

Photo: The mural covered buildings of Oberammergau.

## **Highlights & Inclusions**

*Experience* enrichment, education, and fellowship as part of a traveling community under the leadership, teaching, and hospitality of Dr. Lori Brandt Hale & Dr. Hans Wiersma.

**Be inspired** attending the 2020 performance of the Oberammergau Passion Play (TK1 ticket). Arrangements include two nights in the village at a hotel located within a five-minute walk to the theater.

*Learn* about local culture and history from Augsburg faculty leaders in collaboration with an English-speaking European tour manager along with local guides in Nuremberg, Salzburg, Flossenburg, Munich, and Augsburg. Tours include the use of an audio headset system.

*Travel* on flights from Minneapolis/St. Paul to Munich including estimated taxes and surcharges.

*Stay* in select, mostly four-star accommodations, based on sharing a room in hotels described in the itinerary or similar.

*Journey* throughout in a private, deluxe motorcoach along with the handling of one piece of baggage at hotels.

*Enjoy* 18 included meals including buffet breakfast daily, one lunch, and seven dinners.

*Feel the ease and comfort* of knowing entrance fees for inside visits and activities described in itinerary are included along with the gratuities for tour manager, motorcoach drivers, local guides, restaurant and hotel staff, plus group travel insurance.

Hosted by Dr. Lori Brandt Hale & Dr. Hans Wiersma

**Lori Brandt Hale** has taught in the Religion Department at Augsburg University for 21 years. She specializes in the theology and legacy of Lutheran theologian and Nazi resister, Dietrich Bonhoeffer. She is the co-author of *Dietrich Bonhoeffer for Armchair Theologians*, is currently co-editing *The Political Theology of Dietrich Bonhoeffer*, and deeply values her work as the Vice President of the International Bonhoeffer Society – English Language Society. Lori is excited to travel to Germany, and several important Bonhoeffer sites, with you!

Hans Wiersma has taught in the Religion Department at Augsburg University for 15 years. His specialty is Church History with a focus in Reformation and Early Modern Studies. He's a widely published scholar who has led many travelers through Germany, "I invite anyone interested in learning about Augsburg's heritage in the Alps and beyond to talk to me about our trip!"

#### **Oberammergau Passion Play**

The Passion Play is the fulfillment of a vow made in 1633. In that year, Oberammergau's villagers promised that if God would spare them from the ravages of the plague, they would perform the suffering, death, and resurrection of Christ every tenth year. The play was first performed in 1634; the promise has been kept until today. Over 2,000 villagers will be involved in the 42nd production. The theater was built in 1930 with seating for 4,800, and the grandeur of the mountains serves as back-drop. Click here: Official Oberammergau Passion Play website.

Registration deadline is September 30, 2019, due to requirements for the Oberammergau Passion Play ticket arrangements.

#### **Customized Program Itinerary** -

Wednesday, July 15 MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL DEPARTURE. Depart Minneapolis/St. Paul on flights to Munich, Germany.

**Thursday, July 16 MUNICH/NUREMBERG.** Arrival into Munich Airport with a welcome from awaiting tour manager and private motorcoach. Travel to Nuremberg (about a two-hour drive) and arrive at **Maritim Hotel Nuremberg** to get settled for a three-night stay. Welcome dinner this evening. **(D)** 

**Friday, July 17 NUREMBERG.** After breakfast, a local guide hosts a discovery of **Nuremberg's charming medieval center** on a walk-through history tour from the Middle Ages to the present, featuring the fortress and the Old Town and a visit to the St. Lawrence Church. The afternoon offers some free time for individual explorations with dinner on own this evening. **(B)** 

#### Saturday, July 18 NUREMBERG/COBURG/BAMBERG.

Day excursion to **Coburg Castle** this morning. Because of its location and beauty, it is also called the "Franconian Crown" and is one of the largest and best-preserved fortresses in Germany. In 1530, Martin Luther lived at the castle for half a year under the protection of Elector John the Steadfast. View paintings of Albrecht Dürer, Lucas Cranach the Older, and Matthias Grünewald. This afternoon, continue to **Bamberg** and explore the medieval and baroque historic center, a UNESCO Heritage Site. Return to Nuremberg for an evening free to explore with dinner on own. **(B)** 

Sunday, July 19 NUREMBERG/FLOSSENBURG/ SALZBURG. Journey south to the charming Austrian city of Salzburg. On the way, stop for a reflective visit and guided tour of the former concentration camp, Flossenburg, where Dietrich Bonhoeffer was imprisoned and died. Continue to St. Leonhard, just outside Salzburg, and check into the Hotel Untersberg at St. Leonhard for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

