



ADVENTURE ADVICE

ALPINE EUROPE

PANORAMAS

SEPTEMBER 7–21, 2010

- ◆ **TRAVELER LIST:** We provide contact information for all travelers on the Adventure. If you prefer to have your address, phone number and/or email information omitted from the Traveler List, please contact us by the end of July 2010.
- ◆ **NEXT PAYMENT:** The final payment due date is 90 days before departure. You will receive your final statement about 10 days before the due date listed on your invoice. Then, about 3 weeks before departure, you will receive a final packet with all the details of the program, including hotel names and contact information, a list of fellow travelers, and a more detailed daily schedule.
- ◆ **ARRIVAL:** Arrival into Munich International Airport on **September 7, 2010** can be at any time of day. **NOTE: Because flights from the USA are overnight flights, you must depart the USA on September 6 in order to arrive on September 7.** A representative of WAI will be on hand at the airport throughout the day to greet you and help you arrange transportation to our hotel in Munich. Because travelers are arriving at different times, we may need to “batch” arrivals into shuttles to the hotel. This may require that you wait until the next group of travelers arrive and the shuttle is ready to depart. The only group activity on **September 7** is dinner, a fun evening event at one of Germany’s oldest beer gardens – the Hofbräuhaus.
- ◆ **DEPARTURE:** We will depart Salzburg for Munich on **September 21, 2010** after an early breakfast in order to arrive at the Munich International Airport by 10:00 am. Please schedule your flights to depart **no earlier than 1:00 pm.**
- ◆ **MERITS OF DEPARTING EARLY:** We encourage you to consider departing a day early (depart **September 5** for arrival on **September 6**). Departing one day early 1) gives you a hedge against missed connections—more time to get to Europe, 2) gives any lost luggage issues an extra day to be resolved before we depart for our next hotel, and 3) gives your system an extra day to recover from jet lag before we begin our action-packed schedule! WAI can help you book the extra night and airport-hotel transfer in Munich if you give us advanced notice. The airport-hotel transfer offered above under **ARRIVAL** is included in the Adventure price for travelers arriving on **September 6 or 7**. Travelers arriving before **September 6** will be on their own to transfer to the hotel.
- ◆ **FLIGHT PLANS:** We have an arrangement with Debbi Custer, a travel agent who is familiar with the *Alpine Europe Panoramas* Adventure. Debbi has all of the details for this travel program and would be happy to help you find the best schedule and fare from your hometown. If you work with Debbi on your air, keep in mind that you are dealing directly with Debbi and her agency. Though we are in constant communication, and she knows the details of the program, she is not employed by WAI and does not work in our office.

In addition, we recommend that you do your own homework on-line or with another travel agent to compare pricing before making your final decision on air. The world of air travel is a continually changing maze of variables. Debbi can help simplify the process, but as with any decision-making process, the more informed you are at the outset, the better the result.

Finally, it is important that you carefully weigh advantages and disadvantages of price versus scheduling. There are usually direct correlations between advantageous schedules and higher prices. A low price sounds good at the front end, but its important to remember how much you saved when you are sitting in the layover airport for several hours on your way home!

Continued on next page....

****NOTE****—Receipt of this Adventure Advice flyer is your green light to book your airfare.

Here is Debbi's contact information:

Debbi Custer
Phone: (888) 276-0925 -OR- (503) 231-9507
Email: debbi@wtpdx.com

NOTE: Remember that airfare is not covered by any travel insurance policy you may have purchased for the actual trip. Many airlines will allow you to change your booking for a fee, but if you wish to insure your airfare against unforeseen cancellations, you are welcome to call us and add this coverage to your policy, or add it to any policy purchased elsewhere.

- ◆ **RECOMMENDED READING LIST:** There are, of course, countless thousands of books written about this über-significant region of the world. A search through your local library, or on the website www.longitudebooks.com will provide you with a multitude to consider. Here are a few we've run across over the years:

AUSTRIA

- ⇒ The Third Man by Graham Greene (*famous spy novel set in Vienna*)
- ⇒ The Fall of the House of Hapsburg by E. Crankshaw
- ⇒ A Brief Survey of Austrian History by Richard Rickett

GERMANY

- ⇒ A Tramp Abroad by Mark Twain (*a sequel to the more famous Innocents Abroad*)
- ⇒ A Traveller's History of Germany by Robert Cole

SWITZERLAND

- ⇒ Why Switzerland? by Jonathan Steinberg (*good introduction to the country and an interesting examination of Switzerland's distinctive pockets of culture*)
- ⇒ Ticking Along with the Swiss edited by Dianne Dicksby (*a collection of short stories by writers living or working in Switzerland*)
- ⇒ Scrambles Among the Alps in the Years 1860-1869 by Edward Whymper

GUIDEBOOKS

- ⇒ Lonely Planet
- ⇒ DK Eyewitness (*good overview coverage - lots of maps, photos, and diagrams*)
- ⇒ Michelin Green Guides (*more in-depth coverage of specific sites*)
- ⇒ Rough Guides (*similar to Lonely Planet yet with slightly differing map focus in some ways more readable*)

Please don't hesitate to call us if you have any questions. We aim to make your walking adventure as meaningful as possible and are always here to help!

TRAVELER DOCUMENT CHECKLIST

If you have not done so already, please send us the following items:

- Registration Form** (both sides completely filled out & signed)
- Passport copy**
- Airline itinerary** (full itinerary, emailed or hard copy)
- Travel insurance details** (if not purchased through WAI): 1) carrier, 2) policy name & number, and 3) emergency contact information for your insurance company-not an 800 number since these do not work when called from outside the USA. We also need to be advised if you did not purchase insurance.

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