

# Stanford **TRAVEL/STUDY**

## **CRUISING THE DANUBE**

**April 8 to 17, 2022**

Spend two nights in Berlin and seven nights aboard the elegant six-star riverboat *Crystal Ravel* as we make our way from the Bavarian town of Vilshofen to Budapest, enjoying a variety of exclusive excursion options, including gallery visits, wine tastings, a dinner at a Michelin-starred restaurant in Berlin and a palace concert by members of the Vienna Philharmonic. Cruise along the majestic Danube, Europe's second-longest river, on a classic voyage that is a reinvention of the second river trip Travel/Study ever offered! Attend lectures by featured speakers Doris Kearns Goodwin, presidential historian and Pulitzer Prize-winning author, and Sylvia Poggioli, award-winning senior European correspondent for NPR's international desk—both of whom will join us for parts of the journey.

## **FACULTY LEADER**

### **Ambassador Steven Pifer**

Steven Pifer, '76, is an affiliate of Stanford's Center for International Security and Cooperation (where he was a William J. Perry research fellow from 2018–2020) and a nonresident senior fellow with the Brookings Institution (where he was a senior fellow from 2008–2017). He spent the first five months of 2021 as a fellow at the Robert Bosch Academy in Berlin. Ambassador Pifer's research includes nuclear arms control, Ukraine, Russia and European security. He has offered commentary on these issues on National Public Radio, the *PBS NewsHour*, CNN, Fox News and the BBC, and his articles have run in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *National Interest*, *Moscow Times* and *Kyiv Post*, among others. A retired Foreign Service Officer, Ambassador Pifer spent more than 25 years with the Department of State focusing on U.S. relations with the former Soviet Union and Europe, as well as arms control and security issues. He served as deputy assistant secretary of state at the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs with responsibilities for Russia and Ukraine (2001–2004), ambassador to Ukraine (1998–2000), and special assistant to the president and senior director for Russia, Ukraine and Eurasia on the National Security Council (1996–1997). In addition to Ukraine he served at the U.S. embassies in London, Moscow and Warsaw and was with the U.S. delegation to the negotiation on intermediate-range nuclear forces in Geneva. He was a visiting scholar at Stanford's Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies (2000 to 2001). On this trip, Ambassador Pifer will lecture on some of the key questions facing today's Europe and share an insider's view of his time as ambassador in Kyiv and at other foreign service posts.

## **ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS**

**Doris Kearns Goodwin** is a world-renowned presidential historian, public speaker and Pulitzer Prize-winning, *New York Times* No. 1 bestselling author. Her seventh book, *Leadership in Turbulent Times*, was published in September 2018 to critical acclaim and became an instant *New York Times* bestseller. A culmination of Goodwin's five-decade career of studying American presidents—focusing on Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin Roosevelt and Lyndon Baines Johnson—the book provides an accessible and essential road map for aspiring and established leaders in every field, and for all of us in our everyday life.

**Sylvia Poggioli** is senior European correspondent for NPR's International Desk covering political, economic, and cultural news in Italy, the Vatican, Western Europe and the Balkans. Poggioli's on-air reporting and analysis have encompassed the fall of communism in Eastern Europe, the turbulent civil war in the former Yugoslavia and how immigration has transformed European societies. Since joining NPR's Foreign Desk in 1982, Poggioli has traveled extensively for reporting assignments. These include going to Norway to cover the aftermath of the brutal attacks by a right-wing extremist; to Greece, Spain and Portugal, reporting on the eurozone crisis; and the Balkans, where the last wanted war criminals have been arrested.

## ITINERARY

Friday, April 8

### **Berlin, Germany**

Upon arrival in Berlin, check in to our hotel, then enjoy the impressive views of the city from our welcome reception and dinner at a Michelin-starred restaurant. HOTEL ADLON KEMPINSKI BERLIN (D)

Saturday, April 9

### **Berlin**

Take advantage of all this dynamic capital city has to offer, whether browsing private contemporary art galleries, indulging in delicacies from leading restaurants, or venturing to Potsdam, whose palaces and parks are part of a UNESCO World Heritage region, with vistas of the Sanssouci and Cecilienhof Palaces. Alternatively, tour the Reichstag and its iconic dome; explore the architecture of the city, featuring the Jewish Museum; or instead learn about the history of East Berlin. HOTEL ADLON KEMPINSKI BERLIN (B,L)

