

Tour Code: LMGH18



The Quaintest

# Villages of the Alps

SCHEDULED DEPARTURE

July 12 - 24, 2018



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*Black Forest*

**Day 1: Thursday, July 12, 2018 • Depart US**

Our heritage tour begins as we board our transatlantic flight to Stuttgart, Germany.

**Day 2: Friday, July 13, 2018 • Germany Black Forest area**

Upon arrival in Swabian metropolis of Stuttgart, we meet our tour director and motor coach. We transfer to mysterious Black Forest, known for its dark pine-covered hills, supposedly inhabited by the elves who carve the cuckoo clocks for which the region is famous. Our sightseeing includes a fascinating tour of the Vogtsbauernhof, an open air museum, featuring a collection of reconstructed Black Forest farmhouses from previous centuries. We continue to Gutach for a short stop before checking into our hotel in Triberg where a welcome dinner awaits us. **D**

**Day 3: Saturday, July 14, 2018 • Germany Black Forest area**

Triberg is one of the loveliest Black Forest towns and we get to enjoy it today. Some of us might want to shop for a cuckoo clock, a future family heirloom. Others might prefer hiking in the surrounding forest this morning. This afternoon for those who choose, we take a short ride to Freudenstadt and visit the Kloster Maulbronn, one of Europe's most complete and best preserved Medieval monastery complexes. It combines a multitude of architectural styles, from Romanesque to late Gothic, in one place – creating a unique atmosphere. Dinner is on our own tonight. **B**

**Day 4: Sunday, July 15, 2018 • Switzerland Interlaken area**

We depart the Black Forest today. En-route we stop for a photo of Feldberg, the highest peak in the Black Forest. We enter Switzerland today, that magical land of crystal-clear lakes and snow-capped alpine vistas. We stop to explore the village of Thun Switzerland located at the lower end of Lake Thu. The historic Old Town is situated about one kilometer from the shore of the lake, on the river Aare. The castle in the center of the Old Town dates back to the 12th century and boasts a wonderful museum. After time to explore the town, we continue on to Interlaken where a traditional folk dinner awaits us. **B, D**

**Day 5: Monday, July 16, 2018 • Switzerland Interlaken area**

Today we enjoy an excursion via cogwheel train from Lauterbrunnen (the "village of the waterfalls") to the Kleine Scheidegg for a panoramic view of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau mountains! After time for lunch on our own, we continue our train ride down the other side of the mountain to Grindelwald (the "village of the glaciers")! Our last train ride takes us back to Interlaken. Included in our excursion is a visit to Lauterbrunnen waterfalls. **B, D**



*Eagle's Nest*

**Day 6: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 • Lake Constance area**

After breakfast, we depart for Appenzellerland to visit a Swiss Dairy and sample some of the cheeses. We have some free time to explore Appenzell with its car free streets, traditional craft shops and cafes. Our next stop is at the impressive Rhine Falls, the largest waterfall in Europe. We arrive in Constance right in time to check into our hotel. **B, D**

**Day 7: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 • Lake Constance area**

This morning we meet our guide for a guided tour of Constance; in the afternoon we take a cruise on the lake. Some may choose to hike or bike and others may choose to take the ferry across the Lake to visit Meersburg to explore the village, rather than the cruise. Dinner is on our own tonight. **B**

**Day 8: Thursday, July 19, 2018 • Austria Kitzbühel**

Today is a beautiful drive into the Austrian Alps and the Tyrol region. We pause at Liechtenstein for lunch and an opportunity to explore this tiny "postage stamp" country! Then it is on to Austria and the scenic state of Tyrol. **B, L**

**Day 9: Friday, July 20, 2018 • Austria Kitzbühel**

Today we explore Kitzbühel, a small Alpine town east of Innsbruck, in the western Austrian province of Tyrol. It's a fashionable winter resort, known for the annual Hahnenkamm downhill race. Upscale shops and cafes line the streets of its medieval center. Museum Kitzbühel chronicles the history of the town and the area's winter sports, with paintings by local artist Alfons Walde. Its rooftop terrace has sweeping town views. Our highlight today will be a picnic lunch near the Schwarzee with picturesque Alpine views! **B, L**

