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October 1 to 9, 2015

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ELBE RIVER

RIVER LIFE®

Prague • Dresden • Meissen • Leipzig • Wittenberg • Potsdam • Berlin cruising aboard the exclusively chartered M.S. SWISS RUBY with Professor Alan Shapiro

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Dear Alumni & Friends:

Come discover the true essence of life along the Elbe River, a land of incomparable treasures and timeless traditions, on this custom-designed journey through the hidden gem of the Elbe River Valley—experience the Baroque palaces of Dresden and the medieval river towns of Saxony, the captivating beauty of Bohemia and the splendid castles of Prague.

Enjoy this comprehensive itinerary aboard the exclusively chartered small river ship M.S. SWISS RUBY, the best vessel to cruise the Elbe River. Nearly half the size of typical European river vessels, it provides an intimate experience and personalized service.

Walk in the footsteps of Johann Sebastian Bach, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Richard Wagner through the grand concert halls where they premiered many of their greatest works, and down the lane leading to the church door in Wittenberg to which Martin Luther nailed his profoundly influential list of 95 Theses. Cruise during the daylight through the stunning mountainous countryside known as the "Switzerland" of Saxony, which has played host to a colorful cast of historic figures from Otto the Great and August the Strong to Frederick the Wise.

Explore historic landmarks along the cobblestone streets of rarely visited medieval towns, enjoy specially arranged, private, enriching lectures and experience the exclusive RIVER LIFE FORUM[®] with local residents who share personal perspectives of the area's contemporary life and cultural heritage. Delve into the Elbe River Valley's history, traditions and artistic legacy; visit four UNESCO World Heritage sites; sample locally brewed beers and observe centuries-old porcelain artisanship.

RIVER LIFE[®] along the Elbe River is an excellent value—it includes all accommodations and meals, exclusive CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS and specially designed excursions. I encourage you to book now while Early Booking Savings and space are available!

Cordially,

Marguente Ingella fores

Marguerite Ingalls Jones, A&S '74, Bus '88 Travel Program Director Office of Alumni Relations The Johns Hopkins University

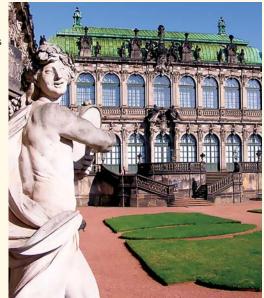


Study Leader

Alan Shapiro is Professor of Classics and W. H. Collins Vickers Professor of Archaeology in the Department of Classics at Johns Hopkins.

A fluent German speaker, he has been a Visiting Professor at the University of Munich and has lectured at more than a dozen German and Austrian universities. He has enjoyed extended research leaves in Cologne, Berlin, Freiburg, Würzburg and other university towns and traveled widely throughout Germany. His particular interests in Middle European culture include Wagnerian opera, German Renaissance painting and sculpture, the history of Lutheranism and German regional cuisines.

Cover photo: Stroll across Charles Bridge between Prague's medieval Old Town and its Baroque Little Quarter.



Visit the splendid Baroque Zwinger Palace and its renowned Old Masters Gallery in Dresden.





The true character of Saxony is best discovered on this exclusive small group journey to UNESCO World Heritage sites in the great historic cities of Prague and Berlin, Martin Luther's Wittenberg and the palaces in Potsdam, and to the small villages and hilltop fortresses throughout the scenic Elbe River Valley. Enjoy an enriching travel experience like no other, including one or more specially designed excursions each day while cruising, comfortable accommodations and all meals. Interact with

local people and immerse yourself in the rhythm of daily life along the river; explore the region's history, culture, language and cuisine; discover its epochal art and architecture, historic religious reformation, political legacies and the musical traditions of Bach, Mozart and Wagner; and unpack just once! This popular program is one of the VILLAGE LIFE[®] series, a comprehensive and intimate travel experience at just the right pace.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS are specially arranged and available on this custom-designed itinerary:

