
MEMO—OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

Date: March 14, 2019

To: Dr. Kent Mutchler

From: Mr. Tom Rogers

Re: Out of Country World Language (German) Trip Proposal – Summer 2020



German language instructor, Rene Swidenbank, would like to request permission to organize a summer 2020 trip to Germany, Switzerland and Austria. The purpose of the trip is to provide an educational and cultural experience for our students that will reinforce and enhance their language abilities, historical knowledge and cultural appreciation of these German speaking countries. It will provide students with the authentic opportunities to experience and interact with people from Germany. On this tour, students will experience new cultures and visit important landmarks such as the Rhine River valley, Heidelberg, the Black Forest, Mt. Pilatus near Lucerne, Switzerland, Lake Constance, Salzburg, Munich, Dachau Holocaust memorial, Nuremberg and Rothenburg. Tentative itinerary and trip details are attached:

1. Trip Dates: July 2020 (14-days)
2. Number of Students: Approximately 20
3. Transportation: International Air Carrier / EF Educational Tours
4. Cost of Trip: Approximately \$4,635
5. Adult Chaperones: Mrs. Rene Swidenbank + 1 adult for every 6 participants
6. Goals:
 - a. To provide an opportunity for student participation in sightseeing and language immersion experience in authentic settings.
 - b. To reinforce and enhance student language mastery and cultural appreciation through the experience.
 - c. To provide students the opportunity to experience and interact with people from Germany, Austria and Switzerland through their participation in this activity.
 - d. To reinforce cultural and historical content provided in German classes.



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Sightseeing: Rheinfels Castle; Linderhof Palace; Salzburg; Munich

Entrances: Cable car, Koblenz; Ehrenbreitstein Fortress; Cable car to Niederwald Monument; Rhine cruise; Rheinfels Castle; Heidelberg Castle & wine barrel; Neckar Valley cruise; Dilsberg Castle; Boat to Mount Pilatus; Mount Pilatus cable car; Mount Pilatus alpine slide; Swiss folklore evening; Outdoor pool in Wasserburg; Neuschwanstein Castle; Wieskirche; Linderhof Palace; Hohensalzburg concert; Herrenchiemsee; Munich bike tour; Dachau; BMW factory; Night Watchman tour

Overnight stays:

Rhineland (2)
Heidelberg region (1)
Lucerne region (2)
Fussen (1)
Salzburg (2)
Munich (2)
Rothenburg (1)
Frankfurt (1)



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Your itinerary

Day 1: Fly to Germany

Board your overnight flight to Frankfurt!

Day 2: Rhineland

Arrive in Frankfurt and travel to the Rhineland

Welcome to the Rhineland region of Germany. Based around the meandering Rhine River, this region features dramatic natural landscapes and quaint villages.

Walking tour of Koblenz

Join your Tour Director for an introduction to the rich, cultural atmosphere of Koblenz, a city that marks the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers. See the majestic statue of Emperor Kaiser Wilhelm I as you continue through the Deutsches Eck (German Corner), named for the knights who settled the area in the 13th century. Pass by Mutter-Beethoven-Haus, the birthplace of the mother of the famous German-born composer Ludwig van Beethoven. Continue through the Old Town of Koblenz, where you'll wind down narrow streets filled with street performers, interesting shops and inviting sidewalk cafés.

Ride a cable car to Ehrenbreitstein Fortress (*time permitting*)

Enjoy a cable car ride over the Rhine River and explore the Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, which overlooks the town of Koblenz.

Day 3: Rhineland

Visit the Niederwalddenkmal Monument

Built in the late 1800s, this monument commemorates the Unification of Germany in 1871. Enjoy a cable car ride to its home above Rüdesheim, overlooking the valley of the Rhine.

Enjoy a Rhine River cruise

Cruise down the Rhine River, past crag-top castles, narrow church spires, the Loreley, and age-old vineyards as you experience the heart of Romantic Germany.

Guided sightseeing of Rheinfels Castle

With your expert local guide, walk through largest of all of the castles along the Rhine. Built in 1245, the castle passed through various owners and was ultimately handed over to the French revolutionary army in 1794. It was partially destroyed in the late 1700s. Today, you'll still be surprised by the size of this castle, in addition to the many labyrinthine trenches and tunnels on the castle grounds.

Day 4: Rhineland | Heidelberg region

Travel to Heidelberg

Welcome to Heidelberg, one of Germany's most beautiful towns, standing proudly on the River Neckar. While its castle dominates the skyline, the town also has wonderful shopping and a vibrant nightlife due to its large university population.