**Monday, July 20 SALZBURG.** Enjoy a locally guided city walk this morning through **Salzburg's historic center** featuring places significant in the life of Amadeus Mozart. Break for lunch during tour. The city has many magnificent monuments from both the Baroque and Renaissance periods, when Salzburg was ruled for centuries by Prince Archbishops. Highlights include **Mozart's birthplace**, **St. Peter's Church, Salzburg Cathedral**, and a view of the city and surrounding area from the **Fortress of Hohensalzburg**. Time at leisure after walking tour and group dinner. (**B**,**D**)

**Tuesday, July 21 BERCHTESGADEN/EAGLES NEST/ SALT MINES EXCURSION.** This morning venture into the Bavarian Alps for visits to **Hilter's Eagle's Nest**, Berchtesgaden, and the salt mines. Located at an elevation of over 6,000 feet, on a clear day the Eagle's Nest offers a magnificent view across the Bavarian Mountains and the Salzburg Alps. The tour includes the extravagant mountain top chalet, the Documentation Center, and the bunker system. Back in the valley, free time for lunch and exploration in the village of **Berchtesgaden**. Travel to the salt mines, buried deep in the mountain under Berchtesgaden. Return to hotel in Salzburg area. Dinner this evening accompanied by Mozart music played by young musicians. **(B,D)** 

#### Wednesday, July 22 SALZBURG/OBERAMMERGAU.

Leave Salzburg to begin our sojourn in Bavaria. Nestled in the mountains, make a visit to the Abbey of Ettal and King Ludwig's Linderhof Castle with lunch break enroute. Continue to the famous village of Oberammergau for dinner and overnight at Hotel Alte Post. (B,D)

#### Thursday, July 23 OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY.

Morning free to explore the village of quaint wooden homes adorned with colorful paintings and to shop for local crafts. Following lunch, the Passion Play performance begins. The play was instituted in fulfillment of a vow made in 1633, when the town was stricken by plague and was performed for the first time in 1634. The play has been performed every ten years, ever since. It's just a short walk from the hotel to the theater, which was built in 1930 and has seating for 4,800 spectators. While the seats are covered, the stage is open to the elements, using the natural grandeur of the region as a backdrop. Overnight in Oberammergau. **(B,L,D)** 

**Note:** The play performance begins at 2:30 p.m. and ends at 10:00 p.m. with a break for dinner. **Official Oberammergau Passion Play website**.

**Friday, July 24 OBERAMMERGAU/MUNICH/ AUGSBURG.** This morning, enjoy alpine vistas traveling north to **Munich**. Upon arrival, a local guide hosts a tour of the Bavarian capital's highlights: Nymphenburg Palace, Marienplatz, Frauenkirche, and the Olympic Stadium. After some free time to explore on own, continue to the city of Augsburg and arrive at the **Drei Mohren Hotel** for a two-night stay. Dinner at the hotel. **(B,D)** 

**Saturday, July 25 AUGSBURG.** Discover Augsburg, the place where Martin Luther's colleague Philip Melanchthon delivered the Augsburg Confession to the Diet in 1530. Augsburg University was named for this confession of faith. Augsburg is an ancient and imperial city, home of the two great medieval merchant dynasties of the Fuggers and the Welsers. During the guided city tour view the Fuggerei, a 16th century low-income housing project, which still exists today, and **St. Anne's Church and museum**. This afternoon and evening meetings and activities with city leaders and a visit to Augsburg University. **(B)** 

Sunday, July 26 MUNICH/MINNEAPOLIS/ST.PAUL. Transfer to the Munich Airport for homebound flights. (B)

Included meals: B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner Itinerary subject to change due to local scheduling. Note: Airline flights are not available for confirmation at the time of printing this brochure. Flights to be confirmed in September 2019. Click hotel names or other sites in blue for website link.

## Passport, Health, Insurance and Travel Information

U.S. citizens need a passport valid at least six months beyond the tour return date. Passport applications are available at the **U.S. Department of State website**. No vaccination or visa requirements for U.S. citizens to enter Germany and Austria. Consult your physician and utilize information on the **Centers for Disease Control website** for precautions.

Non-U.S. citizens are responsible for their own passport and any visa requirements for the countries visited and must travel with a permanent resident card or other documentation to re-enter the U.S. Without proper documents, entry could be denied at participant's expense.

For international travel information, including country specific background, travel advisories and alerts click here.

Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI) group insurance included in cost covers evacuation and major medical as described in Statement of Conditions. Cancellation insurance and coverage for pre-existing medical conditions is not included, and highly recommended for health situations that may prevent you from traveling or interrupt your travels.

Travel Guard is recommended for travel cancellation insurance. Access insurance options using this link to **Travel Guard** and completing a worksheet. For coverage questions, call Travel Guard at 800-826-4919 and use Seminars International referral number 14847980. Purchasing travel insurance within 15 days of enrollment may waive pre-existing medical conditions. It is possible to purchase coverage in installments based on the deposit and payment schedule. Inquire about this option with Travel Guard to reduce the premium payment at time of registration.

