Passage along the Danube River
Vienna to the Black Sea
aboard the Exclusively Chartered Deluxe Amadeus Queen
October 12 to 24, 2019
Dear Alumni, Friends and Parents,

The Danube River has ranked among the world’s most impressive waterways with the passage of Roman legions, crusading knights, the indomitable Janissaries of the Ottomans and the proud Hussars of the Habsburgs. A channel for commerce, culture and conquest, the Danube links the heartland of Central Europe with the nations beyond the Black Sea. Join us for an extraordinary cruise along nearly the entire length of this fabled river, from the Habsburgs’ imperial capital of Vienna, a UNESCO World Heritage site, to the pearl-blue Black Sea.

This exceptional travel program features seven countries and the enchanting eastern Danube River Valley, a region steeped in natural beauty that remains virtually untouched and unknown to many American travelers. Cruise for nine nights aboard the exclusively chartered, deluxe AMADEUS QUEEN, launched in 2018, and spend two nights in Romania’s elegant capital of Bucharest where the splendid architecture has earned it the nickname “Little Paris.”

A rich mosaic of medieval cities, charming villages, rugged countrysides and centuries-old tales and traditions awaits you. Traverse the ancient lands of Bulgaria, the relatively young territories of Serbia and eastern Croatia, the spectacular Carpathian Mountains, Hungary’s fabled Puszta (plains) and the glittering, UNESCO World Heritage-designated palaces of Budapest. Admire a masterful display of horsemanship on a Hungarian farm. Cruise through the dramatic Iron Gates dividing the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains—where no fewer than six languages are spoken—and experience the fascinating Slavic heritage of medieval Belgrade.

Deepen your knowledge of the Danube with our Pre-Program Option in the world-class city of Vienna and the Post-Program Option in mysterious Transylvania, where local lore surrounding the legend of Dracula lives on in the enchanting countryside. This program sells out each year, so book now while space and Early Booking Savings are still available.

Sincerely,

Dan Stypa
Associate Director of Alumni Programs

Please call the Traveling Owls at 713-34-TRIPS (87477) or email travelingowls@rice.edu if you have questions.

“The Gohagan staff really nailed the logistics for our trip! Everything ran smoothly and seemingly effortlessly from our viewpoint. I was very impressed! The staff on the tour went out of their way to make sure we had everything we needed.”

—Rice alumni, class of ’73 & ’74, on a recent Traveling Owls trip operated by Gohagan & Company.
The legendary Danube River and its venerable banks are a powerful symbol of the diverse cultures and epic narratives of Central Europe. Fifth-century B.C. philosopher Herodotus declared it “the greatest of all rivers which we know” when Greeks traveled from the Black Sea through the naturally carved Iron Gates. The land was ruled by the Roman, Ottoman and Byzantine Empires, creating some of the world’s most intriguing capital cities along the banks including Vienna, Bratislava, Belgrade and Budapest.

Journey through the unparalleled natural beauty of the Carpathian Mountains, even more captivating in the warm autumn light, as the river winds through scenic landscapes. The Danube School, an expressive style of 16th-century German landscape painting, emerged from the wild beauty of the Danube valley, inspiring artists of this movement with its flora and fauna, flowing waters, fir trees and natural glow.

In addition to fine art, the river remains inextricably linked to the famous melody of Johann Strauss II’s waltz “An der Schön en blauen Donau (The Blue Danube).” The history and culture of this captivating region are a jewel of Central and Eastern Europe, continuing to intrigue and inspire musicians, writers, artists and travelers all over the world.

U.S./Vienna, Austria Saturday and Sunday, October 12 and 13
Depart the U.S. and arrive in Vienna. Embark the deluxe Amadeus Queen. Attend the Captain’s Welcome Reception and dinner this evening.

Bratislava, Slovakia Monday, October 14
Dock in Slovakia’s capital in the foothills of the Carpathian Mountain range.

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Bratislava, Slovakia
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Dock in Slovakia’s capital in the foothills of the Carpathian Mountain range.

Beautifully restored since the end of the Cold War, the city showcases 21st-century life amid its thousand-year-old history.

Enjoy a walking tour of the city’s Staré Mesto (Old Town) and its medieval, Renaissance and 19th-century architecture, among the finest in Central Europe.

Visit the Romanesque 14th-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.

Cover photo: Cruise through the Iron Gates between the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains, Serbia and Romania’s natural boundary.

Photo this page: Enjoy the perspective of Hungary’s Parliament Building from the top deck of the Amadeus Queen.
Budapest, Hungary
Tuesday, October 15
Referred to as the “most Hungarian Habsburg,” Austrian-born 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 in Pest to see the 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. Cross the landmark Chain Bridge, the first stone bridge to link river-level Pest to the hills of Buda. On Castle Hill, visit the late-19th-century, neo-Romanesque Fisherman’s Bastion and Gothic-style St. Matthias Church, where Charles I, the last Habsburg ruler, was coronated in 1916. Enjoy your afternoon at leisure in Budapest.

