



ALPINE COUNTRIES - 2020 WITH PANDA TRAVEL

ON THIS GERMANY, AUSTRIA, AND SWITZERLAND TOUR, BE PREPARED FOR BREATHTAKING VIEWS! YOUR VISIT STARTS AND ENDS IN MUNICH, GERMANY

ITINERARY

Day 1 - August 15: ARRIVE IN MUNICH, GERMANY: Welcome to Munich; You will transfer to your hotel - the remainder of the day is at your leisure.

Day 2 - August 16: MUNICH: Today is your day to walk & explore on your own; At 6p, meet your Tour Director & traveling companions for a welcome dinner at your hotel. (D)

Day 3 - August 17: MUNICH-SALZBURG, AUSTRIA.: Sightseeing with a Local Guide in Germany's "Secret Capital": includes Olympic Stadium, built for the 1972 Olympics; Nymphenburg Palace; & Königsplatz, used for Nazi rallies during World War II; Drive along the Ludwigstrasse; see the Bavarian Arch of Triumph & Field Marshall Hall, a monumental loggia on the Odeonsplatz. Visit lively MARIENPLATZ w/ Old & New Town Halls & gothic Frauenkirche. Arrive Salzburg-see the historic center on your guided walking tour. See MIRABELL GARDENS, the Great Festival Hall, St. Peter's Monastery, & magnificent RESIDENZ SQUARE,.. The Sound of Music movie were filmed. (B)

Day 4 - August 18: SALZBURG-VIENNA: AM at leisure OR join an optional excursion to Berchtesgaden; Then, the scenic Salzkammergut Lakeland & the Danube Valley to Vienna- once the center of the mighty Habsburg Empire. Tonight, at leisure..(B)

Day 5 August 19: VIENNA: Guided sightseeing w/ vistas of Prater park & its giant Ferris wheel; drive along the famous Ringstrasse with its magnificent buildings like the State Opera House; the Jewish quarter; and a stop at the Hofburg Palace, winter residence of the Austrian imperial family. See the impressive courtyards, famous HELDENPLATZ, & St. Stephen's Cathedral. An optional excursion to Bratislava, capital of Slovakia.(B)

Day 6 August 20: VIENNA-PIBER-ST. VEIT: Visit magnificent SCHÖNBRUNN PALACE, the former imperial summer residence; Enter Styria, with its mountains and forests. Visit the world-famous LIPIZZANER STALLION STUD FARM in Piber, where the horses are bred & raised before training at the Spanish Riding School in Vienna. (B, D)

Day 7 August 21: ST. VEIT-ITALIAN DOLOMITES, ITALY-INNSBRUCK, AUSTRIA: Cross the Italy border - arrive in Cortina d'Ampezzo, the Olympic skiing resort in the Dolomites, the Italian "Rocky Mountains." Travel via Tre Croci Pass and Lake Misurina to Brunico. Cross

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Brenner Pass into the Tyrolean Alps, and arrive in cozy Innsbruck, capital of Tyrol; Follow your Tour Director for a walk thru the quaint medieval lanes to Emperor Maximilian's GOLDEN ROOF. Time to shop for Innsbruck's famous crystal. (B)

Day 8 - August 22: INNSBRUCK-ST. MORITZ, SWITZERLAND: Swiss Engadine. See deep-blue lakes, airy larch forests, mountain peaks exceeding 12,000 feet, & quaint villages with massive white stone houses in the characteristic Grisons style. Your Afternoon is free in St. Moritz. (B,D)

Day 9 - August 23: ST. MORITZ-LAKE COMO-LUGANO: Descend via Italy's Lake Como to Lugano. See Parco Ciani, & drive along the lakeside promenade to Piazza Riforma; Join the locals in a relaxed atmosphere at the historical Vanini Café for an aperitif. Tonight, you may wish to join an optional cruise across sparkling Lake Lugano to the fishing village of Gandria, where dinner awaits.(B)

