



### Day 1: Fly to Germany

Meet your group and travel on an overnight flight to Frankfurt.

### Day 2: Munich

**Arrive in Munich:** Welcome to Munich. After clearing customs, you'll meet your Tour Director and head into the city center. Depending on your arrival time, you may have free time to settle in and explore on your own.

**Walking tour of Munich:** On a walking tour of the city, stroll past the Munich Cathedral, the New Town Hall, and the famous Hofbräuhaus, once the royal brewery of the Kingdom of Bavaria.

**Dinner:** Get to know your group over a dinner of local favorites.

### Day 3: Munich

**Sightseeing tour of Munich:** Your sightseeing tour will take you past the Olympic Stadium, Marienplatz, the fashionable Schwabing district, and the Residenz, former home of the Wittelsbach dukes of Bavaria.

**Dachau:** Take time to reflect at Dachau, a WWII Nazi concentration camp built in 1935. In 1945, the Allies liberated the camp. Today, Dachau serves as a memorial museum, and a stark reminder of the darkest chapter in this country's long story.

### Day 4: Munich

**Free time in Munich:** Today, enjoy free time to explore on your own or simply relax.

☞ **Salzburg and the salt mines:** This full-day excursion takes you to the village of Berchtesgaden where you'll travel by underground train, boat, and wooden slides through the 450-year-old salt mines. Next, tour musical Salzburg, city of Mozart and backdrop for *The Sound of Music*. Those who do not join the excursion will enjoy additional free time in Munich.

### Day 5: Munich | Neuschwanstein | Innsbruck

**Travel via Neuschwanstein to Innsbruck:** On your way to Innsbruck, visit Neuschwanstein Castle. The castle may look familiar—it's the inspiration for Disneyland's iconic Sleeping Beauty Castle. Commissioned by "Mad" King Ludwig, the original plans were drawn up by a theater set designer.

### Day 6: Innsbruck | Liechtenstein | Lucerne region

**Walking tour of Innsbruck:** Explore Innsbruck, the capital of the beautiful Austrian province of Tyrol and the intersection of several Alpine passes.

**Liechtenstein:** Stop in the small country of Liechtenstein, an important center for banking and commerce, and take in the spectacular alpine scenery. Then, travel to the Swiss Alps.

**Dinner:** Enjoy dinner with your group at your hotel in the Swiss Alps before turning in for the night.

### Day 7: Lucerne region

**Walking tour of Lucerne:** The majestic Swiss Alps rise behind the shores of Lake Lucerne and provide the stunning backdrop to one of Switzerland's most picturesque cities. You'll see the poignant Lion Monument known as Löwendenkmal, a sandstone statue commemorating the Swiss Guards slain in the 1792 Paris storming of the Tuileries. Follow Lucerne's winding cobbled streets past fairy-tale houses to the Kapellbrücke. Stroll along this covered bridge, which dates back to medieval days, and admire the colorful murals overhead. From here, you may opt to join in a Swiss Alps excursion.

☞ **Swiss Alps experience:** This exciting half-day adventure takes you to the top of one of the Swiss Alps, the majestic mountainous backdrop of Lucerne. Journey to the base of the mountain by boat and ride a cog railway to the top. You'll reach the summit and be rewarded with a splendid panorama of Lucerne, its lake, and the glorious snow-capped Alps. On a clear day, you can see for more than 200 miles! You'll get back to the foot of the mountain by way of a gondola ride. (Please note: Mountains can be cold, even in summer; warm clothes and appropriate shoes are recommended.)

**Dinner:** Enjoy dinner with your group at your hotel.

### Day 8: Lucerne region | Freiburg | Heidelberg

**Travel to Heidelberg:** Travel to Heidelberg by way of Freiburg, and enjoy some free time in this vibrant, picturesque city.

**Sightseeing tour of Heidelberg:** The majestic Old Bridge crosses into the heart of Heidelberg, a city set in the lush green foothills of the Neckar Valley. Travel along medieval streets lined with peaked red roofs on your sightseeing tour. Numerous Nobel Prize winners and philosophers studied here and established Heidelberg as Germany's premier university city.

**Heidelberg Castle wine barrel:** Ride a funicular up to Heidelberg Castle, and see the stunning views that inspired Goethe. In the gardens you'll find a statue dedicated to the poet! Stand beside the enormous wine barrel—it's so large that a dance floor was once built on top of it for visitors' amusement.

**Dinner:** Enjoy one last meal with your group.

### Day 9: Depart for home

### ☞ 2-DAY PROGRAM EXTENSION

#### Days 9-10: Heidelberg | Rhineland

**Rhine River cruise:** Travel to the Rhineland for your cruise. Set sail from Rudesheim and continue past the terraced vineyards and age-old castles of the St. Goarshausen. (Please note: This cruise is available March–October.)

**Cologne Cathedral:** Make your way to Cologne and visit one of Germany's most powerful symbols: the Cologne Cathedral. This sublime, war-scarred Gothic cathedral took more than 600 years to complete. Its impressive twin spires are among the tallest in the world. Take a tour of Cologne with an expert local guide.

**Dinner:** Enjoy dinner with your group in the Rhineland on both days of the extension.

### Day 11: Depart for home