



**First Class 12 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 associated 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 sight-seeing 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: Passion Play Performance**

This morning we transfer from Munich to Oberammergau. You 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 7: 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 some 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 8: 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 9: Coburg, Eisenach**

Wasting no time today we immediately set out through scenic Thuringer Wald to view the fortress of Coburg known as Veste, the place of Luther's imprisonment in 1530. Next we visit Eisenach,

birthplace of Johann Sebastian Bach. It was here at the formidable Wartburg Castle that Luther, under "house arrest", translated the New Testament into the German language in 1523. We visit the castle and see where Luther spent his time. We end our day in Erfurt for dinner and overnight.

#### **Day 10: Erfurt, Eisleben**

This morning we spend time in Erfurt where Luther attended the university. A highlight will be the Augustinian Monastery where he spent his early years as a monk. Leaving Erfurt we visit Eisleben which is noted among the most significant in Luther's history; he was born here in 1483 and died here in 1546 and old manuscripts indicate that he felt a special affinity to Eisleben. We will see the house of his birth and death, St. Andrews Church where he preached his last sermon, the Luther Monument, and St. Anne's Church with the famous Biblical scenes hewn in stone and many other sites. We continue to Wittenberg for dinner and overnight.

#### **Day 11: Wittenberg, Berlin**

We continue the Reformation Trail today with a visit to Wittenberg where Martin Luther lived and taught for 36 years. You will see the Castle Church door where Luther posted his 95 Theses, giving birth to the Reformation and the Town Church where he preached. We visit the Luther House which is the greatest museum of Reformation History in the world. This afternoon we transfer to Berlin for a short tour of the Berlin Wall, Brandenburg Gate, and Checkpoint Charlie. Overnight in Berlin.

#### **Day 12: Departure**

We transfer to the airport for our flight home.

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

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