
THE PASSION PLAY IN OBERAMMERGAU, GERMANY AND A CRUISE ON THE BEAUTIFUL BLUE DANUBE

Trip Code: OPB_PP

Duration: 8

Destination: Munich - Oberammergau - PASSAU - VIENNA - ESZTERGOM - BUDAPEST

Travel Dates: 2020

DAY 1 MUNICH - OBERAMMERGAU ARRIVAL

We'll meet you at the Munich airport, where you'll be transferred to Oberammergau, known throughout the world for its Passion Play. After checking into a 3-star hotel, you'll enjoy dinner in the area.

DAY 2 OBERAMMERGAU - THE PASSION PLAY

You'll be transferred by coach to the village. Enjoy the morning and lunch on your own. Use this time to stroll and take in the atmosphere and wonderful pastel-painted homes--some dating back to the 13th century--decorated with religious motifs. After, you'll be transferred to the theater for the performance of the spectacular Passion Play. In 1633, the residents vowed that if God spared them from the bubonic plague, they would produce a play thereafter depicting the life and death of Jesus. Performed during years ending in zero, it is considered as one of the grandest in the world. The production involves over 2,000 performers, musicians, and stage hands--all residents of the village. They rehearse for over six months and present the play over 100 times during a performance year. The open-air theater adds to the magic of the show. We have reserved the best orchestra seats for our customers. A meal is included with the show and will be served during intermission. After the show, you'll be transferred to the hotel by coach.

DAY 3 OBERAMMERGAU - PASSAU

We'll leave by coach for Passau, arriving for lunch. Enjoy some free time on your own in the city this afternoon. Known as the "City of Three Rivers" it is one of the most impressive sites along the Danube. The Old Town, created by Italian baroque masters in the 17th century, contains soaring towers, picturesque places, enchanting promenades and romantic lanes. We'll board our ship at 6:00 p.m. and after comfortably settling into your cabins, we'll introduce our crew at a welcome cocktail before we cast off. We'll have dinner and cruise through the night.

DAY 4 PASSAU - VIENNA

Join us on an optional excursion for both packages: Visit Melk Abbey. Originally a Baroque-style palace built between 1702 and 1736, it is now a Benedictine monastery and hosts a prestigious coed school with more than 700 students. We'll return on board. When we arrive in Dürnstein, enjoy some time on your own. We'll then begin to cruise towards Vienna. This evening, join us on an optional excursion for both packages: Vienna by night. Vienna symbolizes power and strength through its architecture and monuments. Street lights and special lighting accentuate shapes and dramatize the lovely baroque structures.

DAY 5 VIENNA

Join us on an optional excursion for both packages: Join us for a visit to Schoenbrunn Palace, a former summer

residence for the Hapsburg monarchs. We'll travel on The Ring, part of the vast changes to the Viennese cityscape that took place in the second half of the nineteenth century, before arriving at the palace. The 1,441-room Baroque palace is one of the most important architectural, cultural, and historical monuments in Austria. Explore the city on your own this afternoon or as an option (price not included): set out on a horse and carriage ride through Vienna. Tonight is our festive gala evening. We'll cruise through the night towards Esztergom.

DAY 6 ESZTERGOM - BUDAPEST

Enjoy time on your own in Esztergom. Established in 972 AD, Esztergom has always played an important role in Hungary's history. Take in the historic sites and the city's architectural heritage as you stroll down its streets. We'll then spend the afternoon cruising to Budapest. This evening, join us on an optional excursion for both packages: Budapest by night.

DAY 7 BUDAPEST - OPTIONAL EXCURSION

Join us for the optional excursions proposed: **CLASSIC:** Guided tour of Budapest. The metropole was once two distinct cities united only in 1873: Buda, with its winding streets, Turkish baths and Buda Castle; and Pest, with its flatter landscape offering a panoramic view over the banks of the Danube. **DISCOVERY:** Budapest bike tour. You'll see all the important sights of the city on an easy-paced ride: a unique way to see the city's historic center. Enjoy the afternoon on your own or as an option (price not included): join us for an optional visit to the famous Gellert Baths. The current spa was founded in 1918, and a visit to the Art Nouveau thermal baths is a beautiful and historical experience. (Don't forget to bring your swimsuit!) This evening, join us on an optional excursion for both packages: Traditional entertainment in Budapest. Enjoy an evening of traditional Hungarian entertainment in one of the city's theaters. To the beat of lively Gypsy music, you'll dive into the local folklore and learn about the country's diverse traditions.

DAY 8 BUDAPEST DEPARTURE

Enjoy breakfast on board this morning. End of our services.

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