Passage Along the Danube River:
Vienna to the Black Sea

October 7 - 19, 2023

with Peter Galbraith AB '73, Former US Ambassador
Join this custom-designed, 13-day travel program visiting seven countries, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the enchanting eastern Danube River Valley, a mystical region steeped in natural beauty that remains virtually unknown to Westerners. Cruise for nine nights aboard the exclusively chartered, deluxe **AMADEUS STAR** from the Habsburgs’ imperial capital of Vienna to the Black Sea. Here, a rich mosaic of medieval cities, charming villages and rugged countriesides await you, from the ancient lands of Bulgaria to the relatively young territories of Serbia and eastern Croatia, the spectacular Carpathian Mountains and Hungary’s fabled Puszta (plains) to the glittering palaces of Budapest. Admire a masterful display of traditional horsemanship in the Hungarian heartland, immerse yourself in the Slavic heritage of medieval Belgrade and cruise through the dramatic Iron Gates, which divide the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains.

**Study Leaders**

**Veteran HAA Travels Study Leader**

**Peter W. Galbraith**

AB ’73 is an author, academic, commentator, politician, policy advisor, and former United States diplomat. He graduated from Harvard College and earned an MA from Oxford University and a JD from Georgetown University Law Center. From 1993 to 1998, he served as the first U.S. Ambassador to Croatia, where he was co-mediator of the 1995 Erdut Agreement that ended the Croatian War of Independence.

His distinguished career has also focused on Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, East Timor, and the United Nations. He is on the Board of Directors of the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, the research arm of the Council for a Livable World. In addition to two critically acclaimed books on the Iraq War, Ambassador Galbraith has written extensively for a range of publications including *The New York Review of Books*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Guardian*.

**Activity Level 3:** ☢️ 🏃‍♀️ 🏃‍♂️ 🏃‍♀️ 🏃‍♂️

Many of the cities and towns being visited were founded centuries ago, and the terrain is rugged. Therefore, a fair amount of walking along narrow cobblestone streets, stone floors or uneven and/or slippery terrain and climbing several flights of stairs (some without railings) is to be expected. Walking excursions often cover distances of at least one mile and are approximately three hours in length.

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Schedule by Day

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7
AND SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8
Home City/ Vienna, Austria

Depart your home city and arrive the next day in Vienna, Austria, and embark the AMADEUS STAR. Attend the Captain’s Welcome Reception and dinner in the evening. (**R,D**)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9
Vienna/ Bratislava, Slovakia

In Bratislava, enjoy a walking tour of the Staré Mesto (Old Town). Visit the Gothic 14th-century Cathedral of St. Martin and the elaborate Primate’s Palace, famous for its collection of 17th-century English tapestries. See St. Michael’s Gate. (**B,L,D**)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10
Budapest, Hungary

In Pest, see the Parliament Building, second largest in Europe. At UNESCO-inscribed Heroes’ Square, admire monuments honoring Magyar chiefs who established the Kingdom of Hungary. Along Andrássy Avenue, see the Hungarian State Opera House. Cross the Chain Bridge linking Pest to Buda. On Castle Hill, visit St. Matthias Church and the Fisherman’s Bastion. (**B,L,D**)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11
Kalocsa

Enjoy a scenic drive through Hungary’s scenic, protected Puszta grassland plains and visit a horse farm to see a performance of Hungarian horsemanship. Enjoy a traditional lunch in the farm’s restaurant. Continue to Kalocsa to visit the House of Folk Art and Paprika Museum. (**B,L,D**)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12
Vukovar, Croatia/ Novi Sad, Serbia

In Vukovar, see the iconic GRAND HOTEL, famously purchased by the city’s Labor Movement in 1919, and the 18th-century Eltz Manor.

St. Michael’s Gate is the only remaining intact portion of the city’s medieval fortifications.
Visit the Freedom Square of Novi Sad admiring the 18th and 19th century architecture.

Visit the Church of St. Sava, Serbia’s patron saint.

Visit the Baroque Church of Saints Philip and James. Enjoy a walking tour of Novi Sad’s Old Town to see the Name of Mary Church, Town Hall and the 18th-century Petrovaradin Fortress, Europe’s second largest fortress.

