

berammergau Passion Play

and Cruising the Danube River Budapest & Bratislava & Vienna & Salzburg & Munich

July 21 to 31, 2020

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Dear Alumni and Friends,

Nestled in the storybook landscapes of the Bavarian Alps, more than 2000 residents of the quaint hamlet of Oberammergau stage one of the world's greatest dramatic performances, the extraordinarily produced Passion Play, founded on unique local history and a legacy that encompasses nearly four centuries. Join us in 2020 for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience the 42<sup>nd</sup> production of this time-honored tradition, the Oberammergau Passion Play, which is reenacted only every 10 years. Spend two nights in the Oberammergau region, coupled with a delightful Danube River cruise aboard the exclusively chartered, deluxe AMADEUS BRILLIANT through Hungary, Austria, Germany and seldom-visited Slovakia.

Our customized and unique itinerary combines this internationally acclaimed event with the authentic art, architecture, culture and history that recall the glories of the Ottoman, Habsburg and Holy Roman Empires. Special tickets, unavailable to the general public, have been procured for your Passion Play experience. Visit four world-class cities and a host of UNESCO World Heritage sites, including storied Budapest and its Castle Quarter; historic Vienna and the spectacular Schönbrunn Palace, featuring the Habsburgs' palatial gardens; and delightful Salzburg, known as the iconic setting for *The Sound of Music.* Immerse yourself in Bratislava's well-preserved medieval past; the 900-year-old traditions of Melk's Benedictine Abbey; and Munich, the quintessential capital of all things Bavarian.

Whether you are a first-time or seasoned traveler to these countries, you won't want to miss this exceptional opportunity. It's not too soon to book your reservation. Space is limited and sure to sell quickly, so don't delay!

Sincerely,

Swent Harrington

Gwen D. Harrington Director of Travel Programs Virginia Tech Alumni Association





Nearly 400 years ago, the ruling council of Oberammergau made a valiant effort to safeguard their hamlet against the Black Death plague. They sought deliverance by performing a Passion Play on a modest stage built over the graves of plague victims. Surviving villagers made a solemn vow to reenact the passion of Christ every 10 years in perpetuity as an act of gratitude and remembrance.

Through the centuries, Oberammergau's Passion Play has risen in prestige, drawing pilgrims from around the world. Performed on one of the world's largest stages, the Passionspielhaus, the play now features a cast of nearly 2000 village residents transformed from Bavarian farmers and townsfolk into an array of Roman centurions, Jewish villagers and other Biblical characters. The tradition lives on, respected around the globe as the world's most historic and spectacular Passion Play.

### U.S./Budapest, Hungary Days 1 and 2

Depart the U.S. for Budapest, Hungary's historic capital. Upon arrival, embark the AMADEUS BRILLIANT, your exclusively chartered, deluxe small river ship, and attend the Captain's Welcome Reception and dinner.

### **Budapest**

### Day 3

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 iconic, 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. See the 19<sup>th</sup>-century, neo-Renaissance Hungarian State Opera House, one of the most beautiful performing arts venues in the world. Cross the imposing Chain Bridge linking river-level Pest to the hills of Buda. Visit the late-19<sup>th</sup>-century, neo-Romanesque Fisherman's Bastion on Castle Hill with commanding views of the city.

Cover photo: Admire traditional Lüftlmalerei painting on the Pilatushaus in the center of Oberammergau, depicting ornate Italian-style columns and balcony. Photo this page: See the majestic, domed neo-Gothic Parliament Building of Budapest, a regal landmark and vibrant government center, on the banks of the Danube River.



Enjoy the charm of Oberammergau, with painted trompe l'oeil frescoes on many homes and shops, depicting fairy tales and religious scenes.

Nearby, explore the Gothic-style St. Matthias Church, where Charles I, the last Habsburgian ruler, was coronated in 1916.

Reboard the ship for lunch and depart Budapest.

### Bratislava, Slovakia Day 4

Bratislava is nestled in the foothills of the impressive Carpathian mountain range; beautifully restored since the end of the Cold War, Slovakia's charming capital depicts 21<sup>st</sup>-century life amid its 1000-year-old history. On a guided tour of the Old Town, walk among a sampling of central Europe's finest medieval, Renaissance and 19<sup>th</sup>-century architecture. Visit the Romanesque, 14<sup>th</sup>-century Cathedral of St. Martin and the elaborate Primatial Palace, and see St. Michael's Gate, Bratislava's oldest preserved medieval fortification, originally built in 1300.

Enjoy time at leisure in Bratislava before cruising through Austria's fertile Donau-Auen National Park.

