# MUSICA SEMPER VIVA

CZECH, SLOVAKIAN, HUNGARIAN AND ROMANIAN TOUR - SUMMER 2016

ITINERARY

*Saturday - June 18*
Afternoon - Check-In at the \*\*\*\*Amarilis Congress Hotel
Meeting with our guide, rest time.
7:00 pm - dinner and welcome party at the hotel restaurant

*Sunday – June 19*

9:00 am - after breakfast, meeting at the lobby.

10:00 am rehearsal at the hotel

1:00 pm - transfer to the City Centre
2:00 am - Choir concert visit

3:00 pm - first sightseeing tour of the Old Town

6:00 pm - Dinner at the city centre

8:00 pm – Classical Oratorio Concert (\*)

Or Verdi´s festival Prague Opera (\*)

*Monday – June 20*
9:00 am – rehearsal at the hotel
1:00 pm – lunch there

2:00 pm – Bike tour\* or tram tour of the city and after, 2nd sightseeing tour - Prague Castle
8:00 pm – Prague Laterna Magica theatre visit (\*)

*Tuesday – June 21*

8:00 am - Rehearsal

Lunch

After Transfer to Telc UNESCO Heritage Town and Castle

Sightseeing tour there

Accommodation at \*\*\*\*Castle hotel Trest, dinner there

Party with Karaoke

*Wednesday – June 22*

9:00 am Rehearsal

After break for lunch, sight-seeing tour and free time

4:00 Trest Church - - 1st FULL CHOIR PERFORMANCE

Dinner at the hotel
Barbeque with Music and Dance

*Thursday – June 23*

9:00 am - rehearsal
12:30 pm - Lunch at the hotel restaurant
after: transfer to Bratislava, Slovakia
Accommodation and in the \*\*\*\*hotel Bon Bon

*Friday June 24*
after breakfast rehearsal

Lunch at the hotel

1:00pm Sightseeing tour of the city. You will see the Presidential Palace, Eurovea - the modern city center, the National Theatre, a unique Art Nouveau church and others. It stops at Bratislava Castle and the Slavín memorial with their fantastic panoramic views. From the Castle enjoy the view of the historical city centre. Then the tour continues with a drive along the Danube to the magnificent ruins of the Devin Castle, situated above the confluence of the Danube and Morava rivers boasting a superb view over the countryside and neighbouring Austria.

Free time for shopping

4:00 pm Boat trip to Vienna and back with speed boat (\*)

8:00 pm Bratislava Opera performance visit (\*)

*Saturday June 25*

After breakfast rehearsal

12:00 am Lunch at the hotel

City centre visit

5:00 pm Bratislava Cultural Centre – stage rehearsal

6:00 pm Concert there (2nd FULL CHOIR PERFORMANCE)

8:00 pm Folklore Performance visit with vine tasting (\*)

*Sunday June 26*

9:00 am – Mass visit at the Stephan church

After transfer to Banska Stiavnica, UNESCO Heritage City

Lunch Stop there, short sightseeing tour there

Sightseeing tour of Banská Štiavnica ([www.banskastiavnica.sk](http://www.banskastiavnica.sk))-central-Slovakian medieval town. Banská Štiavnica is the oldest and in the past the most significant town in Slovakia. Its fame was born from mineral richness, ores of precious metals, expecially silver and gold, which have been mined in the town and its surroundings for more than one thousand years. The town became famous not only because of mining but also in the field of education. In 1735 the first mining school was established there and in 1762 the world's first technical university of mining - Mining Academy. Because of its historical value, the town and the technical monuments in its surroundings were proclaimed by the UNESCO to be a World Heritage Site. 6:00 pm Rehearsal in Town Hall and following

7:00 pm Join Concert with local Choir there (3rd CONCERT PERFORMANCE) After transfer to Levoča ([www.levoca.sk](http://www.levoca.sk)) Accommodation at the hotel Lev\*\*\* Levoča, Dinner there

*Monday June 27*

Rehearsal

Sightseeing tour of the city.The town of Levoca used to be surrounded by the well-preserved Town Wall. The architecture of the burghers' houses in the square was changed from Gothic to Renaissance style as we know it now. The Town Hall is also built in Renaissance style. Religious brotherhoods, and especially churches, were the centers of spiritual culture. The most important sites: the Church of St. Nicholas, Holy Spirit, St. John and probably the Church of St. Elizabeth, too. But the most significant of them is the church of European importance, the Church of St. Jacob.

