

Escape Houston's summer heat and humidity to immerse yourself in music, art, wine tastings, and relaxation! Our 12-day summer music festivals tour takes us from the Rheingau ("German Tuscany") region near Frankfurt across southern Germany through the Bavarian heartland. Along the way, we pass through forested hillsides, terraced vineyards, and idyllic towns and villages with half-timbered houses, to the grand architecture of towns off the beaten tourist track like Bamberg, Rothenburg ob der Tauber, Heidelberg, Ludwigsburg, Ulm, and Augsburg. Our program will include 6 (six) performances, wine-tastings, sightseeing excursions, and a variety of other options. Of course, we will also allow you ample time to just kick back and relax as well.

Following nearly two weeks, relaxing in picturesque small towns and enjoying a variety of performances, you might want to extend your trip by a couple of days to explore Munich's museums, churches, and palaces (and shopping opportunities) by day while dedicating your evenings to as many as three major productions at the Munich Opera Festival - all featuring today's top singers and conductors.

Consult the itinerary below and plan to join us!

Our recent tours have been selling out in very short order and there is substantial preliminary interest in this Summer Music Festivals program; if you're interested, don't delay.

CONTENTS AND COSTS

**\$4,850 per person,
 sharing a double/twin room**

**\$5,650 per person,
 in a single room**



Prices include:

**Accommodation in
 select 4 & 5-star hotels
 (listed online)**



Breakfast each day



Lunch or dinner most days



Airport transfers on
 arrival and departure



Ground transport
 by private coach



Six included performances



Guided tours as indicated

TOUR DESCRIPTION

Arrival day: Mainz

You will meet Dean, Zsofi, and the remainder of the group at Frankfurt Airport, load baggage, and depart for nearby Mainz. There, we'll stroll through Old Town with its beautifully restored half-timbered façades, and visit both the city's great Romanesque Cathedral and St. Stephan's Church. The latter is noteworthy for the blue stained glass windows, celebrating the creation, which Marc Chagall completed shortly before his death, at age 98. The spectacular six-towered Cathedral of St. Martin and St. Stephen, largely unharmed in the extensive bombing of World War II, is one of the supreme achievements of Romanesque religious architecture on the Upper Rhine; it was here on March 27, 1188 that Frederick Barbarossa set out on the Third Crusade. Following our two-hour guided tour, you'll have free time for further explorations and to get a bite to eat. We'll then continue to our hotel, arriving in time to settle in, freshen up, and enjoy the gorgeous setting before our Welcome Dinner at the hotel.

*We suggest that you seriously consider our group flight arrangements (see the box on the following page). It is the **only** schedule that provides nonstop travel both from Houston to Frankfurt and from Munich to Houston, while arriving in time for our Mainz tour.*

*The rates, both in economy and business class, are **substantially lower** than any other fares currently offered. If you choose to book your air separately, please be certain that you **arrive in Frankfurt not later than 9:00 AM on June 26;** most major carriers can accomplish that, but all require at least one change of planes.*

Rheingau / Rhine River Valley, Hesse (June 26 to 29)

Sightseeing/Visits: The Rheingau region is dotted by picturesque towns with grandiose manor houses and beautifully preserved half-timbered homes (**Eltville, Rudesheim**); palaces and castles, many wine-producing (Schloss Vollrads, Schloss Johannisberg); monasteries that date back to the Middle Ages (**St. Hildegard Abbey, Eberbach**); even Germany's oldest still playable organ (ca.1500) in the tiny wine-growing village of **Kiedrich**. We have arranged for an exclusive recital, by the parish organist, in the excellent acoustics of the church, which was a highlight of our 2011 visit as well.

Music: The Rheingau Festival is one of Europe's most extensive, lasting two months and involving a "Who's Who" of the world's star-quality soloists and prestige ensembles in concerts that take place in a multitude of settings all over the region. Two performances are included in our tour package: a piano recital by pianist **Lukáš Vondráček** (winner of the 2016 International Queen Elisabeth Piano Competition) at Schloss Johannisberg, and **Verdi's Requiem** at Eberbach Monastery.

Group Flights

**Non-stop both ways on
Lufthansa and United
if at least 10 opt in**

Advantages of Group Air

- ◆ **Best available prices**
- ◆ **Advance payment not required**
- ◆ **Prices locked in**
- ◆ **Option of switching the return date, in case you change your mind about the Munich option**

Economy class: \$1,240*

Business class: \$4,306*

If you wish to participate in group air arrangements, please check the appropriate box on your reservation form.

