

# HISTORIC RIVER VESSELS

European Network of River Museums

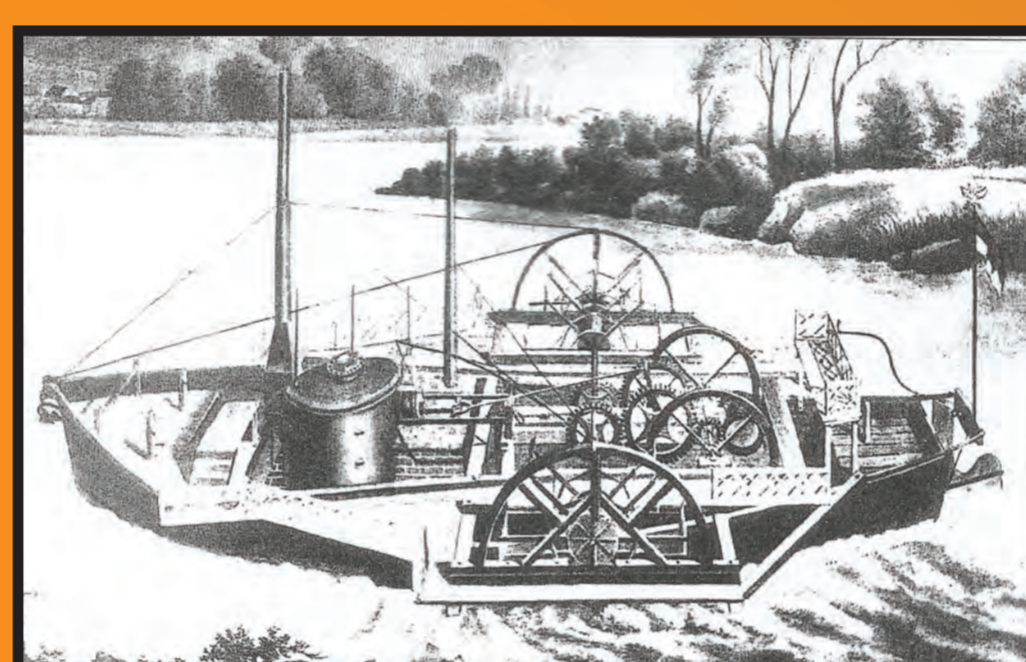


STM THE MUSEUM OF TRANSPORT IN BRATISLAVA

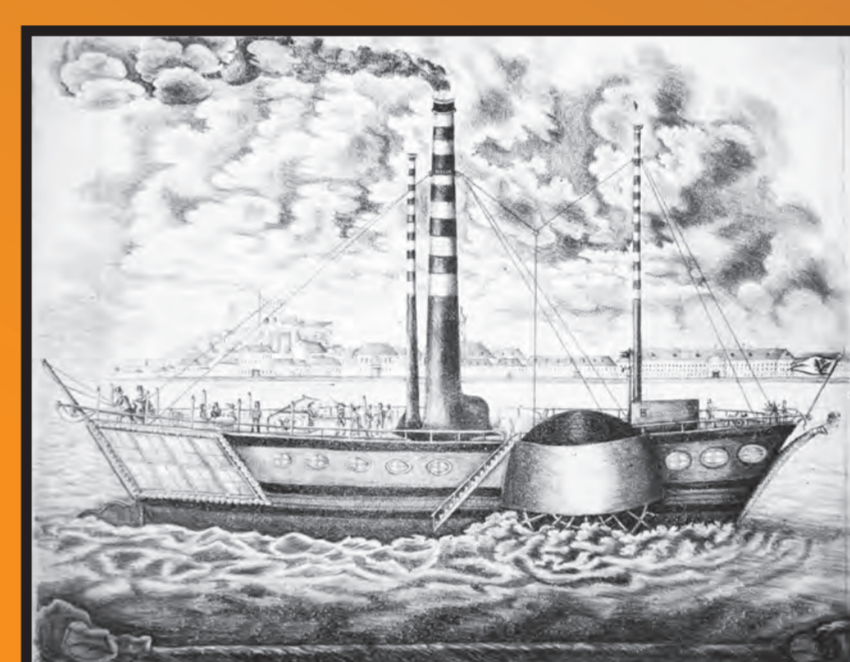
## 200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST TIME A STEAMER SAILED ON THE DANUBE RIVER IN BRATISLAVA

In the nineteenth century, the age of steam, the development of steam-boat transportation was seen also in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The first time a steamer sailed on the Danube River was in 1817. The Carolina, as she was named, was a wooden paddle steamer built by Antal Bernhard (1779–1830) in Vienna.

