



Sensational Switzerland and Awesome Austria in the Summer!
July 31 ~ August 10, 2014
Presbyterian Church of Hamilton, Ohio ~ Pastor John Lewis

Join your fellow church members to a country so beautiful that even pictures cannot do it justice. This tour has been specially designed just for your members. If ever a destination can be described as "life-changing," it has to be the Alpine area of Switzerland and Austria. The sheer beauty and magnitude of the Alps combined with the warmth of the locals will make for a lifetime of memories.

Our Ohio based Tour Operator has managed trips for all types of groups to the Alps for 20 years. Their long-time contacts and experience will ensure a fabulous trip. We will stay in their favorite quaint upscale resort village of Engelberg, a place where the Swiss go on vacation. The owners will welcome you to their immaculate Swiss Chalet Hotel for a wonderful "five-night" stay.

After exploring the best in Switzerland we will travel the very scenic motorways to the "Walt Disney Castle" and Oberammergau and on into famous Salzburg, Austria. Here you will see the sights of the "Sound of Music City" and the nearby "Eagles Nest," a very historic part of WW Two. Then travel along the romantic Danube River with a visit to the famed "Melk Abby" and on to exciting Vienna. After enjoying the sights of Vienna we bid farewell to a most beautiful and welcoming part of the world. All at a relaxing pace and with our friends from "The Presby!"

You will be chauffeured on a luxury motorcoach by Koch Reisen and have your own English speaking tour manager throughout your vacation. All of your tours are included along with breakfast and many dinners. This is a "no-worry" tour package at a relaxing pace and a great value. We are very pleased to offer this exceptional tour at a cost much less than average catalog tours. It is through personal visits, volume, research and friendships with their suppliers that our Tour Operator is able to offer you this wonderful custom tour.

Thursday, July 31, 2014

American Airlines flights from the United States to Switzerland. Following your overnight flight to Zurich, you will be met by your Tour Manager and Driver who will take you to your wonderful Alpine village home.

Friday, August 1, 2014 - Engelberg, (Valley of the Angles)

Arrive at Zurich Airport and depart for Engelberg, Switzerland. Check into the Hotel Schweizerhof for a stay of five nights with Breakfast daily and three dinners. Free time to explore Engelberg before dinner at the hotel. Nestled and protected in the valley of 10,000 foot Swiss Alp Mt. Titlis, Engelberg is a charming Swiss Village. By using overnight flights and planning free time after you arrive, jet lag is kept to a minimum. The use of one centrally located "home port" like Engelberg allows us to comfortably visit great places and sightsee, but return to our home by late afternoon each day. We have found that packing and unpacking and spending one night in different hotels is very tiring and more expensive. (B, D)



Saturday, August 2, 2014 Luzern and Steamer Cruise

Luzern's old city straddles the river; grand resort hotels and picturesque cafes hug the edge of the sparkling lake. Medieval churches, modern museums, ornately frescoed buildings share the city with unique and



exclusive boutiques. Walk the city's landmark all-wooden covered bridges with wonderful murals. A stop will be made at the Lion Monument. This is one of the world's most moving public sculptures, it pays tribute to the more than 760 Swiss guards and officers who died defending Louis XVI of France in 1792. A wonderful boat cruise on Lake Luzern gives you a chance to see the city from the water. The cruise boat will take you to the lakeside resort of Weggis. This beautiful city has been a resort destination of the world's wealthy for hundreds of years. The coach will meet you in Weggis and after time to browse a bit you'll depart for Altdorf, home of William Tell. Late afternoon arrival back home in Engelberg. (B)

Sunday, August 3, 2014 – Interlaken and The Oberland

Travel to the “postcard perfect” section of Switzerland today. Emerald slopes are dotted with gingerbread chalets whose flower boxes overflow with scarlet geraniums. A morning stop will be made in the lakeside resort town of Brienz. Just as the name implies, Interlaken is a bustling Victorian resort center between two beautiful mountain lakes. Horse drawn carriages line the main street and the spectacular mountains peer majestically into the town below. In the afternoon a drive to Lauterbrunnen in the valley of the waterfalls and then to Grindelwald at the foot of the famous north face of Eiger Mountain. Dinner at the hotel tonight. (B,D)



Monday, August 4, 2014 - The Galcier Express

A highlight of our tour is a train ride on the famous Glacier Express between the towns of Chur and Andermatt. This scenic tour crosses the mighty Overalp Pass and travels through the spectacular Rhine Gorge. Travel will be in first class panorama coaches and the hotel will provide a packed lunch for this day. (B,L)



Tuesday, August 5, 2014 - Free day in Engelberg

A full free day in Engelberg today. Your Tour Manager will offer an optional Sky Tram ride to the restaurant and observation deck on majestic Mt. Titlis. A journey to the “Top of Europe!” Dinner at the Hotel tonight after a relaxing day in the “Valley of Angles.” (B,D)

Wednesday, August 6, 2014 –Travel to Awesome Austria.

