



TourMagination

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European Anabaptist Heritage Tour

August 10-23, 2022

Leaders: John Sharp & Michele Miller Sharp



Innsbruck, Austria.



Zaanse Schans, Netherlands. Photo credit: Daryl Mitchell

This European heritage tour traces the Anabaptist/Mennonite story through Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, and the Netherlands. Visits to significant sites will bring to life the stories of Reformation and Anabaptist leaders. Other tour highlights include: an afternoon cruise on the Rhine River, a visit to the Rijksmuseum, climbing into the foothills of the Swiss Alps to the Cave of the Anabaptists, visiting Trachselwald Castle, riding a cable-car up a mountain, and visiting the Weierhof, a semi-communal Mennonite village. Historian and experienced tour leader John Sharp will share insights as you travel in these beautiful countries that were so important to our Anabaptist ancestors. This tour can be paired with Oberammergau Passion Play tickets & a 2-night hotel stay, August 8-10, 2022. PLAY TICKET PACKAGE MUST BE BOOKED ASAP.

Itinerary

Wednesday, Aug. 10 Innsbruck, Austria

Whether you're coming from North America or Oberammergau, meet in Munich. Travel to Innsbruck to learn Jacob Hutter's story. Enjoy apple strudel on the famous Maria Theresien Strasse.

Thursday, Aug. 11 Innsbruck, Austria

In Rattenberg, hear about Pilgram Marpeck, who left home to escape arrest as an Anabaptist. See the house where he lived, now a lead crystal blowing centre. Visit Innsbruck's Hutter Park to see a memorial to Anabaptist martyrs. Tonight, you can attend a Tyrolean folk show to experience authentic local music, dancing, and more.

Friday, Aug. 12 Zurich, Switzerland

On your way to Zurich, stop for lunch at St. Gallen, the city of Conrad Grebel's famous brother-in-law Vadian. Spend time in Zurich for a walking tour of sites related to the birth of Anabaptism in 1525.

Saturday, Aug. 13 Zurich, Switzerland

Take a wagon ride up the Anabaptist climb (Täuferstieg) near Schleithem where the first

Anabaptist confession was written in 1525 and reflect at a monument. Next, visit a former secret worship site, the Anabaptist Cave at Bäretswil, for worship and reflection.

Sunday, Aug. 14 Bern, Switzerland

Cross the Sustenpass and join in Sunday worship at a local church. See the Langnau Mennonite Church, the oldest in the world, including its cemetery. Hopefully share lunch in the home of local Mennonites. Visit other key sites in the Emmental including Trachselwald Castle, once used to imprison Anabaptists. Stop at Yoder cave if time permits. See the historic Reformed church at Würzbrunnen with abundant Anabaptist stories.

Monday, Aug. 15 Bern, Switzerland

Take a walking tour of Bern. Then learn more of the Amish story in their homeland. Visit Thun. Tour the church at Erlenbach in the Simmental where Jakob Amman was baptized. At the Steffisburg cemetery and Reformed church, learn about connections with the Amish. End the day by taking a cable car up the Stockhorn mountain for fabulous scenic views.

Tuesday, Aug. 16 Strasbourg, France

In Colmar's Unterlinden museum, see medieval and Renaissance art. Have lunch in quaint Riquewihr, then continue to the Alsace where Jakob Amman lived to hear more of the Amish story. Travel to Strasbourg where Pilgram Marpeck was an Anabaptist leader to learn more of his story.

Wednesday, Aug. 17 Sinsheim, Germany

In the Kraichgau region, visit Sinsheim and Bammental. Step into the cellar at Steinsfurt where 53 Anabaptists worshipping in secret were arrested and climb the Steinsberg Tower for a panoramic view of farms and villages.

Thursday, Aug. 18 Köln (Cologne), Germany

In the Palatinate region, visit the semi-communal Mennonite village of Weierhof, including Germany's only major Mennonite archives. In Worms, visit the Luther Monument and learn about the Reformation. Relax and enjoy the scenery on a Rhine River cruise from Boppard to Oberwesel.

Friday, Aug. 19 Münster, Germany

Visit Köln's twin-towered Gothic cathedral. In Münster, take a walking tour to gain greater insight into the violent uprising of radical Anabaptists during the Münster Rebellion. Visit the city museum with its Anabaptist room. During free time, optional activities include visiting an outdoor museum or

renting bikes to explore the old city. In the evening, meet Maartja Salje, the city's tower keeper.

Saturday, Aug. 20 Berlikum, Netherlands

In Friesland in the Netherlands, learn about the Menno Simons story with stops at the hidden church at Pingjum, and the Menno Simons monument at Witmarsum—the village where he was born. Visit Leeuwarden. Tonight, enjoy the hospitality of locals with homestays in Berlikum.

Sun., Aug. 21 Alphen aan den Rijn, Netherlands

Worship with the Mennonite believers of Berlikum this morning, then cross the 22-mile Afsluitdijk. Visit Zaanse Schans, a historic Dutch village with traditional houses, working windmills, and artisans crafting things like wooden shoes and cheese. Visit Asperen to hear the story of Dirk Willems.

Mon., Aug. 22 Alphen aan den Rijn, Netherlands

Tour the Aalsmeer flower auction where 20 million flowers from around the world are traded daily! Browse the Rijksmuseum to see pieces by world-renowned artists. Be sure to see the museum's collection of Mennonite works too. Climb aboard a river boat for a tour of Amsterdam's canals.

Tuesday, August 23

Say farewell to friends old and new as you depart for home from Amsterdam.

Fare per person:

CAD: Double Occupancy \$5,975, Single Supplement \$755

USD: Double Occupancy \$4,780, Single Supplement \$599

Fare includes

- Hotel accommodations
- Land transportation within the tour
- All breakfasts and all dinners, 2 lunches
- Expert tour leaders & local guides
- All entrance fees and activities included in itinerary
- Gratuities for drivers, guides, and group meals

Fare excludes

- International airfare
- Airport transfers outside of main group
- Most lunches
- Beverages with meals
- Schengen Area Visa Waiver (ETIAS)
- Travel medical (out-of-country emergency) and cancellation/interruption insurance

Insurance

Travel medical (out-of-country emergency) and cancellation/interruption insurance are not mandatory but are highly recommended.

Payments

Rates shown are in effect May 2020. Though every effort is made to maintain established prices, TM reserves the right to adjust prices should it become necessary. The price is guaranteed when paid in full. We accept cheque and credit card payments. Credit card payments are charged a 3% fee.

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