European Rivers

A DANUBE, MAIN AND RHINE RIVER CRUISE ABOARD THE ROYAL CROWN

October 12 to 26, 2017

a program of the stanford alumni association
Villages straight out of a fairy tale, medieval town squares, forests and vineyards ablaze with autumn colors, and vibrant cities emblematic of a rapidly transforming Europe. These all comprise the cultural and historical threads of a memorable journey by river from the Czech Republic through Germany and France to Switzerland. This unique itinerary is bookended by two fascinating destinations—Prague, the historic capital of Bohemia, and the spectacularly beautiful Swiss Alps. We’ll cruise aboard the intimate Royal Crown river vessel along three rivers—the Danube, Main and Rhine—including making a transit through the Main-Danube Canal. Along the way, we’ll marvel at the rebirth of Prague since the fall of the Iron Curtain; contemplate the somber events that took place in Nuremberg’s courthouse, site of the historic post-World War II Nazi war crimes trials; and ponder the future ramifications of decisions made in the modern era by the European Parliament in Strasbourg. Join us!

Highlights

**LISTEN** to a private concert by the Bamberg Symphonic Quartet, a piano concert onboard the Royal Crown and a recital on Amorbach’s famous baroque organ.

**SPEND** eight relaxing nights aboard the elegant Royal Crown as it winds 106 miles through rural Bavaria, the Franconian Alps and the scenic Altmühl Valley.

**VISIT** six UNESCO World Heritage Sites: the historic centers of Prague, Bamberg and Strasbourg; the Würzburg Residenz; the Upper Middle Rhine Valley; and Speyer Cathedral.

**TAKE** a guided tour of the courthouse in Nuremberg, site of the war crimes trials that followed the end of World War II.
G. ROBERT (BOB) HAMRDLA, an emeritus staff member and lecturer at Stanford University, has been teaching at Stanford for more than 40 years. Fluent in German and a specialist on Central Europe and Nazi Germany, as well as the former German Democratic Republic and the European Union, he has introduced thousands of students, alumni and other interested travelers to Central and Eastern Europe. He has visited these areas—in particular eastern Germany—virtually every year for the past 50 years, and his unfettered enthusiasm for the region is infectious. A former assistant to the president of Stanford and secretary to the board of trustees, he also served as the director of Stanford’s Overseas Study Centers in Beutelsbach, Berlin and Kraków. During our program, Bob will lecture on the current situation of the European Union, including the pending withdrawal of Britain; problems remaining from the drama of World War II, and the role of the so-called “Visegrad” countries: Czechia, Poland, Slovakia and Hungary.

Educated at Yale (BA 1958) and Harvard (MA 1959; PhD 1963), THOMAS W. SIMONS, JR., is currently a visiting scholar at Harvard’s Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies. During a 35-year U.S. Foreign Service career, he specialized in East-West relations, serving in Poland, the USSR, Romania and Washington, D.C. During the 1990s Simons was U.S. ambassador to Poland and Pakistan, and, coordinator of U.S. assistance to the new independent states of the former Soviet Union. He is the author of dozens of articles on Central and East European history and politics, and four books, including his most recent, Eurasia’s New Frontiers: Young States, Old Societies, Open Futures (Cornell University Press, 2008).
Itinerary

THURSDAY & FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12 & 13
U.S. / PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC
Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Prague. Upon arrival on Friday, check in to our hotel. This evening gather for a festive welcome reception and dinner at Lobkowicz Palace, an impressive Renaissance chateau perched high above the Vltava river.

INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL PRAGUE (10/13: D)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14
PRAGUE
Discover the fairy talelike setting of Prague's Old Town, a World Heritage site, during a guided walking tour that showcases six centuries of architectural styles lining cobblestoned streets, an intricately decorated astronomical clock and the iconic pointed spires of Tyn Cathedral. Also visit the haunting Old Jewish Cemetery and the 13th-century Old-New Synagogue inside Prague's Jewish Quarter, part of Old Town. INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL PRAGUE (B)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15
PRAGUE
At the Strahov Library, enjoy a private tour of its magnificent collection of original prints and manuscripts. Continue to Prague Castle, a royal residence as far back as the 10th century and still the seat of the Czech government. Its walls encompass Renaissance-era St. Vitus Cathedral, an imposing structure that incorporates a unique mix of Gothic and baroque elements, and the Old Royal Palace, one of the oldest parts of the castle, with its elongated throne room and soaring Vladislav Hall. Still within the walls, stroll along Golden Lane, a charmingly quaint street that dates back to the 15th century. Inside the 11 historic houses that line the lane are period scenes depicting the lives of the goldsmiths and other artisans who once lived and worked here; the upper levels of the houses contain medieval armory and textile displays. INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL PRAGUE (B,L)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16
PRAGUE / REGensburg, GERMANY / EMBARK
This morning we leave Prague and travel by motor coach to Regensburg, originally a Celtic colony and later a fortress guarding the northern frontier of the Danube. The city is home to Dom St. Peter, one of the most impressive cathedrals in Bavaria and a fine example of Gothic style, with medieval stained-glass windows. Enjoy a tour through the old quarter with its narrow streets and intimate squares lined with medieval buildings, followed by a performance by the Domspatzen Quartet. Embark the Royal Crown this evening and begin our river cruise with a transit of the Main-Danube Canal.
ROYAL CROWN (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18
BAMBERG
Enjoy a morning tour of Bamberg, a World Heritage site and perhaps the most perfect of all ancient German cities, with hills, canals and splendid examples of baroque and Gothic architecture. Visit the Altes Rathaus (old town hall), a picturesque mixture of rustic half-timbering and rococo elegance perched on a tiny island in the Pegnitz River, and the city's great cathedral, featuring some of the most remarkable sculptures in Germany. Enjoy a private concert by the Symphonic Quartet before reboarding our ship and cruising toward Würzburg.
ROYAL CROWN (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19
WÜRZBURG
Enjoy a tour today of the Würzburg Residenz Palace, a treasure of medieval culture, as evidenced in its historic monuments, Gothic churches and elegant patrician houses. A city tour of this second-largest city in Bavaria includes the courthouse where the Nazi war crimes trials were held and the parade grounds where Nazi Party rallies took place during World War II.
ROYAL CROWN (B,L,D)
rising high above the Main River and one of the most stunning baroque buildings in southern Germany. In the 16th century, this medieval castle was converted into a magnificent palace with five grand halls, 300 bedrooms, a mirrored gallery and a glorious, recently restored ceiling fresco by Giovanni Tiepolo. Enjoy a guided tour of the palace, followed by a private tasting of Franconian wines in the palace's atmospheric, candlelit wine cellar.

ROYAL CROWN (B,l,D)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21
RÜDESHEIM
After a morning of scenic cruising, arrive in Rüdesheim on the Rhine, a wine-making town in the World Heritage-designated Rhine Gorge (Upper Middle Rhine Valley). Enjoy a visit to Schloss Vollrads, a castle and wine estate that has been making wine for more than 800 years.

ROYAL CROWN (B,l,D)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22
HEIDELBERG / SPEYER
This morning take a guided walking tour along the winding baroque-style lanes of Heidelberg’s Old Town, home to a number of great poets and academics, world-famous castle ruins and Germany’s oldest university, which dates back to 1386. Continue to Speyer to visit its acclaimed Romanesque cathedral, whose monumental crypt was the chosen burial place for German emperors and kings for more than 300 years.

ROYAL CROWN (B,l,D)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23
STRASBOURG, FRANCE
Like many of the Alsace region’s border cities, Strasbourg has changed hands several times between France and Germany. Today, the city, which is the capital of Alsace and seat of the European Parliament, reflects both cultures linguistically, architecturally and gastronomically. Built at the intersection of several ancient Roman roads, Strasbourg features a historic, World Heritage-designated city center with 16th-century half-timbered houses and a Gothic cathedral built of red sandstone. From there we’ll visit the European Parliament for a specially arranged tour and hear a guest lecture on European affairs. We’ll then board small boats and meander along the canals of Strasbourg’s “Petite France,” as the former tanners’ and fishmongers’ districts are known. Tonight bid adieu to the Royal Crown at a festive farewell reception and dinner.

ROYAL CROWN (B,l,D)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24
BASEL, SWITZERLAND / DISEMBARK
Upon arrival in Basel, head out on a walking tour of its medieval Old Town. Steeped in Celtic-Roman history and situated at the crossroads of France, Germany and Switzerland, much of the ancient city of Basel remains and is well-preserved. An important cultural center, Basel is home to Switzerland’s oldest university, where the German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche taught. After lunch, transfer by motor coach to Interlaken, the main gateway to the mountains and lakes of the Bernese Oberland region of the Swiss Alps.

ROYAL CROWN (B,l,D)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25
INTERLAKEN
Board a cog railway for the spectacular ascent from the Kleine Scheidegg Station for views of the famous Eiger North Wall, as well as the Mönch and Jungfrau peaks. This evening enjoy a special farewell dinner.

