

GOLD TOUR TENTATIVE PRICE OF \$***.00 ***
(Including Airline Taxes and Fuel Surcharges of about \$650.00)

ITINERARY

Wednesday, July 5 - Friday, July 7

Check-in at Millersville University outside of Lancaster, PA for pre-tour orientation sessions. Three days of intensive rehearsals culminate with a Farewell Concert for family and friends on the evening on July 7.

Saturday, July 8 - JFK AIRPORT - ZURICH

Morning orientation sessions. Afternoon transfer to JFK Airport, NY for transatlantic flights to Europe.

Sunday, July 9 - ZURICH - ENGELBERG

Arrive in Zurich, Switzerland. Board coaches and travel to Engelberg, a town surrounded by snow-capped mountains. Tonight, take a cable car to a restaurant high in the Alps for a special Swiss dinner.

Monday, July 10 - ENGELBERG - LUCERNE

Your morning is free to shop for Swiss treasures and to explore the lovely village of Engelberg. This afternoon, visit beautiful Lucerne, poised on a lake. Time to browse through the old section of the city, view the panorama of medieval towers, cross the 14th century *Kapellbrücke* (roofed wooden bridge) and visit the lion monument carved out of rock. Late afternoon return to Engelberg. This evening's dinner features Alpine horn entertainment.

Tuesday, July 11 - SPA TOWN, ITALY

Journey through some of the most dramatic scenery in the world as you weave southward across the Alps. The towering peaks give way to the secluded valleys and rich green landscape of northern Italy. Dinner, an evening concert and overnight in a spa town outside of Venice.



Wednesday, July 12 - VENICE

Venice, built on 717 islands with 150 canals and 400 bridges, invites idleness and strolling. Visit the Piazza San Marco where tourists and Venetians sit at the terraces of famous cafes, sample old world delicacies and listen to music. Pause for pictures of the magnificent St. Mark's Cathedral and the rose-colored Doges' Palace. Meander along the narrow streets and over bridges or perhaps hire a gondola for a memorable ride under the Bridge of Sighs. Return to the spa town for dinner and overnight.

Thursday, July 13 - CROATIA

Today's travel takes you eastward through the farmland of northern Italy and then south into the Istrian Peninsula of Croatia. Once part of the Hapsburg Empire, Croatia was absorbed into Yugoslavia after World War II. The country declared independence in 1991 and became a member of the European Union in July 2013. Arrive in Poreč, a seaside town fast becoming a favorite resort destination. Tonight's dinner is accompanied by folkloric entertainment.

Friday, July 14 - ISTRIAN PENINSULA

Free time this morning in Poreč to explore the historical Roman town. Afternoon excursion to the fishing village of Rovinj. Stroll along the lovely port area and browse in the shops filled with handicrafts. Perhaps climb the narrow, cobbled streets to the church overlooking the town for a wonderful view of the Adriatic. Perform an evening concert before returning to Poreč for overnight.



Saturday, July 15 - ISTRIAN PENINSULA

Your morning is free to enjoy the pools or beach at your hotel on the Adriatic Sea. Afternoon travel to the city of Pula. Your guided tour will introduce you to the numerous Roman ruins throughout the city, including one of the largest and best-preserved amphitheaters in all of Europe. An evening concert is planned. Return to Poreč for overnight.

Sunday, July 16 - LJUBLJANA

Travel northward into the small nation of Slovenia. Journey underground for a fascinating tour among the stalagmites and stalactites in the Postojna Caves. Continue to Ljubljana, Slovenia's beautiful Baroque capital. Evening guided tour of the old town area.

Monday, July 17 - LJUBLJANA

Morning visit to Ljubljana Castle. Free time for lunch and exploring the Old Town. Stroll along the river and down streets lined with 19th century buildings reflecting the height of the Hapsburg Empire. Tonight, perform a concert in a nearby town.

Tuesday, July 18 - LAKE BLEED - WESTENDORF

Travel north through the Slovenian countryside. Stop at Lake Bled for lunch and to view the beautiful medieval fortress overlooking the lake. Afternoon travel into the Austrian Alps to Westendorf, a picturesque village in the Tirolean Region. Tonight, take part in a spirited Tirolean Folk Fest filled with song and dance indigenous to the area.

Wednesday, July 19 - WESTENDORF

Today is free for exploring Westendorf - perhaps some swimming, biking or hiking. A ski lift ride provides a fantastic view of the valley. Perform an evening concert for an appreciative audience.

Thursday, July 20 - RATTENBERG - GLACIER

Morning visit to the charming town of Rattenberg, noted for its handicrafts and crystal. Next, ride a cable car high into the Alps to a glacier for a spectacular panorama of ice-capped mountains and sheltered valleys. Travel to a nearby village for dinner and an evening concert. Return to Westendorf for overnight.



