Dear Vanderbilt Alumni and Friends,

Romantic old-world villages set among picturesque winding rivers, vineyards, and rolling hills along with vibrant cities emblematic of a rapidly transforming Europe comprise the culturally rich and historically significant threads of a memorable journey in the Czech Republic, Germany, and France.

This intriguing itinerary is bookended by two of Europe's most memorable cities—five luxurious nights in Prague and Paris—connected by the scenic Rhine and Main Rivers aboard the elegant Royal Crown from Regensburg, Germany to Strasbourg, France, and a two-hour jaunt on France’s high-speed train, the TGV. Originally River Cloud, Royal Crown is an intimate vessel just over half the size of most riverboats in the region, boasting elegant staterooms and public areas, refined cuisine, and impeccable service.

We are pleased to share this cruise with travelers from Stanford University and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Royal Crown has only 45 cabins, so to ensure your place on this voyage along legendary European waterways, I encourage you to make your reservation today.

Cary DeWitt Allyn
Director, Vanderbilt Travel Program

The Vanderbilt Travel Program strives to engage Vanderbilt alumni, parents and friends of all ages, keeping them connected with each other and the mission of Vanderbilt. Each carefully designed trip offers unparalleled educational opportunities, for an exclusive “beyond the classroom” experience.
Cruise for eight nights aboard the elegant 45-cabin Royal Crown. Barely half the size of most European riverboats, it is ideal for a smaller group experience with like-minded travelers and boasts impeccable service, excellent cuisine, and a custom-built Steinway piano.

Visit eight UNESCO World Heritage Sites: The historic centers of Prague, Regensburg, Bamberg, and Strasbourg; the Würzburg Residenz; the Upper Middle Rhine Valley; Speyer Cathedral; and the banks of the Seine in Paris.

Enjoy three days of unparalleled comfort and exploration in Prague, one of Europe’s finest cities, including a private welcome evening at a beautiful castle.

Experience private musical performances in memorable settings—Renaissance music by a talented quartet in Prague, the Bamberg String Quartet in the city’s historic residence, a children’s choir in Miltenberg, and an on-board concert by a string quartet.
Monday & Tuesday, June 8 & 9
HOME / PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC
Depart home on an overnight flight to Prague, the scenic capital and largest city of the Czech Republic. Arrive on June 9th and transfer to the Four Seasons hotel, located in a historic building along the banks of the Vltava River in Old Town.

Wednesday, June 10
PRAGUE
Discover the fairy tale-like setting of Prague's Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site, during a guided walking tour that showcases six centuries of architectural styles lining cobbled streets. Also visit the historic Jewish Quarter, which preserves the oldest synagogue in Europe and the evocative Old Jewish Cemetery. Enjoy an afternoon of independent exploration before gathering for a gala welcome reception, dinner, and private concert at a 17th-century chateau boasting panoramic views of the city.

Thursday, June 11
PRAGUE
Enjoy a special private visit to the Strahov Monastery library, with two Baroque rooms housing an impressive collection of precious ancient manuscripts. Continue with an exploration of the ancient Prague Castle complex, which dominates a hilltop above the river and offers lovely views over the city. Prague Castle, a royal residence in the 9th century, today comprises a rich variety of churches, gates, chapels, palace halls, and towers from every period of its history, including the gothic St. Vitus Cathedral, built over a 600-year period, the Old Royal Palace, with its beautiful Late-gothic Vladislav Hall, and Golden Lane, a charmingly quaint street that dates back to the 15th century. The evening is at leisure.

Friday, June 12
PRAGUE / REGENSBURG, GERMANY (EMBARK)
After breakfast, check out of the hotel and transfer by motorcoach to Regensburg. Enjoy a Bavarian-style lunch and walking tour of the beautifully-preserved and UNESCO-listed historic city center before embarking Royal Crown on the banks of the Danube River.

