



# Splendours of Central Europe

9 OR 11 DAYS

### Included in the program fee:

- Round trip airfare
- Transfers to and from the airport and hotel and between destination cities (as per program itinerary)
- Overnight in hotels with private bathrooms
- Continental breakfast daily
- Dinner daily
- Full-time services of an EF Tour Director.

### Not included in the program fee:

- Customary gratuities for your tour director, local guide and driver
- Personal Insurance
- Porterage
- Beverages and lunches
- Public transportation to free time activities

Overnight stays: Budapest (2); Bratislava (1); Prague (2); Munich (2); Heidelberg (2).

### Sightseeing tours led by an expert:

Budapest; Prague; Munich; Heidelberg.

**Entrances included:** Food tour of Bratislava; Bratislava Castle; Prague Castle; Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Site; Porsche Factory Museum; Heidelberg Castle & Wine Barrel.

**Optional Excursions:** Budapest Baths; Czech Folklore Evening.

Please note that the following is a sample timed itinerary for this EF tour with approximate addresses, activity durations, and transfer times. Exact timing may vary based on available flights, hotel location, scheduled activity bookings, traffic, etc. Your EF Tour Director is available to the group 24/7 while on tour. EF works with Group Leaders to ensure that travellers have a safe and memorable experience while on tour.

### Day 1: Board your overnight flight to Budapest

Day 2: Budapest

# Morning: Arrive in Budapest and meet your Tour Director at the airport

Welcome to Budapest, a city that was formed from the union of two towns on either side of the Danube River. Budapest has long been known for its musical, theatrical and literary character, and attracts many tourists to its mineral springs and parks.

# 12:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

#### 2:00pm: Walking tour of Budapest

Join your Tour Director on a walking tour that introduces you to Budapest. Walk past the Parliament as well as up to the Fishermen's Bastion for a wonderful panoramic view of Hungary's capital.

6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Budapest

8:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Budapest

9:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 3: Budapest

6:00am: Wake-up call 7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel

8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to

central Budapest

#### 10:00am: Guided sightseeing of Budapest

With your local guide, drive down Andrassy Boulevard, past the State Opera House to the Hungarian Parliament, modeled on London's Houses of Parliament. Head up Castle Hill for a look at the Royal Palace, former home of the Hungarian monarchs. The castle has witnessed several invasions-the most recent occurred during WWII. Look for bullet holes in the outer walls, blasted by Russian tanks during the 1956 uprising.

# 12:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

### 3:00pm: Optional Activity - Budapest Baths

Budapest's Széchenyi Thermal Bath is the largest of its kind in Europe. This sprawling spa surrounds you in romantic Neo-baroque architecture. Relax in the indoor thermal baths or venture to the outdoor swimming pool, where you can play chess with locals on oversized boards. Later, explore nearby Heroes' Square and City Park's Vajdahunyad Castle, which features replicas of famous Hungarian landmarks.

\*if your group does not select this optional excursion, you will have supervised exploration time with your Group Leader and Chaperones

6:30pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Budapest

9:30pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Budapest

10:30pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 4: Budapest | Bratislava

6:00am: Wake-up call

7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel

8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to

Bratislava

Travel to Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia. The city is nestled along the Danube River and is bordered by both Austria and Hungary.

### 12:00pm: Food-themed guided tour of Bratislava

Experience Slovakian culture this aftenroon as you eat your way through Bratislava. You will taste traditional dishes like rozky - a pastry filled with walnuts and poppy seeds - and local beverages like kofola, Slovakia's famous soft drink.

3:00pm: Visit Bratislava Castle

6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Bratislava

8:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Bratislava

10:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 5: Bratislava | Prague

6:00am: Wake-up call

7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel

8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to Prague

Travel to Prague, former capital of the Holy Roman Empire. Dubbed the City of One Hundred Spires, the city boasts an enchanting mix of diverse architecture, Bohemian culture, and storied history.

# 12:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

#### 4:00pm: Walking tour of Prague

Your introduction to Prague begins with a Tour Director-led walking tour. As you stroll through the City of One Hundred Spires, pass the concert hall in which Mozart himself conducted the premiere of *Don Giovanni*.

# 6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Prague

# 7:30pm: Optional Excursion – Czech Folklore Evening

Experience a lively night of Bohemian spirit that will leave your hands clapping, your feet tapping and your face smiling. Enjoy an authentic Czech dinner as you are entertained by a folklore ensemble playing the country's best-known songs and performing traditional Czech and Moravian dances. Be sure to note the performers' traditional folk dress, or Kroje. It showed which village you were from and if you were single or married.

