

Itinerary for "Germany, Austria, Slovenia & Italy featuring the Passion Play in Oberammergau"

September 9 - 27, 2022

Friday - September 9

Depart Michigan late afternoon or evening to either Munich, Frankfurt or Nuremberg.

Saturday - September 10

Our arrival will be late morning and our driver will be there to take us to Gunzenhausen where we will be for the next 3 nights. Accommodations will be in private homes unless you wish to pay extra for a hotel.

Sunday - September 11

Morning church services for those that wish to attend. Reserved grandstand seats for our group to view a traditional folk performance this afternoon in the town square. This event starts Gunzenhausen's 621st Kirchweih – the anniversary of the founding of the church.

Monday - September 12

Reserved grandstand seats for our group to view the parade. Details for the three day weekend will become available closer to our departure date.

Tuesday - September 13

Our coach will be departing this morning for our drive to Innsbruck. On the way we will be making a stop at the beautiful Swarovski Crystal factory. We will be overnighing in the Innsbruck area for the next 3 nights. (D)

Wednesday - September 14

This morning we are on our way to view the beautiful Linderhof Castle which was built by King Ludwig in 1878. It was the only one of three castles that was completed.

In the afternoon a visit will be made to the church Wieskirche. Two brothers designed the oval rococo church built in the late 1740's.

Thursday - September 15

A short drive this morning to the Basilica of Ettal Monastery. It is a Benedictine monastery with about 50 monks and was founded between the years of 1330 and 1370.

Continue our drive to Oberammergau arriving sometime in the morning for lunch on your own and shopping. The Passion Play will be an afternoon and evening performance with a break for dinner which is included. (D)

Friday - September 16

Today we depart for Lake Garda, one of the most beautiful lakes in northern Italy. It is about 143 sq. miles and has a maximum depth of 1,135 feet. A cruise is booked for this afternoon. Remainder of day at leisure with an overnight. (D)

Saturday - September 17

A morning departure to Verona. We will have a guided walking city tour of Verona for about 1 1/2 hours and the afternoon is a guided visit of rice mule with the tasting of risotto wine. Two nights in the area of Lido di Jesolo.

Sunday - September 18

This morning we have a boat transfer to Venice with a guided walking city tour. The entrance fee to St. Markus Cathedral is included.

Also included today is a boat trip to Murano with a visit to a glass blowing factory.

Monday - September 19

Continue this morning to Ljubjana where a tour is scheduled for us. Then continue on to Lake Wörth and free time afterwards. Overnight in Klagenfurt or Villach this evening.

Tuesday - September 20

Our drive this morning will take us to Vienna. We have made arrangements for a one-hour guided tour of the Lipizzaner Stallion stud farm in Piber. Two nights in Vienna.

Wednesday - September 21

This morning we will have a guided city tour of Vienna including walking and using the coach. It will include the Ringstrasse, Opera house from the outside, Jewish Quarter, Hofburg Palace from the outside and St. Stephan's Cathedral.

Afternoon entrance fee to Schoenbrunn Palace, visit of Prater park with tour escort.

Thursday - September 22

Oberndorf and Frankenmarkt are both on our schedule today.

The original Silent Night chapel will be our first stop. The only other one is in Frankenmuth. The Silent Night song was sung for the first time in 1818.

Then it's on to Frankenmarkt where we will have the opportunity to taste chocolate being manufactured with a combination of dry and frozen fruits. Overnight for two nights in Salzburg.

Friday - September 23

A one day excursion to Berchtesgaden, a tour of the Eagle's Nest with a guided tour, coach and elevator.

Saturday - September 24

A guided walking city tour of Salzburg and Sound of Music Tour with the coach, about 3 hours total. A visit is made to Mirabell Gardens, festival hall from the outside, St. Peter's Monastery also from the outside and Residence Square. Three nights in Munich.

Continue on to Munich with free time the rest of the day. (D)

Sunday - September 25

Guided city tour of Munich with a combination of walking and use of the coach. Guided visit to Nymphenburg Castle this afternoon.

Farewell dinner this evening. (D)

Monday - September 26

Free time in Munich for shopping or visiting the Oktoberfest.

Tuesday - September 27

Depart this morning from the Munich airport for our flight back to Michigan.

PLEASE NOTE:

You have 3 options for the tour:

- 1) Flying into Germany on September 9 and leaving on the 27th.
- 2) Flying into Innsbruck on September 12 and leaving on the 27th.
- 3) Flying into Germany on September 9 and returning from Venice or Vienna. (A reduction would be made for an earlier return).