

Concordia University Nebraska is happy to offer our alumni family and friends the opportunity to experience the benefits and joys of traveling the world together in Christian fellowship.

~ THE LEGENDARY DANUBE ~

## SWITZERLAND, GERMANY, AUSTRIA, SLOVAKIA, HUNGARY

MAY 15 - 27, 2013

Highlighting Concordia University A Cappella Choir Performances in Germany, 7-Night Luxurious Danube River Cruise and 4-Nights Geneva and the beautiful Mosel Valley Region



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### Tour hosted by Concordia University President, Dr. Brian Friedrich and Mrs. Jan Koopman, Director of Alumni and Church Relations

It is with joy and anticipation that Concordia University, Nebraska is sponsoring this accompanying tour for our alumni and friends. The university A Cappella Choir has begun preparing for the international competition and choral performances; what an opportunity for us to join them for a few days in Geneva and Frankfurt and then experience together the beautiful Blue Danube River cruise, the medieval cities, the wineries and cathedrals of Eastern Europe. Over the years of Concordia travel opportunities, we continue to hear "we enjoyed the sights and scenery of the tour, but we especially enjoyed the *people* with whom we toured; they became lifelong friends!" We look forward to getting to know more of our alumni and friends in 2013! President Brian and Laurie Friedrich

#### Day 1 Depart USA

#### Day 2 Arrive late morning Geneva, Switzerland (D)

Upon arrival at Geneva airport you are met by your European tour guide. We will explore Geneva on a panoramic sightseeing tour. Including a visit to the Archaeological site beneath St. Pierre Cathedral to view two 4th-century Christian shrines; late Roman mosaic floors; portions of three more early churches; an 11th-century crypt that was part of the first Romanesque cathedral on the site (completed c.1000 AD). This afternoon we drive 1-hr to Lausanne for check-in to the hotel and a welcome dinner before attending the Concordia Choir performance at the Temple of Morges.

#### Day 3 Mosel River Region (B)

This morning following breakfast we board our coach and drive deep into the beautiful German countryside and one of the oldest winery areas in Germany. We'll stop along the way for lunch in a quaint village. Overnight Cochem

#### Day 4 Cochem, Eltz Castle (B, D)

This morning we awake in the historical city of Cochem, one of the most picturesque cities in Germany- with its riverside location, beautiful landscape, imperial Reichsburg Castle towering over the city and the impressive timber-framed tower of the 'Martinskirche' (St. Martin's Church). We visit a local wine cellar for tasting and to learn more about the history of this very popular German tradition. Afterwards, we visit the awe-inspiring Eltz Castle - one of the most beautiful

and best preserved castles in Germany. It lies in a romantic setting surrounded by an unspoiled landscape - like a fairy-tale castle come to life. Overnight Cochem

#### Day 5 Cologne, Frankfurt (B)

Today we drive to Cologne, we'll meet a local guide who will share with us the history of this fascination city including the old town, the Cologne cathedral and (time permitting visit to the Chocolate Museum). We'll have time for lunch on our own before our drive to nearby Frankfurt. This evening we attend the Concordia Choir performance in Frankfurt. Overnight Frankfurt

#### Day 6 Regensburg, Danube River Cruise (B, L, D)

Today we transfer to our ship for a luxurious 7-night cruise along the Danube River. Along the way we stop in **Regensburg** for a walking tour of one of Germany's best preserved medieval cities, its Old Town a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Aboard the ship we meet for our welcome cocktail reception and dinner. **Overnight ship**

*Inspired by classic ocean yachts, our ship will provide the most distinctive river cruise experience. The beautifully-decorated and spacious accommodations range in size and offer a choice of river view or balcony cabins. Relax in a heated sun deck swimming pool; enjoy culinary creations, cultural and historical shore excursions at each port. The ship features internet access and a fleet of bicycles to enhance your river cruise experience and much more!*

**Day 7 Passau (B, L, D)**

This morning you are free to explore Vilshofen's beautiful old town before you cruise to Passau, where this afternoon you will have your choice of two different excursions. The first option is to take a walking tour through this 2,000-year-old fairy tale city, noted for its Gothic and Italian Baroque architecture. Walk the cobblestone streets of the Old Town where you will see the city fortifications and St. Stephan's Cathedral, which is home to the largest cathedral organ in the world. As an alternative, experience this majestic city on a guided bike tour along the Inn River to Weinstein. **Overnight Ship**

**Day 8 Linz, Austria, Gmunden (B, L, D)**

This morning the ship arrives in Linz, the second largest city in Austria. Your walking tour guides you along the Landstrasse, to the city's Main Square where you will see St. Mary's Cathedral, the Marian Column, the Landes Theatre and St.

