



Oberammergau 2022: Italy, Austria & Germany

13 days | 15 days with Salzburg extension

Experience the cultural and religious highlights of Italy as you make your way through Rome, Florence, and Venice (while filling up on all the best local cuisine). You'll also pay a visit to the Austrian Alps before crossing into Germany to watch history come to life during the Passion Play, a local performance that only happens once every ten years in Oberammergau. Then, continue on through the country to visit historic Hohenschwangau Castle before capping off your trip in Munich, the capital of Bavaria.



Your tour package includes

- 11 nights in handpicked hotels
- 11 breakfasts
- 5 dinners with beer or wine
- 6 sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach

Included highlights

- Colosseum
- Roman Forum
- Assisi's basilicas
- Florence Duomo
- St. Mark's Basilica
- Bolzano
- Passion Play in Oberammergau
- Hohenschwangau Castle
- Nymphenburg Palace

Tour pace

You will walk for at least 2.5 hours daily across moderately uneven terrain, including paved roads and cobblestone streets, with few hills or stairs.

Group size

15-38

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Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Rome today.

Rome → 3 nights

Day 2: Arrival in Rome

Included meals: welcome dinner

Welcome to Italy! Transfer to your hotel and get settled in. Later, meet your group at tonight's welcome dinner.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Rome

Included meals: breakfast

Follow in the footsteps of the ancient Romans on a guided tour of the Eternal City.

- Soak up over 2,000 years of history in Imperial Rome, viewing the Arch of Constantine and the Arch of Titus
- Enter the Colosseum, the largest amphitheater of the Roman Empire
- Stop at the ruins of the Forum, once the setting of parades, elections, and trials
- Pass Palatine Hill, see where ancient Romans raced chariots at Circus Maximus, and view the Baths of Caracalla

Please note: On some departures, the Ancient Rome: St. Paul's Basilica & the Catacombs excursion may take place on day 4 and the Iconic Sights: Vatican City excursion may take place on day 3.

+ Ancient Rome: St. Paul's Basilica & the Catacombs

Day 4: Free day in Rome

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a free day in Rome or add excursions.

Please note: On some departures, the Iconic Sights: Vatican City excursion may take place on day 3 and the Ancient Rome: St. Paul's Basilica & the Catacombs excursion may take place on day 4

+ Iconic Sights: Vatican City
+ Pasta-Making Class & Dinner

Florence → 2 nights

Day 5: Florence via Assisi

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Drive through spectacular Umbria to hillside Assisi, where you'll enjoy a guided tour of the town's UNESCO World Heritage sites.

- Walk through the hilltop medieval town, which is the birthplace of Saint Francis
 - Visit Assisi's lower and upper basilicas
 - Marvel at the restoration of the Basilica of St. Francis, which was damaged by twin earthquakes in 1997 and painstakingly restored to its original form
 - See Giotto's magnificent frescoes and other late-medieval art
 - Spend free time strolling through the town
- Then, continue on to Florence and sit down for an included dinner this evening.

Day 6: Sightseeing tour of Florence

Included meals: breakfast

Set off to see Florence, the city at the center of the Renaissance, with a local guide.

- Visit the legendary Florence Cathedral, known as the Duomo
- Pass Giotto's Campanile, a masterpiece of Gothic architecture
- Step inside the Basilica of Santa Croce, the burial site of Michelangelo, Machiavelli, and Galileo
- See the medieval Ponte Vecchio and the Piazza della Signoria, the center of Florentine life

Please note: On some departures entrance to the Basilica of Santa Croce will be replaced with entrance to the Basilica of Santa Maria Novella if the guided sightseeing falls on a Tuesday.

Enjoy a free afternoon in Florence or add an excursion.

+ Accademia Gallery

Venice → 2 nights

Day 7: Transfer to Venice

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Cross through the Apennine Mountains as you make your way to Venice. Enjoy free time before sitting down for an included dinner this evening.

Day 8: Sightseeing tour of Venice

Included meals: breakfast

Admire historic churches, winding canals, and picture-perfect piazzas on a guided tour of the city known as the Queen of the Adriatic.

- Step into the iconic St. Mark's Square and enter St. Mark's Basilica
- View the stately Doge's Palace, built in the Venetian Gothic style in 1340
- Marvel at the Bridge of Sighs, the link between Doge's Palace and the New Prison
- See a glassblowing demonstration to learn about the city's most celebrated art

Spend a free afternoon in Venice or add an excursion.

