



National Trust *for* Historic Preservation
National Trust Tours

Danube River

VIENNA TO BUCHAREST

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EXCLUSIVE GUEST SPEAKER
JONNA MENDEZ

aboard the exclusively chartered, deluxe river boat

AMADEUS SILVER III

2024 Departure: September 26 to October 8

Featuring study leader **Grace Gary**

Danube River

VIENNA TO BUCHAREST

The Danube River has ranked among the world's most impressive waterways—following the passage of Roman legions, crusading knights, the indomitable Janissaries of the Ottomans and the proud Hussars of the Habsburgs. Our 13-day journey through this storied region includes a 9-night river cruise and two nights in Romania's vibrant capital city of Bucharest. Watch history unfold as we cruise through seven countries with visits to five capital cities and excursions that take you deep into the rich culture of the nations that have emerged and continue to define Eastern Europe. From the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Budapest to Hungary's fabled *puszta* to the young territories of Serbia and eastern Croatia, palaces and castles tell the story of independence and pride. Watch in wonder as we cruise through the dramatic Iron Gates that divide the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains on our way to the ancient land of Bulgaria. Our tour concludes in Bucharest as we immerse ourselves in the city's unique history and ethnography—weaving a tapestry as colorful as the Danube itself.

Front cover: *The famous Chain Bridge links Pest to Buda on the Danube River in Hungary.*

Cruise through the Iron Gates on the border between Serbia and Romania.

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Bratislava Castle, Slovakia



National Trust for Historic Preservation

National Trust Tours

Dear National Trust Traveler:

The Danube River has set the scene for the rise and fall of empires, from the Romans to the Hapsburg dynasty. Majestic castles and fortresses tell the story of the nations that developed along its banks since ancient times. Join us for an extraordinary journey along nearly the entire length of this fabled river, from the imperial Austrian capital city of Vienna, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, to Bucharest, the cosmopolitan capital of Romania.

This outstanding travel program features seven countries and the enchanting eastern Danube River Valley, an untouched region steeped in natural beauty. Cruise for nine nights aboard the exclusively chartered, deluxe AMADEUS SILVER III and spend two nights in Bucharest, where splendid architecture has earned it the nickname “Little Paris.”

A rich mosaic of medieval cities, charming villages, rugged countryside, and centuries-old traditions awaits you. Visit the ancient land of Bulgaria, the relatively young territories of Serbia and eastern Croatia, Hungary’s fabled *puszta* (plains), and the UNESCO World Heritage-designated landmarks of Budapest. Cruise through the 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. Hear spy tales about the region directly from special guest speaker Jonna Mendez, a retired CIA Chief of Disguise who lived under aliases for decades.

Deepen your knowledge of the Danube and Central Europe with our Vienna Pre-Program Option and the Transylvania Post-Program Option, featuring a visit to “Dracula’s Castle.” Reserve now while extended booking savings are still available.

Sincerely,

Meg Annacone-Poretz
Director, National Trust Tours

Travel Insurance

USI Travel Insurance Services offers a plan designed specifically for National Trust Tours travelers, providing coverage for Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Emergency Medical and more. You can upgrade your plan with Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR) coverage and be reimbursed up to 75% of your pre-paid, non-refundable trip costs. Purchase travel insurance today: 800-937-1387.

Study Leader



Grace Gary's relationship with the National Trust began when, while in graduate school, she was chosen as a National Trust Maritime Intern. She is also the author of two titles in the Trust's "Information" series and served as director of the Trust's Mid-Atlantic Regional Office. She also served as executive director of Preservation Pennsylvania, Longue Vue House and Gardens, Colonial Williamsburg's Tourism Leadership Program, and Nemours Mansion and Gardens. She and fellow National Trust Tours lecturer Dwight Young also co-authored "Nemours: A Portrait of Alfred I. DuPont's Home," which was published by Rizzoli. She is a graduate of Randolph-Macon Woman's College and has a Master's in architectural history from the University of Virginia, where she had the privilege of living on the Range in one of the original, Thomas Jefferson-designed rooms.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a private, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to saving historic places and revitalizing America's communities.

