

A Week in Switzerland, Germany & Austria

With 2-Night Prague Extension

9 DAYS: Saturday, September 7-Sunday, September 15, 2019

\$3,519 per person double occupancy; \$3,919 for single reservations

Includes round-trip airfare, fuel surcharge and all air taxes and fees. Fuel surcharge, air taxes and fees subject to change. Passport required. Per person deposit is \$450.

Get to the heart of Central Europe. Spend a week seeing the best of one of Europe's most fascinating regions. Set off from scenic Lucerne, Switzerland to explore Neuschwanstein and Munich, two of Germany's can't-miss destinations. Your adventure continues in Austria, where you'll take in the sights and sounds of Salzburg before being entranced by Vienna's beauty.



Your tour package includes

- 7 nights in handpicked hotels, 7 breakfasts, 3 dinners with beer or wine
- 6 guided sightseeing tours, Expert Tour Director & local guides, Private deluxe motor coach

Included highlights

- Lake Lucerne, Neuschwanstein Castle, Nymphenburg Palace, Hohensalzburg Fortress, Melk Abbey,
- Belvedere Palace,

Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for about 2.5 hours daily across mostly flat terrain with some cobblestone streets, hills, and stairs.

Overnight Flight

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Switzerland today.

Lucerne Region

Day 2: Arrival in Lucerne

Included meals: Dinner

Welcome to Switzerland! After arriving in Zurich, transfer to the Lucerne region to meet your fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Lucerne

Included meals: Breakfast

Get an up-close look at Switzerland's idyllic Alpine city on the northern shores of Lake Lucerne during a guided tour. • View the Lion Monument, a tribute to the Swiss Guards who sacrificed their lives in Paris during the French Revolution • Pass the hand-painted facades that line the cobbled streets of the Old Town • See the Jesuit Church, the first large Baroque building of its kind to be built north of the Alps in Switzerland • Cross the medieval Kapellbrücke, a covered wooden footbridge spanning the Reuss River, and view the Water Tower Enjoy a free afternoon in the Lucerne region or add an excursion.

Optional Excursion Mount Pilatus \$119/pp

This scenic excursion begins with a cruise on Lake Lucerne. After docking, ascend 7,000-foot Mount Pilatus on the world's steepest cogwheel railway. Legend holds that the mountain was named for Pontius Pilate, blown here by the devil after the Crucifixion. From the peak, the views of the Alps are stunning; on a clear day, you can see for 200 miles. Toward the end of your trip, you'll return to the base of the mountain via gondola. Please note: The cruise and cogwheel railway only run from mid-May through October. During the winter months, this excursion includes the cable car ride only. If the cogwheel railway is unavailable, you'll enjoy lunch on the mountain. Save \$10 when you book this excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs (On-tour price: \$129)

Munich

Day 4: Travel to Munich via Neuschwanstein

Included meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Travel through the mountains of Bavaria en route to Munich, Germany. Along the way, stop for a guided tour of Neuschwanstein, the fairy-tale retreat of "Mad" King Ludwig II. • Step inside Neuschwanstein Castle • Take time to explore its stalactite grotto, artifacts, and murals

Day 5: Sightseeing tour of Munich

Included meals: Breakfast

Get to know the Bavarian capital on a guided tour. • Travel past the Englischer Garten and fashionable Schwabing district • Enter the Nymphenburg Palace, the Baroque home to past Bavarian royalty • Walk from Odeonsplatz through the Hofgarten to view the Residenz, once home to the Wittelsbach dukes of Bavaria • Explore Marienplatz, Munich's medieval heart, and see the famed Glockenspiel Spend a free afternoon in Munich or add an excursion

Optional Excursion Dachau \$35/pp

Once a typical German town, Dachau served as the first Nazi concentration camp during World War II. Visit this somber site, which has since been transformed into a Holocaust memorial museum that serves as a testament to the strength of the human spirit. A local guide will walk you through Dachau's poignant exhibits, which are echoed by the memorials to the victims that adorn the grounds. Save \$10 when you book this excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs (On-tour price: \$45)

Salzburg

Day 6: Sightseeing tour of Salzburg

Included meals: Breakfast

Say goodbye to Germany and head to Salzburg, Austria, a city famed for its churches and musical history. There, a local guide leads you on a walking tour of the Old Town. • View the University of Salzburg and the churchyard of St. Peter • See the Kapitelplatz, Residenzplatz, and Alter Markt, in the city's Old Town • Enter the 17th-century Salzburg Cathedral, built in the Baroque style • Pass through scenery from the beloved film *The Sound of Music* • Take the funicular to the hilltop Hohensalzburg Fortress, one of Europe's largest medieval castles Enjoy a free evening in Salzburg or add an excursion.

