



*This tour will visit historic Anabaptist sites in Switzerland and Germany including ancestral villages where our Hochstetler/Hostetler/Hostettler ancestors lived. The above photo shows the Edelweiss—the national flower of Switzerland that is also part of the official JHFA logo.*

**Friday, September 6, 2019**

Fly to Europe—parking will be available at Morgantown, Pa., where a chartered bus will take us to the airport to begin a memorable journey!

**Saturday, September 7, 2019**

Arrive at the Zürich Airport and enjoy a homemade lunch at a local Swiss farm before visiting Zurich city—the birthplace of Anabaptism in 1525—for a short walking tour. We will see the Fraümünster Cathedral with its five famous stained glass windows by Marc Chagall, and the Grossmünster Cathedral with its massive bronze cast doors depicting the Reformation story, the memorial stone along the Limmat River—site where Anabaptist Felix Manz was drowned in 1527, and where Preacher Hans Landis was beheaded in 1614. As we walk the same cobblestone streets our Anabaptist ancestors walked, this journey already becomes a spiritual journey. Yes, we will go to bed early tonight after an early dinner!

**Sunday, September 8, 2019**

Our first stop this morning is at the *Täuferhöhle* (Anabaptist Cave) where Anabaptists are known to have worshipped in secret. As we hike up the hill past cows with ringing cowbells, we will consider the freedom we experience today to worship unmolested in stark comparison to how the Anabaptists hiked to this cave at night in



*Walking up to the Anabaptist Cave is certainly a rewarding accomplishment!*

the dark where they secretly worshipped. Driving north, we see the largest waterfalls in Europe. As we enter Germany, we are in the Black Forest and will sleep in the town of Triberg—the cuckoo clock capitol of the world—the best place to purchase a cuckoo clock to take back home.

**Monday, September 9, 2019**

A morning drive will take us into the Pfalz area of Germany where our first stop will be at Munsterhof—known home of German Hostettlers for a number of generations. Then, it is on to Weierhof to meet Historian Gary Waltner who will greet us at the Mennonite Historical Library and guide us on a walking tour of this town that was originally a monastery destroyed in the Thirty Years' War. It was settled in 1682 by the Kraybill and other Mennonite families from Switzerland. Our hotel tonight will be in the

city of Worms near the famed Worms Cathedral and the Martin Luther monument surrounded by the main forerunners of the Reformation.

**Tuesday  
September 10, 2019**

Today is our Rhine River cruise sailing down the Rhine River past the same castles that our ancestors passed when they were on their way to America. Then say goodbye to Germany as we drive to France, and then on to Obernai for our overnight lodging—you will enjoy this old walled town to walk around and do some

French shopping—a great place for the shoppers in our group! Watch for some storks in this part of Europe.



*Memorial plaque along the Limmat River in Zurich showing the site where early Anabaptist Felix Manz was drowned in 1527. The Grossmünster is in the distance.*



*Ride past the same castles our ancestors rode past on the Rhine River—although our ship will be quite different than boats used years ago!*



*Present-day Struthof Concentration Camp*

**Wednesday, September 11, 2019**

Our first stop this morning is at the Struthof concentration camp, the only German-run WWII camp built on French soil. It was preserved at the time of the liberation in 1944 so most of the buildings, fences, towers, and incinerator are preserved. After this sober visit, we will drive south to the city of Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines where many Amish families lived in the 1600s. Then it is on to Aarau, Switzerland, where Hans Gnägi lived before coming to America.

**Thursday, September 12, 2019**

A morning visit to a local Swiss cheese factory will provide the opportunity to sample Swiss cheese and even purchase some shrink-wrapped cheese to carry home, if you wish. Then we will visit Bern—the capital of Switzerland: first a stop at the Stadtarchiv to see old papers and books about the Hostettlers dating back to the Anabaptist period. Lunch and some free time will be spent in the downtown city of Bern to watch the famous clock tower turn to a new hour, enjoy the bear pits, and tour the impressive cathedral. We will also visit the Hans Haslibacher home and the old Trachselwald Castle built in 1200 A.D. where Brechbill, Mosimann, Leichty, and Sommers Anabaptists were imprisoned. The prison cells that were there in the 1500s and 1600s can be seen yet today. On one of these nights in the Emmental, Switzerland, we will be treated with yodeling and alphorn music!



