

CRUISE

THE
FACE
OF

SAIL FROM
AMSTERDAM
TO BUDAPEST

Europe



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MAY 16-31, 2015

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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Unpack once and experience **five countries** as you sail on the **MS Amadeus Silver** between Amsterdam and Budapest.
- Admire the **Loreley** as you sail through the lovely Middle Rhine Valley.
- On land, trace Germany's **Romantic Road** from Würzburg to Rothenburg.
- Experience an incomparable **organ concert** at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Passau.
- Cruise through the **Main-Danube Canal**.
- Marvel at **Cologne Cathedral**, **Melk Abbey** and **Vienna's Hofburg Palace**.

Left: Dürnstein, the Pearl of the Wachau Valley, on the Danube



Imagine thousands of years of European history gently delivered to your doorstep as you glide along the Rhine, Main and Danube rivers. Almost every waking moment reveals an enlightening visual feast, from fairytale castles perched on jagged bluffs to terraced vineyards, Bavarian villages and spirited capital cities built on the banks of Europe's waterways. With panoramic views and large stateroom picture windows onboard, plus seamless walking tours and excursions steps from your modern, elegant ship, you'll indulge in a rich adventure steeped in tradition. Explore the Romantic Road, a mediaeval trade route. Sail through the Main-Danube Canal, a civil engineering marvel inspired by Charlemagne. And take your seat at a special organ concert in Passau. From regional dishes to soul-stirring vistas, embrace the face of Europe on this epic three-river route.





Left:

Aggstein Castle
ruins on
the Danube River,
Wachau Valley,
lower Austria

Dear Alumni and Friends,

The ultimate in European river cruising, this two-week adventure from Amsterdam to Budapest traces the time-honoured features of the continent along its most legendary waterways.

Aboard the MS Amadeus Silver, a shining example of the new generation of river cruise ships, you'll enjoy well-appointed accommodations, ample amenities and the professional service of a boutique hotel.

Cruise the Rhine, Main and Danube rivers, as well as the man-made engineering marvel, the Main-Danube Canal. Explore five countries, visiting fascinating ports of call, admiring breathtaking landscapes and discovering hidden treasures with the guidance of local experts.

Along the way, you'll benefit from the value and convenience of group travel without the feeling of being herded from place to place. Plus, you'll enjoy preferred access to popular attractions that will deepen your understanding of Europe's historic landmark sites and interesting cultures, including a larger-than-life organ concert in Passau, Germany.

In addition, a dedicated team of travel experts will assist you with all your travel needs before your departure and help you customize your trip with extensions or special arrangements. Space is limited and this popular program is sure to sell out quickly, so make your reservation today!

Sincerely,

Craig S. Haynes LLB '99
President, Alumni Association



Note: Your registration does not include travel insurance. Travel insurance is available for purchase within five business days of your reservation. For more information visit our website at alumni.uottawa.ca/en/privileges

9

"We spent an hour in the cathedral ... it was the most beautiful of all the churches I have ever seen, or can imagine."

~ Lewis Carroll,

English author, 1832-1898, on
Cologne Cathedral in Diary, July
1867

"I had heard someone say that Vienna combined the splendour of a capital with the familiarity of a village."

~ Sir Patrick Michael

Leigh Fermor,

British author,
A Time of Gifts, 1977

"Life in Budapest moves to a more rapid rhythm than elsewhere in Europe, as though every moment of the day had unlimited possibilities of emotional excitement."

~ Walter Starkie,

Irish author,
Raggle-Taggle, 1933



Holland

AMSTERDAM • Easy-going and intimate, Amsterdam boasts more than 96 kilometres of tree-lined canals that trace their way through a city of amazingly diverse architecture, from quaint 17th-century half-timbered houses to patrician Louis XIV manors. Admire the Royal Palace and witness masterpieces by Rembrandt, Vermeer and other Dutch Masters in the Rijksmuseum, the country's recently refurbished premier museum. Soak up Amsterdam's atmospheric pleasures, from bobbing houseboats and the ringing of bicycle bells, to flower stalls overflowing with cheerful blooms.