Saturday, June 13
NUREMBERG
Cruise through the morning and call at Nuremberg early in the afternoon. Board a panoramic coach for a driving tour of the unique old town, a maze of half-timbered buildings and gothic churches encircled by a medieval city wall. See the former Third Reich parade grounds, site of many pre-war Nazi rallies, and tour the courthouse, site of the infamous Nuremberg war crimes trials. Gather for a special briefing on the top current affairs in Germany with a reporter.

Sunday, June 14
BAMBERG
Arrive this morning in Bamberg, founded in 902 and situated on seven hills, with a network of canals winding their way around splendid baroque buildings. Enjoy a walking tour of its beautifully preserved old town and a private string quartet concert, followed by an afternoon of cruising the Main River.

Monday, June 15
ROTHENBERG / KITZINGEN
Drive through beautiful Franconian scenery to Rothenberg, one of
Germany's most beautiful and best-preserved Medieval towns. Situated on a plateau overlooking the Tauber River, the town has gardens and designs dating to 950. Enjoy a guided walking tour through Old Town and along the castle walls, to the castle gardens and the impressive patrician houses. This afternoon, enjoy a walking tour and private wine tasting in the town of Kitzingen.

ROYAL CROWN (BLD)
Tuesday, June 16
WÜRZBURG
One of the most magnificent Baroque buildings in southern Germany—the Würzburg Residenz Palace—rises high above the Main. In the 16th century, the medieval castle was converted into a magnificent palace with five grand halls, 300 bedrooms, a mirrored gallery, and an enormous, recently restored ceiling painting by Tiepolo. Remain in port for an afternoon at leisure to stroll the riverfront or seek out a distinctive bottle of the local Franconian wine.
ROYAL CROWN (BLD)

Wednesday, June 17
MILTENBERG / THE ROMANTIC RHINE
Dock this morning at Miltenberg along Bavaria’s famous Romantic Road, which runs through the medieval heart of Germany. One of Germany’s best-preserved historic towns, Miltenberg’s strategic location on a narrow strip of flat land adjacent to the Main River allowed it to develop into an important trading center through many centuries. Enjoy a walking tour among picturesque timberwork houses followed by a private organ concert in nearby Amorbach. This afternoon, cruise along the most beautiful stretch of the Romantic Rhine, a storybook landscape of medieval castles and myths. This UNESCO World Heritage site has inspired artists and composers for centuries, including the great 19th-centuryRomantics Lord Byron, Victor Hugo, and Goethe.
ROYAL CROWN (BLD)

Thursday, June 18
HEIDELBERG & SPEYER
Enjoy a guided walking tour of Heidelberg, home to a number of great poets and academics, world-famous castle ruins, and Germany’s oldest university. This afternoon visit Speyer’s acclaimed Romanesque cathedral, which houses the largest crypt in Germany.
ROYAL CROWN (BLD)

