

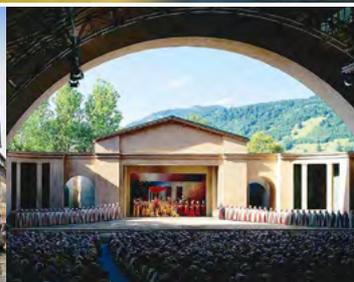
German Cathedrals Pilgrimage

INCLUDING THE PASSION PLAY at OBERAMMERGAU

13 Days

Fully Escorted

25th Aug – 6th Sept 2020



TOTAL ESTIMATED PACKAGE PRICES: (per person twin share):

Based on 15 - 19 paying passengers: **AUD\$8,490***

Based on 20+ paying passengers: **AUD\$7,990***

OPTIONAL SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT ADDITIONAL \$995

* Price is subject to change. Conditions apply.

Escorted by Fr Chris Dixon

Come and enjoy some of the wonders of the world as we explore the concept of sacred space as conceived a thousand years ago. We will visit some of the great architectural wonders large and small and explore in stone the finest craftsmanship, all the while discovering the meaning of worship as it developed to the present day. Excitingly we will conclude our tour by attending the wonderful Passion Play at Oberammergau. This is a once in a lifetime experience.

BASED ON FOLLOWING HOTELS (or similar):

Aachen	Novotel Hotel	1 night
Trier	Hotel Vienna House	1 night
Bad Durkheim	Mercure Hotel An den Salinen	2 nights
Durbach	Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten	1 night
Winterthur	Swiss Park Hotel	1 night
Fussen	Hotel Hirsch	1 night
Munich	Hotel Maritim	1 night
Oberammergau	Category B Accommodation	2 nights

PRICE INCLUDES

- Return economy class fares from Sydney to Frankfurt & Munich to Sydney with Emirates
- All airport & departure taxes and fuel surcharges (subject to change)

- 10 nights hotel accommodation
- Daily breakfast and dinners in hotels, one wine tasting
- Comprehensive sightseeing tours as outlined in the itinerary with the services of local professional English speaking guides throughout the tour
- Oberammergau 2 night Package in Category B ticket and accommodation and textbook
- Airport meet and assistance and transfers and transportation throughout in a luxury air-conditioned coach
- Entrance fees to all sights as mentioned in the itinerary
- Tips, gratuities & portage throughout
- Whisperer Headsets
- Step on guides for Cologne Cathedral, Aachen Cathedral and Treasury, Trier Cathedral, Gutenberg Museum, St Gallen Abbey

PRICE EXCLUDES

- Beverages with meals
- Meals not mentioned above
- Single supplement
- Travel insurance
- Incidental expenses of a personal nature such as phone calls, laundry, room service etc.
- Any services not listed in 'Price Includes' above

WHAT TO DO NEXT

1. Register your interest and obtain a booking form from Fr Chris or the team at Olive Tree Travel
2. To secure your place, a deposit of \$500 will be required by 1st October 2019
3. Subsequent deposits may also be required (will advise with notice)
4. Full payment will be required by 26th June 2020

DAY 1: TUE 25TH AUG Depart Sydney

Depart Sydney today on our Emirates flight to Dubai and onwards connection to Frankfurt.

DAY 2: WED 26TH AUG Arrival Frankfurt - Cologne (270km)

Upon arrival we meet our tour guide and driver who will accompany our group throughout. We board our private deluxe motor coach and drive to Cologne. We start our journey with a walking tour through the Old Town and the visit the vast, towered Gothic Cathedral of St. Peter & Mary. The cathedral is a World Heritage Site, described by UNESCO as an "exceptional work of human creative genius." Construction of the cathedral began in 1248 and took, with interruptions, until 1880 to complete – a period of over six hundred years. This unique church houses the golden Shrine of the Three Magi. The priceless treasure is exhibited in the historic vaulted chamber dating back to the 13th century. We will celebrate Eucharist, then continue on to our hotel for dinner and overnight in Aachen. D

