# **GRAND DANUBE CRUISE** Vilshofen, Germany - Giurgiu, Romania



Journey along paths forged by conquerors, crusaders and kings through Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria and Romania. Step back in time to explore the history and mystery living in the hillsides while cruising the Danube and through the Iron Gates.



**DATES: 2020** - Mar 29\* | Apr 12, 26\* | May 10, 24\* | Jun 07, 21\* | Jul 19 | Aug 02, 16, 30 | Sep 13, 27 | Oct 11, 25 | Nov 08\*

DURATION: 14 DAYS/14 NIGHTS

EMBARK: Vilshofen, Germany DISEMBARK: Giurgiu, Romania \* Only Reverse Itinerary

SHIP: AmaCerto, AmaPrima

FROM: \$5,176 Incl Port Charges (\$378)

# **COUNTRIES VISITED:** AUSTRIA, BULGARIA, CROATIA, GERMANY, HUNGARY, ROMANIA, SERBIA, SLOVAKIA

# **RIVER:** DANUBE

# **ITINERARY**

#### DAY 1 - VILSHOFEN, GERMANY - EMBARKATION

Embark in Vilshofen to begin your cruise. Later in the day, enjoy a festive Oktoberfest celebration – an AmaWaterways exclusive. (D)



# DAY 2 - VILSHOFEN - PASSAU

Enjoy a free morning to walk around this quaint village. Later, cruise to Passau, and take a walking tour among the Gothic and Italian Baroque architecture and St. Stephen's Cathedral. Or choose between a guided bike tour along the Danube River or a guided hike to the Veste Oberhaus fortress. (B,L,D)

# DAY 3 - LINZ

Opt for a full-day excursion to Salzburg where you'll tour the historic center, Mirabell Gardens, Residenz Square and the Old Market. En route to Salzburg, stop at Mondsee, home of the Basilica St. Michael. Or join a morning walking tour through the old city center of Linz and by the Mozart House; or go on a bike tour of the city's famed "Cultural Mile" and the Danube. You can also choose to visit charming Český Krumlov, located just over the Czech-Austrian border. (B,L,D)

# DAY 4 - WEISSENKIRCHEN, AUSTRIA

Enjoy a scenic cruise through the Strudengau and UNESCOdesignated Wachau valleys. After reaching Weissenkirchen, take a walking tour of Dürnstein before visiting the UNESCOdesignated **Melk Abbey**. Or hike to the ruins of Dürnstein Fortress, where Richard the Lionheart was once held captive. You can also cycle through the Wachau Valley on a guided bike tour, sample special apricot treats from a local boutique. In the evening, enjoy a wine tasting hosted by a local vintner. (B,L,D)

# DAY 5 - VIENNA, AUSTRIA

The "City of Waltzes" is a treasure trove and your city tour showcases its regal splendors, including the majestic Opera House and the former Imperial Palace of the Habsburgs. Conclude your tour in the UNESCO-designated historic city center and visit St. Stephen's Cathedral. For a more active exploration, take a guided bike ride through Vienna. During the afternoon, enjoy leisure time exploring this iconic city even more. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 6 - BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA

Host to the crowning ceremonies of 11 Hungarian kings and queens between 1536 and 1830, Bratislava certainly has earned the title "Coronation City of Kings," as you'll discover during your walking tour. Or join a special "Tastes of Slovakia" tour. For a more active adventure, hike up to Bratislava Castle, offering magnificent views of the city. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 7 - BUDAPEST, HUNGARY - CITY LIGHTS CRUISE

You cannot help but fall in love with Budapest, known as the "Queen of the Danube." Your city tour begins with a visit to the Great Market Hall. The remainder of this tour takes you to both the Buda (hilly) and the Pest (flat) sides of the river. Alternatively, hike up to Castle Hill for breathtaking views of the city. Cap the day off with a stunning illumination cruise and marvel at the sight of the Hungarian Parliament Building glowing against the night sky. (B,L,D)



DAY 8 - BUDAPEST – PUSZTA, HUNGARY Tradition will be on full display in Puszta, the Great Hungarian Plain. Tour a genuine Hungarian csárda (farm) run



by world-champion carriage-drivers. Afterwards, be treated to an unforgettable performance of horsemanship and then experience the Hungarians' warm hospitality, along with a traditional lunch complete with authentic goulash. (B,L,D)

# DAY 9 - MOHACS, HUNGARY – PÉCS, HUNGARY

Enjoy a scenic morning cruise to Pécs, founded more than 2,000 years ago by the Romans. Visit the UNESCOdesignated Christian Necropolis; St. Peter's Basilica, the city's main Catholic cathedral along with its catacombs; and Széchenyi Square, the heart of Old Town Pécs. You will also see the Mosque of Pasha Qasim the Victorious, one of the symbols of the city. (B,L,D)

