



Experience the best of Italy and The Oberammergau Passion Play

In 2020, the small Bavarian village of Oberammergau will host the 42nd Oberammergau Passion Play. Oberammergau sprawls along the pretty Ammer River valley in the alpine region of Upper Bavaria, 90 minutes southwest of Munich. The Ammergau mountains look down on the village has grown steadily since its inhabitants first performed their now-world-renowned Passion Play in 1634.

ALOA...Adult Lutherans Organized for Action...is pleased to announce an **11-Day Italian tour** including Rome, Florence, Venice and featuring the **2022 Oberammergau Passion Play!**

The Passion Play is held every ten years, in years ending with a zero – so the next is in 2020. The play was first put on at the town cemetery, after an epidemic of bubonic plague starting in 1633 had touched nearly every family. Local people vowed to perform the Passion Play, showing the story of Christ's suffering and death, if they were spared any more deaths. The deaths stopped, and they have kept their promise to perform it every decade since. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, this is only the second change to the timing since 1680 when the date to the present arrangement of "zero" years.

The play itself has evolved in line with the style of its times, from a simple Reformation Tragedy through an elaborate Baroque interpretation to the present-day more theatrical version. The theatre has also evolved, from the temporary staging over a plague pit of 1634 to the latest modern one that holds 5,000 spectators for each night of the five-month-long run from May to October. The stage can support 800 cast members and remains open-air, even as comfort and shelter has improved for the always sold-out audience.

The most important thing to remain constant is the fact that the play is performed by local people. Only those born in Oberammergau, married to a local for ten years or resident for 20 years can take part. There are roles for around half of the town's 5,300 inhabitants, some 1,000 as actors and the rest taking on tasks such as musicians, costume makers or backstage staff. The play bonds the community and families, with up to four generations possibly taking part at any one time. Roles often run in the family and some families can trace their participation back for centuries. Musicians and singers have to be trained from among the townsfolk, so any child with musical talent is nurtured from an early age. Few towns of such a size can have as many active choirs and orchestras.

Join ALOA for this all-inclusive trip including roundtrip transatlantic airfare, first class hotel accommodations, breakfasts and dinners, sightseeing in every destination, entrance fees to all attractions, and guaranteed tickets at the world famous Passion Play in Oberammergau.

Call: 1-800-930-2562 or email: aloe4u@gmail.com

Register Online: www.registernow.ittworld.com Tour Code: Algozzina22

ALOA - Post Office Box 4367 - Clearwater, FL 33756 - (800) 930-2562



For further information, please contact:
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Experience **Italy** & the **Passion Play**

11-Day Italy Tour including Rome, Florence and Venice Featuring the Oberammergau Passion Play

Hosted by: ALOA - Adult Lutherans Organized for Action

Led by: George Algozzina

Travel Dates: September 20-30, 2022

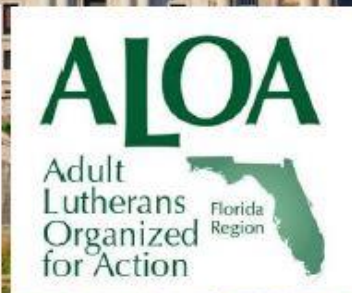
\$4872 per person from Tampa

Additional departure cities available upon request

(Price includes: Round trip airfare, \$540.40 US & Intl. departure taxes/fuel, and \$180 gratuities)

Register Online: RegisterNow.ittworld.com

Tour Code: **Algozzina22**



EARLY BIRD savings
with an initial deposit
of \$500.00

\$100
If payment
received by
9/22/21

THE PROMISE

In 1633 the Black Plague rampaged through Europe, killing thousands. For months, the small village of Oberammergau managed to keep the dreaded disease at bay, mainly because of its remote location in the Bavarian Alps. Eventually the epidemic struck the nearby town of Ettal. The people of Oberammergau, however, controlled the spread of the disease by keeping close watch and preventing strangers from entering their village. Alas, late one evening, a villager who had been away, homesick for his family, strolled back into the town unknowingly brought the plague to his people. Within a few months, 84 villagers had died.

In July of 1633 the survivors gathered and made a solemn oath to God: if He spared them from further deaths, they would perform every ten years a day-long play depicting Jesus' death and Resurrection. According to the story passed down through the generations, God heard them and there were no more deaths. In 1634, the townspeople performed their **Passion Play** for the first time. Eventually their vow was adopted by their children and their descendants. To this day, the villagers of Oberammergau have kept their promise virtually unbroken.



DAY 1 - TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20: U.S.A. TO ROME

Tour members meet for our flight to Rome. After dinner is served, it's time to sit back, relax, and enjoy the on-board entertainment to prepare for this exciting adventure of a lifetime.

DAY 2 - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21: ROME

Upon arrival in Rome, we meet our tour escort and driver and transfer by motor coach to our hotel. The afternoon is at leisure to explore Rome on your own, enjoy some local cuisine and walk along the streets from your hotel, with its many shops. Dinner and overnight are in Rome.

