

CELEBRATING
300
YEARS

HERR

European Heritage Tour

September 7-20, 2021



To celebrate the 300 years since the Herr family left Switzerland and Germany to come to America, experience this tour visiting cultural and historic sites, with an emphasis on Herr and related families. We will visit historic Anabaptist sites in Switzerland and Germany including Herr ancestral villages.

*- Tour Leaders **Lemar & Lois Ann Mast**, Mennonite Family History; and **Jean Kilheffer Hess**, Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society*

Tuesday, September 7, 2021

Fly from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to Frankfurt, Germany.

Wednesday

September 8, 2021

Arrive in Germany and drive to the Black Forest—the best place to purchase a cuckoo clock.



Thursday, September 9, 2021

Drive into Switzerland and stop at Schleit-



**Schleitheim
Switzerland**

them to see the *Täufer* Museum before heading to the Rhinefalls at Schaffhausen—the largest waterfalls in Europe. Our lunch will be on a Swiss farm—you will never forget Hans and Lydia's hospitality! Then it is on to Felsenegg for a cable car ride overlooking Zurich and Lake Zurich before arriving at our hotel for the next two nights.

Friday, September 10, 2021

This morning, our worship time will take place in the *Täuferhöhle* (Anabaptist Cave) where many Anabaptists worshipped in secret. Following the memorable hike up to the Cave, we will participate in our worship service before meeting the Fischer family who prepared a delicious lunch for us. Then it is on to Zurich—the birthplace of Anabaptism in 1525. Here we will be led on a walking tour of the old city to see the Fraumünster Cathedral with its five famous stained glass windows by Marc Chagall; the Grossmünster Cathedral with its massive bronze cast doors depicting the Reformation story; and the



Memorial plaque along the Limmat River in Zurich at the site where early Anabaptist Felix Manz was drowned. Our ancestor, Hans Landis, was beheaded for his faith across the River. The Grossmünster can be seen in the distance.

memorial stone along the Limmat River where Anabaptist Felix Manz was drowned in 1527 and where Preacher Hans Landis was beheaded in 1614. As we walk these cobblestone streets where our Anabaptist ancestors walked, this becomes a spiritual journey.

Saturday, September 11, 2021

Our first stop this morning is at the small town of Hirzel, the home town of Landis ancestors and where Johanni Spyri wrote *Heidi*. We will see the house where Preacher Hans Landis lived: he was the last Anabaptist to be martyred in Switzerland. Then it is on to Einsiedeln, the site of a monastery founded in 934. This well-known Catholic landmark offers an opportunity to consider the departure points and commonalities Catholics and Anabaptists hold. Our lunch stop will be in Luzerne, the



***Hans Landis House** at Hirzel that was sold after the family saw their father beheaded. Residence and property was sold and monies used to build the Hirzel Reformed Church which we will visit.*



Mürren, Switzerland

first city in the Swiss Confederacy, where the famous wooden chapel bridge dating to 1333 welcomes us with its painted gables. Our afternoon drive will take us through the scenic Susten Pass on our way to Brienz. Enjoy a cheese fondue dinner and Swiss music to conclude the day.

Sunday, September 12, 2021

Worship at the Blumenstein Swiss Reformed Church this morning where our Herr/Zherr ancestors attended in the 1600s. From Blumenstein, our ancestors moved to Germany, and then later came to America. In the afternoon, we will explore the Thun Castle built in the 12th century.

Monday, September 13, 2021

This morning we take a cable car up high into the Swiss Alps to the Schilthorn to enjoy a delicious morning buffet breakfast in a revolving restaurant. The spectacular view of the Eiger, Mönch, and Jungfrau snow-capped mountains, plus more than 200 other summits, is awe-inspiring. On the way down, we will stop at the mountainside town of Mürren circled by the

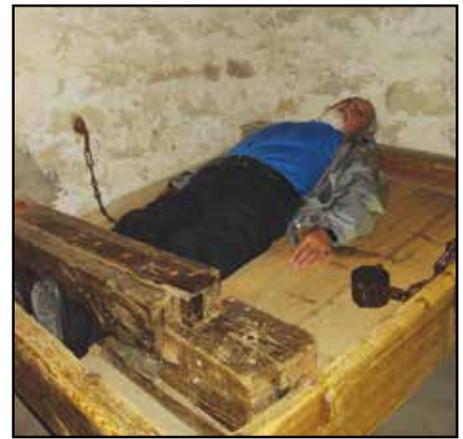
kind of panorama you only dream about, with Alpine wild flowers, waterfalls, and quiet hiking trails. Then, enjoy the beautiful drive through the Swiss hills to Sumiswald to sleep for the next three nights. One of these evenings, we will enjoy dinner with some of our Swiss Herr distant cousins.

