Our Black Sea Voyage, 2014

By Hank Schrader

Accredited Cruise Counselor

River Cruise Expert

Black Sea Voyage—the lower Danube



Day 1 Budapest

- Embark upon your river cruise ship, docked in the city center.
- This evening, meet your fellow passengers at the Welcome Dinner as the ship cruises past Budapest's illuminated riverfront. (D)



Budapest at Night illuminated riverfront cruise



Day 2 MOHACS - PECS - VILLANY

- Depart for your excursion to Pécs, the 2010
 European Union Cultural Capital. Founded
 more than 2,000 years ago by the Romans,
 Pécs was an important cultural base during
 many centuries of Ottoman rule.
- After lunch, enjoy a wine-tasting excursion to sample aromatic, spicy wines from the vineyards of Villány. (B,L,D)

The Barbacan a gate tower of the old Castle, Pecs, Hungary

Photo Hank Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com





Pecs, Hungary



Day 3

VUKOVAR, CROATIA - NOVI SAD, SERBIA

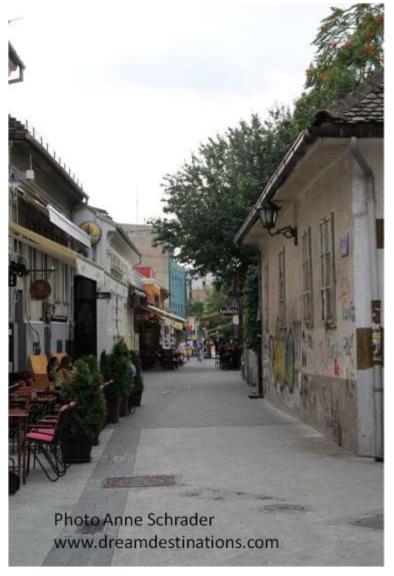
- This morning, enjoy a "Yugoslav Civil War" tour of Vukovar including the Ovcara Memorial, the monumental cross that serves as a memorial to those who lost their lives during Croatia's struggle for independence or choose to take a wine tasting excursion to llok instead
- Enjoy lunch on board as you cruise to Novi Sad, Serbia.
 On your afternoon walking tour of the city, you will see
 the Petrovaradin fortress, a mighty stronghold no
 enemy has ever breached, now home to a hotel,
 museum and artists' studios. Guests will also see the
 Old Town District and Danube Park. (B,L,D)



Ovcara Memorial, the monumental cross that serves as a memorial to those who lost their lives during Croatia's struggle for independence

Petrovaradin Fortress Novi Sad, Serbia



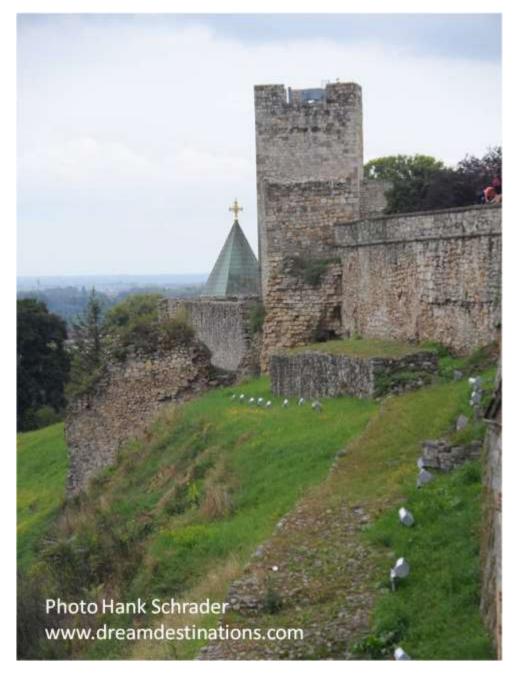


Novi Sad. Serbia



Day 4 BELGRADE

- Wake up in Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, and enjoy a panoramic tour of the city, that includes the Kalemegdan Fortress and the Serbian Orthodox Temple of St. Sava.
- As an alternative, take the "Tito's Memorial" tour, which includes a visit to the House of Flowers where the tomb of Josip Tito is located.
- After either tour, you will have free time in the city center to stroll along Prince Michael Street, the city's main shopping area. (B,L,D)



Kalemegdan Fortress, Belgrade, Serbia



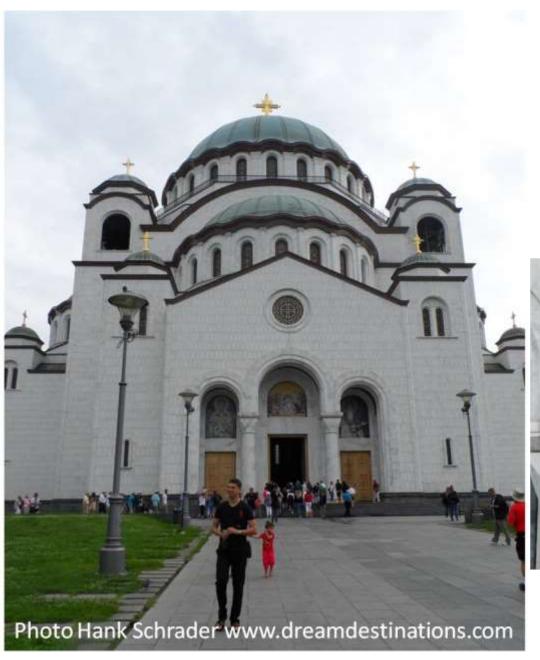
Belgrade, Serbia



St Sava Cathedral

Parliament





The Serbian Orthodox Temple of St. Sava



Day 5 CRUISING THROUGH THE IRON GATES - VIDIN, BULGARIA

- Today, enjoy a full day of cruising through one of Europe's most awe-inspiring natural wonders, the Iron Gates. Here the Danube narrows as it winds through a series of magnificent gorges between Serbia and Romania.
- The banks of the river along this natural border are lined with sheer-faced rocks that stretch high overhead, a sight that will be an unforgettable highlight of your Black Sea adventure. (B,L,D)

