



Wonders of Germany With Oberammergau *Passion Play*

September 9 – 18, 2020 (10 Days)

Explore the wonder of old world castles and three of Europe's most spellbinding cities. A seat at this decade's only performance of the *Passion Play* in Oberammergau, Germany is truly a highlight. Join SUN TOURS in 2020 for this once-in-a-lifetime experience, and follow in the footsteps of this centuries-old tradition! We start in Bavaria's Munich, well known for its centuries-old buildings, museums and of course, its beer halls. Think *Swan Lake* when visiting the fairytale Neuschwanstein Castle, then explore the exquisite Black Forest region. The old and new beautifully contrast in Heidelberg, Rothenburg, and Frankfurt.

Included meals are denoted: Breakfast: **B**, Lunch: **L**, Dinner: **D**

DAY 1

Today we'll depart Albuquerque on our overnight flight to [Munich](#), Germany – the capital of Bavaria.

DAY 2 **D**

Upon arrival in Munich, we'll transfer to our hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure to begin exploring this fantastic city. This evening we'll enjoy a welcome dinner.

DAY 3 **B**

We'll begin the day with a tour featuring the highlights of Munich from historic sites and landmark buildings, including the [Alte and Neue Pinakotheks](#) (museums), [National Theater](#), [Hofbräuhaus](#) and Cathedral, to popular squares including the beautiful [Odeonsplatz](#) and [Karlsplatz](#). During the walking portion, we'll visit the Marienplatz, Munich's central square, housing the [City Hall](#) and its famous [glockenspiel](#). The tour concludes with a visit to [Nymphenburg Palace](#), the former summer residence of the rulers of Bavaria. Following the tour, the afternoon and evening are at leisure in this capital city.

DAY 4 **B,D**

This morning we depart Munich and travel to [Oberammergau](#), home to the most important [Passion Play](#) in the world. We'll have reserved seats in the best ticket category to witness this life-changing event. Performed every ten years by the inhabitants of this small village, the play depicts Christ's Passion and is held in honor of the village surviving the plague and the [Thirty Years' War](#). Over 2,000 villagers are proud to participate in this 6-hour spectacle, during its 5-month run. Following the play, we'll check in to our hotel for overnight lodging.

DAY 5 **B**

This morning begins with a visit to King Ludwig II's fairytale [Neuschwanstein Castle](#), in a postcard-perfect setting on the shores of [Swan Lake](#), surrounded by the idyllic Bavarian Alps. Upon arrival, we'll transfer up the steep hill to the entrance. Built as a retreat for the reclusive king, we'll explore the interior of this amazing castle and learn how he became known as 'Mad King Ludwig.' Stunning views of the surrounding countryside await from the portals of the castle. After the visit, we'll transfer back down the hill, we continue our journey to the Lake Constance area for 2- nights' accommodations.



DAY 6 B

Today is all about discovering the mountainous **Black Forest** region, whose name originated due to the dense forests that prohibited the sunlight from shining through. Our local guide will relay history and legends of the area as we travel through small villages and become immersed in the mystique and scenic beauty. Visit its largest town, **Freiburg**, filled with Gothic buildings and surrounded by vineyards. On a **walking tour**, we see the main town squares, historic gates, Town Hall, and Münsterplatz with its well-preserved buildings and Merchants' Hall. Continuing on, we visit the picturesque village of **Titisee**, on the shores of the largest natural lake in the forest. After a full day of sightseeing, we return to the hotel for an evening at leisure.

DAY 7 B

Leaving the beautiful lake area, we travel north to **Heidelberg**, the oldest university town in Germany. Upon arrival, we enjoy a **tour** of this historic city. Visit the red-walled ruins of the 14th-century castle which dominates the old town. Enter the castle courtyard via the Gate Tower and marvel at the Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque façades of the castle 'wings'. See the Great Vat built inside the castle which was the largest wine barrel in the world. During a **walking tour** of the old town, we see the Market Place, Town Center with City Hall, Holy Spirit Church and "House of the Knight St. George", the only private house to survive the destruction of Heidelberg when the castle and the town were burned down. After the excursion, we'll check in to the hotel for overnight accommodations.

DAY 8 B

Today's adventure begins with a journey to the picturesque village of **Rothenburg**, nestled in the heart of Bavaria. On our guided walking tour, we enter this 14th-century walled village through the medieval gates and stroll along the charming cobblestone lanes and alleyways. See the beautifully preserved homes, historic market square, and Renaissance town hall. Continuing along the celebrated Romantic Road, relax as we travel through the serene, gentle countryside and quaint towns. Arriving in **Würzburg**, visit the magnificent **Residenz** – one of the most beautiful Baroque palaces in Germany and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. See its world-famous staircase, amazing Imperial Hall, Venetian Room with gilded mirror cabinet, and impressive frescoes. After a day of scenic beauty and towns, the evening is ours at leisure in **Würzburg**.

DAY 9 B,D

Departing Würzburg, travel to **Frankfurt am Main**, former Coronation City of the German Emperors. On the included excursion, we see St. Paul's Church, the old Opera, cathedral, and the banking quarter with its modern skyscrapers standing in contrast to the medieval towers of the former city wall. During the walking portion, stroll through the **Romer** – the historic heart of the city, surrounded by attractive half-timbered houses and home to the Fountain of Justice. After the excursion, we'll check in to our hotel before enjoying an included farewell dinner.

DAY 10 B

After discovering Germany and the life-enriching experience of attending Oberammergau's *Passion Play*, it's time to say 'auf wiedersehen' and depart for the Frankfurt airport for our flight home.

Itinerary subject to change

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TOUR INCLUDES:

- Airfare from ABQ to Munich / Frankfurt to ABQ (not including airline baggage and in-flight charges)
- Transportation by deluxe motorcoach
- 8 nights' lodging at excellent hotels
- Baggage handling at hotels (for one piece)
- 8 breakfasts, 3 dinners
- Admission to all listed attractions
- Your SUN TOURS Escort (with 20 or more travelers)
- Your professional German Tour Director
- All taxes and tips for included items (except hotel housekeeping)

\$5,895 Double occupancy, per person

\$6,795 Single occupancy

DEPOSITS:

\$500 per person **now** holds your place

\$1,000 second deposit due by September 3, 2019

FINAL PAYMENT DUE: March 2, 2020

CANCELLATION FEES:

\$500 – Through September 3, 2019

\$1,500 – September 4, 2019 - March 2, 2020

100% – After March 2, 2020

TRAVEL PROTECTION IS AVAILABLE STARTING AT \$388

