



Luther Memorial Church

2024 Europe Trip

Budapest, Zagreb, Plitvice, Bled, Salzburg & the Bavarian Alps
May 17–31, 2024

13 Overnights in Europe included:

3 Nights in Budapest 1 Night in Zagreb

3 Nights in Ljubljana or Bled

3 Nights in Salzburg/ Salzburger Land area 3 Nights Bavarian / Austrian Alps

Breakfast

Always included

Dinners included:

Budapest first night welcome dinner Zagreb dinner

Bled / Ljubljana: 1 dinner included

Salzburg mountain stay: all dinners included (3 nights) or Salzburg city stay: 1 dinner included

Bavarian / Austrian Alps: all dinners included (3 nights)

Entrances included:

Budapest guided tour

Budapest Memento Park

Budapest Fishermans Wharf

Budapest St Matthias Church

Budapest Parliament

Budapest Dohány Street Synagogue

Hungary vineyard visit

Hungary lunch snack & wine tasting

Zagreb guided tour

Zagreb Cathedral

Plitvice Lakes National Park

Plitvice guided tour

Lake Bled guided tour

Lake Bled boat Tour

Lake Bled Castle entrance

Lake Bled coffee & cake

Postojna caves tour

Ljubljana guided tour

Ljubljana Funicular & Castle visit

Werfen Ice Caves

Werfen Cable Car

Salzburg guided tour

Salzburg Hellbrunn Waterpark

Salzburg Cathedral

Berchtesgaden Salt Mines

Eagles Nest Berchtesgaden

Innsbruck Cathedral

Innsbruck Bell Museum

Innsbruck city tour

Innsbruck Ambras Castle tour

Neuschwanstein Castle tour

Linderhof Castle tour

Füssen city tour

Oberammergau city tour

Monastery Ettal Brewery and Distillery tour

Please note that included entrances are still subject to change at this stage

Flights:

Not included: Fly into Budapest / Fly out of Innsbruck or Munich

Itinerary

Day 1: May 17, 2024

Overnight Flight USA to Budapest

Day 2: May 18, 2024 Budapest afternoon

Touch down in the afternoon in wonderful Budapest. Meet your Tour Manager for the entire tour. Travel to your hotel. Visit the Hősök tere, a UNESCO listed historic square with statues of the seven tribesman who founded Budapest. Also take a trip back into the communist times of Hungary and visit the Memento Park. This park is dedicated to the monumental statues and sculpted plaques from Hungary's Communist period. Then check into your hotel.

Dinner included tonight. Stay 3 nights in Budapest

Day 3: May 19, 2024 Budapest

Budapest Sightseeing tour. Visit Fishermans Wharf, beautiful St Matthias church, Gellert hill view point, learn about Bishops Gellert tragic story. Afternoon is at leisure. You can visit the Great Historic Market Hall.

Dinner on own tonight Overnight Budapest



St. Matthias Church, Budapest

Day 4: May 20, 2024 Budapest

Budapest Sightseeing continues. Today visit the grand Parliament building. Then visit the Dohány Street Synagogue and learn about the Jewish life in Hungary and hear about the Holocaust. See the very moving monument dedicated to the deportation of the Jewish Community in Budapest during WWII. Afternoon at leisure. I recommend to visit one of the famous and wonderful Budapest Turkish Baths. Dinner on own tonight. Overnight Budapest

Day 5: May 21, 2024 Budapest to Zagreb, Hungarian vineyard & wine tasting

Leave Budapest and travel first to the Lake Balaton area in Hungary where we will visit a Vineyard. Learn about the Hungarian wine making culture. Enjoy the wonderful wines of Hungary at a wine tasting at the Vineyard. A snack lunch is included with the wine tasting.

Afterwards in the afternoon travel on to Zagreb, Croatia. Upon arrival enjoy a 2h city tour of Zagreb. Explore the 900 years history of this beautiful town with a local guide on a walking tour. Then stay one night in beautiful Zagreb.

Dinner is included tonight. Stay one night in Zagreb.

Day 6: May 22, 2024 Plitvice Lakes National Park visit

Today visit the Plitvice Lakes National park in the morning. See the highlights of this amazing NP on a guided walking tour. The lakes are a result of the confluence of several small rivers and subterranean karst rivers. The lakes are all interconnected and follow the water flow. They are separated by natural dams of travertine, which is deposited by the action of moss, algae, and bacteria. The particularly sensitive travertine barriers are the result of an interplay between water, air and plants. The encrusted plants and bacteria accumulate on top of each other, forming travertine barriers which grow at the rate of about 1 cm (0.4 in) per year. The lakes are renowned for their distinctive colors, ranging from azure to green, grey or blue. The colors change constantly depending on the quantity of minerals or organisms in the water and the angle of sunlight.

In the afternoon travel to Slovenia to the wonderful lake town of Bled. Dinner included tonight.

Stay 3 nights in Bled or Ljubljana.



Plitvice Lakes National Park

Day 7: May 23, 2024 Lake Bled

Today enjoy Lake Bled with a local guide. First visit Bled castle up on the hill overlooking the Julian Alps and the lake. Then take a tour of the lake. Take a traditional shallow wooden boat (pletna) to the island in this wonderful glacial lake and visit the island. Once back by boat walk up to the villa formerly owned by Tito and enjoy a typical cake and coffee on the terrace. The Kremeschnitte, a lactose free and sugar free cake made with cream, sugar and more cream and more sugar is indeed a wonderful and not as sweet as it looks like. Enjoy!

