

ALL GAY SCENIC SWITZERLAND + OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY

SWITZERLAND + LIECHTENSTEIN + GERMANY

12 DAYS

August 27 – September 5, 2010

If the entire world's a stage, then Switzerland is its most spectacular set! Join Hermes Tours as we explore magnificent alpine vistas, charming mountainside villages, and lovely lakeside cities. You'll delight in the most incredible train journey you're ever likely to take, past snow-capped peaks and pristine valleys. You're sure to agree that Switzerland serves as an unforgettable opening act to Oberammergau's Passion Play. We've got your tickets to this treasured 370-year tradition!

- **Geneva**, including the Old Town, St. Pierre Cathedral, Jet d'eau, and panoramic tour of Belle Epoque palaces, United Nations, World Health Organization, and Red Cross
- **Castle of Chillon**
- **Zermatt & Matterhorn**, including cog railway to Gornergrat
- **Scenic Glacier Express train** to St. Moritz
- **Oberammergau Passion Play**, including 3-course lunch and 3-course dinner
- **Liechtenstein**, -the smallest German speaking country in the world - photo stop and coffee break
- **Lucerne** orientation tour
- **Lake Lucerne Dinner Cruise**
- **Zurich**, including Old Town and Niederdorf
- Accommodations for 11 nights in 4-star hotels
- Services of a Hermes Tours escort
- Services of an expert, local guide in all cities
- **\$125 per person savings if you reserve by July 31 2009!**
- Optional Helicopter Tour of Matterhorn
- **This tour will sell out fast! It is only possible to see the Passion Play in Oberammergau once every 10 years. Call us today to reserve your space.**

Day 1 – Friday, Aug 27 – Arrive in Geneva (D)

Arrive in Geneva today, Switzerland's largest French-speaking city. Tonight, enjoy our special Hermes welcome dinner.

Day 2 – Saturday, Aug 28 – Geneva (B)

Today we tour the old and new cities. Visit the Cathédrale St-Pierre where John Calvin preached, then drive past lakeside Belle Epoque palaces. We'll also see the lake's famous *jet d'eau*, or water jet, shooting 160 feet into the air, and later pass by the United Nations, World Health Organization, and Red Cross headquarters. After lunch, explore on your own.

Day 3 – Sunday, Aug 29 – Castle of Chillon - Zermatt (B)

Today we drive along the stunning shores of Lake Geneva past Lausanne and the resort city of Montreaux, which Freddie Mercury called home. Our first stop is the breathtaking Castle of Chillon, set on the lake's shores. Later, we arrive in the alpine village of Zermatt by cog railway. Dinner is at your leisure tonight.

Day 4 – Monday, Aug 30 – Zermatt - Matterhorn (B)

You're sure to fall in love with Zermatt's alpine setting and clean air. Only electric vehicles are permitted here to protect the views of the Matterhorn. We'll hop a mountain tram up to Gornergrat, for terrific views of the famed peak. Later, enjoy a free afternoon and maybe a spa, or join an optional helicopter tour of the Matterhorn. Dinner is on your own.

Day 5 – Tuesday, Aug 31 – Glacier Express Train to St. Moritz (B)

This morning, we'll board the Swiss Glacier Express, and skirt past soaring alpine peaks. Arrive in St. Moritz late this afternoon.

Day 6 – Wednesday, Sep 1 – Alpine Drive to Bavaria (B,D)

Continue our adventure as we drive through the Alps into Austria, and arrive in Bavarian Oberammergau.

Day 7 – Thursday, Sep 2 – Oberammergau Passion Play (B,L,D)

Today is the centerpiece of our trip. The world famous, 5-hour performance runs every ten years to fulfill this village's promise to God for having spared them of the Black Plague during the Thirty Years War. The original performance was in 1634. A milestone event for dramatists and travelers alike!

Day 8 – Friday, Sep 3 – Liechtenstein - Lucerne (B)

After breakfast we journey to Liechtenstein, the smallest German-speaking country in the world nestled between the Rhine River and the Alps. Later, arrive in Lucerne, in Switzerland's geographic center – where breathtaking scenery and medieval history appears around every corner.

Day 9 – Saturday, Sep 4 – Lucerne (B,D)

After an orientation tour, explore this alpine gem on your own. Tonight we enjoy a Dinner Cruise on magnificent Lake Lucerne.

Day 10 – Sunday, Sep 5 – Zurich (B)

We head to Zurich today, the largest Swiss city. During our tour, you'll learn about the gay scene in the Niederdorf quarter of the Old Town. Your afternoon is free to relax in its cafes, and explore the rest of the historic district.

Day 11 – Monday, Sep 6 – Zurich (B)

Explore Switzerland's gayest city on your own!

Day 12 – Sunday, Sep 7 – Depart (B)

This morning is the end of our tour. You are free to make your return flight for any time today.

Includes:

Services of professional gay tour guide throughout the trip. Accommodations as listed, rooms with private bath or shower, hotel taxes, portorage, tips and service charges. All meals as per itinerary, Transportation in luxury air-conditioned mini coach. Entrance fees to all sites on itinerary.

Not Included:

Not Included: Round-trip air transportation to/from Switzerland; transfers to/from airports, meals and activities not specifically included in the itinerary; insurance; alcohol; soft drinks; bottled water; laundry; telephone calls; faxes and any other expenses of a personal nature. Usual tips to drivers and guides are not included.

Hotels:

Geneva: Hotel Cornavin or similar
Zermatt: Hotel Matterhornblick or similar
St. Moritz: Laudinella Hotel or similar
Oberammergau: Schilcher Hof Oberammergau Hotel
Lucerne: NH Luzern Hotel or similar
Zurich: Montana Hotel or similar

Costs: \$3495 per person based on double occupancy.

Single Supplement: \$570 per person

Please note there are no single rooms available for your stay in Oberammergau. For these nights you will be asked to room with another traveler in twin beds.

Early booking discount of \$125 when booked by July 31, 2009

Deposit due at time of registration: \$500

Final payment due 80 days prior to departure

Please note that Hermes Tours has changed its payment policy for 2010 tours. Final payment may be made via credit card without surcharge. You will be asked to sign a credit card authorization form. For your convenience you may also set up a payment plan.