*Guggisberg, Switzerland, is considered the origins of the Hostettler name and is even found on a plaque in the Guggisberg Community Center.*



*A highlight of our trip will be the special **Alpabfahrten** when the cows are brought down off the high Alpine pastures and paraded through the town right past our hotel!*

**Friday, September 13, 2019**

What a delight to see the *Alpabfahrten* (cows coming down off the mountain) at Sumiswald this morning. Our lunch will be at the Kambly Swiss Cookie Factory where we will sample lots of different Swiss cookies (free)! This afternoon, we visit our friends, Simon and

Regula Fankhauser, who will tell us about the *Täuferversteck*—a hiding place for Anabaptists. Before returning to our hotel, we will enjoy a stop at Langnau—home of the oldest, continuous Mennonite church in the world! The cemetery across the road reveals names such as Amstutz, Gerber, Hirschy, and Lehman. This evening we anticipate enjoying an International Dinner with Swiss Hostettler cousins.

**Saturday, September 14, 2019**

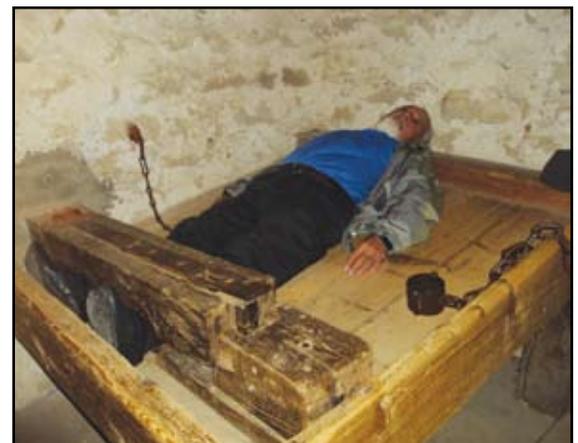
Today will be extra special as we visit the Schwarzenburgerland area of Switzerland. Here among the hills and valleys is where our Hostettler family originated, perhaps in the 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> century. Some have remained, and others have left for other countries. We will visit the farming hamlet of Winterkraut where the father of Immigrant Jacob Hochstetler lived and was an Anabaptist leader. He fled his lifetime home in the late 1690s for



*Famous 13<sup>th</sup> century Clock Tower in the city of Bern that was seen by our ancestors before they came to America.*



*We climb to the top of the **Trachselwald Castle** tower to see where Anabaptists were imprisoned in the 1500s.*



*It is a solemn moment to consider placing one of our group into the stocks in an old prison cell at **Trachselwald**.*

fear of his life and took his family to Alsace, France. We will also visit Guggisberg where in the town hall we can see a large plaque with the following family names who have lived in this region: Beyeler/Byler, Hostettler, Marti, Mast, Mischler, Steiner, Weber, Wenger, and many others. We will feel like we are back home in Pennsylvania because this is where we trace our roots! An afternoon visit to the Reformed Church at Steffisburg will show us where Kauffmans, Kings, Lehmans, Yoders, and Zauggs/Zooks have lived and served in government positions.



The **Thun castle** where Anabaptists were chained in the prison towers. Yes, we will walk to the top to look out over the city.

Then it is on for a memorable afternoon visit to the Thun Castle where Anabaptists were chained already in 1532. If the weather is good, we will see the snowy Alps these three days, and of course we will hear alphorn players and yodeling one of these nights here in Switzerland!

### Monday, September 16, 2019

As the morning clouds lift this morning, we will board a cablecar to take us high up into the Alps to the Schilthorn with spectacular scenery to enjoy a morning breakfast in a revolving restaurant. The

### Sunday, September 15, 2019

This morning we will enjoy our Sunday morning worship at the Erlenbach Reformed Church where Jakob Ammann was baptized as an infant. Erlenbach is in the Simmental Valley.



