

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£200
PER PERSON

EASTERN TREASURES

A river journey from the delta lands of the
Danube to the grand city of Budapest
aboard the MS Royal Crown
with Guest Speaker Patrick Cordingley

24th September to 5th October 2022



NOBLE CALEDONIA

Fisherman's Bastion, Budapest



Parliament Palace, Bucharest



Join us aboard the 90-passenger MS Royal Crown for what promises to be a splendid journey as we navigate the Danube River from the delta in the east to the magnificent city of Budapest in Hungary. We will sail through Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia and Hungary witnessing some of Europe's most beautiful landscapes and visit the great historic cities of Bucharest, Belgrade and Budapest as well as picturesque riverside towns. From the earliest of times, the Danube has been one of Europe's most important trade routes linking the eastern shores with central Europe and this stretch of the river offers a diversity of history and culture quite unlike anywhere else.

From the great comfort of our vessel we will cruise effortlessly, enjoying the varied scenery and architecture whilst learning more about a region that has seen more than its fair share of conflicts, revolutions and wars. Our included tours with excellent local guides, together with interesting talks by our Guest Speaker, will create an enjoyable, informative and lively atmosphere as we sail along the majestic Danube. To enhance your holiday further, we are offering a six night extension in the beautiful region of Transylvania in Romania, travelling through some of the last untouched and least travelled areas of Europe.



Decebalus' Head sculpted in rock, Iron Gates Gorge

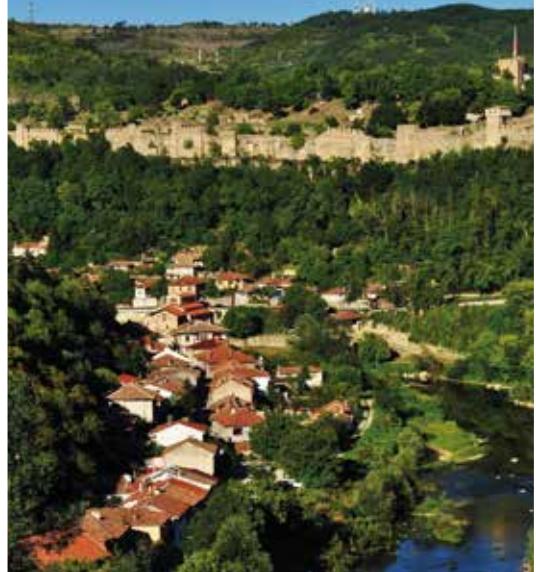


Guest Speaker - Patrick Cordingley

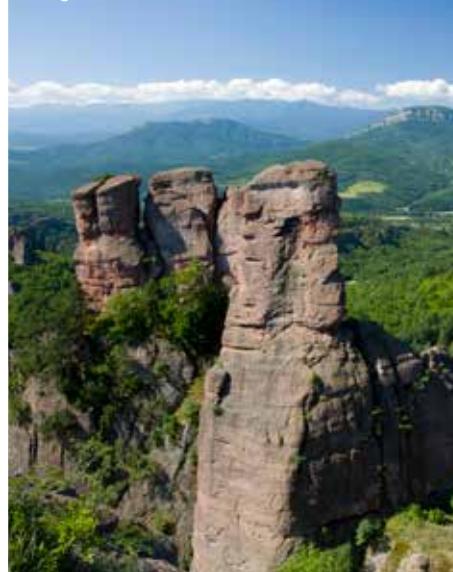


Major General Patrick Cordingley was commissioned into the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards in June 1965. He commanded the Desert Rats during the 1991 Gulf War. In 1992 he took command of the 2nd UK Division before being appointed as the military adviser to the late Sultan Qaboos Al Said of Oman as the senior British Loan Service Officer to the Sultanate between 1996 and his retirement from the Army in 2000. Following his retirement, Patrick completed eight years as chairman of a technology company and during this time he also worked for the BBC as a military commentator. He is now chairman of the Defence and Security Forum, past chairman of the trustees of the Gilbert White's House with the Oates Collection, the National Memorial Arboretum Appeal, past Master of the Worshipful Company of Ironmongers and past chairman and vice-chairman of the governors of two schools. He was a visiting scholar at Hull University, where he is a Doctor of Science. He is the author of two best-selling books.

