



The Heart of Europe

For our final European tour, we are taking you on an unforgettable journey through The Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Austria, and Germany. Many tour companies visit these places, but only a handful include a visit to the crown jewel of Bavaria: The Neuschwanstein Castle!



QUICK FACTS

Dates: August 11 - 23, 2024

Age Range: Open

Cities Visited: Prague (3), Krakow (2), Budapest (2), Vienna (2), Salzburg (1), Munich (2)

Level of Physical Activity: 8 - High (on a scale of 1 to 10)

Price: \$1,770 per person (or, \$1,730 if you don't need to return to Prague at the end of the tour. **Single Room Supplement:** \$485

Itinerary

Day 1, August 11th : Arrive at Residence Bologna, your lovely, centrally located hotel in Prague. At 7 p.m. your group will meet in the lobby for a brief orientation and then proceed on foot to the welcome dinner.

Note: For those choosing to arrive a day early, there will be an informal gathering the night of August 10th.

Hotel: Residence Bologna **Meals:** Dinner



The Charles Bridge in Prague

Day 2, August 12th : Enjoy a leisurely morning on your own as you explore this wondrous capital city that was largely untouched by the ravages of World War II and which served as the filming location for the Oscar winning film "Amadeus." In the afternoon, you'll meet with a Local Expert who will take you on walking tour of the historical center and Prague Castle.

Hotel: Residence Bologna **Meals:** Breakfast

Day 3, August 13th : The day is yours to continue to explore this "City of a Hundred Spires." Saunter across the stunningly medieval Charles Bridge. Take in a concert at the magnificent Spanish Synagogue. People-watch at the Old Town Square.

In the afternoon, you have the option of joining the Tour Leader on a visit southward to the magical town of Cesky Krumlov.

Hotel: Residence Bologna **Meals:** Breakfast

Day 4, August 14th : Today, you'll journey by train to Krakow, Poland, arriving in the late afternoon. After checking in at your hotel, a Local Expert will lead you on a walking tour of historical Krakow, including the old medieval walls, the Market Square, and the Cloth Hall.

Hotel: Hotel Miodowa **Meals:** Breakfast



The Wawel Castle at Krakow

Day 5, August 15th : A somber morning as your group proceeds to its visit of the Auschwitz concentration camp. The visit will take up the entire morning and early afternoon, as Auschwitz is more than an hour outside Krakow. The rest of the day is free.

Hotel: Hotel Miodowa **Meals:** Breakfast

Day 6, August 16th : In the morning, the group will depart for beautiful Budapest, arriving in the afternoon. After hotel check-in and orientation, the day is yours to discover all the nooks and crannies of Hungary's capital. Don't miss the marvelous Fisherman's Bastion, which is a rebuilt portion of a medieval wall offering panoramic views of the city.

Hotel: Hotel Cotton House

Meals: Breakfast



The Fisherman's Bastion in Budapest

Day 7, August 17th : In mid-morning, a Local Expert will lead you around the older sections of Budapest, which is actually a consolidation of two cities - Buda and Pest - bisected by the Danube River. With the rest of the day, you are free to take in the sights and sounds of this "Pearl of the Danube."

Hotel: Hotel Cotton House

Meals: Breakfast

Day 8, August 18th : Today, your group will bid a fond farewell to Budapest, only to arrive in another fascinating historic city: Vienna, Austria. After hotel check-in, your Tour Leader will lead you on an orientation around some of the sights of this City of Dreams and Music, culminating with a journey through a famous hedge maze.

Hotel: Hotel Leonardo Hauptbahnhof

Meals: Breakfast

Day 9, August 19th : After a mostly free day in Vienna, your group will meet with a Local Expert for a special night time walking tour. In the evening is when Vienna really glows and glitters. If you're lucky, you might even catch a glimpse of Vienna's underground tunnels.

Insider Tip: If you want to see a visually striking presentation of Vienna, check out Carol Reed's classic film "The Third Man," starring Joseph Cotten and Orson Welles.

Hotel: Hotel Leonardo Hauptbahnhof

Meals: Breakfast



Joseph Cotten wanders the streets of Vienna in "The Third Man" (1949)

Day 10, August 20th : Arrive in Salzburg around noon. After a visit to Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's birthplace, the rest of the day is yours. For interested parties, there will be an optional excursion to see the Kehlsteinhaus, also known as the "Eagle's Nest," a building that was constructed on a rocky outcrop overlooking the town of Berchtesgaden, and which was used by the Nazis for meetings. During your visit, you'll learn interesting facts about the building, including the reason Hitler rarely visited it. It's important to note that although hiking to the top is free, it takes about two hours each way. There is a shuttle bus from the base of the mountain to the top, and it costs about \$50 round-trip.