Continue to Karlovci to visit the Orthodox Church of St. Nicholas and Patriarchate Court.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

**Belgrade**

Embark on a tour of Belgrade, featuring Terazije Square and Temple of St. Sava. Visit Kalemegdan Fortress and the famous “House of Flowers” museum dedicated to former Yugoslavia’s leader, Josip Broz Tito. *(B,L,D)*

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15**

**Nikopol, Bulgaria/ Veliko Tarnovo/ Ruse**


While in Karlovci, a city famous for honey and wine production, stop at the Museum of Beekeeping to enjoy a honey tasting. *(B,L,D)*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

**Donji Milanovic/ Iron Gates**

Visit Lepenski Vir to see the impressive exhibition of Christ Church. Continue to Veliko Târnovo’s historical town center and see the 12th-century Tsarevets Fortress. *(B,L,D)*

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Step 1: Visit: https://alumni.harvard.edu/travel/trips/danube-2023

Step 2: Click the Blue “Register Today” button and fill out the online form.

Step 3: Look for an email confirmation from Harvard Alumni Travels.

All bookings are conducted online only.
Find complete trip-specific terms and conditions on the trip web page (link above).

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16
Constanta
In Constanta Old Town, see the poet Ovid’s statue in Ovidiu Square, the Great Mahmudiye Mosque, and the Orthodox Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul.
Enjoy a Captain’s Farewell Reception on board this evening with your fellow travelers. (B,L,R,D)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17
Fetesti/Bucharest, Romania/
Disembark river boat
Arrive and disembark the river boat in Bucharest. Visit the Palace of Parliament, the world’s second largest building. Check into the INTERCONTINENTAL ATHÉNÉE PALACE BUCHAREST. (B,L)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18
Bucharest
Visit the National Art Museum, housing Romania’s finest collection of artistic treasures, and tour the Village Open Air Museum. Enjoy the farewell reception this evening. (B,R)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19
Bucharest/Home City

The immense Palace of Parliament is the second largest building in the world.
IMPERIAL VIENNA PRE-PROGRAM OPTION

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.

Double Pricing: $895  Single Pricing: $1,245

CASTLES OF TRANSYLVANIA POST-PROGRAM OPTION

Extend your tour by three nights to explore the treasures of medieval Transylvania. Highlights include the 19th-century Peles Castle; the imposing, 14th-century Bran Castle; the Black Church in Brasov; the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Sighisoara; and UNESCO-inscribed Prejmarthe, the largest fortified church in southeast Europe. Spend two nights in the Aro Palace in Brasov and one night in the five-star ATHÉNÉE PALACE HILTON BUCHAREST.

Double Pricing: $995  Single Pricing: $1,245
The **AMADEUS STAR** features all the comforts of a refined and traditional hotel. The stylish restaurant offers scenic views through panoramic windows and continental cuisine featuring fresh, local ingredients. Daily meals include early-risers’ coffee, breakfast, and lunch with complimentary wine and beer, afternoon tea, a four-course dinner (also with complimentary beverages), and a late-evening snack. For your leisure time on board there are two bars, an open-air lounge, a boutique, a massage room, a beauty salon, 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 82 stylish staterooms and suites are among the most spacious of any European river boat (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 **AMADEUS STAR** meets the highest safety standards; the **AMADEUS** fleet has earned the important “Green Globe Certificate” of environmental sustainability.

### Rates Per Person

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY/DECK</th>
<th>DECK</th>
<th>PER PERSON</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C4</td>
<td>Haydn Deck, aft.</td>
<td>$5,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C1</td>
<td>Haydn Deck, midship.</td>
<td>$5,425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B4</td>
<td>Strauss Deck, aft. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$6,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1</td>
<td>Strauss Deck, midship. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$6,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>Mozart Deck, aft and midship. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$7,125</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUITE</td>
<td>Mozart Deck, midship.</td>
<td>$7,725</td>
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</tbody>
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Stateroom with small panoramic window.

Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to French-balcony height. **Suicide**, midship. (limited availability)

Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to French-balcony height; minibar. **Suicide**, midship. (limited availability)

Suite with private balcony (sliding glass doors with railing), sofa, and bath robes. **Suicide**, midship.