Veliko Tarnovo



Belogradchik Rocks



City Hall Square, Pecs



The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Bucharest, Romania. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Royal Crown in Fetesti (approx. 2.5 hour drive). Sail this evening.

Day 2 Danube Delta. The vast Danube Delta is one of the most important wetlands left in Europe. We will access this unique region from Tulcea at the entrance to the delta and explore by local boats. Return to the vessel and enjoy a relaxing afternoon sailing along the Danube. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for welcome drinks and dinner.

Day 3 Bucharest. Arrive this morning in the port of Oltenita from where we drive to Bucharest. Enjoy a tour of the city's highlights, including the National Theatre, the University Square, the National Art Museum, the Opera House, the Military Academy, the Arch of Triumph, and the Free Press House. We complete the morning with a stroll around the Old Town. Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant before our afternoon visit to the Parliament Palace, the second largest administrative building in the world at 3.77 million square feet. We rejoin the vessel in Giurgiu and sail on to Rousse.

Day 4 Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria. From Rousse, depart on a full day tour to the city of Veliko Tarnovo, the capital of the second Bulgarian Kingdom from 1187 to 1393. The city formed a natural fortress, located on three hills surrounding the Yantra River. A palace, fortifications and churches were built into the terrain. Across the river, ancient stone houses seemingly perched on top of each other rise up the steep riverbank. After lunch in a local restaurant, we will visit the museum town of Arbanassi before we rejoin the MS Royal Crown in Svishtov.

Day 5 Belogradchik & Vidin. Arrive this afternoon in the Bulgarian port of Vidin. After lunch on board we will drive to Belogradchik which is located close to the Serbian border. The Belogradchik Rocks are a famous Bulgarian beauty spot. The sandstone has been weathered into all manner of bizarre shapes, and housed amongst the rocks is an Ottoman fort, built on the remains of a Roman structure. We continue onto Vidin for a performance by the wonderful Vidin Symphonic Orchestra in the Philharmonic concert hall.

Day 6 Cruising through the Iron Gates. Today the scenery becomes truly spectacular as you cruise through the Iron Gates, a narrow Danube gorge between the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains.

Day 7 Belgrade, Serbia. A morning guided tour of Belgrade will visit the city's main attractions, including the Kalemegdan fortress as it looms over the confluence of the Sava and Danube rivers, Saint Sava Cathedral, the largest Orthodox Church in the world and Tito's Memorial. Our tour will finish with a superb local folklore performance before returning to the ship for a late lunch and an afternoon sailing.

Day 8 Pecs & Villany, Hungary. This morning we arrive in the port of Mohacs for our full day scenic tour of Pecs and Villany. The city of Pecs enjoys a fine

position on the slopes of the Mecsek Hills and our tour will feature the sites associated with the city's Roman Ottoman Hapsburg past, as well as a short organ recital in the splendid Pecs Cathedral. Continue on to the town of Villany for lunch and wine tasting. Villany is one of Hungary's top wine regions, known for its reds and rosés. Thanks to the area's sub-Mediterranean climate, wines are full-bodied, spicy and of the highest quality.

Day 9 Kalocsa. Depart on a morning tour of Kalocsa, renowned for its paprika production. Our tour of the Puszta district will include the town and a spectacular display of Hungarian horsemanship. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon sailing.

Day 10 Budapest. Spend the morning on an excursion in Hungary's elegant capital city. Our tour will include the old quarter visiting the Matthias Church, the Fisherman's Bastion and the Royal Palace (outside view). Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy the afternoon at leisure to relax or explore independently. After dinner enjoy an onboard performance by pianist, Martin Ivanov. We will remain moored here overnight.

Day 11 Budapest. After breakfast depart on a tour to the Palace of Godollo, built in 1740 and the favoured home of Sissi, the wife of Emperor Franz Josef. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy the afternoon at leisure. This evening join your travellers for farewell drinks and dinner after which we will be entertained by the Lugosi band.

