

BAVARIA, AUSTRIA & OBERAMMERGAU



OBERAMMERGAU 2020
PASSION PLAY

Oberammergau Passion Play,
Bregenz Opera Festival, Lehár Festival,
Vienna State Opera, Museum of Fine Art

TOUR ONE: 09 AUG - 01 SEP 2020

TOUR TWO: 02 - 25 AUG 2020 (SUBJECT TO DEMAND)



operatunity

Travel

BAVARIA, AUSTRIA & OBERAMMERGAU

**Oberammergau Passion Play,
Bregenz Opera Festival, Lehár
Festival, Vienna State Opera,
Museum of Fine Art**

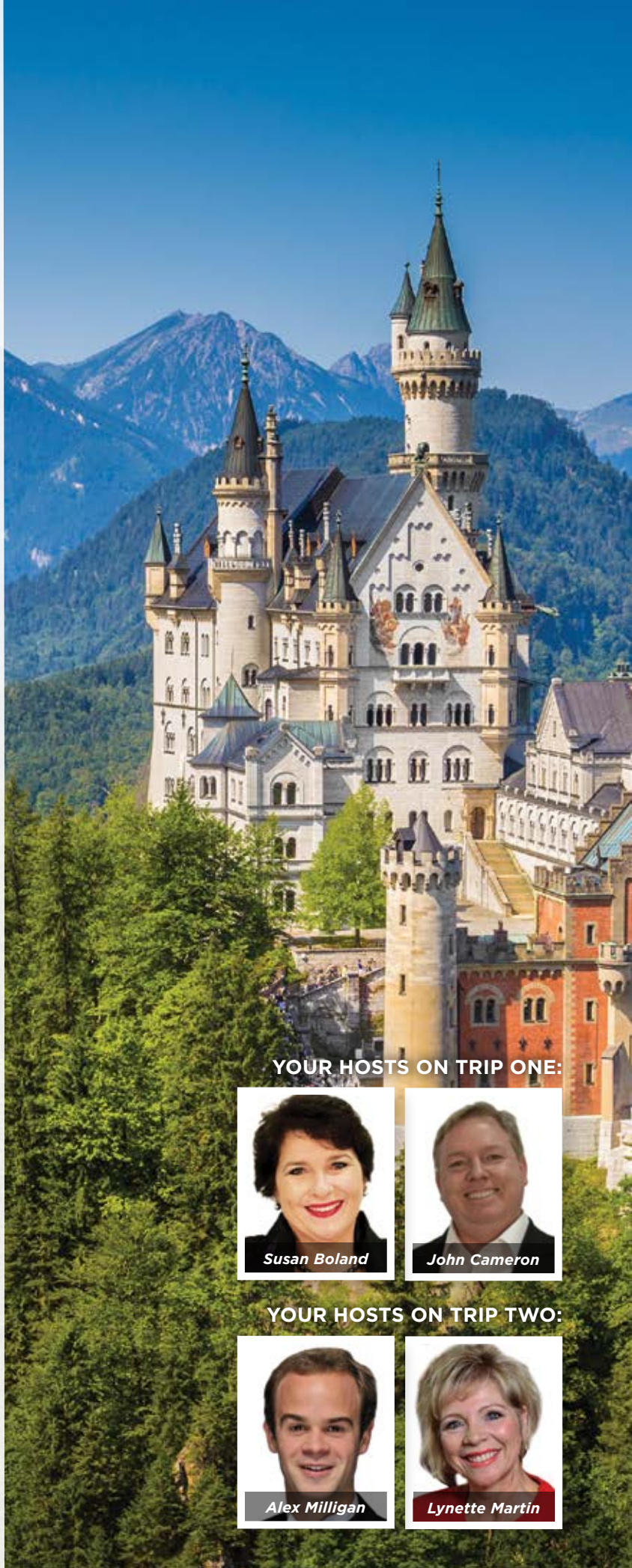
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Join us on a once in a lifetime tour through Bavaria and Austria including the 42nd *Passion Play* in Oberammergau. Only presented once every decade and with a 2000-strong cast, the *Passion Play* is truly a historic spectacle.

Experience the Exceptional...

