



## *Amazing Catholic Journeys*

*... we create the experience that changes lives!*



### **OBERAMMERGAU LIVE PASSION PLAY 2020**

#### **Exploring the Alpine Countries with Oberammergau Passion Play**

**JUNE 18 – 27, 2020 (10 Days): \$3,149 excluding Air**

**Spiritual Director: FR. RICHARD TUTTLE**

*Includes Munich, Neuschwanstein, Wies, Oberammergau, Innsbruck, Einsiedeln, Lucerne, Schaffhausen, Black Forest, Rhineland, Trier, Aachen, Cologne, The Rhine Valley, Rüdesheim, Romantic Rhine Cruise, Frankfurt*

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

*Highlights of this Central Europe tour include visits to some of the region's most significant churches and cathedrals, lakes and castles. Visit Andechs Benedictine Abbey, which has been a place of pilgrimage for centuries with relics reputed to come from "Christ's Crown of Thorns". Visit the pilgrimage church in Wies, a Rococo masterpiece and UNESCO World Heritage Site dating to the 1740s set in a gorgeous alpine setting. In Trier, another UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the oldest cities north of the Alps, visit the High Cathedral of St. Peter, which contains the relics of the "Undivided Robe of Christ". This UNESCO World Heritage Site dating to the 4th century is Germany's oldest bishop's church. In Aachen, visit Northern Europe's oldest cathedral, dating to 803 AD. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is the burial place of Charlemagne, the church used for the coronation of German kings and queens, and still a pilgrimage church. Visit the Benedictine Abbey of Einsiedeln, one of Switzerland's*

most important pilgrimage sites and renowned for its black Madonna carved in the 15th century. You'll also witness stunning scenery on this Central Europe tour. Marvel at **Rhine Falls**, Europe's biggest falls, and enjoy a cruise along the most scenic part of the Rhine River. Stop in the **Black Forest** with beautiful forests of thick pine trees.

#### Day 1 – June 18

##### **DAY 1 Depart USA for transatlantic overnight flight to Germany**

#### Day 2 – June 19

##### **DAY 2 Arrive In Munich, Germany**

Welcome to Munich! Flight arrives in the morning. Your orientation of Munich, Germany's "Secret Capital" will start after lunch which includes the Olympic Stadium, 1,000-foot-high Television Tower, MARIENPLATZ with its old and new Town Halls, and the gothic FRAUENKIRCHE. Then a panoramic city tour will continue until the rest of the afternoon. At 7 pm, enjoy this evening's welcome dinner at your hotel.

#### Day 3 – June 20

##### **DAY 3 Munich–Herrsching am Ammersee - Andechs Abbey (Germany)**

After breakfast, drive to the town of Herrsching am Ammersee and onto the gorgeous hilltop monastery of Andechs. Founded in the 10th century, Andechs Benedictine Abbey has long been a place of pilgrimage with relics reputed to come from "Christ's Crown of Thorns" and a victory cross of Charlemagne, whose army overran much of Western Europe in the 9th century. Andechs Monastery is not only famous for its pilgrimage and praying, its also known for its seven varieties of Andechs Monk beer (some of Germany's finest beer!) and for its gastronomy. Beer tasting is offered for groups after a brewery tour in the "Bräustüberl", the traditional Bavarian pub.

After lunch, enjoy a scenic drive to Neuschwanstein for an exciting visit to magnificent KING LUDWIG'S CASTLE, which was the inspiration for Walt Disney's Sleeping Beauty castle. Then proceed to visit the beautifully-located pilgrimage CHURCH of Wies, a Rococo masterpiece. Overnight back in Munich.

