

Germany, Austria, and Switzerland

with Oktoberfest

September 18 - 29, 2027





tinyurl.com/GAS2027

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Rothenburg ob der Tauber

Day 1: Saturday, September 18, 2027 • Departure
Our adventure starts as we depart from Minneapolis on our scheduled flight to Frankfurt, Germany.

Day 2: Sunday, September 19, 2027 • Rothenburg ob der Tauber, Germany
Upon our arrival in Frankfurt, we meet our driver and guide. We make our way to the medieval walled city of Rothenburg ob der Tauber. After checking in at our hotel, we visit the St. James Church and see the famous altar created by the renowned woodcarver, Tilman Riemenschneider. The rest of the afternoon is ours to walk along the city wall, admire the half-timbered buildings, or shop at Käthe Wohlfahrt's Christmas Village. After dinner with wine, for those who want to learn more about life in medieval times we accompany the Night Watchman on a guided tour of the town. **D**

Day 3: Monday, September 20, 2027 • Black Forest, Germany
Today, we enter the Black Forest, famous for cuckoo clocks and half-timbered houses. Near Triberg, we visit the House of Black Forest Clocks for some unique souvenirs and perhaps a slice of the area's famous chocolate torte. Finally, we check into our hotel and have time to relax before dinner. **B/D**

Day 4: Tuesday, September 21, 2027 • Lucerne, Switzerland
Today, our first stop is the charming town of Stein am Rhein, which is known for its painted facades and half-timbered houses. Next, we stop at the mighty Rhine Falls, the largest waterfall in Europe. Later, we drive to Luzern where we view the poignant Lion Monument that pays tribute to the Swiss mercenaries who lost their lives defending the kings of France. There is free time to explore this beautiful city, including a walk across the famous wooden Chapel Bridge. Tonight, we enjoy a traditional Swiss dinner and folklore show that features alphorns, cowbells, flag throwing and, of course, yodeling. **B/D**

Day 5: Wednesday, September 22, 2027 • Lucerne, Switzerland
This morning, we drive to view the Trümmelbachfälle, several waterfalls within a mountain that drain nearby glaciers. Afterwards, we take hiking excursion in the heart of the Swiss Alps. We start by riding a cogwheel train to the small car-free


Palace Linderhof

town of Wengen, where we have some time to explore before taking a gondola up to the ridge of the nearby mountain. From there it's an easy and leisurely hike to Kleine Scheidegg. Our walk affords breathtaking vistas of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau peaks. At Kleine Scheidegg, we have time for lunch before taking a train down to Grindelwald to meet our driver and return to our hotel. **B/D**

Day 6: Thursday, September 23, 2027 • Oberammergau Area, Germany
In addition to chocolate and yodeling, Switzerland is also known for its cheesemaking. We tour a cheese factory and learn about the products and precise processes that make Swiss cheese so popular throughout the world. We also have the chance to sample several distinct kinds of this Swiss specialty. Today we travel a short distance and tour Palace Neuschwanstein, one of three palaces built by Bavaria's King Ludwig II. Inspired by its romantic beauty, Walt Disney used it as the model for his Fantasyland Castle. Afterwards, we continue to Oberammergau, home of woodcarvers, painted houses, and the site of the world-famous Passion Play that is performed here every ten years. **B/D**

Day 7: Friday, September 24, 2027 • Oberammergau Area, Germany
This morning, we visit Palace Linderhof, the smallest, but favorite residence of the eccentric King Ludwig II. Each room has about four pounds of gold leaf. That would equal $25,000 per room in gold alone, if gold were $400 an ounce! The real value, however, lies in the artistic worth of the building. Afterwards, we stop at Benedictine Abbey in Ettal. This evening is free to explore Oberammergau. **B**

Day 8: Saturday, September 25, 2027 • Salzburg, Austria
Our first stop today is in Berchtesgaden, where we don miners' apparel and ride a small train into a salt mine for an unforgettable tour. Afterwards, we continue to see Hitler's Eagle's Nest, a chalet built at the top of the Kehlstein mountain. On a clear day, the site affords a spectacular 360-degree view of the Alps. Next, we travel to Salzburg, Austria, a city famous for being Mozart's birthplace and the backdrop for *The Sound of Music*. We enjoy some free time before dinner to explore the narrow winding streets of the city. **B/D**



