



Pre-Departure Itinerary
Exploring the Alpine Countries &
Oberammergau's Passion Play
 Friday, July 9 - Wednesday, July 21, 2010

This perfect summer holiday begins in Vienna. **A cruise of the Danube River** brings you to Melk and its Abbey before arriving in **Salzburg**. Your walking tour of the charming Old Town that was Mozart's birthplace leads you to **Mirabell Gardens** and locations you may recognize from the classic film "The Sound of Music." In this "City of Music," you'll also be treated to a **Mozart Dinner concert** before moving to Germany, where you'll enjoy a tour of Munich before traveling to the quaint village of Oberammergau. A full day will be set aside for your Passion Play performance before heading into the mysterious **Black Forest**. Your first stop in Switzerland will be the Chateau de Chillon on beautiful **Lake Geneva**. Later you'll journey through the Rhone Valley and ascend the Swiss Alps until you reach the spectacular Alpine village of **Zermatt**. In medieval Lucerne, you'll experience a walking tour of the Old Town's hidden treasures and its 800-plus years of history. Your last stop will be delightful Bern where you'll end the holiday with a panoramic farewell tour.

Highlights...

Vienna~Danube Cruise~Salzburg~Mozart Dinner Concert~ Munich~ Oberammergau Passion Play~ Neuschwanstein Castle~ Black Forest~ Zermatt~ Lucerne~Bern

Trip Planner...

Day 1: Overnight flight
Days 2-3: Hotel De France, Vienna
Days 4-5: Renaissance Hotel Salzburg
Days 6-7: Oberammergau Hotel Oberammergau or Garmisch- Partenkirchen, Garmisch
Day 8: Hofgut, Sternen, Black Forest
Days 9-10: Hotel Schweizerhof, Zermatt
Days 11-12: Hotel Bristol, Bern

Included...

Round-trip regularly scheduled air transportation from Boston to Vienna and Bern to Boston
 Eleven night's first-class accommodations
 Nineteen meals: 11 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 7 dinners
 Sightseeing and Touring
 Round-trip private airport/hotel transfers

Rates...

\$ 5079 per person double occupancy
\$ 5649 for single reservations
Add \$400 for current air taxes, fees, charges and surcharges. Cancellation and unused services waiver is \$350. Although not required, we recommend purchasing the waiver. Purchase must be made at the time of booking.

DAILY ITINERARY

Day 1: Friday, July 09, 2010 Overnight Flight

Welcome to Collette's Alpine Countries tour - a visit to three of Europe's most picturesque countries: Austria, Germany (Bavaria), and Switzerland.

Day 2: Saturday, July 10, 2010 Vienna, Austria - Tour Begins

You arrive in the grand city of Vienna, the former capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Tonight, in the picturesque wine-making village of Grinzing, you will join your fellow travelers at one of the local restaurants for a delightful welcome dinner, complete with local wines and traditional entertainment. **(D)**

Day 3: Sunday, July 11, 2010 Vienna

Your Imperial Vienna tour highlights the baroque marvels of Schoenbrunn or Belvedere Palace. Touring Vienna's city center, you view St. Stephan's Cathedral, beautiful baroque architecture, parks and gothic spires of a by-gone age. The remainder of the day is at leisure. This evening you are invited to dinner at a popular local restaurant. **(B,D)**

Day 4: Monday, July 12, 2010 Vienna - Danube River Cruise - Melk - Salzburg

Depart Vienna and travel along the banks of the Danube to the medieval town of Durnstein. Embark on a cruise on the Danube River, gliding through the historic Wachau Valley, one of the most beautiful stretches of river in the world. Later you visit the Benedictine Abbey in Melk, before continuing to the "City of Music", Salzburg. **(B,D)**

Day 5: Tuesday, July 13, 2010 Salzburg - Mozart Dinner Concert

Enjoy a walking tour of the Altstadt (Old Town) highlighting the Cathedral, Mozart's Birthplace and Mirabell Gardens. You will not be able to miss recognizable locations from the "Sound of Music". Your afternoon is at leisure. The evening includes a memorable Mozart Dinner Concert at the centuries-old St. Peter's Restaurant. In the stylish ambiance of the historic Baroque Hall, you will enjoy a traditional candlelight dinner (featuring recipes from the 17th & 18th centuries) while you listen to some of Mozart's most popular compositions performed by local artists in colorful, historic costumes. **(B,D)**