Germany

COLOGNE • On the banks of the Rhine, 2,000-year-old Cologne is home to Germany's greatest Gothic cathedral. Begun in 1248 and completed in 1880, the vast, light-filled church stands as a powerful testament to European Christianity. While much of Cologne was destroyed during World War II air raids, this famous Gothic cathedral remained relatively intact. Filled with convivial beer halls and known for its namesake fragrance, Cologne is steeped in tradition but also has a decidedly modern edge, including an avant-garde art scene.

Above: Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam | Above right: The famous Drosselgasse in the heart of Rüdesheim



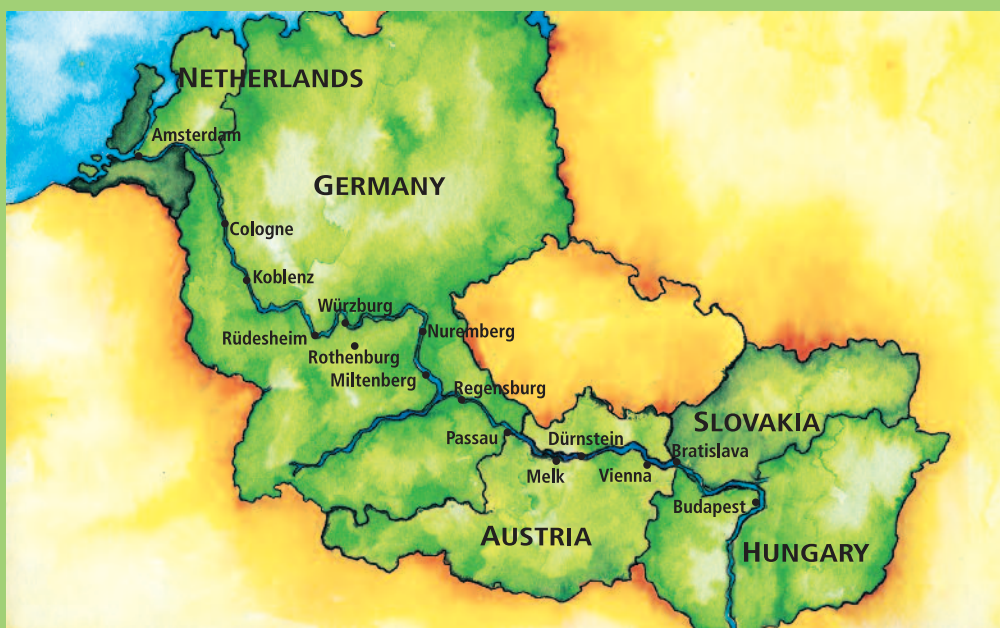
UNESCO

This program features the following UNESCO sites: **Wachau Cultural Landscape** and the **Historic Centre of Vienna** in Austria; the **Upper Middle Rhine Valley**, the town of **Bamberg**, **Cologne Cathedral** and **Würzburg Residence** with the Court Gardens and Residence Square in Germany; and **Budapest** in Hungary.

KOBLENZ • In an area known as the German Corner, the ancient, park-filled town of Koblenz has stood at the confluence of the Rhine and the Mosel for more than 2,000 years. Once a Roman stronghold, its strategic location has made this city a vital link in the international river-trade routes of Europe. Enjoy a bird's-eye view of Koblenz and surrounding castles during a cable car ride to lofty Festung Ehrenbreitstein, a mighty hilltop fortress repeatedly invaded by French troops.

RÜDESHEIM • Although ancient ambience, mediaeval castles and inviting courtyards are among its draws, the allure of Rüdesheim is wine. It is believed that Charlemagne — who regularly indulged in the pleasures of the grape — planted the first vines himself. Explore this Rhine wine town at your leisure. Along the Drosselgasse, a

