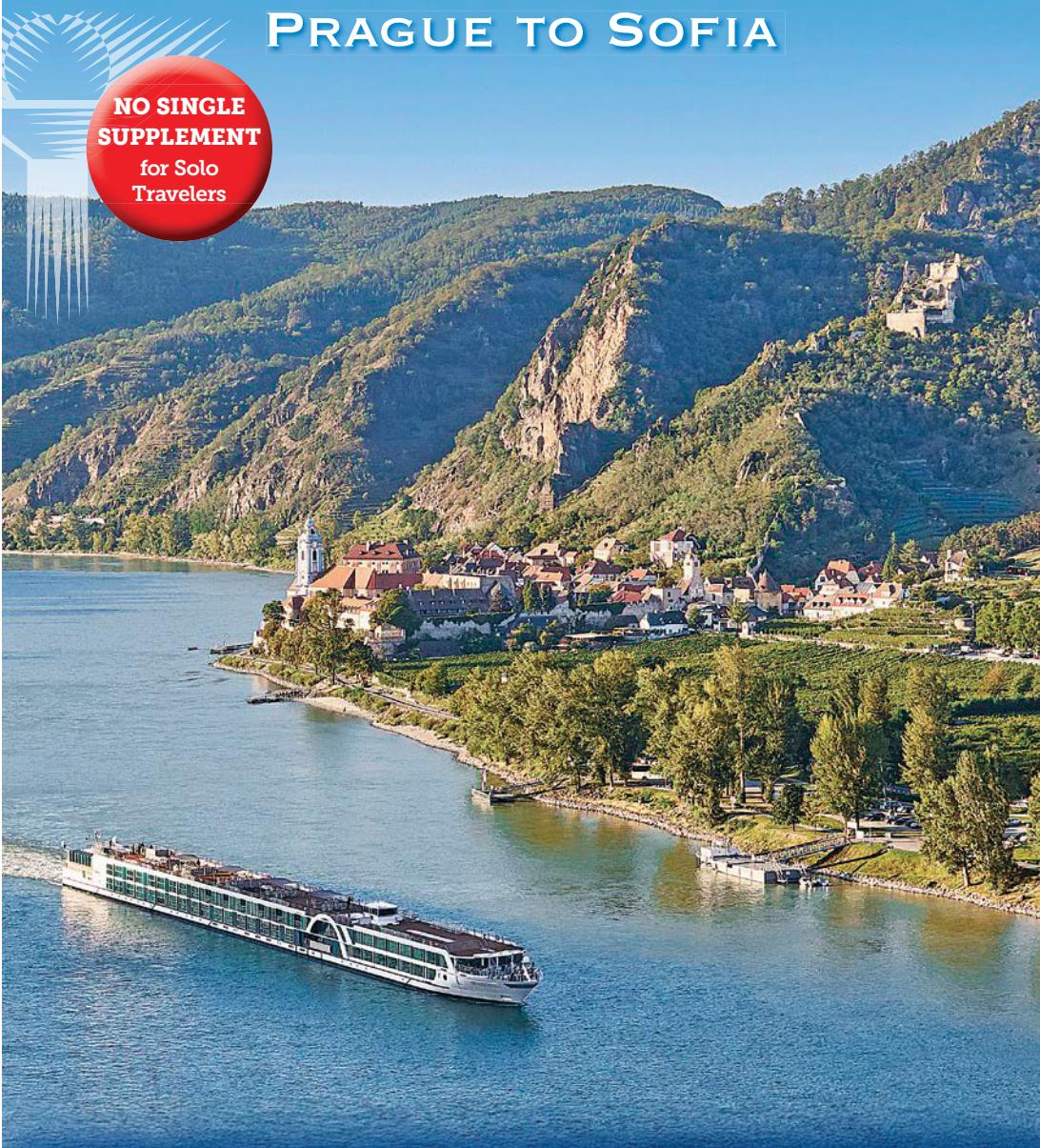


GRAND Danube Passage

PRAGUE TO SOFIA

**NO SINGLE
SUPPLEMENT**

for Solo
Travelers



PRESENTED BY



VANDERBILT
Alumni Association

May 10-24, 2026



VANDERBILT Alumni Association

Dear Vanderbilt alumni and friends,

Join us on this cultural adventure through eight countries! The incomparable heritage and fascinating history of Central and Eastern Europe come to life during a cruise along the mighty Danube, the continent's most famous river. Each day is filled with new discoveries as we experience this crossroads of culture, stroll cobblestone alleys of medieval towns and explore buzzing metropolises.

Begin 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 both the rich history and everyday life of Central and Eastern Europe. You are sure to return home dreaming of fairy-tale castles and memorable evenings spent stargazing along the Danube.

Travel in comfort and enjoy 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,

Cary DeWitt Allyn

Director, Vanderbilt Travel Program

The Vanderbilt Travel Program strives to engage Vanderbilt alumni, parents and friends of all ages, keeping them connected with each other and Vanderbilt. Each carefully designed trip offers unparalleled learning opportunities for an exclusive "beyond the classroom experience."

UNESCO World Heritage

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



Front facade of Schönbrunn Palace



Discovery begins here



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, learn enriching details from expert guides and lecturers, plus choose from included culinary and cultural experiences in selected ports.