Bus Transfer to the UNESCO heritage Spis Castle and City (<http://www.spisskyhrad.sk/>)

Sightseeing tour there

Lunch Break

Return back to Hotel

Dinner there

*Tuesday June 28*

After breakfast and rehearsal transfer to Debrecen (Hungary)

Lunch stop at Kosice ([www.kosice.sk](http://www.kosice.sk))

After arrival accommodation at \*\*\*\*Hotel Budapest

Short sightseeing tour there

Dinner at the hotel

*Wednesday, June 29*

After breakfast depart to Cluj Napoca

Lunch stop and sightseeing tour at Oradea (<http://romaniatourism.com/oradea.html>)

Following transfer to Cluj Napoca (<http://romaniatourism.com/cluj-napoca.html>), the 2nd largest city in Romania, including St. Mihail Cathedral, the Orthodox Cathedral and Botanical Garden.

Overnight in \*\*\*\*hotel Cluj Napoca.

***Thursday, June 30***

9:00 am – rehearsal

12:00 Lunch break at Targu

5:00pmTransfer to Brasov (<http://romaniatourism.com/brasov.html> )

Special dinner in Brasov

Overnight in Poiana Brasov, 3\* hotel.

***Friday, July 1***

Happy Canada Day!

Rehearsal

Sightseeing tour of Brasov, the largest city in medieval Transylvania.

Driving through the main roads you’ll discover its beauty and picturesqueness, the combination between new and old, blackened stone buildings and red brick chimneys above the coloured tile roofs, over the crenels and buttresses. Old fortification ruins of the former burg, the narrow and tortuous streets, the old baroque houses with their bulky arched gates still, keeps in the downtown the mediaeval patina. Visit to Black Church and St. Nicolae Church with its first school in the Romanian language.

Dinner at the Hotel, after Red and White Party!

*Saturday, July 2*

After breakfast rehearsal

Next visit is Bran Castle (<http://www.bran-castle.com/>), the controversial and contested Count Dracula’s Castle. The fortress-castle was built on 1377 by master masons of Brasov, on high rock, dominating the whole region.

Driving south, stop at Sinaia to visit Peles Castle (<http://peles.ro/>) – the former summer royal residence. The fairylike beauty of the landscape at the foot of the Bucegi Mountains had fascinated the young German Prince Carol I of Hohenzollern, who was to become the king of modern Romania. The Peles Castle has 106 rooms, an imposing reception hall with fine ornaments of inlaid wood, a gallery of mirrors and a Florentine hall where one can admire splendid Murano chandeliers, a Moorish and Turkish drawing room. The edifice is surrounded by a terraced garden.

6:00pm Stage Rehearsal at the local Concert Hall

7:00pm 4th CHOIR PERFORMANCE
8:00 pm Dinner

9:00 pm - Wine tasting with folk music (\*) 9:00 am – rehearsal (for NS hiking tour)

*Sunday, July 3*

Transfer to Sibiu (<http://romaniatourism.com/sibiu.html#highlights>)

7:00 pm Arrival UNESCO City Sibiu

Walking sightseeing tour of mediaeval Sibiu including the Main Square, the Small Square and the Liars Bridge.

4:00pm Stage Rehearsal at National House and following 5:00pm 5th CHOIR PERFORMANCE

*Monday, July 4*

Breakfast, rehearsal

Lunch

Depart for UNESCO City Sighisoara (<http://romaniatourism.com/sighisoara.html>), the ancient cradle of the Romanians, located in a landscape of peculiar beauty on Tirnave Plateau. Thick walls surround the citadel, having inside round 150 mediaeval houses all of them inhabited. Walking visit of the old town with the Clock Tower, the covered stairs and the mediaeval streets.

