

THIS PROGRAM IS ESPECIALLY CREATED FOR  
THE ESCARPMENT PROBUS CLUB AND FRIENDS

# AUSTRIA

## AND HER NEIGHBOURS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10 – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2017  
(9 nights, 11 days)





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# WELCOME

*This is a delightful, relaxing program  
featuring a two-centre holiday in Austria.  
First a 4 night stay in Bregenz, the capital of Vorarlberg,  
lying on the southeastern shore of Lake Constance on  
the westernmost tip of Austria.*

*Then we cross to the eastern region where  
we spend 5 nights in Graz, Austria' second largest city  
and capital of Styria.*

*From these two centres, we will explore  
the country of Austria as well as her neighbours including  
Germany, Liechtenstein, Switzerland and Slovenia.*

# ITINERARY

## DAY 1

Tuesday, Oct 10, 2017 | IN FLIGHT

*We depart from Pearson International Airport with Air Canada. Current flight schedule shows the Air Canada flight 878 departing at 6:20 pm and arriving into Zurich at 7:50 am the next day. Meals will be served inflight.*

## DAY 2

Wednesday, Oct 11, 2017 | ZURICH – BREGENZ

*We arrive in Zurich at 7:50 am where we meet our deluxe coach, driver and guide. Once we clear the airport, we transfer from the city of Zurich to our hotel in Bregenz (approximately 1.5 hours), then enjoy a lunch at the hotel. Tucked between Austria's corner of Lake Constance and the green foothills of the Alps lies Bregenz, the largest city in western Austria and the capital of Vorarlberg. Literally translated Vorarlberg means "before Arlberg", the high mountain pass that separates the province from the Tyrol and the rest of Austria. A small city of less than 30,000 inhabitants, Bregenz nevertheless offers a spectrum of cultural and outdoor activities those cities many times its size would be envious of. The weather in October is typically warm days in the mid-teens with cool crisp autumn evenings. It is not uncommon to see snow dusting the tops of the Swiss Alps off in this distance at this time of year. After lunch, depart on a walking tour of the town. Dominating the town is the 1,064-meter-tall Pfänder. Accessible via a two-kilometer, six-minute journey to the summit aboard the Pfänderbahn cable car, it's a must-visit for its incredible views over Lake Constance toward the German town of Bodensee. All told, on a clear day, some 240 mountain peaks are usually visible, making it one of the most famous lookout points in Austria. Following our cable car ride, we walk back to our hotel with time to rest before dinner this evening in the main restaurant.*

*(Lunch and dinner)*

*Accommodation: Hotel Weisses Kreuz or similar (4 nights)*



# DAY 3

Thursday, Oct 12, 2017 | BREGENZ – GERMANY

*Following breakfast, we depart this morning for a full day excursion to Germany. Our highlights will include the island city of Lindau, situated just across the bay from Bregenz, with its Mang Tower dating to the 12th century, one of the original components of the medieval wall that surrounded the city. In the afternoon we will continue to Friedrichshafen for a guided tour of the unique Zeppelin Museum, providing a history of flight in what we usually refer to as 'blimps'. Finally we shall visit the fairy tale castle of Meersburg a notable landmark of the lake and the region within origins to the 7th century.*

*(Breakfast and dinner)*



# DAY 4

Friday, Oct 13, 2017 | BREGENZ – LIECHTENSTEIN/SWITZERLAND

*Today's full day tour will cross 3 countries beginning in Austria continuing to the tiny principality of Liechtenstein and ending in Switzerland. We begin with a tour of Vaduz, capital of the 6th smallest country in the world, from where we shall gaze up the royal palace perched on a cliff above the nation. After some time for lunch we will continue in the afternoon to Davos, Switzerland – a winter sports mecca known more for its annual World Economic Summit. We shall enjoy a visit to either the museum of local history or the winter sports museum before returning to Bregenz in the late afternoon.*

*(Breakfast and dinner)*

# ITINERARY

## DAY 5

Saturday, October 14, 2017 | BREGENZ – SCHWARZENBERG

We set off this morning to explore the “Bregenz Forest”, an area of rolling hills and low mountains immediately to the east and south of Bregenz. It is mostly known for its picturesque villages, wellness spas and tasty dairy products. Our tour of the area will include a ride on the historical “Wälderbähnle” or ‘forest railway’ with a stop for lunch in the village of Schwarzenberg (Black Mountain). We will also visit an authentic cheese maker and sample some of the phenomenal Alpine cheeses from the region.