Day 6: Wednesday, July 14, 2010 Salzburg - Munich, Germany - Oberammergau

Travel through the picturesque landscape of Austria to neighboring Germany. Your destination is Munich, the beautiful capital of the state of Bavaria. Upon arrival, enjoy a city tour featuring the Olympic Park, Marienplatz and the Glockenspiel. Next, depart for the quaint village of Oberammergau, nestled in the Bavarian Alps. **(B,D)**

Day 7: Thursday, July 15, 2010 Oberammergau - Passion Play

Enjoy a performance of the Passion Play which originally took place in 1634. During the Thirty Year War, the village of Oberammergau was spared the Black Plague and for this reason, the villagers vowed that every ten years they would give a play to honor the life of Christ. The performers are native Oberammergauers. Their long hair and beards are natural as they start to grow it a year or more in advance, and their costumes are made by local villagers. This is truly an unforgettable event. **(B,L,D)**

Day 8: Friday, July 16, 2010 Oberammergau - Rhine Falls - Black Forest

Today you visit Wies Church, proclaimed as a World Heritage site. You then view perhaps the most famous castle in Bavaria - Neuschwanstein - with its turrets and pinnacles. Continuing on the scenic route, you traverse southern Germany, skirting the northern shores of Lake Constance to the Rhine Falls, Europe's most powerful waterfall. You then proceed to the mysterious Black Forest - setting of legends and stories of yore! Don't forget to shop for authentic cuckoo clocks, Hummels, and wood carvings! **(B)**

Day 9: Saturday, July 17, 2010 Black Forest - Chateau de Chillon, Lake Geneva, Switzerland - Zermatt

Today enjoy a visit to the Chateau de Chillon, beautifully situated on Lake Geneva. Your travels continue through the wine-growing region of the Rhone Valley before beginning the ascent into the fabulous Swiss Alps. Upon arrival in Tasch, board a local train for the short ride to the spectacular Alpine village of Zermatt. **(B,D)**

Day 10: Sunday, July 18, 2010 Zermatt

Begin your day with an orientation tour of the village. The balance of the day is at leisure to explore this charming village, savor pastries at a local café or just relax. **(B)**

Day 11: Monday, July 19, 2010 Zermatt -Lucerne - Bern

This morning travel to the beautiful medieval city of Lucerne, the “Swiss Paradise on the Lake”. Enjoy a leisurely-paced Altstadt (Old Town) walking tour exploring the hidden treasures of the city. In addition to its natural charm and tranquility, Lucerne has more than 800 years of history. Explore such medieval treasures as the covered Chapel Bridge (1833); the famous Water Tower which has served as a prison, watchtower and treasury; the Renaissance-style Town Hall; the baroque Jesuit Church; and the Lion Monument, carved from natural rock to commemorate the heroic Swiss Guard. This afternoon, travel to the Swiss capital of Bern. **(B)**

Day 12: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 Bern

Today, explore delightful Bern on a panoramic sightseeing tour featuring the Bundeshaus (the Swiss Parliament), the famous Bear Pit, the Rose Gardens, and the gothic cathedral which dominates the Old Town skyline. This evening, join your fellow travelers in celebrating the end of a marvelous trip with a farewell dinner. **(B,D)**.

Day 13: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 Bern - Tour Ends

Your tour ends today in Bern. **(B)**

PLEASE NOTE: *This pre-departure itinerary is designed to give you an idea of how this itinerary is structured. We reserve the right to make any changes to your final itinerary if deemed necessary, at any time prior to departure.*

PLEASE NOTE: *This is not your final itinerary. You will receive final documents (itinerary, tickets (if applicable), etc.) approximately 2–3 weeks prior to departure. Although we try our best to ensure that information is accurate at the time of publication, we are not responsible for any error, omission, misprint or liability that results from the use (or misuse) of this information.*

Have Questions about this itinerary?

Email us at travel@jeromepress.com