*Ballenberg (open air museum)*

spectacular view of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau snow-capped mountains plus more than 200 other summits will be awesome! After our descent, we board our bus, and stop at the town of Interlaken before driving on to Brienz for a cheese fondue dinner!



*Luzerne, Switzerland*

### Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Not only the hikers and walkers will enjoy the Ballenberg Open Air Museum this morning—also called the “Williamsburg of Switzerland”—but everyone loves to stroll through the paths to view the 100+ buildings that are centuries old from all over Switzerland, pet the farmyard animals, study the traditional and old-time gardens and fields, and learn from the demonstrations of local crafts—all that create a vivid impression of rural life in days gone by. Then it is on to Luzerne—the first city in the Swiss

Confederacy—where the famous wooden chapel bridge dating to 1333 welcomes us with its painted gables. This is also a delightful old city to relax, walk through the city streets to see the variety of unique paintings on the buildings, and do some last-minute shopping before flying home tomorrow. But first we visit the small town of Hirzel—the home town of the Landis family—and also where Johann Spyri lived and wrote the book *Heidi*. The Hirzel Reformed Church was built from money confiscated from Landis Anabaptist families who were forced to leave Switzerland. We will see the house of Preacher Hans Landis—the last Anabaptist to be martyred in Switzerland.

### Wednesday, September 18, 2019

Fly home from the Zurich, Switzerland, airport. This memorable experience of visiting Europe needs to end some time!



*Mürren, Switzerland*



— TOUR FEATURES AND CONDITIONS —

**TOUR PRICE:** \$4,600.00 per person based on double occupancy (add \$800 for a single room). A chartered bus from Morgantown to the airport will be available to transport tour participants to and from the airport. Vehicles may be parked at Masthof (Morgantown, Pa.) while we are in Europe. No cost for parking at Masthof. The projected cost for bus transportation to and from the airport will be about \$60 roundtrip per person (depends on the number of persons).

**AIR TRANSPORTATION:** Tour price includes U.S.A. departure tax with air included from the U.S. to Europe.

**MEALS:** Continental breakfast each morning and dinner each evening (excludes beverages) is provided. Lunch is on your own, although suggestions will be given.

**BAGGAGE:** Motorcoach capacity limits tour participants to one large suitcase per person plus a carry-on bag, so only one large suitcase plus “underseat” baggage, **please**. The airlines permit baggage with a combined length, width, and height of 106 inches provided no bag exceeds 62 inches, plus “underseat” baggage with total dimensions of 45 inches, and cannot weigh more than 50 pounds.

**SIGHTSEEING AND ENTRANCE FEES:** A coach driver driving a private deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach with additional local guides where necessary. Entrance fees are included to all places mentioned in this itinerary.

**TIPS AND TAXES:** Applicable taxes and service charges for program features are included. All tips to hotel staff for included services and meals and to bus driver are included.

**NOT INCLUDED:** Passport fee, travel insurance if your situation deems necessary, meals at noontime, beverages with included dinners, and personal expenses.

**DEPOSIT AND PAYMENTS:** A deposit of \$600.00 per person is requested to hold space on the tour. The remaining \$4,000 will be due before or on February 1, 2019, as space permits. Reservations will be accepted after February 1, 2019, although the cost of the airline ticket *may* increase pending availability.

**CANCELLATION CONDITIONS:** Full refund granted if cancellation is received by February 1, 2019. Cancellation after February 1, 2019, will result in a full refund less airline ticket.

A valid passport is required. If you do not have a passport, you should apply for one immediately, available at your local courthouse. If you have a passport, please verify that it is valid until at least December 31, 2019. No visa is required.

ALL RATES AND FARES ARE CALCULATED ON PRICES IN EFFECT AS OF JULY 1, 2018, AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. TOUR PRICE IS BASED ON PARTICIPATION BY AT LEAST 35 PERSONS.

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Mennonite Family History, 219 Mill Road, Morgantown, PA 19543-9516 • mast@masthof.com • 484-798-8556

Please reserve space for \_\_\_\_\_ person(s) on the 2019 Hostettler Anabaptist Heritage Tour. Check should be payable to “Mennonite Family History.” Enclosed is my deposit check of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. (\$600.00 deposit per person)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone & e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_