The Association of Former Students, Texas A&M

**The Great Journey through Europe**

The Netherlands • Germany • France • Switzerland
cruising aboard the Deluxe *M.S. Amadeus Princess*
featuring the *Glacier Express*
July 7-17, 2015
Howdy, Ags!

We invite you to join us on this Great Journey through Europe, a trip of a lifetime and opportunity to recreate a large part of the traditional 17th-, 18th- and 19th-century “Grand Tour.” Travel through four countries and the western heart of the continent on this carefully planned, exclusive itinerary. Cruise Holland’s waterways, surrounded by polder land reclaimed from the North Sea, and the fairy-tale beauty of the UNESCO-designated Rhine River and its Rheingau wine region. Experience three of the world’s legendary railways and visit four more important UNESCO World Heritage sites.

Spend two nights in lovely Lucerne in the Five-Star HOTEL SCHWEIZERHOF, where glorious panoramas surround you. Then, cross the mountainous backbone of Switzerland aboard the celebrated, ingeniously engineered Glacier Express, and in Zermatt, marvel at the iconic Matterhorn as you travel aboard the Gornergrat Bahn, the country’s oldest cog railway. From Zermatt, travel overland through the verdant countryside of Switzerland to Basel. Stop in the medieval gem of Berne and in Interlaken, scenically situated near the magnificent Bernese Oberland Alps.

The exclusively chartered deluxe M.S. AMADEUS PRINCESS, one of the finest ships sailing Europe’s waterways, provides our accommodations en route from Basel, Switzerland, to Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Port calls along the way include the lovely Alsatian city of Strasbourg, France, a fusion of both French and German cultures, and Rüdesheim, Koblenz, Cologne and Mannheim for Heidelberg, Germany.

Please join us on this extraordinary Great Journey through Europe, an excellent value with all excursions and deluxe accommodations included. We encourage you to reserve now as capacity is limited and this popular program sells out quickly! Early Booking Savings are available only through January 9, 2015.

Gig ’em!

Jennifer Bohac ’87, Ph.D.
Director of Travel Programs
Traveling Aggies
Phone: (979) 845-7514
or (800) 633-7514
Fax: (979) 845-9263

No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by our tour supplier.
U.S./Zurich, Switzerland/Lucerne Day 1 and Day 2
Depart the U.S. for Zurich. Following your morning arrival, enjoy a scenic motorcoach transfer to Lucerne, where you will check into the lakeside, Five-Star HOTEL SCHWEIZERHOF LUCERNE and join your travel companions for the Welcome Reception.

Lucerne Day 3
A long-favored destination of travelers, Lucerne is set against the backdrop of its deep blue lake and the rugged grandeur of Mounts Pilatus and Rigi. Begin your morning walking tour in the Weinmarkt (wine market), surrounded by historic burghers’ houses. See the Hofkirche (Court Church), one of the finest examples of German Renaissance architecture, and the Lion Monument, dedicated to the Swiss Guards who gave their lives defending Louis XVI during the French Revolution. Walk across Lucerne’s most famous landmark, the delightful, 14th-century wooden Chapel Bridge, which spans the Reuss River and is adorned with 17th-century paintings.

Ascend Mount Pilatus by panoramic gondola to its 7000-foot summit for a magnificent 360-degree panoramic view of central Switzerland’s mountains, forests and lakes. Enjoy lunch in a summit restaurant followed by free time. Board the Pilatus Railway, the world’s steepest cogwheel railway, then descend more than 5300 feet in less than three miles on return to the shores of Lake Lucerne, where you will enjoy a scenic lake cruise.

Lucerne/Andermatt/Zermatt Day 4
Relax during a scenic transfer from Lucerne to Andermatt. Lunch is included in Andermatt before you board the fabled Glacier Express, “the world’s slowest fast train.” Travel through the heart of the Alps, where the natural beauty of the mountains rivals the skill and ingenuity of the engineers who created this challenging rail route—requiring the construction of more than 290 bridges and 90 tunnels.