Altogether, including the round-trip taxi from Salzburg to Berchtesgaden and the round trip shuttle bus, the cost should be approximately \$80 per person.

Hotel: Hotel Trend Europa **Meals:** Breakfast



One of Mozart's violins on display at Mozart's Birthplace, Salzburg.

Day 11, August 21th : In the morning, you'll have plenty of time to continue to explore Salzburg as your group won't need to depart for Munich until noon. After a brief orientation of Munich, the Tour Leader will direct the group, by train, for a visit to the spectacular Neuschwanstein Castle for a tour and sightseeing.

Hotel: Hotel Downtown Vi Vadi **Meals:** Breakfast

Day 12, August 22th : This is a free day in Munich. The Alte Pinakothek is a superb museum filled with works by Botticelli, Durer, Rembrandt, and Rubens. The Nymphenburg Palace offers its viewers an intoxicating blend of Baroque architecture, majestic fountains, and colorful gardens. Or perhaps a relaxing time at the free English Garden is in order. In any case, Munich has a wealth of offerings to keep anyone busy.

In the evening, your group will have its farewell dinner at the famed Hofbrauhaus.

Hotel: Hotel Downtown Vi Vadi **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner



Day 13, August 23rd: In the morning, you'll take your included train ride back to Prague to catch your international flight home, unless you have opted to depart from Munich. Or extend your vacation with the Berlin/Paris extension! Auf Wiedersehen!

Meals: Breakfast

In order to register for this tour, please contact us directly at 833-BLU-ONYX or by email at blueonyxtravel@gmail.com. Or, if you continue to scroll down, you will see a registration form for this tour.



The Heart of Europe

The Tour You Selected



The Heart of Europe \$1770 per person

(or \$1730 per person if you don't need to return to Prague at the end of the tour)

Begins: **8/11** 2024 **Prague, Czech Republic**

Ends: **8/23** 2024 **Prague, Czech Republic**

Print out the following form, fill it out, and mail it with a check or money order to:

Blue Onyx Travel

2219 Florencita Avenue

Montrose, CA 91020

Feel free to contact us with any further questions at 833-BLU-ONYX or blueonyxtravel@gmail.com



The Heart of Europe (August 11 - 23, 2024)

Guest Information:

Number of Guests on this reservation: _____

Name(s) and Birth Date(s) of Guests:

Primary Guest Name: _____ Date of Birth ___/___/_____

Other Guests (if applicable)

Name: _____ Date of Birth ___/___/_____

Name: _____ Date of Birth ___/___/_____

Name: _____ Date of Birth ___/___/_____

Name: _____ Date of Birth ___/___/_____

Name: _____ Date of Birth ___/___/_____

Cell Phone Number of Primary Guest: _____

Address of Primary Guest: _____

Email Address of Primary Guest: _____

Hotel Room Assignments:

In the space below, please describe the desired room assignments for the guests on this application. Currently, we have only single, double (one bed), and twin (two beds) rooms available. Keep in mind that there is an extra charge for single rooms (\$485 per person):

Important Reminders:

1. Insofar as possible, we will adhere to the itinerary and inclusions listed on this tour. However, occasionally due to inclement weather or other reasons beyond our control, certain items can be postponed or cancelled. When this happens we will always replace said item with something of equal value and importance.

2. Please remember that this is a physically active tour. On a scale of 1 to 10, it currently ranks as an 8, which is high. However, if you should decide to partake in the optional excursions, the activity level moves up to a 9, which is very high. Although many of the walking excursions will take place on level ground, some of them will not. For instance, some areas of Budapest are uneven and sloped.

3. The weather will be warm and somewhat humid. This tour takes place in late August and it will be warm in Europe. Please bring appropriate clothing.

4. Keep guard over your personal belongings. Pickpocketing is common in central Europe and we advise you to take precautionary measures, such as sewing velcro into the linings of your pants pockets, or leaving your passport and necessary valuables in the safe in your hotel room.

Total Amount Due:

1. Number of Guests: _____

2. Number of Guests multiplied by \$1,770 (or \$1,730): _____

3. Single Room Supplement (\$485) multiplied by number of single room assignments needed (if none, put zero): _____

Add lines 2 and 3. This is the amount you owe. Please make the check or money order out to Blue Onyx Travel, 2219 Florencita Avenue, Montrose, CA 91020: _____

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask!

St'astnou Cestu!