Top: Prague | Above: Serbian folk dancers

Cover: Cruising the Danube near Dürnstein, Wachau Valley | Mail panel: Prague Astronomical Clock | Melk Abbey

Inspiring Moments



- Uncover the bewitching ambience of timeless villages and capital cities, including **Bratislava, Prague, Vienna** and **Budapest**.
- Soak up the sight of Budapest's glowing skyline during an **evening cruise**.
- Admire the dramatic **Iron Gate Gorge**, a spectacular geological wonder.
- Applaud graceful waltz dancers during a **special performance**.
- Thrill your palate with **regional flavors**, from savory pretzels to local wines.
- Marvel at the lush, storybook landscape of the **Wachau Valley**.
- Reflect during a moment of quiet thought in the marbled halls of **Melk Abbey**.
- Enjoy clapping along to a **lively Serbian folk dance**.
- Experience five **UNESCO World Heritage sites**.



Picturesque Passau

Day 1 | In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Prague, Czech Republic. 🌐

Day 2 | Prague, Czech Republic

Upon arrival in Prague, transfer 🚗 to your hotel.

Free Time: Start exploring this magnificent city. Join a special Welcome Reception this evening.

Day 3 | Prague

Old Town & Charles Bridge. Prague's old town brims with 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:

- **Lobkowicz Palace & Museum.** Witness art, weapons, instruments and other relics. Learn about the life of the Lobkowicz family.
- **Jewish Quarter.** Enjoy exploring this historic quarter and visit the Prague National Jewish Museum for insight into Jewish history.
- **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 see the many highlights of delightful Passau, including Niedernburg Abbey, the medieval 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 | Wachau Valley

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 such as the abbey church.
- **Danube Cycling.** Pass by villages and lush vineyards with a guide along the river. *(Active)*
- **Wachau Winery.** Visit a local 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 and visit a wine cellar for a special tasting.



Hofburg, Vienna



• **Schönbrunn Palace.** Tour this opulent royal residence that was the summer home of the Habsburgs. Enjoy a stroll through the garden.

🌐 **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 gentle cycle along the Slovak-Austrian border, part of the former Iron Curtain. (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.** Admire 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. Stroll among the Roman ruins and the churches of Pécs, once Ottoman mosques.

🌐 **AHI Connects | Slavonia Region.**

In a small village, visit Rural House and sample tasty Slavonian foods and local products.

Osijek & Vukovar. Tour Osijek with its well-preserved star fortress. Continue to Vukovar to see its baroque city center.

Day 11 | Belgrade, Serbia

Enrichment: Modern Serbia.

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

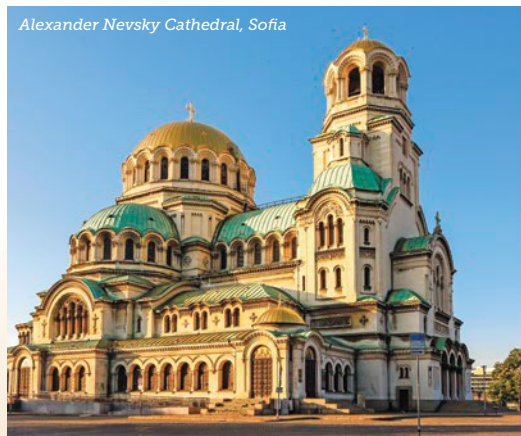
• **Belgrade.** Visit the Belgrade Fortress and see the sights in the city center.

• **Eat Like a Local.** Try delicious Serbian treats like kajmak, a creamy cheese, and more.

• **Science & Scientist Tour.** Browse exhibits and films at the Nikola Tesla Museum.



Plum brandy, Slavonia



Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, Sofia



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

Day 12 | Iron Gate Gorge

Enter the Iron Gate Gorge, one of Europe's most magnificent natural wonders.

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

Join a Farewell Reception and Dinner on board the ship.

Day 13 | Vidin, Bulgaria | Sofia

Disembark the ship this morning.

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, the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral and Alexander Battenberg Square.

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.

Activity Level

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 Nova.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Free time** to pursue your individual interests.
- **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.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.



Bicycles for touring



Budapest



Rock sculpture of Decebalus, Iron Gate Gorge



Belgrade Fortress, Serbia



Tvrđa, Osijek

2026 | Departure Details

Program Dates

Travel dates ✈ May 10-24, 2026

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

Tour dates* May 11-24, 2026

* 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 Savings Price*
E-Haydn (Mid Aft)	\$6,745	\$5,995
D-Haydn (Midship)	\$7,045	\$6,295
C-Strauss (Aft)	\$7,745	\$6,995
B-Strauss (Midship)	\$8,045	\$7,295
A-Mozart (Aft)	\$8,545	\$7,795
Suite-Mozart	\$9,245	\$8,495
*This Special Savings Price includes our \$250 Early Booking and \$500 Pay-in-Full discounts and is valid if you book by the date on the address panel and pay in full at booking.		
Deposit amount is \$750 per person. Final Payment is due at least 120 days prior to departure. Suite category features a balcony. Categories A, B and C feature a drop-down panoramic window. Categories D and E feature a panoramic window. Price includes applicable program taxes (such as VAT and port charges). 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://vander.ahitravel.com/destinations/1929A?schooldid=181 .		

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 before departure on most flights (Fees may apply.)
- **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays

AHI Travel Expertise

Travel Consultants assist with the reservation process.

Travel & Air Coordinators offer their personalized assistance with flights, electives and special requests.

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

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

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



MS Amadeus Nova

Cruise aboard the stylish MS Amadeus Nova, a river ship impeccably designed down to the last detail. 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.



Art Deco Imperial Hotel | Prague



Sofia Hotel Balkan | Sofia



Book your journey today!

615-322-3673

www.vanderbilt.edu/alumni/travel

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Sail the legendary Danube River & visit eight countries!

Committed to connecting travelers
to the people, places and cultures
of the world for more than 62 years.



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and pricing.**

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