Tours of historic city centers are usually all by foot. Fully participating requires: walking some days up to four miles; often one mile at a time at a moderate pace; managing uneven surfaces, steps and inclines without assistance. Itinerary is not wheelchair, scooter or walker accessible. Consult with Seminars International (SI) or tour host with questions about walking and mobility requirements. SI, in consensus with tour hosts and destination partner, reserves the right to not accept or withdraw any participant whose ability to participate in the tour or whose conduct is incompatible with the operation of tour or the interests of the entire group.

For travel and destination information, click website link: Germany • Austria

# Further Information

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## Registration

To secure registration, you must complete the enrollment form, **and** pay the required deposit. You need passport details (unless applying for a passport) and emergency contact information to properly fill out the enrollment form.

**Step 1: \$750 deposit due by September 30, 2019** to secure registration. Make check payable and mail to Seminars International, 55 E. Monroe, Suite 2870, Chicago, IL 60603. Please add **Tour# 5207** to the memo portion of your check

Payment is available by credit card at http://www.semint. com/payments.html or by calling 800.541.7506. A 3% service fee is added to all credit card transactions.

**Step 2:** If this is an electronic brochure, click below to fill out one enrollment form per person. The **T# is 5207**. A printed copy of the enrollment form is also available by contacting Jeaneen Lincoln at 800-541-7506 or jeaneen@semint.com. Deposit payment must be received within 10 days of completing enrollment form to maintain your registration. **A letter of confirmation is emailed after receipt of both the deposit and the enrollment form.** If program is full upon submitting enrollment form, you will be notified.

**Passport Name:** Complete this form with your **full name exactly as it appears on your passport.** Include your middle name or initial plus any suffix (Jr., Sr., or III) exactly as printed on your passport. If you do not have a passport at this time, enter your name exactly as it will appear on the passport. There may be a fee for any name changes.

If this is an electronic brochure, click here for link to enrollment form.

**Note:** Should you need an electronic brochure, email **travel@semint.com** and reference **T# 5207.** 

## **Program Cost**

\$5,300 from Minneapolis-St. Paul\* Supplement for single accommodations - \$600 Limited availability of single accommodations, particularly for the nights in Oberammergau.

This comprehensive cost includes estimated airline ticket taxes and surcharges, gratuities, and CISI group insurance (approx. \$75 value). These costs are often not packaged into other travel programs and instead listed as additional costs in the fine print. Program cost based on a group size of 38 and will increase if group size is smaller.

\*Note about cost at time of printing brochure: The program cost has been calculated on the best available information over a year in advance. The flights are not in range to confirm requiring the use of an estimated airfare. When flights are confirmed in September 2019, participants will be advised the final cost.

### Statement of Conditions

Program cost and minimum number group size: \$5,300.00, based on a group size of 38-40. \$5,400.00, based on a group size of 33-37 Program cost will increase if group size is smaller. Program cost based on exchange rates and tariffs in effect as of February 2019 subject to change in the event that there is a fluctuation of more than 4%.

Air transportation included in cost: From Minneapolis-St. Paul to Munich round-trip on Icelandair or Delta Air Lines using current flight schedules and estimated airfare, subject to change, restrictions and cancellation penalties by the airline; current estimated taxes and surcharges are included and subject to change until ticketed.

Surface travel and transfers: By private, deluxe motorcoach for all transfers and touring plus handling of one piece of baggage in/ out of hotels.

Accommodations and meals: Shared occupancy at hotels listed in itinerary or similar as hotels subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. Hotels have air conditioning except in Oberammergau. Single accommodations supplement is \$600 and very limited, particularly in Oberammergau. Buffet breakfast daily, one lunch and seven dinners for a total of 18 meals as indicated in the itinerary. Upon request, Seminars International and sponsor/host(s) will try to pair participants traveling as a single with a roommate. There is no guarantee of a roommate and if one is not available, the single supplement is assessed at time of invoice. Some hotels provide a smaller room size for single occupancy.

Program arrangements: English-speaking professional tour manager who travels with the group throughout the itinerary, use of audio headsets for touring; inside visits described in itinerary include entrance fees as needed; gratuities for tour manager, local guides, motorcoach drivers, and hotel/restaurant wait staff. Note: Participants with special needs may incur surcharges for additional services. Accessibility for people with disabilities varies significantly from country to country. Be advised the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States, and facilities outside the United States, such as ramps, elevators and hand railings may be limited. This itinerary is not wheelchair, scooter or walker accessible.