WATERWAYS OF TRADE, CULTURE AND BEAUTY



RHINE RIVER • MAIN RIVER • MAIN-DANUBE CANAL • DANUBE RIVER

For 2,000 years, the Rhine River has been the European continent's chief waterway and trade route, linking Central Europe to the North Sea. At its northern end, the river lazily winds through green, peaceful plains and gentle valleys. In the amazing Rhine Gorge, towering escarpments are crowned by fabled castles steeped in myth and mystery. The lush vineyards, tangled woods and ancient ruins set atop rocky spurs are a photographer's dream. Stemming from the Rhine, the Main River (pronounced "mine") meanders past the scenic towns, towers and turrets of Bavaria into the man-made Main-Danube Canal at Bamberg. An engineering marvel of the 20th century that realized Charlemagne's dream, the canal steps along a succession of locks in the picturesque Altmühl Valley and Germany's largest nature preserve. At Kelheim, the canal joins the storied blue Danube River, celebrated in song and saga. This great river travels an impressive 2,897-kilometres course, carving a serpentine path across eight countries, before ultimately reaching the Black Sea. Throughout the ages, the Danube has been a conduit for cultural influences, and the historic and architectural attractions that line its banks are legendary.

festive little street at the city's centre, friendly wine taverns serve local vintages, offering the perfect way to enjoy your day.

MILTENBERG • Mediaeval tower gates guard the approach to beautiful Miltenberg. The charming market square, with its 16th-century fountain and unusual half-timbered houses, is one of the most photographed in all of Germany. During leisure time, perhaps stop for homemade wurst and a glass of apple wine at one of the cozy wine taverns.

WÜRZBURG • Germany's greatest baroque city, Würzburg is backed by vineyard-covered hills. Towering over the banks of the Main is its 12th-century Festung Marienberg, an impressive imperial fortress. Explore the prince-bishop's 18th-century Residenz. Surrounded by gardens in the heart of town, it is one of the largest and most beautiful palaces in Germany. A walking tour takes you to St. Kilian's Cathedral, the Old Town Hall and the city's bustling marketplace. Also, enjoy a scenic drive along the renowned Romantic Road.



BAMBERG • The enchanting town of Bamberg is one of the few towns in Germany to have survived the bombings of World War II intact. Built by archbishops on seven hills, Bamberg overflows with red-roofed fishermen's houses, baroque mansions and mediaeval streets. Beer lovers flock from near and far to taste Bamberg's smoked beer, first brewed in 1536.

NUREMBERG • No other region lives up to the quintessential image of Germany better than Bavaria. Nuremberg, the state's second-largest city, has a style that is gracious and elegant yet open and friendly. The Old Town is virtually a separate mediaeval village with thick stone walls, meandering streets, half-timbered houses and quaint shops. See the courthouse where the Nuremberg Trials were held, the hilltop Imperial Castle, and the colourful open-air market punctuated by an elegant 14th-century gothic fountain.

REGENSBURG • This enchanting city, seemingly untouched by time, is a vibrant testimony to the passing centuries. An ancient Roman citadel stands above the original Celtic settlement. One of the fort's gates, built in A.D. 179, still survives, while the Stone Bridge spanning the Danube dates from the early 12th century. Nearby, discover the lovely Weltenburg Abbey, the oldest monastery in Bavaria.



PASSAU • Baron Alexander von Humboldt, the 19th-century scientist, explorer and writer, described Passau as "one of the seven most beautiful cities in the world." Overlooking the confluence of the Danube, Inn and Ilz rivers, Passau's appeal remains undiminished by the passing centuries. Witness Passau's landmarks including Veste Oberhaus, a mediaeval fortress overlooking the town, and the 13th-century Rathaus, featuring painted murals depicting the town's history. At the grand St. Stephen's Cathedral, enjoy an unforgettable organ concert. With 17,974 pipes, the organ is said to be the largest cathedral organ in the world.

Austria

MELK • Perched on a bluff over the Danube, Melk exhibits a majestic silhouette. Its massive Benedictine Abbey is one of Austria's most breathtakingly ornate monastic

*Top: Würzburg
Above: Nuremberg*



***Top:** The Middle Rhine Valley, Katz Castle and legendary Loreley | **Above:** Melk Abbey*

houses and a nearly perfect rendering of baroque architectural grandeur. Books as old as 1,200 years are among 100,000 volumes in the library, a quiet testament to the considerable monastic influence on science and culture through the ages.

