

Mast European Heritage Tour



This tour will visit historic Anabaptist sites in Switzerland, France, Germany, Austria, and Liechtenstein including ancestral villages with an emphasis on the Mast/Maust family. The above photo is Guggisberg, Switzerland, where the Masts lived before coming to America.

Tuesday, September 6, 2022

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

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

Arrive at the Zürich Airport in the morning and drive to the Rhinefalls at Schaffhausen—the largest waterfalls in Europe for some walking exercise. Our delicious lunch will be at our friends, Hans and Lydia Baumgartner-Flachsmann, who will serve Alpensoup, Swiss Bratwurst with homemade bread, and a scrumptious Swiss dessert. Then it is on further to enjoy our cablecar ride at Felsenegg to overlook the Zürich Sea and city.

Thursday, September 8, 2022

A drive into the Swiss countryside will take us to 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 consider the freedom we experience today to worship unmolested in stark comparison to how the Anabaptists hiked to this cave at night where they secretly worshipped. After a meal at a nearby restored mill, we will continue on to the city of Zürich—the birthplace of Anabaptism in 1525—for a walking tour to see the Fraumünster 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



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

the same cobblestone streets our ancestors walked, this journey becomes a spiritual journey.

Friday, September 9, 2022

Driving east this morning, we travel through the small country of Liechtenstein with a stop, of course! Our early afternoon arrival at Innsbruck, Austria, will give



us time to see the Old Town Quarter including the famed Golden Roof with gold copper tiles built in 1496.



Saturday, September 10, 2022

Today is a special day as we drive north into Germany to attend the world-famous Oberammergau Passion Play given since 1634! This is a much-anticipated reenactment of the crucifixion of Christ—from His entry into Jerusalem to the Resurrection—performed only once a decade in the quaint Bavarian village of Oberammergau. The play begins in the afternoon followed by a three-hour early dinner break and concludes in the evening. This is a great memorable event that draws thousands around the world.



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



Sunday, September 11, 2022

We enter Germany this morning as we head for our first stop at the Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Site. This sober visit is certain to be a unique educational experience. Our hotel tonight will be in the city of Worms near the famed Worms Cathedral and the Martin Luther monument surrounded by Reformed forerunners.

Monday, September 12, 2022

Our first stop this morning will be at Weierhof for a walking tour of this old town that was originally a monastery destroyed in the Thirty Years' War. It was settled in 1682 by Kraybill and other Mennonite families from Switzerland. Our next stop is at Sprendlingen—the home of the Weilers. Then it is a relaxing afternoon cruise on the Rhine River that will take us past the same castles that our ancestors passed when they were on their way to America.

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

This morning, we visit the Schowalter family who now own Ringweilerhof (today it is a hog farm) where Immigrant Nicholas Stoltzfus lived and worked before coming to America. Then, we say goodbye to Germany as we drive to Obernai, France, for our overnight lodging—you are sure to enjoy this old walled town and do some French shopping—a great place for the shoppers in our group! Watch for the beautiful storks in this part of Europe.

Wednesday, September 14, 2022

Our first stop this morning is at Le Hang, France, where Masts lived before immigrating to America. Our lunch stop will be at the Stork Park near Hunawehr, France, for a delightful nature stroll to see storks and other wildlife. Then it is on to Switzerland where our first stop will be at a Swiss Cheese store and then on to Sumiswald where we will sleep for the next three nights. On one of these nights,



Ringweilerhof—home of Immigrant Nicholas Stoltzfus before coming to Pa.



we will be treated with delightful yodeling and alpenhorn music!

Thursday, September 15, 2022

Today will be extra special as we visit the Schwarzenburgerland. Here among the Swiss hills is where our Mast family originated. Some have remained and we will be hosted by them in Guggisberg for lunch—an international Mast Reunion! The Guggisberg town hall displays a large plaque with the following family names who have lived in this region: Beyeler/Byler, Hostettler, Marti, Mast, Mischler, Steiner, Weber, Wenger, and others. Yes, it feels like we are back home in Pennsylvania! We will also visit the farming hamlet of Winterkraut where the father of Immigrant Jacob Hochstetler lived and was an Anabaptist leader. Then it is on to Bern, the capital of Switzerland 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 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.