### Vienna, Austria Day 5

Former seat of the Habsburg Empire, Vienna's historic center is a UNESCO World Heritage open-air museum of splendid Baroque architecture. Enjoy a panoramic tour featuring its famous Ringstrasse, showcasing the impressive Vienna State Opera House and Hofburg Palace. Visit the iconic, Gothic-style Stephansdom (St. Stephen's Cathedral). After lunch on board the ship, visit the UNESCO World Heritage-designated

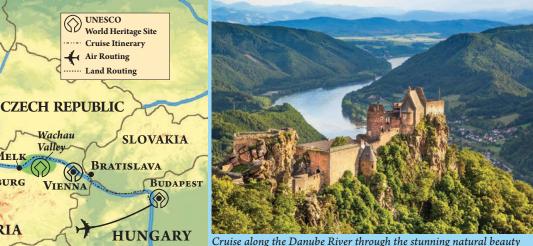


Stroll through the Baroque pleasure gardens of Mirabell Palace in the heart of Salzburg.

Schönbrunn Palace and Gardens, the lavish summer estate of the imperial Habsburgs. It was here that a six-year-old Mozart first performed for Empress Maria Theresa and her daughter, Marie Antoinette, the future queen of France. Enjoy time to stroll the sprawling, English-style gardens.

See St. Michael's Gate and its elegant Admire the Rococo grandeur of UNESCO-designated Schönbrunn Palace and copper roof, an iconic symbol of Bratislava. Gardens, the royal summer home of Marie Antoinette and Emperor Franz Josef.





Cruise along the Danube River through the stunning natural beauty of the Wachau Valley landscape, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

### Melk

### Day 6

This morning, cruise through the Danube's fabled Wachau Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site, where terraced vineyards blanket hillsides dotted with the haunting ruins of medieval castles. Arrive in Melk and visit the impressive 900-year-old Benedictine Abbey, an Austrian Baroque masterpiece by Paul Troger. Showcasing stunning 18th-century ceiling frescoes and priceless relics, this beautiful kirche (church), houses the perfectly intact, multi-panel, 16<sup>th</sup>-century altarpiece by Danube School master Jörg Breu the Elder. A prestigious center of scholarship throughout the Middle Ages, the abbey's library is today a repository of 100,000 medieval manuscripts.

Enjoy lunch and an afternoon of engaging lectures on the ship before the Captain's Farewell Dinner.

### Passau, Germany/Salzburg, Austria/ Oberammergau, Germany Day 7

Disembark in Passau, where three legendary rivers converge—the Danube, Inn and Ilz. Transfer to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Salzburg, the setting for several scenes in *The Sound of Music*. Explore the Alter Markt, the city's old marketplace, where burghers' houses date back to the Middle Ages; see the 17<sup>th</sup>-century Salzburg Cathedral, a fine example of Italian-style Baroque architecture; and savor a local lunch. Walk through Mirabell Gardens and St. Peter's Cemetery—one of the world's oldest and most beautiful cemeteries. Enjoy time at leisure to stroll the picturesque arcades of Salzburg's famous pedestrian lane, Getreidegasse.

Continue through the scenic Bavarian Alps to a charming hotel near Oberammergau. Dinner is included in the hotel this evening.

### **Oberammergau Passion Play** Day 8

The pastoral village of Oberammergau is synonymous with the great Passion Play produced here only once every 10 years. Walk the streets of Oberammergau and admire the charming frescoed murals adorning the walls and façades of the village buildings.

This afternoon, experience one of Europe's oldest and most venerable dramatic traditions. From specially reserved seats, enjoy the 2020 Passion Play, featuring a cast of thousands—all local residents—and extraordinary stage sets. During intermission, enjoy a dinner of traditional Bavarian fare.

### Oberammergau/ Neuschwanstein Castle/Munich Day 9

After breakfast, depart for Munich. En route, stop at King Ludwig II's fairy-tale Neuschwanstein, one of the world's most photographed castles and the Romanesque Revival inspiration for Disneyland's Sleeping Beauty Castle. Lunch is included.

### Munich Day 10

History comes alive in the 800-year-old city of Munich, Bavaria's historic capital, known for its artistic culture and unique beauty. Visit the 17<sup>th</sup>-century, Baroque Nymphenburg Palace,

See 900-year-old Melk Abbey, originally an opulent Baroque palace, now a museum and learning center.





### **EXCLUSIVELY CHARTERED, DELUXE MS AMADEUS BRILLIANT**

The elegant and meticulously crafted AMADEUS BRILLIANT features all the comforts of a refined and traditional hotel.

