



THE TRAVEL CLUB

Pre-Departure Itinerary

OBERAMMERGAU 2010

Experience *The Passion Play!*

Imperial Cities

Featuring Budapest, Vienna, Prague & Innsbruck

Thursday, May 27 – Saturday, June 5, 2010

Includes

- Round-trip regularly scheduled flights from Boston to Budapest and Munich to Boston
- Eight nights' first-class accommodations
- Sixteen meals: Eight breakfast, two lunches, six dinners
- Sightseeing and Touring
- Round-trip, private airport/hotel transfers with assistance

Rates

\$4,479 per person double occupancy

\$5,199 for single reservations

Triple accommodations may be available on request. Add \$390 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. Passport required.

Travel Planner

Day 1 Overnight flight

Days 2-3 Beke Radisson SAS, Budapest

Days 4-5 Arcotel Kaiserwasser, Vienna or Renaissance Wien Hotel, Vienna

Days 6-7 Hotel Diplomat, Prague

Day 8 Austria Trend Hotel Congress, Innsbruck

Day 9 Oberammergau Region Hotel, Oberammergau Region

Features

Budapest ~ Mathias Church ~ Fishermen's Bastion ~ Renaissance Dinner ~ Hungarian Horse Show ~ Vienna ~ Schoenbrunn Palace ~ Danube River Cruise ~ Grinzing Evening ~ Prague ~ Hradcany Castle ~ Innsbruck ~ Oberammergau Passion Play

DAILY ITINERARY

Day 1: Thursday, May 27, 2010 – Overnight Flight

Great sightseeing, traditional entertainment and fabulous cultural elements await you on your amazing tour of the Imperial Cities of Central Europe. Your cultural experience of a lifetime begins with an overnight flight to Europe.

Day 2: Friday, May 28, 2010 – Arrive Budapest

You arrive in Budapest, the "Queen of the Danube" and truly one of the world's most beautiful cities. Buda, decidedly more rugged in terrain, sits on one side of the river, and Pest is on the gentler opposite bank. This evening join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner **(D)**

Day 3: Saturday, May 29, 2010 – Budapest- Szentendre - Visegrad - Budapest

An informative city tour features the Mathias Church, site of many coronations of kings. You also visit the Fishermen's Bastion with its white walls, towers and arcades for spectacular views. Continue to historic Old Buda and Gellert Hill, followed by the Parliament. At Heroes Square, admire the imposing Millennium Monument, completed in 1904, which memorializes the 1,000th anniversary of Hungarian dominion. Later, visit the beautiful baroque town of Szentendre and travel to the former Renaissance capital of Visegrad to enjoy a magnificent view of the Danube Bend and the Borzsony Mountains. Travel back in time with a visit to a 14th century castle where knights with colorful costumes and authentic weaponry recreate the days of chivalry. This evening, enjoy a special

Renaissance-style dinner and reenact the days of medieval times. Complete with wine and music, this evening is sure to delight. **(B,D)**

Day 4: Sunday, May 30, 2010 – Budapest - Domonyvolgy (Horse Show) - Vienna, Austria

Travel to the picturesque Hungarian countryside, called the “puszta” and visit a typical horse farm in this land which some say is “flat as water.” Learn the unique culture and history of the Csikos, or Hungarian horsemen whose equestrian lineage reaches back 1,000 years. Watch in amazement as they put on a spectacular horse show for our pleasure. Afterwards, enjoy a traditional Hungarian feast, including goulash soup, in a typical setting against a backdrop of wonderful gypsy music. Your journey then takes you to the grand city of Vienna, the former capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. **(B,L)**

Day 5: Monday, May 31, 2010 – Vienna-Danube River - Melk - Grinzing-Vienna

A city tour of Vienna features the baroque marvels of Schoenbrunn Palace, the summer retreat of the Habsburg dynasty for more than 200 years. In the city center, see the gothic St. Stephan’s Cathedral and behold the beautiful architecture, scenic parks and spires that fill the city. Travel along the banks of the Danube to the medieval town of Durnstein where you board your boat for a scenic Danube River cruise. “Waltz” across one of the most breathtaking bodies of water in the world, immortalized by Strauss, and travel through the historic Wachau Valley. Later, visit the 11th century Melk Abbey, famous for its production and collection of manuscripts. Tonight, enjoy a memorable evening with entertainment in the picturesque winemaking village of Grinzing. **(B,D)**

Day 6: Tuesday, June 1, 2010 – Vienna - Prague, Czech Republic

A scenic ride through the countryside takes you to Prague, variously called the “Golden City” or “The City of 1000 Spires.” This afternoon, enjoy a panoramic tour as you drive through the city to the amazing Hradcany Castle. Walk the famous Golden Lane with its delightful miniature houses, including one that was the residence of Franz Kafka. View St. Vitus Cathedral as well as the lovely statue-lined Charles Bridge. **(B,D)**

Day 7: Wednesday, June 2, 2010 – Prague

Today is at leisure to independently explore the city, shop for famous Bohemian crystal, or visit one of the city’s many outstanding museums, such as the Lapidarium, home of stone sculptures dating from the 11th century to the present. **(B)**

Day 8: Thursday, June 3, 2010 – Prague - Innsbruck, Austria

This morning you depart early and travel to the striking Olympic city of Innsbruck. The “Capital of the Tyrol.” A local guide leads a panoramic Innsbruck city tour highlighting the popular thoroughfare, Maria Theresienstrasse; the Hofburg, now a museum, but once the seat of Habsburg princes; and the “Golden Roof” all set against the imposing backdrop of the lovely Austrian Alps. **(B,D)**

Day 9: Friday, June 4, 2010 – Oberammergau Region, Germany

Depart Innsbruck this morning for the beautiful Bavarian village of Oberammergau. This afternoon, witness a performance of the Passion Play. The original performance dates back to 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. To lend authenticity to the performance, the cast members start to grow their hair and beards more than a year in advance. Also, the intricate costumes are made locally by the villagers. During the break of the performance, join your fellow travelers for a farewell dinner celebrating the end of a memorable trip **(B,L,D)**

Proof of Citizenship is required for all trips outside the United States. U.S. citizens require valid Passport. Passports are the responsibility of each client.

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.