DÜRNSTEIN • The Danube flows between the verdant banks and rocky crags of the beautiful Wachau Valley. It was in Dürnstein, the Pearl of the Wachau Valley, that Richard the Lionheart was held prisoner in the 12th century on his way back to England from the Crusades. The treasures within its ancient walls and towers include outstanding baroque architecture, a Renaissance palace and the poignant remains of a 13th-century Gothic

Bewitching Beauties: **WACHAU VALLEY, LORELEY & THE MIDDLE RHINE**

The 64-kilometres stretch of the Middle Rhine Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is home to some of the most stunning scenery in the world, including some 40 hilltop castles and legendary Loreley, the 137 metres slate rock formation that reaches out of the Middle Rhine at its narrowest, deepest point.

Because of fast-flowing currents and the narrowness of the river, Loreley has witnessed many wrecks, including wooden dinghies that crashed into her rocks in the Middle Ages. According to one tale, treasure-guarding gnomes dwelled in her caves.

Loreley has inspired many artists and writers, including German author Clemens Brentano who composed a ballad in the early 1880s, in which a lovesick maiden plummets to her death from the top of Loreley. A few years later, an epic poem by Heinrich Heine told of doomed shipmen seduced by a golden-haired siren atop Loreley.

Wachau Valley, the 39-kilometre stretch of the Danube, between the towns of Krems and Melk, is equally bewitching. In fact, Wachau's cultural landscape was deemed a UNESCO World Heritage site because its architecture, settlements and agricultural use of the land vividly illustrate a mediaeval landscape brimming with old world character.



Bratislava

church. Step inside the blue-and-white baroque Stiftskirche built on the riverbank.

VIENNA • Elegant and regal, Austria's crown jewel delights with Hapsburg-era architecture, lush parks and an incomparable musical heritage including Vienna's State Opera House, known for performances of works by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Richard Wagner and Richard Strauss. Explore glorious Hapsburg palace, the former imperial residence in Vienna. See the Ringstrasse, one of the most magnificent boulevards in the world, the historic university and more. At your leisure, perhaps partake in a Viennese afternoon ritual: robust coffee and delicious sacher torte in the shadow of St. Stephen's Cathedral's skyscraping bell tower.

Slovakia

BRATISLAVA • An ancient coronation city, Bratislava was the seat of power for the Kingdom of Hungary for more than three centuries in the Middle Ages. Today, it is the capital of Slovakia, a historic region with a charm and character all its own. The compact Old Town is replete with a lively main square, preserved fortifications and austere Gothic buildings. Among them, the pale pink-and-white Primate's Palace was built in 1778 and topped with various marble statues and a large cast-iron cardinal's hat.



The Imperial Palace, Vienna

Hungary

BUDAPEST • Spanning the mighty Danube, Budapest ranks as one of Europe's most striking capitals and premier spa resorts. This Pearl of the Danube is a twin city born in 1873 when historic and romantic Buda on the west bank and bustling Pest on the east bank were united. Budapest's spectacular panorama can best be appreciated from the series of bridges that crisscross the river. Its famous Parliament Building, rich in Byzantine architecture and Gothic flair, is one of the city's most alluring sights. Hungarian nationalism is honoured in grandiose Heroes' Square and by 700-year-old St. Matthias Church, a symbol of the city's rich, yet often tragic history. The seven round white towers of distinctive Fishermen's Bastion represent the seven Magyar tribes that gave rise to the nation 1,000 years ago.

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Please contact AHI Travel at **800-323-7373** with questions regarding this trip or to make a reservation.

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

(1) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

(2) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Home: (_____) Cell: (_____) _____

Sharing with _____. (Form sent separately.)

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Cabin category desired: 1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____

Cruise and AHI FlexAir

☐ I/we reserve the Land Program and request the AHI FlexAir to Amsterdam, Netherlands, with a return from Budapest, Hungary, to depart from:

Departure City

- ☐ Please contact me regarding air options.
☐ Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

Cruise Program

- ☐ I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.
☐ I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$995 (limited availability).
☐ I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first come, first served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by March 2, 2015 (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal cheque, MasterCard, Visa or Discover. Make cheques payable to AHI International.

Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600 per person required) to reserve _____ place(s).

- ☐ Accept my check made payable to **AHI International**.
☐ Charge my: ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover

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CANCELLATION: In addition to airline cancellation penalties, all cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a \$250 per person administrative fee. [Please note that you may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year following.] Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75-30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE.** All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI International Corporation.

