The Great Journey through Europe

The Netherlands • Germany • France • Switzerland

cruising aboard the Exclusively Chartered Deluxe Amadeus Silver II

featuring the Glacier Express

June 6 to 16, 2019
Dear Alumni and Friends:

Retrace the “Grand Tour,” an elite tradition undertaken by enlightened ladies and gentlemen of the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries on this Great Journey through Europe. Traverse four countries and the western heart of the Continent on this carefully planned, exclusive itinerary. Meander through Holland’s expansive waterways, flanked by polder land reclaimed from the North Sea, and cruise the storied UNESCO World Heritage-designated Rhine Valley, passing the hillside vineyards of the renowned Rheingau wine region. Experience three of the world’s great railway journeys and have the opportunity to see six important UNESCO World Heritage sites.

Cruise aboard the exclusively chartered, deluxe AMADEUS SILVER II, one of the finest ships to ply the waters of Europe, en route from Amsterdam, the Netherlands, to Basel, Switzerland. Port calls along the way include Cologne, Koblenz, Rüdesheim and Mannheim (for Heidelberg), Germany; and the lovely Alsatian city of Strasbourg, France, a fusion of both French and German cultures.

From Basel, journey through the foothills of the Bernese Oberland Alps to Zermatt. Stop in medieval Berne, where the storybook Old Town is a celebrated UNESCO World Heritage site. Marvel at the iconic Matterhorn as you travel aboard the Gornergrat Bahn, the country’s oldest cog railway. Then, cross the mountainous backbone of Switzerland aboard the ingeniously engineered Glacier Express railway and spend two nights beside Lake Lucerne in the Five-Star Bürgenstock Resort’s WALDhotel, where glorious Alpine panoramas surround you.

This popular Great Journey through Europe travel program is an excellent value with all excursions and deluxe accommodations included. Book now while Early Booking Savings and space are still available.

Go Green!

Regina Cross  
Director of Alumni Travel  
MSU Alumni Association
U.S./Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Day 1 and Day 2
Depart the U.S. for Amsterdam. On arrival, enjoy a private cruise along the city’s UNESCO World Heritage-designated canals, lined with distinctly Dutch 16th- and 17th-century canal houses. Then, embark the deluxe AMADEUS SILVER II. Join your travel companions for the Captain’s Welcome Reception and Dinner on Day 2.

Cologne, Germany
Day 3
Arrive in one of Germany’s most ancient cities, founded as a Roman military outpost in 38 B.C. Since Charlemagne, Cologne has flourished as the Rhineland’s foremost mercantile and religious center, and it is the birthplace of the world-famous original Eau de Cologne perfume.

Explore the Altstadt (Old Town) and see the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Kölnner Dom (Cologne Cathedral); the nation’s finest example of High Gothic architecture, the Kölnner Dom took six centuries to complete.

Koblenz/Rüdesheim
Day 4
Dock in Koblenz, strategically positioned at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers, for a walking tour. Here, Germany’s Roman past dates to 9 B.C., during Augustus Caesar’s reign. From the landmark Deutsches Eck (German Corner), view the 19th-century fortress of Ehrenbreitstein, the former residence of the powerful Archbishop-Electors of Trier, across the Rhine River, and see the twin-towered Basilica of St. Castor, built between the ninth and 13th centuries, showcasing the Rhineland’s distinctive Romanesque architecture.

Cruise through the dramatic UNESCO World Heritage-designated Rhine River Valley, where with nearly each bend in the river, terraced vineyards rise on steep slopes, medieval castles crown remote crags and tranquil villages emerge along peaceful banks. See the famous Lorelei Rock—legend holds that a beautiful siren once lured sailors here with her enchanting song.

Stop in Rüdesheim, the medieval heart of Germany’s wine country. Enjoy a tour aboard the whimsical Winzerexpress mini-train, while traveling through bucolic vineyards en route to a private wine tasting, which highlights local Rieslings, including the crisp Klosterberg. Reboard the ship and cruise through pastoral Rheingau, Germany’s most famous wine-growing region.