Kalocsa
Wednesday, October 16
Enjoy a scenic drive across Hungary’s protected Pusztá, one of Europe’s largest expanses of rolling grassland plains. Visit a working horse farm to see a performance of authentic Hungarian horsemanship and enjoy a traditional lunch in the farm’s restaurant.

In Kalocsa, well-known for its creation of intricately patterned, brightly hued Hungarian embroidery, visit the fascinating House of Folk Art and Paprika Museum for further insights into local art and the traditional methods of cultivating paprika, the spice referred to as “red gold.”

Vukovar, Croatia / Novi Sad, Serbia
Thursday, October 17
Visit remarkably renewed Vukovar, “The Hero’s Town,” and see 18th-century Eltz Manor, the Baroque Church of St. Nicholas and the iconic water tower. Visit the restored Baroque Church of Sts. Philip and James and see its intricate stained-glass windows.

Novi Sad, the capital of Serbia’s autonomous province Vojvodina, is home to the 18th-century, hilltop Petrovaradin Fortress, the “Gibraltar on the Danube.” Enjoy a walking tour through the Stari Grad (Old Town) and see the city’s most beautiful buildings— the neo-Renaissance Town Hall and the neo-Gothic Name of Mary Church. On a panoramic tour of quaint Sremski Karlovci, see the 19th-century Patriarchate Court and the Orthodox Church of St. Nicholas with its two impressive bell towers. Savor two regional favorites, wine and honey, with tastings in the Zivanovic Wine Cellar and the Museum of Beekeeping.

Belgrade
Friday, October 18
Tracing its origins from the Stone Age and followed by Romans, Byzantines, Serbs, Turks and Austrians, each era left a lasting impression on Belgrade. Enjoy a walking tour of historic Terazije Square and the domed Temple of St. Sava, Serbia’s patron saint.

Visit the strategic Kalemegdan Fortress, one of the world’s oldest fortifications, commissioned by Byzantine Emperor Justinian I in A.D. 535. Tour the famous “House of Flowers” memorial dedicated to former Yugoslavia’s longstanding leader, Josip Broz Tito.
Donji Milanovac/
Cruising through the Iron Gates
Saturday, October 19
Tour Lepenski Vir, home to an exceptional Paleolithic exhibit, the oldest urban settlement in Europe. Enjoy spectacular views of the Danube Gorge, which opens before you in dramatic, autumnal glory. Cruise through southeastern Europe’s picturesque scenery, passing the dramatic Golubac Fortress, guardian to the legendary Iron Gates, which were naturally carved by the Danube River in its passage through the Transylvanian Alps.

Nikopol, Bulgaria, for Arbanasi and Veliko Târnovo/Ruse
Sunday, October 20
Dock in Nikopol and travel to the quiet, 12th-century hillside village of Arbanasi, where nearly 90 historical buildings are protected monuments. See distinctive stone houses, famous for their fortified Bulgarian architecture and richly decorated interiors. Learn more about the comfortable life of a 17th-century merchant in the perfectly preserved Konstantsaliev House and admire elaborate icons and frescoes in the 15th-century Birth of Christ Church.

Continue to the medieval town of Veliko Târnovo, historic capital of the Bulgarian Empire between the 12th and 14th centuries. Have lunch in a local restaurant, enjoy a brief walking tour of the historic town center—an open-air museum—and see the impressive 12th-century Tsarevets Fortress. Reboard the ship in Ruse.

Fetești, Romania, for Constanța
Monday, October 21
The principal seaport of Constanța in Romania was established as the Greek trading settlement of Tomis in the sixth century B.C.; later ruled by Romans, Byzantines and Ottoman Turks; and today remains a magnificent composite of these ancient civilizations. Many elegant mansions and hotels remain from the 19th century, when King Carol I decided to revive Constanța as a port and seaside resort. Walk through the city’s historic Old Town to see the Roman poet Ovid’s famous statue in Ovidiu Square. Stop in Adamclisi, where the Tropaeum Traiani commemorates Roman Emperor Trajan’s victory over the Dacians in A.D. 102. Attend the Captain’s Farewell Reception and Dinner this evening.

See St. Michael’s Gate and regard its elegant copper roof, a prominent symbol of Bratislava. View the Patriarch’s Cathedral of the Ascension, crowning the medieval citadel of Veliko Târnovo.
The elegant precision of Austria’s native son Mozart inspired the meticulous crafting of the new **Amadeus Queen**, launched in 2018 and featuring the comforts of a refined and traditional hotel.