Sightseeing tour of mediaeval Sibiu including the Catholic Cathedral, the Orthodox Cathedral, the Evangelical Church, Liars Bridge

Depart from Sighisoara back to Sibiu

***Tuesday, July 5***

After breakfast, transfer to Budapest, UNESCO Heritage Capitol of Hungary

2:00 – Visit of the Deva citadel, Stop for Lunch

Arrival to Budapest (\*\*\*\*Park Inn)

Dinner there

***Wednesday, July 6***

9:00 am - rehearsal
12:00 pm - Lunch at the hotel restaurant
1:00 pm - After transfer to the Centre, Sightseeing tour of the city

4:00 pm – Visit the Széchenyi Bath (Biggest and Most Famous Spa of Europe)
8:00 pm - Danube boat trip with Gala dinner and live music (\*)

*Thursday, July 7*

9:00 – rehearsal

Lunch After transfer to the castle, visiting the Royal Castle, the Fisherman’s Bastion and the Matthias Church

3:30 Short stage rehearsal there 4:00 pm – Mathias church 6th FULL CHOIR PERFORMANCE

Final Party with Hungarian Gypsy Music, Gala Dinner and Wine tasting

***Friday, July 8***

After breakfast departure

**Highlights**

**Prague** /UNESCO heritage city and castle

**Welcome party** at the AMARILIS hotel

Telc /UNESCO Heritage, historical city and Castle

**Trest /**Medieval Castle Hotel, we will stay there!

**Castle Garden Barbeque Party**

Danube /The “musical” river

Bratislava /Capital city of Slovakia

Banska Stiavnica / UNESCO Heritage Medieval Town and Castles

High Tatra / Highest Part of Carpathian Mountains, over 2.5 km high

Levoca /UNESCO Heritage Renaissance city

Spissky Hrad /UNESCO Heritage Medieval Castle

Kosice / Historical Centre, Jewish sights

Debrecen /”Kalvin Rome”

Oradea / Baroque Pearl of Transylvania

Cluj Napoca / Historical Centre of Dacia Empire and Ancient Romanians

Sighisoara / Ancient cradle of Romanians, UNESCO Heritage Fortress and Town

Harman Fortified Church / Unique combination of the Church and Fortress

Brasov / Romanian historical city and Castle

Peles Castle / Romantic Castle

Bran Castle / Medieval castle of Count Dracula

Transylvanian Alps / Part of Carpathian Mountains, Romantic Area full of History, Legends and Nature

Sibiu / largest and wealthiest of the seven walled citadels built in the 12th century by Transylvanian Saxons, UNESCO Heritage city

Deva Citadel / medieval Fortress of Deva

**Budapest /** UNESCO Heritage city

Danube Boat trip /Live Music, Fine dining, Sightseeing by Night

Final Party / with Hungarian Gypsy Music, Gala Dinner and Wine tasting

Stay (20 nights / 21 days), per person in double or twin is 3.695,- CAD.

Single room surcharge is 945 CAD.

The price for particular stay of Czech and Slovak part (11 nights, till June 29 , incl. transfer to Budapest airport or hotel)

Is 2528 CAD, single room surcharge is + 567 CAD.

Price incl.

Central located \*\*\*\* hotel accommodation

Half board

Choir program (rehearsals, concerts)

All guided tours

Entrance fees

Bus transportation

Parties, special events, all according the schedule

 (\*) These opportunities involve additional cost. They are optional and not part of the tour. They are included for your information but there is neither compulsory attendance nor requirement that you spend the additional money. They are, however, great value.

Disclaimer: This is not necessarily the final itinerary. However, changes will most likely be a re-ordering of activities or performances. There will be no diminution of the activities and benefits specified.