

Germany, Switzerland & Austria

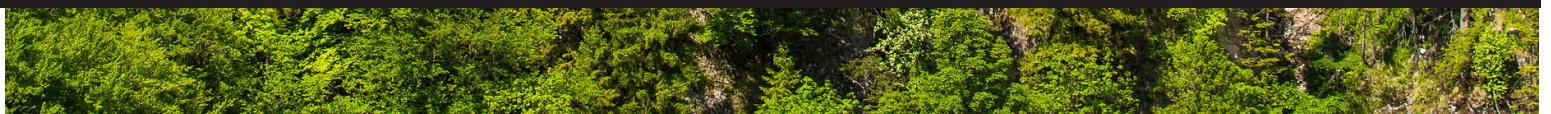
May 16 - 29, 2017



Registration opens on
Monday, May 16, 2016



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute



Germany, Switzerland & Austria

On this adventure you'll get a full view of Germany, Switzerland and Austria. These countries share a language, but their appeals are varied. Discover delightfully distinct style and substance in each destination, from the Gothic spires of Heidelberg, to the Art Nouveau elegance of Vienna. You'll see Swiss mountains and the Bavarian forest, and taste German beer and Austrian wine. This tantalizing trio of countries has something for everyone.

This 14-Day Trip Includes:

- 12 nights lodging in handpicked hotels. Two nights in the Heidelberg Region, two in Lucerne, one in Innsbruck, two in Munich, two in Salzburg, and three in Vienna.
- Round-trip air from/to Detroit to Frankfurt/Vienna
- Ground transportation to/from SVSU to the Detroit airport.
- Breakfast daily and seven three-course dinners with beer or wine.
- Guided sightseeing and entrance fees as outlined in the brochure.
- Multicultural tour director.
- Pre-trip dinner at SVSU.



Pre-Trip Dinner

We will offer a pre-trip dinner about two weeks prior to departure which will feature traditional German cuisine. You will receive your travel documents and we will go over trip logistics.

Trip Providers

This educational travel experience is offered by the SVSU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in conjunction with Go Ahead Tours. Founded in 1990, Go Ahead Tours offers over 85 itineraries to 60 countries across the globe. They are part of Education First, the world's largest private education company whose mission is "to break down the barriers of language, culture, and geography that divide us." Go Ahead was the travel provider for our Tuscany, Canadian Rockies and Spain trips.

About Our Lodging

We will stay in 3 and 4-diamond accommodations that have been handpicked to ensure quality and comfort. The hotels that our provider uses for the majority of their tours include:

- Mercure Hotel Mannheim am Rathaus, Heidelberg Region (2 nights)
- Grand Hotel Europe, Lucerne (2 nights)
- Hotel Innsbruck, Innsbruck (1 night)
- Holiday Inn Munich City Center, Munich (2 nights)
- Castellani Park Hotel, Salzburg (2 nights)
- NH Danube City, Vienna (3 nights)

Optional Excursions

You will receive additional details about the optional excursions upon registration. You will be able to register for them closer to departure. **Note:** We did build three excursions into the package which are usually offered as optional.

Trip Itinerary

■ Day 1: Tuesday, May 16

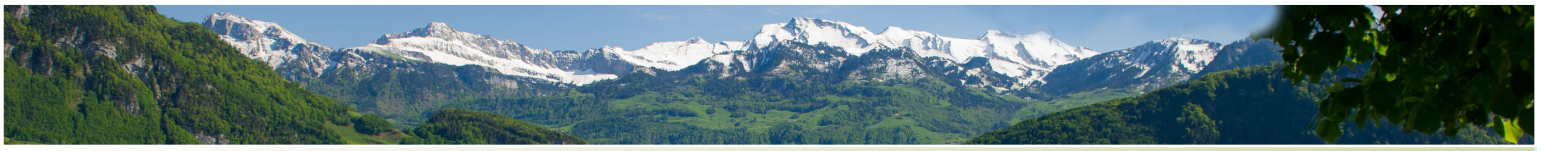
Depart SVSU via motorcoach for an overnight flight from Detroit to Frankfurt. Dinner will be served on the plane. D

■ Day 2: Wednesday, May 17

Welcome to Frankfurt, Germany! After breakfast on the plane and clearing customs, a Go Ahead representative will greet us and accompany us to the Heidelberg Region for free time and tonight's welcome dinner. B/D

