

9 Days/8 Nights

Travel Dates: May 16, 2020 - Oct 4, 2020



Passion Play, 2020:
Würzburg, Nuremberg, Oberammergau & Munich

Experience all that southern Germany has to offer. Your journey starts in Würzburg, the beginning of the Romantic Road, before continuing to Franconia's cultural capital, Nuremberg. Engage in once in-a lifetime experience of the Oberammergau Passion Play, performed every ten years since 1634. And end in the Bavarian capital of Munich, with its Bohemian quarters, expansive parks, and traditional beer gardens.

ACCOMMODATIONS

- 2 Nights Würzburg
- 2 Nights Nuremberg

- 1 or 2 Nights Oberammergau

- 3 Nights Munich

INCLUSIONS

- Private Walking Tour with optional Wine Tasting
- Nuremberg & Furth Card 2 Days
- Munich Hop on/Hop off City Tour

- Tickets to the Passion Play
- 3 course dinner (meat, fish, or vegetarian)
- Munich Evening Beer and Food Walking Tour

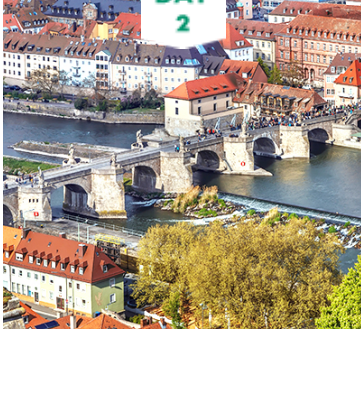
- 1st Class Rail between Cities/ 1st Class German Rail Pass
- Daily Breakfast



ARRIVAL IN WÜRZBURG:

Arrive in Würzburg and check into your centrally located hotel. Sitting on the northern end of the Romantic Road, Würzburg is a charming town that's been much overlooked by tourists. It's also home to a large university which ensures a lively nightlife. After checking in, the remainder of the day is at your leisure to explore independently or just relax. Take a stroll to Market Square near the Main River. Besides the bustling outdoor market, it's a good locale for sitting in a cafe or dining this evening.

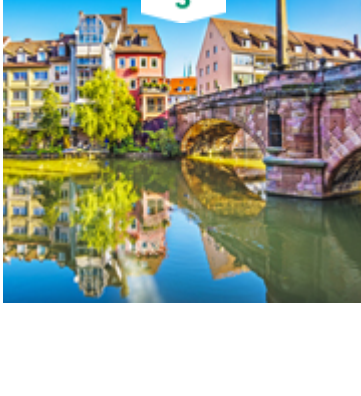
(Accommodations, Würzburg)



WÜRZBURG:

After a leisurely breakfast, meet your guide at 10am at your centrally located hotel. You'll discover, not only the main sights of the Old Town, but also visit the impressive Würzburg Residence. This guided walking tour covers many of the sights that illustrate the city's history: the Alte Mainbrücke (Old Main River bridge) with a beautiful view on the Fortress Marienberg and the Kapelle pilgrimage church, and the historic town hall. In addition, you will be guided through the Würzburg Residence, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1981. A nice end of the tour will be a tasting of 2 typical Franconian wines at a wine bistro at the old Main River bridge. Dinner will be on your own this evening.

(Breakfast & Accommodations, Würzburg)



WÜRZBURG TO NUREMBERG:

Today take the less than 1 hour train ride to Nuremberg. Discover Franconia's largest city, famous for its spectacular Christmas markets. With your "Nuremberg and Furth" card, you'll have access to more than 40 museums and attractions. Your card also allows for unlimited travel in Zone A for 2 consecutive days. Start by discovering the inner city, divided into two parts by the Pegnitz River, and encircled by a wall completed in 1452. The Kaiserburg dominates the city skyline and is well worth a visit. At the time of the Holy Roman Empire, the castle was occasionally home to each of the emperors, and during the Middle Ages, was one of the most important royal palaces. The food market at the Hauptmarkt, main market square. offers all sorts of tasty treats, flowers and spices. The ornate Beautiful Fountain is a must-photograph sight. The ring on the fence is the focus of much attention, and legend says that if you turn the "golden ring" and make a wish, it will come true.

The "Germanisches Nationalmuseum" is one of the largest museums of German art and culture in the world. The exhibitions take you on an exciting journey through time, showcasing hand axes from the Stone Age, the oldest globe in the world, and paintings by Albrecht Dürer.

For rail enthusiasts, the DB (Deutsche Bahn) Railway Museum is an exhibition landscape on the history of the railway in Germany. The exhibition covers two centuries, including all their technological and economic, political and cultural aspects. A more sobering attraction is the Documentation Centre Nazi Party Rally Grounds. It was here that the fanatical party rallies were held, and is still home to gigantic ruins representing the Nazi regime's deluded notion of grandeur.

