



Melk Abbey



The baroque Benedictine Abbey, where Umberto Eco's novel *The Name of the Rose* begins and ends, is a treasure trove of paintings, sculptures and decorative art. The great library contains 2000 volumes from the 9th to the 15th century alone. It was built in 976 as a castle by Leopode I but in 1089 was given to the Benedictine Order and transformed into an Abbey. In the 15th century a school was attached to the monastery. The current baroque look dates back to 18th century when it was transformed by Jakob Prandtauer and many contemporary artists.

**March Traveler
Tour Dates
June 26-July 5**

To all travelers and families:

Special and sincere thanks to all of you who have remained committed to this tour. We know it has been difficult for many of you. The fact that 65 singers will have this opportunity to expand their knowledge and experience by traveling to one of the most musically and historically rich areas of the world is a testament to your high regard for educational enrichment.

Calendar update:

Chaperones Only

**Monday, May 4, 2009 OR
Monday, May 11, 2009**

Required Chaperone meeting: (please pick one and let me know which you will be attending)
Both will take place from 7:15-8:15pm at the New Union Center for the Arts - 2nd floor conference room.

Parents Only

Required meeting for parents with children going on tour:

**Sunday, May 31, 2009 - 3pm -
Oberlin Public Library - main
meeting room**

Mandatory Extra

**Rehearsals for ALL Touring
Choir and touring Youth Chorale
singers:**

**Tuesday, June 16th and
Thursday, June 18th**
Warner Concert Hall, Oberlin College
Conservatory of Music
5:00-6:30pm
The entrance to Warner is just north
of First Methodist Church on
S. Professor St., Oberlin

Confirmed Flight and Itinerary Information

*This information will be made
available to you at a much later date.
Coordinating a group of over 100 is
logistically challenging. We try to be
as close to 100% sure of information
before we pass it on to you.*

****Patience Please****

All singers will stay in double
rooms with two twin beds
except for a couple of triples.

We will pick roommates in
April.

More of our wonderful chaperones:

Barb Patterson, mother of Cody in Touring Choir is an active volunteer having chaperoned Jr. High and High School ski trips, youth church retreats, and school field trips. She has provided in-home day care, has taught Sunday School, and currently provides in-school assistance to a special needs student.

Jamie Reis is mother of Taylor in Touring Choir and wife of Bill (below). She has been a Girl Scout leader, PTA volunteer, Home Room parent, and supporter of numerous other children's activities too numerous to name. She is CPR and Red Cross certified. She lived in Germany for 3 years and speaks survival German. She has traveled extensively throughout the world. Her favorite travel destination was to Hawaii because "it smelled so good."

Bill Reis is one of our "fluent in German" chaps. He has volunteered with children as a Sunday School teacher, PTA volunteer, and Little League coach. He is a Red Cross Instructor and received Air Force emergency firefighting and medical training. He lived in Germany for 4 years and minored in European History in college.

Anne Marie Shadrake has daughters in both Youth Chorale and Touring Choir. She teaches high school English as a Second Language but has taught ESL to younger children as well. She traveled with the Beck Children's Choir to the Niagara International Music Festival, has chaperoned children to DC, and also chaperoned the Touring Choir retreat. Her favorite travel destinations were to Aruba and Marco Island, Florida.

Silent Night Chapel



Silent Night Chapel

The carol *Silent Night* was first performed in the Nikolaus-Kirche (Church of St. Nicholas) in Oberndorf, Austria on December 24, 1818. Mohr had composed the words much earlier, in 1816, but on Christmas Eve brought them to Gruber and asked him to compose a melody and guitar accompaniment for the church service.

The chapel was constructed on the site of the original church which was destroyed in a flood. The foundations for the Silent Night Chapel were laid on August 17, 1924, and it was consecrated on August 15, 1937.

Each year, on December 24, a special passenger train pulled by a bright red electric locomotive heads out of the train station in Salzburg for a half hour trip to the village of Oberndorf. A multitude of languages can be heard as passengers from all over the globe become Christmas pilgrims, heading for the birthplace of the world's best loved Christmas carol "Silent Night."

The hillside around the Silent Night Chapel is lit by candles and lanterns held by people who are celebrating the hymn of heavenly peace.
