



## LOUDOUN COUNTY SENIOR TRIPS PROGRAM



# Landmarks of Europe & the Passion Play

**August 10 - 22, 2020**  
**12 Nights – 13 Days**

Behold spectacular Alpine Vistas and enjoy a **Once in a Decade** performance of the famed Oberammergau Passion Play on this journey through, Austria, Germany and the Czech Republic.

### Day One, Monday, August 10, 2020

Depart USA.

### Day Two, Tuesday, August 11, 2020 Bamberg, Germany

After arrival at Frankfurt Airport, we drive to Bamberg, the old imperial city declared a world cultural heritage by UNESCO in 1993. En route, we stop in **Würzburg**, capital of Franconia, where we enjoy a spectacular view from **Marienberg Fortress**, the former stronghold of the Prince-Bishops of Würzburg. We drive the Franconian wine route and stop in the charming, delightful medieval town of **Prichsenstadt** before arrival at the hotel. We have time to sample the famous local *Rauchbier* (smoked beer) or meander the streets admiring the murals and medieval buildings. (B, D)

### Day Three, Wednesday, August 12, 2020 Prague, Czech Republic

Our route takes us east today as we drive through the scenic **Fichtel Mountains** to **Plzeň (Pilsen)**. We take a break for lunch at the **Plzeň Brewery and Restaurant** and go on an interesting guided brewery tour. After a sample of the special *Plzen Urquell* beer, we continue to Prague in time to stroll along **Wenceslas Square** and explore the **Old Town Square** (Staroměstské náměstí). Tonight a special treat awaits—a Czech folklore show including dinner with Czech specialties. (B, D)

#### Day Four, Thursday, August 13, 2020 Prague

This morning our local guide joins us on a walking tour through the castle grounds of **Hradčany Castle**, where the 30 Year Religious War started. We visit the Gothic **St. Vitus Cathedral** and stroll across the famous **Charles Bridge** to reach the **Old Town Square** and enjoy free time for lunch. Perhaps we have time to look for bargains in Bohemian crystal or garnet jewelry! In the afternoon, we walk through **Joseftown** (Josefov), the old Jewish quarter and tour one of the oldest Jewish cemeteries from the 11th century. Tonight we find our own "new" favorite restaurant. (B)

#### Day Five, Friday, August 14, 2020 Freistadt, Austria

We drive south today and stop in **České Budějovice** where we learn about the process of making the original "Budweiser" beer at the **České Budějovice Brewery**. Our next stop is in **Český Krumlov**, the "pearl" of the Czech Republic. Next we transfer to the romantic, fortified town of **Freistadt**, the chief town in the lower Mühlviertel in Upper Austria and have free time to shop, or perhaps walk the ramparts to experience the ambience of this delightful medieval town. (B, D)

#### Day Six, Saturday, August 15, 2020 Kremsmünster

We travel through the scenic **Mühlviertel** (Mill Quarter) in Upper Austria and tour the hops farm of the Josef Reiter family. Next, we visit **Klam**, a market town. We tour **Castle Clam**, one of Austria's best retained fortresses. We travel along the **Austrian Romantic Road** stopping in **Steyr**, known for its tractors and innovative firearms production. We arrive in Kremsmünster, where a delicious Austrian dinner awaits. (B, D)

#### Day Seven, Sunday, August 16, 2020 Salzburg

We experience the beauty of the **Salzkammergut**, one of Austria's favorite vacation areas, as we drive to **Gmunden** to tour the famous **Gmundener Keramik Factory**. After free time to shop or walk along the lake promenade, we drive to Mondsee for a picture stop at the striking St Michael's Basilica (where Maria married Captain von Trapp in the *Sound of Music* film). We continue to **Schleedorf** and stop at a "**Käsererei**" to sample local cheese and learn about cheese-making. Tonight we attend the "Sound of Music" Show at the Sternbräu Restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day Eight, Monday, August 17, 2020 Salzburg