DAY 3: THU 27TH AUG Aachen, Banneux, Trier (280km)

Following breakfast we board the coach for a short drive to Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle), near the Dutch border, and visit the city where Roman emperors were crowned in from 813 to 1531. We visit the world-renowned Cathedral of Aachen – a "must see" for everyone visiting Germany. The cathedral is home to many sacred objects and it welcomes millions of pilgrims and visitors each year. Visit Charlemagne's tomb and the relics he received from the patriarch of Jerusalem in 799. "The Great Aachen Relics" are in the Charlemagne Shrine, wrapped in silk cloths, and only opened to the public every seven years. We also see the Cathedral Treasury, Shrine of Our Lady, Shrine of Charlemagne and his Throne. We board the coach and travel to the German-Belgian border and continue on to Banneux. Here, the family Beco used to live under very poor circumstances. It is recorded that between January and March 1933, the Blessed Mother Maria appeared eight times to their 12 year old daughter Mariette. We visit the Holy sites and celebrate the Eucharist. We return to Germany and travel through the romantic valley of the Moselle river to reach the oldest German town of Trier for dinner and overnight. B, D

DAY 4: FRI 28TH AUG Trier, Southern Wine Road (150km)

After breakfast we have a city tour of Trier which was founded by the Romans in 16 BC. We see the Porta Nigra, the largest Roman city gate north of the Alps and UNESCO World Heritage site, and also see the ruins of the Roman Imperial Palace and the Roman thermae. We visit the Cathedral of Trier, the oldest church in Germany and home of the bishop for more than 1700 years. We celebrate the Eucharist. We continue on to one of the most beautiful German wine destinations - the Southern Wine Road and enjoy this evening a wine tasting, with samples of the best German wines. Dinner and overnight in Bad Dürkheim. B, D

DAY 5: SAT 29TH AUG Worms, Mainz (180km)

This morning, we drive to nearby Worms and visit St. Peter's Cathedral, one of the most exquisite examples of Romanesque architecture. It is closely related to the name of Bishop Burchard of Worms and to the city's heyday in the 12th and 13th centuries. The cathedral was the scene of several milestones of European history. In 1048, Bruno of Egisheim-Dagsburg was elected Pope Leo IX here; in 1122, the Concordate of Worms ended the Investiture Contest, the struggle for supremacy between the emperor and the Church; and in 1521 Martin Luther was summoned by emperor Charles V to recant his teachings before the Diet of Worms, a historic assembly that was to change the history of Christianity. We also visit Europe's oldest Jewish cemetery, the Holy Sands before continuing on to Mainz. We visit the birthplace of printing, the Gutenberg Museum. The evolution of printing is documented, and Gutenberg's first Bible is on display, as well as the world's tiniest Bible. Jon Gooseflesh, better known as Johannes Gutenberg is considered to be the most important individual contributor of the Second Millennium. Then we tour St. Martin's Cathedral, built in the 8th century, and towering in all its might and grandeur over the city. Seven king's coronations took place in the course of the centuries in the Mainz Cathedral. Time permitting, we visit St. Stephen's Church, famous for its marvellous Chagall. We celebrate the Eucharist. We return to our hotel for dinner and overnight in Bad Dürkheim. B, D

DAY 6: SUN 30TH AUG Strasbourg (130km)

This morning we drive south along the Southern Wine Road and enter France to visit Strasbourg. The city is home of the European Parliament and capital of the region of Alsace. We tour the Cathedral of Strasbourg

with the Astronomical clock and celebrate the Eucharist. We also visit the city centre as well as the historic "La Petite France" quarter. Time at leisure to explore the city, have a coffee break in one of the lovely cafes or try the splendid French cuisine. Dinner and overnight in the Strasbourg area. B, D