#### Day 4 – June 21 – LIVE PASSION PLAY DATE

##### **DAY 4 Oberammergau (Germany)**

We depart Munich after breakfast and drive to Oberammergau (1.5 hrs drive). Today is dedicated to the PASSION PLAY, held every 10 years and performed by the inhabitants of Oberammergau. Lunch & Dinner (Included)

#### Day 5 – June 22

##### **DAY 5 Oberammergau – Innsbruck (Austria) – Einsiedeln (Switzerland) – Lucerne**

After breakfast at our hotel, we will depart Oberammergau. A picturesque drive through the Bavarian and Tyrolean Alps brings you to Innsbruck. Enjoy a pleasant walk through its quaint medieval lanes, visit the Cathedral of St. Jacob, and take pictures of the GOLDEN ROOF & Imperial Palace. Cross the border and enter Switzerland, where you will visit the impressive Benedictine ABBEY OF OUR LADY of Einsiedeln, renowned for the famous **Black Madonna** and its unique baroque architecture. As the most important Marian shrine in Switzerland, and the home of a vital monastic community following the Rule of Saint Benedict, the Abbey of Our Lady of Einsiedeln welcomes pilgrims and tourists alike from Switzerland and around the world. It is located in a town on the foothills of the Alps not far from Zurich. Proceed to Lucerne for overnight.

#### Day 6 – June 23

##### **DAY 6 Lucerne (Switzerland)**

On your walking tour, admire Thorwaldsen's LION'S MONUMENT, dedicated to the Swiss Guards who protected the Royal House of France during the French Revolution, and the ornate patrician houses of the walled town. Then, cross the

famous covered CHAPEL BRIDGE and visit the JESUIT CHURCH with its onion-topped towers, built by the Jesuits in the time Protestantism came up and the reason that Lucerne remained Catholic. Also included is a visit to the Hofkirche ST. LEODEGAR, the most important church and a landmark of the city. Afternoon and evening at leisure; you may wish to join exciting optional excursions (at your cost) to Mount Pilatus and attend a Swiss Folklore show.

#### Day 7– June 24

##### **DAY 8: Lucerne -Zurich-Schaffhausen/Rhine Falls (Switzerland) –Black Forest (Germany) – Rhineland**

A short drive to Zurich for a 1 hour panoramic city tour and stop by the headquarters of the famous Lindt & Sprüngli chocolate factory. Shop for chocolate gifts in the Lindt Chocolate Factory. Continue to drive to Schaffhausen to admire the famous RHINE FALLS; then, enter Germany, and stop in the Black Forest to enjoy a WOODCARVING DEMONSTRATION, before continuing to the Rhineland for your overnight stay.

#### Day 8 – June 25

##### **DAY 8 Rhineland–Trier–Aachen–Cologne (Germany)**

This morning is dedicated to Trier, one of the oldest cities north of the Alps. During your orientation, admire the Porta Nigra, a large Roman city gate, visit the HIGH CATHEDRAL OF ST. PETER, containing many rich treasures and relics including the so called "Undivided Robe of Christ" and see the unusual early-gothic Dreikönigenhaus. Then, continue to Aachen for a visit to the oldest CATHEDRAL in Northern Europe, burial place of Charlemagne, and for 600 years the church of coronation for German kings and queens. Arrive in Cologne for your overnight stay.

#### Day 9 – June 26

##### **DAY 9 Cologne–The Rhine Valley–Rüdesheim–Frankfurt (Germany)**

The morning is dedicated to a visit of the magnificent CATHEDRAL, sometimes called the most beautiful example of gothic art. Next is a romantic RHINE CRUISE along the most scenic part of the Rhine River, followed by a special treat: a WINE TASTING in the capital of Riesling wine, Rüdesheim. This evening, a farewell dinner has been prepared at your hotel.

#### Day 10– June 27

##### **DAY 10 Frankfurt**

Your beautiful pilgrimage ends with breakfast this morning.

#### INCLUSIONS

- ALL nights' hotel accommodations in 4\*/superior class hotel on half board basis
- Meals: Breakfast & Dinner; Lunch on your own except on June 21, lunch in Oberammergau is included
- Professional English Speaking tour escort/guide for the whole tour
- Entrance fees included as per itinerary
- Portage at hotels of 1 large suitcase per person
- All transfer & tours with Deluxe fully equipped motor-coach with A/C
- Whisper set
- Daily Masses

#### PACKAGE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International flight tickets
- Travel Insurance
- Schengen Visa, if needed
- Gratuities for tour guides, driver, hotel/room staff
- Love offering for priest
- Personal expenses

- *Airport Trolleys; Any other services not mentioned above*
- *Any Pre-Tour or Post-Tour Activities & Hotel Stays*

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**FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT:**

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