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Stunning River Scenes The Iron Gates

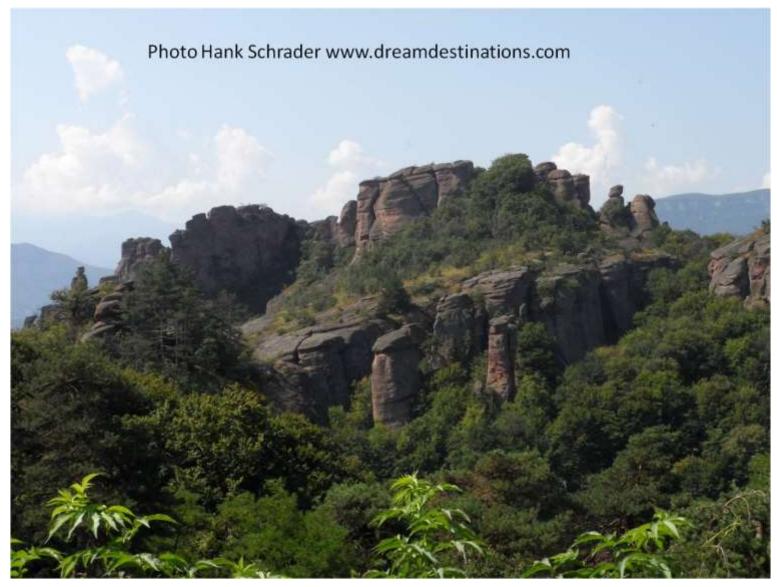




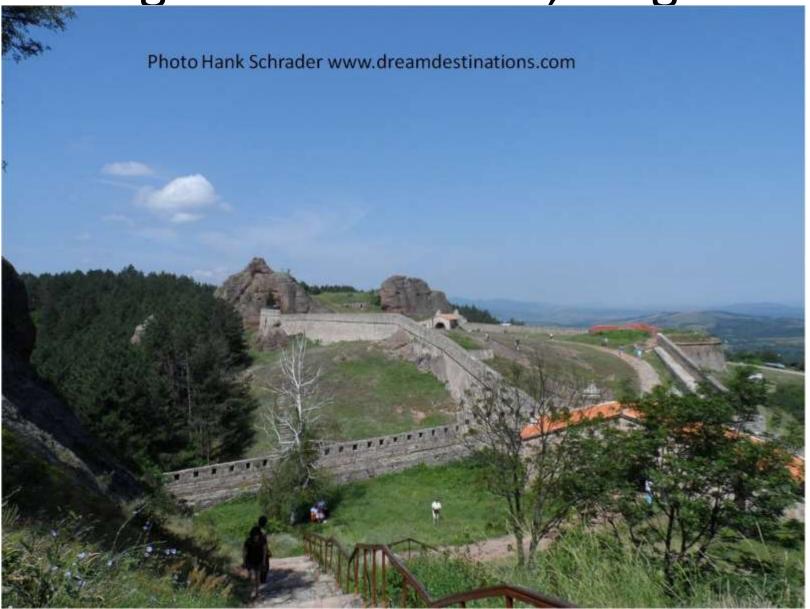
Day 6 VIDIN

- Your day begins with a visit to Belogradchik, a beautifully restored castle dating back to the Dark Ages, located in a stunning landscape of unusual rock formations.
- Next is the Baba Vida Fortress, the only entirely preserved medieval castle in the country. Standing guard over the Danube at the Bulgarian frontier town of Vidin, this massive medieval castle has thick walls and four imposing towers.
- Inside, you'll be treated to a fascinating historical reenactment. The ship departs early afternoon. (B,L,D)

Belogradchik Rocks, Bulgaria



Belogradchik Fortress, Bulgaria



Baba Vida Castle, Vidin Bulgaria





Baba Vida Castle, Vidin, Bulgaria



Play about the history of the Baba Vida Castle



Day 7 GIURGIU - BUCHAREST, ROMANIA - ROUSSE, BULGARIA

- Enjoy a full day excursion to Bucharest, the "Paris of the East." Begin your day with a city tour that features a visit to the Open Air Museum, dedicated to preserving the traditional architecture of rural Romania.
- After lunch, guests will have a choice between free time in the newly renovated Lipscani district, the historical city center of Bucharest, or a guided tour of the Palace of the Parliament.
- Return to the ship afterward and enjoy a free evening. (B,L,D)



Bucharest, Romania

Open Air Museum—Rustic homes reassembled



Vlad Tepes in the Lipscani district,



Palace of the Parliament

Day 8 ROUSSE – DISEMBARKATION

Disembark the ship in Rousse (B)

Dream Destinations

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