DAY 7: MON 31ST AUG Black Forest, Lake Constance, Winterthur (280km)

Today, we enjoy the scenic and magic landscapes of South Germany. We travel back through the story-book magical Black Forest which is famous for its Black Forest maids, Black Forest farms, Black Forest gâteau, Bollenhut hats and cuckoo clocks. We stop in Triberg where we will have time for lunch and some shopping. In the afternoon we continue on to the Constance area, situated on the shore of Germany's largest lake, the Lake of Constance. This picturesque lake includes countless parks and gardens and is the natural habitat of rare animals and plants. We drive across a dam that connects the mainland directly into paradise - and on to the Peninsula of Reichenau. The monastic island is an outstanding testament to the religious and cultural role of a great Benedictine monastery in the Middle Ages. The Benedictine Abbey had been a spiritual and cultural centre of the Holy Roman Empire for over 3 centuries. We visit the St. George Church with its outstanding meticulously restored Romanesque wall paintings. We also celebrate the Eucharist. Dinner and overnight in Winterthur, Switzerland. B, D

DAY 8: TUE 1ST SEPT St. Gallen, Füssen (220km)

This morning, we visit nearby St. Gallen in Switzerland. The Abbey of Saint Gall is a religious complex within the city. The Carolingian-era Abbey has existed since 719 and became an independent principality during the 13th century, and was for many centuries one of the chief Benedictine abbeys in Europe. We tour the library, one of the richest medieval libraries in the world, the abbey church and celebrate the Eucharist. Stop in the Alp principality of Liechtenstein, then on to Bavaria for dinner and overnight in the Füssen area. B, D

DAY 9: WED 2ND SEPT Neuschwanstein Castle, Church in the Wies (50km)

Today we tour the elaborate Neuschwanstein Castle, one of Mad King Ludwig's fantasy castles and surely the crown jewel of Bavarian Castles. Then on to visit the Wieskirche (Church in the Meadows) where rococo art reached a unique perfection. This masterpiece, created by the brothers Dominikus and Johann Baptist Zimmermann of Wessobrunn, was given international recognition as a cultural site on the World Heritage List. We celebrate the Eucharist and then continue on to the Oberammergau area for dinner and overnight. B, D

DAY 10: THU 3RD SEPT Ettal Abbey, Passion Play

This morning we celebrate the Eucharist at Ettal Abbey. We continue on to Oberammergau, where, in the afternoon, we take part in the extravagant Oberammergau Passion Play, performed only once every ten years, and a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Beginning in the afternoon and involving almost all residents of the village, the play has a running time of approximately five hours with a three-hour intermission. Explore this quaint Bavarian village on our own. Most of the buildings have beautifully detailed murals on them, mostly of Biblically significant tableaux. We return to our hotel for overnight. B, D

DAY 11: FRI 4TH SEPT Munich (130km)

Following breakfast we board our coach and drive to Munich, the capital of Bavaria. Our tour guide will lead us to the major and most beautiful sights of Munich, such as King's Square with its three temple buildings in the classical Greek style, the Pinakotheken Art Museums, the Hall of Generals, the Angel of Peace Monument, Maximilianeum (Bavarian State Parliament), the Royal Palace, the traditional Viktualienmarkt, an open air food market with colorful outdoor stalls, Karl Square (called "Stachus") and the medieval city gates, Palace of Nymphenburg - former summer residence of the Bavarian kings, and the Rathaus with its famous Glockenspiel. Time on our own to stroll the Marienplatz, with its numerous shops, visit the fresh produce and flower markets and the world-famous Hofbräuhaus Restaurant complete with authentic Bavarian food, music and entertainment. Farewell dinner and overnight in Munich. B, D

DAY 12: SAT 5TH SEPT Departure

We transfer to the airport for our departure flight home.

DAY 13: SUN 6TH SEPT Arrive Home

Arrive back to Australia with wonderful memories of our trip.

WHO TO CONTACT:

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