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Sample Tour Program

*featuring Munich, Fussen, Salzburg, Mondsee, Melk,
Krems, Vienna, Eisenstadt, and Budapest*

day 1 – Overnight flight

Begin your 10-day European adventure with this evening's overnight trans-Atlantic flight.

day 2 – Fussen

Arrive in Munich International Airport, where your **full-time bilingual tour manager** will welcome you. Begin your explorations right away with a **local guide** and walking tour through Munich's city center, to see the Marienplatz, Old Town Hall, and famous Glockenspiel. There is free time for lunch, before continuing your travels through Bavaria. Enjoy an alpine slide adventure with an ascent by chair lift and a **toboggan run** with 41 s-turns and 17 steep curves at the **Blombergbahn**. Your day ends in the charming Alpine town of Fussen, where you can settle in, relax, and refresh. A traditional German **dinner** is served at the hotel, and then enjoy a good night's sleep after your journey.

day 3 – Fussen

Breakfast is served at the hotel, and each morning for the remainder of your trip. Transfer to the spectacular **Schloss Neuschwanstein** for a tour with audio guide. Local coach service is provided up to the castle, and after your visit there is time for a leisurely descent, with magical views from Mary's Bridge. In creating his fairytale castle, King Ludwig II was inspired by the operas of his friend, composer Richard Wagner; later, Disney found inspiration for his Sleeping Beauty castle. Return to Fussen, known for the creation of Europe's first lute-makers gild in 1562, as well as its organ building traditions. A tour with **local guide** includes entrance to the **Heritage Museum** and its collection of historic stringed instruments, and a walk through the medieval town center. **Present an area concert this evening at a local venue custom selected for your ensemble! There is the opportunity to make this an exchange and joint performance with a local ensemble. A warm-up rehearsal is provided prior to your performance.** **Dinner** is served at a local restaurant.

day 4 – Salzburg

Breakfast at the hotel. Make your way to the musical city of Salzburg, as you cross the border into Austria. There is free time for lunch, before meeting with a **local guide** who will introduce you to the magic of Salzburg, and one of the world's greatest composers—Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Highlights include **St. Sebastian's Cemetery**, and the Mozart family tomb, **Mirabell Gardens**, where you can follow in the footsteps of Maria and the Von Trapp Family, and the **Salzburgerdom**; here young Mozart made his home-town debut as a symphonist in 1766 at the age of 10. Entrance is included to **Mozart's Birthplace**, bringing life to his story. Stroll along the iconic Getreidegasse, a medieval alley full of shops and boutiques in pedestrian friendly Old Town. This evening enjoy **dinner** at a local restaurant within walking distance of the hotel, and scheduling permitting, you might enjoy being an audience member at a local performance.

KUONI
TUMLARE

day 5 – Salzburg

Breakfast at the hotel. Today's excursion highlights the area's beauty, including a morning tour through the Bavarian Mountains to visit the 450-year-old **Salt Mines**, and an afternoon exploration of film locations of the Sound of Music. Arrive at the mines and slip into traditional clothing to enter beneath the surface using the same slides as thousands of miners before. Descend into the grottos, and learn of the legendary tales of the underground, and the history of how salt changed everything for the locals. Your visit ends with a raft sail across the famous subterranean lake. Continue to the Salzkammergut region to see the incredible lake-and-mountain scenery of the opening titles of the famous movie. There's a stop at the grounds of Schloss Hellbrunn to see the original gazebo where Liesl and Franz sang to each other in the Sound of Music (entrance not included to the palace or fountains), and you'll pass by Nonnberg Convent, one of the oldest and still active nunneries in the world, and where Maria was a novice. Visit Mondsee's **Basilika St. Michael**, the beautiful wedding chapel from the Sound of Music. **There is the opportunity to present an informal performance at the Basilika, or perhaps provide a concert at a local venue custom selected for your ensemble! A warm-up rehearsal is provided prior to your performance.** There is free time to enjoy this picturesque little lakeside town before returning to Salzburg for the evening, and **dinner** at a local restaurant.

day 6 – Vienna

Breakfast at the hotel. Your journey continues as you depart Salzburg, and travel across central Austria to the Wachau Valley, one of the prettiest river valleys in all of Europe, and the heart of the apricot and wine region. You might consider scheduling a tasting to celebrate the region's harvests. There is a stop to visit the restored 18th century Baroque **Melk Abbey** where Benedictine monks have continually worked and lived since 1089. **There is the opportunity to provide an informal performance in Melk!** Afterward, board a **boat cruise** along the Danube River from Melk to Krems, a true Austrian gem with a delightful old town, with free time for lunch and to enjoy leisure time on your own or with your tour manager. End the day in Vienna, check-in to your hotel, refresh, and enjoy **dinner** at a local restaurant.