Day 10 - August 24: LUGANO-LAKE MAGGIORE, ITALY-ZERMATT, SWITZERLAND: From Swiss Lake Lugano, drive to Lake Maggiore, the largest lake in the Swiss-Italian Lake District, and stop in elegant Stresa. An optional boat ride to enchanting Isola Bella can be arranged. Cross lofty Simplon Pass into the Swiss Valais, an area renowned for its great mountain resorts. In Täsch, board the MOUNTAIN TRAIN to climb the last few miles up to Zermatt, a picturesque cluster of rustic chalets beneath the Matterhorn. (B,D)

Day 11 - August 25: AT LEISURE IN ZERMATT: A full day at leisure is your chance to relax and enjoy the peace & quiet in this car-free town. Join an exciting optional to Klein Matterhorn for spectacular views of the Matterhorn and the surrounding Alps.(B)

Day 12 - August 26: ZERMATT-BERNE-INTERLAKEN-LUCERNE: A scenic drive through the vineyards & apricot groves of the lower Rhône Valley to Lake Geneva via the dairy country of Gruyère to Switzerland's capital, Berne. See the monumental Federal Palace during your orientation then, stop at the BEAR PARK before continuing to Interlaken, a Bernese Oberland resort nestled between Lake Thun and Lake Brienz & beneath the towering Jungfrau. Cross Brünig Pass to picture-book Lucerne.(B)

Day 13 - August 27: LUCERNE: AM leisurely walk with your Tour Director includes Thorwaldsen's impressive LION MONUMENT, dedicated to the Swiss Guards who protected the Royal House of France during the French Revolution; then, along ornate patrician houses of the walled Old Town; cross the famous covered CHAPEL BRIDGE to the Jesuit Church, the first large baroque church built in Switzerland on the north side of the Alps. Afterward, shop for Swiss watches; maybe join an exciting optional excursion to Mount Pilatus.(B,D)

Day 14 - August 28: LUCERNE-BAD RAGAZ-VADUZ, LIECHTENSTEIN-DORNBIRN, AUSTRIA: A scenic drive along Lake Zurich & Lake Walen to Bad Ragaz, a popular spa resort, famous for its natural thermal spring water; Next is Vaduz, capital of the Principality of Liechtenstein. Take pictures of the castle where the rulers of this tiny country reside. Cross the border into Austria and arrive in Dornbirn with time to explore the market square in the historical town center.(B,D)

Day 15 - August 29: DORNBIRN-MUNICH, GERMANY: Return to Germany - follow the scenic road thru Bavaria's beautiful Allgäu region to Munich. Your Afternoon is at leisure; tonight, a farewell dinner at a local restaurant - The best way to say auf Wiedersehen! (B,D)

Day 16 - August 30: MUNICH: Your Visit ends with breakfast this morning.(B)

Fascinating sightseeing, beautiful scenery, special experiences,
an expert Tour Director, and knowledgeable Local Guides-this Central Europe tour offers it all!

HIGHLIGHTS

MUNICH: Welcome dinner; guided sightseeing, visit Marienplatz; farewell dinner at a local restaurant

SALZBURG: Guided walking tour, visit Mirabell Gardens and Residenz Square

VIENNA: Guided sightseeing, visit Heidenplatz and Schönbrunn Palace

PIBER: Visit the original Lipizzaner Stallion stud farm

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO: Visit the Olympic skiing resort

INNSBRUCK: Walk through the Old Town to the Golden Roof

LUGANO: Orientation; [LF] aperitif at Café Vanini;

LAKE MAGGIORE: Stop in the town of Stresa

TÄSCH-ZERMATT-TÄSCH: By mountain train

BERNE: Orientation, stop at the Bear Park

INTERLAKEN: Visit the Bernese Oberland resort

LUCERNE: Walking tour including the Lion Monument and Chapel Bridge

BAD RAGAZ: Visit the spa resort

VADUZ: Visit the capital of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Headsets throughout the tour.

MEALS: Full buffet breakfast daily; 7 three-course dinners, including a dinner at a local restaurant in Munich



Panda Travel
1017 Kapahulu Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96816
T: 808-734-1961