

JOIN JUSTON SMITH ON **A Week in Austria, Germany & Switzerland**

PROPOSED DATES: DECEMBER 8 – DECEMBER 17, 2019



**Overnight stays**

- Overnight flight
- Vienna                      2 nights
- Salzburg                    1 night
- Munich                      2 nights
- Lucerne Region            2 nights

**Your tour includes**

- 7 nights in handpicked hotels
- 7 breakfasts
- 3 dinners with beer or wine
- Guided sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach

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## DAY 1

### Travel day

Sunday, December 8, 2019

#### Full day

- Board your overnight flight to Vienna today

Overnight flight

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## DAY 2

### Arrival in Vienna

Monday, December 9, 2019

#### Morning

- Welcome to Vienna! Transfer from the airport to your hotel and get settled in

Included meals: **dinner**

Overnight in: **Vienna**

#### Afternoon

- Free time to explore on your own

#### Evening

- Gather for your Welcome Dinner this evening
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## DAY 3

### Sightseeing tour of Vienna Christmas Markets

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

#### Morning

- Get transported back to the Age of Empires on a guided tour of Vienna, filled with bright holiday lights and seasonal specialties at its many Christmas markets.
- Enter Schönbrunn Palace, the Rococo Hapsburg home with impressive gardens
- Travel down the Ringstrasse, Vienna's tree-lined thoroughfare
- See the Parliament building, the Vienna State Opera, and the grand Hofburg Palace, the Hapsburg's winter residence
- Visit some of the city's festive Christmas markets
- Peruse stalls of handmade crafts in search of gifts perfect for everyone on your list

Included entrance fees: **Schonbrunn Palace**

Included meals: **breakfast**

Overnight in: **Vienna**

#### Afternoon

- Enjoy a free afternoon to explore Vienna on your own

#### Evening

- **Optional Excursion –** Traditional Viennese Heurigen Evening (\$99 pp)

*After a brief drive, your first stop is Vienna's Prater Ferris Wheel. Take a breezy ride to the top, which offers a one-of-a-kind view of the city. Next, continue to the picturesque village of Grinzing. At a local restaurant, you'll indulge in a festive night of music, food, and entertainment. Dinner will feature dishes typical of traditional Austrian Heurigen, or wine taverns. During your meal, you'll have the chance to try some of the tavern's own locally made wine—the perfect addition to your cozy, Old-World setting.*

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## DAY 4

### Travel to Salzburg via Melk Abbey

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

#### Full day

- Stop in Melk for a guided tour of the town's Baroque abbey, then continue your drive to Salzburg
- Spend the afternoon browsing the stalls of the Christkindlmarkt, or Christmas market
- Cap off the festive occasion with a tasting of traditional mulled wine and cookies

Included entrance fees: **Melk Abbey**

Included meals: **breakfast**

Overnight in: **Salzburg**

#### Evening

- Enjoy a free evening to explore Salzburg on your own

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## DAY 5

### Sightseeing tour of Salzburg & transfer to Munich

Thursday, December 12, 2019

#### Full day

- Join a local guide for a walking tour of Salzburg this morning
- View the University of Salzburg and the churchyard of St. Peter
- See the Kapitelplatz, Residenzplatz, and Alter Markt, in the city's Old Town
- Enter the 17th-century Salzburg Cathedral, built in the Baroque style
- Pass through scenery from the beloved film *The Sound of Music*
- Take the funicular to the hilltop Hohensalzburg Fortress, one of Europe's largest medieval castles
- Travel to Munich this afternoon

Included entrance fees: **Hohensalzburg Fortress**

Included meals: **breakfast, dinner**

Overnight in: **Munich**

#### Evening

- Gather for an included dinner in Munich this evening

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## DAY 6

### Sightseeing tour of Munich & Christmas market visit

Friday, December 13, 2019

#### Full day

- Get to know the Bavarian capital on a guided tour
- Travel past the Englischer Garten and fashionable Schwabing district
- Enter the Nymphenburg Palace, the Baroque home to past Bavarian royalty
- Walk from Odeonsplatz through the nearby Hofgarten to view the Residenz, once home to the Wittelsbach dukes of Bavaria
- Explore Marienplatz, Munich's medieval heart, and see the famed Glockenspiel
- Get introduced to the city's Christmas markets, the most festive seasonal tradition
- Explore the stalls in search of treasures to take home

Included entrance fees: **Nymphenburg Palace**

Included meals: **breakfast**

Overnight in: **Munich**

#### Evening

- Enjoy a free evening to explore Munich on your own

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## DAY 7

### Transfer to the Lucerne Region via Neuschwanstein

Sunday, December 15, 2019

#### Full day

- Travel through the mountains of Bavaria en route to the Lucerne Region
- Along the way, stop for a guided tour of Neuschwanstein, the fairy-tale retreat of “Mad” King Ludwig II
- Step inside Neuschwanstein Castle
- Take time to explore its stalactite grotto, artifacts, and murals Sit down to an included dinner with your group this evening.

Included entrance fees: **Neuschwanstein Castle**

Included meals: **breakfast**

Overnight in: **Lucerne Region**

#### Evening

- Enjoy a free evening to explore the Lucerne Region on your own

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## DAY 8

### Sightseeing tour of Lucerne

Monday, December 16, 2019

#### Morning

- Get an up-close look at the lakeside city of Lucerne, Switzerland’s idyllic Alpine town, on a guided sightseeing tour
- Pass hand-painted facades along the cobble streets of the Old Town
- View the Lion Monument, a tribute to the Swiss Guards who sacrificed their lives in Paris during the French Revolution
- See the Jesuit Church, the first large Baroque building of its kind to be built in Switzerland north of the Alps
- Cross the medieval Kapellbrücke, a covered wooden footbridge spanning the Reuss River, and view the Water Tower

Included meals: **breakfast, dinner**

Overnight in: **Lucerne Region**

#### Afternoon

- **Optional Excursion** – Mount Pilatus (\$119 pp)

*This scenic excursion begins with a cruise on Lake Lucerne. After docking, ascend 7,000-foot Mount Pilatus on the world’s steepest cogwheel railway. Legend holds that the mountain was named for Pontius Pilate, blown here by the devil after the Crucifixion. From the peak, the views of the Alps are stunning; on a clear day, you can see for 200 miles. Toward the end of your trip, you’ll return to the base of the mountain via gondola.*

#### Evening

- Celebrate your trip at a farewell dinner in Lucerne this evening

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## DAY 9

### Departure

Tuesday, December 17, 2019

#### Morning

- Transfer to the airport in Zurich for your flight home

Included meals: **breakfast**

#### Afternoon

- Travel time

#### Evening

- Arrive home

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\*Please note: This is an itinerary sketch and all inclusions, as well as the order of events, are subject to confirmation.

\*\*All optional excursion pricing is based on the pre-tour cost.