Measuring 15 metres long, 3.5 metres wide and 2.3 metres freeboard, and generating 24 horsepower, the Carolina was able to haul a load of 45 tonnes upstream. She was tested over a longer distance on 2 September 1818, travelling in three hours from Vienna to Bratislava and mooring on the quay near Coronation Mound (now Ľudovít Štúr Square). The next day, according to the Pressburger Zeitung newspaper, the Carolina put on a demonstration for curious onlookers by turning upstream and downstream several times, before moving on downriver to Pest. She sailed upriver from Pest for the first time on 16 September 1818 and, travelling only by day, reached Komárno on 26 September 1818.



Picture of Carolina in 1818, engraving



Steam boat Franz I in Bratislava, 1830



Franz I somewhere in Danube port, 1830



Bratislava in 1850, years of wheel steams



The movement of boats in Bratislava in the 2nd half of the 19th century



Steam boat Franz I, somewhere between Vienna and Pest, 1930



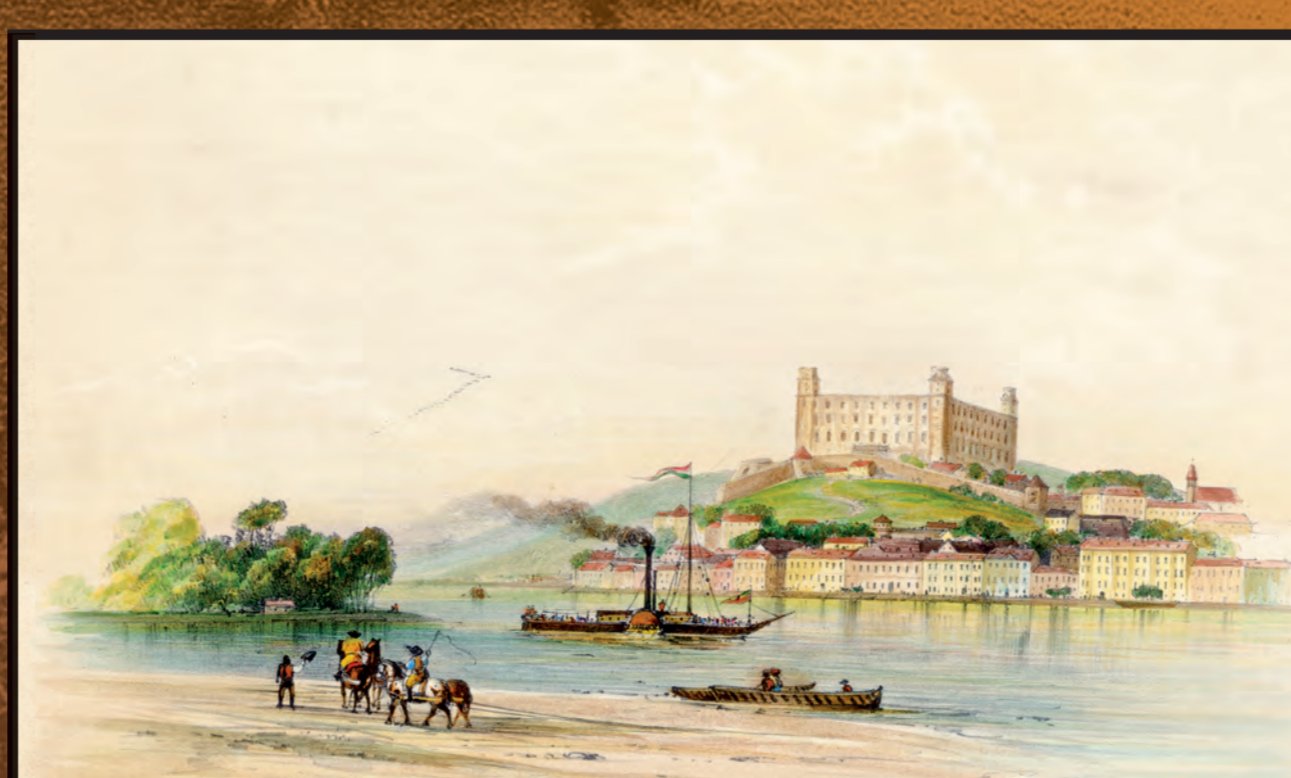
Steam boat Franz I, the beginning of a regular passenger cruise on the Danube