■ Day 3: Thursday, May 18

After breakfast at the hotel, immerse yourself in the romantic cityscapes and Baroque architecture of Heidelberg on a guided tour. You'll wander through Heidelberg's elegant Market Square in the city's Old Town, explore Heidelberg University, and take the funicular to the city's rose-colored hilltop castle for panoramic views of the Old Bridge and the Rhine River below. After lunch on your own, you'll travel to Schwetzingen Castle and its UNESCO-recognized gardens. A castle guide will lead you through the greenery. As you explore the 178-acre garden, you'll learn what daily life in the castle was like. Dinner will be on your own tonight. B



■ Day 4: Friday, May 19

After breakfast at the hotel, you will travel to Switzerland through the beautiful Black Forest, the setting for many of the Grimm Brothers' fairytales. Lunch will be on your own at a cuckoo clock shop which features the largest cuckoo clock in the world. We'll see a demonstration on how the clocks are made and have an opportunity to try some Black Forest cake! After lunch, we'll stop at Schaffhausen to see Rhine Falls. We will arrive in Lucerne in the afternoon. After checking into the hotel we'll enjoy an included dinner. B/D

■ Day 5: Saturday, May 20

After breakfast at the hotel, you'll get an up-close look at Lucerne, Switzerland's idyllic Alpine town on a guided sightseeing tour. We'll pass hand-painted facades along the cobbled streets of Old Town and view the Lion Monument, a tribute to the Swiss Guards who sacrificed their lives in Paris during the French Revolution. After lunch on your own, we head to Mount Pilatus. This scenic excursion begins with a cruise on Lake Lucerne and then a trip up 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 and on a clear day you can see for 200 miles. Dinner will be on your own tonight in Lucerne. B

■ Day 6: Sunday, May 21

After breakfast at the hotel we will travel into Liechtenstein, a tiny Alpine principality dating back to the Holy Roman Empire. We'll visit Liechtenstein's capital, Vaduz, and pass the royal family's hilltop castle, still in use as a royal residence. Then, continue on toward the wintertime wonderland of Innsbruck, site of two winter Olympic Games. You'll enjoy a guided walking tour where you'll see the famed Golden Roof and the City Tower in Innsbruck's historic Old Town and the Baroque Cathedral of St. James. Dinner will be included tonight. B/D

■ Day 7: Monday, May 22

After breakfast at the hotel, we leave Innsbruck and travel through the mountains of Bavaria en route to Munich, Germany. Along the way, stop for a guided tour of Neuschwanstein, the fairy-tale retreat of "Mad" King Ludwig II and tour the Neuschwanstein Castle with its amazing stalactite grotto, artifacts and murals. After checking into our Munich hotel we'll gather for an included dinner. B/D

■ Day 8: Tuesday, May 23

The day begins with breakfast at the hotel and then you will get to know the Bavarian capital on a guided tour. You'll travel past the Englischer Garten and fashionable Schwabing district, enter the Nymphenburg Palace which was the Baroque home to past Bavarian royalty and explore Marienplatz, Munich's medieval heart and the site of the famed Glockenspiel. After lunch on your own, you have the balance of the afternoon free or you can choose to travel to Dachau, the first Nazi concentration camp during World War II (optional tour/added cost). Dinner is on your own tonight. B

■ Day 9: Wednesday, May 24

After breakfast at the hotel, we leave Germany and head to Salzburg, Austria, a city famed for its churches and musical history. There, a local guide leads you on a walking tour of the Old Town. You will view the University of Salzburg and the churchyard of St. Peter. You'll see the Kapitelplatz, Residenzplatz and Alter Market in the city's Old Town, enter the 17th-century Salzburg Cathedral, and pass through scenery from the beloved film *The Sound of Music*. Prior to an included dinner, you'll take the funicular to the hilltop Hohensalzburg Fortress, one of Europe's largest medieval castles. B/D

■ Day 10: Thursday, May 25

Although breakfast is included today, the balance of the day is on your own to explore Salzburg. Or, you may elect to add one or two optional excursions at an added cost. One option is a seven-hour Eagle's Nest & Salt Mine tour and the other is a Mozart Concert with dinner. (More details about these two optional tours will be sent upon registration.) B