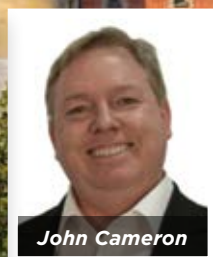
- If the magic of the *Passion Play* is not enough to experience just on its own, this trip will dazzle you with several other awe-inspiring musical events. From the world-famous floating stage performance of *Rigoletto* at the Bregenz Opera Festival, to an operetta at the Lehár Festival, plus a private concert at the White Horse Inn and spectacular concerts in Vienna at Schönbrunn Palace.
- Famous castles, palaces and abbeys that are more familiar from films (such as *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang!*) and the famous Nuremburg Castle will come to life before your eyes, and you can also indulge in wine tasting at Klosterneuburg Abbey.
- We will also enjoy magnificent scenic drives through this mountainous region, taking in the BMW Museum in Munich, the Museum of Fine Art in Vienna, and the Vorarlberg Museum which is the state art and culture museum of Bregenz.



YOUR HOSTS ON TRIP ONE:



Susan Boland



John Cameron

YOUR HOSTS ON TRIP TWO:



Alex Milligan



Lynette Martin

PLACES WE STAY

Sofitel Munich

Who knew the former Bavarian Royal Post Office could be so glamorous. This five-star neoclassical gem will be our home in the heart of vibrant Munich.

Schwärzler Hotel, Bregenz

Only a 15-minute walk from the old town, this family-owned hotel offers traditional Bavarian friendliness and comfort while we enjoy the Bregenz Opera Festival.

White Horse Inn, Lake Wolfgang

The original White Horse Inn which spawned imitators around the world, this marvellous hotel was also the setting of the Robert Stolz musical which was first performed in 1930 – 90 years before our trip. This will be our base for the Salzburg, Bad Ischl and lakes part of the journey. We are proud to be staying in this 5-star hotel for the first time ever on this trip and certainly won't want to say "Goodbye"!

Oberammergau

Hotel to be advised.

Hotel Bristol, Vienna

Overlooking the Vienna State Opera building, our beautiful historic hotel has been an inspiring meeting point for Vienna's cultural elite and the stars of the State Opera since 1892. Many of the hotel's rooms are named after famous singers and conductors. It is also within easy walking distance to the main shopping area and several key tourist attractions.



DUBAI (4 nights - stopovers return, includes early check in)
- Sheraton Dubai Mall of the Emirates

- Welcome dinner & drinks, with a refreshing walk to the wonderful fountains.
- Time to rest, ready for our fabulous tour in Europe.

MUNICH (4 nights)
- Sofitel Munich

Munich, the capital and most populated city of Bavaria, is known for its divine architecture and its 'second to none' art, science and cultural scene. Not only this, it is known also for various, world class museums and historical landmarks.

HIGHLIGHTS include:

- City tour including Marienplatz Square, the New Town Hall & Glockenspiel, the Royal Residenz Museum, and Hofbräuhaus, the world's most famous tavern known as 'the cradle of Bavarian tavern culture.'
- Daytrip to the architecturally medieval town of Nuremburg. We will tour the Imperial Castle of Nuremburg, known as Europe's most formidable medieval fortifications, and learn about the Nuremberg War Trials
- Concert or opera (subject to availability) at the Gasteig Cultural Centre.
- Tour of the State Opera House.
- Visit to the BMW Factory and Museum.
- Tour of Linderhof Palace en route to Bregenz. This is the most over-the-top Rococo palace ever built. Here we will see the golden Hall of Mirrors.



BREGENZ (4 nights) - Schwärzler Hotel

Bregenz, largely known for its efforts towards sustainability and eco-friendly solutions, is home to the famous *Bregenz Opera Festival*, performed on an amazing stage set over Lake Constance.

HIGHLIGHTS include:

- We attend the Bregenz Opera Festival for a performance of *Rigoletto* on the world's largest floating stage over Lake Constance! The festival began in 1946, and music lovers from around the world have been attending every year since. 2020 will be our chance to experience the magic of the orchestra and magnificence of the hand-built set.
- Tour of Neuschwanstein Castle, which most will recognise from *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang!* Commissioned by King Ludwig II, he was such a fan of composer Richard Wagner that the rooms décor was largely inspired by Wagner's characters, leading the beautiful structure to be dubbed 'The Fairytale Castle.'
- Walking tour of Bregenz including the Vorarlberg Museum with a collection of Bregenz art and cultural material, the Upper Town (Oberstadt) built in the 13th Century, and the Kunsthau Bregenz for a contemporary art exhibition.
- A lunch cruise along the man-made Lake Forggensee.
- Free time to explore this medieval region.
- En route we take the train to the summit of Zugspitze Mountain for lunch with glorious views, and take the cable car on return.



OBERAMMERGAU (2 nights)

- Hotel to be Advised

Perhaps the highlight of this tour, we will attend the 42nd Passion Play in Oberammergau. Only performed once every decade, the Passion Play truly is a once in a lifetime experience.