- Experience the historic Old Town of Prague, the medieval towns of Saxony, the captivating beauty of Bohemia along the Elbe River Valley and the Baroque palaces of Dresden.
- Immerse yourself in a carefully planned, balanced itinerary of included guided historical and cultural excursions and time on your own to discover and observe the heart and soul of river life along the Elbe.
- Discover the arts and culture of this region during exclusive, specially arranged live musical interludes—a performance of Bach's music, Leipzig; a recital of Mozart's masterpieces, Estates Theatre, Prague; and a German folklore dance presentation, Dresden.
- Explore Dresden's incomparable Semper Opera House and the world-famous Meissen Porcelain Museum.
- Visit Wittenberg's Luther House and Schlosskirche and learn about Martin Luther and his lasting effects on Christianity and Western history.
- Engage local *Einwohner* (residents) during the RIVER LIFE FORUM[®] where they share their candid perspectives on contemporary life in Saxony.
- Hear it from the Experts! Experienced, English-speaking local guides will accompany you throughout the program and discuss historical, cultural and contemporary Germany and the Czech Republic.
- Savor the world-renowned flavors of Czech and German beers during a specially arranged tasting.
- Learn key German phrases to make your interactions with local residents all the more enjoyable.



Admire the dramatic cliffs and sweeping landscapes of Saxony's Elbe River Valley, a part of Europe known as the "Saxon Switzerland" for its spellbinding beauty. Inset above: Saxony's coat of arms.

ALL-INCLUSIVE ITINERARY

Day

- PRAGUE[®] Pre-Cruise Option
- 1 Depart the U.S.
- 2 PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC/ Embark M.S. SWISS RUBY.
- 3 PRAGUE
 - Walking tour of Old Town and the Old Jewish Quarter.
 - CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:
 - Specially arranged, private tour of the Estates Theatre and a Mozart recital.
- 4 Königstein, Germany
 Excursion to Königstein Fortress. CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:
 • Comment Engeneration
 - German language introduction.
- 5 Dresden
 - Visit to Zwinger Palace's
 - Alte Meister picture gallery.
 - Walking tour of historic Dresden.
 - CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:
 - Informative River Life Forum®.
 - Backstage tour of the Semper Opera House.
 - German folklore dance performance.
- 6 MEISSEN
 - CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:
 - Guided tour of the world-famous Meissen Porcelain Museum.
- 7 TORGAU FOR LEIPZIG/WITTENBERG®
 - Tour of Leipzig's renowned St. Thomas Church.
 - Walking tour of Wittenberg.
 - CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:
 - Performance of Bach's music in St. Thomas Church.
 - Visits to the historic Luther House and the 15th-century Schlosskirche.
- 8 Potsdam®
 - Tour of opulent Sanssouci Palace.
 - Visit to Cecilienhof Palace—the site of the historic Potsdam Conference.
 CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:
 - Special tasting of locally brewed beer.
- 9 BERLIN[®]/Disembark ship. Return to the U.S.
- BERLIN Post-Cruise Option



Prague

The "City of a Thousand Spires"with its splendid combination of Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque buildingsis a UNESCO World Heritage site showcasing 600 years of virtually untouched architecture. Following the Czech Republic's Velvet Revolution (1989), which heralded the end of the Soviet era, the city of Prague has undergone a grand resurgence. Thriving local businesses and lively cafés line the narrow lanes of the city's Staré Město (Old Town), and in its heart stands the magnificent Old Town Hall, originally established in the 1300s and home to the oldest working astronomical clock in the world, the 15th-century Pražský Orloj.

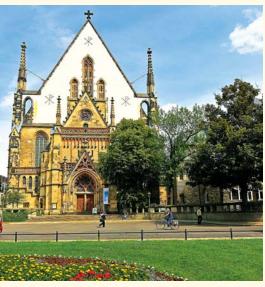
The city's fascinating Josefov, the Old Jewish Quarter, has been a major center of Jewish culture for 1000 years the impressive Old-New Synagogue is the oldest extant synagogue in Europe. In the Jewish Cemetery, see thousands of headstones that reflect over 300 years of Jewish history.

Königstein Fortress

In the 13th century, to secure his hold of the Elbe River Valley, King Wenceslaus I of Bohemia had this impressive and



Stroll Dresden's magnificent promenades along the banks of the Elbe River and admire its architectural treasures, including the impressive Baroque Dresden Cathedral and the elaborate 18th-century Frauenkirche.



