WILLKOMMEN !!
A CULINARY JOURNEY TO GERMANY, AUSTRIA
AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC
WITH JOHN JOHNSON
DESIGNED AND OPERATED BY CLUB EUROPA FOR
Madison Area Technical College
MADISON, WISCONSIN

Day 1
May 23
Wed
Transatlantic flight from the United States to Munich / Germany
08:50 pm: flight LH435 departs Chicago O’Hare ORD (inflight meals)

Day 2
May 24
Thu
ARRIVAL / MUNICH (Germany)
12:30 am: arrival at Munich Airport MUC
Meet and greet by experienced, multilingual Club Europa Escort
Time will be allowed for money exchange
Services of private motorcoach commence with transfer from airport to the City
(This long distance coach stays with the group through arrival in Vienna)
Orientation tour of Munich, led by escort
An extensive stop will be made at the Viktualienmarkt, probably the best known outdoor food market in Germany
Tour ends at hotel, check-in and time to relax and unwind
Dinner (included) at the ‘Ratskeller’, located in the cellars underneath City Hall
Overnight / MUNICH

At the Viktualien-Markt in Munich
Day 3  MUNICH

May 25  Breakfast at hotel

Fri  Drive from Munich to the nearby town of DACHAU to visit the Concentration Camp Memorial

The Dachau Concentration Camp was opened on March 22, 1933 in a former gunpowder factory. The first prisoners were 200 members of the Communist and Social Democratic political parties who were arrested after the Reichstag (German Congressional building) was deliberately set on fire on the night of February 27, 1933. Some of the first prisoners were members of the Congress, who were suspected of plotting to overthrow Hitler who had just taken office as the German Chancellor on January 30, 1933. They were at first held in Landsberg prison which was the same prison where Hitler served time after his attempt to take over the government on November 9, 1923. Concentration camps were “invented” and first used by the British in the Boer War when 76,000 women and children were incarcerated in South Africa.

Lunch is on own

After lunch: visit of one of Munich’s major breweries, beer-tasting included

Free time for shopping and other individual activities – perhaps a visit to the BMW museum?

Munich holds a number of excellent museums, amongst them a brand new Museum of Modern Art, plus the “Deutsches Museum”, one of the world’s best museums for science and technology (including a fantastic transportation department)

Dinner is on own

Overnight / MUNICH

Situated near a settlement (Munichen) that was established in Carolingian times, Munich was founded (1158) by Henry the Lion, Duke of Saxony and of Bavaria. In 1255 it was chosen as the residence of the Wittelsbach family, the dukes of Bavaria; in 1806 the city was made the capital of the kingdom of Bavaria. Under the kings Louis I (1825–48), Maximilian II (1848–64), and Louis II (1864–86), Munich became a cultural and artistic center, and played a leading role in the development of 19th- and 20th-century German painting.

After World War I the city was the scene of considerable political unrest. National Socialism (Nazism) was founded there, and on Nov. 8, 1923, Adolf Hitler failed in his attempted Munich “beer-hall putsch”—a coup aimed at the Bavarian government. Despite this fiasco, Hitler made Munich the headquarters of the Nazi party, which in 1933 took control of the German national government. In September 1938, the Munich Pact was signed in the city; in 1939 Hitler suppressed a Bavarian separatist plot there. Munich was badly damaged during World War II, but after 1945 it was extensively rebuilt and many modern buildings were (re)constructed. Nowadays the city is one of the leading cultural and economic centers of Germany.

Day 4  MUNICH > SALZBURG  (Austria)

May 26  Breakfast at hotel and early departure

Sat  Drive from Munich towards Salzburg (90 miles)

Stop in the small town of KUFSTEIN for a visit of the RIEDEL GLASS FACTORY

Lunch (en route) is on own

Stop in the village of SCHLEEDORF for a visit of the Salzburg Cheese World (cheese tasting and active cheese production included)

Continuation to Salzburg

Upon arrival: walking tour in Salzburg with local, licensed guide

Dinner at hotel is included

Overnight / SALZBURG
A baroque city on the banks of the Salzach River, Salzburg is the beautiful capital of Land Salzburg. This former site of the Roman town of Juvavum is set against a pristine mountain backdrop. The city and the river were named after the early residents who earned their living in the region's salt mines. This "heart of the heart of Europe" is the city of Mozart, who was born here in 1756. The composer's association with the city continues to draw loads of tourists, who come to visit this favorite son's birthplace, the Geburtshaus, an old burgher's house. The city is the setting for the Salzburg Festival, a world-renowned annual event that attracts music lovers, especially Mozart fans, from all over the globe – and yes: Salzburg was also the setting for The Sound of Music movie.

