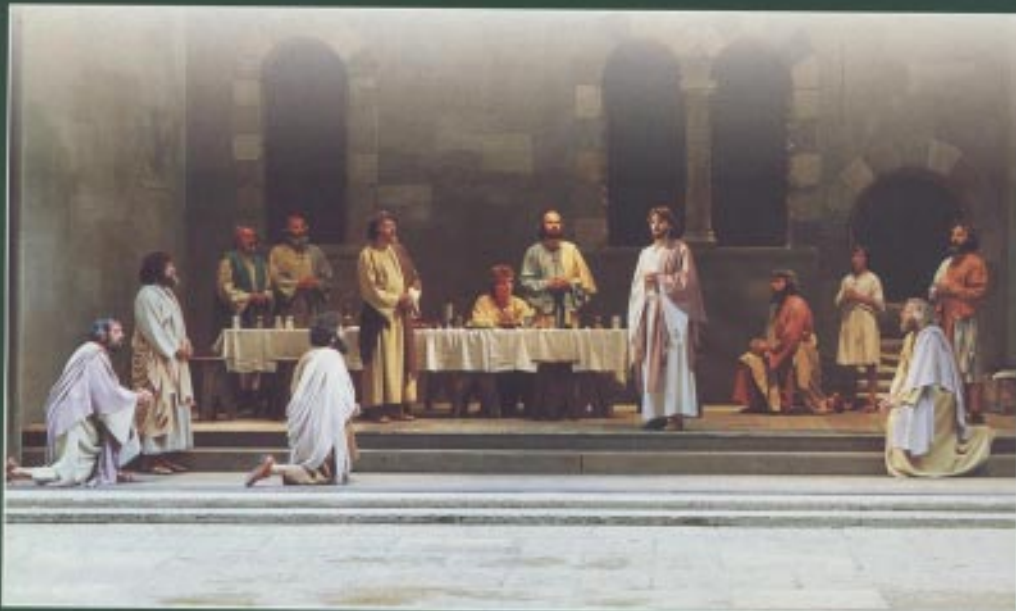


Oberammergau 2000

Page & Moy Tours Ltd
with Raymond Cook Christian Tours

Full colour A4 14 pages

Oberammergau 2000



**PAGE
& MOY**
LTD

Raymond
Cook 

The Passion Play

*D*ear Oberammergau Traveller,

We are delighted to give you details of our programme for Oberammergau 2000.

You will see that we offer a good choice of holiday destinations, all combined with a 2 night stay in Oberammergau and a performance of the world famous Passion Play. With prices starting at only £759 for a 7 night holiday by air you will receive great value for money when you choose to travel with us.

Page & Mey Holidays, parent company of Raymond Cook Christian Tours, is a long standing member of ABTA, agents of IATA and a fully bonded licence holder of the Civil Aviation Authority, so your holiday arrangements could not be in safer hands.

So, take some time to look through the brochure, choose your holiday, departure date and airport, then contact us to book your place; but don't take too long, demand is sure to be high for such a special occasion.

We look forward to hearing from you and to organising your holiday to Oberammergau 2000.