Day 12 Budapest to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CATEGORY	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Junior Suite	Select	£3895	£3695
Superior Suite	Select	£4095	£3895
Deluxe Suite	Select	£4395	£4195
Premium Suite	Select	£4895	£4695
Royal Suite	Panorama	£5395	£5195
Deluxe Suite for sole use	Select	£5195	£4995

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 11 nights aboard the MS Royal Crown on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Gratuities • Transfers • Port & airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

PRE-CRUISE TRANSYLVANIA & ROYAL ROMANIA EXTENSION

18th to 24th September 2022

Bran Castle



Sibiu



Council Square, Brasov

Transylvania, located in central Romania is a region of exquisite countryside surrounded by the arc of the dramatic Carpathian mountain chain. We are offering a six night pre-cruise extension giving the opportunity to explore this beautiful region.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Sibiu, Romania. Fly by scheduled indirect flight. On arrival transfer to our four-star hotel for a three night stay. Tonight, gather for the traditional bread and salt welcome, followed by a welcome drink and dinner at the hotel. (D)

Day 2 Sibiu & Sibiel. After breakfast join a walking tour of colourful Sibiu, a town visited by the Queen together with King Ferdinand in May 1919, followed by some free time before lunch in the old city. Later, drive to Sibiel, a pretty village situated 20 kilometres from Sibiu. Here we visit a unique and superb museum of glass painted icons, located in the old village church. This evening enjoy a traditional dinner during which we will be able to talk to our local hosts about daily life in a Transylvanian village. Return to our hotel in Sibiu. (B, L, D)

Day 3 Sibiu & Alba Iulia. After breakfast depart for Alba Iulia, the town where Ferdinand and Marie were crowned Kings of the Great Romania. On arrival we visit the stunning White Citadel and the Coronation Cathedral, as well as the Unification Museum. Lunch will be in a local restaurant, followed by some time here at leisure. Return to Sibiu and dinner this evening will be at our hotel. (B, L, D)

Day 4 Bierțan to Sighisoara to Brasov. After breakfast depart for picturesque Bierțan. Your first glimpse of the town's Medieval church is unforgettable; it towers over the square below, surrounded by vividly painted houses and backed by vineyards. On arrival we visit the UNESCO 14th century fortified church, once the home to the Lutheran Bishop of Transylvania. Continue to Sighisoara and explore the Old Town with its cobbled streets and ornate churches. Enjoy lunch in "Dracula's House" restaurant followed by some free time. We will then head to Brasov where we will be staying for three nights. Dinner this evening will be at a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

Day 5 Azuga to Bran. After breakfast depart for a city tour of Brasov, including the City Hall Square, St Nicholas Church and the Old City. Afterwards we continue to Azuga in Prahova Valley, home of the Royal Cellar which is the wine supplier for the Royal family. We will stop at a local vineyard for lunch and enjoy some wine tasting. After lunch we continue to the world famous 'Dracula's Castle', built as a fortress in 1212 by the Knights of the Teutonic Order. Vlad Tepes, better known as Vlad the Impaler, used the castle as headquarters for his incursions into Transylvania. Dinner will be under your own arrangements this evening. (B, L)

Day 6 Brasov. After breakfast, visit the Black Church followed by some free time in the Old City. Lunch will be under your own arrangements today with an afternoon at leisure. Our farewell dinner tonight will be in the nearby resort town of Poiana Brasov. (B, D)

Day 7 Brasov to Fetești. After breakfast depart for a visit to the fairy tale Peles Castle, built by King Carol I in the 19th century. We continue to Ploiești and enjoy lunch before continuing on to Fetești (approx. 4 hours drive) to embark the MS Royal Crown. (B, L)

Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Twin: £1295 Single: £1595

Price Includes: Six nights hotel accommodation, meals as indicated (B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner), wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch and dinner, excursions, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.
Not Included: Travel insurance.



ROYAL CROWN - RIVER CRUISING AT ITS BEST

We are delighted to have chartered the MS Royal Crown for a series of European river cruises in 2022.

This elegant vessel combines the nostalgic charm of the 1930s with the comfort and service of a four-star vessel. No expense has been spared to create not only a vessel that is beautiful to look at, but also a great joy to travel on. Spacious teak decks, elegant public rooms and staterooms with mahogany, rosewood and marble, together with rich fabrics and specially designed furniture, all blend together to create a unique river vessel.