(Breakfast and dinner)

## DAY 6

Sunday, October 15, 2017 | BREGENZ – GRAZ

This morning we say farewell to Bregenz as we walk with our guide to the train station, and depart on a panoramic train ride crossing the whole of Austria in a modern train that will take us directly to the city of Graz, 2nd largest city of Austria but with a charm and ambiance more like a small town.

Note: 1 suitcase per person will be transported by the railway from the hotel in Bregenz to the hotel in Graz. Most people are familiar with the Austrian tourist hubs of Vienna and Salzburg but few make it to this southern capital of the province of Styria. The region is known for its phenomenal wines and numerous castles and fortresses dotting the landscape. Graz was the European City of Design in 2011 and the amazing architecture and numerous galleries and museums attest to this. There are countless things to visit and everything is easily accessible on foot or by a very friendly transit system where announcements come in English as well as German!. We arrive in the evening to meet our local guide and driver and transfer to our hotel for some time to relax and enjoy dinner at the hotel.

(Breakfast and dinner)

Accommodation: Parkhotel Graz or similar (5 nights)



# DAY 7

Monday, October 16, 2017 | GRAZ

*This morning have a half day orientation walking tour of the city where the major sights will be pointed out such as the Schlossberg, the mountain which the city drapes around, the Landhaus with its inner courtyard elegantly embellished by Italian Renaissance arcades. Also the Hauptplatz/Main Square reflecting various architectural styles of different periods, the Dom (Cathedral) and the Mausoleum of the Habsburg Dynasty, and finally the medieval double spiral staircase of the former imperial residence, the Burg. This afternoon a one hour trip west to the town of Piber, home of the Lipizzaner Stud Farm, the oldest thoroughbred horse breed in Europe. Lipizzaner stallions have been bred here since 1920 for use in the High School of Classical Horsemanship. Between 30 and 40 foals are born each year and enjoy their youth at the stud farm, grazing on the mountain pastures in the summer. Each year, the best stallions are sent to the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, where their prowess is applauded by horse-lovers from all over the world. We will take a guided tour of the museum, stud stables, farrier, and more. You will enjoy watching the horses play, petting the foals and learning about the exciting history of the breed. Dinner at the hotel this evening.*

*(Breakfast and dinner)*



# DAY 8

Tuesday, October 17, 2017 | GRAZ – STYRIA

*Today we depart on a full day excursion to explore southern Styria, dubbed “Styrian heaven” by locals. Stroll through lush vineyards, soak up magnificent views across the border into Slovenia and listen to the sound of Klapotetz (a traditional windmill used to keep the birds from eating the grapes). Enjoy Styrian hospitality with a glass of local wine and a hearty “Brettljause” (lunch of cold cuts and cheeses) in a cozy tavern. In the afternoon we drive via Kitzreck, the highest vineyard in the province and visit the Castle of Seggau with its 300 year old wine cellar. We will enjoy a sampling of wines that the region is famous for. Return to Graz for dinner at the hotel.*

*(Breakfast, lunch and dinner)*

# ITINERARY

## DAY 9

Wednesday, October 18, 2017 | GRAZ – SLOVENIA

*This morning we leave on a full day trip to Slovenia, our 5th country on this tour. Once a part of Styria and now one of the latest members of the European Union, our journey through Slovenia takes us first to the city of Maribor where we will first see the ski stadium before heading into a medieval centre for a walking tour.*

*In the afternoon we visit Slovenia's capital and largest city Ljubljana, one of Europe's greenest and most liveable capitals. Indeed, the European Commission awarded Ljubljana with the coveted Green Capital of Europe title for 2016. Car traffic is restricted in the centre, leaving the leafy banks of the emerald-green Ljubljanica River, which flows through the city's heart, free for pedestrians and cyclists. In summer, cafes set up terrace seating along the river. Slovenia's master of early- modern, minimalist design, Jože Plečnik, graced Ljubljana with beautiful buildings and accoutrements; attractive cities are often described as 'jewel boxes', but here the name really fits. And bringing life to these historical riches, the city's 50,000-odd students support an active clubbing and cultural scene, and the museums, hotels and restaurants are among the best in the country. We enjoy dinner here at local restaurant this evening before returning to our hotel.*

