

University of Connecticut
Alumni Relations

Oberammergau Passion Play

and

Cruising the Danube River

Budapest ♦ Bratislava ♦ Vienna ♦ Salzburg ♦ Munich

June 21 to July 1, 2020



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UConn

ALUMNI

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 42nd 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 SILVER II 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,



Mo Cotton Kelly
Vice President, Alumni Relations, UConn Foundation





The Passion Play of Oberammergau

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 SILVER II, 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 19th-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-19th-century, neo-Romanesque Fisherman's Bastion on Castle Hill with commanding views of the city.



Cover photo: Admire traditional Lüftmalerei 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 21st-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 19th-century architecture. 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.

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 copper roof, an iconic symbol of Bratislava.

Admire the Rococo grandeur of UNESCO-designated Schönbrunn Palace and 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 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, 16th-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 17th-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 17th-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 SILVER II

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

The 84 stylish Staterooms and Suites are among the most spacious of any European river ship (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. Accommodations have two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control, sitting area and private bathroom with shower. Most 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.



Stateroom



Dining Room

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, 16th-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 SILVER II

- ◆ 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 11th-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 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**



*Budapest
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.





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

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If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend an additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a trip participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person Gohagan judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders or third parties, or who Gohagan determines to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by their others. Specific room/cabin assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel or cruise line.

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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.

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PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY: All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Travelers must be able to embark or disembark motorcoaches alone or with minimal assistance from your traveling companion and climb stairs and step over raised thresholds without assistance. Travelers requiring assistance must travel with a companion who will be responsible for handling equipment.

DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS: Discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of Gohagan in writing, accompanied by 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.

CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until received in writing 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, 40% 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; cancellations 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.

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REGISTRATION: CST#: 2031868-40, WST#: 601 767 666, OST#: TA 0905.

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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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