

Day-to-day Itinerary – Germany Square Dance Tour

September 18 – October 2, 2018

Breakfast included daily. Dinners included except Sep 25 & 29.

Itinerary will be posted daily. Subject to change due to weather, scheduling, etc.

Daily Square Dancing with Jet, Joe & Tom except when other activities are scheduled.

Visit [Crisp Tours](#) and various websites on this document by simply **CTRL + Click** on the highlighted blue links. Many websites you visit below have an [English translation](#).



Day 1: Tue, Sep 18 - Depart on an overnight flight to Munich. This is a long flight so we suggest you go to bed early before you travel, stay hydrated (less alcohol), snooze during the flight if you can and you'll experience less jetlag.

Day 2: Wed, Sep 19 – Upon arrival to the [Munich Airport](#), we will meet at the information booth just after going through customs. We will gather everyone together and meet our busses. Our busses have [Kreuz-Reisen](#) (Kreuz Tours) written on the side. Everyone's patience is greatly appreciated as it takes time to round up all our people from different flights.



Manfred, Anita & Elfi
Kreuz Family

After an approximate 1 ½ hour bus ride, we'll arrive at our new home in [Grassau](#). We have three housing locations to choose from; [Hotel Sperrer](#) is the closest to the Restaurant Sperrer. [Gästehaus Gamsei](#) are B&B apartments, about a 10 minute walk to the restaurant. The last is the [Hotel Wessnerhof](#), a beautiful hotel about 1 km walking distance. All facilities are excellent accommodations and all serve breakfast. We will have a van to shuttle folks to and from the outer facilities. The apartments all have extra room, a kitchenette with microwave, fridge, etc. Take a look at the links above.



Hotel Sperrer



Zacherlhof Apartments



Gamsei Apartments

Upon arrival, a welcome drink awaits you at the **Hotel Sperrer Restaurant** where we will do personal introductions as your luggage is taken to your room. After dinner, there will be a **short evening of square dancing** before retiring after a very long day.



Grassau

Day 3: Thu, Sep 20 – Morning free time – shops open at 8 am. Banks open at 8:30 am. After breakfast, free time to explore [Grassau](#). There will be time to shop or relax and exchange [Dollars to Euros](#), (ATMs give best exchange rate).

[Grassau](#) has nearly anything you might



Grassau Raiffeisen Bank

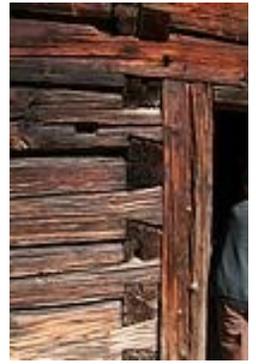
need, all within walking distance, to include two [banks](#), a post office, several places to get fresh bakery goods, butcher store with fresh sandwiches, coffee shops, several eateries & restaurants to include pizza and Bavarian specialties, pharmacies, groceries, souvenirs, clothing stores, bus service, medical services 24-7 and much more. Be sure to stop by the [tourist information office](#), across the street from the town May Pole for maps and area information.



Grassau Church



Day 3: Continued - This afternoon we'll take a short bus ride to the [Amerang Farmers' Museum](#). You'll see farm houses built centuries ago and learn how people lived back then. At the Farmers' Museum there is a restaurant where you can have lunch. They are known for their wonderful soups.



Dovetail Construction

Old shed at the Farmer's Museum For those who like a little night life after the square dance, there are a couple of bars in Grassau and the typical Gasthaus will usually stay open as long as drinks are being ordered. Square Dancing after dinner – yes!

The **Hotel Sperrer** has two downstairs party rooms for cards and a TV with English CNN. All accommodations have wireless Internet for a small fee (5 Euro per week unlimited), so bring your laptop.



