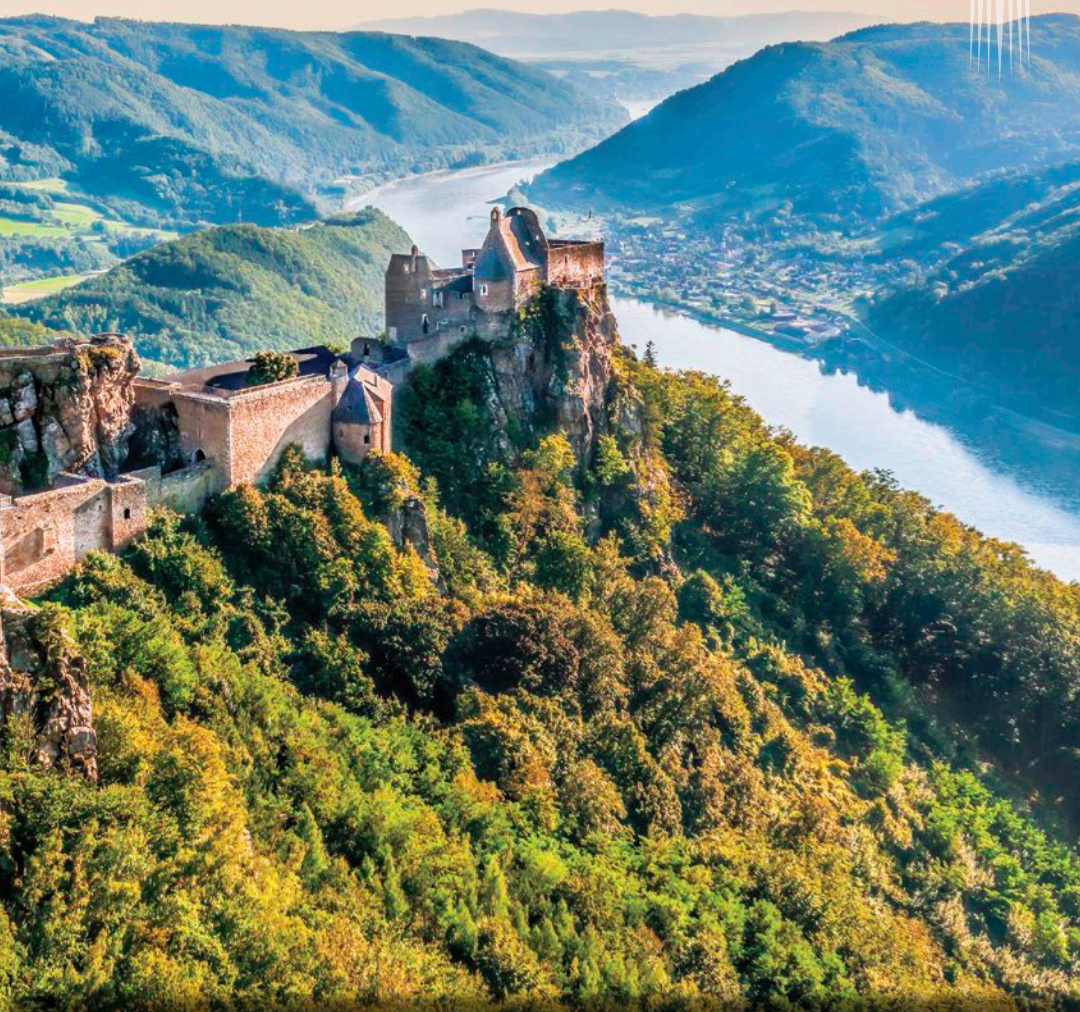


# GRAND Danube Passage

PRAGUE TO SOFIA

NO SINGLE  
SUPPLEMENT  
for Solo  
Travelers



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MISSOURI  
BOTANICAL  
GARDEN

Missouri Botanical Garden

October 6-20, 2024

Featuring Andrew Wyatt  
Senior Vice President of Horticulture  
and Living Collections



MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

## Dear Friend of the Garden:

Embark on a cultural adventure through eight countries!