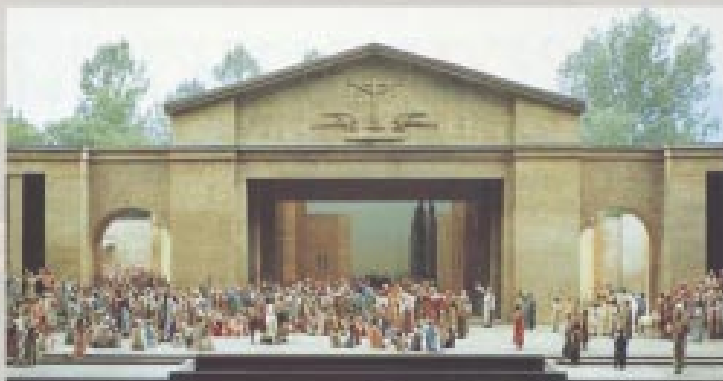
Scene from the Passion Play

Every ten years the tiny Bavarian village of Oberammergau attracts visitors from all over the world to witness the famous Passion Play, the last time being 1990. The next performances will be even more special as they take place in the year 2000 - the millennium. Famous throughout the world, this unique play has been staged since 1634. Its origins lie in the great plague of 1633 when the inhabitants of Oberammergau took an oath that they would re-enact the bitter suffering of Jesus every ten years, should their village be spared further disease. As a perpetual thanksgiving, this moving play has been performed with passion, loyalty and tradition ever since by local people who must have been born in have died in the village for at least twenty years.

The entire population of the village, including children, take part in either the play, the orchestra or the choir, and leading actors are elected to their roles. Even sheep and a donkey participate in the performance! The main narrative is punctuated by a number of tableaux depicting Old Testament prophecies about the coming of the Messiah. Up to 300 villagers take part in these living pictures and the prophecies are set to music and song by a large choir.

To achieve as authentic a feel as possible throughout the play a great deal of attention is paid to the historical accuracy of the costumes and the male actors in the leading roles have to grow beards and wear their hair long.

The play also has royal connections - on 15th September, 1871 King Ludwig II attended a special Passion Play performance and was so impressed he invited the main actors to Linderhof Castle and bestowed gifts upon them. He also presented a monumental sculpture of the crucifixion to the Oberammergau community and later donated a glass painting which is displayed in the local History Museum. Every August, in honour of the King, the villagers light a bonfire on nearby Mount Kofel and enjoy a magnificent fireworks display.



Rehearsal at the Passion Play Theatre

The Passion Play Text and Music

The oldest version of the Oberammergau text is dated 1622. Its 5,000 verses combine an anonymous medieval play with a passion play written by the Augsburg meistersinger, Sebastian Wild during the 16th century. Although the original text has been revised many times in the past 350 years, the staging of the play has remained virtually the same since the 1930s. The music, which was written especially for the Passion Play in 1815 by Rochus Deller, the village schoolteacher, is performed by the large choir and orchestra.

The Passion Play Theatre

Up until 1810 the Passion Plays were performed in front of the parish church. In 1830 they were moved to a meadow outside the village and at the turn of the century a large hall was built to accommodate up to 4,000 spectators. In 1950 the stage and hall were redesigned and enlarged, making it one of the largest open air stages in the world. A permanent exhibition relating to the history of the play is housed in the theatre.

The play, performed five times a week, is divided into two main parts from 9.30am to 12.30pm and from 1.30pm to around 5.30pm. Lunch, which is included in the price of the ticket, allows you ample time to relax in between the morning and afternoon performances. Although the auditorium is covered, it is advisable to take warm clothing as it may get a little cold.

Page & Moy and Raymond Cook Christian Tours Guarantee

The combination of Page & Moy's 35 years' experience of organising worldwide travel and Raymond Cook's long-standing expertise in operating tours to Oberammergau means that you can be confident in the quality and service you will receive on your Oberammergau 2000 holiday. All of our holidays have been carefully designed and each of our itineraries gives excellent sightseeing opportunities as well as the chance to relax and explore independently. Scheduled flights and reputable airlines are used to ensure comfort and safety. The holidays are accompanied by an experienced and knowledgeable tour leader who will ensure the smooth running of the tour. In addition, Page & Moy is a fully bonded member of ABTA, agent of IATA and a fully bonded licence holder of the Civil Aviation Authority. This means that our holiday arrangements and your money are protected when you book with us, giving you financial security.



Oberammergau - the



The village of Oberammergau in the South Bavarian Alps



The Bavarian village of Oberammergau, whose origins date from Roman times, is located in a wide valley surrounded by lush meadows, wooded hills and mountain peaks. As well as the historic Passion Play, the village is also famous for its magnificent handicrafts and beautifully decorated buildings and welcomes visitors to its unique attractions throughout the year.

