



Gems of Southeast Europe

March 28 – April 4, 2022 ~ Giurgiu to Budapest

Optional Pre-Cruise Programs in Bucharest or Istanbul
Optional Post-Cruise Program in Vienna
Hosted by Doug Margerum

Itinerary at a Glance

March 24-28	Istanbul or Bucharest/Brasov	<i>Optional Pre-cruise land program – 3 night Istanbul</i> <i>Optional Pre-cruise land program – 4 night Brasov & Bucharest</i>
March 28	Giurgiu	Embarkation
March 29	Rousse	Veliko Tarnovo Excursion -or Bucharest Excursion -or Rousse Walking Tour and Rock-Hewn Church
March 30	Vidin	Baba Vida Fortress and Vidin Walking Tour -or Belogradchik Hike -or Banitsa Pastry & Yogurt Making -or Vidin Bike Tour Calafat Wine Tasting
March 31	Iron Gates	Scenic Cruising
	Golubac	Fortress Tour
April 1	Belgrade	“The City by Two Rivers” Tour -or Belgrade Royal Palace & Tito’s Memorial Tour -or Podrom Panajotovic Wine Tasting Quburich Brandy Tasting & Avila Mountain -or Guided Bike Tour of Belgrade
April 2	Novi Sad	“The Athens of Serbia” walking tour -or Serbian Specialties Tasting -or Petrovaradin Fortress Hike -or Novi Sad Bike Tour
	Ilok	Vukovar City tour with Eltz Castle -or Croatia wine tasting
April 3	Mohacs	Pecs Excursion -or Szekszard wine tasting -or Guided bike ride along the Danube
April 4	Budapest	Disembarkation
April 4 – 6	Vienna	<i>Optional 2-night post-cruise land program</i>

Detailed Itinerary



March 28

GIURGIU, ROMANIA - EMBARKATION

Embark the ship for your Gems of Southeast Europe cruise. (D)

March 29

ROUSSE, BULGARIA

Experience more of Bucharest, or visit Bulgaria's ancient capital, Veliko Tarnovo, with its medieval fortress and multiple orthodox temples. You can opt instead to explore Rousse, known for its 19th- and 20th-century Neo-Baroque and Neo-Rococo architecture, and then afterwards visit the UNESCO-designated Rock-Hewn Churches of Ivanovo with frescos revealing exceptional artistry of 14th-century paintings. (B,L,D)

March 30

VIDIN, BULGARIA

Explore Vidin, one of Bulgaria's oldest cities, and surrounding areas with a choice of excursions. Discover Baba Vida Fortress, the largest preserved medieval castle in Bulgaria. Continue on 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. Later, you'll enjoy a wine tasting at a local winery in the city of Calafat. (B,L,D)

March 31

IRON GATES - GOLUBAC

The Iron Gates are some of Europe's most awe-inspiring natural wonders. The Danube narrows as it winds through a series of magnificent gorges between the Carpathian and Balkan mountains, forming a natural border between Serbia and Romania. The ancient King Decebalus, the last king of Dacia, is proudly carved into the mountainside and always captivates travelers. After your scenic cruise, you will arrive at Golubac Fortress – one of the best preserved medieval fortresses in Europe – for a tour. (B,L,D)

April 1

BELGRADE, SERBIA

Explore Serbia's capital, Belgrade, on a city tour, which includes the Kalemegdan Fortress and the Serbian Orthodox Temple of St. Sava. Or visit the Royal Palace – the official residence of the Serbian Royal Family – and tour the House of Flowers, the mausoleum of Marshal Tito, who became the first President of Yugoslavia; or hike to Belgrade Fortress. In the afternoon, enjoy a taste of the region by sampling Serbian plum brandy, Šljivovitz, and delicious local delights at the Quburich Distillery. Alternatively, journey to the Podrum Panajotovic Wine Cellar, where old traditions and excellent wine are preserved 10 meters below the streets of Belgrade, and enjoy perfectly paired wine and snacks as you learn ancient uses of wine and get expert advice on balancing wine and food. For those wishing a more active adventure, join a guided bike tour. (B,L,D)