Learn more at www.savingplaces.org

Find us on 

**To secure your spot, call National Trust Tours at (888) 484-8785
or (202) 588-6300, or visit www.nationaltrusttours.com**



GUEST SPEAKER

JONNA MENDEZ

Guest speaker Jonna Mendez, who retired as the Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA) Chief of Disguise after 27 years of service, will share riveting tales from her experiences on this dynamic Danube River cruise. Mendez joined the CIA in Europe in 1966 and lived under aliases for decades, serving tours of duty in Europe, the Far East, and the Indian subcontinent, as well as at CIA Headquarters. In 1970 she joined CIA's Office of Technical Service — serving as a real-life version of the “Q” character in the Bond films. Her duties in that role included preparing the agency's most highly placed “foreign assets” to gather high priority intelligence using subminiature spy cameras and other espionage technology — featuring gadgets designed to keep agents in place in dangerous environments and to get them out of harm's way. Through her prolific career as a female spy, she worked undercover in the most difficult and hostile areas—matching wits with the KGB, the East German Stasi, and the Cuban DGI. Mendez will be sharing some of the spy tales outlined in her upcoming 2024 book, *True Face: A Woman's Life in the CIA, Undisguised*, and provide firsthand insight as we explore the history and politics of seven European nations—including harrowing personal accounts of eluding surveillance during life and death operations. Since her retirement in 1993, Mendez and her husband have written several other books, including *Spy Dust*, *ARGO*, and *The Moscow Rules*. A founding member of the advisory board of the International Spy Museum in Washington, D.C., she has been featured in multiple television documentaries and recently received the prestigious DAR Patriot Award for “lifelong service to America in the defense of freedom.”

THE ROUTE OF EMPERORS AND KINGS



Saint Stephen statue, Budapest, Hungary



Ornate interior of Saint Sava Church, Belgrade, Serbia



Tsarevets Fortress, Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria



Traditional Hungarian horsemanship

The legendary Danube River is 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 intriguing capital cities along its banks. A channel for commerce, culture, and conquest, the Danube links the heartland of Central Europe with nations beyond the Black Sea. Our cruise through this fascinating region takes us to seven of the 10 countries where the mighty Danube flows—Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, and Romania. The history and culture of these nations continue to inspire musicians, writers, artists, and travelers from all over the world.

INCLUDED FEATURES

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if you purchased air through Gohagan & Company and 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 and on excursions.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
- ◆ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).





13-DAY/12-NIGHT ITINERARY

Depart Home City

Sep. 26

Depart your home city for your flight to Vienna, Austria.

Vienna, Austria

Sep. 27

Arrive the next day in the capital city of Vienna, where you will embark the AMADEUS SILVER III. Attend the Captain's Welcome Reception and Dinner this the evening. (R,D)

Vienna/ Bratislava, Slovakia

Sep. 28

In Bratislava, enjoy a walking tour of the Old Town. See the Gothic 14th-century St. Martin's Cathedral and the elaborate Primate's Palace, a breathtaking 18th-century landmark. Stroll through St. Michael's Gate, the only remaining portion of the city's medieval fortifications. (B,L,D)

Budapest, Hungary

Sep. 29

Start the day on the Buda side of the river to see Castle Hill and visit St. Matthias Church and the Fisherman's Bastion. In Pest, see the Parliament Building, the second largest in Europe. At UNESCO-inscribed Heroes' Square, admire monuments honoring Magyar chiefs who established the Kingdom of Hungary. Along Andrassy Avenue, see the Hungarian State Opera House and the Chain Bridge that links Pest to Buda. (B,L,D)

Kalocsa

Sep. 30

Enjoy a scenic drive through Hungary's protected *puszta* and visit a farm to see a performance of Hungarian horsemanship. Learn about the history of paprika on your way to Kalocsa, where you will visit the Folk Art House and the Bishop's Palace. (B,L,D)

Vukovar, Croatia/ Novi Sad, Serbia

Oct. 1

In Vukovar, see 18th-century Eltz Manor and the iconic GRAND HOTEL, famously purchased by the city's Labor Movement in 1919. 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 17th-century Petrovaradin Fortress, nicknamed the "Gibraltar of the Danube." (B,L,D)

Belgrade

Oct. 2

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)



Water Tower Memorial Monument,
Vukovar, Croatia



Lepenski Vir archeological site, Serbia



Visit Heroes' Square in Budapest, Hungary

Donji Milanovac/ Iron Gates

Oct. 3

Visit Lepenski Vir archaeological site and museum to see the impressive exhibition center of Paleolithic artifacts. Later, enjoy spectacular views of the Danube Gorge and cruise past the Iron Gates. (B,L,D)

