. In the afternoon, visit the Ethnographic Museum, featuring the traditional regional dress and folk art, and speak with an artist about the contemporary art scene. Following dinner, enjoy a performance of folk music.

Friday, June 17
CRUISING THROUGH THE IRON GATES
Relax during a full day of cruising through one of Europe’s most awe-inspiring natural wonders, the Iron Gates. Here the Danube narrows as it winds through a series of magnificent cliff-lined gorges between Serbia and Romania, a result of the river working its way through the mountains over thousands of years. Attend presentations on the music and history of this region.

Saturday, June 18
VIDIN, BULGARIA
In Vidin, explore the fortress of Baba Vida, built by the Bulgars in the 10th century and the only entirely preserved medieval castle in the country. Continue with an architectural tour of the city’s Orthodox cathedral, synagogue, and Renaissance buildings, followed by a private concert in the opera house. Alternatively, drive to Belogradchik in the foothills of the Balkan Mountains to see the unique rock formations and prehistoric cave paintings in the Magura Cave. Lunch is on board. As you cruise along the Danube, attend a lecture at teatime.

Sunday, June 19
SVISHTOV / ROUSSE, BULGARIA
Depart from Svishtov for Veliko Tarnovo, an intellectual center and Bulgaria’s former capital, built into the steep hills overlooking the Yantra River. See impressive Tsarevets Fortress and stroll past workshops where craftsmen use both ancient and modern techniques for woodcarving, ceramics, and metalwork. Sample local wines during lunch in nearby Arbanasi, known for its rich history. Continue to the Nativity Church to admire its icons and hear the monks’ choir. Rejoin Royal Crown in Rousse this evening.

Monday, June 20
BUCHAREST, ROMANIA
Today discover Bucharest, Romania’s handsome capital. Tour the immense Palace of Parliament, commissioned by former dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, which dominates the city. After a lunch of local specialties, visit the lovely domed Athenaeum, home of the philharmonic, or explore the Village Museum, a gathering of houses from all parts of Romania located in a pleasant park. Toast a memorable trip at the farewell dinner aboard Royal Crown this evening.

Tuesday, June 21
BUCHAREST / U.S.
Disembark and transfer to the airport for flights home.

OPTIONAL POSTLUDE
ROMANIA
June 21 — 24, 2016
Spend three days among the charming towns and rolling hills of the Romanian countryside. In Sinaia, visit Peles Castle, the former summer residence of the royal family, before a tasting of the local sparkling wine. Stay two nights in the medieval fortified city of Brasov, surrounded by the Southern Carpathian Mountains. From there, explore Sighisoara, founded by Transylvanian Saxons in the 12th century, and see the impressive fortified church of Biertan. Return to Bucharest to view paintings by European masters, sculptures by Brancusi, and Romanian art dating from medieval times to the present at the National Museum of Art. Accommodations are at the deluxe Steigenberger Hotel Herrenhof in the city center.

Romanian Village Museum photo courtesy of Dennis Jarvis
CRUISE RATES  
Per person, double occupancy  

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ROYAL CROWN

REFURBISHED IN 2010, the intimate Royal Crown offers a 1930s-inspired Art Deco style and a comfortable, relaxed atmosphere. Specially designed for cruising the rivers of Europe, Royal Crown has a spacious sun deck and a lounge with panoramic views. Suites on Select Deck have portholes, and the Royal Suites on Panorama Deck have large windows. All 45 suites feature rosewood wardrobes, satellite TV and radio, a safety deposit box, individually controlled air conditioning, and bathrooms with shower. Onboard amenities include a library with daily newspapers, boutique, fitness area, sauna with shower facilities, and a restaurant with open seating. Please note: Royal Crown does not have an elevator.

TOUR COST INCLUSIONS  
Ten nights cabin accommodations aboard Royal Crown, including all port charges; all meals on the cruise; complimentary wine with lunch and dinner; escorted sightseeing by motorcoach; entrance fees for visits; airport / pier group transfers and portage; customary shipboard gratuities; taxes; service charges; gratuities to guides and drivers; $200,000 emergency medical assistance and evacuation insurance.

TOUR COST EXCLUSIONS  
International airfare; passport fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than wine at lunches and dinners onboard; personal items and expenses; airport transfers for those not on group flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; optional prelude in Vienna; optional postlude in Romania; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

OPTIONAL PRELUDE VIENNA  
$1,790 per person. Single supplement $465. Includes three nights at the deluxe Steigenberger Hotel Herrenhof in the city center; two lunches and one dinner; one performance.

OPTIONAL POSTLUDE ROMANIA  
$1,120 per person. Single supplement $240. Includes two nights at the Aro Palace in Brasov; one night at Athenée Palace Hilton Bucharest; two lunches and three dinners; sightseeing as noted.

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS & FINAL PAYMENT  
To reserve your space on this program, a $2,500 deposit is required per person. Please either call us at 800-422-1636 or 617-496-0806, or fill out and mail or fax the registration form. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt until the maximum enrollment has been reached. Your final payment is due 120 days before departure and must be made by check.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS  
All cancellations must be made in writing to HAA Travels and are subject to a $350 nonrefundable administrative fee. Cancellations received between 120 and 91 days prior to departure will be charged a fee in the amount of 20 percent of the program cost per person; those received between 90 and 61 days before departure, 50 percent; no refunds will be given for cancellations received within 60 days of departure. No refunds are given for cancellation on or after the day of departure, or for unused portions of the tour, for any reason.

HEALTH ADVISORY  
This is an active program that involves extensive walking. Any condition that may require assistance or special medical attention must be reported at the time of your reservation. Please note: Royal Crown does not have an elevator.

CHANGES IN ITINERARY & COSTS  
The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of HAA Travels and the tour operator. Deviations from the scheduled itinerary are at the expense of the individual. All prices quoted are based on prevailing fuel prices, airfare, and currency exchange rates in effect at the time of brochure printing and are subject to change. While the tour operator will do everything possible to maintain the published trip price, it may be necessary to institute a surcharge.

INSURANCE  
We highly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. An application for insurance will be provided by HAA Travels upon confirmation.

RESPONSIBILITY  
Certain other provisions apply regarding limitations of liability and rights of HAA Travels and the tour operator. The statement of responsibility is available at http://alumni.harvard.edu/travel/trips/vienna-bucharest-2016. If you are not able to access the Internet, please call HAA Travels at 800-422-1636 or 617-496-0806.

DISCLAIMER  
Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information presented in this publication. Neither HAA Travels nor the tour operator is responsible for errors in or damages resulting from use of the information contained herein. Information contained in this brochure is subject to change.

QUESTIONS  
Please call HAA Travels at 800-422-1636 or 617-496-0806, email: haatravels@harvard.edu.

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Please call with any questions: 800-422-1636 or 617-496-0806

I'm not able to take this trip, but please add me to your mailing list.

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**LAND & RAIL**

**CRUISES**

**RIVERS & LAKES**

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