

Alpine Adventures in Agriculture Germany, Austria, Liechtenstein & Switzerland Maymester 12-23, 2025

Monday (May 12) - Depart Chicago for your overnight non-stop flight to Munich.

Day 1 Tuesday (May 13) - Upon arrival, meet your guide and take a private bus to Switzerland. Enroute visit Fendt Manufacturing main headquarters and see the tractors, combines, harvesters, loaders and more on display at their product forum https://www.fendt.com/de/). Enjoy local specialties at lunch in the Fendt restaurant. Cross into Austria and then Switzerland as we round Lake Constance and continue to our hotel. Tonight, welcome dinner in your hotel in Fribourg in French-speaking Switzerland.

Overnight Fribourg (L,D) https://all.accor.com/hotel/B971/index.en.shtml



Day 2 Wednesday (May 14) - Morning tour of Agroscope, Switzerland's center of excellence for agricultural research. They aim to make a significant contribution to sustainable agriculture and food production. They focus on animal and animal products, plant products, method development and analytics. We continue to Gruyere for a tour of cheesemaking with tasting at La Maison du Gruyere followed by lunch.

www.ExplorationsByThor.com

After lunch visit the village and lastly visit the Cailler Chocolate Factory with a sampling. Free evening for dinner.

Overnight Fribourg (B,L) https://all.accor.com/hotel/B971/index.en.shtml



Day 3 Thursday (May 15) - This morning we will visit a breeder of champion Bernese Mountain dogs in a small village in the Emmental. Learn about the breed and village life in Switzerland. We continue to the UNESCO Reserve Entlebuch where we will enjoy lunch followed by a visit to a water buffalo farm who provides the milk for local mozzarella cheese. Finally we continue to Lucerne/Kriens where we will spend the night and also visit a typical community garden community. Free for dinner. *Overnight Lucerne*

(B,L) https://all.accor.com/hotel/2982/index.en.shtml



Day 4 Friday (May 16) - This morning we visit a local organic farmer of cut flowers who provides flowers to most supermarkets in Switzerland. Next, visit Mt. Pilatus (6,982 ft.) for stunning views of the area followed by a tour of Lucerne including a stop at the Lion

www.ExplorationsByThor.com

Monument. Free on your own for dinner this evening. *Overnight Lucerne* (B,L) https://all.accor.com/hotel/2982/index.en.shtml



Day 5 Saturday (May 17) - Stop in Vaduz, Lichtenstein for a quick walk before traveling into Innsbruck, Austria (home of the 1976 winter Olympics). Lunch, at a famous Tirolean travelers rest area. After lunch, we visit a local farmer who converted his family's former dairy farm into an apple and pear farm, growing near-perfect fruit. These fruits are turned into Tirol's famous digestive, Schnapps. Learn about the artisanal distillery and enjoy a tasting. This afternoon we visit a local farmer who has added successful direct retail to his dairy, pig and egg farm located between beautiful Alpine views. Enjoy a free evening in Innsbruck!

(Overnight Innsbruck)

(B,L)

https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/innac-ac-hotel-innsbruck/overview/



Day 6 Sunday (May 18) - Depart this morning through the German Alps route to Fussen to visit Neuschwanstein Castle (the castle that inspired the creation of Walt Disney's Sleeping Beauty). Enjoy some free time to explore the Marienbrücke (bridge)

www.ExplorationsByThor.com

for castle views and have lunch before traveling to Innsbruck. This afternoon get to know Innsbruck during a tour of Innsbruck and then enjoy a trip into the alps on the Hungerburgbahn, a funicular-train whose valley station was designed by Zaha Hadid. Dinner with a Tyrolean Folk Show!

(Overnight Innsbruck)

(B,L)

https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/innac-ac-hotel-innsbruck/overview/



Day 7 Monday (May 19) - This morning we travel to Hallein, the location of a famous salt mine which has been in use since the Celts lived here and was the source of Salzburgs wealth for centuries. There, we visit the Agricultural Vocational School where apprentices in agriculture spend 3 years preparing for their careers.

Next we continue to Salzburg, the city of Mozart and filming location for the beloved film, "The Sound of Music." Enjoy a walking tour of the town and see the house where Mozart was born, the venues of Salzburg's world famous music festival and the many *Sound of Music* filming locations. Dinner in a typical beer garden.

(Overnight Salzburg)

(B,L,D)

https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/salzburg/szghi/hoteldetail

www.ExplorationsByThor.com



Day 8 Tuesday (May 20) - In the morning visit a beef farm which operates a complete operation from growing feed and raising the beef, slaughtering and butchering as well as a retail butcher shop and 24-hour self-service farm stand. Enjoy lunch there to sample their products. Later in the afternoon, depart for a guided tour of the Dachau concentration camp. This facility opened in 1933 and was originally designed for forced labor and to hold political prisoners. Check into our hotel in the TU-Munich Research Village in Garching.

Overnight Munich

(B,L)

https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/muccg-courtyard-munich-garching/overvie w/



Day 9 Wednesday (May 21) - Depart Munich to visit the Horsch-Leep manufacturing plant. This company focuses on research and design, along with assembly and advisory services. Lunch will take place at the plant.

In the afternoon we will visit a farm and retail operation in Bavaria's most famous asparagus growing region. There we will experience each facet of white asparagus

www.ExplorationsByThor.com

farming, Germany's favorite vegetable. This is grown very differently from how it is grown in the US and accounts for 18% of all German produce.

Overnight Munich

(B,L)

https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/muccg-courtyard-munich-garching/overvie w/



Day 10 Thursday (May 22) - In the morning, travel to Munich and explore the amazing city during a city tour. Stops include the 'green' market and the food market as well. After lunch we will visit the School of Veterinary Sciences at the TU-Munich led by members of the veterinary student organization.

Farewell dinner in one of Munich's most famous brewery's Beer Hall and Garden.

After dinner stay in the center and take the subway back to the hotel.

Overnight Munich

(B,L,D)

https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/muccg-courtyard-munich-garching/overvie w/



WWW.ExplorationsByThor.com This itinerary remains the property of Explorations by Thor and is subject to change without notice. Its unauthorized use, in whole or in part, is an infringement of copyright laws.

Day 11 Friday (May 23) - (Two bus transfers included prior to noon). In the morning, transfer to the airport for your return non-stop flight back home.(B)