Arrive in the Alpine resort of Zermatt, dramatically located beneath the pinnacle of the iconic Matterhorn. Check into the chalet-style HOTEL ALEX and enjoy dinner in the hotel.

Zermatt Day 5
Today, travel aboard the famous Gornergrat Bahn, the highest cog railway in Europe. Ascend through pine and larch forests and cross meadows ablaze with wildflowers to the 10,000-foot-high Gornergrat. From the observatory atop the Gornergrat, look out over sweeping vistas of Europe’s most breathtaking Alpine scenery—the serrated profiles of the Matterhorn, the Liskamm and Dufourspitze mountains and vast Gorner Glacier. Return to Zermatt at your leisure, with the option to stop en route at Riffelberg for the panoramic view of Monte Rosa and the majestic Matterhorn. Enjoy dinner in the hotel this evening.

Zermatt/Interlaken/Berne/ Basel Day 6
After breakfast in the hotel, continue on through one of the most stunning areas of Switzerland, the spectacular

Cover photo: View the unforgettable peaks of the iconi Matterhorn from the top of the highest cog railway in Europe, the world-renowned Gornergrat Bahn.

Photo this page: Medieval castles and bucolic terraced vineyards capture the romance of Germany’s legendary Rhine Valley.
Bernese Oberland, traveling from the snow-crowned heights of the Alps to subtropical lowlands. Admire the impressive natural treasures of soaring, jagged, snow-capped mountain peaks, green, rolling hills, crystal-clear glacial lakes and densely wooded forests.

Stop in the charming resort town of Interlaken, located between Lake Thun and Lake Brienz. Here, you will find the perfect vantage point for admiring the towering Jungfrau, an imposing summit in the Bernese Alps known as the “Top of Europe.”

Transfer across the rolling Swiss countryside to Berne, Switzerland’s historic capital, and visit the Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site and beautifully preserved medieval gem noted for its arcaded sidewalks. Have lunch in a traditional Bernese restaurant.

In Basel, embark the ship and join fellow participants this evening for the Captain’s Welcome Reception and Dinner.

Strasbourg, France
Day 7

The lively Alsatian city of Strasbourg fuses the Old and New Europe. The Old City, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is a treasure trove of medieval houses, and the charming Ponts-Couverts, covered bridges flanked by watchtowers at each end, span the picturesque canals. It was in Strasbourg that John Calvin first established a reformed parish. See remnants of the Reformation in the beautiful Protestant and Catholic Church of St-Pierre-le-Vieux; and see the graceful sandstone Catholic Cathedral of Notre Dame, a Romanesque-Gothic masterpiece that, according to the poet Goethe, rises “like a most sublime, wide-arching tree of God.”

In the Petite-France district, the historic millers’, tanners’ and fishermen’s quarter along the Ill River, the fairy-tale look of a past era lives on, while nearby, 28 nations engage in the daily discourse of the European Union Parliament.

Enjoy lunch aboard ship. The afternoon is free for independent pursuits.

Mannheim, Germany for Heidelberg
Day 8

This morning, from Mannheim, transfer to Heidelberg, where luminaries such as Goethe and Schumann came to experience the intellectual atmosphere of Heidelberg University, Germany’s oldest, founded in 1386. To many on the “Grand Tour” of Europe, fashionable in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, Heidelberg epitomized Germany, nestled in the densely wooded valley of the Neckar River and alive with the spirit of German Romanticism. Heidelberg has preserved its authentic Renaissance-Baroque character, including the eight remaining arches of the famous Alte Brücke (Old Bridge) that
span the Neckar River. Visit imposing Heidelberg Castle, a magnificent, 13th-century edifice perched above the river. The stately ruins preserve Heidelberg’s links to its medieval past.

Reboard the ship and cruise through the Rheingau, Germany’s most famous wine-growing region, known particularly for its Riesling.

Rüdesheim/Koblenz
Day 9
Go ashore in the medieval town of Rüdesheim, the heart of Germany’s wine country. Enjoy a tour aboard the unique Winzerexpress mini-train, traveling through bucolic countryside vineyards en route to a private tasting of German wines.