Village

The tradition of *Lüftmalerei* - decorating the facades of the buildings with colourful frescoes - began during the 18th century when one of the villagers, Franz Seraph Zwinkl, painted mock architectural features, decorative motifs and genre themes on the walls of the local houses. The style of his work evolved and religious themes began to emerge. One of the most impressive

series of Zwinkl's frescoes feature on the upper facade of the *Plattus House* in the centre of the village. Built between 1750 and 1784, the building is named after the fresco on the south facade which portrays Jesus before Pilate after his arrest. Christ's crucifixion features on the front of the building and the resurrection scene is on the east side.

This special artistic tradition found favour throughout the region and has been kept alive over the years. During the 20th century religious topics have been complimented by fairy tale themes including frescoes which adorn the *Hansel and Gretel House* and the *Little Red Riding House*.

The art of wood carving has its origins in the mid 15th century. Local woodcarvers, using linden and alderwood from the nearby forests, would fashion crib scenes, statues of Mary, figures of saints and representations of Christ on the cross as well as household goods, toys and ornaments. At one time heavily laden packmen would travel around Europe selling the wooden artefacts. The fame of the carvers spread and by the 18th and 19th centuries the work of the Oberammergau craftsmen was very much in demand. These talents were further



One of the many decorated buildings in Oberammergau.

developed in the mid 19th century when the community opened up an Art School for young wood carvers to develop drawing and modelling skills. Today the craft and skill of the wood carver can be seen at close quarters in the workshop located in the *Plattus House*.

The craft of wood carving paved the way for the development of other art forms including wax carving and glass painting. As with other traditional Oberammergau arts and crafts, religious themes are prominent. 350 years of local art can be seen at the *Local History Museum* in the village centre. Beautiful wood carvings, waxworks and glass paintings are exhibited here and its collection of wooden nativity scenes is unique.

The 18th century Church of St Peter and St Paul is well worth a visit. Its simple exterior, with its distinctive onion-shaped dome, is in complete contrast to its lavishly decorated interior which is a riot of gilded Baroque ornamentation. Magnificent frescoes adorn the nave and apse, statues of St Peter and St Paul stand next to the high altar and a stairway leads to the ornate, canopied pulpit.

Oberammergau is located within Germany's largest nature reserve and is the ideal base for walking and

hiking in the surrounding meadows, along the River Armer and in the Alpine foothills. To the east of the village a walking trail leads to the panoramic viewpoint, *Romanshöhe*, and just outside the village a cable railway ascends the *Labs* Mountain from where magnificent views of the surrounding landscapes can be enjoyed.



The Plattus House, Oberammergau.

Oberammergau & The Austrian Tyrol

The glorious Alpine scenery of the Austrian Tyrol holds irresistible charm. Here you will find wooded mountain slopes, velvet-green meadows, waterfalls and tumbling streams, wild flowers and picture-postcard villages. The onion-domed churches and charming painted houses, with their wooden balconies full of brightly coloured flowers, are sure to delight as you relax amid this breathtaking scenery. Enjoy our included full day excursion to Innsbruck, the capital of the Tyrol, where we see the lovely Old Town with its beautiful, graceful houses, ornate facades, ancient squares and the 'Golden Roof', the dazzling 15th century royal box.

An optional excursion through delightful Tyrolean country-side into Italy will also be available.

