

**Two of the performances during this tour were with Klammerchords Chorus from Langenfeld, Germany, and Palz Pepper Chorus, a chartered SAI Chorus in Kaiserslautern.**

### **Holland, Luxemburg, Germany**

**Day One** – Arrive in Amsterdam. After clearing customs, meet our driver/guide and motorcoach where you and your luggage will be loaded. Then we'll travel a bit south and west to Delft. This charming medieval city is famous for the blue-and-white porcelain that has been produced here since ancient times. We'll have a get-acquainted briefing followed by time for lunch and independent exploration. Then we'll head for Alphen an der Rijn where we'll be headquartered for the first three nights of our tour. They have a lovely restaurant and their own bird park, which is fun.



**Day Two** – We'll spend the full day in Amsterdam with sightseeing in the morning and free time in the afternoon. Before you leave on the tour, you can research Amsterdam and the things you are interested in seeing during your free time in the afternoon. Your guided tour of Amsterdam will be a general orientation, which will give you a sense of the layout of the city, a canal boat cruise and a visit to the Rijksmuseum. For the afternoon, you may visit the Van Gogh Museum and/or the Anne Frank House. The lines for Ann Frank House can be long, but it's worth the wait.



**Day Three** – After a leisurely breakfast, we'll take a drive to the east to Apeldoorn. We're here to visit the National Museum Paleis Het Loo. This palace was the home of the Dutch royal family until 1969 when Queen Juliana donated it to the nation. After extensive restoration, it was opened to the public in 1984. We can tour the palace and its beautiful gardens at our own pace. In the afternoon, we'll travel into the Flevoland. The newest of the Netherlands' provinces, the Flevoland is built on polders – land reclaimed from the sea by the industrious Dutch. We'll visit the Nieuw Land Poldermuseum and the Batavia, a replica of the 17<sup>th</sup> century Dutch East India Company merchant ship. Then we'll continue to the Scholengemeenschap in Lelystad where we'll spend the evening dining and singing with the New Land Singers Chorus.





**Day Four** – Depart early this morning to visit the world-famous **Alsemeer Flower Auction**. We'll have time to see the acres of fresh flowers and plants being readied for shipment to all parts of the globe and to observe the unique Dutch auction. Then we'll travel to the **Kinderdijk**, a UNESCO World Heritage site where we'll see several working windmills in a lovely pastoral setting. Continue from here into the little kingdom of **Belgium** and on to **Bastogne**, the scene of the World War II **Battle of the Bulge**. We'll see the gigantic **Mardasson**

**Monument** honoring the American soldiers who have their lives here. We will also visit the impressive **Bastogne Historical Center**. Then we'll check in at the nearby hotel for dinner and overnight.

**Day Five** – Travel into the Grand Duchy of **Luxembourg** to visit **Clervaux** in its remarkable setting on the River Clerve. We'll have a break of about an hour and a half to explore independently or visit the Chateau, a 12<sup>th</sup> century fortress that was renovated in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Then we'll continue into **Germany** and on to **Trier** the oldest city in Germany. Trier is known for its Roman artifacts and its picturesque location on the Moselle River. After time for lunch, we'll take a walking tour in Trier's historic core where we'll see the fine old square called the **Hauptmarkt** and the **Porta Nigra**. This four-story town gate was erected by the Romans in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century. We'll have some free time to shop and then we'll check in at our hotel for dinner and overnight.



**Day Six** – A morning drive takes us through the **Moselle Valley** where we'll enjoy views of vineyards, charming little towns and castle ruins. At **Cochem**, we'll stop to visit the **Reichsburg**, one of the most celebrated sites in the Rhineland. From there we'll join the autobahn for the drive to the majestic city of **Cologne**. Check in at the hotel for dinner and a two-night stay.

**Day Seven** – Plans for today will be built around the concert performance. Transfers to and from the performance site will be provided.

**Day Eight** – Travel to **Boppard** this morning and embark for a cruise on the most scenic part of the legendary Rhine River. We'll leave the steamer at **Bacharach**. After time to explore this delightful little city, do some shopping, and have lunch, we'll continue to **Mainz**. A visit to the **Mainzer Dom** is followed by hotel check-in and dinner.

**Day Nine** – The morning is at leisure in Mainz to visit the **Gutenberg Museum** or shop. Rendezvous back at the hotel for lunch at midday. After time to freshen up, we'll transfer to **Kaiserslautern**. A break for dinner is followed by an evening concert performance. Return to the hotel in Mainz for overnight.

**Day Ten** – Based on current flight schedules, a departure from the hotel is planned at 7:00 AM for the drive to **Frankfurt's Rhein-Main Airport**.



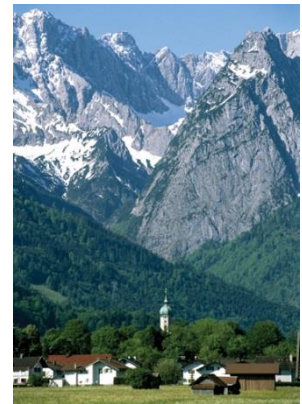
## BAVARIAN HOLIDAY EXTENSION



**Day Eleven** – After breakfast, we'll say good-bye to our traveling companions who are returning to the US today. Then we'll board our motor coach and head south and east on the autobahn. We'll reach Ulm at midday where we will have lunch. Ulm is a thriving commercial city, the birthplace of Albert Einstein. It is also home to the Ulm Munster, a Lutheran cathedral whose spire – at 528 feet – is the tallest in the world. If you're feeling ambitious, you can climb the 768 steps of the spire for a wonderful view of the town, the Danube, and the Alps. Then we'll continue our drive via Memmingem and

Kempton to Garmisch-Partenkirchen. This renowned Bavarian resort is popular the year around – and it's our home for the next two nights. A late afternoon arrival will give us an opportunity to look around before dinner is served at the hotel.

**Day Twelve** – The entire day is yours to do just as you please in **Garmisch**. The premiere attraction is, of course, the **Zugspitze**. At 9,724 feet, the Zugspitze is the highest peak on German territory and one of the most beautiful sights in Bavaria. The ascent up from Garmisch is via cog wheel train and cable car and takes about hour and 15 minutes. At the summit, a marvelous panorama of mountain peaks, lakes, and valleys awaits. Those who prefer to stay closer to earth today will have terrific time exploring the shops in Garmisch, visiting the lovely old parish church and strolling on the Philosophers' Way, which affords fine views of the surrounding mountains, including the Zugspitze.



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**Day Thirteen** – We've been in Europe for almost two weeks. With suitcases full of souvenirs – and hearts and minds full of all that we've have seen and done, we'll transfer to **Munich's Strauss Airport** to check in for the return flights home.