Friday, July 21 - SALZBURG - LAKE CHIEMSEE AREA

Travel to Salzburg, city of *The Sound of Music* and Mozart's home town. Your guided tour will introduce you to the rich history and numerous sights of this wonderful city. Free time to visit the birthplace of the musical genius and the imposing fortress which dominates the Salzburg landscape. Late afternoon travel to the area of Lake Chiemsee for dinner and overnight.

Saturday, July 22 - LAKE CHIEMSEE

Today's excursion takes you to Lake Chiemsee. Journey by boat to island-bound Herrenchiemsee, a palace built by the eccentric King Ludwig II as a replica of the Palace of Versailles. Free time along the shores for lunch and to enjoy the lake. Perform an evening concert in a nearby town.

Sunday, July 23 - DACHAU - MUNICH - WINTERTHUR

Journey through the Bavarian region of Germany, known for woodcarving and lederhosen. Following a sobering visit to the World War II Concentration Camp at Dachau, stop in Munich for independent lunch in the historical Marienplatz area. Afternoon travel to Winterthur, Switzerland for dinner and overnight.

Monday, July 24 - ZURICH - JFK AIRPORT

Transfer to Zurich Airport for return to JFK Airport, NY via scheduled flights on Swiss International Air Lines. Welcome Home!

Itinerary is subject to change if deemed necessary.

** The price of \$*****.00 is tentative. The price will be reconfirmed in September 2016 once the airfare price is confirmed.*

The **GOLD TOUR** tentative cost of \$****.00 per person includes:

- ☞ 3-day pre-tour orientation/rehearsal session at Millersville University. Included are meals, lodging and coach transportation of participants and instruments from the college to JFK Airport.
- ☞ Round-trip air transportation on scheduled flights on Swiss International Air Lines.
- ☞ Transportation via motor coach throughout the itinerary, including transfers to airports.
- ☞ Concert publicity and transfers to concert sites.
- ☞ Transportation of instruments.
- ☞ Accommodations in excellent quality hotels in multiple-occupancy rooms with private bath and toilet.
- ☞ Breakfast and multi-course dinner daily.
- ☞ The services of an English-speaking escort and nurse throughout the land portion of the itinerary.
- ☞ All tips and taxes normally appearing on hotel and restaurant bills, including 20-22% VAT. Cable car trip to dinner in the Swiss Alps.
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- ☞ Dinner with Alpine horn entertainment in Switzerland.
- ☞ Round trip boat transportation into Venice.
- ☞ Dinner with folkloric entertainment in Croatia.
- ☞ Guided sightseeing tour of Pula including entrance to Roman amphitheater.
- ☞ Entrance and guided tour of Postojna Caves.
- ☞ Guided sightseeing tour of Ljubljana.
- ☞ Entrance to Ljubljana Castle.
- ☞ Tirolean Evening with folkloric entertainment.
- ☞ Cable car trip to a glacier in Austria.
- ☞ Guided sightseeing tour of Salzburg.
- ☞ Boat transportation to and guided tour of Herrenchiemsee Palace.
- ☞ American Music Abroad shirt, passport pouch, blazer patch, and pin.
- ☞ American Music Abroad travel tips, newsletters, information and materials.

The tour price does NOT include: Expenses of passports, visas (if necessary), baggage charges, currency adjustment surcharges, tour escort and coach driver tip, forwarding of baggage, transportation charges incurred as a result of a deviation from the printed itinerary, insurance, loss of personal property, expenses for laundry, mineral waters, soft drinks, after dinner coffee/tea, or food or beverages not on menus of the included meals and all other items not specifically stated in the preceding list.



Roman Ampitheatre, Pula



Ljubljana

American Music Abroad was founded in 1975 by a high school band director and his wife to fulfill their dream of sharing their love of Europe with high school students, college students and adults.

The focus of our student tours is tri-fold: musical, cultural and educational.

We believe that music is truly an “international language” and it is our mission to provide opportunities for musical exchange fostering better understanding and friendship. Our concerts provide a basis to bridge the gap between languages and cultures so that, at least on the musical level, the participants and audience connect and communicate. Our groups feature a repertoire that represents the diverse cultures of America.

The numerous cultural and educational experiences built into each tour range from folkloric evenings to visits to castles and World War II concentration camps. Guided tours provide a chance to learn about the local history as well as insight into the culture of the people.

We strive to not only give the participating students an expanded view of the world and an exceptional music performance experience, but also encourage self-reliance within a group atmosphere. It is our hope that, as a result of the tour, the students become more mature and responsible young adults.



Lucerne

The 2017 Gold Tour will have students from New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Connecticut. We anticipate the tour having 100 - 140 members forming a Symphonic Band and Choir.

The ensemble directors and their spouses serve as chaperones. Mr. Keith Hodgson, the Head Director of the Gold Tour, has traveled with us for eighteen years. The majority of the other directors have at least four years of travel experience with American Music Abroad. Biographies of all directors will be available on the website in September. Also traveling with the tour is a full-time experienced tour escort and a nurse.