

OBERRAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY 2010

w/ **BAVARIA & INNSBRUCK** (optional **SALZBURG & VENICE, ITALY**) 9 days/ 7 nghts

Munich – Innsbruck – Vipiteno – Bavaria – (w/ opt Salzburg, Lucerne, Venice day trips) - Oberammergau area- Munich

Day 01 Depart USA to Munich, Germany

Day 02 Munich - Innsbruck

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Morning arrival in **Munich**, Capital of Bavaria and Germany's third largest city founded by Monks in 1158 has evolved into a world class metropolis for good taste and its own enchanting ambiance. The Wittelsbach Dynasty ruled the one time Kingdom of Bavaria for more than 800 years, leaving its mark in art and culture, rich in testimony to the Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque and Rococo past. You are met by your Tour Manager and transferring to your deluxe motorcoach for a leisurely transfer to **Innsbruck** arriving mid-afternoon. Dinner in Hotel.

Day 03 Innsbruck - Vipiteno, Italy - Innsbruck

BD

Morning city tour of **Innsbruck** dating back to the 12th century includes the Goldene Dacherl built in 1420 by Emperor Maximilian I, the city Tower built in 1440 featuring a 16th century bulbous cupola and the newly renovated St.Jacob's Cathedral and visiting the Old Town. Afternoon excursion over the breathtaking Europabrücke crossing the 5,000 ft. Brenner Pass into Alto Adige region of northern **Italy** to the medieval cobblestone village of **Vipiteno**, noted for its excellent buy's in leather goods, silk, Italian fashion and naturally some of the region's finest wines. Returning late afternoon to your hotel and dinner.

Day 04 Innsbruck - Bavaria, Germany - Innsbruck

BD

Morning transfer to **Bavaria** area via Mittenwald, Hohenschwangau Castle (Kodak moment) built in 1832-36 in neo-Gothic Tudor style according to plans by Domenico Quaglio. Continue to **Neuschwanstein** built in a stunning location above the Pollat Gorge by King Ludwig II in late Romanesque style between 1869-1892 and continue to Dominicus Zimmermann's supreme achievement in Rococo style - the **Wieskirche** (Church in the Meadow) Returning late afternoon to Innsbruck and dinner.

Day 05 Innsbruck – Day at Leisure OR Highly suggest Salzburg Excursion - Innsbruck

BD

OPTIONAL: Full day tour of **Salzburg**, the delightful and elegant city of music known throughout the world as the birthplace of none other than Wolfgang Amadeus **Mozart**. A city of wide open plazas, narrow medieval lanes, impressive monuments from the 18th century in Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque style dominated by the magnificent fortress of Hohensalzburg. Your sightseeing includes the remarkable Residence, the **Old Town, Haus of Mozart, Mirabell Palace** and other exciting highlights. Remainder of day at leisure to shop along the Getreidegasse, treat yourself to a Fiaker ride (horse carriages) and enjoy a leisurely outside café with some sinful Salzburger pastries. Returning late afternoon to Innsbruck and dinner.

BD

Alternative Option 2: Liechtenstein - Lucerne

Early morning departure via St.Anton and the 6,000 ft. Arlberg Pass to the 60 square mile principality of **Liechtenstein** with a short stop in the fairy-tale 12th century **Vaduz**, the capitol. Continue through breathtaking Swiss Alpine scenery to **Lucerne**. Participate in a comprehensive city tour including the world's most famous monument "The Dying Lion of Luzerne" in commemoration of the Swiss Mercenaries at the Tuileries in 1792, the Chapel Bridge dating back to 1333 which offers an imposing display of medieval art and architecture. Afternoon free to shop and stroll through a maze of small streets, bridges, promenades and plazas. **Attention Ladies:** Bucherers is Switzerland's largest retailing store for watches, jewelry, gold and precious stones and should not be missed.

Day 06 Innsbruck – Day at Leisure OR Highly suggest Venice Excursion - Innsbruck

BD

OPTIONAL: Early (6:00am) departure via the Brenner Pass and continue along the Veneto plains to the magical and truly romantic **Venice** "the Pearl of the Adriatic". On his first view of Venice, Thomas Coryate wrote: "the most glorious and heavenly show upon the water that ever any mortal eye beheld". Enjoy a city walking tour starting with a private water taxi on the Grand Canal, the great water road filled with gondolas, motorboats and peppermint stick moorings. Admire the splendid interior of **St Mark's Basilica**, famous for its Byzantine and Gothic design, mosaic, marble and precious sculptures, **St.Mark's Square** (the drawing room of Europe) with its thousands of pigeons, strolling musicians and minstrels. View the 15th century clock tower, **Doges Palace, the Bridge of Sighs** and other historical masterpieces. Remainder of day at leisure to wander and discover Venice on your own. Perhaps a Gondola ride or a short cruise across the calm lagoon to the quaint island of Burano - famous for its exquisite lace works or stop for a Campari at the fashionable Florian Café. Returning late evening to Innsbruck for **light** dinner.

Day 07 Innsbruck – Oberammergau area hotel (Garmish)

BD

Morning at leisure in Innsbruck to relax. In the afternoon a coach ride of approx. 2 hours leads you to **OBERAMMERGAU** a most remarkable village– check in at your designated hotel

Day 08 Oberammergau Passion Play

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This morning enjoy strolling around Oberammergau, shopping and individual sightseeing.

Lunch in designated local restaurant

Attend the first part of the PASSION PLAY 2.30 pm – 5.00 pm

Dinner in designated local restaurant

Evening Part of the PASSION PLAY 8.00 pm – 10.30 pm

Private transfer to your hotel

Day 09 Oberammergau area – Munich Airport

B

Transfer to Munich airport (approx. 2 hours) for USA flight

REMARKS: Due to allocation of Passion Play Performance / Tickets day-by-day itinerary might be altered accordingly.

Included Features:

All transfers with private deluxe motorcoach as indicated in itinerary

Two nights in Oberammergau area in superior hotel with private bath or shower/WC

Five nights in Innsbruck in 4* hotel with private facilities based on double occupancy

First Class Ticket for the Passion Play in Oberammergau

Passion Play Text Book in English

Bilingual Tour Director throughout

Buffet breakfast daily

Three-course Dinner daily (**NO** beverages included)

One (1) Lunch in Oberammergau

Half day guided walking tour of **INNSBRUCK**

Half day excursion to **VIPITENO, ITALY**

Full day to the **BAVARIAN ROYAL CASTLES (Neuschwanstein)** incl. admission

Performance venues in selected destinations

All local taxes, service charges and road tolls

Hotels:

Innsbruck 5 ngts -

Oberammergau area 2 ngts

Adoration Tours

a division of Sweet Adeline's Travel & Tours, Inc.

17119 Horace Street Granada Hills, CA 91344

Adeline Castiglione, MCC President

CST# 2045478-40

Website: www.AdorationTours.com

Email: Adeline@AdorationTours.com

Phone **(818) 368-6545** or Toll free **(800) 446-8290**

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