

ALPINE COUNTRIES

Germany, Vienna, Austria, Switzerland and Italy

May 21 - June 05, 2011 16 Days

Be prepared for breathtaking views. This journey starts in Frankfurt and travels via medieval Rothenburg and Munich, where you will visit the Marienplatz, to Austria for guided sightseeing tours in Salzburg and Vienna. From Vienna, an optional excursion to Bratislava, capital of Slovakia, is available. Drive over Semmering Pass into the popular mountain resorts of Carinthia and enjoy an overnight stay in pretty Villach. The Dolomites, Cortina d'Ampezzo in Italy, and Brenner Pass deliver you to Innsbruck in the Austrian Tyrol. Next up: St. Moritz, Lake Como, and Lake Lugano. Proceed to Lake Maggiore, Stresa, and over Simplon Pass back to Switzerland, where you board a mountain train to Zermatt at the foot of the world-famous Matterhorn for your 2-night stay. Via the Rhône Valley, Lake Geneva, Berne, Interlaken, and Brünig Pass to Lucerne, for a relaxing 2-night stay in this picturesque town. Your vacation is topped off by visits to the Rhine Falls, the Black Forest, and Heidelberg, Germany.



TOUR PRICE per person, sharing.

Double occupancy	\$4,244
Single supplement	\$549

DEPOSIT: \$300 per person non-refundable.

HEALTH: None required. Consult with your physician and health clinic.

DOCUMENTATION: Valid Canadian passport 6 months beyond return date (recommended).

INSURANCE: Comprehensive Insurance \$150 per person including tax.

VISA: No visa required for Canadian Citizens.

INCLUSIONS

- Professional Tour Director and local guides.
- Direct flights from Toronto with Air Transat.
- Accommodation in first class hotels. • Gratuities to Guides & Coach drivers.
- Meals as listed. • Sightseeing as listed.
- Roundtrip airport transfers at destination.
- Tour Leader accompanies you from Toronto with a minimum number of participants.

Day 1 - DEPART TORONTO - FRANKFURT - Depart for your overnight transatlantic flight.

Day 2 - ARRIVE IN FRANKFURT, GERMANY (D) - Time to rest or to explore the bustling metropolis on the River Main. At 6 pm, meet your Tour Director and traveling companions for a welcome dinner at your hotel.

Day 3 - FRANKFURT - ROTHENBURG - MUNICH (B,D) -Focus on Germany's Romantic Road leading to the Alps. Walk through medieval Rothenburg with its ramparts and towers, and continue to Munich.

Day 4 - MUNICH (B) - Sightseeing with a Local Guide in Germany's "Secret Capital" includes the Olympic Stadium, 1,000-foot-high Television Tower, Nymphenburg Palace, Marienplatz with the Old and the New Town Halls, and the gothic Frauenkirche. Afternoon at leisure. An optional excursion to Linderhof Castle and the Passion Play village of Oberammergau is available.

Day 5 - MUNICH - SALZBURG - AUSTRIA - VIENNA (B) - Through southern Bavaria to the Austrian border and on to Salzburg. Your walking tour with a Local Guide features the historic center of Mozart's hometown, exquisite Mirabell Gardens, the Great Festival Hall, St. Peter's Churchyard, and the monumental Domplatz. Evening arrival in Vienna, once the center of the mighty Habsburg Empire.

Day 6 - VIENNA (B) - Meet your Local Guide and start your sightseeing with vistas of Prater Park with its giant Ferris wheel, and the United Nations City on the banks of the Danube River. Drive along Ring Boulevard, pass the State Opera House, the Jewish quarter, and stop at the Hofburg Palace, winter residence of the Austrian Imperial family. Marvel at the impressive courtyards and famous Heldenplatz and visit awesome St. Stephen's Cathedral. Afternoon at leisure. Optional excursions to Grinzing for a taste of Heurigen wine, and to Bratislava, capital of Slovakia, are available.