Rest of the day at leisure. Dinner on own tonight.

Overnight Bled or Ljubljana

Day 8: May 24, 2024 Postojna Caves and Ljubljana

Postojna Caves and Ljubljana. Today take an excursion to the wonderful Postojna Karst Caves. Take an unforgettable ride on Postojna Cave's underground train and experience a fascinating subterranean paradise shaped by tiny droplets over millions of years. The train takes you 3,5km into the cave system. Then you go on a mesmerizing 1,5km walk through a very unique world. Then visit beautiful Ljubljana. Ljubljana is Slovenia's capital and largest city. It's known for its university population and green spaces, including expansive Tivoli Park. The curving Ljubljanica River, lined in outdoor cafes, divides the city's old town from its commercial hub. Ljubljana has many museums, including the National Museum of Slovenia, displaying historic exhibitions, and the Museum of Modern Art, home to 20th-century Slovene paintings and sculptures. Visit the castle and the tour the old city. Enjoy an early dinner on own in Ljubljana.

Overnight Bled or Ljubljana.

Day 9: May 25, 2024 Ice Caves Werfen, Austria

Today leave Bled and travel through the Austrian Alps to the wider Salzburg area.

Visit the wonderful and largest ice caves in the world in Werfen. Take a cable car up into the mountains and then walk into the ice caves during a guided tour. The so called Eisriesenwelt was formed by the Salzach river, which eroded passageways into the mountain. The ice formations in the cave were formed by thawing snow which drained into the cave and froze during winter. Since the entrance to the caves is open year-round, chilly winter winds blow into the cave and freeze the snow inside. In summer, a cold wind from inside the cave blows toward the entrance and prevents the formations from melting. In the afternoon travel to our hotel in the Salzburg area.

Dinner is include tonight.

Stay 3 nights in the Salzburg area

Day 10: May 26, 2024 Salzburg and Hellbrunn Waterpark

Today visit beautiful Salzburg. Learn about the rich history of this town. Learn about the importance of Salt in medieval times, once considered as the White Gold. Be intrigued by stories and the history about Arch Bishop Wolf Dietrich, one of the most important rulers of Salzburg. Learn about Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Visit the Dome In Salzburg. Then, of course, experience some of the sights from the movie *Sound of Music*, like the famous fountain in the Mirabel gardens and the Gazebo at Castle Hellbrunn. Visit and experience also the famous Waterpark of Hellbrunn, built in 1750. You will be entertained.

Organ Recital possible in Salzburg TBA Dinner is included tonight.

Overnight in the Salzburg area



Hellbrunn Palace, Salzburg

Day 11: May 27, 2024 Salt mines, Berchtesgaden and Eagles Nest visit

Today visit the Berchtesgaden area. Full day excursion with a lot to see. We will start the day with visiting the Eagles Nest, the Kehlsteinhaus. A house built on top of the Kehlstein mountain and given to Adolf Hitler for his 50th Birthday. Enjoy lunch on own in the beautiful mountain town of Berchtesgaden. After lunch we go into the mountain and visit the salt mines of Berchtesgaden and learn about the white gold of the medieval times.

In the afternoon travel back to the hotel in the Salzburg area. Dinner is included tonight.

Day 12: May 28, 2024 Innsbruck & Ambras Castle

In the morning travel to Innsbruck. Outside Innsbruck town we will visit Ambras Castle and learn about the Renaissance times north of the Alps. Visit the castle with its amazing Spanish Hall and the chamber of arts and wonders with great art pieces from the Renaissance times. Travel on to Innsbruck. Upon arrival in Innsbruck enjoy lunch on own. Then visit the town with a local guide. See the Innsbruck cathedral, visit the Court Church of the Hapsburgs, see the famous golden roof and if possible, visit also the Grassmayr church bell Museum and see how a bell is made. Then travel on to your hotel in the Alpine area.

Organ recital possible in Innsbruck TBA Dinner is included tonight.

Stay 3 nights in the Austrian / Bavarian Alps.

Day 13: May 29, 2024 Oberammergau & Castle Linderhof & Ettal Monastery, Brewery and Distillery

Travel to Castle Linderhof and enjoy a tour of the castle built by the Bavarian King Ludwig II. Learn about his troubled life and his fairy tale like architectural visions. Visit also the Venus grotto in the Castle park. Be intrigued. Upon arrival in Oberammergau enjoy lunch on own. See the beauty of the town and its famous frescoes on the house walls. Learn about the famous passion play. Then visit the monastery of Ettal. No this is not another church visit. We will discover higher spirits today and enjoy a special tour through the other part of the monastery- the brewery and the distillery. I make sure we include a tasting. Then travel on to our hotel.

Dinner is included tonight.

Stay 3 nights in the Austrian / Bavarian Alps.

Day 14: May 30, 2024 Neuschwanstein castle and the town of Füssen

Today visit the fairy tale castle which was never finished as King Ludwig the second died under mysterious circumstances before he could finish the castle. Enjoy a tour through the castle.

Lunch will be on own in the medieval town of Füssen. In the afternoon return to your hotel for your farewell dinner at the hotel.

Stay 3 nights in the Austrian / Bavarian Alps.

Day 15: May 31, 2024 Flight home

fly home today either from Innsbruck or early morning departure to Munich airport

Projected Cost

Price: TBD

Price might be around \$3,850 USD for the land package only. Price is per person based on a double / twin room share. Price is also based on 32 to 40 travelers.



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www.luthermem.org