**Day 10: Saturday, July 21, 2018 • Austria Salzburg**

We begin this morning with an excursion to Berchtesgaden, Germany. Near the site of the former Nazi mountain retreat, Obersalzberg, we board a smaller bus and traverse narrow roads up the Kehlstein Mountain. Our trip continues with a walk through a tunnel into the mountain and ends with an elevator ride to the summit. We arrive in the tea house known as the "Eagle's Nest," which was presented as a birthday gift to Adolf Hitler in 1933. The view on a clear day is magnificent! We make our way down the mountain to Salzburg where a local guide joins us for a walking tour. We see the Salzburg cathedral, the catacombs, the Getreidegasse - the city's quaint shopping area, Mirabell Gardens, the Mozart Museum, and much more. Salzburg's grand past is evident in the immense Dom Cathedral, with its statues and ornamentation. **B, D**



### Day 11: Sunday, July 22, 2018 • Austria Salzburg

Today is free with a variety of options. We can visit Schloß Hellbrunn, an Early Baroque palace of 1612-15, and the Baroque-style gardens, filled with statues, grottos, trick waterworks and a mechanical theatre. Others may choose to explore this wonderful old city on their own. Tonight we have a farewell dinner at an Austrian restaurant. **B, D**

### Day 12: Monday, July 23, 2018 • Munich airport area

We take a leisurely drive north following the path of the Salzach River. We stop for a view of the impressive castle in Burghausen and then take quick stops in the villages of Alötting and Mühldorf to explore on our own. Our final destination is Freising, a town outside of Munich a short distance to International Airport. In Freising, a local guide joins us as we explore the village of Freising. We are free this evening to pack and get ready for our journey home or the next leg of our journey. Dinner is on our own. A walk to a nearby restaurant to hang out with the locals may be a fitting way to end our time in Germany! **B**

### Day 13: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 • Return back to US

This morning we transfer to Munich International Airport for our return flight home.

**Abbreviations for Meals**  
**B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner**

#### Your tour hosts:



*Cori Tate is a board member for the German American Heritage Center, Davenport, IA and a local educator. Cori lived in Germany and Austria for years and speaks fluent German. She and her husband, Dr. Art Tate, travel extensively in Western Europe and she will share her insights of local Alpine culture, natural history, traditions and archaeology.*

*Linda Meadors has served as the Group Coordinator for Blue Horizon Travel for the last 15 years and planned international travel groups with the German American Heritage Center for the past five years. She studied at the University of Vienna, Austria.*



#### TOUR COST:

**\$3,799\*** per person, double occupancy

Single supplement = \$600

with a minimum of 15 participants;  
Maximum of 30 participants

#### Your Tour Includes:

- **Land Transportation** via private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- **Accommodations** (double occupancy) in superior tourist and moderate first-class hotels
- **Meals per itinerary**
- **Cori Tate as tour host**
- **Linda Meadors as tour manager**
- Local step-on guides for city tours and major attractions
- **Admission** to all activities indicated in the itinerary except those listed as optional
- **Luggage handling** of one piece per person at hotels
- **All taxes and tips** for provided services except as noted below

#### Your Tour Does Not Include:

- **Roundtrip airfare** and related taxes and fees
- Meals not indicated on itinerary
- **Beverages**, except with breakfast
- **End of tour gratuity** for tour manager and coach driver
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees. (Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date.)
- **Optional insurance** for health, baggage and cancellation. (This insurance is available and offered by Ed-Ventures.)

#### Payment Schedule:

**Deposit with registration: \$500 per person**

**Final payment 100 days prior to departure.**

Invoices will be sent out prior to final payment. Passengers may add after this date subject to air and land availability. Generally airlines do not increase the price of a ticket after it has been contracted. However, prior to the issuance of a ticket, airlines may (and regularly do) impose fuel, tax, or security surcharges. In the event a surcharge is imposed after Ed-Ventures has received a final payment, Ed-Ventures will send an additional invoice for the surcharge amount. Early registration is encouraged.

#### Currency:

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

#### Refund/Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing. The date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Refunds are based on the number of days prior to departure date. From the time of deposit to 99 days before departure a \$100 administrative fee plus any airfare penalties will be assessed. From 99-14 days, a \$300 cancellation penalty plus lost airfare deposits and any unrecoverable deposits to ground suppliers will be assessed. Airline tickets once purchased are nonrefundable. Anyone canceling less than 14 days prior to departure will receive no refund.

**Purchase of health, baggage, and trip cancellation/interruption insurance is strongly recommended.**

## Terms and Conditions

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of subscription. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

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