# DAY 10 - VUKOVAR, CROATIA



Go on a city tour showcasing the Ovčara Memorial and Eltz Palace. Alternatively, choose a wine tasting in Ilok, a center of wine production since Roman times. Later, cruise to Novi Sad, the "Serbian Athens" and go on a walking tour to Dunavski Park and through Stari Grad, the Old Town center. Or, join a guided biking tour or hike through Fruska Gora National Park. During the evening, visit Petrovaradin Fortress. (B,L,D)

# DAY 11 - BELGRADE, SERBIA

Explore Serbia's capital, Belgrade, on a city tour, which includes the Kalemegdan Fortress and the Serbian Orthodox Temple of St. Sava. Later, choose from three intriguing excursions. Visit the Royal Palace, the official residence of the Serbian Royal Family; and then tour the House of Flowers, the mausoleum of Marshal Tito, who became the first President of Yugoslavia. Or enjoy a taste of the region by sampling Serbian plum brandy, Šlivovitz, and delicious local delights at the Quburich Distillery. For those wishing a more active adventure, join a guided bike tour. (B,L,D)

# D AY 12 IRON GATES - FULL-DAY SCENIC CRUISING

The Iron Gates is one of Europe's most awe-inspiring natural wonders. The banks of the river dazzle with sheer-faced rocks stretching high overhead along this natural border between Serbia and Romania. (B,L,D)



#### DAY 13 - VIDIN, BULGARIA

Explore Vidin, one of Bulgaria's oldest cities, and surrounding areas with choice of excursions. Discover Baba Vida Castle, the largest preserved medieval castle in Bulgaria overlooking the Danube. Continue to Belogradchik, one of Bulgaria's natural wonders, where you can hike around its most spectacular rock formations. Alternatively, visit a local home for a demonstration of traditional Bulgarian yogurt and Banitsa, a pastry you will also get to make. You also have the choice to bike through Vidin and to the castle. (B,L,D)



# DAY 14 - ROUSSE, BULGARIA

Visit Bulgaria's ancient capital, Veliko Tarnovo, with its medieval fortress and multiple orthodox temples. You can opt instead to go to Rousse, known for its 19th- and 20thcentury Neo-Baroque and Neo-Rococo architecture, and then afterwards visit the UNESCO-designated Rock-hewn Churches of Ivanovo with frescoes revealing exceptional artistry of 14th-century paintings and Bulgarian medieval art. (B,L,D)

# DAY 15 - Giurgiu, Romania - DISEMBARKATION

Disembark your cruise in Giurgiu. Transfer to airport or stay to explore Romania. (B)



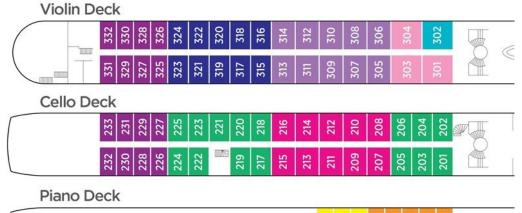


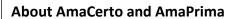






2020 RATES								
2020 DATES	Mar 29	Apr 12	Apr 26	May 10	May 24	Jun 21	Jul 19	Aug 02
					Jun 07			
BASE RATE – <mark>CAT E</mark>	\$5,798	\$6,198	\$6,798	\$7,198	\$7,298	\$7,298	\$7,298	\$7,298
Early Booking Rate –	\$4,798	\$5,198	\$5,798	\$6,698	\$6,798	-	\$6,298	\$5,798
Plus Port Charges - \$378 per person								
2020 DATES	Aug 16	Aug 30	Sep 13	Sep 27	Sep 27	Oct 11	Oct 25	Nov 08
				Certo	Prima			
BASE RATE – <mark>CAT E</mark>	\$7,398	\$7,798	\$7,898	\$7,898	\$7,898	\$7,398	\$6,998	\$6,398
Early Booking Rate –	-	\$6,798	\$7,398	-	\$6,898	\$6,398	\$5,498	\$4,898
Plus Port Charges - \$378 per person								
				-				
CATEGORY UPGRADE	D	С	BB	BA	AB	AA	AA+	SUITE
SUPPLEMENT - ADD	\$598	\$1,998	\$2,998	\$3,398	\$3,798	\$4,198	\$5398	\$6,798





Inspired by classic ocean yachts, the 162-passenger AmaCerto and AmaPrima, provide a distinctive river cruise experience. Spacious, elegantly appointed staterooms range in size from 160-290 sq. ft. or indulge even more in one of the suites at 300 sq. ft. Most cabins have twin balconies, both a French and outside balcony, so you can enjoy the ever-changing scenery however you wish. Additional stateroom amenities include Entertainment-On-Demand, featuring free high-speed Internet access, unlimited Wi-Fi, movies, music and English language TV stations; climate-controlled air conditioning; and an in-room safe. In the marble bathroom, enjoy multi-jet showerheads, soothing bath and body products, robes and hair dryers. Suites feature added enhancements, including a larger sitting area with sofa and two chairs, and an expansive bathroom complete with a bathtub and separate shower.

116





Reservations & Information 1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671) Email - info@explorcruises.com

www.explorcruises.com