

# ALPINE EXPLORER

## Featuring the Glacier Express and the Oberammergau Passion Play

Feel the Power, See the Glory, Experience the Passion

May – September 2010 • 11 Days

16 Meals • 9 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 6 Dinners

Join Cruisenet Tours & Travel Inc and experience magnificent scenery and intriguing history and culture as you explore Switzerland, Austria and Germany – enjoy a spectacular train ride through pristine Alpine scenery aboard the world-famous Glacier Express. In addition, travel to the Bavarian village of Oberammergau for an unforgettable performance of the Passion Play.

The world-renowned Oberammergau Passion Play began in 1634 when residents from the town sought reprieve from the Bubonic Plague. The inhabitants of the village vowed that if God were to spare them from the Plague, they would perform a play every ten years depicting the life and death of Jesus. Not a single person fell victim to the Plague after the villagers promise. That first performance sparked a heartfelt tradition that lives on today.

The Passion Play performances will begin again in 2010, when thousands of Oberammergau's residents will once again display this powerful story. Performed just once every 10 years – don't wait another decade for this incredible experience.

Read on but don't delay - call us today to reserve your seat as space is very limited.

### Day 1 Depart CANADA

Overnight flight to Europe.

### Day 2 STRESA / LAGO MAGGIORE

Your tour begins in picturesque Stresa on Lago Maggiore. Tonight you are transported by boat to Isola dei Pescatori, one of the most characteristic islands of the Borromeo Gulf. Enjoy a delicious meal while surrounded by beautiful scenery. D

### Day 3 STRESA / LUGANO / STRESA

Today, drive through the beautiful Lake District of Italy, cross into Switzerland and the lakeside resort of Lugano. Here you will enjoy beautiful views of Lake Lugano and excellent shopping opportunities. The remainder of the day is at leisure to enjoy the lake area. B

### Day 4 STRESA / ZERMATT

Depart Stresa for a scenic motorcoach ride into the heart of the Alpine mountains. The breathtaking views of the Italian and Swiss Alps will leave a lasting impression on you. Upon arrival in Taesch, board a local train for the short ride to the spectacular Alpine village of Zermatt. BD

### Day 5 ZERMATT

Following an orientation tour of the village, the balance of the day is at leisure. Get an up-close look at the famed Matterhorn, enjoy some fine shopping or just relax at your hotel. B

### Day 6 ZERMATT / GLACIER EXPRESS / ST MORITZ

Today you board the famous Glacier Express. Be prepared for an unforgettable train ride on the world's most exciting narrow-gauge railway. You travel through a series of tunnels and bridges as you traverse some of the most spectacular Alpine scenery in the world: majestic mountains, verdant valleys, picturesque canyons, glistening glaciers and snowcapped peaks. Your destination is St Moritz, playground of the rich and famous. BD

### Day 7 ST MORITZ / INNSBRUCK

Enjoy your drive through the picturesque Engadine Valley. Shortly, you cross into Austria and continue along the scenic Inn Valley. Arriving in the capital of the Austrian Tyrol, Innsbruck, time is allowed for lunch, independent sightseeing and shopping. Be sure not to miss the famous Golden Roof. B

### Day 8 INNSBRUCK / SALZBURG / INNSBRUCK

Drive through the Austrian countryside to historic Salzburg, one of Europe's most beautiful and romantic spots. Enjoy a leisurely walking tour of Salzburg's historic "Old Town" - The Altstadt. Your sightseeing includes such highlights as the Cathedral, Mozart's birthplace and Mirabell Gardens. You will not be able to miss locations from the "Sound of Music". The afternoon will be at leisure. Tonight, enjoy dinner at the centuries-old St Peter's Restaurant. BD

### Day 9 INNSBRUCK / MUNICH / OBERAMMERGAU

You drive a short distance to the frontier of Germany, crossing the border into Bavaria. Soon you arrive in the Bavarian capital of Munich where you have a walking tour featuring the Marienplatz, the Glockenspiel and the Olympic Park. Next, depart for the quaint village of Oberammergau, nestled in the Bavarian Alps. BD

### Day 10 OBERAMMERGAU / PASSION PLAY

This afternoon, witness a performance of the Passion Play. The original performance dates back to 1634. During the Thirty Year War, the village of Oberammergau was spared the Black Plague and for this reason, the villagers vowed that every ten years they would give a play to honour the life of Christ. The performers are native Oberammergauers. To lend authenticity to the performance, the cast start to grow their hair and beards more than a year in advance. Also, the intricate costumes are made locally by the villagers. During the break of the performance, join your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner celebrating the end of a memorable trip. BLD

