



OBERAMMERGAU PASS

Seeking God's protection from the Plague which was decimating the population of Europe in the 1640s, the citizens of the tiny village of Oberammergau in the Bavarian Alps in Germany made a solemn vow to perform a Passion Play every decade. Passion Plays – depicting the passion (suffering), death and resurrection of Jesus Christ – were common features of mediaeval Christian piety, and were often performed by travelling troupes of players and evangelists.

The villagers have kept their promise for almost four centuries, with performances every decade year. In 2020 people will travel from all over the world to witness more than 2000 villagers keeping the ancient vow, in four performances a week across five months of Spring and Summer.

Great Trains of Europe Tours have been accompanying pilgrims to the Passion Play since 1990, and we are delighted – again in 2020 – to offer three European tours which include the Passion Play.

Entrance tickets for the Passion Play are available only in conjunction with one night's accommodation in Oberammergau and surrounding villages, so we are forced on these tours to depart from our usual practice of 3 nights at every stop.

All tours will be led by Great Trains of Europe Tours principal, Christian historian Mr Stan Klan of Toowoomba, Queensland.

Advance bookings are now open.

BOOKING DETAILS:

It is still almost 3 years until these tours depart, but Passion Play tickets are scarce and numbers strictly limited. More than 60% of the tickets have already been allocated by the Play organisers.

Payments are in 3 stages:

1. \$1,000 per person initial deposit is required immediately to confirm your seat.
2. A further \$2,500 per person deposit is required 12 months before your chosen tour departs.
3. The balance will be payable 4 months before departure.

Travel insurance is available 18 months before departure and airfares 11 months before departure.

EARLYBIRD SPECIAL FOR SOLO TRAVELLERS:

Solo travellers booking and paying the \$1,000 initial deposit before November 1st 2017 will be guaranteed a single room without the single supplement.





**PLAN AHEAD
BOOK EARLY**

ION PLAY 2020

• MAY •
05



BLOSSOMS, BULBS, THE CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW & THE OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY.

\$13,950

Commences Amsterdam May 5th, ends in Munich May 25th, 2020.

Enjoy 4 days in the bulbfields of Holland, then take the Eurostar to England and spend 9 days visiting gardens in the English countryside - 3 days each on the North York Moors, the Lake District and the Costwolds. 3 days in London includes the Chelsea Flower show before flying to the Austrian Alps for a 3 day stop which includes the Oberammergau Passion Play.

COST: \$13,950 per person twin share - single supplement \$2,000 - includes 21 days in four star city centre hotels and historic village inns with buffet breakfasts, one dinner at each stop, First Class rail travel throughout, an economy class flight from London to Innsbruck, all sightseeing and garden entrances with local guides, full day entry to Chelsea Flower Show, and entrance to a performance of the Oberammergau Passion Play.

• SEPT •
03



OFF THE BEATEN TRACK - THE HILL VILLAGES AND MARKET TOWNS OF THE SOUTH OF FRANCE, THE SWISS & AUSTRIAN ALPS, WITH THE OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY.

\$13,950

Commences Paris September 3rd, ends Munich Sept 23rd 2020.

Enjoy 3 days in the City of Romance, Paris, then take the high speed TGV train to the South of France for 4 days in a beautiful village in the Dordogne, followed by 4 days in the beautiful Provence region. A change of pace, then, with 3 days in a lakeside village in the Swiss Alps, and 4 days in an Austrian Alpine village, including the Oberammergau Passion Play, and finally a visit to Munich where the tour ends.

COST: \$13,950 per person twin share – single supplement \$2,000 - includes 21 days in four star city centre hotels and historic village inns with buffet breakfasts, one dinner at each stop, First Class rail travel throughout, all sightseeing and entrances with local guides, and a performance of the Oberammergau Passion Play.

• SEPT •
26



ITALY'S CULTURAL CAPITALS, SWISS MOUNTAIN TRAINS AND THE OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY.