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Birth Place

Day 4: Fri, Sep 21 – Today we're off to [Salzburg](#), Austria, the [City of Mozart](#). Late this morning we'll travel a short drive where we will meet our guides for a city walking tour. If you don't want to do the 1 ½ mile walking tour, you can stop off at the horse and buggies where you can do your own tour by coach or stroll the old part of the city on your own. You will see [Mozart's birthplace](#) - a house in the center of the old town. You'll find open-air markets, several [cathedrals](#) and music halls and lots of sidewalk cafés. You can buy a ticket and take the [funicular](#) inclined railway to the impenetrable [Hohensalzburg Fortress](#) for a fantastic view of the city. There, you will find a free museum, gift shop, a restaurant, medieval village and court yard. This is the largest fully-preserved fortress in Europe. The fortress was constructed in 1077 during a dispute with the Pope over who should be allowed to appoint the bishop. This evening is what everyone is waiting for, the [Mozart Dinner Concert](#), held in the atmospheric, baroque vaults of [St. Peter's Abbey](#), known as the [Stiftskeller St. Peter](#). Visitors will savor a fine three-course meal accompanied by the [Mozart Ensemble](#), which performs works composed by Salzburg's most famous son. The musicians are dressed in historical costumes and the whole atmosphere transports you back to Mozart's times. The Mozart Dinner is a must for any visitor to Salzburg. Formal attire is not required. No square dancing tonight; it's all classical. Late return.



Salzburg, Austria



Mozart Dinner Concert

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Hochplatte Staffn Alm Restaurant

Day 5: Sat, Sep 22 - This morning - if the weather is favorable, we'll take a local two-seater alpine ski lift to the [Grassauer Almen Wanderung](#) (Grassau Alpine Hiking trails), also known as the [Hochplatte](#) (High Plateau), a perfect place for a hike. We may also see Hang-Gliders and Parachute Jumpers taking off from a favorite launching site. There's a small restaurant called the [Staffn Alm](#) which serves the finest German dishes and pastries.



Hand-Glider - License required

This evening in the village [Town Hall](#), we will have a free [Invitational Square & Round Dance](#) with staff callers, [Jet Roberts](#), [Joe Saltel](#) & [Tom Crisp](#) along with a German mystery caller and German RD cuer [Klaus Voelkl](#).



Day 6: [Sun, Sep 23](#) - We will head to Munich for a visit to the original [Munich Oktoberfest](#). Bring your camera. We suggest you make it first to the **Ferris Wheel** for a spectacular view of the city and over 14 huge beer tents, most over the size of a football field. Don't try to visit every beer tent. Ask if you can join someone at a table and enjoy the celebrations. Most places are reserved after 5 pm when it really gets packed. Take the time to enjoy the [Opening Costume Parade](#) and hear the songs and sounds of the biggest beer festival in the world.



Beer Tent - Just one of 14 the size of a football field

[München Oktoberfest](#), or Munich October Festival, was initially a celebration of Prince Ludwig and Princess Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen's wedding which was held on 12 October 1810. It is a 16 day festival which takes place in the middle of September and ends the first weekend in October. Over the years, this festival has become one of the most important in the world with around 7 million people attending the celebrations in Munich each year. Over 9 million liters of beer are served during the 16 day festival. The beer served at the Oktoberfest is supplied by the Big Six, or rather six of the main breweries in Munich: Spaten, Lowenbrau, Augustiner, Hofbrau, Paulaner and Hacker-Pschorr. Festivities include eating lots of traditional Bavarian cuisine such as spit roasted whole chickens, sausage, käsespätzle (cheese noodles), and sauerkraut.

Late this afternoon, we are invited for a BBQ and dance with the Munich Dip "N" Divers Square Dance Club.



Day 7: Mon, Sep 24 - Today is the furthest bus excursion we take. **Neuschwanstein Castle** or **Schloss Neuschwanstein** is well worth the trip. Here is what everyone has been waiting to see. Translated into English, the **New Swan Stone Castle** is one of the most beautiful and well preserved castles in the world. Originally ordered to be built by **King Ludwig II**, this is the epitome of neo-



romantic style and is the most famous of all medieval castles. The palace was intended as a personal refuge for the reclusive king, but it was opened to the paying public immediately after his death in 1886. Since then over 60 million people have visited Neuschwanstein Castle. More than 1.3 million people visit annually, with up to 6,000 per day in the summer. It's a fairy-tale fantasy come true. The castle overlooks the picturesque **Hohenschwangau Castle** and the romantic **Alpsee Lake**.

Neuschwanstein Castle built by King Ludwig

From here it's on to famous woodcarving and **Passion Play** village of **Oberammergau**. This unique village is known for its religious airbrush paintings on the buildings, the flowers on the balconies all nestled in a little village with the Alps as a background. It's another painter's and photographer's dream come true. Oberammergau is known for its Passion Play, performed every ten years on years ending in zero. The next performance will be in 2020. The passion play recounts the townspeople's pact with God - that they would perform the Passion Play every ten years if the plague would bypass them. It did.