Cruise through the spectacular Rhine River Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site, legendary for its scenery and riverside architectural treasures. Be on deck for a front row view of the steep terraced vineyards rising on the slopes of the riverbanks. With each bend in the river, a medieval castle crowns the crags and a tranquil village nestles along its banks. See the famous Lorelei Rock—legend holds that a beautiful siren lured sailors here with her enchanting song.

Dock this afternoon in Koblenz, strategically positioned at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers and where Germany’s Roman past dates to nine B.C., during the reign of Augustus Caesar. From the famous Deutsches Eck (German Corner), view the impressive 19th-century fortress of Ehrenbreitstein—once the residence of the powerful Archbishop-Electors of Trier—across the Rhine River, and enjoy a walking tour of this historic city. The twin-towered Basilica of St. Castor, built between the ninth and 13th centuries, features the Rhinelands distinctive Romanesque architecture.

Cologne
Day 10
One of Germany’s most ancient cities, Cologne was founded as a Roman military outpost in 38 B.C. From the time of Charlemagne to present day, it has flourished as the Rhineland’s foremost mercantile and religious center and is the birthplace of the original world-famous Eau De Cologne perfume. Explore the Altstadt (Old Town) and visit the historic Kölner Dom (cathedral), a UNESCO World Heritage site and the finest example of High Gothic architecture in Germany; its construction began in 1248 and lasted for six centuries. Among its artistic treasures are the Milan Madonna and the Shrine of the Three Holy Kings.

Enjoy the afternoon cruising along the picturesque Rhine River. This evening, attend the Captain’s Farewell Dinner.

Amsterdam, The Netherlands/U.S.
Day 11
Following breakfast, disembark the ship and continue on the Amsterdam Post-Program or depart for the U.S.

Cruise beautiful Lake Lucerne and enjoy picturesque views of its fjord-like landscape, Mounts Pilatus and Rigi in the distance and its four surrounding cantons of Lucerne, Schwyz, Unterwalden and Uri.
Amsterdam Post-Program Option

The historic heart of Amsterdam, laced with tree-shaded canals and stately 16th- and 17th-century merchant houses, is a UNESCO World Heritage site and the perfect conclusion to your Great Journey. Visit the world-class Rijksmuseum and enjoy a full-day excursion to the quaint port towns of Edam, world-famous for its cheese, and Hoorn, where the historic and modern coexist happily. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe RENAISSANCE AMSTERDAM HOTEL.

The Post-Program Option is available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

M.S. AMADEUS PRINCESS

The elegance and romance of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s music was inspiration in the meticulous crafting of the M.S. AMADEUS PRINCESS, which features the comforts of a floating deluxe hotel. This exclusively chartered ship offers 80 deluxe river-view, air-conditioned, stylishly appointed Suites (up to 236 square feet) and Staterooms (from 161 square feet), among the most spacious of any European river ship. Most accommodations feature a French balcony (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with iron railing). Each has two twin beds (convertible to one queen-size bed), a private bathroom with shower (Suites have bathtub with shower), individual climate control, telephone and television, writing desk, safe and hair dryer.

Freshly prepared continental meals featuring local ingredients are served in single, unassigned seatings in the delightfully scenic Panorama Restaurant and include early-risers’ coffee, buffet breakfast and lunch, afternoon tea, four-course dinner and late-evening snack. Complimentary wine and beer are served with lunch and dinner.

Public facilities are spacious and include the Panorama Bar, Lido Bar, Amadeus-Club with library, beauty salon, boutique, fitness studio with massage services and early morning exercise classes. The Sun Deck has an outdoor dipping pool, golf putting green and walking track. Guests will also appreciate the complimentary audio headset available to all passengers for listening enhancement during shore excursions. Laundry service is available.

The English-speaking, international crew provides warm hospitality. The M.S. AMADEUS PRINCESS meets the highest safety standards and is one of the only European river ships to have been awarded the “Green Certificate” of environmental preservation.

