



Franciscan Pilgrimage to Oberammergau

Prague, Altotting, Munich, Ettal, Salzburg, Mariazell, Melk, Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest



August 13 - 25, 2022, 11 nights/12 days

We're back! After the lockdowns and cancellations of the Covid pandemic, the Franciscan Friars Conventual are thrilled to be resuming our pilgrimages in 2022. We invite you to journey with us to the epic spectacle – the "Passion Play" in Oberammergau, Germany – a once-in-a-lifetime experience which has enthralled pilgrims for nearly 400 years.

During the trip, we shall visit five countries, offering Mass and prayers at some of Europe's greatest Shrines and Cathedrals. Our Franciscan pilgrimages are noted for blending spiritual, cultural, and recreational moments in a warm and congenial atmosphere of Christian community, where people of all ages feel welcome.

Mass will be offered daily.

-Fr. Jobe Abbass, OFM Conv., Pilgrimage Director

-Fr. James McCurry, OFM Conv., Spiritual Guide

All Inclusive Cost: from New York/JFK:
\$4,480, dbl occupancy
Single room suppl. \$950
Departures from other cities are available.

PILGRIMAGE PROGRAM

August 13/Sat - JFK/PRAGUE. This evening, board a non-stop overnight flight for the Czech Republic with meals on board.

August 14/Sun – PRAGUE. After arrival in Prague, meet your guide, who will take you to the hotel in the city center. Time to unpack and relax before a Sunday Mass. Welcome dinner in your hotel. (D)

August 15/Mon - PRAGUE. Start the day with a Mass at Our Lady Victorious Church before the miraculous statue of the Infant of Prague is venerated. Comprehensive city tour will introduce you to the most important site of this fascinating city: the Old Town with the world-famous Astronomical Clock, the Loretto Church, Wenceslas Square. Continue through the medieval Charles Bridge to the magnificent Royal Castle complex, with immense St. Vitus Gothic Cathedral. Balance of the day at leisure. This evening dinner is planned on the boat so you can admire Prague by night from the Vltava River. (B, D)

August 16/Tue - PRAGUE - Altotting - MUNICH. This morning we cross the border to Germany's Bavaria region. Stop in Altotting, one of the most celebrated Marian shrines and the spiritual center of Bavaria often called the "Lourdes of Germany". After Mass, continue to Munich, Germany's third largest city and relax for the night. (B, L)

August 17/Wed - MUNICH - After breakfast, meet your local guide for a half day city tour. Center of the city is the 12th century Marienplatz (St. Mary's Square), the Munich Cathedral and the Old Town Hall. Afternoon at leisure to spend as you please. (B, D)

August 18/Thu - MUNICH. Today is reserved for an excursion to the stunning Neuschwanstein (New Swan) Castle, one of the most visited castles in the world nestled in the Bavarian Alps. Return

to Munich. Balance of the day is free. Dinner in a typical German restaurant. (B, D)

August 19/Fri - MUNICH - Ettal - OBERAMMERGAU. After breakfast, on the way to Oberammergau, a scenic ride will take you to Ettal Abbey, the largest Benedictine monastery. At noon we reach the colorful village of Oberammergau where the Passion Play will start at 2:30 PM with dinner during the intermission. (B, D)

August 20/Sat - OBERAMMERGAU - SALZBURG. This morning, leave Germany and journey to Salzburg, Austria. On arrival, discover the splendor of Salzburg on a walking tour of the city's landmarks, such as the Cathedral, Mirabell Gardens and Mozart's birthplace. (B, D)

August 21/Sun - SALZBURG - Mariazell - Melk - VIENNA. Time to leave the "Sound of Music" country and travel East to the shrine of Mariazell. Celebrate Mass in the Basilica, where a miraculous, 12th century lime wood statue of the Virgin Mary is honored. After lunch in a local restaurant, continue to the town of Melk. Tour the famous Melk Abbey, founded in 1089 beautifully situated overlooking the Danube River. It is one of the biggest and most splendid Baroque monuments in Europe. On arrival in Vienna check-in at the hotel in the heart of this imperial city. (B, D)