Mannheim for Heidelberg
Day 5
This morning, transfer from Mannheim to Heidelberg, where luminaries such as Goethe and Schumann once came to experience the intellectual atmosphere of Heidelberg University, the oldest in Germany, founded in 1386. To many on the historical “Grand Tours” of Europe, Heidelberg epitomized Germany, nestled in the densely wooded valley of the Neckar River and alive with the spirit of Romanticism.

Cover photo: View the unforgettable peaks of the iconic Matterhorn from the top of the highest cog railway in Europe, the world-renowned Gornergrat Bahn.

Photo this page: Medieval castles and bucolic terraced vineyards capture the romance of Germany’s legendary UNESCO World Heritage-designated Rhine Valley.
On the walking tour, see the preservation of Heidelberg’s authentic Renaissance-Baroque character, manifested in sites such as the eight remaining arches of the famous Alte Brücke (Old Bridge). Visit the stately ruins of Heidelberg Castle, a 13th-century embodiment of the city’s medieval past perched above the river.

Strasbourg, France
Day 6
The lively Alsatian city of Strasbourg fuses Old and New Europe with French and German influence. In the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Old City, cobblestone lanes weave around medieval houses, and the 13th-century Ponts Couverts, bridges flanked by watchtowers, span idyllic canals.

In Strasbourg, John Calvin first established a reformed parish; view remnants of the Reformation in St-Pierre-le-Vieux, a simultaneum used by Protestant and Catholic parishioners.

See the medieval Zytglogge, the 13th-century tower with an ornate 15th-century astrological clock, in Berne’s Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

See the Romanesque-Gothic Cathedral of Notre Dame, whose graceful sandstone exterior, according to the poet Goethe, rises “like a most sublime, wide-arching tree of God.”

The Petite-France district evokes a fairy tale, with its historic miller, tanner and fishermen’s quarter of half-timbered houses along the Ill River. Nearby, member nations of the European Union engage in the daily discourse of the European Parliament.

On board the ship this evening, attend the Captain’s Farewell Reception and Dinner.

Basel, Switzerland/Berne/Zermatt
Day 7
Disembark the ship in Basel. Transfer across the bucolic Swiss countryside to Switzerland’s capital, Berne. Tour its beautifully preserved Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site framed by its signature 15th-century arcades and the Aare River. Enjoy lunch in an 18th-century High Baroque-style granary, today a traditional Bernese restaurant.

Continue through the Bernese Oberland to see UNESCO World Heritage-designated Jungfrau, an imposing summit known as the “Top of Europe.” En route to Zermatt, admire the soaring Alps, Switzerland’s stunning archetype of snowcapped peaks, crystal-clear glacial lakes and densely wooded forests.

Upon arrival in Zermatt, check into the chalet-style HOTEL ALEX. Dine in the hotel’s handsome, traditional restaurant this evening.

Zermatt
Day 8
Ascend through pine and larch forests, crossing meadows ablaze with wildflowers and past distant peaks blanketed by snow, aboard the highest cog railway in Europe, the Gornergrat Bahn.
Sweeping vistas of breathtaking Alpine scenery unfold from atop the 10,100-foot summit, where the serrated profiles of the Matterhorn, the Liskamm and the Dufourspitze mountains and the vast Gorner Glacier extend beyond your periphery. Return to Zermatt at your leisure, with an optional stop at Riffelberg for a panoramic view of the Monte Rosa and the Matterhorn. Enjoy dinner this evening in the hotel.

**Zermatt/Andermatt/Lake Lucerne**

**Day 9**

Wind through the heart of the Alps to Andermatt aboard the fabled Glacier Express, “the world’s slowest express train,” and delight in the natural beauty along this ingenious rail route. Enjoy lunch in Andermatt before continuing to the Five-Star Bürgenstock Resort’s Waldhotel, with breathtaking views overlooking Lake Lucerne.