Johann Sebastian Bach is interred at Leipzig's 13th-century St. Thomas Church, where he served as cantor for 27 years.

nearly impregnable fortress constructed atop a 1000-foot-high mountain overlooking "Saxon Switzerland." Today, it flanks the German/Czech border and features breathtaking vistas of mountains, dense forests and imposing sandstone cliffs. The Königstein complex comprises more than 40 buildings and structures from barracks and bakeries to churches, stables and dungeons, and retains more than 700 years of architectural history and fascinating insights into life during the Middle Ages.

Dresden

Hailed as the "Florence of the North" for its exquisite Baroque architecture, Dresden has been Saxony's preeminent center of wealth and power since the House of Wettin divided lands in 1485. Today, after decades of German reunification and meticulous restoration, Dresden's opera house, palaces and cathedrals stand resplendent, and the city has reclaimed its mantle as one of Europe's foremost centers of culture and art. Its opulent Zwinger Palace houses a spectacular collection of works by Old Masters, including Raphael's famous Sistine Madonna. Tour the Old Town to see the magnificent Frauenkirche and the 334-foot-long porcelain Fürstenzug mural depicting the noblemen of the House of Wettin.

Meissen

Legend holds that in 1710, the fabled August the Strong—Elector of Saxony and King of Poland—commanded his alchemists to discover the secret of making gold. They inadvertently created the formula for porcelain, which transformed Meissen into one of the richest towns in Saxony. For nearly 200 years, porcelain was produced in Europe's first porcelain factory located in the Elector's castle, the Albrechtsburg, a magnificent Gothic cathedral and a classic medieval castle.

Leipzig

Leipzig is celebrated as one of the major European centers of learning and culture. Richard Wagner was born here (1813), and Robert Schumann, Felix Mendelssohn and Gustav Mahler all achieved acclaim in Leipzig. Perhaps the most lasting influence on the city's music history is Johann Sebastian Bach, who served as cantor (1723 to 1750) for the boys' choir at St. Thomas Church, where you will enjoy a specially arranged performance of the composer's masterpieces.

Wittenberg

This historic, charming town on the banks of the Elbe River is best known for Martin Luther, who profoundly changed the Christian world and the course of Western history when he nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Schlosskirche ("Castle Church") in 1517. Although the original door is gone, the church still stands and contains the tombs of several historic figures, including Luther himself and the Great Elector, Frederick the Wise,



Albrechtsburg's vast fortified castle has been a symbol of Meissen for more than five centuries.



M.S. SWISS RUBY

There is no better way to visit the towns and villages along Germany's historic Elbe River than by cruising aboard the exclusively chartered **M.S. Swiss Ruby**. This intimate, fully air-conditioned vessel features only 44 cabins and is the best river ship cruising the Elbe River.

Each outside cabin offers panoramic views with a floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door

Double cabin with French balcony (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door).

(Ruby Deck) or a large window (Emerald Deck). Cabins are tastefully furnished in classic decor and feature one double bed on Ruby Deck, two twin beds on Emerald Deck, private bathroom with shower, individual climate control, radio, television, minibar, safe and hair dryer.

The ship's spacious dining room accommodates all passengers at a single, unassigned seating for buffet breakfast, lunch and four-course dinner. Complimentary house wine and beer are included with lunch and dinner. Afternoon tea is served daily. Meals are skillfully prepared by European chefs and feature international cuisine and local specialties.

The ship's public spaces include an inviting lounge and bar with panoramic windows, comfortable reading area equipped with books and games, boutique and sun deck with reclining deck chairs.

The professional, international English-speaking crew provides attentive service. The ship is equipped with a state-of-the-art navigation system, meets all safety standards and is ecologically friendly.

who presided over the town's cultural and intellectual zenith during the Reformation. Wittenberg also holds a place in the literary canon as the fictional characters of Hamlet and Dr. Faustus both attended its famous university.

Potsdam

Prussian kings and German kaisers developed Potsdam's magnificent parks and gardens filled with the grand oaks for which the city is famous. In July of 1945, Winston Churchill, Harry S. Truman and Joseph Stalin met for the historic Potsdam Conference to determine post-World War II country borders at Cecilienhof Palace, now a UNESCO World Heritage site. Nearby, Frederick the Great constructed his splendid Sanssouci Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage site and a beautiful example of 18th-century Rococo architecture, set on 700 acres of sculptured gardens and parkland.

