



# Greendale Friends Club presents ...

Cruise aboard our privately owned 162-passenger M/S River Aria

## Eastern Europe to the Black Sea

**Romania:** Bucharest, Constanta | **Bulgaria:** Ruse, Vidin | **Serbia:** Belgrade, Novi Sad | **Croatia:** Vukova | **Hungary:** Budapest

14 days from **\$4,845**  
with international airfare  
from Boston

13 days from **\$3,695**  
River Cruise only



### IT'S INCLUDED

- 12 nights accommodations, including 10 nights aboard our privately-owned river ship, the M/S River Aria
- International airfare, airport transfers, government taxes, fees, and airline fuel surcharges, unless you choose to make your own air arrangements
- 33 meals: 12 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 11 dinners—including 3 meals in local restaurants—plus onboard house beer & wine, as well as soft drinks
- 7 included tours with personal headsets and 2 Exclusive Discovery Series events
- Gratuities for local guides and motorcoach drivers
- All port charges
- Baggage handling for 1 piece of luggage per person, including tips
- 5% Frequent Traveler Credit toward your next trip

### ITINERARY OVERVIEW

Departure **NOVEMBER 5, 2027**  
Return **NOVEMBER 18, 2027**

- Day 1 • Depart U.S.**
- Day 2-3 • Bucharest, Romania**  
Included Tour Bucharest
- Day 4-5 • Bucharest • Constanta**  
Embark ship  
Included Tour Constanta
- Day 6 • Ruse, Bulgaria**  
Optional Tour Veliko Tarnovo & Arbanassi
- Day 7-8 • Vidin • Iron Gates**  
Included Tour Vidin
- Day 9 • Belgrade, Serbia**  
Included Tour Belgrade
- Day 10 • Novi Sad**  
Included Tour Novi Sad
- Day 11 • Croatia**  
Included Tours Vukovar • Osijek
- Day 12-13 • Budapest, Hungary**  
Included Tour Budapest  
Optional Tour Hungarian Jewish Heritage
- Day 14 • Return to U.S.**  
Disembark ship

### MAXIMIZE YOUR DISCOVERIES & VALUE

#### OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS

all with FREE Single Supplements

**Transylvania, Romania**  
4 nights pre-trip from \$995

**Prague, Czech Republic**  
4 nights post-trip from \$995



Reservations & Information **Ralph Shapiro: 413-537-2435**

PLEASE MENTION THIS CODE WHEN BOOKING **G7-29828**

[www.gct.com/lbs](http://www.gct.com/lbs)

## WHAT TO EXPECT

### Group Size

- This trip has a group size of 38-45 travelers (with approximately 3-4 groups onboard) each with a local Program Director exclusive to Grand Circle

### Pacing

- 13 days, with 10 nights aboard our privately owned 162-passenger *M/S River Aria*, and a two-night hotel stay
- Return flights often require departing in early morning
- Air travel time will be 11-20 hours and will have at least one connection

### Physical Requirements

- Included features on your trip may consist of 3-4 hours of physical activity each day. Travelers should be able to walk 1-3 miles unassisted within a time frame of 1-2 hours, and walk on uneven surfaces, including steep and unpaved paths, hills, riverbanks, 25-50 stairs without handrails, and cobblestones, which can be slick in wet or colder conditions
- Optional activities and walks may be offered in addition to the ones mentioned in our day-to-day itinerary
- Not accessible for travelers using wheelchairs or scooters
- Travelers using walkers, crutches, or other mobility aids must travel with a companion who can assist them throughout the trip
- We reserve the right for Program Directors to restrict participation, or in some circumstances send travelers home, if their limitations impact the group's experience

### Terrain & Transportation

- Uneven walking surfaces, including steep paths, hills, riverbanks, 25-50 stairs without handrails, and cobblestones, which can be slippery in wet or colder conditions
- Travel by 162-passenger river ship, and 49-seat coach
- Changes in water-level depths may require adjustments to your itinerary
- Docking in Budapest, Hungary may be up to 30 minutes outside of the city center, with transportation to and from the ship by motorcoach

### Climate

- Daytime temperatures range from 58-82°F during cruising season
- June-August are the warmest months; July and August can reach highs of 100°F
- March and November weather can be unpredictable and change quickly

## YOUR ITINERARY

### DAY 1 • Depart U.S.

Fly from the U.S. to Bucharest, Romania.