+ Gondola Ride: Venice Canal Cruise

+ Private Gondola Ride: Canal Cruise for Two

Austrian Alps → 1 night

Day 9: Austrian Alps via Bolzano

Included meals: breakfast

On your way to the Austrian Alps, stop in Bolzano, Italy, a city set against the UNESCO-listed Dolomite mountain range.

- Explore the main square, Piazza Walther
- See the Duomo, which is dedicated to the assumption of Virgin Mary

After, continue on to the Austrian Alps.

Oberammergau → 1 night

Day 10: Passion Play

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Head to Oberammergau, a quaint town in the Bavarian Alps, to attend the 42nd performance of the world-famous Passion Play.

- Experience the storytelling and portrayal of the Old and New Testament that has taken place once a decade since 1634
- Enjoy the unforgettable open-air performance put on by the residents of the Bavarian town

Sit down for an included dinner this evening.

Munich → 2 nights

Day 11: Munich via Hohenschwangau Castle

Included meals: breakfast

Head into the mountains of Bavaria making stops along the way to Munich.

- Make a photo stop at Neuschwanstein Castle, the fairy-tale retreat of “Mad” King Ludwig II
- Revel in scenic views of the Alps as you relax during free time for lunch in the town below Neuschwanstein
- Enter Hohenschwangau Castle, the former summer and hunting residence of the Bavarian royal family

After, continue on to Munich.

Day 12: Sightseeing tour of Munich

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner

Get to know the Bavarian capital on a guided tour.

- Travel past the Englischer Garten and fashionable Schwabing district
- Enter the Nymphenburg Palace, the Baroque home to past Bavarian royalty
- Walk from Odeonsplatz through the nearby Hofgarten to view the Residenz, once home to the Wittelsbach dukes of Bavaria
- Explore Marienplatz, Munich’s medieval heart, and see the famed Glockenspiel

Spend a free afternoon in Munich or add an excursion.

This evening, celebrate your trip during a farewell dinner.

+ Dachau

Flight Home

Day 13: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home or extend your tour to visit Salzburg, Austria.

+ Salzburg extension

It’s the birthplace of Mozart and setting for The Sound of Music, but that’s not all that makes Salzburg sing. Join your Tour Director and spend a couple days exploring this Austrian city, where Baroque churches and a UNESCO-listed old town will leave you in awe.

Salzburg → 2 nights

Day 13: Transfer to Salzburg & sightseeing tour

Included meals: breakfast

Travel to Salzburg this morning. When you arrive, head out to explore the city, which is famed for its churches and musical history, on a guided walking tour of the Old Town.

- View the University of Salzburg and the churchyard of St. Peter
- See the Kapitelplatz, Residenzplatz, and Alter Markt, in the city’s Old Town
- Enter Salzburg Cathedral and the home where Mozart was born
- Pass through scenery from The Sound of Music
- Take a funicular ride up the Moenchsberg Lift for panoramic views over Salzburg

Spend a free evening in Salzburg or add an excursion.

+ Mozart Concert & Dinner

Day 14: Free day in Salzburg

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a free day in Salzburg or add an excursion.

This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members.

+ Eagle’s Nest & Salt Mines

Flight Home

Day 15: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the Munich airport for your flight home.

Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: goaheadtours.ca/RFO | 1-800-754-5066

Day 3: Ancient Rome: St. Paul's Basilica & the Catacombs

\$125CAD/\$135CAD* (4 hours, departure time varies)

Descend into Rome's ancient catacombs, where early Christians buried saints and popes alongside commoners. A local guide will lead you through the burial chambers before your visit to St. Paul's Basilica, one of the four most important basilicas of Rome.

Originally founded by Constantine the Great, the Basilica also houses the tomb of St. Paul.

Please note: Shorts and sleeveless shirts are not permitted within the Basilica. Also, this excursion involves extensive walking and may be challenging for claustrophobic travelers.