Walking tour of Heidelberg

Become acquainted with Germany's oldest university city (the university dates back to 1386) on your walk through the town's medieval streets and Marktplatz.

Visit Heidelberg Castle

See Heidelberg's 700-year-old Schloß (palace) and its famous Faß (wine barrel), the world's largest. From the castle's rose-colored walls and historic battlements, enjoy a stunning view of the Neckar Valley.

Neckar River cruise to Dilsberg Fortress

Take in the medieval scenery of rural Germany during an hour-long boat ride along the Neckar River. Then, visit the ruins of the 13th-century Dilsberg Fortress, once the most powerful in the region, and enjoy free time to explore the quaint cobblestoned town that encircles it.

Day 5: Heidelberg region | Lucerne region

Travel via Freiburg and the Rhine Falls to the Lucerne Region

Spend some time exploring Freiburg, a 12th-century town known for its medieval gates, surrounding vineyards, and Gothic cathedral. Later, see what Goethe referred to as "the source of the ocean" as you witness the rush of the thundering Rhine Falls.

Arrive in the Lucerne region

Recall the legends of folk hero William Tell (and his fortunate aim) as you overnight in the Vierwaldstättersee (Lake Lucerne) region.

Day 6: Lucerne region

Walking tour of Lucerne

Begin your tour at the touching Löwendenkmal (Lion Monument), a sandstone statue commemorating the Swiss Guards slain in the 1792 Paris storming of the Tuileries. From here you will stroll across the Kapellbrücke, a covered bridge whose history dates back to medieval days and through the cobbled streets of the Old Town.

Excursion to Mt. Pilatus

Begin this breathtaking journey with a relaxing cruise around Lake Lucerne. You ascend the mountain by way of the world's steepest cogwheel railway - a marvel of Swiss ingenuity and design. At the summit you will have stunning views across the country before you begin your cable-car descent over the serene forests of Kriens

Alpine slide

Experience an Alpine thrill by riding a slide down the mountain. At over 4500 feet above sea level, this will prove to be a ride you will never forget!

Swiss folklore evening

Enjoy cheese fondue, the country's most popular dish. Dip your long forks into the caquelon, and be treated to lively Alpine entertainment-including authentic flag swinging, alpenhorn playing, and yodeling. Swiss hospitality is warm - expect to be invited to join in the fun!

Day 7: Lucerne region | Füssen

Travel via Wasserburg am Bodensee to Füssen

Spend the afternoon exploring this small Alpine village on Lake Constance. Stroll through the local orchards, grab lunch in town, and swim at the local outdoor swimming pool!

Arrive in Füssen

Welcome to Füssen! Surrounded by imposing high mountain peaks and an idyllic lake district, at an altitude of 800-1200 meters above sea level, Füssen is the highest elevated town in Bavaria.

Day 8: Füssen | Salzburg

Visit the Neuschwanstein Castle

Visit "Mad" King Ludwig's fairy-tale castle of Neuschwanstein, the real-life model for the Disney World castles. Ponder the young king's mysterious death as you learn the story of one of Europe's most eccentric rulers. King Ludwig so preferred dreams over reality that his servants could address him only from behind a screen. In fact, the original plans for the castle were drawn up by a theater set designer, not an architect.

Visit Wieskirche

En route to Linderhof Palace, stop by the Wieskirche, or "White Church" this morning. The Church is a beautiful rococo style structure located on the foothills of the Bavarian Alps. The Church was made famous when, in 1738, it was said that tears were seen flowing down a wooden figure of Christ. This was believed to be a miracle, and the Church has become a famous pilgrimage site ever since.

Guided visit of Linderhof Palace

One of the finest of Ludwig II castles, Linderhof is a journey into the bizarre. From the ivory chandelier and grand rooms dripping with gold-leaf to secret passageways, the castle is a plethora of color and dubious design. A guide will introduce you to this Bavarian palace on your tour through its rooms. *(Please note, the Venus Grotto is currently closed due to extensive restoration work)*

Travel to Salzburg

Welcome to Salzburg - famed for its alpine views, chocolate production, stylish architecture, and being the setting for *The Sound of Music*. One of Austria's most charming and accessible cities awaits you.

Day 9: Salzburg

The Sound of Music sightseeing

Who can forget Salzburg in *The Sound of Music*? Today, enjoy a guided sightseeing of Salzburg's most famous sights from the movie classic such as: the gazebo, the mansion, and the fountain.

Exploration time in Salzburg

Enjoy time to fully explore the baroque wonder of Salzburg. You might wish to visit the acclaimed Natural History museum or the Residenz gallery which features works from the 16th to 19th centuries. Salzburg is also a wonderful place to indulge in some shopping or just people-watching from one of its many cafes.