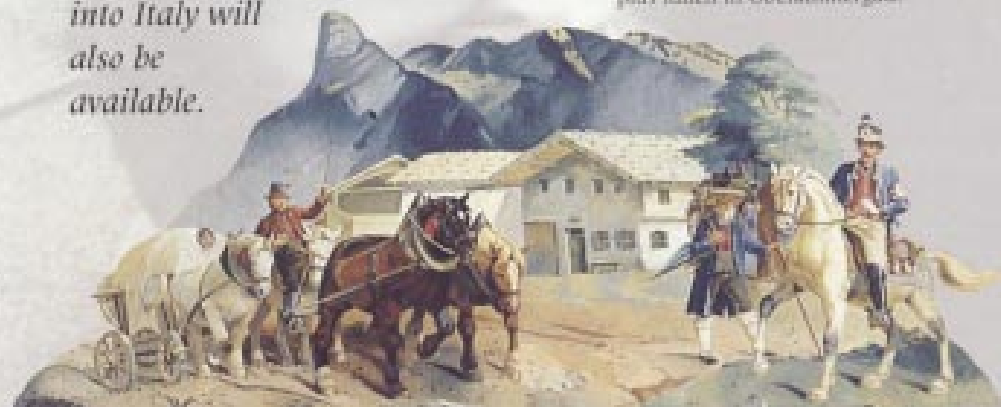
- ◆ 7 or 9 nights by air
- ◆ Scheduled flights from London, Birmingham, Manchester and a choice of regional airports
- ◆ Choice of 2 resorts



See the glorious 'Golden Roof' at our tour of Innsbruck's Old Town

By Air - 7 or 9 nights

3 or 7 nights' half board accommodation in the Tyrol and 2 nights' half board accommodation plus lunch in Oberammergau.

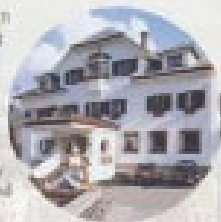


Your choice of resort

Lermoos, Hotel Post (4-star)

The small resort of Lermoos enjoys an exceptionally beautiful setting facing the foothills of the Zugspitze, which forms the border between Austria and Germany and is Germany's highest mountain.

The 4-star Post offers very comfortable rooms and is attractively appointed in Tyrolean style with wood carvings throughout the hotel. The restaurant and bar enjoy unobscured views over the valley to the Zugspitze and there are comfortable seats in which to retire after dinner. The hotel offers extensive leisure and fitness facilities including a splendid indoor pool and sun-terrace. There is a supplement of £7 per person per night for rooms with a balcony.



Oberndorf, Hotel Neuwirt (3-star)

Oberndorf, in the heart of the Kitzbühler Alpe, is a charming village situated just a short distance from the exclusive holiday resort of Kitzbühel with its stylish shops and colourful pavement cafes.

The welcoming, family-run Hotel Neuwirt is typically Tyrolean with large wooden balconies bedecked with flowers and offers a restaurant, reception room and large sun terrace. All rooms have been recently refurbished to a high standard offering spacious and comfortable accommodation and excellent en suite bathrooms. Once a week traditional Tyrolean folk evenings are held in the hotel and are enjoyed by hotel guests and locals alike. Located in the centre of Oberndorf, the hotel is a 15 minute walk from the station where there are regular trains to nearby Kitzbühel.



Holiday Details

Departure Date	Resort	From	Nights	Holiday Number	Prices Per Person
29 May* (Thurs)	Lermoos	H M B	7	G562	£865
5 June (Sat)	Oberndorf	H M B	7	G602	£789
11 June (Sat)	Oberndorf	H M B	9	G632	£799
20 June (Tues)	Lermoos	K	7	G592	£799
3 August (Tues)	Oberndorf	K	7	G602	£789
17 August (Thurs)	Oberndorf	H M B	7	G602	£789
27 August (Sat)	Lermoos	K	7	G592	£799
26 August (Sat)	Oberndorf	H M B	7	G602	£789
5 September (Sat)	Lermoos	H M B	7	G592	£799

* For this departure, your way in Oberammergau will be before your stay in the Tyrol.

Your Journey

London Heathrow (H), Manchester (M) (price supplement) & Birmingham (B) - Scheduled flights to Lufthansa to Munich Regional Airport (K). Scheduled flights to AGW (L) to Munich via Amsterdam are available from a strand of regional airports and supplements - see page 5 for details.



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Lermoos