\$13,950

Commences Zurich September 26th, ends Rome October 16th 2020.

Enjoy a week of breathtaking Alpine scenery on Switzerland's legendary mountain trains, then 3 days in the Austrian Alps including the Oberammergau Passion Play, before heading south of the Alps to Italy's 3 cultural capitals – Venice, Florence and Rome.

COST: \$13,950 per person twin share – single supplement \$2,000 - includes 21 days in four star city centre hotels and historic village inns with buffet breakfasts, one dinner at each stop, First Class rail travel throughout, all sightseeing and entrances with local guides, and a performance of the Oberammergau Passion Play.

A fully detailed itinerary of each tour is available from
Tour Leader Stan on 0488 423 848 or online at www.greattrainsofeurope.com.au

BOOKING CONDITIONS

Great Trains of Europe Tours (ABN 75 325 010 987) is an accredited travel agent (ATAS #12982). We are members of IATA (Licence #968366100 and the Concorde Independent Agents' Network).

Costs: All costs in this brochure are expressed in Australian dollars and are based on airfares, and land transport and accommodation costs, and Australian dollar exchange rates effective as at July 27th, 2017. Exchange rate fluctuations in the price of any service provided, beyond the control of Great Trains of Europe Tours, may be passed on to travellers, right up to the date of departure. Please note that some city taxes or bed taxes cannot be pre-paid by agents, and must be paid by the tour member at check-out.

A deposit of \$2,500 per person will guarantee a place on your chosen tour (unless already filled, in which case you will be advised of your place on the waiting list. With a maximum tour size of 25 travellers, tours often fill early).

Full final payment is due 90 days before commencement of the tour. Please make payment by cheque to "Great Trains of Europe Tours" or by bank transfer as follows: Heritage Bank, Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia. BSB 638-060 Account Number 111 097 34. Great Trains of Europe Tours currently does not accept payment by credit card.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellation at any time after the deposit is paid will result in the forfeiture of the deposit. Any booking cancelled between 90 days and 45 days before departure will incur a 50% cancellation charge on land content and up to 100% on airfares, depending on the airfare used. Bookings cancelled within 45 days of departure will incur a 100% cancellation charge. Travel insurance will cover cancellation because of illness, death in the family etc. Travel insurance is therefore considered mandatory.

Travel Insurance: A condition of joining a Great Trains of Europe tour is either the purchase of travel insurance through Great Trains of Europe Tours, or documentary evidence of a sufficient level of travel insurance purchased elsewhere.

European Rail Travel: The standard of rail travel in Europe ranges from small and basic local trains to luxury High Speed International trains. On rare occasions European rail companies may change timetables, classes of travel available or rolling stock within the period of validity of a travel brochure. Descriptions of trains & routes provided in this brochure are accurate at the time of printing and provided in good faith. It is not possible to request rail seating either facing or with back to the direction of travel. Many European trains change direction during a journey.

Baggage allowance: Porterage of one suitcase per person is included in tour cost.

Coaches: When itineraries take us away from rail routes and coaches must be used, a seating rotation system applies.

Hotels: European hotel rooms – even in 4 or 5 star hotels – are often smaller than in Australian hotels. Single rooms, particularly, can be very small. Should a traveller who has requested a single room wish to have a quote for the cost of single occupancy of a double room, please ask. Tea and coffee making facilities are rare in European hotels, as are in-room security safes. In some European countries, government environmental agencies restrict the use of air-conditioning in hotels to the summer months.

Travellers sharing a room on a twin share basis will be asked their preferences re a double bed or twin beds, but no guarantee can be given that your request will be met. Hotel star ratings, where provided, are those of the country in which the hotel is situated, and vary from country to country.