The incomparable heritage and fascinating history of Eastern Europe come to life while cruising along the mighty Danube. Join the Missouri Botanical Garden and Andrew Wyatt, Senior Vice President of Horticulture & Living Collections, to explore botanical gardens with incredible histories and collections in Prague, Vienna and Sofia.

This sensational cruise begins with three nights in Prague, Czech Republic. Then sail along the Danube, reveling in unspoiled riverside landscapes, before concluding in the Balkan city of Sofia, Bulgaria. Along the way, visit inspiring UNESCO World Heritage sites, including the remarkable Wachau Valley, and taste the region's wines and cuisine. Plus, in most ports, customize your cruise with choices of cultural, active and culinary activities designed to highlight Eastern Europe's history and daily life. You are sure to return home dreaming of blossoming gardens and memorable evenings spent stargazing along the Danube.

Travel in comfort and enjoy the excursions, cultural events and lectures selected especially for you. This is an unparalleled opportunity to immerse yourself in the culture, cuisine and landscapes of eight countries on a deluxe travel program. Make your reservations today!

Sincerely,

Patricia Arnold, CFRE  
Senior Vice President | Institutional Advancement  
Missouri Botanical Garden

### Andrew Wyatt

Andrew Wyatt is Senior Vice President of Horticulture and Living Collections at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Andrew's experience spans nearly two decades and he is recognized as a leader in both living collections and botanical garden management.

Andrew oversees a division of 60 staff members and is responsible for managing a living collection of over 16,000 taxa, the Mauritius conservation program, and designing and implementing plant collections in the Garden's 76 acres.

Preceding the Missouri Botanical Garden, Andrew worked at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden as interim director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Chicago Botanic Garden and the University of Oxford Botanic Garden.

Andrew is affiliated with Botanic Gardens Conservation International, the American Association of Botanic Gardens and Arboreta, the Institute of Horticulture, the Royal Horticulture Society and the Kew Guild.

### UNESCO World Heritage

1. Budapest, including the Banks of the Danube, the Buda Castle Quarter and Andrásy Avenue, Hungary
2. Historic Center of Vienna, Austria
3. Wachau Cultural Landscape, Austria
4. Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn, Austria
5. Historic Center of Prague, Czech Republic







# A World of Discovery



Embark on an unforgettable cruise through Europe, a carefree journey that abounds with history and culture! Aboard your first-class river ship, uncover Old World highlights and swathes of lush countryside, colorful port towns and medieval villages. Along the way, discover the fantastic diversity that plant species manifest throughout Europe and the world. Plus, choose from included culinary and cultural experiences in selected ports.

Top: Dürnstein | Above: Charles Bridge, Prague  
Cover: Aggstein Castle on the Danube, Wachau Valley  
Mail panel: Hofburg Palace, Vienna | Old town, Prague

## Inspiring Moments



- Witness Budapest's glowing, amber skyline during an evening **sail on the Danube River.**
- Explore some of the world's most **beautiful botanical gardens.**
- Gaze at the **Iron Gate Gorge** and the lush landscape of the **Wachau Valley.**
- Uncover the remarkable history and grandeur of **timeless Vienna.**
- Delight in the captivating cobbled lanes of **Bratislava's old town.**
- Applaud the graceful turns of elegant dancers during an **exclusive waltz performance.**
- Savor a moment of quiet thought in the marbled halls of **Melk Abbey.**
- Admire **storybook villages and landmarks** along the Danube River.
- Experience five **UNESCO World Heritage sites.**



Passau

### Day 1 | In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Prague, Czech Republic. 🌐

### Day 2 | Prague, Czech Republic

Upon arrival, transfer 🚗 to your hotel. Join us later for a special Welcome Reception.