Berlin

The metropolis of Berlin has seen Napoleon, Bismarck, the German kaisers and Allied forces vie for European and world power. Today, the reunified city has emerged with many of its magnificent landmarks intact, including the iconic Brandenburg Gate, State Opera House, Humboldt University and Gendarmenmarkt Square. The genius of the city's past and present residents— Felix Mendelssohn and Albert Einstein once called Berlin home—is evident in the art, architecture and flourishing culture on every corner.

Included Features

On board the intimate,

exclusively chartered M.s. Swiss Ruby

- Seven-night cruise from Prague, Czech Republic, to Berlin, Germany, with port calls at Königstein, Dresden, Meissen, Torgau for Leipzig, Wittenberg and Potsdam, Germany.
- Comfortable outside accommodations with private bathroom and individual climate control.
- Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- Breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner are served daily, each in a single, unassigned seating.
- House wine and beer are included with lunch and dinner.

Expert-Guided Excursions

- Walking tour of Prague, a UNESCO World Heritage site, through the Staré Město (Old Town) and Josefov (Old Jewish Quarter).
- Tour of the medieval fortifications of Königstein Fortress.
- Walking tour of magnificent Dresden, the "Florence of the North."
- Guided visit to see Zwinger Palace's impressive "Old Masters" Gallery collection in Dresden.
- Tour of Leipzig's St. Thomas Church, where Johann Sebastian Bach served as cantor.
- Walking tour of Wittenberg's historic sites.
- Excursion in Potsdam to visit the 10th-century Cecilienhof Palace and the Rococo Sanssouci Palace, both UNESCO World Heritage sites.

Exclusive Cultural Enrichments

- Specially arranged performance of Bach's music in Leipzig's St. Thomas Church.
- Exclusive, private, behind-the-scenes tour of Prague's Estates Theatre, featuring a short recital of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's music.
- Specially arranged, exclusive backstage tour of the Semper Opera House in Dresden.
- Special guided visits to the Schlosskirche and Luther House in Wittenberg, UNESCO World Heritage sites.
- Tour of Meissen's world-famous Porcelain Museum, followed by a demonstration of porcelain craftsmanship.
- Exclusive RIVER LIFE FORUM[®] with local residents who will discuss contemporary life in Saxony.
- Specially arranged German folklore dance performance.
- Special tasting of German and Czech beers on board.
- German language introduction.

Enhanced Travel Services

• Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).

- All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced local guides.
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions.
- Hospitality desk aboard ship.
- The services of an experienced Gohagan & Company Program Director throughout the program.
- Complimentary state-of-the-art audio headset for each participant during guided excursions.
- Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.
- Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.



The 14th-century Bridge Tower on the Old Town side of Prague's Charles Bridge is one of Europe's most striking examples of High Gothic architecture.

Prague • Berlin

Prague Pre-Cruise Option Prague, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the Czech Republic's elegant capital city, is known as the "City of a Thousand Spires" for its splendid Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque architecture. During exclusive included excursions, explore the vast complex of palaces, churches and towers of Hradčany, the residence of Bohemian royalty and center of political power for more than 1000 years; tour Nelahozeves Castle, home to a priceless collection of rare art and antiques, including manuscripts by Beethoven and Gluck; and visit the Antonín Dvořák Museum, former residence of the legendary composer. Accommodations are for two nights in the ideally located, deluxe INTERCONTINENTAL PRAHA hotel.

Berlin Post-Cruise Option

Berlin, Germany's reunified capital, is one of Europe's preeminent centers of history, art and music and is known for its world-class museums, grand opera and eclectic architecture. Exclusive tours visit the Pergamon Museum, exhibiting relics of ancient Babylon; the Gemäldegalerie, known for its leading collection of magnificent 13th- to 18th-century European masterpieces; and the Wall Museum at Checkpoint Charlie, the former border crossing between East and West Berlin. Spend two nights in Berlin's centrally located, Five-Star THE WESTIN GRAND, BERLIN hotel. *Pre- and Post-Cruise Options are available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*

Admire Babylon's reconstructed sixth-century B.C. Ishtar Gate, including original glazed bricks, in Berlin's Pergamon Museum.