Friday, September 16, 2022

The highlight this morning is when we see the *Alpabfahrten* (cows coming down off the high mountain for the winter) right beside our hotel this morning. Our lunch will be at the Kambly Swiss Cookie Factory where we sample (free) lots of different Swiss cookies! Then we are off to visit our friends Simon and Regula Fankhauser who live at the *Täuferversteck*—a hiding place for Anabaptists. On our way back to our hotel, we will 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.



Famous 13th 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.

Saturday, September 17, 2022

This morning we will stop at the Jakob Markt—the store where locals shop for lace curtains and a variety of other Swiss items. Then a short stop at Signau where our Zaugg/Zook ancestors lived and a visit to the Barau Cowbell Factory before driving through beautiful farmland on our way to Steffisburg where Kauffmans, Kings, Lehmans, Yoders, and Zauggs/Zooks lived and even served in the government before forced to leave their homeland and flee to America. We are in for a delightful surprise this afternoon and evening as we take a scenic cable car ride up to the mountain town of Mürren to see amazing views of the Swiss Alps and sleep there!

Sunday, September 18, 2022

Our breakfast this morning will on top of the Schilthorn after taking another cablecar ride higher up into the Alps to eat in a revolving restaurant.

The spectacular views of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau snow-capped mountains plus more than 200 other



The **Thun castle** where Anabaptists were chained in the prison towers.

Luzerne, Switzerland

summits are awesome! The rest of the day will be spent at the Ballenberg Open Air Museum—also called the “Williamsburg of Switzerland”—where we stroll through paths to view the centuries-old buildings from all over Switzerland, enjoy the traditional and old-time gardens and fields, and demonstrations of local crafts—all creating a vivid impression of rural life in days gone by.



Mürren, Switzerland



Ballenberg (open air museum)

Monday, September 19, 2022

This morning, we drive into the Simmental region and stop at Erlenbach where Jakob Ammann was born. The painted frescoes on the Reformed Church wall are amazing. Then it is on to Steffisburg where Gingerich, Kauffman, King, Miller, Roth and Yoders lived before coming to America. We will see the Reformed Church with these names on an old plaque. Our lunch stop will be at Interlaken



for more shopping. Enjoy a delicious cheese fondue dinner tonight with Swiss yodeling and Swiss alphorn concert just for us!

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

Today we visit Luzerne—the first city in the Swiss Confederacy—where the famous wooden chapel bridge dating to 1333 welcomes us with its painted gables. Wait till you see the unique paintings on buildings, but also do some last-minute shopping before flying home tomorrow. But before arriving at our hotel, we will visit the small town of Hirzel—the hometown 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 also walk up to the house of Preacher Hans Landis—the last Anabaptist to be martyred in Switzerland. Tonight, we will enjoy a good-bye party with lots of memories that will go with us the rest of our life!

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

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



— TOUR FEATURES AND CONDITIONS —

TOUR PRICE: \$5,300.00 per person based on double occupancy (add \$800 for a single room—not available while at the Passion Play). 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 \$60 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 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**. 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 be provided closer to our departure.

DEPOSIT AND PAYMENTS: A deposit of \$700.00 per person is requested to hold space on the tour. The remaining \$4,600 will be due on or before January 1, 2022, as space permits. Pending availability, reservations will be accepted after January 1, 2022, although the cost of the airline ticket portion of the tour price may increase

CANCELLATION CONDITIONS: Full refund granted if cancellation is received by January 1, 2022. Cancellation after January 1, 2022, 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, 2022. No visa is required.

ALL RATES AND FARES ARE CALCULATED ON PRICES IN EFFECT AS OF JULY 1, 2020, AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. TOUR PRICE IS BASED ON PARTICIPATION BY AT LEAST 35 PERSONS.

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

Please reserve space for _____ person(s)
on the *2022 Mast European Heritage Tour*.
Check should be payable to “**Mennonite Family History**.” Enclosed is my deposit check of
\$ _____. (\$700.00 deposit per person)

Name(s): _____
Address: _____

Phone & E-mail: _____