



Guided Motorhome Tours



Classic Europe

UNITED IN DIVERSITY

TOUR START TOUR AREA

0 100 200 km

Five cultures in one sweep

Duration: 31 days

Driving distance overall: about 3100 kilometres / 1930 miles

Countries visited: Germany, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria



Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 Arrive at the Frankfurt airport and hotel or at your campsite if you bring your own vehicle. Both - hotel and campsite - are located in a wonderful medieval village near Mannheim. Enjoy a stroll through its ancient alleyways! Did you know that the first car ever was invented nearby? Look forward to local cuisine as a welcome dinner in the evening.

Day 2 In the morning we have time to do some sightseeing of the area. This could include a visit to world-famous Heidelberg and its mighty castle. In the afternoon we introduce you to your motorhome and prepare it for the big adventure ahead.

Day 3 It's time to hit the road. After a short drive we arrive at our first campsite in the shadow of a mighty castle, directly situated at the Rhine river and just opposite the world-famous Loreley rock. The location offers several charming sightseeing opportunities within walking distance or by ferry.

The Black Forest



Day 4 Our Rhine cruise offers splendid views of the many famous castles and vineyards. On our way back we will explore one of the historic villages along the river. You've already done a Rhine cruise? We have thrilling alternatives.

Day 5 Enjoy a scenic drive through the vineyards of the German Wine Route. You know the story of the legendary crusader Richard the Lionheart? But did you know that Richard was captured and held at our destination's castle? We will show you this place as well as the romantic streets of our host village.

Day 6 We cross the border to France, browse the Alsace and stay at a gem of a village. After some sightseeing we will enjoy a traditional Alsatian dinner like Tarte Flambée or Choucroute Garnie (Sauerkraut cooked in wine with various sausages and bacon. Huge!).

Day 7 Still in the Alsace, we follow a mountain road with fantastic panoramic views of villages, lakes, forests and Germany to the east. We



View of the German Alps

stay overnight at another enchanted historic village under the wings of the Alsatian heraldic animal, the stork.

Day 8 We make a day trip to Colmar, the "capital of Alsatian wine" with its well preserved old town and numerous architectural landmarks. We also find out why a part of the city is called Little Venice.

Day 9 Grüezi and welcome to Switzerland! A picturesque French-Swiss river shows us the way and soon you'll see the first alpine foothills. Have you ever wondered why (and how) there are holes in Swiss cheese? We'll show you the making of the original in a tour of a Swiss cheese dairy.

Day 10 In the afternoon we arrive at the Italian shore of the magnificent Lake Maggiore. Our host is a pretty village rich in history where we will reward ourselves with pizza,

ice-cream and an espresso. The real stuff.

Day 11 & 12 Time to relax. We have several options for lake cruises to pretty villages at the Italian part of the lake with their very particular charm. Become a Southerner.

Day 13 We move on to our second lake in Italy. Mary Shelley, the *Frankenstein* novelist, wrote: "I wish I could by my imperfect words bring before you not only the grander features, but every minute peculiarity, every varying hue, of this matchless scene. The progress of each day brings with it its appropriate change."

Day 14 The best way to discover this matchless scene is a boat cruise - numerous villages, historical villas and parks line the lake shore. Stopovers allow you to visit some of the most picturesque places around the lake.



Lake Maggiore, Italy

Day 15 We move on through Italy, cross the border to Austria and after a beautiful drive we arrive in the afternoon at our campsite in the middle of the Alps. Relax and enjoy the scenery.

Day 16 Heading north, we drive to the Italian state of Tyrol. The romantic village where we stay has always attracted artists and poets with its colourful facades, overlooked by Gothic churches.

Day 17 From our village we do a trip to the home of Ötzi the Iceman, Europe's oldest known natural human mummy. A guided tour will reveal all of his secrets. And we have plenty of time to explore his lovely new home town.

Day 18 We stay near Austria's highest waterfall, with an overall drop of around 400 metres. We walk the waterfall trail with numerous view points and platforms. Closer to

the thundering water masses you can't get.

Day 19 After a stunning drive we are back in Germany. We stay at Germany's third deepest lake, where the pristine water is surrounded by steeply-rising flanks of mountains, including the Watzmann massif.

Day 20 Here in the south-western Alps, you can still hear echoes of the past. On our boat tour of the Königssee lake it has become a tradition to stop and play a trumpet to demonstrate the echo from the sheer rock faces. We will stop in at St. Bartholomew's Church and then have a walk through the incredible scenery.

Day 21 Today you have several options for exciting adventures to choose from. What about a visit to the Eagle's Nest, which offers a breath-taking view, but has a sad history? Or a trip to Mozart's beauti-

ful Salzburg where street musicians play their music at every corner? Both destinations are within convenient distance.

Day 22 We will have a relaxed drive on the lovely German Alpine road. There is so much to discover: deep clear lakes, rushing mountain streams and other characteristic Bavarian sights. Finally we arrive at our campsite near Neuschwanstein castle. This day includes sightseeing in quaint Füssen nearby. What about a couple of Bavarian *Weißwurst*?

Day 23 King Ludwig is awaiting you. Visit the castles of Neuschwanstein and Hohenschwangau. Two guided tours will provide you with information about the unhappy Bavarian king and his family, the history of that time and much more. Been there already? We have sight-seeing tips for treasures off the beaten track.

Day 24 Our next destination, Lake Constance, is situated at the foot of the Alps. Here we relax for 3 days.

Day 25 Today we have enough time for an excursion to the beautiful garden island Mainau in the midst of the lake. Not to be missed, even if you don't have a green thumb. The island is also famous for its castle and the Butterfly House.

Day 26 There is so much to discover around Lake Constance. How about a visit to the ancient past? The Pfahlbauten is an archaeological open air museum with reconstructions of lake pile dwellings from 4000 BC. Or how about a trip to the oldest inhabited castle in Germany, situated on a hill in the middle of a cobblestoned village?

Day 27 Border hopping! Back in Switzerland, where we marvel at the Rhine Falls, the largest waterfall in Europe, before we again cross the



Neuschwanstein Castle, Bavaria

Swiss Dairy



border to Germany and explore parts of the Black Forest. Enjoy a quiet evening surrounded by mighty firs.

Day 28 Today we explore typical Black Forest villages with their half-timbered houses and visit a spectacular open air-museum.



The French Alsace

Day 29 On our way back we spend the night in the very centre of a typical winemaker village. Expect a savoury dinner with an exquisite glass of wine.

Day 30 After returning the motorhome we arrive at our starting point again. In the evening we celebrate our adventures with a "modest" farewell dinner.

Day 31 This is your departure day. For our flight passengers, transport to Frankfurt airport is included.



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Rhine river cruise

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