Most of the buildings in Oberammergau have beautifully detailed murals on them, mostly of biblical significance. **Oberammergau** is the perfect place to send back home that cuckoo clock, special Christmas tree ornaments and other souvenirs. We recommend the **Käthe Wohlfahrt's** "Christkindlmarkt" store where they offer small discount to groups by simply showing your badge. This is only one store of many.



Take your time and shop around. Many stores will offer a discount if you simply ask. Most of the shops will ship your purchase home using your credit card.

The day is still not over. This evening will be hosted by the **Zugspitz-Promenaders Square Dance Club** north of Garmisch-Partenkirchen in the little town of **Spatzenhausen** for dinner and a dance before returning home. Dinner is included and hosted by our square dance friends. Late return.



Zugspitz Promenaders, Oberammergau



Zugspitz Promenaders Callers



Caller Walter Stuppig



Caller Mickey Braithwaite



Chiemsee Castle - This elaborate palace began in 1878 for Ludwig II of Bavaria



The King's Bedroom

Day 8: Tue, Sep 25 - Today we will take a short bus ride for a cruise on [Lake Chiemsee](#). We'll be taking a boat ride over to island of [Herrenchiemsee](#), the larger of two islands. Once on the island, it's about a ¾ mile flat walk to [King Ludwig's Chiemsee Castle](#). There are optional horse and buggy rides available to take you to the castle. The castle is really a palace, because it is not fortified. But you could also say it has a moat if you consider Lake Chiemsee. The castle was designed after the French Sun King, Louis XIV's Palace of Versailles near Paris. The tour takes us through only a portion of the inside which was completed. There is also a small museum which is included with your tour ticket. You will also find another museum next to the restaurant near the boat dock – your castle ticket also gets you in for free.

Be sure to allow sufficient time to make it back to the boat dock at our scheduled departure time. Don't lose your return ticket, otherwise you may need to buy another ticket to get off the boat. If you miss the boat, you will need to find your way home.



King Ludwig's Herrenchiemsee Castle



Buggy ride to the Castle

This afternoon will be **Dinner on Your Own**. There are several eateries in town to choose from – all close by. In addition to the recommended [Grassauer Hof](#), [Gasthaus zur Post](#), and the [Hotel Sperrer](#), there are also a several popular pizza restaurants that don't just serve pizzas. They include: [La Rotonda](#), [Restaurante Pizzeria Da Pino](#), [Das Doktorhaus Restaurant, Bar, Cafe](#) and [La Pergola Pizzeria-Restaurante](#), an Italian restaurant - [Restaurants Stamperl](#) and more. You

can also grab a snack at the local a grocery store or butcher store where they sell delicious sandwiches to go. Then you can always try those scrumptious pastries at the bakeries and coffee shops. In addition to all the wonderful places to dine in Grassau, we might also suggest the beautiful Bavarian [Hotel Weßnerhof](#), about a one kilometer easy flat walk from Grassau. They raise all their own beef and pork plus make their own schnapps. You can go into their barn and check it out. Their menu (in English) is famous for Bavarian specialties known far and wide.

[Hotel Weßnerhof](#)





Also, at the **Hotel Weßnerhof**, there will be a free optional [Schnapps tasting tour](#) – not just for those wanting to try a variety of schnapps and liquors, but for anyone interested in learning how the local German schnapps is produced. Sepp does a great job explaining how local schnapps is made on the farm. Schnapps will be available for sale in the hotel lobby.

Sepp, Der Weßnerhof Schnapps Braumeister
(Joe, the Weßnerhof Schnapps Brew Master)

Callers' night off. No dancing tonight - so drink up.