Over 2000 participants (most from the village) including full cast, choir and orchestra, take part in the story of Jesus of Nazareth on the open-air stage of the Passion Play Theatre, in amongst the grandiose surrounds of the Bavarian Alps.

This now famous tradition began in 1633 when the villagers made a promise to God to perform the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ every tenth year, so long as no one else in the village were to die of the plague. The villagers believe they were answered by God and performed the first Passion Play in 1634. Their promise has been kept ever since!

As well as experiencing the magnificent Passion Play, we will have free time to explore this quaint village, including a visit to a traditional woodcarver's workshop, plus a walking tour of the town and its famous fresco buildings.

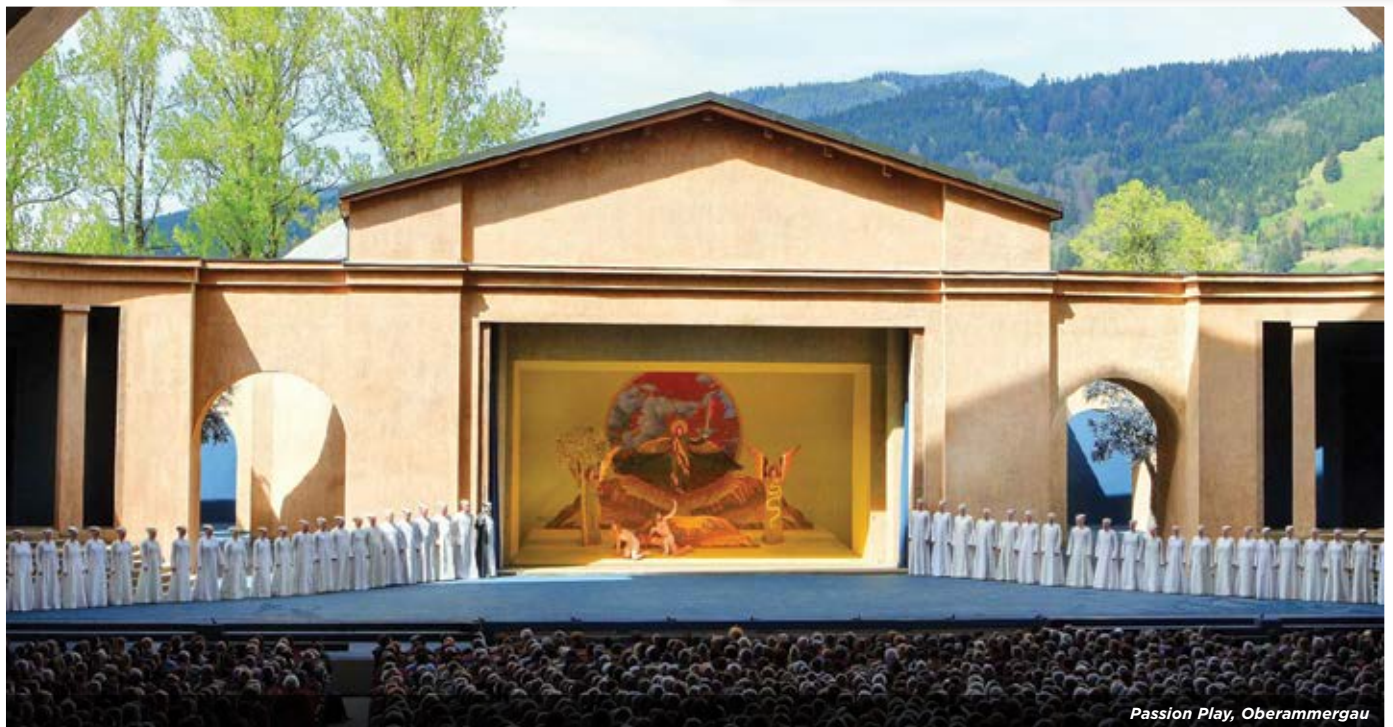
En route to Lake Wolfgang we visit Herrenchiemsee Palace, built by King Ludwig II. Sitting on an island in Lake Chiemsee, it was his answer to Versailles.



Herrenchiemsee Palace



Passion Play, Oberammergau



Passion Play, Oberammergau

LAKE WOLFGANG (3 nights)

- White Horse Inn

Lake Wolfgang, predominantly in the state of Salzburg, is a popular resort town in the summer months. People come from across the globe to stay amongst the famously idyllic mountain ranges. Our hotel is situated right on the lake!