**Lake Lucerne**

**Day 10**

The rugged grandeur of Mounts Pilatus and Rigi reflected in a deep blue lake make Lucerne a long-favored travel destination. Cruise across the lake to begin your Lucerne walking tour surrounded by historic burghers’ houses in the Weinmarkt (wine market); then, see the Hofkirche (Court Church), an exceptional example of German Renaissance architecture, and the Lion Monument, dedicated to the Swiss Guards who gave their lives defending Louis XVI during the French Revolution. Walk underneath tableaus of Swiss history and mythology painted on the arched roof of the 14th-century wooden Chapel Bridge, Lucerne’s most famous landmark, spanning the Reuss River.

Reach Mount Pilatus’s 7000-foot summit by panoramic gondola for a 360-degree vista of central Switzerland’s unforgettable topography and lunch in a summit restaurant. Board the Pilatus Railway, the world’s steepest cogwheel railway, to descend nearly 5400 feet in less than three miles. Return to your lakeside resort for the Farewell Reception this evening.

**Lake Lucerne/Zurich/U.S.**

**Day 11**

Following breakfast, transfer to Zurich for your return flight to the U.S.
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 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 and Sun Deck. Complimentary bicycles are available for independent pursuits on shore. An elevator serves all passenger decks except the Sun Deck. There is no doctor on board.

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

The Golden Age of Amsterdam
Pre-Program Option
The historic heart of Amsterdam, laced with tree-shaded canals and stately 16th- and 17th-century merchant houses, is a UNESCO World Heritage site and the perfect beginning to your Great Journey. Visit the world-class Rijksmuseum and enjoy a full-day excursion to quaint Edam, world famous for its cheese, and historic Hoorn, one of the great seafaring towns of the Golden Age. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe Renaissance Amsterdam Hotel.

The Pre-Program Option is available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

Amsterdam’s bridges and canals bring the intimacy of a small town to one of Europe’s most celebrated cities.
Included Features

☕ Eleven-day program, including a five-night Rhine River cruise and four nights in the Swiss Alps, featuring three of the world’s great train journeys.

On Board the Exclusively Chartered, Deluxe AMADEUS SILVER II

☕ Five-night cruise from Amsterdam, the Netherlands, to Basel, Switzerland.

☕ Air-conditioned, river-view Suite or Stateroom.

☕ All meals aboard ship.

☕ Complimentary wine and beer served with lunch and dinner.

☕ Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the ship.

☕ Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions and Dinners.

☕ Walking tour of picturesque Koblenz including the famous Deutsches Eck (German Corner), located at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers.

☕ Visit to the medieval town of Rüdesheim in the heart of the Rheingau, featuring a private tasting of local wines.

☕ Excursion to Heidelberg’s 13th-century hilltop castle ruins.

Scenic transfer from Basel to Zermatt, with a stop in Switzerland’s historic capital of Berne, and lunch in a traditional Bernese restaurant.

In Zermatt

☕ Two nights in the delightful chalet-style Hotel ALEX, with Swiss breakfast each morning.

☕ Two dinners with Swiss Rhône Valley wine in the hotel.

☕ Rail journey aboard the scenic Gornergrat Bahn, one of the most picturesque train rides in the world, with breathtaking views of the great Matterhorn.

Experience one of the great rail journeys of the world from Zermatt to Andermatt aboard the legendary Glacier Express, followed by lunch and a scenic transfer from Andermatt to Lucerne.

On Lake Lucerne

☕ Two nights in the Five-Star Bürgenstock Resort’s WALDHOTEL, overlooking stunning Lake Lucerne, with breakfast each morning.

☕ Farewell Reception.

☕ Walking tour of historic, 12th-century Lucerne.

☕ Panoramic Mount Pilatus gondola ascent with lunch at the summit, and the dramatic descent aboard the Pilatus Railway, the world’s steepest cogwheel train.

☕ Scenic cruise on Lake Lucerne.

UNESCO World Heritage Site Highlights

☕ Private cruise along Amsterdam’s Canal District.

☕ Cologne walking tour, including a stop to see the magnificent Kölner Dom.

☕ View of the imposing Jungfrau summit.

☕ Cruise through the Rhine Valley’s scenic Lorelei Passage.