■ Day 11: Friday, May 26

After breakfast, we leave for Vienna. On the way we'll stop in Melk for a guided tour of the town's breathtaking Baroque abbey and lunch on your own. In the afternoon, we'll continue our drive through the Austrian countryside. After checking into our Vienna hotel, you'll have some free time to explore the area and then enjoy an included dinner. B/D

■ Day 12: Saturday, May 27

After breakfast at the hotel you'll get transported back to the Age of Empires on a guided tour of Vienna. We'll visit the Schonbrunn Palace, the Rococo Hapsburg home with its impressive gardens. Then we'll travel down the Ringstrasse to the Parliament building and the Vienna State Opera. Our final stop will be the grand Hofburg Palace, the Hapsburg's preferred winter residence. Lunch will be on your own, but your final group dinner will be a traditional Viennese Heurigen evening. On the way to dinner your first stop is Vienna's Prater Ferris Wheel where you'll take a breezy ride to the top and enjoy the one-of-a-kind city view. Next, continue to the picturesque village of Grinzing. You'll indulge in a festive night of music, food and entertainment. Dinner will feature typical Austrian dishes and a chance to try some of the tavern's own locally made wine. B/D

■ Day 13: Sunday, May 28

Breakfast is included today, but the balance of your last day in Austria is yours to enjoy at your leisure. Or, you may elect to cruise down the Danube River to Bratislava, Hungary in a high-speed boat through the scenic Donau-Auen National Park. (More details about this full-day optional tour will be sent upon registration.) B

■ Day 14: Monday, May 29

Sadly, today we say farewell to Europe. After an included breakfast, our Go Ahead representative will escort us to the airport for our return flight home. Lunch will be included on the plane. You'll be transferred from the Detroit airport to SVSU via motorcoach. B/L



General Information

Activity Level

Go Ahead considers this a **very active** vacation. You will walk for about 2 hours daily across moderately uneven terrain, including paved roads and cobblestone streets, with a few hills or stairs. We will encounter high-altitude conditions. For example, the elevation of Mount Pilatus is 7,000 feet. You should be able to handle your own luggage at the airport and on the plane.

Weather Projection

Average highs in May for this region are in the low 70s and average lows are in the 50s.

Information and Reservations

Call the SVSU-OLLI at (989) 964-4475 for further information or to make your deposit. Our office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Trip Insurance

You may elect to purchase Go Ahead's TravelSafe trip insurance upon registration. The cost is \$289 for double occupancy travelers and \$299 for singles. Details about the insurance will be mailed to you upon registration. Or, you may purchase insurance on your own. Remember, insurance has to be purchased within 14 days of your deposit to cover pre-existing conditions.

Cancellation Fees

All cancellations must be made in writing to the OLLI office. If we can fill your space with someone from a waiting list prior to February 1, you will receive a full refund less a \$20 processing fee, and less any name change charges imposed by the airlines. The following fees apply to everyone: 71+ days prior to departure, \$300; 70-46 days prior, \$450; 45-8 days prior, \$1,000; 7 or less days prior, 100%. We highly recommend trip insurance!

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Registration

1. Name _____
(as it appears on your passport)

Date of Birth _____ Citizenship _____

Passport # _____ Expiration Date _____

2. Name _____
(as it appears on your passport)

Date of Birth _____ Citizenship _____

Passport # _____ Expiration Date _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Home phone _____

Cell _____

Roommate's Name/Phone Number _____

Trip Costs: (until 6/1/2016)

\$4,257* OLLI Members (double) *plus optional insurance*

\$4,287** Non members (double) *plus optional insurance*

\$ 435 Single Supplement

* *This price is valid until 6/1/16. After that date, the price increases by \$100. Your \$300/\$330 deposit locks in the lower rate.*

** *Non-members receive 2015-2016 membership, expiring 8/31/16*

Deposit & Payment Method

• \$300/\$330 will hold your spot (plus insurance if requested)

Go Ahead's TravelSafe trip insurance is \$289 for double occupancy travelers and \$299 for singles.

• The final balance is due by February 1, 2017.

Check (payable to SVSU) Amount Enclosed _____

Credit Card: MasterCard Visa Discover American Express

Card Number _____

Cardholder's Name _____ Expiration Date _____

If you have traveled with Go Ahead Tours before you will receive a discount. How many Go Ahead Tours have you taken? _____