DAY 3 - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22: ROME

After breakfast at our hotel, we enjoy a panoramic tour of Rome, including a visit to the Basilica of Saint John Lateran, to see the Holy Steps where Luther received his insights into the meaning of faith. Then we visit the highlights of Christian Rome, including the Colosseum the largest amphitheater in the world, which symbolizes the eternity of the Roman civilization. We will also walk through the Forum that will take you to the Mamertine Prison, where St. Paul was incarcerated. Dinner and overnight are in Rome.

DAY 4 - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23: ROME

We begin our sightseeing today with a tour of the Vatican City and the Basilica of St Peter. We then view the magnificent frescoes in the Sistine Chapel, well known around the world for its magnificent ceiling beautifully decorated by Michelangelo. Then we visit a catacomb complex on the Old Appian Way. We continue to the Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls to see the tomb of the Apostle Paul and the Church of Three Fountains, the site of his execution. Dinner is on your own tonight and overnight is in Rome.

DAY 5 - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24: ROME, ASSISI, FLORENCE

This morning, we depart Rome for Assisi, a beautiful medieval town and home of St. Francis and Clare, who wished to return to the simplicity of the early Church. Later, we journey by motor coach down to the lower town to visit the Basilica of Santa Maria Degli Angeli, the Church of St. Mary of the Angels, where the Porziuncola and the Transit chapels are preserved. We will continue to Florence for dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25: FLORENCE

After breakfast, we tour Florence and the Cathedral and Giotto's bell tower. At the adjacent Baptistry, we admire Ghiberti's bronze Gates of Paradise before walking to the



INCLUDED FEATURES:

- ♦ Round-trip transatlantic flights via regularly scheduled airlines with beverages and meals served per the airline schedule.
- ♦ Hotel accommodations in First Class or Superior Tourist rooms with private bath/shower. Oberammergau Area accommodations are in private homes, small Pensions, or guest houses.
- ♦ Meals include: daily continental breakfast, dinners nightly (3-dinners on your own in Italy); in Oberammergau area: breakfast & set menu for dinner.
- ♦ All transfers and touring by deluxe motor coach with English-speaking escort throughout.
- ♦ Sightseeing of all major points of interest listed in the itinerary, including entrance fees.
- ♦ All local taxes for included services; VAT tax; hotel services charges; baggage handling of one suitcase on tour.
- ♦ Guaranteed Tickets at the World Famous Passion Play in Oberammergau (388 Years of Grand Tradition).



church of Santa Croce via the Piazza della Signoria and the Palazzo Vecchio. Our next stop is the Accademia to view Michelangelo's statue of David. Then we enjoy a guided tour of the Uffizi Gallery. Dinner is on your own, overnight in Florence.

DAY 7 - MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26: FLORENCE, PADUA, VENICE

This morning we depart Florence for Padua and visit the recently restored 14th century Scrovegni Chapel that houses Giotto's frescoes depicting stories from the life of the Virgin and Christ. We continue to the beautiful city of Venice for dinner and overnight.

DAY 8 - TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27: VENICE

Today we enjoy a walking tour of Venice, includes visits to the Byzantine St Mark's Basilica and the Doges Palace. The rest of our day is at leisure, dinner is on your own and overnight is in Venice.

DAY 9 - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28: VENICE, OBERAMMERGAU

After breakfast we depart Venice for Oberammergau (approx. 6.5 hours) by motor coach. Dinner and overnight are in the Oberammergau area.

DAY 10 - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29: OBERAMMERGAU

Oberammergau is not only known for its World Famous Passion Play, but also for its woodcarving craft and for its colorful and attractive frescos known as Lüftmalereien. In the morning we have time at leisure to explore the lovely village, the museum, the parish church and a woodcarving workshop. Then we take our seats at the Passion Play Theater for the early afternoon performance. All the actors, musicians, and singers as well as the backstage staff are either born in Oberammergau or have been residents for more than 20 years. Between the different scenes of the life of Jesus Christ we can admire "living pictures" – scenes from the Bible presented as still life. After 2.5 hours it is time for a dinner break, which is waiting for us in a local restaurant. After dinner, we have the opportunity to stroll around in the village and to do some shopping. Later this evening, the second part of the play starts and will end at approximately 11:00 pm. We go to our hotel in the Oberammergau area for overnight after the play.



DAY 11 - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30: MUNICH AIRPORT, ARRIVE IN U.S.A.

This morning we drive to the Munich airport for our flight back to the U.S.A. We arrive home the same day full of wonderful memories of Italy and the passion of our Savior.

**While we do our very best at making sure all items listed in your itinerary are included, there are times when conditions beyond our control affect your program/itinerary, including but not limited to air carrier changes, delays, weather, political climate, time constraints, or changes by your tour leader and tour guide.*