** \$150 of these total fares constitutes taxes and can potentially change marginally, until ticketing; otherwise, these fares are fixed.*

Bad Kissingen, Lower Franconia/Bavaria (June 29-July 2)

Bavarian kings, Empress Sisi of Austria, and Otto von Bismarck, Germany's first Chancellor returned to Bad Kissingen time and time again – the most cosmopolitan and stylish spa resort for 19th-century European aristocracy and bourgeoisie. Magnificent buildings from that grand era still dominate the town's architecture, many of which serve as sites of the Kissinger Sommer – the spa town's largest classical music festival: the "Regentenbau" (regent's building) with its sumptuous Max Littmann Hall (one of the best concert halls in the world) and the art nouveau Green Hall, a perfect setting for chamber music; as well as the "Kurgarten" (spa garden) with its Rossini Hall (formerly a royal conversation hall, with magnificent paneled ceilings).

Music: We will be in Bad Kissingen over the weekend, meaning there are plenty of musical offerings, including a concert of turn-of-the-20th-century French music by the period instrument orchestra, **Les Siecles**; a recital of Romantic German masterpieces by virtuoso pianist **Arcadi Volodos**; and a performance by the **Aris String Quartet** (a young ensemble that has already won first prize in at least four major competitions) of major works by Beethoven and Schumann. Also available: **Giuliano Carmignola playing Vivaldi's Four Seasons**, a song workshop, and even a Jazz Brunch on Sunday. Choose two as your "included performances" or more at a modest additional cost.

Sightseeing/visits: In addition to a brief walking tour of the old city, we will offer an optional half-day tour to the UNESCO World Heritage town of **Bamberg**. This outstanding example of an early medieval town in central Europe was a center of the 18th-century German Enlightenment and home to such eminent philosophers

such as Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel and E.T.A. Hoffmann. On the other hand, you might want to take more time to simply unwind and take advantage of Bad Kissingen's excellent spa facilities, which include drinking cures, bath treatments, and brine therapy.

Ludwigsburg, Baden-Württemberg (July 2-5)

Sightseeing/visits: En route to Ludwigsburg, we will go through the **wine region of Franconia**. Whenever someone talks about German wine, it's usually about Riesling. However, Franconia (Frankenland) produces other excellent wines as well. Renowned for their rounded and flattened bocksbeutel-shaped bottles, the wines of the Franken region, such as Silvaner, Bacchus, Müller Thurgau, and Scheurebe are distinctly memorable. In Germany, the bocksbeutel is a sign of excellence; in the U.S., many consumers link this kind of bottle shape to lower-quality wine. We will provide the opportunity to convince yourself otherwise, with a **6-wine tasting** at a renowned winery (named the German winery of the year 2017).

Another stop en route to Ludwigsburg will be **Rothenburg ob der Tauber**, Germany's best-preserved walled town and second largest city in the Middle Ages. The Old Town tour will include a must-see art treasure: the glorious 500-year-old altarpiece at St. Jakob's church by Riemenschneider, the Michelangelo of German woodcarvers. We will also see another impressive Riemenschneider altarpiece nearby at **Detwang** (even older than Rothenburg).

Ludwigsburg Palace (Schloss Ludwigsburg), built for the royal family of Württemberg, is one of the largest Baroque buildings in Europe to survive in its original condition. There is much to see: the Porcelain Museum, the Fashion Museum, the Baroque Gallery, and the private apartments of Duke Carl Eugen, with its sumptuous original furnishings. There is a magnificent landscaped park surrounding the palace, which includes a baroque garden and the charming Märchengarten (fairy-tale garden).

You will also have the option of taking a day-trip to **Heidelberg** and **Maulbronn Monastery** (another UNESCO World Heritage Site). Heidelberg is a photographer's delight, from the 18th-century Alte Brücke, the red sandstone bridge on the Neckar River, to the castle that dominates the city. The town is also home to Germany's oldest university (1386). Maulbronn is one of Europe's most complete and best-preserved medieval monastery complexes, combining a multitude of architectural styles (from Renaissance to late Gothic).

Music: The Schlosstheater (palace theater) is the setting of the Ludwigsburger Schlossfestspiele, which is among the oldest cultural festivals in German-speaking lands. One of Europe's oldest theaters, the palace theater's original stage machinery and decoration remain almost intact. We will attend a performance at the festival: we don't yet know what the performance will be, but are promised there will be at least one during our stay.