Sunday, April 10

### **Vilshofen an der Donau**

This morning board a privately chartered flight from Berlin to Munich, then transfer to the small port town of Vilshofen to embark our six-star ship, the *Crystal Ravel*. Stop en route for lunch in scenic riverside Regensburg. CRYSTAL RAVEL (B,L,D)

Monday, April 11

### **Passau / Salzburg, Austria**

Wake up in Passau and choose between several options for the day's excursion. Delve into the city's Roman history, viewing artifacts dating back to 750 A.D. and tasting traditional Roman fare; or take a walking tour of the Old Town and enjoy an organ recital in Saint Stephen's Cathedral, which has Europe's largest organ, boasting almost 18,000 pipes; or opt for a full-day outing to Salzburg to visit its charming Old Town, most famous for being the birthplace of Mozart. CRYSTAL RAVEL (B,L,D)

Tuesday, April 12

### **Linz / Český Krumlov, Czechia**

Our home base for the day is the enchanting city of Linz, often overshadowed by its more famous neighbors. Activities today include a walking tour and tram ride or a somber visit to the Mauthausen Concentration Camp. Others may choose a full-day excursion to the picturesque Czech town of Český Krumlov, or an active option to explore instead. CRYSTAL RAVEL (B,L,D)

Wednesday, April 13

**Grein, Austria / Melk / Wachau Valley**

Our lecture program continues during a morning of cruising. Disembark this afternoon at the World Heritage cultural landscape of Wachau Valley to stroll around Artstetten Castle (the former residence of the Hapsburgs) or wander through Melk Abbey and Melk's Old Town. Enjoy a sunset sail through the picturesque Wachau Valley before dinner on board. *CRYSTAL RAVEL* (B,L,D)

Thursday, April 14

**Vienna**

Arrive in Vienna and explore the intricate Belvedere Palace or the Imperial Schönbrunn Palace of the Hapsburg rulers, or participate in a Jewish heritage tour of the city. Alternately, choose an electric bicycle adventure along the waterways of Danube Island. This evening attend a private gala reception and concert performed by members of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra in the ornate Palais Liechtenstein. *CRYSTAL RAVEL* (B,L,D)

Friday, April 15

**Vienna / Bratislava, Slovakia**

Gather for a lecture on board, followed by a second morning of exploration in and around Vienna. Discover Klosterneuburg, a 900-year-old Augustinian monastery located just outside of Vienna or visit the Sisi Museum. Cruise midday to Slovakia's capital, Bratislava. Take an evening walking tour of Bratislava's Old Town, stopping to savor local specialties and wines. *CRYSTAL RAVEL* (B,L,D)

Saturday, April 16

**Budapest, Hungary**

Wake up in Budapest. After breakfast on board, head into town to admire the magnificent neo-Gothic Hungarian Parliament Building or go on a Jewish heritage tour of the city ending at Dohány Street Synagogue, Europe's largest. Or travel to a stable outside the city to watch a display of horsemanship and learn about the region's equestrian importance. Gather on board for a celebratory reception and farewell dinner. *CRYSTAL RAVEL* (B,L,D)

Sunday, April 17

**Budapest / Home**

Transfer to the airport for flights home or join the optional post-trip extension. (B)

**Optional Extension to Budapest**

April 17 to 18 (one additional day)

Extend your journey to experience Hungarian Easter traditions in Budapest, including *locsolkodás*, or "sprinkling the womenfolk," wherein boys throw buckets of water on girls, who repay their attention with gifts of painted eggs. More detailed information on the extension will be sent to confirmed participants.

**INFORMATION****Covid-19 and Travel**

With travel requirements and local Covid-19 conditions changing weekly, travel protocols for specific destinations will be shared with confirmed travelers closer to departure. To read more about Travel/Study’s approach to ensuring traveler health and safety, visit our [Covid-19 Travel page](#).

**Size**

This trip is limited to 93, including travelers from Stanford, Harvard, Yale, Commonwealth Club of California, National Trust Tours and the World Affairs Council. Travel/Study is committed to providing a low-density experience on all programs and will implement protocols to do so, including social distancing on transportation as well as during lectures, meals and excursions. Single accommodations are limited.