Nikopol, Bulgaria for Arbanasi and Veliko Tarnovo/Ruse

Oct. 4

Marvel at Arbanasi's perfectly preserved Konstantsaliev House, a unique, fortress-like structure originally built at the end of the 17th century and reconstructed several times—today serving as an ethnographic museum. Next, visit the Church of the Nativity before continuing to the city of Veliko Tarnovo, one of Bulgaria's oldest settlements. Explore the historical center

of this “City of the Tsars” and see the 12th-century Tsarevets Fortress. (B,L,D)

Constanța, Romania

Oct. 5

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. (B,L,R,D)

Fetești/ Bucharest, Romania/ Disembark river boat

Oct. 6

Your land tour in Bucharest begins with an exploration of the city that includes lunch at a local restaurant and a visit to the immense Palace of Parliament, the world's second largest administrative building. Check in to the INTERCONTINENTAL ATHÉNÉE PALACE BUCHAREST. (B,L)

Bucharest

Oct. 7

Today you will visit the National Museum of Art of Romania, located in the Royal Palace in Revolution Square, and the National Village Museum. The largest of its kind in Europe, this open-air ethnographic museum features a collection of 50 buildings representing the history and design of Romania's rural architecture. Enjoy a farewell reception at the hotel this evening. (B,R)

Bucharest/Return to Home City

Oct. 8

Check out of the hotel and transfer to the airport for a flight back to your home city. (B)



The People's House, Bucharest, Romania



Amadeus Silver III The elegant and meticulously crafted Amadeus Silver III, newly renovated in 2020, features all the comforts of a refined and traditional hotel. The English-speaking, international crew provides warm hospitality. The Amadeus fleet has earned the “Green Globe Certificate” of environmental sustainability. The 84 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, private bathroom with shower, and a minibar.



2024 DEPARTURE DATE: September 26 to October 8 (Embarkation: September 27 at 4:00 pm)

Category	LAND/CRUISE RATES <i>per person, based on double occupancy, excluding taxes</i>	Early Booking Rate through August 27, 2024	Rates after August 27, 2024
C4	Stateroom with small panoramic window. <i>Haydn Deck, midship.</i>	\$4,945	\$5,495
C1	Stateroom with small panoramic window. <i>Haydn Deck, midship.</i>	\$5,845	\$6,495
B4	Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to French-balcony height. <i>Strauss Deck, aft.</i> (limited availability)	\$6,295	\$6,995
B1	Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to French-balcony height. <i>Strauss Deck, aft and midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$6,745	\$7,495
A1	Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to French-balcony height. <i>Mozart Deck, aft and midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$7,195	\$7,995
Suite	Suite with private balcony (sliding glass doors with railing), sofa and bath robes. <i>Mozart Deck, midship.</i>	\$7,915	\$8,795

BONUS SAVINGS! Pay in full at the time of booking to receive additional savings. Bookings made inside 121 days prior to departure are not eligible for this discount. Please call for details.

Single Supplement waived for solo travelers wishing to reserve in categories C1 and C4! This offer is limited capacity controlled. Once capacity is filled single price goes to 200% of the per person double price and are subject to availability.

Port taxes are an additional \$95 per person. Customers will be notified of any fuel surcharge fee prior to final payment. This fee will then be charged and collected by the vessel operating company while on board. Deck plans available upon request.

Program reservations require a deposit of \$1,000 per person.

To secure your spot, call National Trust Tours at (888) 484-8785 or (202) 588-6300, or visit www.nationaltrusttours.com

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Terms & Conditions are available at gohagantravel.com/terms/



PRE-PROGRAM OPTION

Vienna

September 24 to 27, 2024 (Tour Begins: September 25)

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 5-star INTERCONTINENTAL VIENNA hotel.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: **\$985**

Price per person, based on single occupancy: **\$1,370**



POST-PROGRAM OPTION

Transylvania

October 8 to 11, 2024 (Tour Ends: October 10)

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 (believed to have inspired the Dracula story); the Black Church in Brasov; the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Sighisoara; and UNESCO-inscribed Prejmer, the largest fortified church in southeast Europe. Spend two nights in the ARO PALACE in Brasov and one night in the 5-star INTERCONTINENTAL ATHÉNÉE PALACE HOTEL BUCHAREST.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: **\$1,095**

Price per person, based on single occupancy: **\$1,370**

Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

SPECIAL SAVINGS – Extended Booking up to \$1,760 per couple.
Additional savings if you pay in full at time of booking! Call for details.



National Trust for Historic Preservation

National Trust Tours

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