Built in 1996 and refurbished in 2010, the 90 passenger MS Royal Crown was designed for the rivers flowing through the heart of Europe. Exquisite furniture, expensive materials and accessories give the vessel its unique atmosphere. Facilities on board include a library, boutique, fitness area, lounge with panoramic views and a restaurant with open seating.

Outside there is a large Sun Deck, Lido Bar, a putting green and large scale chessboard. On board the efficient air-conditioning system ensures a comfortable temperature. Two powerful engines propel the vessel up to a speed of 12 knots.



Royal Suite



Premium Suite

YOUR CABIN/SUITE

MS Royal Crown has 45 suites which range in size from 145 square feet to the spacious Royal Suites which measure 200 square feet. All suites are fitted with spacious rosewood cupboards, a dressing table, satellite TV and radio, a safety deposit box, individually controlled air-conditioning and en-suite facilities with shower and hairdryer. Suites on the Select Deck have portholes and the Royal Suites on the Panorama Deck have large windows.



Lounge



Restaurant



Deluxe Suite



Friendly service



Sun Deck

YOUR DINING

While the most beautiful river scenery passes by, enjoy delicacies created by the Executive Chef and his team. The restaurant has open seating, allowing you to sit where and with whom you like at each meal. In the morning breakfast is served buffet style, lunch is a delightful buffet with hot and cold choices and dinner is a served four course meal. In addition, house wine, beer and soft drinks are included at both lunch and dinner.

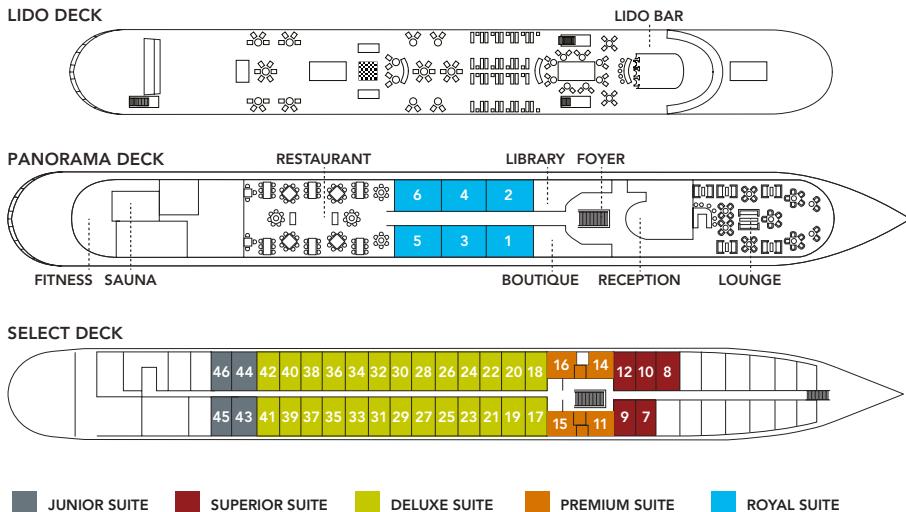
YOUR SPACE

The elegant Lounge Bar is defined by its 30s inspired Art Deco style, with textured carpets, carved mahogany and plush sofas which create a comfortable and relaxed atmosphere. Experience unforgettable views from the large windows as you enjoy tea or coffee. The Lounge is also where our Guest Speakers will entertain you with informative presentations. In the evenings, let the day come to an end with a choice of beverages from the extensive menu accompanied by a pianist playing a Steinway & Sons grand piano. The huge Sun Deck covers almost the entire length of the vessel, interrupted only by the bridge and the Lido Bar (open when weather permits) where you can enjoy a drink such as fresh juice, a milkshake, or even a cocktail. Recline on a sun lounger and

read a book or watch the changing scenery. There is also a putting green and a large chess board for your enjoyment. For some time out, relax in the wellness centre which includes a

sauna with shower facilities, and a fitness room. There is also a small boutique and a library with a selection of books and games. Daily news sheets are also supplied.

DECK PLAN



Please note that Junior, Deluxe & Superior Suites have fixed twin beds. Premium and Royal Suites have fixed double beds with separate mattresses and duvets, so can be made up as twins if required.



NOBLE CALEDONIA

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Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request. Ports subject to change and water levels. All special offers are subject to availability. Cover image: Budapest.