Alternatively, you may consider joining a **local guide for a somber visit of the nearby **Mauthausen Memorial**. By the summer of 1940, this had become one of the largest labor camp complexes in German-controlled Europe. The camps here were one of the first massive complexes in Nazi Germany, and were the last ones to be liberated by the Allies.*

day 7 – Vienna

Breakfast at the hotel. Enjoy sightseeing with a **local guide**, and further opportunities to study composers. Begin with a stroll through one of the largest cemeteries in the world, the **Zentralfriedhof**, to visit the final resting place of composers such as Beethoven, Brahms, Schubert, and Strauss. Continue with a panoramic drive along the magnificent Ringstrasse, before entering the historic city center for a visit of **St. Stephen's Cathedral** which held Mozart's funeral in 1791. **There is the opportunity to participate in the Cathedral's noon mass, and/or present a short concert! A warm-up rehearsal is provided prior to your performance.** There is free time for lunch and shopping, before visiting **Ludwig van Beethoven's Pasqualatihaus**, where he spent eight of his 35 years in Vienna, worked on the 4th, 5th, 7th, and 8th symphonies, and above all his opera "Fidelio". This evening enjoy **dinner** at a local restaurant, and the **Haus der Musik**, an interactive museum dedicated to sound and music where virtual technology allows visitors to conduct the fabled Vienna Philharmonic inside the Musikverein. Or you may prefer a more active evening, including **Viennese Waltz lessons**, and the opportunity to ballroom dance.

day 8 – Budapest

Breakfast at the hotel. Depart Vienna and transfer to the nearby town of Eisenstadt. A highlight of your visit is **Esterhazy Palace** and the beautiful **Hadynsaal**. Joseph Haydn lived and worked here as Prince Esterhazy's Kapellmeister for over 40 years. There is also time to visit the **Bergkirche**, to see Haydn's white marble tomb, and the **Hadynhaus**, the former residential building of the great composer. There is free time to enjoy the gardens, and lunch in the charming town center. Continue to Budapest, Hungary's historic and trendy capital city. Upon arrival, there is a stop for a grand sightline from the Citadel of the city straddling both sides of the Danube River. Visit the Castle Hill area, and enter **Fisherman's Bastion** with further views of the architectural splendor. Check-in to your hotel, and refresh. This evening enjoy **dinner** at a local restaurant serving traditional Hungarian fare.

day 9 – Budapest

Breakfast at the hotel. Join a **local guide** for an introduction to the “Little Paris of Central Europe” and the “Pearl of the Danube.” Buda and Pest, along with Óbuda, were united into a single city in 1873. Your guide will educate you of Hungary’s thousand-year history as you visit Castle Hill, **Fisherman’s Bastion**, and the 13th century **Matthias Church**; you will also see Parliament, the Royal Palace and the Chain Bridge, before discovering Heroes’ Square. Hungarian classical music is well known throughout the world, with composers such as Béla Bartók and Franz Liszt, and Budapest has well preserved its cultural and folk traditions. Visit the **Liszt Ferenc Memorial Museum**, or the Bela Bartok Conservatory. Continue to Vaci Street and enjoy leisure time for lunch and to collect souvenirs, or perhaps an opportunity to visit one of the city’s Turkish-era thermal spas. **Present your concert finale at a local venue custom selected for your ensemble! A warm-up rehearsal is provided prior to your performance.** Enjoy your last evening with a celebratory **dinner** at a local restaurant.

day 10 – Departure

A final **breakfast** is served at the hotel before transferring to the airport for your return flights home. Your tour manager will assist with airport check-in, and there is time for one last *bucsu*!