VICTORIA-JUNGFRAU GRAND HOTEL & SPA (B,D)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26
INTERLAKEN / ZURICH / U.S.
After breakfast, transfer to the Zurich Airport for flights home. (B)
Royal Crown

The elegant *Royal Crown* combines the nostalgic charm of the 1930s with the comfort and service of a four-star vessel. Built in 1996 and refurbished in 2010, this 45-stateroom riverboat was designed for the rivers flowing through the heart of Europe. Spacious teak decks and elegant public rooms and staterooms embellished with mahogany, rosewood and marble appointments, rich fabrics, and specially designed furniture create a unique river vessel. All suites are fitted with spacious rosewood cupboards, a dressing table, satellite TV and radio, safe deposit box, individually controlled air-conditioning, and en suite facilities with shower and hair dryer. Public amenities include a library, boutique, fitness area, elegant art deco–inspired lounge with panoramic views and a dining room with open seating. Outside there is a large sun deck running almost the entire length of the vessel, a lido bar, a putting green and a large-scale chessboard. The efficient air-conditioning system ensures a comfortable temperature throughout the vessel, and two powerful engines can achieve a speed of up to 12 knots.

Program Cost*

Rates are per person, based on double or single occupancy, as specified.

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<tr>
<th>CATEGORY/DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>DOUBLE</th>
<th>SINGLE**</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A Junior/Select Deck</strong></td>
<td>145 sq. ft., 2 portholes, twin beds, shower</td>
<td><strong>$7,995</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>B Superior/Select Deck</strong></td>
<td>145 sq. ft., 2 portholes, twin beds, shower</td>
<td><strong>$8,495</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C Deluxe/Select Deck</strong></td>
<td>145 sq. ft., 2 portholes, twin beds, shower</td>
<td><strong>$8,995</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>D Premium/Select Deck</strong></td>
<td>150 sq. ft., 2 portholes, queen bed, shower</td>
<td><strong>$9,995</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>E Royal/Panorama Deck</strong></td>
<td>200 sq. ft., 4 large fixed windows, queen bed, shower</td>
<td><strong>$12,995</strong></td>
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*Association nonmembers add $300 per person.
**Single accommodations may be limited to as few as 2 cabins.
DATES
October 12 to 26, 2017 (15 days)

SIZE
This program can accommodate a total of 74 participants, including travelers from Stanford, Harvard and the Santa Barbara Museum of Art. Single accommodations are extremely limited; please call for availability.

INCLUDED
5 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations ▪ 8-night cruise aboard the Royal Crown ▪ 13 breakfasts, 10 lunches and 10 dinners ▪ Welcome and farewell receptions ▪ House wine, beer and soft drinks at lunch and dinner on the Royal Crown ▪ Gratuities to guides, drivers and ship crew for all group activities ▪ All tours and shore excursions as described in the itinerary ▪ Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days ▪ Port fees and embarkation taxes ▪ Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance ▪ Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information ▪ Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

NOT INCLUDED
International and U.S. domestic airfare ▪ Passport and visa fees ▪ Immunization costs ▪ Meals and beverages other than those specified as included ▪ Independent and private transfers ▪ Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance ▪ Excess-baggage charges ▪ Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

AIR ARRANGEMENTS
U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Round-trip economy-class airfare from San Francisco to Prague, Czech Republic, with return from Zurich, Switzerland, is approximately $950 per person as of September 2016 and is subject to change without notice. Information about making flight arrangements will be sent to all participants.

WHAT TO EXPECT
The pace of this program is moderately active, with at least one to two miles of walking each day on excursions. Most of the historic city centers have large segments that are closed to motor coaches, and city tours involve walking on cobblestoned streets or uneven terrain and may involve extended periods of standing in museums and churches. Stairs with handrails and elevators often are unavailable. Participants must be active, in good health and able to keep up with the group without assistance from tour staff. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.

Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold space on this program. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?rivers2017 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information offering such insurance will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered in this brochure includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written confirmation of your participation on the trip.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. A person traveling as a guest paid for by a current member will not be charged the nonmember fee. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and ship arrangements and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motor coach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. It is understood that the ship’s ticket, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the cruise company. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in September 2016 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.
European Rivers

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October 12 to 26, 2017

“Stanford Travel/Study is the only way to travel. The study part makes the travel part so rewarding.”

MARTHA HASTINGS PIWONKA, ’59, STANFORD TRAVELER

alumni.stanford.edu/goto/travelstudy