Martin's Church, the oldest church in Austria. Return to the ship for brunch. This afternoon you have the choice of three different excursions. The first option is a visit to the scenic "Salzkammergut" region, the Austrian Lake District, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Explore the historic town of Gmunden, on the shore of Lake Traunsee. The second option is to join an excursion to the Czech town of Cesky Krumlov. This is a wonderfully preserved medieval town, nestled in the hills just over the Austrian-Czech border. The third choice is an excursion to Salzburg, where you will take a walking tour of the historic center, famous as the setting for the "Sound of Music" and as the birthplace of Mozart. **Overnight ship**

**Day 9 Melk, Krems (Durnstein) (B, L, D)**

Cruise through the narrow Strudengau this morning to Melk. A guided tour will take you to Melk's magnificent Benedictine Abbey, one of Europe's largest Baroque monasteries. From here, continue cruising the beautiful Wachau valley to Krems. You will have the choice of two excursions this afternoon. The first is a motor coach ride to Durnstein, where you will take a walking tour of the town's medieval cobblestone streets, passing by 16th-century town houses and wine taverns. Marvel at the magnificent blue facade of the Baroque Stiftskirche high above town. As an alternative, enjoy a guided bike tour from Krems to Durnstein and back (capacity controlled). Tonight, after dinner on board, enjoy wine tasting at a local winery. Enjoy several different wines, presented along with bread, knowledgeable hosts, and plenty of laughter. **Overnight ship**

**Day 10 Vienna (B, L, D)**

During your morning city tour of Vienna, you will see the impressive Vienna Opera House, the majestic Ringstrasse, and the historic St. Stephen's Cathedral. The afternoon is free to stroll through the historic city center, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, or take an optional tour to the Schönbrunn Palace. Tonight, you will have the opportunity to enjoy an optional Mozart and Strauss concert in the "Music Capital of the World." The ship moors in Vienna overnight. **Overnight ship**

**Day 11 Bratislava, Slovakia (B, L, D)**

This morning, enjoy a scenic cruise to Bratislava, where you can choose from a walking tour which includes the Old Town Hall, Mirbach Palace and Gothic St. Martin's Cathedral. In the alternative, you can take a "Communist History Tour" of Bratislava, which includes architectural landmarks such as the Radio Building, Liberty Square and Soviet War Memorial. The remainder of the day is free to explore on your own. **Overnight ship**

**Day 12 Budapest, Hungary (B, L, D)**

This morning, your sightseeing tour takes you to historic Buda Castle from where you can enjoy a splendid view of the twin cities of Buda and Pest spread over both banks of the River. Your tour also features the distinctive Fisherman's Bastion, the Royal Palace, St. Stephen's Basilica, the famous Heroes' Square and much more. After dinner, the ship will sail a special "Illuminations Cruise" past the illuminated river front of Budapest. **Overnight ship**

**Day 13 Transfer to Budapest Airport (B)**

Itinerary, events and included features subject to change due to unforeseen conditions.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**Tour and Cruise Package Includes**

**Switzerland and Germany Land Tour**

- ✚ Professional European tour manager throughout tour
- ✚ Deluxe air conditioned motor coach
- ✚ 4 nights first-class hotel and hotel taxes
- ✚ All sightseeing, admissions as outlined in itinerary
- ✚ Concordia Choir performances
- ✚ Breakfast Daily and 2-Dinners
- ✚ Transfers to ship

**Danube River Cruise**

- ✚ 7- nights deluxe river cruise- river view or balcony cabins
- ✚ Life enriching tours and excursions daily
- ✚ Complimentary shore excursions at each port of call
- ✚ State-of-the-art Infotainment system in all staterooms featuring high-speed Internet access, English language TV, Wi-Fi access

- ✚ Terry bathrobes and white-on-white plush bedding in staterooms
- ✚ Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner daily onboard ship
- ✚ Gourmet dining with all meals included during your cruise
- ✚ Red and white wine from Europe's great wine regions with dinner
- ✚ Cocktail Reception, Welcome Dinner & Captain's Gala Dinner
- ✚ Special highlights including lectures, cooking demonstration, onboard music performances and piano music
- ✚ Bicycles to explore on your own and guided bicycle tours
- ✚ Services of professional Cruise Director
- ✚ All English language on board in a non-smoking environment (smoking permitted only on the Sun Deck)
- ✚ All group transfers
- ✚ Cruise port charges up to \$147 each

Tour prices are per person based on double occupancy. Cruise cabins are limited. Confirm early to guarantee best cabin availability. \$4590 Tour and Cruise with a standard river view cabin; Cabin upgrades starting from \$295 per person \$1500 Airfare from Chicago, IL including air taxes and fuel surcharges up to \$420

**Mail your \$750 per person deposit and a completed Reservation Form (available online [www.luthertours.com](http://www.luthertours.com)) to:**

**LutherTours, P.O. Box 15126, Newport Beach, CA 92659 or Fax: 949.548.8198**

**For More Information Contact 1.866.777.1517 or [info@luthertours.com](mailto:info@luthertours.com)**

All travelers must travel with a passport valid for at least 6-months beyond your return travel date. Non-US passport holders contact LT for credentials required to travel to the countries included in your tour. Cruise cabins are limited. Confirm early to guarantee best cabin availability. Itinerary, events and included features are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.