

Quilt Tour to Austria and Bavaria, Germany

September 22 to October 04, 2012

Optional Vienna Extension

Oct 04-06, 2010

Join Fellow Quilters as we Travel To:

Innsbruck • Oberammergau • Neuschwanstein

Garmisch-Partenkirchen • Salzburg

Austria's Lake District • Burgenland • Vienna

Attend the 2012 Austrian Quilt Exhibition See how the Austrian Blue Prints are made!

YOUR TOUR ITINERARY:

September 22, 2012-Saturday

For those of you living in North America, *you will need to arrange your flight to depart today, in order to arrive in Innsbruck, Austria on Sunday, September 23.*

In order to plan your free time wisely and learn more about specific places along the tour that interest you, we recommend that you purchase one of the following travel guides: Frommer's, Fodor's, Rick Steves', or DK Eyewitness. You may want to be sure it has a food translation section for ordering when dining out on your own.

Sep 23-Sun

Our hotel in **INNSBRUCK** is the **5-STAR GRAND HOTEL EUROPA**. The hotel is located across the street from the main train station. The public bus "F" departs Innsbruck International Airport every 15 minutes in front of the arrivals hall and takes about 10 minutes, for a cost of approx. € 2.

Dating from 1869, this hotel has hosted Queen Elizabeth II, the shah of Iran, General Patton, and the crew of *Apollo 14*. The ornate yellow-and-white baroque hall is used by Tyrolean government for its most important functions and the ballroom was constructed by King Ludwig's Bavarian architects and builders.

Contact Traveling Together if you would like to arrive in Innsbruck a day early and stay at the Hotel Europa. If you would like assistance in arranging your air travel please call Northwood Travel at 800-780-0571 or email them at info@NorthwoodTravel.com

Innsbruck, capital of the Alps, is one of Austria's oldest cities. Alpine views are around every corner and the medieval Old Town is home to imperial palaces, world-class galleries and Zaha Hadid's avant-garde designs. This afternoon you may want to take a stroll around Old Town or relax at the hotel, prior to our **WELCOME DINNER**.

Sep 24-Mon

This morning we will be crossing the border into Germany to visit **OBERAMMERGAU** and **GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN**. Oberammergau is located in a wide valley surrounded by forests, green meadows, and mountains and is best known for its famous Passion Play, which began in 1634 when the town's citizens took a vow to give dramatic thanks after they were spared from the devastating plague of 1633. Although we won't be attending the play, we will be admiring the many buildings in the historic center that are decorated with "Lüftlmalerei" or frescoes featuring Bavarian folktales or religious themes. The town is also known for its woodcarvers, a craft that has been practiced here since medieval times. There are plenty of shops offering good quality woodcarvings, in addition to two of Kathe Wohlfahrt's famous Christmas shops! The villages of Garmisch and Partenkirchen make up Germany's top Alpine resort. The two towns were merged for the 1936 Olympic Winter Games and they have maintained the charm of ancient villages. Even today, you occasionally see country folk in traditional dress, and you may be held up in traffic while the cattle are led from their mountain-grazing grounds down through the streets of town. Birgit Kaller is the International Representative of the German Patchwork Guild and will be supplying us with the names of any quilt shops in these villages. She is also working on the possibility of our meeting with some of the local quilters in Garmisch.

Sep 25-Tue

Today you will be on your own to **EXPLORE INNSBRUCK**. Visit <http://www.innsbruck.info/en> to see what Innsbruck has to offer and whether the purchase of an *Innsbruck Card* would be beneficial to you, depending on your individual interests.

Swarovski Crystal World, The Goldenes Dachl, Hofburg Imperial Palace and Alpin Zoo are just a few of the major attractions. If it's a clear day, you may want to ride one of the cable cars, funicular railways or lifts to enjoy the spectacular Alpine views. There is no shortage of shopping in the center of town. Tiroler Heimatwerk is one of Innsbruck's best stores for handcrafted Tyrolean items such as sculpture, pewter, textiles, woolen goods, hand-knit sweaters, lace, and regionally inspired fabrics and dress patterns. Be sure to take the time to treat yourself to a piece of rich chocolate cake at the famous chandelier-lit Café Sacher!