The 81 stylish Staterooms and Suites are among the most spacious of any European river ship (161 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 delightful restaurant offers scenic views through panoramic windows as well as continental cuisine 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, indoor pool and Sun Deck. An elevator serves all passenger decks except the Sun Deck. There is no doctor on board.

The Amadeus fleet has been awarded the important “Green Certificate” of environmental preservation.

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**Fetești/Bucharest**
**Tuesday, October 22**
Disembark the ship in Fetești and drive through the rolling Romanian campii (plains) to the multifaceted city of Bucharest. Along the capital’s grand boulevard, visit the Palace of Parliament, Europe’s largest administrative building, and the open-air National Village Museum, both testaments to Romania’s fascinating political and architectural history.

Check into the Five-Star Athénée Palace Hilton Bucharest, ideally located on Piața George Enescu, named after Romania’s most famous composer.

**Bucharest**
**Wednesday, October 23**
Visit the National Art Museum in the 19th-century Royal Palace, housing Romania’s finest collection of artistic treasures.

Your afternoon is at leisure; the Farewell Reception is in the hotel this evening.

**Bucharest/U.S.**
**Thursday, October 24**
After breakfast, continue on the Castles of Transylvania Post-Program Option or transfer to the airport for your return flight home.

**Explore Novi Sad’s Freedom Square, known for its remarkable 18th-century architecture; the city will be a European Capital of Culture in 2021.**
Included Features

On Board the Exclusively Chartered, Deluxe Amadeus Queen

◆ Nine-night Danube River cruise from Vienna, Austria, to Fetești, Romania.
◆ Deluxe, river-view, air-conditioned Suite or Stateroom.
◆ All meals served aboard ship.
◆ Complimentary wine and beer served with lunch and dinner.
◆ Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions and Farewell Dinner.

◆ Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the ship.
◆ Guided tour of Bratislava’s well-preserved medieval Staré Mesto (Old Town).
◆ Tour of Budapest, a UNESCO World Heritage site, including visits to the Fisherman’s Bastion and St. Matthias Church.
◆ Excursion to the Hungarian Puszta (plains), for a demonstration of horsemanship and lunch at a traditional restaurant.
◆ Visit to Kalocsa, famous for its fine Hungarian embroidery, to tour its House of Folk Art and Paprika Museum.
◆ City tour of Vukovar, featuring the Eltz Manor, two Baroque churches and the water tower.
◆ Excursion to Novi Sad to see its Stari Grad (Old Town) and to Sremski Karlovci to see the Patriarchate Court and the Orthodox Church of St. Nicholas.


◆ Tour of Serbia’s capital of Belgrade, featuring the medieval city center, Kalemegdan Fortress and the Josip Broz Tito memorial.

◆ Passage through the dramatic Iron Gates, carved by the Danube River, dividing the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains.

◆ Excursion to Arbanasi known for its unique stone architecture, with visits to the Konstantasiev House and the Birth of Christ Church.

◆ Visit to the Bulgarian Empire capital of Veliko Târnovo, with lunch.

◆ Scenic transfer from Fetești to Bucharest.

In Bucharest, Romania

◆ Two nights in the Five-Star Athénée Palace Hilton, with breakfast each morning.
◆ Farewell Reception in the hotel.
◆ City tour to visit the Palace of Parliament.
◆ Tour of the open-air National Village Museum, a comprehensive collection of Romania’s rural architecture.
◆ Visit to the National Art Museum, housed in the 19th-century Royal Palace.

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 in the hotels and aboard the ship.

◆ 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.
Imperial Vienna
Pre-Program Option
The former seat of the Habsburg Empire and one of Europe’s most vibrant cultural centers, Vienna showcases an open-air museum of splendid Baroque architecture in its historic center, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Drive along the famous Ringstrasse to see this remarkable city’s most important landmarks and visit the Gothic-style Stephansdom (St. Stephen’s Cathedral). Learn more about the Austrian Empire in the Habsburgs’ summer estate at Schönbrunn Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Spend two nights in the deluxe InterContinental Wien.

Visit the Habsburgs’ exquisite Schönbrunn Palace, where six-year-old Mozart performed for Empress Maria Theresa.

Castles of Transylvania
Post-Program Option
Enjoy mystical Transylvania, Latin for “the land beyond the forest,” and central Romania’s rich medieval heritage. Admire the auburn splendor of the Carpathian Mountains, an evocative backdrop of grand medieval castles with soaring spires where the Gothic narrative of Count Dracula lives on through local storytelling. Tour the elegant, 19th-century fairy-tale Peleş Castle, one of the most beautiful castles in Europe, the imposing, 14th-century Bran Castle, known as “Dracula’s Castle,” Romania’s beloved Queen Marie’s former summer residence. Visit the Gothic Black Church in Brașov and tour the UNESCO World Heritage medieval town of Sighişoara, the birthplace of Vlad Țepeș (Dracula). Spend two nights in the ideally located, deluxe ARO PALACE in Brașov and one night in the Five-Star Athénée Palace Hilton Bucharest.