Day 4: Iconic Sights: Vatican City

\$175CAD (3.5 hours, departure time varies)

This guided tour takes you inside Vatican City—a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most sacred places in Christendom. This independent city-state within Rome serves as the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church and is home to the Pope. Upon arrival, turn on your pre-distributed headset and dive into the Vatican's rich history with your local guide. First, visit the Vatican Museums, which are more than 500 years old and house many of the world's most important Classical- and Renaissance-era sculptures. Next, step inside the Sistine Chapel, whose frescoed ceiling is arguably Michelangelo's greatest masterpiece. Finally, pay a visit to the enormous St. Peter's Basilica, the epicenter of the Roman Catholic faith. The artists who have contributed to its glory are some of the best Italy has ever known: Bramante, Peruzzi, Raphael, and Michelangelo. Masterpieces await at every turn, from Bernini's magnificent bronze canopy to Michelangelo's Pietà.

Please note: Should this excursion fall on a Sunday, it'll be moved to another day of the tour. Backpacks aren't allowed in the Vatican, and shorts and sleeveless shirts are strictly prohibited. Due to closures of certain entrances and pathways, wait times may extend to several hours during busy travel months. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 70 days prior to departure.

Day 4: Pasta-Making Class & Dinner

\$175CAD/\$185CAD* (4 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

In this hands-on cooking class led by an experienced Italian chef, you'll learn to make pasta—perhaps pillowy ravioli or castellane, a ridged shell pasta that's rolled into a long, oval shape—using traditional techniques you can keep on practicing when you get back home. Then, sit down for dinner and enjoy the dishes you've prepared, along with wine.

Day 6: Accademia Gallery

\$89CAD (2 hours, departure time varies)

Home to Michelangelo's masterpiece David, the Accademia Gallery is one of the most famous museums in Florence. Skip the ticket lines, and join a local guide on a tour of the museum as you learn about Renaissance art history and view a variety of pieces, including the marble statue of David. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 70 days prior to departure.

Day 8: Gondola Ride: Venice Canal Cruise

\$125CAD/\$135CAD* (25 minutes, departure time varies)

More than 100 canals crisscross Venice, and boarding a sleek, black gondola to explore them has become a time-honored tradition. On this memorable excursion, join your fellow travelers for a tour through the canals of Venice, with a gondolier deftly guiding your boat along. Please note: This excursion runs as weather permits, and travelers should feel comfortable getting into and out of the gondolas. A private, two-person gondola ride is available for an additional cost.

Day 8: Private Gondola Ride: Canal Cruise for Two

\$225CAD/\$235CAD* (25 minutes, departure time varies)

More than 100 canals crisscross Venice, and boarding a sleek, black gondola to explore them has become a time-honored tradition. On this memorable excursion, you'll enjoy a private gondola cruise for two through the canals of Venice, with a gondolier deftly guiding your boat along.

Please note: This excursion requires two passengers. Cost is per person, and each traveler must book the excursion. Travelers should also feel comfortable getting into and out of the gondolas. This excursion runs as weather permits.

Day 12: Dachau

\$85CAD/\$95CAD* (4 hours, departs in the afternoon)

Once a typical German town, Dachau served as the first Nazi concentration camp during World War II. Visit this somber site, which has since been transformed into a Holocaust memorial museum that serves as a testament to the strength of the human spirit. You'll take a self-guided audio tour through Dachau's poignant exhibits, which are echoed by the memorials to the victims that adorn the grounds.

Extension excursion options

Day 13: Mozart Concert & Dinner

\$215CAD/\$225CAD* (4.5 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Step inside the 1,200-year-old St. Peter Stiftskeller, located within St. Peter's Abbey, to enjoy an evening of fine dining and music. Mozart composed over 600 works in his short life, and tonight, you'll hear his masterpieces accompanied by opera singing as you sample local delicacies during a three-course dinner.

Please note: The temperature in the room can be hot in

the summer, therefore we recommend dressing accordingly based on the season.

Day 14: Eagle's Nest & Salt Mines

\$185CAD/\$195CAD* (8 hours, departs in the morning)

Drive through the Bavarian Alps to the mountain village of Berchtesgaden, where you'll tour the 450-year-old salt mines that brought wealth to Bavaria and Salzburg. Explore the mines during an underground boat ride on Mirror Lake before enjoying free time for lunch.

Continue to Obersalzberg, where a scenic bus ride along steep gorges offers gorgeous views of the snow-capped Alps. Then, take an elevator ride up to the Eagle's Nest, an Alpine retreat built for Adolf Hitler. Please note: This excursion is seasonal and runs from mid-May through September. If the Documentation Center is closed it will be replaced with a Schnapps tasting.

*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at goaheadtours.ca/terms