The 76 stylish Staterooms and Suites are among the most spacious of any European river ship (161 to 236 square feet). Suites and select Staterooms feature a French balcony (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors). Accommodations have two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control, sitting area and private bathroom with shower. Suites have a minibar.

The stylish restaurant offers scenic views through panoramic windows. Continental cuisine is served, 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 and Sun Deck. An elevator serves all passenger decks except the Sun Deck. Complimentary bicycles are available for independent pursuits on shore. There is no doctor on board.

The Amadeus fleet has earned the "Green Globe Certification" of environmental sustainability.





birthplace of King Ludwig II and former summer residence of Bavarian royalty, and stroll through the palace's exquisite gardens.

Enjoy the Munich walking tour featuring the Königsbau (King's building) of the Residenz, the former royal palace complex. Stroll down elegant Maximilianstrasse and see the world-famous, 16<sup>th</sup>-century Hofbräuhaus, a three-floor beer hall, and lively Viktualienmarkt, the city's daily open-air market. In Marienplatz, marvel at the grand neo-Gothic façade of the New Town Hall, and see the famous Glockenspiel's life-sized figures performing the traditional Coopers' Dance.

Enjoy an afternoon at leisure before attending the Farewell Reception in the hotel this evening.

# Munich/Return to the U.S. Day 11

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



Delight in the reenactments of two scenes from Munich's history in the Glockenspiel on the city's town square, Marienplatz.

### **Included Features**

### On Board the Exclusively Chartered Amadeus Brilliant

- Five-night cruise from Budapest, Hungary, to Passau, Germany.
- Deluxe, river-view, air-conditioned Suite or Stateroom.
- All meals aboard ship.
- Complimentary house wine and beer served with lunch and dinner.
- Captain's Welcome Reception and Farewell Dinner.
- Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the ship.
- Visits to Budapest's historic landmarks of the Fisherman's Bastion and the ornate St. Matthias Church.
- Guided walking tour of Bratislava's well-preserved, medieval Staré Mesto (Old Town).
- Tour of the 11<sup>th</sup>-century Benedictine Abbey of Melk, a Baroque masterpiece.

Scenic transfer from Passau, Germany, via Salzburg, Austria, to Oberammergau, Germany.

### Oberammergau, Germany

- Two nights in an ideally located, traditional Bavarian hotel, with breakfast each morning and two dinners featuring authentic Bavarian cuisine.
- 2020 Oberammergau Passion Play performance, including specially reserved seating.

Scenic transfer from Oberammergau to Munich, including lunch and a stop en route at Ludwig II's iconic, fairy-tale Neuschwanstein Castle.

### In Munich

- Two nights in the Five-Star, centrally located HOTEL BAYERISCHER HOF, with breakfast each morning.
- Walking tour featuring the elegant Maximilianstrasse, the lively Viktualienmarkt, the world-famous Hofbräuhaus and Marienplatz to see the Glockenspiel.
- Visit to the magnificent Nymphenburg Palace.
- Farewell Reception.

### **UNESCO World Heritage Site Highlights**

- Tour of Budapest and its famous Castle Quarter.
  Panoramic tour of the world-class city of Vienna, an
- open-air museum of splendid Baroque architecture.
  Visit to Schönbrunn Palace and Gardens, the
- visit to scholof unit i alace and Gardens, the spectacular summer estate of the imperial Habsburgs.
   Walking tour of Salzburg featuring the
- Mirabell Gardens and the city's famous pedestrian shopping lane, Getreidegasse.



### **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 for included excursions.
- 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 aboard ship and in the hotels.
- 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.



Tour the lavish interior of the Budapest Parliament Building, which houses the Holy Crown of Hungary.

### Hungarian Tradition in Budapest Pre-Program Option



Coat of Arms

Budapest's majestic hills and artistic, bohemian avenues are sure to captivate you. Visit the stately, Gothic Revival-style Parliament Building, one of Europe's oldest legislative buildings and

Hungary's largest; and enjoy an excursion into Hungary's great, protected *Puszta* (plains), for an expert display of master horsemanship and a traditional regional lunch—an authentic and unforgettable experience. Enjoy river-view accommodations for two nights in the Five-Star INTERCONTINENTAL BUDAPEST.

### Historic Bavaria Post-Program Option



Bavaria Coat of Arms Continue to enjoy the quintessential Bavarian *gemütlichkeit* (friendliness) of Munich and explore its multifaceted culture. Tour one of the most renowned art collections in the

world at the Pinakothek museum. Tour the poignant grounds of the nearby Dachau Memorial Site. Enjoy a hearty, traditional Bavarian dinner and unique ambiance at the famous, Gothic-style Ratskeller Restaurant. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe HOTEL BAYERISCHER HOF, located in the heart of Munich.