### Day 3 | Prague

**Old Town & Charles Bridge.** Witness Prague's wonders, including the famous astronomical clock and the Charles Bridge.

**Free Time:** Craft your own path this afternoon.

### Day 4 | Prague

#### 🌐PYJ | Choose one of these excursions:

- **Prague Royal Gardens.** Visit Prague Castle's Royal Garden, designed with the purpose of collecting exotic plants from around the world.
- **Jewish Quarter.** Explore this historic quarter and visit the Prague National Jewish Museum.
- **Art Nouveau & Cubist Walking Tour.** Gaze at the city's brilliant architecture designed in the art nouveau and cubist fashions.

### Day 5 | Prague | Passau, Germany

After breakfast, transfer to Passau, Germany.

**Picturesque Passau.** Venture out to explore Passau, including Niedernburg Abbey, the Veste Oberhaus and St. Stephen's Cathedral. Embark your first-class ship and kick off your cruise during a Welcome Reception and Dinner.

### Day 6 | Melk, Austria | Dürnstein

**Melk Abbey.** Visit Melk's Benedictine abbey, featuring frescoes and an incredible library. Cruise through the stunning Wachau Valley.

#### 🌐PYJ | Choose one of these excursions:

- **Dürnstein.** A walking tour showcases the town's architecture and Stiftskirche.
- **Danube Cycling.** Pass by villages and vineyards while cycling along the Danube Cycle Trail with a guide. *(Active)*
- **Wachau Winery.** Stop in at a winery for a tour and tasting of delicious Wachau Valley wines.

### Day 7 | Vienna

**Enrichment: Timeless Vienna.**

#### 🌐PYJ | Choose one of these excursions:

- **Imperial Vienna.** Step inside Hofburg Palace to visit the Imperial Apartments. Continue on an informative drive along the Ringstrasse.
- **Klosterneuburg Monastery & Wine.** See the monastery's impressive art collection. After, visit a wine cellar for a special tasting.
- **Schönbrunn Palace.** Tour this opulent royal residence and garden.

#### **University of Vienna Botanical Garden.**

Originally created as a pharmaceutical garden,

Melk Abbey







Bratislava

this botanical oasis serves as a teaching and research facility and features over 11,500 plant species. During your tour, see themed zones such as succulents and medicinal plants.

🌍 **AHI Connects | Viennese Waltz.** Watch dancers perform the elegant Viennese waltz!

## Day 8 | Bratislava, Slovakia

**Enrichment: The Velvet Revolution.**

🌍 **PYJ | Choose one of these excursions:**

- **Old Town & Café.** A walking tour reveals the Slovak National Theater, Primate's Palace, St. Martin's Cathedral and St. Michael's Gate.
- **Old Town & Music.** Explore venues linked to Beethoven and other renowned artists, followed by a show by a young musician.
- **Iron Curtain Bike Tour.** Set off on a cycle along the Slovak-Austrian border. *(Active)*

## Day 9 | Budapest, Hungary

🌍 **PYJ | Choose one of these excursions:**

- **Budapest.** See the Hungarian State Opera House, Heroes' Square, the Parliament and Fisherman's Bastion on a panoramic tour.
- **Living Local.** Browse food and craft stalls in the Great Market Hall. Visit a coffee house for strudel and *palinka*, a local schnapps.

- **Jewish Quarter.** Witness Budapest's Great Synagogue, the poignant Shoes on the Danube Bank memorial and other sites.

**Budapest by Night.** An awe-inspiring evening cruise reveals an illuminated Budapest.

## Day 10 | Pécs | Osijek, Croatia | Vukovar

**Pécs.** Join your guide to explore Pécs, known for its Roman ruins and Ottoman mosques.

🌍 **AHI Connects | Croatia's Slavonia Region.** Visit Rural House and sample tasty traditional foods and local vintages.