April 2

NOVI SAD – ILOK, CROATIA

Discover Novi Sad, the “Serbian Athens,” on a walking tour to Dunavski Park and through Stari Grad, the Old Town center. If you prefer a more active exploration, join a guided biking tour or hike to Petrovaradin Fortress, a mighty stronghold no enemy has ever breached. Or, learn how to prepare traditional Vojvodina cuisine by a chef and local homemakers and enjoy a taste of your culinary creation. Later in the day, cruise to Vukovar, a Croatian symbol of resistance, which you’ll better understand on your city tour showcasing the Ovčara Memorial and Eltz Castle. Alternatively, choose a wine tasting in Ilok, a center of wine production since Roman times, where you’ll sample its famous Grasevina, Traminac and Frankovka wines. (B,L,D)

April 3

MOHACS, HUNGARY

Visit Pécs, founded more than 2,000 years ago by the Romans, and the UNESCO-designated 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. Or for wine connoisseurs, you’ll want to go to the Szekszárd wine region, one of the oldest red-wine-growing areas in Hungary, established more than 2,000 years ago. You may also take an exhilarating guided bike tour from Mohács through Danube-Drava National Park. (B,L,D)

April 4

BUDAPEST - DISEMBARKATION

This morning, disembark your ship in Budapest. (B)

Optional Pre-Cruise Land Itinerary – Istanbul



March 25

ISTANBUL

Arrive in Istanbul and transfer to your hotel.

March 26

ISTANBUL

Admire the grandeur of the spectacular Ottoman Sultans' Grand Palace of Topkapi, home to every Sultan from the 15th-19th centuries. During your tour, marvel at the private chambers of the Sultans, the Harem (women's quarters) and the Imperial Treasury's vast collection, including the jewel-encrusted Topkapi Dagger and the stunning 86-carat Spoonmaker's Diamond. (B)

March 27

ISTANBUL

Depart your hotel for an enriching guided walking tour, during which you will explore the Hagia Sophia, formerly a church before becoming a mosque and finally a museum. A beautiful example of Old-World architecture, this museum showcases lovely Christian murals and Islamic symbols throughout. After the Hagia Sophia, visit Istanbul's similarly beautiful Blue Mosque, named for the Blue İznik tiles that cover its interior. For those who are interested, be guided to the lively Grand Bazaar and venture through the market before returning to your hotel. (B)

March 28

ISTANBUL – GIURGIU - EMBARKATION

Check out of your Istanbul hotel and fly to Bucharest. Transfer to Giurgiu where you will embark your ship for your Gems of Southeast Europe cruise.

Optional Pre-Cruise Land Itinerary – Brasov & Bucharest



March 24

BUCHAREST

Arrive in Bucharest and check in to your lovely hotel.

March 25

BUCHAREST

Bucharest, Romania's capital, has earned its nickname, the "Little Paris of the East," with its wide boulevards and Arc de Triomphe. Enjoy a visit to the city's most impressive sites—including the historic city center and the Palace of the Parliament, second only to the Pentagon as the largest administrative building in the world. Or take a walking tour of Bucharest's Old Town. (B)

March 26

BUCHAREST – BRAN - BRASOV

Journey through the Romanian countryside to Bran, where you'll visit Transylvania's legendary Bran Castle, forever linked with the legend of Dracula. Afterwards, enjoy a walking tour around Braşov. Later, head to Braşov for a tour and check into your hotel. (B)

March 27

BRASOV - SIGHISOARA

Dracula lovers will be in for another treat with an excursion to Sighişoara, birthplace to Transylvania's most notorious ruler, Vlad Ţepeş, also known as Vlad the Impaler or Dracula. It's hard to believe that this perfectly preserved UNESCO-designated town filled with resplendent pastel-colored buildings, stone lanes, medieval towers and pedestrian-friendly Old Town was Vlad's place of birth. His home is still here, marked with a placard; however, today it houses a kitschy restaurant called "Casa Dracula." (B)

March 28

BRASOV – GIURGIU - EMBARKATION

Your first stop on the road to Transylvania will be the quaint mountain town of Sinaia. While in Sinaia, you'll visit Peleş Castle, considered by many to be one of the most stunning castles in Europe. Tour the castle, which was once the residence of the royal family. Later in the day, transfer to Giurgiu where you will embark the ship for your Gems of Southeast Europe cruise. (B,D)

Optional Post-Cruise Land Itinerary – Vienna



April 4

BUDAPEST - VIENNA

Disembark the ship and enjoy a city tour of Budapest where you will see the UNESCO-listed Castle Hill district, Fisherman's Bastion, St. Stephen's Basilica and the Chain Bridge. Check into your Vienna hotel and enjoy free time to explore the city. (B)