**About *Crystal Ravel***

The *Crystal Ravel* is one of the world’s best-rated river vessels, offering exceptional service from professionals chosen for their expertise and traveler care. Extraordinary personal attention is among the ship’s defining characteristics, as are plush on-board amenities, European butler service, expansive social spaces crowned with skylights and glass roofs, and an ambience of boutique elegance. The *Crystal Ravel* features all-suite, all-balcony staterooms with king-size beds and walk-in closets, a dual vanity in the bathrooms in most categories and panoramic windows. Amenities include robes and slippers; personal iPads; wall-mounted 42-inch, flat-screen HD TVs; and complimentary Wi-Fi. The *Crystal Ravel*’s farm-to-table menus are regionally inspired and sourced with the freshest ingredients from local suppliers. Multiple open-seated eateries include three restaurants and a bistro café; service includes unlimited pours of fine wines, Champagnes, premium spirits and beers. The *Crystal Ravel* has an indoor swimming pool, a full-service spa, and a fitness center equipped with cardio equipment and free weights—with dedicated professionals for service. Daily fitness and yoga classes are also provided.



**Cost\***

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

		Double	Single
<b>Category A</b>	Petite Suite (aft), Deck 2 188 square feet; panoramic balcony window	\$9,990	\$14,990
<b>Category B</b>	Petite Suite (aft), Deck 3 188 square feet; panoramic balcony window	\$11,490	\$17,290
<b>Category C</b>	Deluxe Suite (forward), Deck 2 237 square feet; panoramic balcony window	\$12,990	-
<b>Category D</b>	Deluxe Suite, Deck 2 253 square feet; panoramic balcony window	\$13,490	\$20,290
<b>Category E</b>	Deluxe Suite, Deck 3 253 square feet; panoramic balcony window	\$15,990	-
<b>Category F</b>	Crystal Penthouse, Deck 3 506 square feet; one bedroom with separate living-dining area; suitewide panoramic balcony window	\$21,490	-

\*Stanford Alumni Association nonmembers add \$300 per person.

#### Included

- Educational program with lecture series and predeparture materials, including an education resource list and travel information
- Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program
- All tours and excursions as described in the itinerary
- Gratuities to guides and drivers for all group activities
- 2 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations, 7 nights of deluxe shipboard accommodations
- 9 breakfasts, 8 lunches and 8 dinners
- Welcome and farewell receptions
- Privately chartered flight between Berlin and Munich
- Unlimited fine wines and premium spirits while on board *Crystal Ravel*
- Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days
- On-tour quarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage
- General medical, accident and evacuation insurance

#### Not Included

- Your personal flights to and from the program
- Passport and visa fees
- Immunization costs
- Meals and beverages other than those specified as included

- Independent and private transfers
- Nonquarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage
- Baggage insurance
- Excess-baggage charges
- Personal items such as internet access, telephone calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

**Air Arrangements**

You are responsible for booking and purchasing airfare to the start location and from the end location of the program. These air purchases are NOT included in the program cost. To assist you in making these independent arrangements, we will send you details with your confirmation materials on when to arrive and depart.

**What to Expect**

This is a moderately strenuous program that is at times busy and physically demanding. Daily programs can involve a mile of walking, often on uneven terrain. Stairs may not have handrails and elevators may not be available. Participants must be physically fit, active and in good health. Average temperatures are likely to range from the high 40s F to the low 70s F.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS****Eligibility**

We encourage membership in the Stanford Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is \$300 more than the members' price. The nonmember fee is waived for anyone traveling as a paid guest of a current member, as well as for emerita or emeritus faculty and staff. To purchase a membership, call (650) 725-0692 or visit [alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership](http://alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership).

**Deposits, Payments and Cancellations**

A \$1,000-per-person deposit is required to reserve space on this program. Final payment is due 120 days prior to program start. 2022 departures: Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a \$500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to program start. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and we resell your place(s), 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 general medical, accident and evacuation coverage, as well as on-tour quarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance 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 nonquarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage and/or baggage insurance. Information offering such insurance will be included in your confirmation materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your insurance within 14 days of receiving your welcome email.

**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 include arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. We reserve the right to cancel any program prior to departure, in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. We also reserve the right 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 passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance. Neither the Stanford Alumni Association, nor 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 at the time the brochure is published and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign an Assumption of Risk.

California Seller of Travel Program Registration #2048 523-50