Optional Excursion Mozart Concert & Dinner \$119/pp

Step inside the 1,200-year-old St. Peter Stiftskeller, located within St. Peter's Abbey, to enjoy an evening of fine dining and music. Mozart composed over 600 works in his short life, and tonight, you'll hear his masterpieces accompanied by opera singing as you sample local delicacies. Save \$10 when you book this excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs (On-tour price: \$129)

Vienna

Day 7: Travel to Vienna via Melk Abbey

Included meals: Breakfast

Stop in Melk for a guided tour of the town's Baroque abbey, then continue your drive through the Austrian countryside to Vienna. Spend a free evening in Vienna or add an excursion.

Optional Excursion Traditional Viennese Heurigen Evening \$99/pp

After a brief drive, your first stop is Vienna's Prater Ferris Wheel. Take a breezy ride to the top, which offers a one-of-a-kind view of the city. Next, continue to the picturesque village of Grinzing. At a local restaurant, you'll indulge in a festive night of music, food, and entertainment. Dinner will feature dishes typical of traditional Austrian Heurigen, or wine taverns. During your meal, you'll have the chance to try some of the tavern's own locally made wine—the perfect addition to your cozy, Old-World setting. Save \$10 when you book this excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs (On-tour price: \$109)

Day 8: Sightseeing tour of Vienna

Included meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Get transported back to the Age of Empires on a guided tour of Vienna. • Step inside Belvedere Palace, home to the world's largest collection of paintings by artist Gustav Klimt, and admire the palace's impressive gardens • Travel down the Ringstrasse, passing the Parliament building, Vienna State Opera, and Kunsthistorisches Museum • See the grand Hofburg Palace, the Hapsburg's preferred winter residence Say goodbye to your group at a farewell dinner this evening.

Day 9: Departure

Included meals: Breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home or continue on the tour extension to Prague.

Add an extension to Prague *from \$399* 2 nights



Prague

Day 9: Travel to Prague

Included meals: Breakfast

Drive through the pastoral landscapes of Bohemia on your way to one of Europe's most beautiful cities: Prague, Czech Republic.

Day 10: Sightseeing tour of Prague

Included meals: Breakfast

Discover why Prague is known as "The City of One Hundred Spires" on a guided tour. • Visit Prague Castle, from which Charles IV governed the Holy Roman Empire • Admire the soaring Gothic vaults of St. Vitus Cathedral • Walk down to the Malá Strana district to sip a coffee at a local cafe • Cross the elegant Charles Bridge for breathtaking views of the city • Stroll through Old Town Square to view the 15th-century Astronomical Clock Tonight, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members. Then, spend a free evening in Prague or add an excursion.

Optional Excursion **Château Sychrov** **\$149/pp**

Built in the classic Neo-Gothic style, the 17th-century Château Sychrov is an aristocratic residence that cannot be missed. Soak in the beauty of the castle on a private tour, admiring the colorful walls, intricate wood carvings on the ceilings, and built-in furniture as you make your way through the rooms. From the beds to the bureaus, each area of the castle has perfectly preserved pieces of 19th-century decor on display. See famous paintings of French royalty and the former residents, the Rohan family, while learning about their daring escape from persecution in France. After you finish touring the manicured grounds, attend a private recital of classic Czech music performed by some of Prague's most cherished musicians. Then, conclude the magical evening by enjoying a private dinner at an on-site restaurant featuring regional specialties and local beer or wine. Please note: The château does not have heat or air conditioning, therefore we recommend dressing accordingly based on the season. Must book 20 days before departure

Day 11: Departure

Included meals: Breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.