M.S. SWISS RUBY

- Ruby Deck

- Emerald Deck

LAND/CRUISE TARIFF (per person, based on double occupancy)						
Cabin Category*	Description - All accommodations are outside with two twin b or one double bed, private bathroom with shower, climate contr television, radio, mini bar, safe and hair dryer.		Early Booking Price through March 20, 2015	Regular Price after March 20, 2015		
6	One large picture window, two twin beds convertible to one double bed. <i>Emerald Deck, aft.</i>		\$3995	\$4995		
5	One large picture window, two twin beds convertible to one double bed. <i>Emerald Deck, forward.</i>		\$4595	\$5595		
4	One large picture window, two twin beds convertible to one double bed. <i>Emerald Deck.</i>		\$5195	\$6195		
3	French balcony (expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door with railing), one double bed. <i>Ruby Deck, aft.</i>		\$5395	\$6395		
2	French balcony (expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door with railing), one double bed. <i>Ruby Deck, forward.</i>		\$5995	\$6995		
1 French balcony (expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door with railing), one double bed. <i>Ruby Deck.</i>			\$6495	\$7495		
• Singles are available in category 4 at \$9395 and in category 1 at \$10095 on or before March 20, 2015. Add \$1000 for reservations made after March 20, 2015.						
• Taxes are an additional \$395 per person and are subject to change.						
*M.S. SWISS RUBY has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.						
(RIVER LIFE*) ALONG THE ELBE RIVER RESERVATION FORM						
Send to:	2015 River Life along the Elbe River		ase make my/our Cabin Category:	r reservation(s)		
	The Johns Hopkins University c/o Thomas P. Gohagan & Company		Choice 2n	d Choice		
	209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500 Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446		Double occupancy (two twin beds).			
For Johns Hopkins related questions, please call 800-548-5481 or 410-516-0363.			 Double occupancy (one double bed). 			
			Single accommoda	ations.		
Title Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport) Class Year			□ I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).			
Title Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport) Class Year						
Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)			Please make my/our reservation(s): Prague Pre-Cruise Option Double at \$635 per person.			
City	State ZIP Code	□ Single at \$1095 per person.				
Telephone:	(Home) (Mobile)	I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot				
Email Addr	ess (Business)	be guaranteed). Berlin Post-Cruise Option				
Droforred N	Vame(s) on Badge(s) Tour No. 103-10/01/15-051		Double at \$795 p	er person.		
-	Name(s) on Badge(s) Tour No. 103-10/01/15-051 eservations require a deposit of \$600 per person and		Single at \$1295 pe	*		
\$200 per person Prague Pre-Cruise Option and/or \$200 per person Berlin Post-Cruise Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.			I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).			
Enclosed is my/our check(s) for \$ as deposit. Make checks payable to 2015 River Life along the Elbe River.			I/We want you to my/our air from	book		
□ I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of \$ to: □ Visa □ MasterCard			(fill in departure city) to Prague, Czech Republic, with			
Card Number Exp. Date			return from Berlin, Germany, at an additional cost to be advised. [‡] Class: □ Economy □ Business □ First			
	Signature as it appears on credit card	 Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable. I/we will make my/our own air arrangements. 				
	L PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or fer by June 26, 2015.					
One member of the traveling party is required to make a sustaining financial contribution of \$50 or more to the Johns Hopkins Alumni Association within the fiscal year. Please visit www.alumni.jhu.edu/support.						

Note: A small portion of the cost of your trip supports the Johns Hopkins Alumni Travel Program.



Today, the historic Brandenburg Gate is not only a symbol of Germany's divided past, but also of European unity and peace.

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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 failure of

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require special medical attention or physical assistance (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Travelers must be able to embark or disembark motorcoaches alone or with minimal assistance from your traveling companion and climb stairs and step over raised thresholds without assistance. Travelers requiring assistance must travel with a companion who will be responsible for handling equipment. DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS: Discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of Gohagan in writing, accompanied by the required deposit, by March 20, 2015. In the event a "discounted" reservation must be cancelled, no "replacement" reservation can be substituted at the discounted rate. A "replacement" reservation a new reservation and can be substituted only at the full-fare tariff. Cancellation penalties may apply.

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applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply. **TRIP INSURANCE:** Because our cancellation policies are strictly enforced, we strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available through Gohagan and others for comprehensive coverage of such expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident, and damaged or lost luggage. We will send you an application upon receipt of your reservation. your reservation. RATES: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing

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