

Experience Germany & Oberammergau

10 Day Land Tour

08/25/2022 - 09/03/2022

In 1633, the residents of Oberammergau, Bavaria, Germany, vowed that if God spared them from the bubonic plague ravaging the region, they would produce a play thereafter for all time every 10 years depicting the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The villagers believed they had been spared and they have kept their part of the vow.

Headliners:



Michael Ballam

Itinerary:

Day 1: Depart from Home

August 25, 2022

Depart the U.S.A. Sleep overnight on the plane as we begin touring as soon as we land.

Day 2: Arrive in Munich

August 26, 2022

Arrive in Munich and begin your tour with a panoramic view of Munich on the way to Nymphenburg Palace, birthplace of King Ludwig II. Be amazed at the Stone Hall in the Central Pavillion with the ceiling frescoes of Helios in his chariot accompanied by other gods. Discover priceless artifacts in the museums housed in this famous palace. After our group lunch weâ€™ll stop at the pilgrimage church of Wies â€“ Wieskirche, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We finish our day at the hotel in the Fuessen area where we stay the next 2 nights. Dinner will be served at the hotel. (L, D)

Day 3: Hohenschwangau Castle - Neuschwanstein Castle

August 27, 2022

Breakfast will be served at the hotel each day. Weâ€™ll begin our tour with the Hohenschwangau Castle, the childhood residence of King Ludwig II. Enjoy some free time in between tours to explore and shop. Weâ€™ll enjoy lunch together at a local restaurant. Next visit Neuschwanstein Castle, which King Ludwig II built on a rugged hill against a backdrop of picturesque mountain scenery. The castle was prompted by the idea of rebuilding an existing ruin â€œin the authentic style of the old German knightsâ€™ castlesâ€• as he wrote in a letter to Richard Wagner. Weâ€™ll have dinner at a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

Day 4: Linderhof Palace - Oberammergau Passion Play

August 28, 2022

This morning we visit Linderhof Palace, the smallest of the three palaces built by King Ludwig II, and the only palace he lived to see completed. The â€œRoyal Villaâ€• and its surrounding park is one of the most artistic and stylistically complex ensembles of the 19th century. We then head to the beautiful alpine village of Oberammergau. We have free time for lunch and shopping. We walk to the Passion Play venue in the early afternoon. Dinner will be served during a break and then after the play we walk back to our hotel. (B, D)

Day 5: Herrenchiemsee Castle

August 29, 2022

This morning weâ€™re off on a guided tour across the lake to Herrenchiemsee Castle. Modeled on Versailles, this palace was built as a â€œtemple of fameâ€• for King Louis XIV of France, whom the Bavarian monarch fervently admired. Enjoy a group lunch and the rest of the afternoon with free time at the castle for shopping and exploring on our own. We continue on to our bed and breakfast Pension in Ruhpolding, our home for the rest of the tour, and have dinner at a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

Day 6: Obersalzberg Documentation Center - Alpine National Park

August 30, 2022

Weâ€™ll begin our beautiful Sunday morning with a sunrise service and then breakfast. Our first stop is the Obersalzberg Documentation Center which covers the history of Obersalzberg and the Third Reich with many photographs and fascinating documents from the Nazi era. Weâ€™ll also have access to the bunker system. After descending the mountain, weâ€™ll enjoy lunch and travel towards Berchtesgaden, a region of spectacular natural beauty, majestic mountains, crystal clear lakes and the unspoiled nature reserve of the Alpine National Park. End the day with a visit to Koenigsee and enjoy a boat ride. Dinner

will be served at a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

Day 7: Hellbrunn Palace - Salzburg - Mirabell Gardens - Mozart Dinner Concert

August 31, 2022

Today Hellbrunn Palace awaits. Schloss Hellbrunn was the summer playhouse of Markus Sittikus, the archbishop of Salzburg, built in 1619. The palace was only for the daytime; there are no bedrooms in the home. It was simply an opulent and delightful place to wile away the hot summer days for the powerful archbishop and his friends. Enjoy some free time after our group lunch for souvenir shopping. Our tour continues as weâ€™re led by a local guide who will take us on a walking tour of Salzburg, Mozartâ€™s home town. It was here at the age of 10 that Mozart made his debut as a symphonist. Weâ€™ll continue our tour by visiting Mirabell Gardens and follow the footsteps of Maria and the Von Trapp Family. Be amazed at this beautiful well-kept UNESCO listed old town. Our tour will end with a Mozart Dinner Concert â€“the highlight of our day! (B, L, D)

Day 8: Mauthausen Concentration Camp - Silent Night Memorial

September 1, 2022

Our sober day begins with a visit to the Mauthausen Concentration Camp. It was established in April 1938, shortly after Austria was annexed to Nazi Germany. Starting as a satellite of Dachau, in Germany, it became an independent camp in the spring of 1939 which was operated by the SS (the Nazi paramilitary corps). It later acquired satellite camps of its own throughout Austria, all collectively called Mauthausen. Weâ€™ll have lunch and continue to the Oberndorf bei Salzburg â€“ Silent Night Memorial and learn the history of this world-famous song. (B, L, D)

Day 9: Hallstatt - Salt Mine - Salzkammergut Lake District

September 2, 2022

This morning weâ€™ll travel to the city of Hallstatt and visit the oldest salt mine in the world, Europeâ€™s oldest wooden staircase and the free-floating Skywalk with its â€œWorld Heritage Viewâ€• 360 meters above the ground. Weâ€™ll also experience the history of Bronze Age mining recounted today in spectacular fashion thanks to state-of-the-art multimedia technology, including a Bronze Age Cinema 400 meters below ground. After lunch weâ€™ll continue on to see the beautiful Salzkammergut Lake District visiting the villages of Mondsee and St. Wolfgang. Dinner will be served at a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

Day 10: Return Flights Home

September 3, 2022

Today we leave Ruhpolding and head to Munich for our return flights home. (B)

Information:

Space is limited so BOOK NOW!

INCLUDED

Lectures with MICHAEL BALLAM

English-speaking German guide

Meals as indicated (8 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 8 dinners)

Hotel Accommodations

Use of Listen Technologies receiver to listen to the guide's narrative and instructions above the background noise

Entrance Fees & Activities

Transfer to/from the Airport

Transportation in Deluxe Air-conditioned Coach

Standard gratuities for the driver and guide

NOT INCLUDED

1 lunch and meals traveling to/from Germany

Personal Items

Trip Cancellation Protection

International Flights (roundtrip Munich)

Pricing:

Price

- \$3969 per person based on double occupancy for cash or check payments.
- \$4092 per person based on double occupancy for credit card payments.
- Single Supplement is \$910 for payment by check. \$940 for payment by credit card

Payment Schedule

- Non-refundable Deposit of \$1000 per person due at time of booking
- Final Payment due April 25, 2022

Cancellation Policy

- \$1000 per person after deposit is received
- 100% Cancellation Penalty after April 25, 2022

Check Your Invoice Names: Please check to see that your names are spelled correctly. Your first and last names must appear as they appear on your passport for International travel and Driver's License for domestic tours.

PASSPORTS ARE REQUIRED and should be valid 6 months after the end of the tour.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Due to the nature of this tour you must be able to climb stairs and walk unassisted at a moderate pace.

Please note that minor changes to the itinerary may occur due to local conditions and to better accommodate our group.