(Breakfast, Würzburg; Accommodations, Nuremberg)



NUREMBERG:

Take advantage of your Nuremberg and Fürth card today, giving you free admission to all museums. Basically a suburb of Nuremberg, (only 5 miles apart) Fürth is also older than Nuremberg, dating back to 1007. Some of the more popular sights are Fürther Freiheit (Furth Freedom), a central market and event venue that includes their Christmas Market. Once the location of the first train to ever run in Germany, it's now the open-air market. Stroll past the Rathaus (city hall). Constructed between 1840 and 1850, the building was strongly inspired by the Palazzo Vecchio in Florence. And for the serious radio buffs, a visit to the Rundfunk Museum (Radio Museum) might be in order. Fürth had a large Jewish population and that is reflected at the Jewish Museum. It offers a fascinating glimpse into nearly 1,000 unbroken years of Jewish history. A few of the more prominent natives from this area were Levi's founder Levi Strauss, as well as Henry Kissinger, who was born in Fürth and fled to the United States when the Nazis came to power.

(Breakfast & Accommodations, Nuremberg)



NUREMBERG TO OBERAMMERGAU:

After breakfast, take the train for the 3 and 1/2 hour trip to the traditional village of Oberammergau, home to the famous Passion Play. It's been performed once every decade since 1634 as a tradition by the inhabitants of the village. Arrive at Oberammergau or vicinity Hotel, but please note that due to vacancies, check-in may not be available until after the play. You'll have a transfer from your hotel to the Passion Play Theater. After enjoying the first part of the play, there will be an intermission followed by a 3-course dinner. The second part of the play will resume, and afterwards, you'll have a transfer back to your hotel. If you have not had the opportunity to check-in, you'll be able to do so at this time.

(Breakfast, Nuremberg; Accommodations, Oberammergau)



OBERAMMERGAU TO MUNICH:

After a leisurely breakfast, take the short train ride to the Bavarian capital of Munich. Arriving at the Hauptbahnhof Station, meet your driver for a private transfer to your hotel. After checking in, the remainder of the day is at your leisure to rest or explore your surroundings. Maybe venture to the Schwabing district; Munich's bohemian and artistic quarter, full of trendy boutiques, art galleries and interesting eateries.

(Breakfast, Oberammergau; Accommodations, Munich)



MUNICH:

After a leisurely breakfast, make your way to the Bahnhofplatz (in front of the Karstadt department store) to begin your Hop On/Hop Off Bus Tour. Operating on open air double decker buses, your flexible pass allows you to jump off and back on to visit attractions, do some shopping, and get a bite to eat. Some of the important stops are Marienplatz, the Olympic grounds, Nymphenburg Palace, and the Schwabing, that includes the English Garden.

(Breakfast & Accommodations, Munich)



MUNICH:

Today is free for independent exploring. Go back and revisit some of the museums or churches. Take the short ride to the palace at Nymphenburg, a regal 18th century Baroque gem that has been called the "Versailles of Germany". Make sure a stop at Marienplatz is on your agenda. Daily at 11am and noon, and at 5pm from March through October, everyone stops to watch the famous Glockenspiel on the front of the Neues Rathaus (New City Hall), as its mechanical figures dine, joust, and dance. A short distance away are the twin towers of Frauenkirche (Church of Our Lady), and provide a good landmark for orientation. Visible from all over the city, you can climb to the top for views across the city to the Bavarian Alps. The English Garden attracts walkers, joggers, and cyclists to its 78 kilometers of pathways and bridle paths. It's also a popular place for locals to sunbathe and picnic.

Stop for a snack or drink at the Chinesischen Turm (Chinese Tower), a 25-meter-tall pagoda. For automotive fans, next to BMW's soaring headquarters and factories at the Olympic Park is a round contemporary building with a metal shell, housing BMW's museum. Here, car fans will find examples of nearly all the models the company has made, including sports cars, racing models, and motorcycles.

Tonight a fun-filled evening awaits with a beer and food walking tour. Meet your guide at the Munich Central Train Station at 5:45pm and the tour will commence at 6pm. Our walk will take us into the heart of Munich's beer culture, and you'll see where the locals go. Along the way, you'll learn how beer is brewed, the fascinating history of German brewing, and the revered Reinheitsgebot (Purity Law) of 1516. We'll be given an exclusive private tour through the Beer and Oktoberfest Museum in one of Munich's traditional beer garden. To end the evening, you'll experience several traditional Bavarian dishes at your own table in one of the city's finest old beer halls, and finish at the world famous Hofbrauhaus, Germany's most famous beer hall.

(Breakfast, Dinner & Accommodations, Munich)



DEPARTURE:

After breakfast, take your private transfer to the airport for your return flight home, or to your next Avanti destination!

(Breakfast, Munich)