Oberammergau Passion Play ticket arrangements: The cost includes performance ticket, two nights hotel in Oberammergau along with breakfast and dinner daily, and lunch on performance day. Hotel accommodations are First Class in Category C and passion play performance ticket is First Class (TK 1) with bilingual text book. The deposit, payment and cancellation policy for the ticket arrangement has strict requirements, dictating the registration deadline, and cancellation and refund policy for the entire travel program. It is recommended to carefully read the conditions and purchase trip cancellation insurance.

Deposit and payment schedule: \$750 per participant due to secure enrollment no later than September 30, 2019 as long as space is available. A waiting list is maintained when registrations exceed 40. Second deposit of \$750 per person is due by October 1, 2019. Full payment due April 10, 2020. Upon receipt of enrollment and deposit, a confirmation of registration is sent by Seminars International via email. Any payments by credit card incur an additional 3% to cover merchant fees. Invoices are sent in advance of final payment.

**Group insurance:** The following Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI) group insurance coverage is included for each participant. This insurance does not include individual trip cancellation and pre-existing medical condition coverage, additional insurance is highly recommended. Schedule of Benefits Policy # GLM N0496486A

Coverage and Services Maximum Limits:

- Accidental Death and Dismemberment Per Insured Person \$10,000.
- Medical expenses (per Covered Accident or Sickness).
- Deductible zero.
- Basic Medical \$100,000 at 100%.
- Home Country Coverage Limit \$10,000.
- Emergency Medical Reunion \$3,000.
  Team Assist Plan (TAP): 24/7 medical, travel, technical assistance.
- Emergency Medical Evacuation 100% of Covered Expenses.
- Repatriation/Return of Mortal Remains 100% of Covered Expenses.
- Security Evacuation (Comprehensive) \$100,000.
- Trip delay of \$100 per day to a maximum of \$500/5 days if delayed more than 12 hours.
- Click here to access further information on travel insurance.

Trip delay: In the unforeseen circumstance your program experiences travel delays and unexpected expenses are incurred, Seminars International will invoice participants for any additional costs associated with the delay minus the \$100 per day CISI trip delay coverage, if qualified. Obtaining additional travel insurance as recommended on page three may offset these expenses.

Cancellation and refund policy: From payment of \$750 deposit until October 1, 2019, a cancellation fee of \$500 applies. From October 1, 2019-April 10, 2020, cancellation fee = \$1,200. In addition to any airline penalties, the following specified costs are non-refundable: April 10, 2020-May 16, 2020, cancellation fee = \$2,600. After May 16, 2020 no refund. Cancellations must be submitted in writing; the date such notification is received by Seminars International, Inc. is the cancellation date. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. It is possible to purchase supplemental insurance from Travel Guard making payment installments for the premium and not pay the entire premium cost at time of registration. Participants will be provided the details for this option at time of registration.

Leadership: The person(s) identified as the leader/host is subject to change in the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Seminars International. In the unlikelihood of a change in leadership, a qualified replacement will be selected by the sponsoring organization or previous leader. Seminars International will operate the program as planned and is not responsible for the change in leadership. The cancellation and refund policy remain as stated.

**Exclusions:** Items not listed above, including but not limited to meals other than those indicated; beverages except at breakfast; baggage handling at airports; optional entertainment and excursions; any baggage charges; all personal items, such as telephone calls, laundry expenses, individual room service; cancellation insurance; non-tour related gratuities; passport fees; increases in air ticket taxes or fuel surcharge; increases in VAT or city/hotel taxes.

Management and responsibility: Seminars International (SI) acts only as an agent and neither SI nor any employee or appointee nor any other person, party or organization or agency collaborating with it is or shall be responsible or liable for any injury or loss, accident or damage, delay or deviation or curtailment, howsoever caused or arising or the consequences thereof, which may occur during any part of the travel or program or during such free time as the members may elect to spend independently on the program. The airlines or commercial carriers concerned are not to be held responsible for any acts, omissions, or events during the time the passengers are not on board their planes or conveyances. The passage contracts in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, will constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of this program and/or passenger.

Deviations policy: Some participants may wish to extend their stay, originate or deplane from different cities or purchase the land program only. Early flight departure on group airfare is not permitted. Every effort will be made to assist program participants within the rules of the group air contract for a \$100 per person service charge, plus any additional charges levied by the airline or other supplier. Once the deviation has been booked, any changes may incur additional costs. Please note you are purchasing a group program and any deviation from the program arrangements requires staff time not calculated in the program cost. No refund may be granted to participants who wish to omit portions of the itinerary. All deviation requests must be submitted in writing by March 1, 2020; requests made after this date incur additional fees or may be unavailable.

#### Seminars International

Seminars International, with over four decades of experience crafting faith-based, educational, performing arts and special interest programs on seven continents, is proud of a proven record in providing attention to detail, safety, security, creativity and value. Our services allow leaders to focus on the purpose and goals of their program while we take care of the travel logistics, providing peace of mind from beginning to end.