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CRUISE PROGRAM

May 17-31, 2015

Category-Deck	Full Price	Special Savings	Special Price
E-Haydn (Mid)	\$5,045	\$250	\$4,795*
D-Haydn (Forward)	\$5,245	\$250	\$4,995*
C-Strauss (Aft)	\$5,545	\$250	\$5,295*
B-Strauss (Mid)	\$5,745	\$250	\$5,495*
A-Mozart (Aft)	\$6,045	\$250	\$5,795*
Suite-Mozart (Mid)	\$6,345	\$250	\$6,095*

Suites feature a balcony. Categories A, B, and C feature French doors. Categories D and E feature a window.

*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.

VAT and Port Tax supplement is an additional \$395 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air program costs (unless otherwise stated). Single accommodations are an additional \$995 (limited availability).



AHI FLEXAIR

May 16-31, 2015

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MS AMADEUS SILVER

The state-of-the-art MS Amadeus Silver debuted in 2013 as a flagship of the innovative Lüftner cruise line. This stylish ship offers the utmost in service, safety and comfort. Step into the elegant reception area and immerse yourself in the ambience of a high-end hotel. Relax on the sun deck, indulge in a soothing massage, browse in the boutique or connect with friends at the Internet station. If you wish to be more active, practice your golf game on the putting green or exercise in the fitness room. Savour international cuisine at the restaurant's delicious breakfast and lunch buffets, and enjoy regional specialties at dinner. At the end of each day, return to the comforts of your cabin, appointed in bright, modern décor and featuring a river view, a satellite TV and a private bathroom with shower.



INCLUDED FEATURES

- **14 nights** aboard the **MS Amadeus Silver** from Amsterdam, Netherlands, to Budapest, Hungary.
- Gather on board with fellow travellers at **Welcome and Farewell Receptions and Dinners**.
- **Enjoy three full meals each day** — a breakfast, a two-course lunch and a three-course dinner — featuring tea or coffee with all meals and wine with dinner.
- **Personal VOX listening devices** allow you to hear every word of your expert English-speaking guides.

ALL SHORE EXCURSIONS

- Tour the highlights of Amsterdam, including the Dutch Masters Collection in the Rijksmuseum.
- Step inside lovely Cologne Cathedral.
- Walk among the half-timbered houses of Miltenberg.
- Visit the baroque Residenz in Würzburg.
- Enjoy the romantic ambience of Rothenburg.
- Wander through perfectly preserved Bamberg.
- Explore historic Nuremberg.
- Discover the Roman heritage of Regensburg.
- Stroll along the charming streets of Passau.
- Experience the architectural splendour of Melk Abbey.
- Delight in picturesque Dürnstein.
- Admire the Imperial treasures of Vienna.
- Marvel at the medieval wonders of Bratislava.
- See the impressive landmarks of Budapest.

MANY INCLUDED EXTRAS

- Consultation of a **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of a knowledgeable **AHI Travel Director** and expert **English-speaking Local Guides** throughout your trip.
- **Tipping** of all excursions guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel wallet.
- Detailed destination and travel information to assist in your planning.

AHI Exclusive River Cruise Extras:

- A first-class river cruise ship providing all outward-facing accommodations; friendly, personalized service; limited capacity; and exclusively designed sailing itineraries.
- Delicious dining aboard the ship featuring special extras such as morning coffee, wine with dinner and expertly prepared culinary specialties of the region.
- Expert local guides leading thoughtfully designed excursions to enrich your experience of the area.

ITINERARY

Day 1	Depart your Gateway City [✦]
Day 2	Arrive Amsterdam, Netherlands Board the MS Amadeus Silver
Day 3	Amsterdam
Day 4	Cologne, Germany
Day 5	Koblenz/Rüdesheim
Day 6	Miltenberg
Day 7	Würzburg/Romantic Road
Day 8	Bamberg
Day 9	Nuremberg
Day 10	Weltenburg/Regensburg
Day 11	Passau
Day 12	Melk, Austria/Dürnstein
Day 13	Vienna
Day 14	Bratislava, Slovakia
Day 15	Budapest, Hungary
Day 16	Return to Gateway City [✦]

NOTE: This itinerary schedule may change due to local conditions. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking.

[✦] Provided for AHI FlexAir participants only.



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