Weßnerhof Schnapps Tasting Tour - Prost



**Marienplatz
Glockenspiel
New Town Hall**

Day 9: Wed, Sep 26 - This morning we head back to [Munich](#) to take a closer look at the [Bavarian capital](#). We'll meet our local guide for a guided city bus tour where we will see places of interest like the [Nymphenburg Palace](#), [Olympic Stadium](#) and [Englischer Garten](#), the city's largest park which was laid out along the [Isar River](#) just after the French Revolution—in hopes that it would calm the population and keep it from storming the duke's palace. In the spring and summer months it is a very popular public gathering place for [nudists](#). You'll have time on your own to visit to old part of Munich to include [Marienplatz](#) and the [Medieval](#)



[Glockenspiel](#). Don't forget to visit the [City Farmer's Market](#). A [great place](#) to have a [Leberkäs Brötchen](#) & a beer. You can choose to have lunch at the famous [Hofbräuhaus München](#) with all its Bavarian specialties (English menus are available). Close by are the downtown department stores, open air markets, beer gardens and famous cathedrals. Home in time for dinner and dance at the Sperrer.



Nymphenburg Palace



Munich Hofbrauhaus



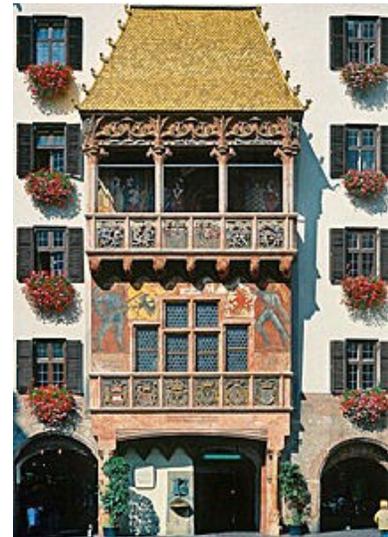
Innsbruck, Austria

Day 10: Thu, Sep 27 – Today we head south to [Innsbruck](#), the Austrian [Tyrol City](#). We'll do both a bus and walking tour of the city. You'll see the [Olympic Stadium](#) from the mountain side and walk the old medieval down town pedestrian center and see the famous [Golden Roof](#). Innsbruck is the provincial capital of Tyrol and the fifth largest city in Austria by population. It



Innsbruck Locals

has twice hosted the Winter Olympics and was one of host cities in the 2008 European Football Championships. This beautiful, alpine destination with its historical buildings, breathtaking scenery, snow-capped mountains and extensive ski resort facilities makes it one of the most wonderful places to visit in Europe.



Golden Roof in Innsbruck

From Innsbruck, we'll stop in the medieval town of [Rattenberg am Inn](#), on the Inn river - famous for [Swarovski Crystal](#). With its 401 inhabitants (2010) and an area of 0.112 kilometers, Rat-



Rattenberg am Inn

tenberg is the smallest town in Germany.

[Rattenberg am Inn](#) is one of the few towns in Europe that have been able to maintain their medieval character and layout almost in their entirety.

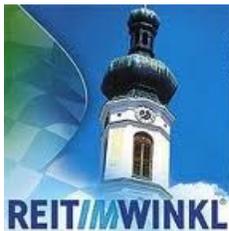
On our return, we will visit the small town of [Mangfalltal](#). We'll be hosted by our friends from the local Square Dance Club, the [Flying Dandelions](#). After dinner there will be a fun square dance in their beautiful hall with our callers and theirs. It's about 45 minutes



ride home to Grassau. Late return

home.

Day 11: [Fri, Sep 28](#) - This morning we travel through the alpine valleys to the beautiful little village of [Reit im Winkl](#). In [Reit im Winkl](#) you'll see traditional Bavarian houses with flowers on the balconies, the village fountain coupled with mountains and waterfalls make this a painter's and photographer's paradise. For shoppers, the prices are most reasonable compared to other cities.



REITIMWINKL

For the guys, don't miss the [Schnapps Museum](#) where you can see a video of how schnapps is made and sample a variety of [schnapps](#).



Later this evening we will attend a Traditional [Bavarian Show](#). The show will be held in the [Heftersaal](#) or the local Town Hall where we square dance. It's called a [Heimatabend](#), or Bavarian Traditional [Schuhplattlers](#) (Shoe Patters). This [Schuhplattlers](#) dance is performed at its best in [Chiemgau](#). You will see the locals in their traditional outfits dance

these [traditional dances](#). Drinks and food will be available for purchase so we recommend you support the waitress by ordering something – this is their only income for providing service. Caller's night off. We dance to live Oomph music tonight. Let's party, we can sleep in tomorrow morning.

Cheers!