HIGHLIGHTS include:

- We attend an operetta at the Lehár Festival in Bad Ischl, with the Franz Lehár Orchestra.
- A walking tour of Bad Ischl, including a visit to Lehár Villa in which many of composer Franz Lehár's art collections and memorabilia are still housed, and the Kaiservilla (Imperial Palace), where Emperor Franz Joseph I and Empress Elizabeth spent their summers.
- We stop to see Helbrunn Palace, as well as some of *The Sound of Music's* most iconic settings, including Schloss Leopoldskron (the von Trapp residence) and the *Sixteen Going on Seventeen* rotunda; the most perfect time for a singalong wouldn't you say?
- Walking tour of Salzburg and free time to wander this exquisite city.
- En route to Vienna we stop for lunch and a tour of Melk Abbey.

VIENNA (5 nights)

- Hotel Bristol, Marriott

Vienna, Austria's capital is famous for its cultural events, imperial sights, quaint cafes, cosy wine taverns, and the very special Viennese charm. Schönbrunn Palace, the former imperial summer residence, is one of Vienna's most popular sights and we will have an incredible night of music within its walls.

HIGHLIGHTS include:

- A night of Strauss and Mozart music over dinner at Schönbrunn Palace, plus private guided tour.
- Tour of the Vienna State Opera House.
- A day of wine tasting in the 900-year-old wine cellar beneath Klosterneuburg Abbey, with a vineyard lunch.
- City tour including the City Ringstrasse known as the most beautiful boulevard in the world, Town Hall, House of Parliament, and entrance to the magnificent Saint Stephen's Cathedral.
- Guided tour of the Kunsthistorisches Museum of Fine Art, and the National Library.
- Opera or concert (subject to availability).



Schönbrunn Palace, Vienna



\$18,750 *per person
twin share*

Single Room supplement add \$4,500

Initial Deposit on booking **\$3,000**

Second Deposit due 17 January 2020 **\$4,000**

Final Balance due 30 March 2020

THIS TRIP INCLUDES:

- Return economy airfares on Emirates Airline Auckland - Dubai - Munich // Vienna - Dubai - Auckland including all taxes.
- All accommodation as listed in itinerary - Munich (4 nights), Bregenz (4 nights), Oberammergau (2 nights), Lake Wolfgang (3 nights), Vienna (5 nights), and Dubai (4 nights including early check-in). 4 or 5 star specialty hotels, all boutique!
- Extraordinary music experiences including Oberammergau 42nd *Passion Play*, *Rigoletto* at Bregenz Opera Festival on Lake Constance's floating stage, *Lehár Festival* operetta, concert of Strauss and Mozart at Schönbrunn Palace, plus opera or concerts in Munich and Vienna.
- Special flavours including private concerts at the world-famous White Horse Inn, visit to *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* Castle, Melk Abbey (one of the most beautiful in the world), BMW Factory & Museum, iconic settings of *The Sound of Music*, Lehár's house and village. Magnificent drives through the mountains and lakes of Bavaria and Austria with its captivating scenery, quaint villages, majestic castles and abbeys (with tours). Historical tours of Nuremburg to learn of the Nuremburg Trials, vaults tour where Nazi stolen art was stored. Small ancient villages like Bad Ischl, Lake Wolfgang and Bregenz, as well as the splendour of Vienna and Salzburg.
- All tours and excursions as listed in itinerary including city tours of Munich, Bregenz, Vienna, Salzburg and Bad Ischl.
- All entrances as per our itinerary, all museums and houses/castles/palaces as listed, and Lake Forggensee cruise, plus train and cable car mountain tour.
- All breakfasts, 12 dinners, 9 lunches, all tips, all taxes and all portage are included.
- Tour One hosted by Susan Boland and John Cameron. Tour Two (subject to demand) hosted by Alex Milligan and Lynette Martin.

EXPLORING TOUR

This is still a moderately paced tour, but you will be required to walk longer distances, walk on cobblestones and stand in museums. To really get the best out of this tour you need to be able to stand or walk for a couple of hours comfortably, be it at a leisurely pace.

Please note: No booking will be accepted for this trip without the initial deposit.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- All trips are subject to change but any changes will be of equal or greater value.
- Deposits refundable until final payment date minus any costs incurred, or an administration fee of up to \$300.
- Travellers need to be independently mobile and fit to travel.
- Travellers are required to obtain comprehensive travel insurance for all international trips.
- Please refer to terms & conditions on our booking form.



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Toll Free: 0508 886 489

email: travel@operatunity.co.nz | www.operatunity.co.nz

PO Box 132 150 Sylvia Park, Auckland 1644, New Zealand