Sep 26-Wed

We're off to Germany again! Near the Bavarian town of Fussen is one of the most visited castles in Germany and one of the most popular tourist destinations in Europe.

NEUSCHWANSTEIN, also known as "the castle of the fairy-tale king", is what inspired Walt Disney to create the Magic Kingdom. Seven weeks after the death of King Ludwig II in 1886, Neuschwanstein was opened to the public. The shy king had built the castle in order to withdraw from public life. Today you will have the opportunity to view what was once his private refuge. King Ludwig was a great admirer and supporter of Richard Wagner, the world-renowned composer, and many rooms in the castle's interior were inspired by Wagner's characters. Though only 14 rooms were finished before Ludwig II's sudden death in 1886, these rooms were majestically decorated. The two-story throne room was designed in Byzantine style, with wall paintings depicting angels. Ironically, there is no throne in the Throne Room, as Ludwig died before it was completely finished.

We'll enjoy a **GROUP DINNER** this evening when we return to Innsbruck.

Sep 27-Thu

We depart Innsbruck this morning for **SALZBURG**, the birthplace of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and the gateway to some of Austria's most splendid landscapes. For fans of the movie *The Sound of Music*, the city was the home to the von Trapp family and you can find movie locations scattered around the city. After time for lunch, we'll have **A WALKING TOUR OF THE OLD TOWN**, before checking in to the **5-STAR ALSTADT SAS RADISSON HOTEL**. The historic facade and stone arches from the medieval structure still remain, adding to the charm of this 1377 converted Altstadt inn. A **GROUP DINNER** will be at the hotel this evening.

Sep 28-Fri

After yesterday's walking tour, you will have gained the knowledge you need to make the most of your **FREE DAY IN SALZBURG**. Whether you want to follow in Mozart's footsteps, study the superb baroque architecture, or shop on the famous medieval street known as the Getreidgasse, you will be sure to enjoy your day in Salzburg!

Sep 29-Sat

We depart Salzburg this morning for **SEEWALCHEN ON LAKE ATTERSEE**, in an area known as Upper Austria.

For 60 years, **TOSTMANN TRACHTEN** has manufactured Dirndls, a type of traditional dress worn in Bavaria, Liechtenstein, Austria, and South Tyrol, based on the historical costume of Alpine peasants...and they sell traditional 100% cotton Austrian fabrics!

Our next stop will be **BAD ISCHL**, a charming small town in the resort area of Austria's lake district. There's more fabric at the local Heimatwerk, along with wonderful shops and time for lunch. Be sure to allow time for a stop at the famous Zauner's Konditorei (confectionery) for an afternoon treat! Late this afternoon we depart for **LEOBEN** and the **FALKENSTEINER HOTEL AND ASIA SPA**. Our **GROUP DINNER** this evening will be at the hotel.

Sep 30-Sun

This morning we drive to **KRIEGLACH**, Austria for the **2012 AUSTRIAN GUILD EXHIBITION!** This is the largest quilt show in Austria, with a couple of hundred quilts on display and we will have most of the day to enjoy them and meet the Austrian quilters.

HELEN HEANEY is Austria's European Quilt Association (EQA) representative and has been instrumental in helping us create this tour. In addition to providing us with the information for the Austrian fabric shopping, she is responsible for arranging our visit tomorrow to Blaudruck Koo which is sure to be a highlight of the tour! Our **GROUP DINNER** this evening will be at a restaurant on our way to **LUZMANNBURG'S ALL IN RED HOTEL** in the Austrian state of Burgenland, just minutes from the Hungarian border.

Oct 01-Mon

Just a short distance from our hotel is **BLAUDRUCK KOO**, one of the last blue print fabric dyers in Europe. Originally, the indigo dyed blue-print fabrics were used for everyday clothing and work clothes. Today, they are perfect for quilting and are much in demand! You will have the opportunity to see how the dying process is achieved, including a look at the workroom, vats and stamps used to make these wonderful prints! They specialize in reversible printed fabrics that are still made with an old roller printing machine that is hand-operated. Most of the dying is done over the summer months, so the stock room will be full in October! Our **GROUP DINNER** this evening will be at our hotel.