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

As we visit many sites in the Emmental Valley today and tomorrow, our first stop is in the Swiss capitol of Bern to see the famed *Zeitglockenturm* (Bern Clock Tower with its mechanical figures that are set in motion four minutes before each hour.) Other sites will include the capitol buildings of Switzerland, the Münster Cathedral, and apartment where Physicist Albert Einstein lived. Of course, we cannot miss the bear pits!! Our last stop today is at the Jakob Markt where Swiss locals shop to buy Swiss curtains, Emmentaler Tea, etc.

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

Our first stop this morning is at the Trachselwald Castle (built in 1200 A.D.) We climb the prison tower to see where Benedict Brechbuehl/Brackbill and other Anabaptists were imprisoned for their faith. Then it is on to see the Langnau Mennonite Church—the oldest continuously used Mennonite Church in the world with roots in 1527. Walk through the Langnau Cemetery across the street and see many familiar surnames, and then a stop at the Barau Cowbell Factory—a perfect



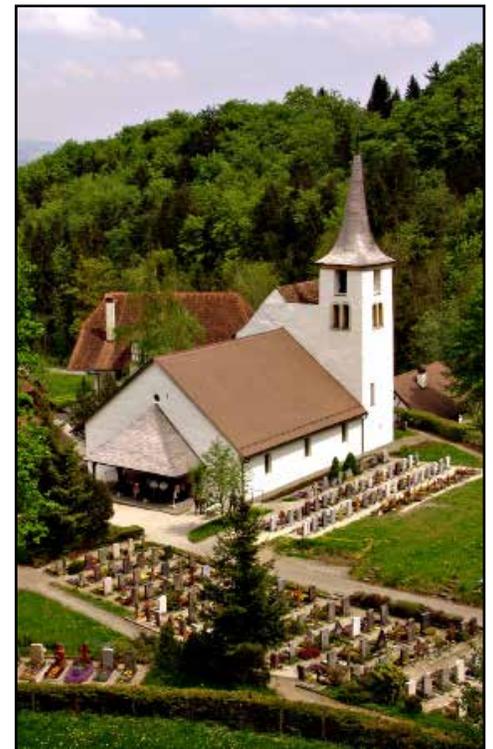
It is a solemn moment to consider placing one of our group into the stocks in an old prison cell at Trachselwald.



Regula Fankhauser at the Täuferversteck telling an insightful story of how Anabaptism has effected her life—here she is in the very informative museum she created.



Luzerne, Switzerland



Blumenstein Swiss Reformed Church where records back to the 1600s have been found for the Herr/Zherr family.



Parade of cows with cowbells and decorated flowers will come down past our hotel led by the farmers of this area in the Emmental.

place to buy a cowbell from the manufacturer. Our afternoon will begin at the home of Simon and Regula Fankhauser at the *Täuferversteck* at Hinterhütten, an old Swiss homestead with a hidden room that concealed hunted Anabaptists from the Swiss authorities. Most of our early Anabaptist ancestors were required to

leave for either the Alsace or the Palatinate before coming to America.

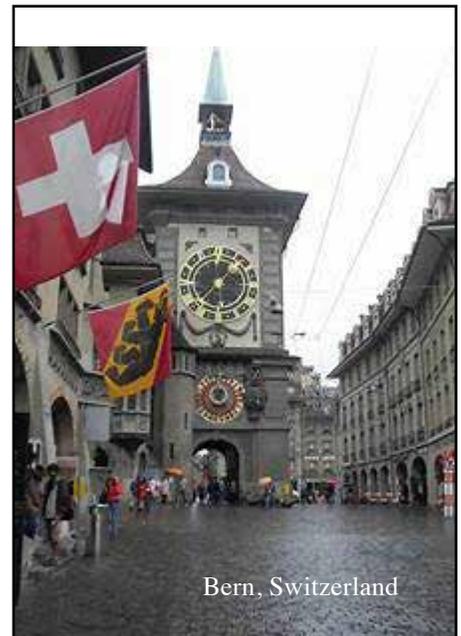
Thursday, September 16, 2021

Our first stop this morning is at a Swiss Cheese Factory before visiting a small business that produces the famous and delicious Swiss meringues! We will even be taught how to create them—and eat them, of course! Our evening dinner will end with a yodeling choir!

