

# 2007 Lucerne International Choral Festival

*including the American Celebration of Music in Austria*

Extension #3 – Festival plus Austria and Germany (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 and then board 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.



*Lucerne (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 Lucerne 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 Innsbruck**

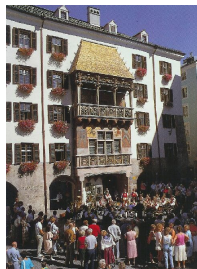
Transfer to Innsbruck via Vaduz, Liechtenstein, one of the smallest capitals in the world.

*Innsbruck, venue of the 1964 and 1976 Winter Olympics, is one of the most beautiful towns of its size (100,000). This 800-year-old university city is bounded on the north by the shimmering wall of the Nordkette Range of the Alps, on the south by the Tuxer Range rising to heights of 10,000 feet.*



### **Sunday July 8 Innsbruck**

Half day guided tour of Innsbruck includes the Old City, Maria Theresien Straße, the Golden Roof, the Hofkirche (including the tomb and famous statues surrounding the tomb of Emperor Maximilian), the Olympic Ski Jump, Wilten Basilica and the Arch of Triumph. ***Optional evening concert in Innsbruck as part of the 2007 American Celebration of Music in Austria.***



### **Monday July 9 Salzburg**

Transfer to Salzburg. Enjoy a guided tour of Salzburg including Mirabel Palace and Gardens, Mozart Square, the Dom Cathedral, University Church, the Mozarthaus (Mozart's birthplace) and a cable car ride up to the Fortress (for an unparalleled view of the city below). ***Optional evening concert in Salzburg as part of the 2007 American Celebration of Music in Austria.***



*Salzburg is a baroque jewel in a perfect mountain setting on both banks of the Salzach River. It is universally acknowledged to be one of the most awesomely beautiful cities on earth, its perfectly preserved center with its baroque structures, its 17th century streets, its brightly flowered horsecars, its strolling female shoppers in colorful dirndls (they still wear them), all creating an enthralling setting and mood. So filled with architectural wonders is Salzburg that she has become known as the "Austrian Rome."*

### **Tuesday July 10 Munich**

Transfer to Munich. En route through the Bavarian Alps, stop to visit Neuschwanstein Castle (made famous by the Walt Disney model in Anaheim), built by the infamous Ludwig II (including entrance and uphill transport). Also visit the charming Wieskirche (Church in the Meadow) and Oberammergau, the site of the world famous Passion Play which is performed every 10 years. Oberammergau was spared in the devastating plague in the 15th century, and villagers vowed to perform the Passion every 10 years as their expressions of thanks for this miracle. Continue to Munich for Farewell Dinner and overnight accommodations.



### **Wednesday July 11 Depart for home**

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



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