



EDUCATIONAL
TOURS



From Austria to Switzerland

11 Days | Summer 2023

The experience of a lifetime is waiting for you. Every detail from the cities you'll stay in to the cultural discoveries you'll make have been customized by your teacher for your group. Take a look at your personal itinerary for a sneak peek of what's in store.

Included on tour



Round-trip flights on major carriers; full-time Tour Director; project-based learning program, EF's personalized learning experience; hotels with private bathrooms; breakfast and dinner daily unless otherwise specified.

Sightseeing: Vienna; Salzburg; Munich

Entrances: Schönbrunn Palace; Mozart's birthplace; Salt mines, Salzburg; Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Site; Neuschwanstein Castle; Boat to Mount Pilatus; Mount Pilatus cable car; Rhine Falls; Heidelberg Castle & Wine Barrel

Overnights: Vienna (2); Salzburg (1); Munich (2); Tyrol region (1); Lucerne region (2); Heidelberg (1)



Your Itinerary

Day 1: Board your overnight flight to Austria!

Day 2: Vienna

Arrive in Vienna

Vienna has long played a central role in the changing face of Europe and has adapted many times to war, revolution, siege and the rise and fall of empire. Filled with buildings of imposing elegance and beauty, the capital of Austria also doubles as the capital of Classical music. Mozart, Beethoven, Haydn, Strauss, Brahms, and Schubert are just some of the musical geniuses that resided, composed and performed in Vienna

Day 3: Vienna | Salzburg

Guided sightseeing of Vienna

The residence of the imperial court for six centuries, Vienna is marked with the seal of the Habsburgs, a family who once ruled over half of Europe. In-depth sightseeing takes you down the Ring, a series of wide boulevards commissioned by Emperor Franz Josef in 1857. Ride past the Parliament, the flower-adorned Rathaus (Town Hall), and the Hofburg, where the powerful Habsburg dynasty ruled until 1918.

Visit Schönbrunn Palace

You'll also visit the beautiful Schönbrunn Palace, where Marie Antoinette (the most famous of Empress Maria Theresa's 16 children) spent her childhood. When the six-year-old Mozart played for the empress inside the palace, he told Marie Antoinette, "I'll marry you when I'm grown up!" After viewing the elegant interior, stroll through the palace's beautifully landscaped gardens.

Exploration time in Vienna

Enjoy time to explore Vienna at your leisure.

Day 4: Vienna | Salzburg

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.

Guided sightseeing of Salzburg

Begin your tour near the ornate gardens of the Schloss Mirabell before crossing to the west bank of the city. Here you will visit Mozart's birthplace before venturing into the heart of the city, much of which was designed during the 16th century by the Italian, Scamozzi. You will see the imposing and beautiful Domplatz as well as striking examples of Gothic churches, most notably the Franziskanerkirche.

Day 5: Salzburg | Munich

Travel via the salt mines to Munich

Here you'll begin a fascinating underground journey through the 450-year-old salt mines-via train, boat, and wooden slides! Dressed in traditional mining costumes and under the dim light of miners' lamps, you'll trace the story of the "white gold" that brought wealth and prosperity to Bavaria and nearby Salzburg literally meaning "fortress of salt".

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.

Walking tour of Munich

Stroll through the very heart of Munich as you pass the twin copper domes of the Frauenkirche, a long-standing symbol of the city. Arrive at Marienplatz, once the intersection of medieval trade routes. Here you can see the neo-Gothic Rathaus and the golden Mariensäule, a monument commemorating Munich's divine salvation from rampaging Swedish hordes.

Day 6: Munich

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.

Excursion to Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Site

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.

Day 7: Munich | Tyrol region

Travel via Neuschwanstein Castle to the Tyrol region

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.

Arrive in the Tyrol region

Your motor coach winds its way below rugged, snow-capped mountains as you arrive at your hotel in the spectacular Austrian province of Tyrol. This is the mecca of winter sports, where skiers, snowboarders and ice mountaineers come to test their nerve on towering Alpine peaks.

Day 8: Tyrol region | Lucerne region

Travel via Liechtenstein to the Lucerne region

Journey to Liechtenstein, an alpine principality which dates back to the Holy Roman Empire. Today the country is one of the world's largest producers of false-teeth! Have a taste of the local flavor during your midday stop here, before passing the royal family's hilltop castle as you continue through the mountains.

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 9: Lucerne region

Walking tour of Lucerne

The majestic Alps provide a stunning backdrop to your tour of Lucerne, where composer Richard Wagner wrote several of his major works. You'll view the Löwendenkmal (Lion Monument), a sandstone statue commemorating the Swiss Guards slain in the 1792 Paris storming of the Tuileries. According to Mark Twain, it is "the saddest and most compassionate piece of rock on earth." Stroll down narrow, winding streets and across the Kapellbrücke, a covered bridge whose history dates back to medieval days-the murals lining its walls are nearly identical to those painted in the 14th century.

Excursion to Mt. Pilatus

Begin this breathtaking journey with a cruise around Lake Lucerne. You will then 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.

Your Itinerary

Day 10: Lucerne region | Heidelberg

Travel to Heidelberg

Arrive in 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). See Heidelberg's 700-year-old Schloß (palace). From the castle's rose-colored walls and historic battlements, enjoy a stunning view of the Neckar Valley, where Homo heidelbergensis roamed 500,000 years ago. You'll also see the town's medieval streets and Marktplatz, where witches were once burned at the stake. Writers as diverse as Mark Twain (who once floated down the Neckar on a raft) and Goethe (who was inspired by the view from the Schloß) have long praised Heidelberg's enduring beauty.

Day 11: Depart for home

Transfer to the Frankfurt airport for your return flight

Your Tour Director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you'll 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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My daughter has gained such an amazing view of the world and history from this experience. She has not stopped talking since I picked her up at the airport. Thank you for all the organization, helpful hints, flexible payment plan, and knowledgeable tour guides.

—CHARLOTTE, PARENT OF TRAVELER

“ Tour review

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