



**First Class 10 Day Package**

# Austria & Germany

## **Day 1: Depart USA**

Overnight flight to Europe.

## **Day 2: Arrive Vienna**

You will be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is free to explore on your own, shop, relax and prepare for the excitement to follow.

## **Day 3: Vienna**

This morning following breakfast we visit one of Europe's most

renowned cathedrals, St Stephens. We then have a panoramic city tour viewing Vienna's most famous historic sights including the Ringstrabe, with its magnificent buildings, the State Opera House, Parliament, etc. We then visit Hofburg Palace, residence of the Hapsburgs and home of the famous Spanish Riding School. The highlight of touring today will be a visit to Schöenbrunn Palace and the royal apartments.

## **Day 4: Vienna to Salzburg**

Our destination today is Salzburg, the Baroque city forever associ-



ated with both Mozart and the “Sound of Music.” A jewel in a perfect mountain setting on both banks of the Salzach River, the city and the surrounding countryside are dominated by the magnificent Festung Hohensalzburg, a 12th century fortress 500 feet above the town. We visit the birthplace of Mozart, now a museum; also the 17th century Residenzplatz, with its 40-foot high fountain; and the Benedictine Abbey of St. Peter. The remainder of the day is free with many things to do and see.

#### **Day 5: Salzburg to Munich**

This morning we travel to the nearby Mirabell Gardens, scene of the Sound of Music, before continuing on to Munich. Our sightseeing begins with a driving tour of Munich including outside views of the Olympic Stadium, Pinakotheken art museums, Royal Palace (Residenz), National Theater, and the world famous Hofbräuhaus. Take a walking tour of the Marienplatz which lies at the heart of the Altstadt in the city center. This lively, attractive square houses the Gothic New Town hall (Neue Rathaus) with its famous Glockenspiel and the Old Town Hall.

#### **Day 6: Munich, Neuschwanstein**

We have some free time this morning to explore Munich on our own. Late this morning transfer from the hotel to the fairy-tale castle, Neuschwanstein Castle. We take a guided tour of Ludwig II's most luxurious former residence where the interior styles range from Byzantine to Romanesque to Gothic. This castle, built between 1869 and 1886, has a most impressive view with the Alpsee Lake below and the Alps towering above. We continue to the Pilgrimage Church of Wies to visit this oval Rococo style church which is a UNESCO World Heritage site. From here we

continue to Oberammergau or surrounding area for dinner and overnight stay.

#### **Day 7: Passion Play Performance**

This morning we will have some free time to enjoy the delightful village of Oberammergau with outstanding opportunities for photos and shopping. This afternoon and evening we enjoy the Passion Play production. The play depicts the story of Christ's Passion, beginning with the entry into Jerusalem and ending with the resurrection and transfiguration, a moving and spectacular experience. Each performance starts at 2:30 PM (1:30 PM start time after August 17th) and ends approximately 10:30 PM (9:30 PM after August 17th), with a three-hour included dinner break/intermission from 5:00 to 8:00 PM (4:00 to 7:00 PM after August 17th). We stay overnight in Oberammergau or surrounding area.

#### **Day 8: Augsburg, Rothenberg**

This morning we travel north to the ancient city of Augsburg, the place where the Augsburg Confession was presented. Our morning drive will allow for time to rehearse this important document and digest the tremendous meaning it has as the basis for much of our doctrine today. It was also here in 1518 at St. Anne's Church that Luther met the papal legate, Cardinal Cajetan, who demanded that Luther submit to the pope. Augsburg was also the site of another Imperial Diet (1530). This afternoon we travel the panoramic "Romantic Road" and visit the best preserved medieval town in all of Europe, Rothenberg ob der Tauber. We see the quaint Rathaus (town hall) with its impressive tower and have free time for coffee and shopping in the many delightful shops. You may choose to visit on your own the Kriminal-museum, housing

all manner of medieval instruments of torture. Overnight in Rothenberg.

#### **Day 9: Heidelberg, Worms, Mainz**

This morning we travel to one of the most charming cities in all of the world - Heidelberg, ancient capital of the Palatinate and home of Germany's oldest university. But most importantly, it was a stronghold of German Reformed Protestants beginning in 1560. One of the great confessional statements of the Reformation, the Heidelberg Catechism was produced here in 1563. We tour Heidelberg Castle, a most impressive historic landmark of Germany that stands majestically overlooking the Neckar River. The structure, now largely in ruins, preserves numerous examples of Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque German architecture. Our next stop is in Worms. It was here, during the Imperial Diet in 1521, that Martin Luther challenged the entire Roman Catholic establishment by his refusal to recant the great doctrines of Protestantism. It was also here that William Tyndale completed the printing of his English version of the New Testament in 1525 which he had begun in Cologne. After seeing St. Peter's Church and the symbolic Luther memorial near the town square, we transfer to Mainz. In Mainz we view the Gutenberg Monument and then visit the Gutenberg Museum to learn about printing from the moveable metal type and see a Gutenberg Bible. We overnight in Frankfurt.

#### **Day 10: Departure**

We transfer to the Frankfurt airport for our flight home.

**PRICE PER PERSON:**  
BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

**Please contact us at**  
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