Friday, June 19
STRASBOURG, FRANCE
Cross into France and call at Strasbourg, where the European Parliament makes important decisions about the future of its member countries. Built at the intersection of several Roman roads, Strasbourg features a historic UNESCO World Heritage-designated city center with 16th-century half-timbered houses and a gothic cathedral built of red sandstone. Choose to visit and tour the European Parliament headquarters, or enjoy a private wine tasting at a winery in the Alsace countryside. After an afternoon at leisure, return to the ship to enjoy a private string quartet concert, followed by the captain’s farewell dinner.
ROYAL CROWN (BLD)
Saturday, June 20
STRASBOURG (DISEMBARK) / PARIS
Disembark and bid farewell to the Royal Crown. Meander on local boats through the canals of Strasbourg’s “Petite France,” as the former tanners’ and fishmongers’ districts are known. After an Alsatian lunch, board the TGV (high-speed train) bound for Paris. The evening is at leisure in the City of Light.
INTERCONTINENTAL PARIS LE GRAND (BLD)
Sunday, June 21
PARIS
This morning, choose between several in-depth options, including a walking tour the stylish Marais district, featuring Place des Vosges and the Picasso Museum. Or gather for a presentation and tasting led by a renowned chocolate expert, including a sampling of rare chocolates, followed by a private visit to a master chocolatier shop. The afternoon is free for independent exploration before a festive farewell reception and dinner.
INTERCONTINENTAL PARIS LE GRAND (BD)
Monday, June 22
PARIS / HOME
Transfer to the airport for flights home.
With the nostalgic charm of a glamorous 1930s yacht and the comfort and service of a four-star vessel, the elegant 45-stateroom Royal Crown is perfect for cruising European waterways. Spacious teak decks blend with elegant public rooms and staterooms appointed with mahogany, rosewood, and marble, rich fabrics, and specially designed furniture. All passenger cabins face outside with picture windows (Panorama Deck) or two large portholes (Select Deck) for expansive views. The cabins are fully air-conditioned and heated with individual climate control and have a flat-screen television, ample wardrobe space and bedside drawers for storage, and a small combination safe. En suite bathrooms are equipped with a shower and hair dryer. Public amenities include a library with complimentary wifi (intermittent), boutique, elegant Art Deco-inspired lounge with panoramic views, and a dining room with open seating. The Lido Deck features a large sun deck running almost the entire length of the vessel, the Lido bar, a putting green, and a large-scale chessboard.
Rhine Valley

Terms & Conditions

Complete Terms and Conditions including Statement of Responsibility will be made available to you at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed "Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause" is required from each applicant prior to participation on the tour.

Reservations & Payments

A deposit of $1,000 per person is required to reserve space on this program. You may complete the reservation form included in this brochure and mail it with your check (payable to Criterion Travel) or credit card information to: Vanderbilt Travel Program, Office of Alumni Relations, PMB 407735, 2301 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville, TN 37240-7735. If you have questions, please call 615-322-3673 or email: alumni.travel@vanderbilt.edu.

Cancellations & Refunds

 Upon payment of the $1,000 per person deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below, and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be in effect until they are received in writing and confirmed by the Vanderbilt Travel Program. Deposits are refundable (less a $250 per person administration fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of registration; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. Cancellations after final payment deadline of February 10, 2020: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. NOTE: Neither the Vanderbilt Travel Program nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalties incurred with the purchase of nonrefundable tickets.

Itinerary Changes

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by the Vanderbilt Travel Program and Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, the Vanderbilt Travel Program and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

California Seller of Travel Program

CST #2058860-80

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To reserve a place, please complete and return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person by credit card or with an enclosed check (made payable to Criterion Travel) to: Office of Alumni Relations, PMB 407735, 2301 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville, TN 37240-7735.

Questions? Please contact the Vanderbilt University Travel Program at 615-322-3673 or email: alumni.travel@vanderbilt.edu

NAME #1 (as on passport) BIRTHDATE

NAME #2 (as on passport) BIRTHDATE

STREET ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP / POSTAL CODE

HOME PHONE MOBILE PHONE

E-MAIL(s)

PAYMENT

O Please charge the deposit to my credit card (circle one):

VISA MC AMEX Discover

NAME ON CREDIT CARD

CARD # EXP. DATE SECURITY CODE

SIGNATURE AS IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD

DATE

O Enclosed is my check for $_______ ($1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel)

to reserve _____ place(s) on Journey from Prague to Paris

SINGLE TRAVELERS

O I prefer to have single accommodations.

OR O I plan to share accommodations with:

OR O I'd like to know about roommates

I am a O Non-smoker O Smoker

I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of February 10, 2020, I will pay the single rate.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Cabin category preference:

1st Choice ______________ 2nd Choice ______________

Bed Preference (not guaranteed): O One bed O Two beds

I/We have read the Terms & Conditions section of this brochure and understand and agree with them as stated herein:

SIGNATURE

DATE

SIGNATURE

DATE
Journey from PRAGUE to PARIS
aboard Royal Crown
June 8–22, 2020