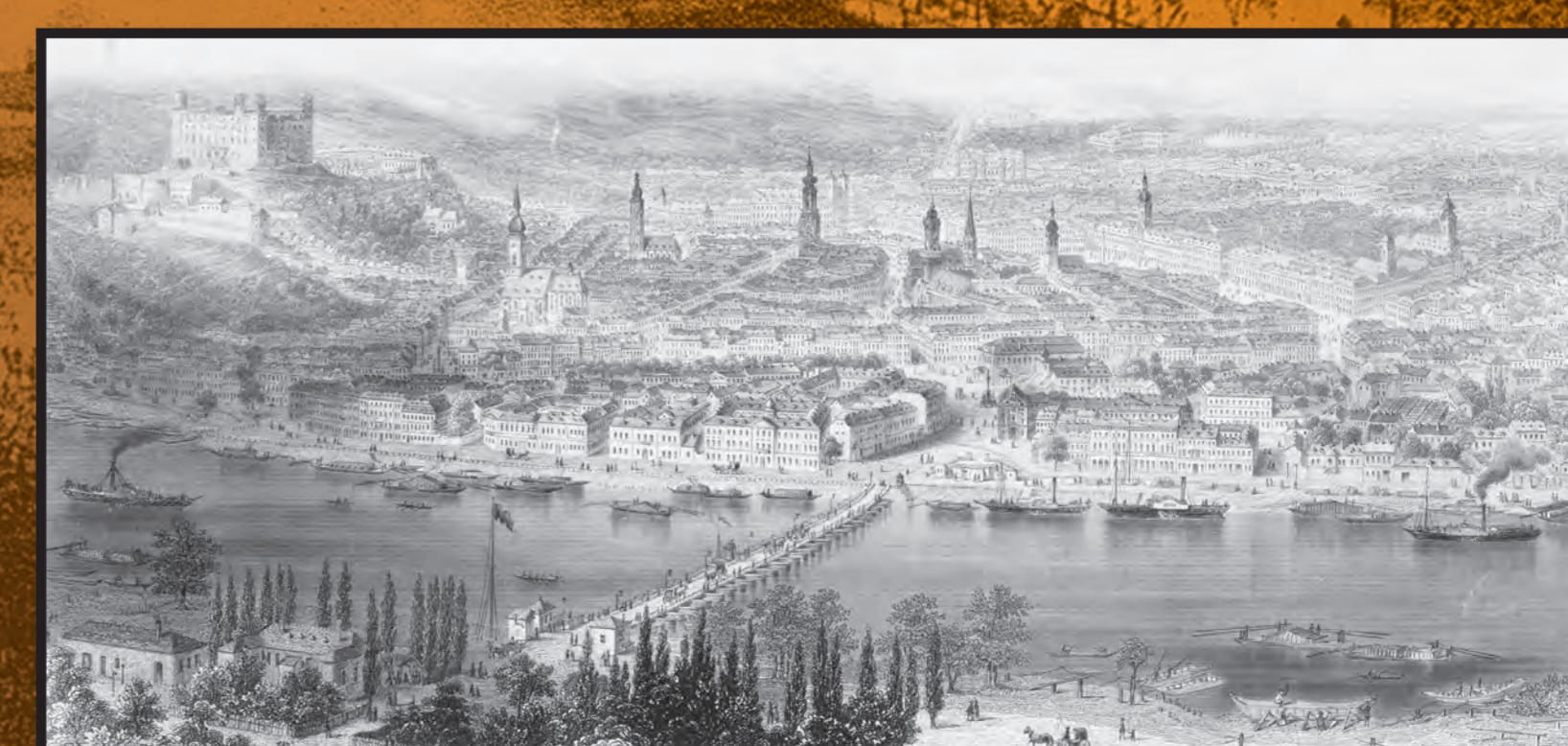
Steam boat Maria Anna



Collector coin



Veduta of Bratislava around 1820



Artistic panorama of Bratislava in the 2nd half of 19th century with ships on the river

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