### Day 11 Return to CANADA

Your tour ends today in Oberammergau. B

YOUR ITINERARY AT A GLANCE (hotels subject to change)	
Day 1	Overnight flight
Day 2, 3	Stresa Hotel, Stresa
Day 4, 5	Hotel Alex, Zermatt
Day 6	Hotel Monopol, St Moritz
Day 7, 8	Hotel Innsbruck, Innsbruck
Day 9, 10	Oberammergau Hotel, Oberammergau or Partenkirchen Hotel, Garmisch
Day 11	Return to Canada

### INCLUSIONS

- Roundtrip airfare from Toronto to Milan/from Munich
- Complimentary roundtrip door-to-door transfers from your home to Toronto airport (within 100km radius)
- Roundtrip airport/hotel transfers
- Ticket to the Oberammergau Passion Play
- 9 nights in first-class hotels as indicated (or similar)
- 16 meals as indicated (B – breakfast, L – lunch, D – dinner) with many special dinners/evenings
- Insurance waiver (cancellation & medical insurance)
- Services of a professional tour manager throughout your trip
- Sightseeing as indicated with local English-speaking guides
- Taxes, service fees for included services

### HIGHLIGHTS

Stresa • Lago Maggiore • Lugano • Zermatt • Glacier Express Train • St Moritz • Innsbruck • Salzburg • St Peter's Restaurant • Munich • Oberammergau Passion Play

### DEPARTURE DATES

Month	Dates
May	9, 11, 18
June	1, 4, 6, 8, 22, 27, 29
July	6, 11, 13, 20, 25
August	3, 8, 10, 17, 20, 24
September	3, 7, 14, 17, 21

For your information, the Salzburg Summer Music Festival is held during the month of August.

Dinner in Salzburg may be on another evening due to limited availability.

### TOUR COST

Twin Rates, Per Person in Canadian Dollars

Price includes airfare from Toronto & tax, insurance waiver (cancellation & medical insurance)

Departures from May 1 – June 15 \$5974

Departures from June 16 – September 30 \$6374

Single Supplement (\*excluding Oberammergau) On Request

Prices from other Canadian gateways available – please call for details.

Please note that single accommodations are extremely limited and are available on a first come, first served basis. \*Please note that singles will be required to share accommodation in Oberammergau due to limited hotel availability. Also, triple and child rates are not available.

**Important: Itinerary and pricing subject to change. Fluctuating exchange rates, rising fuel prices and airfares do not allow us to provide accurate pricing for 2010. Prices listed are based on rates as of 2008 and revised pricing will be available in 2009. We reserve the right to alter prices after that time, should world economic factors force us to.**

This tour is operated in conjunction with Collette Vacations. Family owned and operated with 90 years of excellence in worldwide escorted touring vacations.

If you have not purchased air through Collette Vacations and wish to purchase transfers, you must transfer at pre-scheduled times.

All tours will be subject to the finalization of play tickets. In the event that Collette Vacations cancels the tour, you will be refunded 100%.

Due to flight restrictions, you may require an early morning departure from your hotel.

Order of events subject to change on some departure dates.

Any visa fees, if applicable, are extra.

### Deposits

Initial deposit of \$500 per person + \$375 mandatory insurance waiver (cancellation & medical insurance) is due at time of booking.

Additional deposit of \$1000 per person is due 365 days prior to departure.

Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure.

**Important:** Purchase of the insurance waiver guarantees a full refund of all payments made to Cruisenet Tours & Travel Inc/Collette Vacations (including deposit), except the actual cost of the insurance waiver itself, for travel arrangements in case of cancellation of your travel plans for any reason prior to the day of departure.

To book on this tour, complete the enclosed registration form and send it to Cruisenet Tours & Travel Inc with your cheque and/or credit card authorization.

## CRUISENET TOURS & TRAVEL INC

2904 South Sheridan Way Suite 200

Oakville ON L6J 7L7

Tel: 905-829-0111 / Fax: 905-829-4011

Toll Free: 1-800-387-2055

Email: [sales@cruisenet.ca](mailto:sales@cruisenet.ca)

Website: [www.cruisenet.ca](http://www.cruisenet.ca)

