



Oberammergau 2022: Austria, Germany & Switzerland

14 days | 16 days with Rhine Valley extension

Explore the vibrant cultures of Hungary, Austria, Germany, and Switzerland on this one-of-a-kind journey. From dynamic Budapest, make your way through the Austrian countryside to visit the cities of Vienna and Salzburg. Then, continue on to lively Munich and end your trip in the charming lakeside city of Lucerne. In Oberammergau, watch history come to life during the Passion Play, a local performance that only happens once every ten years.



Your tour package includes

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

Included highlights

- Hungarian Parliament Building
- Mönchsberg Lift
- Nymphenburg Palace
- Passion Play in Oberammergau
- Hohenschwangau Castle
- Liechtenstein
- Kapellbrücke

Tour pace

You will walk for at least 2 hours daily across moderately uneven terrain, including paved roads and cobblestone streets, with a few hills or stairs.

Group size

15-35

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Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Budapest today.

Budapest → 2 nights

Day 2: Arrival in Budapest

Included meals: welcome dinner

Welcome to Hungary! Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Budapest

Included meals: breakfast

Discover the major landmarks of both Buda and Pest in the city that straddles east and west.

- Trace this nation's stormy history at Heroes' Square
- Tour the lavishly decorated Hungarian Parliament Building
- Cross the Danube and ascend Castle Hill
- Take in the breathtaking views from Fisherman's Bastion
- Visit the medieval Matthias Church, once the site of Hapsburg coronations

Spend a free afternoon in Budapest or add an excursion.

+ Wine Cellar Dinner & Unicum Tasting

Vienna → 3 nights

Day 4: Vienna via Szentendre

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Travel west through the Danube basin en route to Vienna, Austria.

- Make a stop in the small, charming Hungarian town of Szentendre, home of chocolates, cafes, parks, and pastries.
- Stop to view Visegrad Castle and Esztergom Basilica, before crossing the Austrian border (*stops are weather-dependent*)

Continue on to Vienna and sit down for an included dinner.

Day 5: Sightseeing tour of Vienna

Included meals: breakfast

Get transported back to the Age of Empires on a guided tour of Vienna.

- Step inside Belvedere Palace, home to the world's largest collection of paintings by artist Gustav Klimt, and admire the palace's impressive gardens
 - Travel down the Ringstrasse, passing the Parliament building, Vienna State Opera, and Kunsthistorisches Museum
 - See the grand Hofburg Palace, the Hapsburg's preferred winter residence
- Spend a free afternoon in Vienna or add an excursion.

Please note: Belvedere Palace will be replaced with Schönbrunn Palace if the guided sightseeing falls on a Monday.

+ Traditional Viennese Heurigen Evening

Day 6: Free day in Vienna

Included meals: breakfast

Enjoy a free day in Vienna or add an excursion.

+ Danube River Cruise & Bratislava

Salzburg → 2 nights

Day 7: Salzburg via Melk

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Make a photo stop at Schönbrunn Palace, the Rococo Hapsburg home, before traveling west through the Danube basin en route to Salzburg.

- Stop in Melk for a guided tour of the town's Baroque abbey, which is situated on rock overlooking the Danube River
- Explore its Baroque pavilion, library, and chapel

Continue on to Salzburg and sit down for an included dinner this evening.

Please note: On some departures the photo stop at Schönbrunn Palace will be replaced with entrance to Schönbrunn Palace on day 5 depending on the day of the week.

Day 8: Free day in Salzburg

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a free day in Salzburg or add an excursion.

+ Eagle's Nest & Salt Mines

Munich → 2 nights

Day 9: Sightseeing tour of Salzburg & transfer to Munich

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Discover Salzburg, a city famed for its churches and musical history, where a local guide leads you on a 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
- Pass through scenery from The Sound of Music
- Ride the Mönchsberg Lift and enjoy panoramic views of the city and its fortress

After, travel to Munich, Germany and sit down for an included dinner.

Day 10: Sightseeing tour of Munich

Included meals: breakfast

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 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.

+ Dachau

Oberammergau → 1 night

Day 11: Passion Play

Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Head to Oberammergau and 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.

Swiss Alps → 2 nights

Day 12: Swiss Alps via Hohenschwangau Castle & Liechtenstein

Included meals: breakfast

On your way to the Swiss Alps, pass through the Bavarian Alps making several stops along the way.

- 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, travel into Liechtenstein, a tiny Alpine principality dating back to the Holy Roman Empire.

- Visit the capital, Vaduz, and pass the royal family’s hilltop castle, still in use as a royal residence
- Enjoy free time in the town and be sure to get your passport stamped

Then, continue on to the Swiss Alps.

Day 13: Sightseeing tour of Lucerne

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner

Get an up-close look at the lakeside city of Lucerne, Switzerland’s idyllic Alpine town, on a guided sightseeing tour.

- View the Lion Monument, a tribute to the Swiss Guards who sacrificed their lives in Paris during the French Revolution
- Pass hand-painted facades that line the cobbled streets of the Old Town
- Cross the medieval Kapellbrücke, a covered wooden footbridge spanning the Reuss River, and view the Water Tower
- See the Jesuit Church, the first large Baroque building of its kind to be built north of the Alps in Switzerland

Spend a free afternoon in the Swiss Alps or add an excursion.