Heidenheim an der Brenz, Baden-Württemberg (July 5-7)

Sightseeing/visits: En route to Heidenheim, we stop in **Ulm** and the nearby **Wiblingen Monastery**. Ulm, the birthplace of Albert Einstein, is situated on the River Danube, and is home to the highest church steeple in the world (536.5 feet). Although the city was severely damaged in World War II, most of its important buildings have been repaired, and many medieval walls, gates, and fountains survive. The library and the church of the former Benedictine monastery of Wiblingen are the final masterpieces of Baroque architecture in Upper Swabia. The interior of the library is considered to be one of the finest examples of Rococo architecture in the world.

Music: The ruins of Schloss Hellenstein, located 74 meters above the town, provide the backdrop for the prestigious Heidenheim Opera Festival, one of the five oldest in Germany. The castle's former "Knights' Hall" (Rittersaal) has been named one of Europe's most beautiful open-air music stages. We will attend **Verdi's Nabucco**. Marcus Bosch, general music director at Nuremberg's Staatstheater, is at the helm of the Heidenheim Opera Festival. He promised to join us for dinner before the performance, and perhaps bring along the director, designer, or dramaturg as well, to explain the production.

Augsburg, Return to Houston or Munich Extension (July 7 to 10)

You will have the option to stay in Munich for three days to attend the Munich Opera Festival, or return to Houston on July 8. In either case, we will depart Heidenheim on July 7, stopping at **Augsburg** for an Old Town tour and farewell lunch before making our way to Munich. Those who are returning to Houston will overnight at a 5-star hotel literally between the terminals, to simplify your morning departure; those opting for the extension will be staying at our favorite Munich hotel, the Platzl, a stone's throw from the Bavarian State Opera House and a favorite not only of opera fans but artists as well - you never know who you might bump into at breakfast or in the bar. The days will be yours to use as you wish; we'll assist in organizing museum or palace visits.

Participation is limited to 25; to reserve your place, please complete the reservation form below and return it, along with your deposit of \$500 per person.

We will send you information on the performances in Bad Kissingen and during the optional Munich Opera Festival extension, to allow you to indicate your preferences.

July 7 - 10
Optional Extension to Munich to attend the Opera Festival
and/or other performances

At the Bavarian State Opera:

- **Strauss's *Arabella***, with Kurt Rydl and Anja Harteros.
- **Wagner's *Parsifal***, with Rene Pape, Jonas Kaufmann, Wolfgang Koch, Nina Stemme, and Kevin Connors. Kirill Petrenko conducts.
- **Puccini's *Tosca***, with Angela Gheorghiu, Joseph Calleja, and Thomas Hampson. Marco Armiliato conducts.

Also available on those dates:

Besides the operas, there are plenty of other musical offerings to choose from, including a concert in the **Philharmonie im Gasteig** by the **Munich Philharmonic** and cellist **Truls Mørk**; a string octet of members of the Bavarian Radio Orchestra performing in the Residenz Palace; and a concert in a courtyard of the palace, featuring the **Munich Symphony** in a program of light music just right for a summer evening.

A limited number of tickets for the Munich Opera performances are guaranteed to our group. You will have the opportunity to select the price category of the operas you wish to attend, after we have received your reservation. We will also purchase tickets for any of the available concerts you may wish to attend in Munich, once they go on sale in early 2018.

Please note that the cost of performance tickets in Munich is not included in the price of the extension.



**Music Festivals of Southern Germany
plus Munich Opera Festival Option
June 25 - July 8 or 10, 2018**

Participation is limited to 25; reservations will be honored in the order of receipt of deposit. Payment in full is due by February 28, 2018.

	<u>Sharing a double</u>	<u>Single occupancy</u>
Price per person, 12-day tour	\$4,850.00	\$5,650.00
Munich Festival extension	\$600.00	\$900.00

For details, contact Dean at DD@DeanDaltonTours.com or 713-213-6447

*You should be prepared for a good bit of walking, hills and stairs, some "off-street."
If your mobility is limited, please travel with a friend or relative committed to assisting you.*

Complete and mail this form and your check for \$500 per person payable to **Dean Dalton Tours** to:

**Dean Dalton Tours
1904 Banks St.
Houston, TX 77098**

Name 1 as it appears on passport (LAST/First): _____

Name 2 as it appears on passport (LAST/First): _____

Street address: _____ Mobile phone: _____

City: _____ St. _____ Zip _____ Email: _____

Passport # 1: _____ Issue date: _____ Date and **place** of Birth: _____

Passport # 2: _____ Issue date: _____ Date and **place** of Birth: _____

Name and phone of emergency contact: _____

If reserving for two: prefer one bed prefer two beds

If reserving for one: prefer a single room need help finding a potential roommate

will be sharing with _____

I/we wish to participate in the Munich Extension (\$600 sharing, \$900 as single occupant, double room)

I / we wish to participate in the group air arrangements economy class (\$1,240) business class (\$4,306)

