

2007 Lucerne International Choral Festival

including the American Celebration of Music in Italy

Extension #2 – Festival plus Venice and Lugano (8 nights / 10 days)

Monday July 2

Departure from the USA via scheduled airline service to Zürich, Switzerland. Enjoy full meal/beverage service and in-flight entertainment during this trans-Atlantic flight.

Tuesday July 3 Zürich/Lucerne

Zürich airport arrival assistance. Meet MCI Tour Manager who assist group to the awaiting motorcoaches for a transfer to Lucerne, stopping in Zürich to visit Old Town. Enjoy a panoramic tour of the highlights of Lucerne en route to the conveniently located hotel. Evening Registration and Welcome Dinner with entertainment.



Lucern (Lucerne) is the capital of its canton and considered one of the most beautiful cities in Switzerland. The lake resort city sprawls at the foot of Lake Luzern in the cradle of historic Switzerland. The city's medieval heritage is evident in the fortifying walls and towers, the old churches and houses and the unusual covered bridges that span the Reuss.

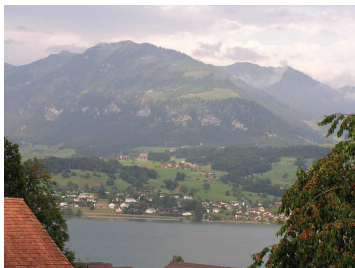


Wednesday July 4 Lucerne

A walking tour of this picturebook-like town includes the Covered Wooden Bridge, Mussegge Towers, the Lion Monument and the old town. There is also time available for shopping for bargains including Swiss watches, lace, wood carvings and chocolate. *Afternoon rehearsal.* Dinner at the hotel. *Evening rehearsal.*

Thursday July 5 Lucerne

This morning, motorcoach to Alpnachstad. Travel on the cog-railroad through Alpine meadows (orchards) and forests to the passing station at Ämsigen and then over the rock-strewn Mattalp and up the steep rock face, through four tunnels, to the upper station on Pilatus-Kulm. From here it is a 6-10 minute climb to the summit of the Esel, the central peak of Pilatus, from which there are magnificent views of the Alps, from Säntis to the Blümlisalp, Lakes Lucerne and Zug, and the Swiss uplands. From the summit, take a cable car down to the Kriens station, where you will meet your motorcoach for return to Lucerne. *Afternoon rehearsal.* Dinner. *Evening rehearsal.*



Friday July 6 Lucerne

Mid-morning dress rehearsal with orchestra in KKL. Afternoon at leisure. Motorcoach and Tour Manager are at the group's disposal. There is time available for additional sightseeing, shopping, or museum visits. Dinner on own. *Evening Finale Festival Concert in the Concert Hall of the Lucerne Cultural and Convention Center.*



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Saturday July 7 Venice

Transfer to Venice.

Venice, the "Queen of the Adriatic," is singular among the world's cities. It is built over a sprawling archipelago 4 kilometers (2.5 miles) from the mainland, encompassing 118 islands separated by more than 150 canals. Venice entered its artistic golden age from the 16th to the 18th centuries: many magnificent structures were erected, and painters Giovanni Bellini, Titian, Tintoretto and others gained world renown.



Sunday July 8 Venice

Transfer to the main island of San Marco via public boat. A morning walking tour includes St. Mark's Square. See the soaring Bell Tower, incredibly rich Basilica of St. Mark and the Palace of the Doges where the powerful and prosperous dukes of Venice ruled their far-flung empire at its height during the 15th century. Time permitting, also visit a glass-blowing factory on one of Venice's many islands. Afternoon at leisure.

Optional evening concert in Venice area as part of the 2007 American Celebration of Music in Italy.

Monday July 9 Lugano

Transfer to Lugano via Verona. In Verona (of Romeo and Juliet fame) tour the Roman Arena, an amphitheatre among the largest in the Roman world which still serves as a setting for a famous music festival, and the famous Juliet's Balcony. Continue to Lugano for dinner and overnight accommodations.



Lugano's location is envied the world over — nestled in the Swiss Alps, the climate is almost Mediterranean — you'll notice palm trees! It's the largest town in the canton of Ticino on the shore of Lake Lugano. The old town is thoroughly Italian in character, but the hotels and villas on the shore and hills beyond give it an international air.

Tuesday July 10 Lugano

A morning guided tour of Lugano includes the Cattedrale di San Lorenzo, Chiesa de Santa Maria degli Angioli, and other highlights. Enjoy an afternoon steamer ride on Lake Lugano. ***Optional evening concert in Lugano as part of the 2007 American Celebration of Music in Italy.***



Wednesday July 11 Depart for home

Transfer to Milan's International airport for return flights to the USA. Arrive home in the same day.



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