April 4

VIENNA

The "City of Waltzes" offers a treasure trove of gems just waiting to be discovered on your city tour. See the majestic Opera House and the former Imperial Palace of the Habsburgs before concluding in Vienna's historic city center. (B)

April 6

VIENNA

Bid farewell to Vienna as you prepare for your flight home. (B)

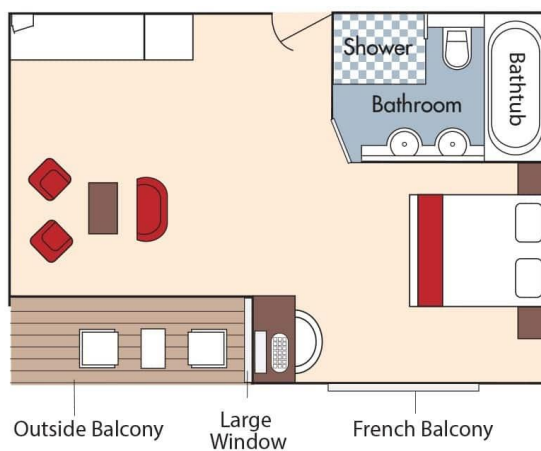
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80 Staterooms/160 Passengers

LUXURIOUS STATEROOMS

Suite: Violin Deck ~ French & Outside Balcony ~ 350sq. ft.



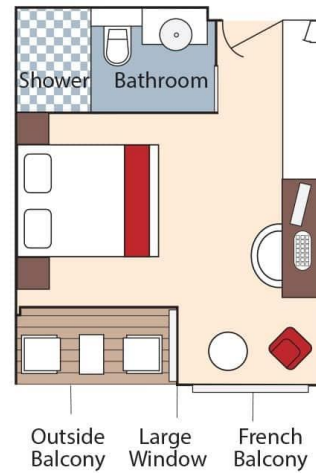
Category AA: Violin Deck ~ French & Outside Balcony ~ 235 sq. ft.



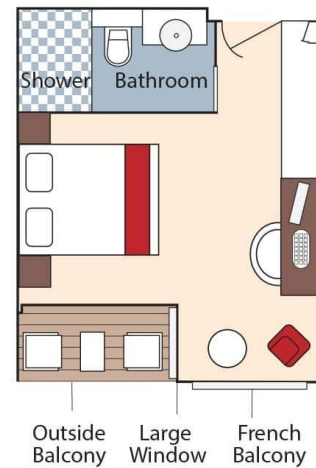
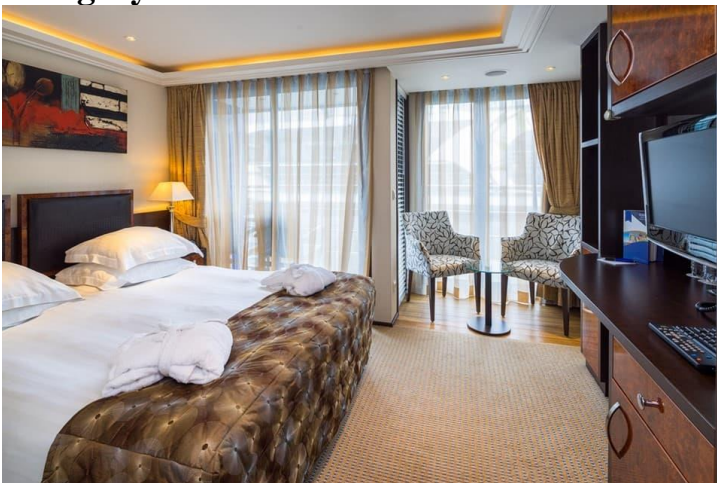
Category AB: Cello Deck ~ French & Outside Balcony ~ 235 sq. ft.



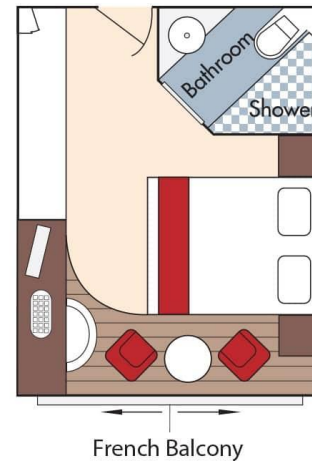
Category BA: Violin Deck ~ French & Outside Balcony ~ 210 sq. ft.