**Day 5  **  
**SALZBURG and AREA**  
**May 27**  
*Breakfast at hotel*  
*Sun*  
**Excursion through the stunningly beautiful Salzkammergut Lake District**  
Stop in Gmund   
The famous Gmundner Keramik is the largest ceramics factory in mid-Europe and produces over 10,000 pieces a day. It was founded by Franz and Emilie Schleiss in 1903. Visitors can watch the potters and ceramic artists as they create the unique pieces of original Gmundner Keramik. It's also possible to paint your own pots in one of the factory workshops. The factory shop offers Gmundner Keramik originals in over twenty different designs.  
Return to Salzburg via HALLSTATT, the most beautiful small town in the Lake District  
*Lunch (on own) en route*  
*Dinner is on own, perhaps at the Peterskeller, Europe’s oldest “tavern”, going back to 803AD*  
*Overnight / SALZBURG*

**Day 6  **  
**SALZBURG > PRAGUE  (Czech Republic)**  
**May 28**  
*Breakfast at hotel*  
*Mon*  
**Drive via Linz and BUDWEIS to Prague, capital of the Czech Republic (220 miles)**  
Stop in CESKE BUDEJOVICE (Budweis) - holy ground for beer lovers from around the world. A visit of the brewery is included.  
The town is also home to the oldest railway station on the European continent: the horse-drawn railroad line, built from 1824 – 32, connected Budweis with Linz in Austria.  
*Lunch (en route) is on own*  
*Early evening arrival in Prague*  
*Dinner is on own*  
*Overnight at Hotel Meteor Plaza / PRAGUE*
Day 7  PRAGUE
May 29  Breakfast at hotel

Tue  After breakfast: sightseeing of Prague with local, licensed guide (entrance fee to the ‘Hradschin’, Prague Castle, included)

The tour focuses on the historic centre of the Czech capital. From the Powder Tower you will walk along the Royal Route to the Old Town Square, where you will find the Old Town Hall with its Astronomical Clock and Apostles, surrounded by several outstanding examples of Baroque architecture. You can visit St.Nicholas Church and St Vitus Cathedral. Continue along Parizska Street (Art Nouveau), through the former Jewish Quarter to the Rudolfinum. From here the visitor has a magnificent view of Charles Bridge and Prague Castle. A visit will be included to the Church of Maria and St Anthony of Padua, the home of the Statue of ‘Jesus – Infant of Prague’

Free time for lunch (on own)
Free afternoon for further sightseeing and / or individual activities, shopping etc...
Dinner is on own
Overnight at Hotel Meteor Plaza / PRAGUE

PRAGUE, ST VITUS CATHEDRAL:
This Gothic cathedral is the spiritual symbol of the Czech state. It took nearly six centuries to build it. Begun in 1344 by Mathias Arras and Petr Parler upon the site of a 10th-century rotunda, the final phase of construction ended only in the period 1873-1929.. The cathedral contains underground tombs of Czech kings. Parler also built St. Wenceslas Chapel, which is decorated with frescoes and semi-precious stones. The coronation jewels are deposited here, too.

Day 8  PRAGUE > VIENNA  (Austria)
May 30  Breakfast at hotel and early departure
Wed  Drive from Prague to Vienna (220 miles / 4 hrs)
On the way to Vienna:
Free time for lunch (on own) en route
Early afternoon arrival in Vienna
Dinner is on own
Overnight at Hotel Mercure / VIENNA
Day 9  
**VIENNA**  
*May 31*  
Breakfast at hotel.  
*Thu*  
After breakfast: private coach and local, licensed guide for sightseeing tour of Vienna: inside visit to *St Stephen’s Cathedral* will be included. Other major sights are: the magnificent late 19th century buildings along the *Ringstrasse Boulevard*, *Art Deco* (“Jugendstil”) buildings designed by Otto Wagner, the *Richard Strauss Monument* in the *Stadtpark*, the *Grab via* and *Kaerntner Strasse* pedestrian areas, the picturesque *Naschmarkt*, *Karlskirche*, *the Konzerthaus* (home of the Vienna Symphonics), *the Academy of Fine Arts*, *Hofburg Palace*, the *Figarohaus*, etc….  

Lunch is on own  
Visit of the Vienna Tourist Board headquarters: presentation about their activities and tourism in Vienna, given by one of their executives  
(Details to be advised)  
Dinner is on own  
Overnight at Hotel Mercure / VIENNA  

For many centuries Vienna has been one of the great capitals of the world - glittering, elegant and romantic. Great composers lived here, and their music is still hauntingly alive today. The magnificent architecture of the 18th and 19th centuries is preserved in buildings that display the graceful Austrian Baroque that lifted this city above any of its rivals. The close of the World War 1 saw the end of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and Vienna lost its valuable status as the seat of imperial power with the ensuing decline in population. After World War 2 the city teetered on the precipice of being nothing more than city of shadowy museums and historical memorabilia. After the collapse of the Iron Curtain though Vienna has reawakened and is successfully reclaiming its status as the hub of Central Europe.
Day 10  VIENNA and AREA
Jun 1  Breakfast at hotel
Fri  Drive from Vienna through the picturesque Wachau (Danube Valley) to KREMS (40 miles)
     Visit of the College for Tourism and Leisure Management in Krems, Austria’s foremost institution of its kind (details to be advised)
     Lunch is on own
     After lunch: short drive from Krems to the village of INZERSDORF
     Visit of the winery of LUDWIG NEUMAYER
     Return to Vienna early evening
     Farewell dinner at “Mayer am Pfarrplatz” a typical Viennese ‘Heurigen’ restaurant in the 19th District; an array of Viennese specialties will be offered
     A special attraction is the romantic old house of the Mayer family, which is completely unchanged since Ludwig van Beethoven lived here in 1817.
     Overnight at Hotel Mercure / VIENNA