Amsterdam's charming bridges and picturesque, UNESCO-designated canals bring the intimacy of a small town to one of Europe’s most celebrated cities.
Included Features

◆ Ten-day program, including a five-night Rhine River cruise and four nights in the Swiss Alps, featuring the celebrated Glacier Express.

In Lucerne
◆ Two nights in the Five-Star Hotel Schweizerhof Lucerne, with Swiss breakfast each morning.
◆ Welcome Reception.
◆ Walking tour of historic Lucerne.
◆ Awe-inspiring, panoramic Mount Pilatus gondola ascent with lunch at the summit, and descent aboard the sensational Pilatus Railway, the world’s steepest cogwheel train.
◆ Scenic cruise on Lake Lucerne.

Scene transfer from Lucerne to Andermatt, followed by lunch and one of the great rail journeys of the world aboard the legendary Glacier Express en route to Zermatt.

In Zermatt
◆ Two nights in the traditional, first-class, chalet-style Hotel Alex, with Swiss breakfast each morning.
◆ Two dinners with house wine in the hotel.
◆ Rail journey aboard the scenic Gornergrat Bahn, one of the most picturesque train rides in the world, for breathtaking views of the great Matterhorn.

Scene motorcoach transfer from Zermatt to Basel, with stops en route in the idyllic village of Interlaken and Switzerland’s historical capital of Berne. Tour Berne’s Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site, with lunch in a traditional Bernese restaurant.

On board the exclusively chartered, deluxe M.S. Amadeus Princess
◆ Five-night cruise from Basel, Switzerland, to Amsterdam, The Netherlands, with port calls at Strasbourg, France; and Rüdesheim, Koblenz, Cologne and Mannheim for Heidelberg, Germany.
◆ Deluxe, river-view, air-conditioned Suite or Stateroom, each with a private bathroom.
◆ All meals served at single, unassigned seatings—early-risers’ coffee, buffet breakfast and lunch, afternoon tea, four-course dinner and late-evening snack—featuring fine continental cuisine.
◆ Complimentary house wine and beer are served with lunch and dinner.
◆ Captain’s Welcome Reception and Farewell Dinner.
◆ Excursion to Heidelberg’s 13th-century hilltop castle.
◆ Excursion to Koblenz, picturesquely located at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers.
◆ Walking tour of Cologne, including a visit to the magnificent Kölner Dom, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Enhanced Travel Services
◆ All 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 in the itinerary, with experienced local guides.
◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers for included excursions.
◆ Complimentary state-of-the-art audio headset for each participant while on guided excursions during the cruise.
◆ Hospitality desks in the hotels and aboard ship.
◆ The services of experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors throughout the travel program.
◆ Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.
◆ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.
Magnificent. Dynamic. Awe-inspiring. Superlatives that describe not only Switzerland’s majestic 14,000-foot-high mountain peaks, flowing streams, cavernous gorges and crystalline glaciers, but also three of the world’s great cogwheel railways—the panoramic Glacier Express, the scenic Gornergrat Bahn and the dramatic Pilatus Railway—and the ingenuity and engineering achievements it took to create them. Appreciate the visionary work and vast scope of these magnificent railways as you experience the sublime majesty of the iconic Alps from incredible, up-close perspectives.

The Gornergrat Bahn is Switzerland’s oldest electrified cog railway, in operation since 1898. In the brief span of five miles, you will climb 4868 feet from Zermatt to the lofty Gornergrat. En route, look for stunning views of the great Matterhorn, hanging glaciers and the robin’s-egg blue waters of mountain lakes. Lucerne’s Pilatus Railway, completed in 1889, offers breathtaking bird’s-eye views of Swiss farms and coniferous forests along its three-mile run from the shores of Lake Lucerne to the summit of Mount Pilatus. Its vertical ascent of 5364 feet over a grade as steep as 48 percent is highlighted by its stunning 360-degree views.