Other Important Advice: All tours will proceed if a minimum of 12 travellers have paid deposits by 90 days before scheduled departure. In the highly unlikely (unprecedented) event that there are insufficient travellers for a tour, you will be offered either (i) a full refund of all monies paid, (ii) a modified cost structure for a smaller group, or

(iii) a place on an alternative Great Trains of Europe Tour. Each tour is sold as a package and there can be no refund for any element of the tour (eg. a meal or an excursion) not utilised by the traveller by her / his own choice. Tour costs have built into them the costs associated with researching tours, communicating with overseas suppliers, brochure preparation and marketing. Great Trains of Europe Tours does not claim or imply that some of the inclusions in our tours may or may not be available at a lower price direct from the overseas supplier. Travellers are reminded, however, that purchases made direct with overseas suppliers are generally not covered by Australian Travel Agents licensing protections or the Australian Travel Compensation Fund. Most photographs used in this brochure were taken by the Tour Leader on past tours, but some have been provided by hotels, rail companies or Tourism Boards. Photographs are indicative only and we cannot guarantee that a traveller on a Great Trains of Europe tour will personally see all of the places depicted in them.

Great Trains of Europe Tours reserves the right to decline any reservation or booking request, and may at the Tour Directors discretion terminate any person's involvement in the tour due to disruptive or anti-social behaviour.

Great Trains of Europe Tours does not accept responsibility for any injury, damage, loss, delay, change of schedule or other events which are beyond our direct control such as, but not limited to war, terrorism, civil disturbance, industrial action, acts of government or of God, or mechanical failure such as aircraft, trains or coaches.

Great Trains of Europe Tours cannot be held responsible for changes to provision of services by local European suppliers, but we will do all in our power to provide an alternative service of equal standard to that advertised, or make a cash refund of the difference on the spot.

Contract: The contract between the traveller and Great Trains of Europe Tours, entered into by your signing the Booking form, shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Queensland.

"Life is a collection of experiences. Let Stan be your guide"

Noel and Alwynne Towler, Brisbane

(8 time tour members on the Great Trains of Europe Tours)



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Great Trains of Europe Tours **BOOKING FORM**

One form per person, please.

Tour Name: _____ Departure Date: _____

PASSPORT DETAILS

Full name (as in passport): _____

Address: _____

Passport No: _____ Date of Issue: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Nationality: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Ph. Home: () _____ Ph. Work: () _____

Mobile: _____ Email: _____

MEDICAL / DIET

Do you have any medical conditions or dietary requirements that we should be alerted to?

YES NO If you answered YES, please outline briefly: _____

Are you able to walk 500 metres and climb 25 stairs without assistance? YES NO

NEXT OF KIN {to be contacted in event of an emergency}

Name: _____

Ph. Home: () _____ Ph. Work: () _____ Mobile: _____

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Please provide me with travel insurance. I have a pre-existing medical condition.
(NOTE: Passengers over 75 years of age at end of a tour will need a medical clearance)

I decline your offer of travel insurance and attach documentary evidence that I have sufficient travel insurance cover.
Insurance Company _____ Policy Number _____

ACCOMMODATION

Double Twin, sharing with _____

Twin, please find someone to share with me. If no suitable room-mate can be found, the single supplement is payable.

Single Room Single occupancy of double sized room {surcharge} Non-smoking Smoking

EXTRA ACCOMMODATION

Pre-Tour in _____ {city} Date IN __/__/__ Date OUT __/__/__

Post-Tour in _____ {city} Date IN __/__/__ Date OUT __/__/__

FLIGHTS

I seek your assistance with an airfare. Please contact me. or I will make my own flight arrangements.

PAYMENT METHOD

I enclose a cheque, payable to "Great Trains of Europe Tours" for \$ _____ or

I have deposited \$ _____ in the "Great Trains of Europe Tours" account at Heritage Bank, 400 Ruthven St, Toowoomba, Qld., 4350, Australia as follows.

BSB 638 – 060 Account Number 11109734 Swiftcode HBSLAU4T, and I attach a pay-in slip as evidence.

By signing this form I declare that I have read the Tour Terms and Conditions, understand them, and agree to abide by them.

Signature _____ Date _____



www.greattrainsofeurope.com.au

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