☕ Walking tour of Strasbourg’s historic Grande Île (Grand Island) city center.

☕ Tour of Berne’s storybook Old Town.

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 for included excursions.

☕ Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom aboard ship and on included excursions.

☕ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.

☕ Hospitality desk in the hotels and aboard ship.

☕ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.

☕ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
Marvels of Engineering

**Legendary Railways of the Swiss Alps**

Appreciate the visionary work and vast scope of Switzerland’s impressive railways as you experience firsthand the sublime majesty of the iconic Alps from incredible perspectives. Journey on three of the world’s great Alpine railways—the panoramic **Glacier Express**, the scenic **Gornergrat Bahn** and the dramatic **Pilatus Railway**—and, while admiring the ingenious engineering necessary to create your routes, savor vignettes of the quintessentially Swiss landscape—including 14,000-foot-high mountain peaks, flowing streams, cavernous gorges and crystalline glaciers.

The **Gornergrat Bahn** is Switzerland’s oldest electrified cog railway, in operation since 1898. In the brief span of five miles, you will climb nearly 5000 feet from Zermatt to lofty Gornergrat. En route, look for unforgettable views of the great Matterhorn, hanging glaciers and the blue waters of glacial mountain lakes.

Lucerne’s **Pilatus Railway** offers breathtaking bird’s-eye views of Swiss farms and coniferous forests along its three-mile run from the summit of Mount Pilatus to the shores of Lake Lucerne. Its vertical descent of nearly 5400 feet over a grade as steep as 48 percent is highlighted by its stunning 360-degree views.

No feat required greater skill and determination than the laying of the track for the **Glacier Express** (1930) across the spine of the towering Alps. Enjoy this spectacular and leisurely journey showcasing unmatched views of the Swiss countryside: weathered chalets and mountainside farming hamlets, picturesque trails dotted with hikers, livestock grazing on green grasses, glacial waterfalls and snowcapped mountains. A true engineering marvel, the railway penetrates the mountain barrier separating the cantons of Valais and Uri through the nine-and-one-half-mile-long Furka Tunnel and crosses arched stone bridges that stretch across the tumbling headwaters of the Rhine and Rhône Rivers.

*Comfortably travel through Switzerland’s Alpine heart aboard the celebrated Glacier Express.*
Send to: Gohagan & Company  
209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500  
Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446  
Phone: (800) 922-3088 / Fax: (312) 609-1141
Or, for more information, please call the MSU Alumni Association at (888) 697-2863.

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Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)

City:  
State:  
Zip Code:  

Telephone: (Home)  
(Mobile)  

Email Address  
(Business)  

Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s):  
Tour No. 052-06/06/19-063

Program reservations require a deposit of $600 per person and $200 per person The Golden Age of Amsterdam Pre-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 2019 The Great Journey through Europe.  
- I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $ to:  
  - Visa  
  - MasterCard

Card Number:  
Exp. Date:  

Signature as it appears on credit card

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by March 1, 2019.

We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be sent to you with your confirmation letter from the MSU Alumni Association.
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, $600 ($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, 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 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.

RATES: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. On land and/or cruise programs, even after full payment, Gohagan reserves the right to increase the tour price in the event of increases due to changes in supplier costs, currency fluctuations or fuel or energy surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases. On programs which include Gohagan purchased interstate or international air (which originates or returns to the United States), no increased costs will be passed on after final payment, except for subsequently imposed governmental tax increases.

REGISTRATION: CST#: 203186-40, WST#: 605 767 666, OT#: TA 0905.

BINDING ARBITRATION: Any dispute concerning, relating or referring to this Agreement, the brochure or any other literature concerning the trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration pursuant to the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. Sections 1-16, either according to the then existing Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) or pursuant to the Comprehensive Arbitration Rules & Procedures of the American Arbitration and Mediation Services, Inc. (JAMS). Such proceedings will be governed by substantive (but not procedural) Illinois law and will take place in Chicago, IL. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. Please understand that by agreeing to these terms and conditions, the participant and Gohagan 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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