No feat required greater skill and determination than the laying of the track for the Glacier Express (1930) across the spine of the towering Alps. Enjoy this spectacular and leisurely journey showcasing unmatched views of the Swiss countryside: weathered chalets and mountainside farming hamlets, picturesque trails dotted with hikers, livestock grazing on green grasses, and glacial waterfalls and ice-blue, snow-capped mountains. A true engineering marvel, the railway penetrates the mountain barrier separating the cantons of Valais and Uri through the nine-and-one-half-mile-long Furka Tunnel and crosses arched stone bridges that span the tumbling headwaters of the Rhine and Rhône Rivers.

Travel through Switzerland’s dazzling alpine heart in absolute comfort aboard the marvelous and celebrated Glacier Express.
**LAND/Cruise Tariff** *(per person, based on double occupancy)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description - All accommodations are outside with two twin beds that convert to make one queen bed, private bathroom with shower, air conditioning, sitting area, radio, television, safe, writing desk and hair dryer.</th>
<th>Early Booking Price through January 9, 2015</th>
<th>Regular Price after January 9, 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Stateroom with small window. Haydn Deck, aft. <em>(limited availability)</em></td>
<td>$4,195</td>
<td>$5,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Stateroom with small window. Haydn Deck, forward.</td>
<td>$4,795</td>
<td>$5,795</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Stateroom with <strong>French balcony</strong> <em>(nearly floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing). Strauss Deck, aft.</em></td>
<td>$5,395</td>
<td>$6,395</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Stateroom with <strong>French balcony</strong> <em>(nearly floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing). Strauss Deck, forward.</em></td>
<td>$5,595</td>
<td>$6,595</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Stateroom with <strong>French balcony</strong> <em>(nearly floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing). Strauss Deck, midship.</em></td>
<td>$6,195</td>
<td>$7,195</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Stateroom with <strong>French balcony</strong> <em>(nearly floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing). Mozart Deck.</em></td>
<td>$6,695</td>
<td>$7,695</td>
</tr>
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**Junior Suite** *(suite with French balcony) *(nearly floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing), bathtub, large sitting area with sofabed and minibar. Mozart Deck.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Junior Suite</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Early Booking Price</th>
<th>Regular Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>$7,295</td>
<td>$8,295</td>
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*Singles are available in category 2 at $8,595 and in category 1 at $10,295 on or before January 9, 2015. Add $1,000 for reservations made after January 9, 2015.*

*All payments must be made by check or wire transfer by April 3, 2015.

**The Great Journey Through Europe Reservation Form**

1. **Send to:** Traveling Aggies
   505 George Bush Drive
   College Station, TX 77840
   (979) 845-7514 or (800) 633-7514
   Fax: (979) 845-9263

2. **Title** Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport) **Class Year**

3. **Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)**

4. **City** State Zip Code

5. **Telephone:** (Home) **(Mobile)**

6. **Email Address** **(Business)**

7. **Prefered Name(s) on Badge(s)** **Tour No. 052-07/07/15-104**

8. **Program reservations require a deposit of $600 per person and $200 per person Amsterdam Post-Program 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.**

9. **I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to:**
   - Visa
   - MasterCard

10. **Card Number** **Exp. Date**

11. **Signature as it appears on credit card**

12. **All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by April 3, 2015.**

13. **SEND TO:**
   Junior Suite, 505 George Bush Drive
   College Station, TX 77840

14. **Category**
   - Early Booking Price through January 9, 2015
   - Regular Price after January 9, 2015

15. **Land/Cruise Tariff** *(per person, based on double occupancy)*

16. **Notes:**
   - Taxes are an additional $220 per person and are subject to change.
   - Singles are available in category 2 at $8,595 and in category 1 at $10,295 on or before January 9, 2015. Add $1,000 for reservations made after January 9, 2015.
   - **M.S. AMADEUS PRINCESS** 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.
   - **The Netherlands, at additional cost to be advised.**
   - **Note:** Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.
   - **I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.**
RESPONSIBILITY:

RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK

The romance of a bygone era still lives in Heidelberg, whose medieval castle rises above the Old Town and the 18th-century Alte Brücke.

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