Friday, September 17, 2021

What a privilege to see the *Alpabfahrten* (cows coming down off the high mountain for the winter) right beside our hotel this morning. Then as we say goodbye to Switzerland, we enter Germany headed for the Palatinate to sleep for the next three nights. Here we will explore the region where the Herrs settled after leaving Switzerland. Our hotel at Worms is near the famed Worms Cathedral and the Martin Luther Monument surrounded by the main forerunners of the Reformation.

We ride past the same castles our ancestors rode past along the Rhine River—although our ship will be different than boats used years ago by our ancestors. Neither, we will stop at every castle to pay a fee.



Bern, Switzerland

Saturday, September 18, 2021

Stroll through the old town of Weierhof to see the village where the Peter Crayenbühl/Krehbiel/Kraybill family settled in 1682, see the first Mennonite Church there, and visit the Mennonite Historical Library. This town was originally a monastery destroyed in the Thirty Years' War. Then enjoy the afternoon Rhine River cruise sailing past the same castles that our ancestors passed when they were on their way to America. Return to Worms for last-minute shopping.

Sunday, September 19, 2021

This morning we will worship at Sinsheim Mennonite Church in the locality where the Herrs lived after moving from Switzerland to Duhren, Germany. We will also visit Unter Biegelhof where the Funcks operate an egg farm. Return to our hotel to celebrate our Goodbye Party.

Monday, September 20, 2021

Fly home from Frankfurt to Philadelphia with many good memories!



Alphorn and Yodeling!

Yes, we will have the opportunity to blow this alphorn!





— 300th Anniversary Herr European Heritage Tour Features & Conditions —

TOUR PRICE: \$4,800.00 per person based on double occupancy (add \$800 for a single room). **Note: Built into the tour price is a \$500 donation to the 1719 Herr House & Museum. Thank you!** A chartered bus from Morgantown will be available to transport persons to and from the airport. Vehicles may be parked cost-free at Masthof (Morgantown, Pa.) while we are in Europe. The projected cost for bus transportation to and from the airport will be about \$50 roundtrip per person (depends on the number of persons).

AIR TRANSPORTATION: Airfare and USA departure tax included in tour price.

MEALS: Continental breakfast each morning and dinner each evening (excludes beverages) are provided. Lunches are on our own, although suggestions will be offered.

BAGGAGE: Motorcoach capacity limits tour participants to one large suitcase per person plus an underseat carry-on bag, so only one large suitcase plus "underseat" baggage, **please**. Airline baggage limits apply to the tour: luggage may not exceed a combined length, width, and height of 106 inches provided no bag exceeds 62 inches in width. The carry-on bag total dimensions limit is 45 inches, and cannot weigh more than 50 pounds.

SIGHTSEEING AND ENTRANCE FEES: 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 are not included. Details on the use of credit card and using the country's currency will provided closer to our departure.

DEPOSIT AND PAYMENTS: A deposit of \$800.00 per person is requested to hold space on the tour. The remaining \$4,000.00 will be due on or before January 1, 2021, as space permits. "Pending availability, reservations will be accepted after January 1, 2021, although the cost of the airline ticket portion of the tour price *may* increase.

CANCELLATION CONDITIONS: Full refund granted if cancellation is received by September 1, 2020. Cancellation after September 1, 2020, 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. If you have a passport, please verify that it is valid until at least December 31, 2021. No visa is required.

ALL RATES AND FARES ARE CALCULATED ON PRICES IN EFFECT AS OF JANUARY 1, 2020, AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. TOUR PRICE IS BASED ON PARTICIPATION BY AT LEAST 35 PERSONS.



*2021 Herr European Heritage Tour is co-sponsored and led by
Mennonite Family History and Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society*

Checks should be payable to "Mennonite Family History" and mailed to:
219 Mill Road, Morgantown, PA 19543-9516
mast@masthof.com • 484-798-8556



Please reserve space for _____ person(s) on the
2021 Herr European Heritage Tour. Check
should be payable to "Mennonite Family
History." Enclosed is my deposit check of
\$ _____. (\$800.00 deposit per person)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone & E-mail: _____