

# BAVARIAN CHRISTMAS

## Oberammergau, Germany

December 4 - 12, 2012

### PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Roundtrip air (Washington, DC to Munich)
- Transfers and ground transportation.
- 7 nights at the Gasthaus Friedenshöhe.
- Meals - 1/2 Board (breakfast & dinner).
- Admission to all listed tours and tour sites.
- Traditional Bavarian dinner with German music and dance at a local restaurant.
- Horse drawn sleigh ride or cart ride to Linderhof Schloss (palace) ....weather permitting.
- Insurance (accident, medical & baggage)

**Note: Walking & Climbing** - may be a challenge on Castle and Gasthaus stairways, and pathways.

**TOUR PRICES PER PERSON (include taxes and fees)\*:**  
Double or Single Occupancy - \$2,550.00

**Deposit: \$600.00** at the time of booking

*Credit Card payments will require an additional 4.0% fee*

*\* Subject to change due to currency exchange fluctuation.*

### Tour Highlights

**Oberammergau** - world famous for the Passion Play and folk art, especially woodcarvings and exterior wall frescoes (Luftmalerein).

**Ettal** - 12th century baroque and gothic Benedictine abbey and church, nestled in a pastoral Alpine valley. The abbey produces fine fruit liqueurs, brandies and beer.

**Neuschwanstein** - King Ludwig II's 19th century fairy-tale castle, set amidst the magnificent mountain scenery on the shores of Schwansee.

**Hohenschwangau** - neo-gothic castle of King Maximilian II. Magnificent views of the Alpine surroundings are offered from the lovely terraced gardens of the castle.

**Wies Church (Kirche)** - stately 16th century church, noted for its stunning baroque and rococo décor.

**Munich** - after a morning at the Christmas market and lunch, enjoy a walking tour of Old Town Munich to include the Mareinplatz, the Glockenspiel, the Frauenkirche and more.

**Linderhof** - one of the palaces of King Ludwig II. Situated near Oberammergau, surrounded by delightful fountains and gardens.

**Innsbruck** - mountain-encircled city in the Austrian Alps, site of the Winter Olympics in 1964 and 1976.

**Swarovski Crystal Gallery** - world famous crystal on display and for purchase in Innsbruck, Austria.

**Sleigh Ride or Cart Ride** - horse drawn sleigh or cart ride is scheduled (weather permitting).

**Christkindl Markets** - are usually held from the beginning of Advent until Christmas Eve. Tour visits markets in Munich, Innsbruck and selected local villages.

**German Music & Song** - one night, during dinner, has been set aside for local folk singers to share traditional Christmas music and song.

### Tour Escort:

Bill Ridley, President of BK Tours & Travel, has lived in and operated tours throughout Germany for over 18 years.

### Itinerary

#### DAY 1: TUE (DEC 4) — U.S. DEPARTURE

Depart USA on overnight flight to Munich, Germany.

#### DAY 2: WED (DEC 5) — Munich to Oberammergau

Arrive Munich. After clearing passport control, customs and baggage claim, you board the bus for Oberammergau. After arrival at the Gasthaus Friedenshöhe, you have time to relax and enjoy a traditional Bavarian lunch. In the afternoon there will be an optional walk in and around Oberammergau. This evening, enjoy a welcome dinner at the Gasthaus. (L & D)

#### DAY 3: THU (DEC 6) — Oberammergau & Ettal

After breakfast, enjoy a guided walking tour of Oberammergau. Tour will journey past the houses with exterior fresco paintings (**Luftmalerein**) View the **Hansel and Gretel House** fresco. Observe woodcarvers (**Holzschnitzer**) at work in their shops, tour the village's 16th century Catholic Church, an example of rococo architecture. View the painted glass, antique mangers (**Krippe**) and other Bavarian art in the village museum. Tour concludes with a stop at the world famous Passion Playhouse. Following lunch, you will visit the workshop and home of Mr. Josef Bühner, one of the master woodcarvers in Oberammergau. From here, travel to the 12th century Benedictine Monastery for a tour. Dinner this evening will be at a local restaurant with traditional Bavarian music and dance. (B & D)

#### DAY 4: FRI (DEC 7) — Innsbruck Market & Mittenwald

After breakfast, head for Austria and the Christmas Market at **Innsbruck**. En-route, a stop will be made at **Mittenwald**. Since the 17th century, this village is noted for its craftsmanship in the making of violins. Then, on to the Innsbruck. After time to visit the market and lunch, the tour stops at the Swarovski Crystal shop prior to returning to Oberammergau. (B & D)

#### DAY 5: SAT (DEC 8) — Neuschwanstein & Wies Kirche

Today, tour travels through the Bavarian countryside to Fussen. Here, you mount a horse drawn cart for the ride up to King Ludwig II's **Neuschwanstein Castle**. Then, tour Ludwig's boyhood castle, **Hohenschwangau**. After lunch, travel to the **Wies Church**, a beautiful 16th century rural church noted for its magnificent baroque and rococo architecture. (B & D)

#### DAY 6: SUN (DEC 9) — Linderhof & Bad Tolz

After breakfast, we take a short bus ride to the village of Graswang. Here you mount a horse drawn sleigh (weather permitting) for a ride to another one of Ludwig's castles, **Linderhof**. After the castle tour, travel to the Gasthaus, Ettaler Mühle for lunch. From here, travel to the Christmas Market at **Bad Tolz**. After a few hours to savor the foods, taste the traditional Gluhwein and browse the peddler stalls, then return to Oberammergau. (B & D)

#### DAY 7: MON (DEC 10) — Munich Tour & Market

Today is spent in **Munich** at a wonderful Christmas Market in the square by the Rathaus and Glockenspiel. Lunch will be at the world famous Hofbrau Haus beer hall. After lunch, enjoy a walking tour of the old city of Munich to include the Rathaus & Glockenspiel, Mareinplatz, the Frauenkirche and more. After the tour, return to Oberammergau. (B & D)

#### DAY 8: TUE (DEC 11) — FREE DAY

This is a day you are on your own. There always are Christmas shopping opportunities in and around Oberammergau and Garmisch. For those interested, Alpine skiing options exist near the village or in Garmisch (all equipment can be rented). For cross-country ski enthusiasts, there are great groomed trails through the countryside (snow permitting). There is a wonderful indoor/outdoor swim complex available. Possibly you may want to do individual exploration or just relax. (B & D)

#### DAY 9: WED (DEC 12) — U.S.A.

Sadly, say goodbye to Oberammergau and Bavaria as we return to the Munich Airport and fly home to the USA.

**BK Tours & Travel, 10007 Winnepeg Court, Burke, VA 22015**

**1 888 528-7735 • 703 250-3044**

**email: [info@bktravel.com](mailto:info@bktravel.com) • [www.bktravel.com](http://www.bktravel.com)**