**Osijek & Vukovar.** Tour Osijek, passing military complexes and university facilities. Continue to Vukovar to see the city center.

## Day 11 | Belgrade, Serbia

**Enrichment: Modern Serbia.**

🌍 **PYJ | Choose one of these excursions:**

- **Belgrade.** Visit the Belgrade Fortress and see the sights in the city center.
- **Eat Like a Local.** Experience Serbian cuisine, including *kajmak*, a creamy cheese.
- **Science & Scientist Tour.** Browse exhibits and films at the Nikola Tesla Museum.

Decebalus stone sculpture, Iron Gate Gorge



Serbian folk dancing





**Serbian Folk Show.** Delight in a lively show, enjoying the melodies of Serbian folk songs.

### Day 12 | Iron Gate Gorge

Enter the magnificent Iron Gate Gorge today.

**Frühschoppen!** Head to the sun deck to tuck into beer, pretzels, sausages and mustards.

Join a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

### Day 13 | Vidin, Bulgaria | Sofia

**Vidin.** Tour ancient Vidin, viewing the Osman Pazvantoglu Library and other landmarks.

Continue to Sofia and check in to your hotel.

### Day 14 | Sofia

**Enrichment: The Prologue to the Bulgarian Revival.**

**Sofia Discovery.** Witness ancient Serdica, St. George Rotunda and more.

**University Botanical Gardens.** Founded in 1892 by Dr. Stefan Georgiev, this garden features over 2,500 species. During your tour, view tropical plants, including orchids and ferns, plus over 40 species of rose bushes.

Gather for a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

### Day 15 | In Transit

After breakfast, transfer ➡ to the airport for the return flight ✈ to your gateway city.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

✈ Flights and ➡ transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

🌐 PYJ experiences are included.

#### Note About Activity Levels

We have designated activity levels for all excursions on this program. For more details, please call or visit our website.

#### Excursions on this itinerary require:

- walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths and/or uneven surfaces
- getting on/off motor coaches and boats

## Included Features



### Accommodations {with baggage handling}

- **3 nights** in Prague, Czech Republic, at the deluxe Art Deco Imperial Hotel.
- **8 nights** aboard the exclusively chartered, first-class MS Amadeus Queen.
- **2 nights** in Sofia, Bulgaria, at the deluxe Sofia Hotel Balkan.

### Transfers {with baggage handling}

- Deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land | Cruise Program.

### Extensive Meal Program

- 13 breakfasts, 9 lunches and 9 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine, beer or soft drinks with lunch and dinner.

### Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

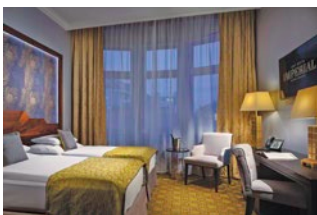
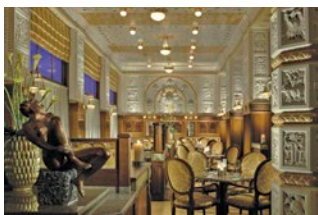
- **Visit 8 countries** during this program.
- **AHI Travel Assurance plan** covers Accident and Sickness Medical Expense, Trip Delay and Emergency Evacuation for U.S. residents.
- **Enrichment by expert speakers** enhances your insight into the region.
- **Engaging excursions** showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- 🌐 **Personalize Your Journey | PYJ |** A choice of excursions in selected locales.
- 🌱 **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.
- 🌍 **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

Budapest at night

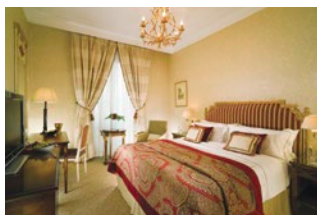




## Accommodations



**Art Deco Imperial Hotel** | Prague, Czech Republic



**Sofia Hotel Balkan** | Sofia, Bulgaria



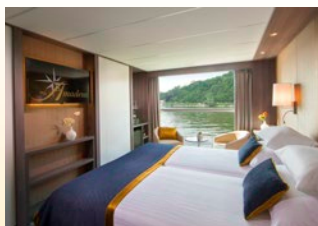
Our travel experts have carefully selected these deluxe hotels for their prime locations. They are ideally situated for exploring each region's renowned landmarks while providing opportunities to immerse yourself in local life. Of utmost importance is the superior quality of their services, amenities and accommodations, allowing you to enjoy your stay fully.