### DAY 2 • Arrive in Bucharest, Romania

Arrive today in Bucharest. You are met at the airport by a Grand Circle representative and transferred to your hotel. You have the balance of the day to relax after your overseas flight. Later, enjoy Welcome Drink, and get acquainted with your traveling companions and your Program Director. Dinner is included at your hotel this evening.

D—Sheraton Bucharest or similar

### DAY 3 • Explore Bucharest

If you began your European discoveries early with our optional pre-trip extension in *Transylvania, Romania*, you will join the main group today. This morning,

get acquainted with Bucharest on a panoramic tour featuring Victory Square, and Revolution Square, followed by free time. Lunch and dinner are on your own.

B—Sheraton Bucharest or similar

### DAY 4 • Bucharest • Optional Palace of the Parliament tour • Constanta • Embark ship

After enjoying the morning at leisure, we'll gather for lunch in a local restaurant before transferring to Constanta where you'll embark your private Grand Circle river ship, which will be your home throughout your Black Sea cruise.

B,L,D—*M/S River Aria*

### DAY 5 • Explore Constanta • Danube-Black Sea Canal transit • Captain's Welcome Dinner

Enjoy a guided tour of Constanta, a Romanian Black Sea port that is the country's oldest continually inhabited city. Explore the city center, the Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul, and other highlights. Following lunch, your cruise begins by sailing into the Danube-Black Sea Canal, a 40-mile engineering marvel. This evening onboard, enjoy a Captain's Welcome Dinner.

B,L,D—*M/S River Aria*

### DAY 6 • Ruse, Bulgaria • Optional Veliko Tarnovo & Arbanassi tour

You may spend today at leisure exploring Ruse independently, or you could join us for an optional excursion to discover

two key Bulgarian historic sites: Veliko Tarnovo, the capital of Bulgaria from 1186 until 1394, and Arbanassi, a historical village of Bulgarian heritage.

B,L,D—M/S River Aria

#### DAY 7 • Vidin, Bulgaria

This morning, enjoy panoramic views of Bulgaria en route to Vidin. After lunch, arrive in Vidin, Bulgaria's main port on the Danube. Here, take part in a walking tour and a visit to Baba Vida, a medieval fortress of two walls and four towers.

**Please note:** Some walkways at Baba Vida have tough and uneven surfaces and dark passageways.

B,L,D—M/S River Aria

#### DAY 8 • Iron Gates • Life Under Communism discussion

Enjoy a scenic cruising day. While onboard, join us in an **Exclusive Discovery Series** discussion on *Life Under Communism* with your Program Director. Throughout the day, you'll cruise along a stretch of the Danube that was once a raging river pounding through deep gorges. The problem was solved by raising the level of the Danube with a series of hydroelectric dams called the Iron Gates in the 1960s. In the morning, you'll pass through Iron Gate II; you'll continue through Iron Gate I later this afternoon.

B,L,D—M/S River Aria

#### DAY 9 • Explore Belgrade, Serbia

Arrive in Belgrade, the capital of Serbia. Enjoy a walking tour, including the Town Hall, St. Sava—the largest Orthodox cathedral in the world. Next, explore the Tito Memorial, erected to honor Josip Broz Tito, who held Yugoslavia together as an independent country in the turmoil that followed World War II. **Please note:** The Tito Memorial is closed on Mondays.

B,L,D—M/S River Aria

#### DAY 10 • Explore Novi Sad • Serbia and the European Union discussion

After breakfast, a local expert will come aboard to discuss some of the reasons for Serbia's lack of progress for membership in the European Union. Then, explore Novi



Danube river, Budapest, Hungary

Sad on a morning walking tour. Nestled along a bend on the Danube River, Novi Sad is peppered with myriad cultural monuments, bustling squares, a thriving pedestrian zone, and a history-rich fortress.