Then, celebrate your trip during a farewell dinner.

+ Mount Pilatus

Transfer to the Zurich airport for your flight home or extend your tour to visit Germany’s Rhine Valley.

+ Rhine Valley extension

Take to the countryside and join your Tour Director to discover the charming Rhine Valley, home to some famous wines and storybook scenery. Stop in Heidelberg, then explore the small towns nestled along shores of the famous Rhine River.

Rhine Valley → 2 nights

Day 14: Transfer to Heidelberg & sightseeing tour

Included meals: breakfast

Travel to Heidelberg this morning and take a guided sightseeing tour to immerse yourself in the city’s romantic views and Baroque architecture.

- Wander through Heidelberg’s elegant Market Square in the city’s Old Town
- Explore the grounds of Heidelberg University, the oldest university in Germany
- Take a funicular ride to the city’s rose-colored hilltop castle for panoramic views of the Old Bridge and the Rhine River below

Day 15: Free day in the Rhine Valley

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a free day in Rhine Valley or add an excursion.

+ Rhine River Cruise & Wine Tasting

Flight Home

Day 16: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the Frankfurt airport for your flight home.

Flight Home

Day 14: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

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.com/VIO | 1-800-597-0350

Day 3: Wine Cellar Dinner & Unicum Tasting

\$135 (5 hours, departs in the afternoon, dinner included)

During a visit to the Zwack Unicum Heritage Visitors' Centre in Budapest, you'll learn about the fascinating legacy of Unicum liqueur. A secret formula of more than 40 herbs, the recipe has been protected by the Zwack family since 1790 and its story follows the turbulent history of the area—when the family escaped communism and lived in exile in the U.S., a trusted friend in Milan kept up production. Explore the on-site museum and view the staggering collection of miniature bottles before sampling the aperitif. Then, head to a nearby wine cellar to enjoy a Hungarian dinner accompanied by wine pairings chosen by a local sommelier who'll be on hand to tell you about each selection. One of the wines you'll have the opportunity to taste is Tokaji, a hard-to-find varietal that's deeply rooted within the Kingdom of Hungary. The wine is so closely tied to the country that it's even mentioned in the Hungarian national anthem. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

Day 5: Traditional Viennese Heurigen Evening

\$119/\$129* (4 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

After a brief drive, your first stop is Vienna's Prater Ferris Wheel. Take a breezy ride to the top, which offers a one-of-a-kind view of the city. Next, continue on to a picturesque village and sit down at local restaurant where you'll indulge in a festive night of music, food, and entertainment. Dinner will feature dishes typical of traditional Austrian Heurigen, or wine taverns. During your meal, you'll have the chance to try some of the tavern's own locally made wine—the perfect addition to your cozy, Old-World setting.

Day 6: Danube River Cruise & Bratislava

\$129/\$139* (7 hours, departs in the morning)

Cruise down the Danube from Vienna, Austria to Bratislava, Slovakia, in a high-speed boat, passing through scenic Donau-Auen National Park along the way. In Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, follow a local guide through the charming Old Town to see the well-preserved city center and pass by the regal castle. Stop at the neoclassical Primate's Palace, the seat of the mayor of Bratislava, to enter the historic Hall of Mirrors. Then, enjoy free time in the city for lunch and exploration before driving back to Vienna. Please note: This excursion is seasonal and runs from April to October. From November to March, a lunch will be included in place of the cruise. If the excursion falls on a Monday, when Primate's Palace is closed, you will visit St. Martin's Cathedral.

Day 8: Eagle's Nest & Salt Mines

\$135/\$145* (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.

Day 10: Dachau

\$55/\$65* (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.

Day 13: Mount Pilatus

\$135/\$145* (4.5 hours, departs in the afternoon)

This scenic excursion begins with a cruise on Lake Lucerne. After docking, ascend 7,000-foot Mount Pilatus on the world's steepest cogwheel railway. Legend holds that the mountain was named for Pontius Pilate, blown here by the devil after the Crucifixion. From the peak, the views of the Alps are stunning; on a clear day, you can see for 200 miles. Toward the end of your trip, you'll return to the base of the mountain via gondola. Please note: The cruise and cogwheel railway only run from mid-May through October. During the winter months, this excursion includes the cable car ride only. If the cogwheel railway is unavailable, you'll enjoy lunch on the mountain.

Extension excursion options

Day 15: Rhine River Cruise & Wine Tasting

\$135/\$145* (6 hours, departure time varies)

Known for its breathtaking landscapes and architecture from the Middle Ages, the Rhine River Valley is one of Germany's most spectacular sites. Start the day by touring one of this remarkable region's wineries, where you'll learn about cultivation processes and explore either the vineyards or cellars (depending on the season). Afterward, you'll enjoy a tasting of three different wines accompanied by lunch. Then, make your way through this UNESCO-recognized area on a cruise down the Rhine River, passing by six castles on your way from Boppard to St. Goar.

*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.com/terms