Oberammergau Passion Play and Cruising the Danube River
Budapest ♦ Bratislava ♦ Vienna ♦ Salzburg ♦ Munich
June 16 to 26, 2022

BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE!
No land/cruise cancellation fees for new bookings until 96 days prior to trip departure.
Dear Spartans,

Nestled in the storybook landscapes of the Bavarian Alps, more than 2,000 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 for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience the 42nd production of this time-honored tradition, the Oberammergau Passion Play. 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; historical 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. Space is limited so don’t delay.

Go Green!

Regina Cross
Director of Alumni Travel
MSU Alumni Office
888-697-2863

The safety and well-being of our travelers remains our highest priority. All passengers traveling on our programs are required to present confirmation of a full COVID-19 vaccination, and, as well may have to produce evidence of a recent negative COVID test. All our staff are committed to adhering to all health and safety protocols from the start of your trip to the end as directed by the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention, overseas health officials, as well as those protocols mandated by your cruise company (if applicable). Detailed protocol information tailored to your travel program will be mailed to you along with additional pre-departure information.
U.S./Budapest, Hungary
Days 1 and 2
Depart the U.S. for Budapest, Hungary’s historical capital. Upon arrival, embark the Amadeus Silver II or III, 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.

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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 2,000 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.

Cover photo: Admire traditional Lüftlmalerei painting on the Pilatushaus in the center of Oberammergau, depicting ornate Italian-style columns and balcony.

Photo this page: See the majestic neo-Gothic Parliament Building of Budapest on the banks of the Danube River.
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 1,000-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 historical center is a UNESCO World Heritage open-air museum of splendid Baroque architecture. Enjoy a panoramic tour featuring its famous Ringstrasse, showing 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 Schönbrunn Palace and Gardens, the lavish summer estate of the imperial Habsburgs. It was here that a 6-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 grandeur of UNESCO-designated Schönbrunn Palace and Gardens, the summer home of Marie Antoinette and Emperor Franz Josef.

Enjoy the charm of Oberammergau, with painted trompe l’oeil frescoes on many homes and shops, depicting fairy tales and religious scenes.
Day 6
This morning, cruise the Danube’s fabled Wachau Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site, where terraced vineyards blanket hillsides dotted with the 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.

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.

Passau, Germany/Salzburg, Austria/ Oberammergau, Germany

Day 8
The pastoral village of Oberammergau is synonymous with the great Passion Play produced here usually 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 2022 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 historical capital, known for its artistic culture and unique beauty. Visit the 17th-century, Baroque Nymphenburg Palace, birthplace of King Ludwig II and former
The elegant and meticulously crafted AMADEUS SILVER II and III feature the comforts of a refined and traditional hotel. The 84 stylish Staterooms and Suites are among the most spacious of any European river ships (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 restaurants offer scenic views through panoramic windows as well as continental cuisine featuring fresh, local ingredients. Daily meals include early-risers’ coffee, breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, four-course dinner with complimentary wine and beer, and late-evening snack.

For your leisure time on board each ship there are two bars, an open-air lounge, complimentary Wi-Fi (conditions permitting), a beauty salon, a boutique, a massage room, a fitness studio and the Sun Deck. An elevator serves all passenger decks except the Sun Deck. There is no doctor on board.

The AMADEUS fleet has earned the important “Green Globe Certificate” of environmental sustainability.

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/U.S.
Day 11
After breakfast, continue on the Berlin and Potsdam Post-Program Option or transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S.
Included Features

On Board the Exclusively Chartered AMADEUS SILVER II and III
♦ 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 historical landmarks of the Fisherman’s Bastion and St. Matthias Church.
♦ Guided walking tour of Bratislava’s well-preserved, medieval Stare 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.
♦ 2022 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 Hofbrauhaus 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 Baroque architecture.
♦ Visit to Schönbrunn Palace and Gardens, the spectacular summer estate of the 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.
Hungarian Tradition in Budapest
Pre-Program Option
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.