Evening concert at Hohensalzburg

Tonight, head up the Festungsberg hill to the Hohensalzburg Castle. Enjoy a concert in this medieval fortress as you look out over the city of Salzburg. *(pending scheduling)*

Day 10: Salzburg | Munich

Travel via Herrenchiemsee to Munich

Visit Herreninsel, the island which holds "Mad" King Ludwig II's largest castle, Herrenchiemsee. The King hoped to build a Versailles replica, but ran out of funds with only the central portion created. Herrenchiemsee has 70 rooms, but only 50 were completed and Ludwig himself only inhabited it for ten days. The palace is quite impressive, nonetheless. Explore the vast stateroom, which holds classical music concerts; catch a glimpse of yourself from several angles in the Hall of Mirrors; or smell the flowers of the pretty French gardens. Don't miss the Royal Bed Chamber draped in a bed cover that took 30 women seven years to embroider, though it's rumored that no one even slept here!

Arrive in Munich

Welcome to Munich! This center of culture boasts over 45 museums, 10 university buildings and two opera houses. The city is also home to the Olympic center with full facilities and more than the occasional beer-hall.

Enjoy a bike tour of Munich

Experience the city of Munich from a different perspective as you ride through the city by bike.

Dinner at the Hofbräuhaus

Drop in at the world famous Hofbräuhaus. The original Hofbräuhaus was built in the 16th-century by the Bavarian Duke, Wilhelm V. The Duke realized that he was spending too much money having beer delivered in to the city, so, his solution was to have a brewery built next to the court. His plan was a success, and 5 centuries later the beer continues to flow. Enjoy the traditional Bavarian music as a dirndl-wearing waitress serves you your dinner. *(Please Note: If the Hofbrauhaus is unavailable, your group will enjoy dinner at another local brewery)*

Day 11: Munich

Excursion to Dachau

Once merely another sleepy German village, Dachau has since 1933 gained notoriety as Germany's first Nazi concentration camp. Today, the old administration building houses a museum documenting the rise of Hitler and the horrors of camp life. Commemorative chapels and memorials have also been built on the site, which stands as an eternal memorial to those who endured life here until liberation by Allied forces.

Guided sightseeing of Munich

Your guided tour takes you past the Olympic Stadium, the headquarters of BMW, and the fashionable Schwabing district. You'll also pass the Residenz (once home to the Wittelsbach dukes of Bavaria), the Deutsches Museum, the university, and the Alte Pinakothek. Your tour concludes at Marienplatz, Munich's medieval heart, where you'll see the city's famed Glockenspiel. "Munich" derives from the city's German name, München (little monk), so named because the original settlement bordered a monastery.

Visit the BMW Museum

Visit BMW's museum and showrooms where you can get a glimpse at both the standard, and some of the most unique, models of BMW cars. Learn about the technology that goes into producing these automobiles.

Day 12: Munich | Rothenburg region

Travel to Rothenburg

Situated along the Romantic Road, Rothenburg is one of a string of unspoiled medieval villages and towns between Füssen in the south and the Bavarian Alps in the North. One of the best-preserved medieval cities in Europe, Rothenburg was first mentioned in written records in 804 as a settlement north of the Tauber River.

Walking tour of Rothenburg

Get acquainted with Rothenburg as you stroll past half-timbered homes, through twisting cobbled lanes, and along the wooden ramparts of the city's walls. You will also learn how the town has survived earthquakes and fires - as well as a singing mayor!

Night Watchman tour

This evening, you will join a tour led by the Night Watchman of Rothenburg. Until 1920, this position was held by a man in the city who would each night wander the streets to deter thieves and drunkards. In a time before fire hydrants, his key responsibility was to warn the sleeping residents of fire and other dangers. *(Please note: this is not a private tour, the Night Watchman offers one tour each evening and your tour may include people from outside of your group).*

Day 13: Rothenburg region | Frankfurt

Exploration time in Rothenburg

Enjoy free time today to explore this charming medieval town. You may ascend the Gothic tower of the Town Hall for a panoramic view of the city and the countryside beyond or visit the historical museum located in a 13th-century abbey.

Travel to Frankfurt

The financial heart of Europe, this was also the birthplace of Goethe, and the coronation site for Holy Roman Emperors from 1562 to 1806.

Day 14: Depart for home

Transfer to the airport for your return flight

Your Tour Director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you will check in for your return flight home.

Itinerary is subject to change

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at www.eftours.com/bc.

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