Early departure from Engelberg for Hohenschwangau and the world famous Neuschwanstein Castle Tour. Featured by “Walt Disney” this is one of the most visited and incredible Castles in the world. Afternoon arrive in Oberammergau for a tour of the “Passion Play Town.” Arrive Salzburg check into the Crowne Plaza Grand Hotel Pitter. One of the “Best Hotels” in Salzburg with a “heart of the city” location. After a full-fun day enjoy Dinner at the hotel. (B,D)



Thursday, August 7, 2014 Salzburg and Eagle's Nest

Breakfast then morning Salzburg City Tour with Sound of Music sights. Afternoon tour to Berchtesgaden for “Eagles Nest” tour. In the 20th century the name of Berchtesgaden took on a historical note as Hitler’s “Eagles Nest” came here overlooking the fantastically lovely countryside. This Tea-House lodge, which sits like a James Bond fantasy atop an alpine peak, was a gift to Adolf Hitler from his allies for his 50th birthday in 1939. According to the tour guide, the fireplace was a little extra from Mussolini. In 1945, victorious allied soldiers chipped off countless souvenirs from the fireplace. The bombs of WW2 did not touch “Eagles Nest.”



Enjoy Dinner on own this evening in Salzburg. (B)

Friday, August 8, 2014 -

Breakfast then depart for Vienna, via Wachau Valley, tour Melk Abbey, best historic destination award in 2008. Melk Abbey (German: Stift Melk) was originally a palace, and it shows. Located on the bank of the Danube River between Salzburg and Vienna, Melk Abbey stands crowned by towers and resplendent in a golden hue. The impressive Baroque ensemble at Melk was built in 1702-1736 by architect Jakob Prandtauer. Especially noteworthy is the church with magnificent frescoes by Johann Michael Rottmayr and the library containing countless medieval manuscripts. The monastic community of Melk is over 900 years old and black-robed Benedictine monks still stroll amidst the marble sculptures and frescoed walls. It is now also a prestigious coed monastery school with more than 700 students.



Afternoon arrive in Vienna check into luxury Hilton Hotel Danube River for a stay of two nights. You will see swans swimming on the river from the hotel. It is a wonderful setting. Enjoy Dinner at the hotel tonight. (B,D)



Saturday, August 9, 2014 -

Morning Vienna city tour. We often see Vienna in terms of its grand past: angelic choirboys, monumental palaces, Fiaker (horse-drawn carriages) and flamboyance. The tones of Mozart, Beethoven and Brahms and the filigree paintings or sketches of Klimt, Schiele and Kokoschka. But this is to ignore its dynamic present. Vienna has an astoundingly colourful contemporary culture and arts scene; a burgeoning culinary culture; bustling and lively pubs, bars, coffee shops and beer houses; picturesque vineyards on its edges and extraordinarily innovative performance arts.

In the afternoon, tour Schönbrunn Palace a former imperial 1,441-room Rococo summer residence in modern Vienna, Austria. One of the most important cultural monuments in the country, since the 1960s it has been one of the major tourist attractions in Vienna. The palace and gardens illustrate the tastes, interests, and aspirations of successive Habsburg monarchs. (B)
Balance of the afternoon and evening free, dinner on own.



Monday, August 10, 2014 -

Light breakfast, morning transfer to Vienna Airport, and our American Airlines flights back to USA. What wonderful memories and so much fun time with our friends! The Alps, the history, the beauty and the warmth of the people.

Pricing:

Tour cost is \$2,500.00 per person based on double occupancy. Group Air fare is booked with American Airlines at \$1,700.00 per person group rate from CVG (Cincinnati Airport) Medically related Travel Insurance is \$250.00 per person. Total Cost is \$4,450.00 per person double occupancy. Reservation Form required, space is limited. Please contact Linda Bonham at 513-867-5413.