Berlin and Potsdam
Post-Program Option
Known for its world-class museums and eclectic architecture, Berlin is one of Europe’s preeminent cultural centers. Enjoy the city tour and visit the Wall Museum at Checkpoint Charlie, the former border crossing between East and West Berlin. Explore the Pergamon Museum on UNESCO World Heritage-designated Museum Island. In nearby Potsdam, visit Cecilienhof Palace, built from 1913 to 1917 as a country manor, and tour Sanssouci Palace, the former summer palace of Frederick the Great and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Accommodations are for three nights in the deluxe WESTIN GRAND BERLIN HOTEL.

Pre- and Post-Program Options are available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
**BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE!** No land/cruise cancellation fees for new bookings until 96 days prior to trip departure.

**MS AMADEUS SILVER II**

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<th>Category</th>
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*Single supplements apply across all categories at 160% of the per person double price.*

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**OBERAMMGERGAU PASSION PLAY RESERVATION FORM**

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 Office at (888) 697-2863.

05/06/16/22-063

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Category: [ ] 1st Choice [ ] 2nd Choice

- [ ] Double occupancy (two twin beds).
- [ ] Double occupancy (one queen bed).
- [ ] Single accommodations.
- [ ] Single but prefer to share and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

**Hungarian Tradition in Budapest Pre-Program Option**

- [ ] Double at $995 per person.
- [ ] Single at $1495 per person.
- [ ] I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

**Berlin and Potsdam Post-Program Option**

- [ ] Double at $1295 per person.
- [ ] Single at $1745 per person.
- [ ] I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

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We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be included with your email confirmation letter from the MSU Alumni Office.
**RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT**

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In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, financial or other loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts or orders of government, denial of or delay into entry into any country, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or riot, battles from or attacks by animals, pests or strikes, or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof, sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels or other means of transportation, or for any act of the transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely. Further, I release Gohagan from its own negligence and assume all risk thereof.

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 program participant, or remove from a program, without refund, any person Gohagan judges to be incapable of meeting the requirements or participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other program participants, leaders or third parties, or for whom it judges that special medical or other accommodations required beyond the control of Gohagan. Gohagan is not responsible therefor and is not required to compensate passengers under these circumstances. Gohagan may cancel or postpone a program (or an option) for any reason whatsoever. If so, for cancellations based upon acts of God or force majeure, acts or orders of government, epidemics or the threat thereof, terrorism or the like, Gohagan is obligated to refund the cost of any purchased travel insurance. Gohagan is not required to cancel any program for any reason including without limitation, United States Department of State, Centers for Disease Control, World Health Organization or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Gohagan is not responsible for fees assessed by air carriers resulting from operational or scheduling changes, nor for any other expenses incurred by any other parties beyond the control of Gohagan. Specific room/cabin assignments are within the sole discretion of the airline or cruise line.

Gohagan reserves the right to change the itinerary or program features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and shall not be liable for any act of any kind as a result of any such changes. Ship schedules, port calls, hours of arrival and departure, sightseeing events, special programs and guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change or cancellation. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute motorcoach transportation using hotels, inns or lodges for cruise accommodations if necessary due to weather, water conditions or levels, other events of force majeure, mechanical or other conditions beyond the control of Gohagan. Gohagan is not responsible therefor and is not required to compensate passengers under these circumstances. Gohagan may cancel or postpone a program (or an option) for any reason whatsoever. If so, for cancellations based upon acts of God or force majeure, acts or orders of government, epidemics or the threat thereof, terrorism or the like, Gohagan is obligated to refund the cost of any purchased travel insurance. Gohagan is not required to cancel any program for any reason including without limitation, United States Department of State, Centers for Disease Control, World Health Organization or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Gohagan is not responsible for fees assessed by air carriers resulting from operational or scheduling changes, nor for any other expenses incurred by any other parties beyond the control of Gohagan. Specific room/cabin assignments are within the sole discretion of the airline or cruise line.

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