Day 9: Sunday, September 26, 2027 • Salzburg, Austria
This morning, a local guide joins us for a walking tour of Salzburg. Our sightseeing includes the magnificent Cathedral, the Getreidegasse, the city's quaint shopping street, Mozart's birth house, and a stop at St. Peter's Cemetery. The rest of the day is free to tour the fortress that overlooks the city or simply relax and appreciate the city that many have called the "Rome of the North". Tonight, we are treated to dinner and a concert in the Stiftskeller St. Peter, the perfect setting to enjoy Austrian food and the music of Mozart. **B/D**

Day 10: Monday, September 27, 2027 • Munich, Germany
This morning, we travel southward to Dachau, a Nazi concentration camp that was first opened in 1933. Our visit to the Concentration Camp Memorial includes a film in English, an informative historical account of the camp's dark history, and plenty of time to walk the grounds on our own. Afterwards, we continue to Munich, Bavaria's friendly capital city. Our tour leader acquaints us with the pedestrian zone around the Marienplatz, including the Frauenkirche, the city's landmark, the Odeonsplatz, a large square where Nazi Party leader Adolf Hitler tried to seize power in 1923, and the Glockenspiel with its world-famous playing of the chimes and twirling mechanical figures. **B/D**

Day 11: Tuesday, September 28, 2027 • Munich, Germany
This morning is a free morning to relax or explore more of Munich. We have lunch at the famed "Oktoberfest." After lunch the rest of the day is free to explore the "world's biggest celebration!" **B/L**

Day 12: Wednesday, September 29, 2027 • Return
Sadly, we say "Auf Wiedersehen" to Europe as we transfer to the Munich Airport for our return flight to the United States. We take with us memories of exciting cities, historical events, great entertainment, and beautiful scenery. **B**

Abbreviations for Meals
Breakfast | **L**unch | **D**inner

Purchase of health, baggage, and trip cancellation/interruption insurance is strongly recommended.

Tour Price • $5,349

Prices are per person, double occupancy, land only with a minimum of 22 paying participants

Single Supplement • $1,650

Your Tour Includes:

- Accommodations (double occupancy) in superior three and moderate four-star hotels
- Land transportation via private, deluxe motor coach
- Meals per the itinerary
- Services of a professional tour manager
- Local step-on guides for city tours and major attractions
- Admission to all activities indicated on the itinerary
- Luggage handling of one piece per person at hotels, when available
- All taxes and tips for provided services, except as indicated below

Your Tour Does Not Include:

- Round-trip air transportation, including all related taxes and fees
- Meals not indicated on itinerary
- Beverages, except with breakfast
- Optional tour gratuities of $192 per person • Tour tips can be collected at time of final invoicing. Tip guidelines are $6-8 per person per day for the driver and $8-10 per person per day for the guide.
- Items of a personal nature such as passports, visas, etc. (Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date.)
- Optional insurance for health, baggage, and cancellation (This insurance is available and offered by Ed-Ventures.)

Payment Schedule:

- A deposit of $1,000 per person is due with reservation.
- An interim deposit of $1,000 is due February 20, 2027.
- Final payment is due June 22, 2027. The invoice will be sent out prior to final payment. Passengers may add after this date subject to air and land availability. Generally, airlines do not increase the price of a ticket after it has been contracted. However, prior to the issuance of a ticket, airlines may (and regularly do) impose fuel, tax, or security surcharges. In the event a surcharge is imposed after Ed-Ventures have received the final payment, Ed-Ventures will send an additional invoice for the surcharge amount. Early registration is encouraged.

Currency:

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

Refund/Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing. The date of the postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Refunds are based on the number of days prior to departure date. From the time of deposit to May 21, 2027, a $100/person administrative fee plus any airfare & land penalties will be assessed. From May 22, 2027 to August 3, 2027, a $300/person cancellation penalty plus lost airfare deposits and any unrecoverable deposits to ground suppliers will be assessed. Airline tickets, once purchased, are non-refundable. Anyone canceling on August 4, 2027 or thereafter will receive no refund. Please refer to the terms and conditions on your brochure for further information.

Terms and Conditions

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of subscription. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

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Due to COVID-19, we reserve the right to adjust the tour in order to follow the guidelines and policies set by the CDC and the local governments.

The airline(s) concerned are not held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on their planes or conveyances. The passenger's contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of this tour and/or passenger. Any and/or all transportation companies herein mentioned shall not have nor incur any responsibility to any traveler aside from their liability as common carriers. Air and land costs are subject to change without notice. **Air transportation is via special, non refundable airfare. Any additional airfare assessments made by the airlines for any changes whatsoever shall be the responsibility of the client.** Other rules may also apply. Services of any A.R.C. or I.A.T.A. carrier may be used in conjunction with this tour. If there is a change in air prices and/or currency exchange rates, we reserve the right to adjust prices.

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