Travel Protection: I/we prefer Group Deluxe, full Group Deluxe \$0 trip cost Decline _____

Special needs: _____

I have read the brochure and accompanying "Terms and Conditions" and agree to their contents.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

A Trip Protection plan is strongly suggested for all participants. We offer Travel Insured International's Group Deluxe Travel Protection plan. Plan details and pricing can be found via the link below. Payment may be made at any time up to your final payment for the tour, with checks payable to Dean Dalton Tours. **If you decline to purchase the Trip Protection plan we offer, please check the appropriate box on the reservation form and initial to indicate that you accept full responsibility.**

The "\$0 trip cost" plan does not cover pre-existing conditions or cancellation and provides limited trip interruption benefits. Travel Insured Group Deluxe: <https://www.travelinsured.com/docs/group---fairmont-2012/gd15-20k.pdf>

Terms and Conditions of Sale—Southern Germany Tour, June 25 to July 8/10, 2018

A deposit of \$500.00 per person is required to guarantee your reservation with the date of receipt will determine the order in which travelers are booked, in the event of a sold-out tour. The balance of the tour price is due on or before February 28, 2018.

Cancellation forfeitures, ground portion:

Up to 120 days prior to departure: deposit will be refunded, less a service charge of \$100 per person

120 to 90 days prior to departure: full deposit is forfeited

89 to 45 days prior to departure: 30% of tour cost is forfeited

44 to 30 days prior to departure: 60% of tour cost is forfeited

30 days or less, prior to departure: 100% of tour cost is forfeited

Cancellation forfeitures, group flights, if chosen:

Following commitment to the group but before ticketing (apx. 60 days prior to departure): \$100 is forfeited

Following ticketing (apx. 60 days prior to departure): \$500 is forfeited on economy class tickets; \$700 on business class

Included in quoted tour prices: All transportation by private coach, from arrival at Frankfurt airport, June 26, to departure from Munich airport, July 8 or 10; luggage handling (1 piece, maximum 50 pounds, at owner's risk); accommodations in hotels listed in the itinerary or comparable, including hotel taxes and daily breakfast; lunches and dinners, sightseeing, entrance fees, performance tickets, guide and escort services, as indicated in the online itinerary.

Not included in quoted tour prices: Airfare to Germany and returning, costs of passports or visas (visas are not required for U.S. citizens), laundry; meals or beverages, optional performances, and sightseeing not included in the itinerary; room service; travel protection; gratuities to guides and drivers; communication charges; excess baggage fees.

Exchange Rates: Dean Dalton Tours reserves the right to adjust prices to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange rates. The listed prices for this program were calculated at an exchange rate of 1.00 euro = \$1.20 US dollar.

Dean Dalton Tours also reserves the right to withdraw a tour or any part of it, to make such alterations in the itinerary as it deems necessary or desirable, to refuse to accept or retain as a member of any tour any person at any time, and to pass on to tour members any expenditures or losses caused by delays or events beyond its control.

Passports and Visas: Passports are required for international travel; visas are not required for U.S. citizens traveling to Germany.

Itineraries: Hotel accommodations, performances, and sightseeing are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Guaranteed Departures: Dean Dalton Tours guarantees the departure of most escorted programs that reach the stated minimum number of participants (12 for this tour), with exception only in case of "force majeure." This includes any major world event that adversely affects international travel patterns, or other circumstances beyond Dean Dalton Tours' control.

Claims and Refunds: Except for verifiable extenuating circumstances, refunds are not made for any missed tour services. For verifiable claims to be considered, they must be received in writing within 30 days of the termination of the tour and be accompanied by supporting documentation. Any adjustment will be based on the actual cost of the services involved and not on a per diem basis. Adjustments will not be made for sightseeing trips or meals not used at traveler's choice. Dean Dalton Tours will not accept any liability for any claims not received within 30 days of the termination of this tour.

Photography: Dean Dalton Tours reserves the right to take photographs or videos during the operation of any tour or part thereof, and to use the resulting photography for promotional purposes. By booking a reservation, tour members agree to allow their image to be used in such photography; tour members who prefer that their image not be used are asked to identify themselves to their tour escort at the commencement of the tour.

Limits on Responsibility: Dean Dalton Tours, LLC is a Texas corporation based in Houston. It purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from various independent suppliers that are not subject to its control. Dean Dalton Tours CANNOT, THEREFORE, BE LIABLE FOR DEATH, PERSONAL INJURY OR ANY OTHER LOSS that may occur (1) due to any act or omission of any such supplier, (2) by reason of any other event over which Dean Dalton Tours has no control.