\*if your group does not select this optional excursion, you will have supervised exploration time with your Group Leader and Chaperones

# 10:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Prague

11:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 6: Prague

7:00am: Wake-up call

8:00am: Breakfast at the hotel

9:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to

central Prague

### 10:00am: Guided sightseeing of Prague

Explore the "City of a Hundred Spires" today by viewing the celebrated Prague Castle (Hradcany). In the castle's courtyard, you'll peek inside the magnificent St. Vitus Cathedral, which took over 600 years to complete. Afterwards, take a stroll across the Charles Bridge, adorned with 30 beautiful baroque statues, to the 13th-century Old Town (Stare Mesto). Here you'll see Market Square, famous for its 15th-century astronomical clock.

# 1:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

### 3:00pm: Visit Prague Castle

Enjoy a tour of the largest coherent castle complex in the world. Learn about its history, which dates back to the 9<sup>th</sup>-century.

6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Prague

8:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Prague

10:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

#### Day 7: Prague | Munich

6:00am: Wake-up call

7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel

8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to

Munich

Welcome to Munich! This center of culture boasts over 45 museums, 10 university buildings, two opera houses, and the Olympic center with full facilities.

# 1:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

### 3:00pm: Visit the Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Site

Head to Dachau, home of a WWII Nazi concentration camp in 1933 and liberated by Allies in 1945. Today, the old administration building houses a museum documenting the rise of Hitler and the horrors of camp life. Commemorative chapels and memorials have also been built on the site, which stands as an eternal memorial to those who endured life here until liberation by Allied forces.

6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Munich

8:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Munich

10:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 8: Munich

6:00am: Wake-up call

7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel

8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to central

Munich

#### 10:00am: Guided Sightseeing of Munich

Munich derives from the city's German name, München (meaning 'little monk'), named because the original settlement bordered a monastery. Hop on the bus where your guided tour takes you past the Olympic Stadium, the Residenz, the Deutsches Museum, and the Alte Pinakothek art museum. Your tour concludes at Marienplatz, the city's main square and medieval heart since 1158. Here you'll see the city's famed Glockenspiel-an ornate clock complete with bells and life size figures.

1:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

3:00pm: Walking tour of the English Garden

6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central

Munich

8:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel

in Munich

10:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will

facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 9: Depart for Home

4:30am: Wake-Up Call 5:30am: Breakfast at Hotel

6:30am: Transfer to the airport for your return

flight

Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you will check in for your return flight

home.

The itinerary is subject to change.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at <a href="https://www.eftours.ca/bc">www.eftours.ca/bc</a>.

# For an additional cost add the following 2-day extension:

### Day 9: Munich | Stuttgart | Heidelberg

6:00am: Wake-up call

7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel

8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to

Heidelberg via Stuttgart

## 12:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

1:30pm: Walking tour of Stuttgart

### 3:00pm: Visit the Porsche Factory Museum

Visit the famous Porsche Factory Museum in downtown Stuttgart this morning. You will have the opportunity to see some of Porsche's latest creations and personally experience their cutting-edge technology. Try to pay special attention to the incredible architecture of the building, as well as the beautiful automobiles.

6:00pm: Group dinner at the hotel in the Heidelberg

9:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 10: Heidelberg

6:00am: Wake-up call

7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel

8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to

central Heidelberg

#### 10:00am: Guided Sightseeing of Heidelberg

Become acquainted with Germany's oldest university city (the university dates back to 1386). See Heidelberg's 700-year-old Schloß (palace) and its famous Faß (wine barrel), the world's largest. From the castle's rose-colored walls and historic battlements, enjoy a stunning view of the Neckar Valley, where Homo heidelbergensis roamed 500,000 years ago. You'll also see the town's medieval streets and Marktplatz, where witches were once burned at the stake. Writers as diverse as Mark Twain (who once floated down the Neckar on a raft) and Goethe (who was inspired by the view from the Schloß) have long praised Heidelberg's enduring beauty.

# 1:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

# 3:00pm: Supervised exploration time in Heidelberg

Take the rest of the day to further explore the quaint German city of Heidelberg in small, supervised groups. Perhaps you will choose to explore the Philosophers' Walk, a famous route which has inspired many philosophers and teachers walking along it for centuries. The route was established in 1817 and reaches an altitude of 200 meters. Alternatively, you may enjoy a visit to Heidelberg University or a stop in at its Studentenkarzer ("student prison" (where students from as far back as the 1600s have stayed and decorated the walls in graffiti.

# 5:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Heidelberg

7:00pm: Group dinner at the hotel in the Heidelberg

9:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 11: Depart for Home

4:30am: Wake-Up Call 5:30am: Breakfast at Hotel

6:30am: Transfer to the airport for your return

flight

Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you will check in for your return flight home.

The itinerary is subject to change.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at www.eftours.ca/bc.



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