## MS Amadeus Queen



Step aboard the Amadeus Queen and sense an ambience evocative of a grand European hotel. Settle in your comfortable cabin, appointed in modern décor and featuring a private bathroom with a shower. Savor international specialties at breakfast buffets and a choice of appetizing regional dishes at lunch and dinner. Beer, wine or soft drinks are available with lunch and dinner. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available.



# Reserve your trip today!

To book your journey,  
please call our AHI Travel Experts  
at **800-323-7373** or  
visit **mobot.ahitravel.com**.

## Program Dates

### Travel dates †

**October 6-20, 2024**

† Travel dates include any overnights required for international travel. These dates may vary depending on air schedules.

### Tour dates\*

**October 7-20, 2024**

\* Tour dates begin on the scheduled arrival date at your destination and end on the scheduled departure date from your destination.

## Land | Cruise Program

Category-Deck	Full Price	Special Price*
E-Haydn (Mid Aft)	\$6,145	<b>\$5,895</b>
D-Haydn (Midship)	\$6,345	<b>\$6,095</b>
C-Strauss (Aft)	\$6,845	<b>\$6,595</b>
B-Strauss (Midship)	\$7,045	<b>\$6,795</b>
A-Mozart	\$7,545	<b>\$7,295</b>
Suite-Mozart (Midship)	\$8,045	<b>\$7,795</b>

Suites feature a balcony. Categories A, B and C feature a drop-down panoramic window. Categories D and E feature a window.

**\*Special Price includes \$250 special savings.  
Special Price valid if booked  
by the date found on the address panel.**

VAT is an additional \$395 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).  
Special offers, promotions and discounts cannot be combined.

**Single supplement waived for solo travelers!** This offer is limited, capacity-controlled and tends to sell out quickly.

**Please note:** Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://mobot.ahitravel.com/destinations/1809A?schoolId=639>. You can also request a copy from our travel experts. Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out therein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.





*Banks of the Danube, Serbia*



*St. George Rotunda, Sofia*

## AHI FlexAir

### Let us arrange your flights

**Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:**

- **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- arrival and departure **transfers** on group dates
- **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservation without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights
- **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays

## AHI Travel Expertise



From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

### *Before you go:*

**Travel Consultants** stand ready to answer your questions as they guide you through the reservation process.

**Passenger Service Representative** offers personalized assistance with flights, electives and special requests.

**Travel Information** provides pre-departure details and enrichment about your destination.

### *Once you arrive:*

**Your Travel Director**, a seasoned, multilingual professional, manages daily logistics so you enjoy a seamless experience.

**Handpicked Expert Guides** offer fascinating insights and share their passion for their country with you.

**Knowledgeable Lecturers** deepen your appreciation for the region and its history, culture and current events.



*Shoes on the Danube Bank, Budapest*



*Pécs Cathedral*

Missouri Botanical Garden  
4344 Shaw Blvd  
Saint Louis, MO 63110  
DANUBE24 719

**800-323-7373**  
**[mobot.ahitravel.com](http://mobot.ahitravel.com)**

**AHI Travel's** mission is to deliver inspirational, educational and cultural programs that delight travelers.

**With AHI you can rely on:**

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



**Sail the legendary Danube River & visit eight countries!**

Presorted Std.  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
AHI Travel

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to our website for  
the most current  
program information,  
discounts and pricing.**