In the morning we explore Salzburg, the town made famous by its native son, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and as the setting for the *Sound of Music* film. We stroll through Old Salzburg, with picturesque **Mirabell Garden** to reach the **Getreidegasse**. We walk past Mozart's birthhouse to visit **St. Peter's Cemetery** and see the catacombs. We have the remainder of the day to relax and enjoy this beautiful city, trying local pastries and coffee. This evening we have dinner on our own. (B)

#### Day Nine, Tuesday, August 18, 2020 Mutters near Innsbruck

We drive to nearby **Berchtesgaden** this morning and experience an excursion to the Kehlstein Mountain, site of the tea house built for Adolf Hitler by the Nazi Party commonly known as the "**Eagle's Nest**." We admire the fantastic Alpine panorama and then drive to **Schönau** and relax during a cruise on the **Königssee**. In the afternoon, we drive through the Alpine countryside following the Autobahn along the river Inn. We arrive at Hotel Plankenhof in Pill and tour the **Schnaps Museum**. After learning about the making of herbal medicine, we transfer to our hotel in time for dinner. (B, D)

### Day Ten, Wednesday, August 19, 2020 Oberammergau, Germany

We explore the Olympic city of Innsbruck this morning and then drive over the **Fernpass** to Oberammergau. En route, we tour **Palace Neuschwanstein**, the fairytale castle built by the eccentric King Ludwig II of Bavaria. After a tour of the castle, we stop at the **Wieskirche**, the beautiful rococo "church in the meadow," before we arrive at our hotel in Oberammergau. (B, D)

### Day Eleven, Thursday, August 20, 2020 Oberammergau

We enjoy a relaxed morning in Oberammergau, admiring the bright frescoes that adorn many of the homes and businesses, perhaps shopping for a souvenir woodcarving for which the village is famous. We have options to visit nearby attractions. This afternoon we attend Part I of the **Passion Play**, the legacy of a vow made by the Oberammergauers in 1633 to enact the Passion story. Due to the ravages of the Thirty Years War, the plague had taken its toll in lives. But many of the people were spared, and the following year, 1634, the first Passion Play was performed on a stage set up in the cemetery. After dinner we attend Part II. (B, L, D)

### Day Twelve, Friday, August 21, 2020 Munich

After breakfast, we drive to Munich and meet our guide for a panoramic city tour of Bavaria's fun-loving capital. We visit the grounds of **Nymphenburg Palace**—the birthplace of King Ludwig II—drive along the elegant **Maximilian Street**, pass by the colorful **Viktualien Markt** and see the **Frauenkirche** - Munich's landmark. We have some free time this afternoon before a farewell dinner at the Hofbrauhaus. We return to the hotel in time to pack for our flight home and enjoy a farewell dinner together. (B, D)

### Day Thirteen, Saturday, August 22, 2020 Return

Regretfully, our adventure comes to an end today. We return with memories of fabulous castles, magnificent alpine landscapes, historic, enchanting cities, a great taste for the European beers and Gemütlichkeit, and a wealth of new friends! "Auf Wiederseh'n!" (B)

**DOUBLE OCCUPANCY: \$5869 Member / \$5914 Non-Member**  
**SINGLE OCCUPANCY: \$6869 Member / \$6914 Non-Member**

**\$500.00 deposit due upon registration. After \$500.00 deposit balance to be paid in six equal installments due on following dates:**

**2018 November 19<sup>th</sup>**

**2019 March 18<sup>th</sup>, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, November 18<sup>th</sup>**

**2020 March 23<sup>rd</sup>, July 20<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Tour Includes:**

- **Round Trip Airfare and Transfers to and From Airports**
- **Hotel Accommodations for 11 Nights**
- **Twelve (12) Breakfasts, One (1) Lunch and Nine (9) Dinners**
- **Admissions and guide service as stated in the itinerary, taxes and gratuities for Driver and Guide**
- **Luggage handling: 1 suitcase per person**

**Contact: Senior Trips (571) 258-3050**