



Oberlin Choristers
Sound of Music Traveler
February 2009
Tour Dates
June 26-July 5, 2009



The Final Price:

Some good news. One of the most difficult challenges with international travel is the uncertainty of currency levels. Add that to a downward spiraling global economy, constantly changing flights, and uncertain energy prices, and you don't paint a pretty picture. However, we can now pass along the following price reductions that are reflected on your enclosed statement:

\$150 - Credit for ALL participants

\$100 - Fund Raising Credit to all SINGERS thanks to the December Benefit Concert, Carrabbas luncheon, and the May Benefit Concert. (yet to be held, so please help us promote and get your friends to come)

\$265 - Credit for those who participated in the Night at the Races fund raiser.

Our group has already been ticketed and is ready to go. Due to the late arrival of this information, the final payment deadline has been extended to March 16th, but earlier payment is greatly appreciated.

Packing List

Included, but please make special note:

One Suitcase Only: Suitcase should have wheels – all participants are expected to carry their own luggage. A good guide is a suitcase not larger than 60 linear inches. (width + height + depth) A medium suitcase is about 45 linear inches. We will talk with all singers about not bringing any more than necessary. It is always good to pack light so you have room to bring things home.

NO Cell phones: cell phones are NOT to be brought by singers. American phones, unless specially adapted, will not work, and **we do not allow singers to make calls while on tour.**

Here is why we have established this policy:

1. Most children experience some separation anxiety when they leave their families, we have found that phoning home makes them feel lonelier, not better. We have observed that children who call home immediately start planning for their next All of this makes it harder for them to enjoy their daily experiences and their traveling companions.
2. Chaperones and tour leaders are responsible for your child during the tour and job is easier if a child comes directly to them with a concern rather than calling a parent thousands of miles away.
3. One of the greatest benefits your children will receive from touring is the knowledge that he or she actually DID IT. They will have traveled across the ocean, lived with another person during the tour, traveled around in chaperone groups led by an adult other than their parent, learned to cope with daily challenges, performed in internationally acclaimed venues, and (most importantly) soaked in the beauty and culture of a country with other children they have sung with all year long.



and
also
call.

their

Priceless

Having said all this, we know that you, the parent, sitting back in Ohio, will be thinking about your child. We will encourage each chaperone group to set aside time once or twice during the tour for their singers to email home. We will also be posting pictures on the web. (you will be given a link at a later date)

Emergency situations may also arise during the tour. You will be asked to give your child's chaperone very detailed contact info during the time we are on tour. You will be supplied with all hotel numbers and an emergency number for the Casterbridge Tour Co. Should you need to reach us, we ask that you leave a message with the hotel or with the tour company. DO NOT try to call your child. The time difference is 6 hours and the group will be very busy, so it will be almost impossible for you to find a time to reach your child, and if you do, you may be disturbing much needed sleep.

It is vital that we receive your cooperation concerning this policy

More of our truly amazing chaperones:

Joan Cahalan: Mother of Shannon, Touring Choir. Joan has chaperoned school and church youth group events. Professionally she has experience with computer software design and bookselling. Her most memorable travel was a Bible Study Tour to Israel in 2005. " We visited St. Anne's chapel, built in central Jerusalem in the 12th century. There we stood and sang the Doxology, Praise...God..from...whom....., leaving a full second in between each word. Our untrained, parched voices formed the most beautiful chorus that I could even imagine. It took 5 or 6 seconds for the full sound to fade away. My revelation was that even imperfect instruments, when joined together, can produce a remarkable beautiful synergy."

Judy Coolidge: Mother of Erick Bielefeld. Judy taught high school English at Bay High for 35 years. She currently serves as an education specialist for Taylor Publishing. She has traveled to England, Scotland and Canada's Georgian Bay. She has chaperoned multiple Model UN trips to NYC and has taken her yearbook staff to various workshops and conferences. She writes that one of her most thrilling travel experiences was being invited along with her students to the "Urinetown" cast party. One of her former students produced the play.

Carol Correthers: Mother of Adesina, Touring Choir. Carol has been a special ed. teacher for 11 years but has also served as a mental health case manager and as adjunct Professor at Cleveland State. She has chaperoned various school field trips and traveled to England as a high school student. She also has served as Track and Volleyball coach, a Sunday School Teacher and Girl Scout leader.

Carolyn McKinney: Mother of Kayla, Touring Choir. This will be Carolyn's first trip overseas but she has traveled with schools and Girl Scout groups to various states. She has been a Girl Scout leader for the past seven years, and is now co-director for the Vermilion service unit.

Beth Martin: Mother of Liz, Youth Chorale and Choristers' uniform coordinator. Beth has been a volunteer Softball Coach, Girl Scout leader, and classroom worker. She chaperoned for Choristers when the Touring Choir traveled to Denver in 2006. She has traveled to Canada and has cruised to Mexico.

Henry Pare: Grandfather of Andrew Hartley, Touring Choir. In his capacity as a Police Officer, Henry has worked with the schools in Massachusetts for the past 6 years. He has been a Boy Scout leader and over the years has hosted 6 foreign exchange students. Henry was born in Austria, has traveled to Germany and Russia and speaks German. YEAH!

The rest next month!

Sunday, June 28th.

*Our first concert will be at Peterskirche (St. Peter's Church) in Vienna.
We will participate in a 5 pm Mass and a 7pm concert.*

The old church building (of which nothing remains today) was built on the same grounds and dated back to the early Middle Ages. The old church burned down in 1661.

The decision to build a new church was taken up with the arrival of the Fraternity of the Holy Trinity of which the emperor Leopold I was a member. He had taken a vow to rebuild this church when Vienna was ravished by the plague in 1679-1680.

Construction on the "new" Baroque church began around 1701 and was completed in 1733. Due to the confinement of available space, it was built in a very compact form, with its oval interior housing an astonishing amount of space and rectangular attachments. The church makes an overwhelming impression on the visitor with its surprisingly rich interior filled with golden stucco.

The church has undergone major reconstruction in the past decade restoring especially the paintings to their original coloring and brightness.