August 22/Mon - VIENNA. Today, admire the treasures of this elegant city on a panoramic tour including its most important landmarks such as the Ringstrasse Boulevard, the Town Hall, the State Opera House and Belvedere Palace. Highlight of the tour is the famous Schoenbrunn Palace. Walk through the splendid interiors of imperial rooms for an insight into the daily life at the Habsburg court. This evening we invite you to a Strauss and Mozart concert with dinner at Konzerthaus. (B, D)

August 23/Tue - VIENNA - Bratislava - Esztergom - BUDAPEST. Time to leave Austrian capital and head for Hungary. On the way, stop in Slovakia for a panoramic tour of its capital, Bratislava. Celebrate Mass with the Franciscan Friars. After lunch in a local restaurant, continue to Esztergom, center of the Catholic Church and capital of Hungary until the 13th century where the first Hungarian king was crowned. You will tour the Esztergom Basilica, the largest church and the tallest building in Hungary rebuilt in 1822. Overnight in Budapest. (B, L)

August 24/Wed - BUDAPEST. Start the day with a Mass at St. Michael's Church dating back to 1700. Then a guided city tour takes you to the Buda and Pest sides of the Danube River. The Buda side includes the castle district with the 13th century Coronation Church of St. Matthias and Fisherman's Bastion offering splendid view of the city. Cross the Elizabeth Bridge to the Pest side where you will find the Heroes' Square, the Opera House, St. Stephen's Basilica, which can accommodate up to 8,500 people. The landmark of the city, is the House of Parliament with 691 rooms. Balance of the day is free to explore Budapest on your own. For a farewell dinner you are invited to a goulash party in a typical Hungarian wine cellar. (B, D)

August 25/Thu - BUDAPEST - USA. Early morning depart for the airport, bid farewell to your guide and check-in for your flight home. (B)

OUR HOTELS:

PRAGUE - Majestic Plaza
MUNICH - Drei Lowen
OBERAMMERGAU - 4 star area hotels
SALZBURG - Schaffenrath or similar
VIENNA - Kontzerthouse
BUDAPEST - La Prima Fashion

According to European entry requirements, only vaccinated participants (or those recovered from COVID) can sign up. Space is limited to 35 participants. Reservations are based on first come first served basis. Reservation deadline is April 12, 2022.

About Oberammergau:



Tradition of the Oberammergau Passion Play dates back to 1633 when the plague, the "Black Death" took a heavy toll on the small village. Villagers turned to God and vowed that if they will be saved they will perform a play depicting the suffering and death of Christ. Their prayers were answered and people were saved.

In 2022 you can experience the 42nd performance of the Passion of Christ which is performed every ten years. All 2,000 actors of this world's largest amateur dramatic performance must be born in the village and had to live there for 20 years. Female roles are limited to single women under the age of 35. The play is five and a half hours long with a two hour intermission.

TOUR COST INCLUDES:

- Round trip air transportation from JFK
- Accommodations in first class hotels in twin bedded rooms
- Two meals daily: breakfast (B), lunch (L), or dinner (D)
- Transfers on arrival and departure
- Mass daily
- Transportation between cities by air conditioned motor coach
- * Baggage handling of one suitcase per person
- Services of an English speaking escort throughout the tour
- Sightseeing tours with local guides
- Entrance fees to sites visited
- Tickets to the Passion Play
- All service charges and hotel taxes
- All U.S. and foreign departure taxes, customs and immigration fees

TOUR CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS/PAYMENTS: A deposit of \$200 per person is required at the time of booking. Full payment is due May 14, 2022 payable by check. Price of the tour includes a built-in discount of 2% for payment by cash or check. There is no discount on credit card sales.

TOUR COST: Tour price is based on group fares and currency exchange levels in effect at the time of printing. It is subject to adjustment in the event of significant changes in the exchange levels or any surcharges imposed by the airlines.

TOUR/AIR ARRANGEMENTS: Air transportation is based on negotiated group fares. Any Covid-19 regulations imposed by the airlines at the time of travel will be observed.

Hotel accommodations will be provided in twin bedded rooms with private bath. Limited number of single rooms is available at the supplement shown. While every effort will be made to provide sharing of accommodations for persons booking alone, when requested, it cannot be guaranteed and single supplement must be paid before departure when billed.