*(Breakfast and dinner)*



Church and River - Ljubljana

# DAY 10

Thursday, October 19, 2017 | GRAZ – STYRIA

*Today's full day tour brings us to the eastern part of Styria. The landscape was formed by ancient volcanos, on top of which fortified castles were built including the Riegersburg, perched high up on a cliff. We will stop for a visit and a chance to look out over the lush countryside. The volcanic rock in the area gave rise to many hot springs which are in use by the spas of the region today. In the afternoon one of our highlights of the trip will be a visit to the Zotter Chocolate Factory – renowned throughout Austria. Our Taste Adventure visit will begin with a chocolate aperitif, followed by a private tour of the production process with tasting of the various stages along the way. We finish off with coffee or schnaps and receive a little take home souvenir. Farewell dinner at the hotel in Graz.*

*(Breakfast and dinner)*



# DAY 11

Friday, October 20, 2017 | HOME

*We pack up and depart after breakfast for the airport in Vienna for our return flight to Canada. We depart Vienna on Lufthansa flight 1239 at 2:10 pm arriving to Frankfurt at 3:35 pm. Continuing on Air Canada 877 departing at 5:15 pm and arriving into Toronto at 7:30 pm.*

*(Breakfast at the hotel and meals in flight)*

# TOUR COST

## INCLUDED

- *Round trip airfare with Air Canada/Lufthansa from Toronto to Zurich, Vienna to Toronto*
- *9 nights first class accommodation, all rooms with private facilities and non-smoking*
- *English speaking local guide for entire program*
- *Modern motor coach with experienced driver*
- *9 buffet breakfasts, 2 lunches and 9 dinners*
- *Sightseeing includes - Pfanderbahn cable car, Full day excursion to Germany including Zeppelin Museum, Meersburg Castle, Visit to Liechtenstein and Vaduz, Visit to Switzerland and Davos, Visit to Bregenz Forest, Ride on Walderbahnl Railway, Visit to cheese factory, Train ride (2nd class) from Bregenz to Graz, Walking tour of Graz, Visit to the Lipizzaner Stud Farm, Full day excursion to southern Styria, Wine tasting, Full day trip to Slovenia featuring Maribor and Ljubljana, Full day tour to eastern Styria, Visit to Zotter Chocolate Factory.*
- *Porterage of one piece of luggage per person*
- *Services of Experienced Tour Design Staff for entire tour*

## NOT INCLUDED

- *Airport departure taxes. Currently \$650 per person*
- *Optional travel insurance*

### **COST PER PERSON, TWO TO ROOM, CANADIAN DOLLARS**

**\$3,695 per person**

**Single supplement: Plus \$400 (limited availability)**

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# TERMS AND CONDITIONS

*To book your tour, complete the enclosed booking form and mail to Tour Design or email to Nancy at [nliu@glpworldwide.com](mailto:nliu@glpworldwide.com). Our toll free number is 1-888-923-9183. Nancy's extension is 252.*

## DEPOSIT

*\$500 per person at the time of booking. If you wish to have optional deluxe package insurance, please note at the time of booking. If you take insurance, please provide your date of birth, and call us for a quotation. Please note if you wish to purchase trip cancellation insurance, it **MUST** be purchased prior to final payment.*

*Final payment is due 75 days prior to departure or on July 24, 2017.*

## CANCELLATION

*Between time of booking and January 24, 2017 - \$300 per person*

*Between January 25 and July 23, 2017 - \$500 per person*

*Between July 24 and date of departure - Total tour cost*

## DOCUMENTATION

*You must have a valid passport to participate in this tour.*

*Your passport must be valid for 6 months after your return date from Vienna.*

## AIR CREDIT

*If you wish to do your own airfare from Toronto to Zurich and Vienna to Toronto, you can deduct \$550 per person from the tour cost and the airport taxes are not applicable.*

## PROGRAM DESIGNED IN CONJUNCTION WITH JOANNE MILLICHAMP

*Email: [jmillichamp@hotmail.com](mailto:jmillichamp@hotmail.com) or call 289 878 2969*



## TOUR DESIGN

1211 Denison Ave., Unit 26 Markham, Ontario, L3R 4B3

Toll Free: 1-888-923-9183 Email: Nancy Liu at [nliu@glpworldwide.com](mailto:nliu@glpworldwide.com)

Registration number for TICO: 50014865.



Tour Design - 1211 Denison St, Unit 26 Markham; ON L3R 4B3  
Phone: 1-888-923-9183 Email: Nancy Liu at [nliu@glpworldwide.com](mailto:nliu@glpworldwide.com)  
[www.tourdesign.ca](http://www.tourdesign.ca)  
TICO Reg. #50014865