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

Tour Peleş Castle, commissioned by Romania’s longest-serving monarch in 1873 and one of Europe’s best-preserved palaces.
**PASSAGE ALONG THE DANUBE RIVER RESERVATION FORM**

Send to: Office of Alumni Relations - MS 520
Attn: Rice Alumni Traveling Owls
PO Box 1892
Houston, TX 77251-1892
Fax: 713-348-5210

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Imperial Vienna Pre-Program Option and/or $200 per person Castles of Transylvania Post-Program Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

- Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________ as deposit.
- Make checks payable to Gohagan & Company.
- I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to:
  - Visa
  - MasterCard

The Association of Rice Alumni and Rice University serve only in a capacity of assisting the undersigned travelers in making arrangements for travel, services, accommodations, and products provided by the tour operator, certain land transport carriers, and other providers of services and accommodations during the trip and in no way serve as agents for these businesses, or accept responsibility for their services and products. Such travel, services, accommodations, and products are subject to the terms and conditions under which they are offered and provided.

Therefore, having read and understood the above, as well as the schedule of activities for this tour and the Responsibility statement appearing on this brochure, the undersigned hereby agrees for and on behalf of himself, his dependents, heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, to release and hold harmless the Association of Rice Alumni and Rice University and any of their respective officers, agents, licensees, or representatives from any and all liability for delays, injuries, or death, for the loss of, or damage to, his property however occurring during any portion of, or in relation to the tour.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Junior Suite</th>
<th>LAND/CRUISE TARIFF excluding taxes*</th>
<th>Early Booking Tariff* through April 9, 2019</th>
<th>Tariff* after April 9, 2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suite</td>
<td>State with private balcony. (sliding glass doors with railing), sofa, bath robes and minibar. Mozart Deck, forward.</td>
<td>$7995</td>
<td>$8995</td>
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Singles are available in category 5 at $9195* and in category 2 at $11595* on or before April 9, 2019.

Add $1000 for reservations made after April 9, 2019.

*Taxes are an additional $130 per person and are subject to change.

View of Rice Alumni and Rice University and any of their respective officers, agents, licensees, or representatives from any and all liability for delays, injuries, or death, or

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Please make my/our reservation(s) in Stateroom Category:

- 1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____
- Double occupancy (one queen bed)
- 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).

Please make my/our reservation(s): Imperial Vienna Pre-Program Option

- Double at $795 per person.
- Single at $1095 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.
- Castles of Transylvania Post-Program Option

- Double at $1095 per person.
- Single at $1395 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

- I/We want you to book my/our air, at additional cost to be advised, from:

- Deposit checks payable to Gohagan & Company.
- I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to:
  - Visa
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All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by July 9, 2019.

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CANCELLATION: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective unless received in the offices of Gohagan. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a $200 ($50 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 121 days prior to departure; from 95 through 120 days prior to departure, $800 ($200 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person; from 61 through 94 days prior to departure, 50% of the published full regular tariffs; from 45 through 60 days prior to departure, 55% of the published full regular tariffs; from 22 through 44 days prior to departure, 70% of the published full regular tariffs; and 21 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees, and administrative fees may apply.

TRIP INSURANCE: We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available through Gohagan and others for comprehensive coverage of such expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident, and damaged or lost luggage. We will send you an application upon receipt of your reservation. Rates (prices) are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Gohagan shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Should you choose to purchase insurance, your trip cost will increase, however, if you do not purchase insurance, you must assume the risk of any loss of the trip due to any reason.

AIRFARE: Airfare is subject to change and availability and, depending on the fare basis, likely is nonrefundable. Your airline ticket constitutes a contract between you and the airline, even if purchased through Gohagan. If your airline ticket is booked on a roundtrip basis, but only one way is booked, or if a segment or segments are arriving earlier or later than and/or departing earlier or later than the scheduled group, transfer(s) and/or flight segments are at the sole discretion of the airline and/or Gohagan.

LUGGAGE: Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may vary from airline to airline. Baggage charges on air, rail, or sea transportation may be based on weight, size, or a combination of weight and size, and are the responsibility of the traveler. Baggage charges, including excess baggage fees, are not included in the published tour prices.

TRAVELER ACKNOWLEDGMENT: By forwarding your deposit, you are waiving the right to a trial by jury. Acceptance of Contract: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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