Oct 02-Tue

Our last city on the tour is **VIENNA**. Vienna is Austria's largest city, as well as its cultural, economic, and political center. It is the 10th-largest city by population in the European Union and is host to many major international organizations, such as the United Nations and OPEC. After a few morning visits in the city and time for lunch, we will have a **WALKING TOUR OF CENTRAL VIENNA THAT WILL INCLUDE ENTRANCE TO ST. STEPHEN'S CATHEDRAL, THE IMPERIAL APARTMENTS AND THE SISI MUSEUM**.

Location, location, location! **HOTEL ROYAL** is on one of the more prestigious streets of the old city and is less than a block from St. Stephen's Cathedral. The hotel is within walking distance of all the major shopping and sights of the city.

Oct 03-Wed

With map and travel guide in hand, you will have the whole day to **EXPLORE VIENNA**. Whether you decide to shop at the most prestigious shopping zone in downtown Vienna (also called the "Golden U"), visit one of the local markets, or spend time in one of the many museums, you're sure to enjoy this exciting city! Visit <http://www.wien.info/en> to see whether the purchase of a ViennaCard would be beneficial to you, depending on your individual interests. This is the last day of the tour and we will have a **FAREWELL DINNER** tonight at our hotel.

Oct 04-Thu

If you will not be joining us on the Vienna extension, you will be transferred this morning to the **VIENNA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT** for your flights home. There will be one group transfer that will have everyone at the airport in time for flights that depart 9:30am or later.

For those of you that would like to experience more of Vienna, please read on:

Oct 04-Thu

This morning we will be boarding our bus for a visit to **SCHÖNBRUNN PALACE**. Listed as a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site, the palace is one of the most important cultural monuments in Austria. The tour will include forty rooms and forty fascinating stories spanning three centuries. Also included are the magnificent Hall of Ceremonies, the imposing Gobelin Salon with its exquisite Brussels tapestries as well as the room known in Maria Theresia's time as the Feketin Room, later renamed the Millions Room because of its precious panelling of rare rosewood.

Oct 05-Fri

Today we will have a guided tour of Vienna's famous **SPANISH RIDING SCHOOL**, including the stables. Each year the best **LIPIZZAN STALLIONS** are selected for training at the Spanish Riding School. At the height of their career, they enchant visitors from all over the world with their truly unique performances in the world's most famous riding hall, the "Winter Riding School", located in Vienna's Imperial Hofburg Palace. Tickets cannot be purchased until today for the morning exercise that is set to music, but your tour escort will make every effort to secure admission for the group.

Oct 06-Sat

You will be transferred this morning to the **VIENNA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT** for your flights home. There will be one group transfer that will have everyone at the airport in time for flights that depart 9:30am or later.

***Book Early!
Space is limited***

Included in your tour:

- ALL hotels
- ALL breakfasts & 7 dinners
- ALL group tours & activities
- ALL land travel by private motor coach
- Luggage handling at hotels, when available
- Escorted by a professional tour leader
- Group transfer to Vienna International Airport,
as specified on Oct. 04
- Shop for fabric with plenty of free time
to explore and shop in each of the cities we visit!

Tour Price:

\$ 3,183 per person, double occupancy

\$ 687 single supplement

Prices do not include airfare

Included in the Vienna extension:

2 nights at Hotel Royal

Breakfast each morning

All transportation and entrance

for visits to Schönbrunn Palace and The Spanish Riding School

Luggage handling at Hotel Royal

Escorted by a professional tour leader

Group transfer to Vienna International Airport,

as specified on Oct. 06

Extension Price:

\$ 351 per person, double occupancy

\$ 67 single supplement

Prices do not include airfare

Please note: In order to fully enjoy this trip you will need to be able to walk up to 5 city blocks at one time, and at a moderate pace. In addition to uphill climbs on some of the city streets (some being cobblestone) you may need to climb a flight or two of stairs. A few of the hotel rooms may be located in an area of the hotel that cannot be accessed by an elevator.

TO REGISTER:

Go to www.TravelingTogether.net and click on Sign Up Forms

Please print and read the 2010-2011 Tour Terms & Conditions and then print and mail in the completed Tour Registration Form along with your deposit.

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