The Neumayer estate is located in the commune of Inzersdorf ob der Traisen in the Traisental wine-growing region in Lower Austria. Ludwig Neumayer first attended the viticultural school in Klosterneuburg, this was followed by a spell at the agricultural college in Vienna. After taking up practical work, he soon became one of the pioneers of high quality in this still young growing region. The vineyard area totals nine hectares, which are spread around like a mosaic. Only white varieties are planted here, these are Grüner Veltliner, Riesling, Chardonnay, Pinot Blanc and Sauvignon Blanc. The difficult conditions on poor, stony soils ensure that the wines develop more slowly, and have tremendous maturation potential. The wine became known particularly for its „Wein vom Stein” (wine from stone), a brand that includes several varietal wines as well as the blend „Cuvée Wein vom Stein” (vineyard blend from vines almost 60 years old). Another premium wine is the „Grüner Veltliner Zvirch”. The „Ikon” brand indicates the best wines of a vintage, which can include sweet wines (Strohwein, Eiswein) or barrique-matured specialties. If they are made at all, these wines are available only in small quantities. The estate has been a member of the Traditional Wineries of Austria association since 2001.

Ludwig Neumayer has TWICE received the award of Austrian “Winzer des Jahres” (wine maker of the year). His wines are served in four upscale restaurants in Paris.

Day 11  RETURN TO THE U.S.
Jun 2  Breakfast at hotel
Sat  Private coach for transfer from hotel to Vienna Airport
     Services of CLUB EUROPA assistant for transfer and check-in
     Return flight to the U.S.:
     09:25 am: flight LH3089 departs Vienna Airport VIE
     11:00 pm: arrival at Duesseldorf Airport DUS
     11:55 pm: flight LH436 departs Duesseldorf (inflight meals)
     02:05 pm: arrival at Chicago O’Hare ORD
INCLUDED ARE:

- NINE overnights at (superior) tourist class hotels, centrally located, twin or double occupancy, all rooms with private facilities
- Brochures and/or websites of the hotels will be presented prior to final reservations
- All breakfasts
- One dinner (on arrival day)
- Services of Club Europa escort from start to finish
  (all efforts will be made to assign Dimitri Wentner to this project)
- Services of local, licensed guides for sightseeing as noted
- Services of deluxe motorcoach (equipped with A/C) as noted
  (all highway tolls, parking fees and drivers’ expenses included)
- Entrance fees as noted in the itinerary
- All applicable local taxes
- Gratuities to coach drivers and local guides
- Round trip air: Chicago > Munich // Vienna > Chicago, coach,
  (taxes and fuel surcharges as of September 2011 included)
- ONE person FREE of charge, LAND & AIR, in half twin
- Andy Benz of Club Europa is available for a preparatory meeting at MATC

NOT INCLUDED ARE:

- Meals other than mentioned
- Drinks with dinners (unless mentioned otherwise)
- Luggage handling at hotels (not included for cost savings)
- Expenses of personal nature such as passport, laundry, insurance, souvenirs etc...
- Airport transfers in the United States
- Gratuities to escort (Euro 3.50 per person per day for the escort is standard)

The Riedel company can proudly look back on a 250-year success story. From its beginnings in northern Bohemia down to this day, for 11 generations (for now) Riedel Glass has stood for the high art of glassmaking. In 1673, when Johann Christoph Riedel was born in the Bohemian town of Neuschloß, no one could have guessed that this was also the birth of one of the greatest glass enterprises in the world. This Bohemian glass merchant was the starting point for a direct line through several generations down to today’s corporate head Georg J. Riedel and his son Maximillian. Each Riedel in this long chain has been able to contribute his personal skills and views to expand the company’s success and make it what it is today.

Club Europa has its European office in Vienna and will be happy to provide any thinkable assistance.
There are no visa requirements for U.S. citizens traveling to the countries in this itinerary.

However, you need a valid passport!

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**THE USE OF MOTORCOACHES WITHIN ALL EUROPEAN CITIES IS DRAMATICALLY RESTRICTED IF NOT ALTOGETHER IMPOSSIBLE. THE DISTANCES TO BE COVERED ON FOOT ARE CONSIDERABLE. COMFORTABLE SHOES ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!!**