Grassauer Schuhplattlers



Schuhplattlers Dance



The kid are the most fun!
Future tradition insured

Day 12: Sat, Sep 29 – Free Day! Today is [Michaeli -Markt](#), Grassau’s annual street [Market Day](#). Here’s where Grassau blocks off the streets on the main drag and transforms itself into a huge market place. Booths are set up throughout the main street. There will be a variety unique of things to buy, from t-shirts to socks, kitchen items to linens, Bavarian hats to CDs and souvenirs of all kinds. You’ll find all kinds of yummy local specialized food, beer gardens and local bands.



The Star Dance

There are also new farm machinery displays, animal auctions and rides for the children. This is a wonderful time to really get close and observe the locals. This all takes place in just one day and when evening comes, everything will be gone; not even one piece of trash.



BBQ fish on a stick



Tonight it’s ***Dinner on your own.*** There are lots of wonderful places to dine with your friends in Grassau. Here’s a chance to try the open menu at the [Hotel Sperrer](#) or experience any one of the village’s fine eateries. There’s the [Grassauer Hof](#), and the [Gasthof zur Post](#), two pizza places, a steak house and several others.

Day 13: Sun, Sep 30 - [Berchtesgaden Salt Mines](#) and the [Eagle’s Nest](#). Today we take about a 45 minute drive to [Berchtesgaden](#), one of most the breath taking alpine regions in the Bavarian Alps. You will visit the Obersalzberg [Salt Mines](#) and dress in the traditional miner’s outfits, straddle the open train cars and ride deep into the salt mountain. In former times only privileged dignitaries were allowed to visit Berchtesgaden's salt mines, in operation since 1517. Today, this fascinating underground world can be visited by all, thanks to continuous guided tours. Dressed in miner's clothing, the visitor enjoys rides on a train, a funicular, a raft and down slides! The tour includes several interesting displays of how the miners worked the mines years back. The fun part is experiencing the slides the miners took to get from one level to the next.



2014 Tour Group



Berchtesgaden Eagle’s Nest



The Miner's Slide



Berchtesgaden Salt Mine

Weather permitting, we'll visit Berchtesgaden's [Eagle's Nest](#). *Note: The Eagle's Nest may be cancelled. Occasionally closed this time of year if the mountain is overcast, raining or snowing.*



The Kehlsteinhaus (nicknamed "Eagle's Nest"), was built as a present for Hitler's 50th birthday in 1939. The remnants of homes of former Nazi leaders—such as Adolf Hitler, Hermann Göring and Martin Bormann—were all demolished in the early postwar years.

The Platterhof was retained and served as a recreation retreat (Armed Forces Recreation Centers) for the American military. It was known as the General Walker Hotel. It was demolished in 2000. The only remaining fully intact buildings are the former SS HQ at Hotel Zum Türken, Albert Speer's house and the Kehlsteinhaus. A small part of the Platterhof is also still there. It has an entrance to the Obersalzberg bunker system.



The Kehlsteinhaus - Eagle's Nest

Dancing this evening after dinner.

Day 14: Mon, Oct 1 – This is a free day. This is your last full day and a **free time** for last minute shopping, exploring, hiking or just relaxing. This will give you time to pack. (Do not pack your name tags.) Save what you will need for banquet and the last overnight. Later today there will be a **Farewell Dance** with requests. If there is enough interest, there will also be some **advance dancing** after wards. Please allow time to have your luggage, including your carry-on bags taken to the hotel lobby or placed in front of your door at the apartments, no later than **4 pm** to be picked up and loaded onto the busses for the early morning departure tomorrow morning. You will have access to your luggage again once we arrive at the airport in Munich where you can add your overnight things.

Our ***Special Farewell Banquet*** will be at **5:30 pm**. Tonight we will pass the mike and allow everyone have a chance to share their stories and experiences they had on the trip. No square dancing after banquet – early to bed or party in the Gasthaus until the wee morning hours. It will be your last chance to have a drink with your friends. Some may wish to party all night with an early wakeup call. There are no wake-up calls so friends will need to make sure friends are up for a very early departure.



Day 15: Tue, Oct 2 – Early morning departure to the Munich airport for flights back to the USA. Breakfast will be as early as **3 am** and the first bus could depart as early as **4:00 am** depending on early flights home.

**We wish everyone a safe trip home.
Aufwiedersehen until we meet again.**

Your staff,

Jet & Sylvia, Joe & Chris, Tom & Gina and Curtis



Grassau, Germany