Pre- and Post-Program Options are available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

Savor a traditional dinner at Munich's famed Ratskeller Restaurant in the neo-Gothic New Town Hall in Marienplatz.

MS AMADEUS BRILLIANT Sun Deck Mozart Deck Strauss Deck Haydn Deck					
Stateroom Category †	LAND/CRUISE TARIFF excluding taxes* Per person, based on double occupancy	Early Booking Tariff* through March 7, 2019	Tariff* after March 7, 2019		
7	Stateroom with window. Haydn Deck, aft. (limited availability)	\$4295	\$5295		
6	Stateroom with window. Haydn Deck, forward. (limited availability)	\$4595	\$5595		
5	Stateroom with window. Haydn Deck, midship.	\$5295	\$6295		
4	Stateroom with <b>French balcony</b> (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing). <i>Strauss Deck, aft.</i> (limited availability)	\$5895	\$6895		
3	Stateroom with <b>French balcony</b> (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing). <i>Strauss Deck, forward.</i> (limited availability)	\$6295	\$7295		
2	Stateroom with <b>French balcony</b> (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing). <i>Strauss Deck, midship.</i>	\$6995	\$7995		
1	Stateroom with <b>French balcony</b> (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing). <i>Mozart Deck, aft and midship.</i>	\$7295	\$8295		
Junior Suites	Suite with <b>French balcony</b> (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing), sitting area, minibar. <i>Mozart Deck, midship and forward.</i>	\$7995	\$8995		
Singles are available in category 5 at \$8995* and in category 2 at \$11895* on or before March 7, 2019. Add \$1000 for reservations made after March 7, 2019.					

\*Taxes are an additional \$195 per person and are subject to change.

<sup>+</sup>AMADEUS BRILLIANT has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

### **OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY** RESERVATION FORM

Send to: Gohagan & 209 South L	Company aSalle Street, Suite 500	Please make my/our reservation(s) in Stateroom Category:		
Chicago, IL 60604-1446			1 <sup>st</sup> choice 2 <sup>nd</sup> choice	
Phone: (800 Fax: (312) 6			<ul> <li>Double occupancy (two twin beds).</li> <li>Double occupancy (one queen bed).</li> </ul>	
			□ 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).	
Title Full Name (exactly a	s it appears on your passport)	Please make my/our reservation(s):		
			Hungarian Tradition in Budapest	
Street Mailing Address (no I	<sup>2</sup> .O. Box number please)	Pre-Program Option		
			Double at \$995 per person.	
City	State ZIP	? Code	<ul> <li>Single at \$1495 per person.</li> <li>I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate</li> </ul>	
Telephone: (Home)	(Mobile)		(shares cannot be guaranteed).	
			Historic Bavaria	
Email Address	(Business)		Post-Program Option □ Double at \$1095 per person.	
			Single at \$1595 per person.	
Preferred Name(s) on Badg	e(s) Tour No. 06	□ I am reserving as a single but prefer		
Program reservations re- person Hungarian Tradi	quire a deposit of \$800 per person tion in Budapest Pre-Program Opt c Bavaria Post-Program Option. <i>By</i>	to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).		
depositing on this program, I/w	ve agree to the Release of Liability, Assumptio as printed on the outside back cover of this b	on of Risk and	□ I/We want you to book my/our air, at an additional	
□ Enclosed is my/our c	· · · ·	cost to be advised, <sup>+</sup> from:		
<ul> <li>I/We authorize you to</li> <li>Visa          <ul> <li>MasterC</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	o charge my/our deposit of \$ ard	(fill in departure city) Economy Class		
			Upgraded Economy	
Card Number		Exp. Date	Business Class	
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			*Note: Airfare is subject to change and	
· ·	nature as it appears on credit card	availability and is nonrefundable.		
All FINAL PAYMENTS wire transfer by April 1	S are required to be made by chee 17, 2020.	☐ I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.		



Admire enchanting Neuschwanstein Castle, built by King Ludwig II of Bavaria in 1886.

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Discourse apply only on the required deposit, by March 7, 2019. In the event a "discourse of the required deposit, by March 7, 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 tariff. Cancellation penalties may apply.

Virginia Tech Alumni Association Holtzman Alumni Center (0102) 901 Prices Fork Road lacksburg, VA 24061

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Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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