Unused hotel accommodations or any other unused features of this tour are not refundable or exchangeable for other services. The right is reserved to substitute hotels and sightseeing features if it becomes necessary.

Each tour member must be able to get on and off the motor coach unaided and not require walking devices or wheelchairs. Please note that some sites may require walking on cobblestone streets and staircases which will present difficulties for tour members with physical limitations.

NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR COST: Cost of passports, beverages with meals, items of a personal nature; phone calls, laundry, optional insurance, additional meals/beverages, gratuities to the tour guides and drivers.

BAGGAGE: Free baggage allowance on checked baggage is one suitcase not exceeding 50 lbs plus one carry-on bag which has to fit under the seat or in an overhead compartment.

DOCUMENTS: A valid U.S. or foreign passport is required. To apply for passport, contact your

local Post Office. Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months after your return date.

CANCELLATIONS: All cancellations must be made in writing to PAT TOURS. Full refund will be made for cancellations received up to April 13 less \$25 fee. From April 14 to May 14 cancellation fee is \$200 deposit. Between May 15 - June 28, \$1,000 is non-refundable. No refund will be made for cancellations received after June 29, 2022. After completion of the tour, claims for refund must be made in writing within 30 days.

INSURANCE: All-inclusive travel protection (cancellation, accident/health, baggage, delays) is strongly recommended and will be offered to all tour participants with confirmation. *If you have a pre-existing condition, insurance must be purchased at the time of deposit. Call PAT TOURS to enroll.* Insurance premium is non-refundable once purchased. Cost of insurance premium depends on age and coverage chosen.

RESPONSIBILITY: The travel agency and the tour operator, PAT TOURS, 1446 Riverdale St, W. Springfield, MA 01089, Tel: 413-747-7702, act only as an agent in making arrangements for hotels, sightseeing tours, and transportation or any other service in connection with the itineraries of individual tour members who by acceptance thereof, acknowledge that the sponsoring organization and/or its agents and suppliers shall not be liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity, liability or expense to person or property due to act or default of any hotel, carrier or other company or person providing or rendering of services included in the tours. Further, the sponsoring organization and/or its agents accept no responsibility for any sickness, pilferage, labor disputes, machinery breakdown, government restraints, wars, whether declared or not, riots, theft, weather condition, defect in any vehicle of transportation or for any misadventure or casualty or any other causes beyond their control. PAT TOURS reserves the right to cancel, change, and substitute any service and to decline to accept or retain any tour member at any time for any reason including insufficient number of participants.

Printed in Oct. '21

Complete and return the reservation form with required documents to:

PAT TOURS, 1446 Riverdale St. West Springfield, MA 01089

e-mail: info@pattours.com, Tel: (413) 747-7702; 1-800-388-0988

Fr. Jobe Abbass e-mail: jobe.abbass@gmail.com

RESERVATION FORM: Franciscan Pilgrimage to Oberammergau, August 13 - 25, 2022

Enclosed is my deposit check \$ _____ (\$200 per person) payable to PAT TOURS to reserve _____ seat(s) on the above tour departing on Aug. 13, 2022. *Deposit can also be made by credit card. Copy of your passport & proof of vaccination is required with this application*.*

Please charge the amount of \$ _____ to my (AX, VI, MC, DS) # _____ Exp. Date _____

LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE NAME (as appear in your passport)

Tel: Home: _____ Cell: _____

e-mail: _____

Need flights to JFK from my hometown city of _____

Special requests: _____

Address: _____

Responsibility Waiver: All travel is subject to global health guidelines. PAT TOURS follows the CDC's and local government's travel recommendation to stay safe during the tour. By signing this waiver, I/we accept any risks connected with COVID-19 and release PAT TOURS and its agents of responsibility and any claims that may arise during the tour. Travel insurance is strongly recommended.

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

ROOM OCCUPANCY: Double room: One bed _____; Two beds _____;

I have read and accepted the Conditions and Waiver on behalf of the above persons:

Single room _____; Need roommate _____.

Sharing with: _____
If requesting a roommate, please advise if smoking or non.

Signature _____ Date _____

*If you applied for your passport, complete this form and provide a copy of your new passport when available.