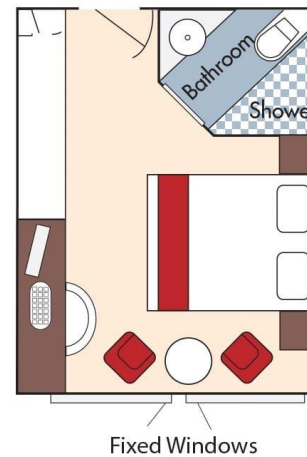
Category BB: Cello Deck ~ French & Outside Balcony ~ 210 sq. ft.



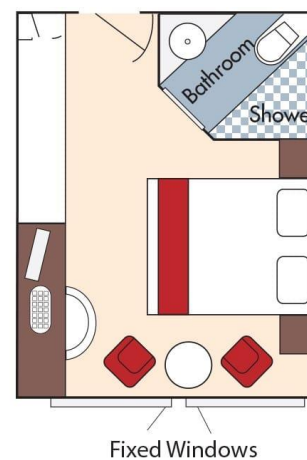
Category C: Violin & Cello Decks ~ French Balcony ~ 170 sq. ft.



Category D: Piano Deck ~ Fixed Windows ~ 170 sq. ft.



Category E: Piano Deck ~ Fixed Windows ~ 170 sq. ft.



DECK PLAN



Stateroom Categories and Fares

Cruise Only based including port tax and \$250 Early Booking Discount

- **Suite: \$6,658 per person, double occupancy / \$ 13,356 single occupancy**
- **AA: \$5,358 per person, double occupancy / \$ 8,057 single occupancy**
- **AB: \$5,158 per person, double occupancy / \$ 7,757 single occupancy**
- **BA: \$4,958 per person, double occupancy / \$ 7,457 single occupancy**
- **BB: SOLD OUT**
- **C: SOLD OUT**
- **D: SOLD OUT**
- **E: SOLD OUT**

Optional Pre/Post Add-ons:

3-night Istanbul Pre-Cruise Land Package: \$1,499* per person double occupancy/ \$2,399* single

4-night Bucharest & Brasov Pre-Cruise Land Package: \$1,300 per person double occupancy/ \$1,900 single

2-night Vienna Post-Cruise Land Package: \$600 per person double occupancy/ \$900 single

Included Features - Cruise:

SPACIOUS STATEROOMS

- 7 nights luxury accommodation in an outside stateroom (most with twin balconies)
- Computer for internet access
- Entertainment-On-Demand in all staterooms featuring free high-speed internet access, movies, a music library and English language TV stations
- Mini-fridge, desk and sitting area
- Bottled water replenished daily

AN ARRAY OF AMENITIES

- Wellness Activities with a dedicated Wellness Host leading various exercise classes as well as discussions on healthy eating and relaxation techniques, both on board and on shore.
- Personalized service from a highly trained Cruise Manager during both cruise and land programs
- Internet and Wi-Fi access
- Sun deck pool with swim-up bar and walking track
- Fitness room, massage services and hair salon
- Main Lounge with panoramic views and bar
- Daily entertainment including cultural performances

AWARD-WINNING DINING

- All onboard dining in a variety of venues
- Regionally inspired cuisine made with locally sourced ingredients
- The Chef's Table specialty restaurant
- Welcome Cocktail, Welcome Dinner, La Chaîne des Rôtisseurs Dinner, Captain's Cocktail and Gala Dinner
- Unlimited fine wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner
- Unlimited sparkling wine and fresh juice with breakfast
- Sip & Sail Cocktail Hour with complimentary wine, beer, spirits and soft drinks
- Tapas, sandwiches, snacks and refreshments served daily in the Main Lounge

A WORLD OF EXPLORATION

- Immersive tours in every destination
- Gentle, regular, active and late-riser tour options
- Bike tours and hikes
- Special Interest Tours
- Knowledgeable guides
- Personal headset for easy exploration

Included Features – Land Programs:

- Hotel nights as specified per itinerary
- Daily Breakfast
- Regional flights (where applicable)
- Touring and Transfers as specified per itinerary

To Book or for more information, Contact:
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