Day 7 - VIENNA - VILLACH (B,D) - An optional excursion to Schönbrunn Palace is possible before continuing south across scenic Semmering Pass and through peaceful crossroad towns in Styria to the popular resorts of Carinthia.

Day 8 - VILLACH - ITALIAN DOLOMITES - INNSBRUCK, AUSTRIA (B,D) - Drive via the Iselsberg Pass to the Italian border and to Cortina d'Ampezzo, the Olympic skiing resort in the Dolomites. Then, via Tre Croci Pass and Lake Misurina to Brunico and across Brenner Pass to Innsbruck in the Tyrolean Alps. Stroll through its medieval lanes to Emperor Maximilian's Golden Roof.

Day 9 - INNISBRUCK - ST. MORITZ, SWITZERLAND (B,D) - Into the Swiss Engadine. See deep-blue lakes, airy larch forests, mountain peaks exceeding 12,000 feet, and quaint villages with massive white stone houses in the characteristic Grisons style. Afternoon free in ritzy St. Moritz.

Day 10 - ST. MORITZ - LUGANO (B) - Descend towards the Italian Lake Como and continue on to the southern tip of Switzerland to the resort town of Lugano, with time for an espresso on Piazza Riforma and a refreshing walk in the shade of Parco Ciani's magnificent old trees.

Day 11 - LUGANO - STRESA, ITALY - ZERMATT, SWITZERLAND (B,D) - From Lake Lugano to Lake Maggiore for a break in elegant Stresa. An optional boat ride to the enchanting Isola Bella can be arranged. On over the lofty Simplon Pass into the Swiss Valais, an area renowned for its great mountain resorts. In Täsch, board a Mountain Train to climb the last few miles up to Zermatt, a picturesque cluster of rustic chalets beneath the Matterhorn.

Day 12 - ZERMATT AT LEISURE (B) - A day to relax or you may wish to ride Europe's highest rack-railway to 10,272-foot Gornergrat.

Day 13 - ZERMATT - BERNE - INTERLAKEN - LUCERNE (B) - Through the vineyards and apricot groves of the lower Rhône Valley to Lake Geneva and via the dairy country of Gruyère to the Swiss capital, Berne. See the monumental Federal Palace during your orientation and stop at the Bear Park before continuing via Interlaken, a Bernese Oberland resort beneath the towering Jungfrau, and across Brünig Pass to Lucerne.

Day 14 - LUCERNE (B,D) - On your walking tour, admire Thorwaldsen's Lion Monument and ornate patrician houses of the walled Old Town, then cross the famous Chapel Bridge to the Jesuit church. Afterwards, shop for Swiss watches.

Day 15 - LUCERNE - HEIDELBERG, GERMANY - FRANKFURT (B,D) - On the way back to Germany, visit the thundering Rhine Falls at Schaffhausen. Enter the pine-clad hills of the Black Forest, and enjoy a Woodcarving demonstration on your way to Heidelberg, well known for its red-walled castle. Tonight, enjoy a farewell dinner to celebrate the success of your vacation.

Day 16 - DEPART FRANKFURT - TORONTO (B) - Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning.

INCLUDED SIGHTSEEING

Frankfurt - Welcome and farewell dinners.

Rothenburg - Walking tour of the medieval city.

Munich - Guided sightseeing, Marienplatz.

Salzburg - Guided walking tour, visit Mirabell Gardens and St. Peter's Churchyard.

Vienna - Guided sightseeing, visit St. Stephen's Cathedral.

Cortina d'Ampezzo - Visit the Olympic Skiing resort.

Innsbruck - Walk through the Old Town to the Golden Roof.

Täsch-Zermatt-Täsch - By mountain train.

Berne - Orientation, stop at the Bear Park.

Interlaken - Visit the Bernese Oberland resort.

Lucerne - Walking tour including the Lion Monument and the Chapel Bridge.

Schaffhausen - Visit the Rhine Falls.

Black Forest - Woodcarving demonstration.

Heidelberg - Take pictures of the castle.