B,L,D—M/S River Aria

#### DAY 11 • Vukovar, Croatia • Home-Hosted Lunch • Aljmas

After docking this morning in Vukova, Croatia, you'll set off on a tour with your Program Director followed by free time. Then, enhance your appreciation for everyday Croatian life as you join a local family for a Home-Hosted Lunch, an **Exclusive Discovery Series** event.

B,L,D—M/S River Aria

#### DAY 12 • Explore Budapest, Hungary

Relax onboard as you continue sailing toward Budapest. After a disembarkation briefing, you'll hear from a local Hungarian who will come aboard to talk to us about daily life in Budapest. Then, set out to explore Budapest on a city tour, including Heroes' Square, with its Millennial Column set off by equestrian statues of the ninth-century Magyar leaders.

B,L,D—M/S River Aria

#### DAY 13 • Budapest • Optional Hungarian Jewish Heritage tour • Captain's Farewell Dinner

Enjoy the wonders of Budapest on your own today. Or, join an optional tour exploring *Hungarian Jewish Heritage*, visiting sites such as the Great Synagogue, the largest in Europe. **Please note:** The Hungarian Jewish Heritage optional tour is not available Saturdays and on regional holidays. Tonight, celebrate your discoveries on the last night of your cruise at the Captain's Farewell Dinner.

B,L,D—M/S River Aria

#### DAY 14 • Budapest • Disembark ship • Return to U.S.

After breakfast, disembark and transfer to the airport for your flight home. Or travel overland to Prague, Czech Republic or Vienna, Austria for your post-trip extension.

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Iron Gates, Romania

## Eastern Europe to the Black Sea

Departure NOV 5, 2027  
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### DECK

A	Serenade Deck	\$4,595
B	(Top Deck w/balcony)	\$4,495
C	Sonata Deck	\$4,345
D	(Middle Deck w/picture window)	\$4,245
E	Cantata Deck	\$4,145
F	(Middle Deck w/picture window)	\$4,045
G	Prelude Deck	\$3,895
H	(Lower Deck w/small window)	\$3,695

### AIR ADD-ON

Boston	\$1,150
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Additional departure cities are available. Call for details.

**Deposit:** \$750 per person.

**Travel Protection:** Starting from \$599.

**Single Supplement:** \$1,195. Single accommodations are limited. To avoid the single supplement, ask about our Roommate Matching Service.

Standard Policies and Terms & Conditions apply; see [www.gct.com/tc](http://www.gct.com/tc) for details. See [www.gct.com/disclaimers](http://www.gct.com/disclaimers) for full policy details. Every effort has been made to publish this information accurately. We reserve the right to correct errors.

**Prices, dates and itinerary are subject to change**

### Reservations & Information:

Ralph Shapiro: 413-537-2435

136 Maple Street, West Springfield, MA 01089

ralphvshapiro@msn.com

CST 2041626-40

### Travel Protection Plan (Recommended)

Protect your trip with our Travel Protection Plan, administered by TripMate.

- **100% cancellation protection, for any reason**—up to and including the day of departure.
- **Pre-existing condition coverage**—100% cash reimbursement if purchased within 14 days of initial trip deposit.
- **Medical benefits and assistance**—including emergency evacuation and more.
- **Comprehensive coverage**—includes trip interruption, trip delay, medical expenses, and baggage protection.

Learn more at [www.gct.com/tpp](http://www.gct.com/tpp)

### Good Buy Plan

The earlier you pay, the more you save  
based on a trip value of \$6,500 per person

Months Prior to Departure (Must Pay in full from a checking account)	Guarantee Your Price and Receive:	Savings Per Person:	Savings Per Couple:
15 months or more	10%	\$650	\$1300
14 months prior	9%	\$585	\$1170
13 months prior	8%	\$520	\$1040
12 months prior	7.5% off	\$488	\$975
11 months prior	6% off	\$390	\$780

Good Buy Plan savings is calculated based on total reservation cost

For more information, visit [www.gct.com/gbd](http://www.gct.com/gbd)

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**GRAND CIRCLE CRUISE LINE**