



# 2008 Lucerne International Choral Festival

Extension #1 – Festival plus more of Switzerland (6 nights / 8 days)

## **Monday June 30, 2008**

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 1 Zürich / Lucerne**

Zürich airport arrival assistance. Meet your MCI Tour Manager, then board the awaiting motorcoaches. Stop en route to visit Zürich's Old Town. Once in Lucerne, enjoy a panoramic tour of the city's highlights before arriving at your 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 2 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 3 Lucerne**

Today enjoy the scenery of a morning cruise on Lake Lucerne that will end at Alpnachstad. From there travel on the cog-railroad, which runs up through Alpine meadows (orchards) and forests to the passing station at Ämsigen and then continues 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 to meet your motorcoach for return to Lucerne. *Afternoon rehearsal. Dinner. Evening rehearsal.*



## **Friday July 4 Lucerne**

*Mid-morning dress rehearsal with orchestra and soloists in the Kultur und Kongresszentrum Luzern (Lucerne Cultural and Convention Center). 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.***



**Music Celebrations International**  
*Concert Tours With Integrity*

### **Saturday July 5 Lucerne / Interlaken**

Transfer to Interlaken. Afternoon free for individual sightseeing and shopping. Optional excursions (at additional costs) include A) roundtrip overhead cable car from Stechelberg up to the Schilthorn; or B) from Grindelwald, take a train up to Kleine Scheidegg (6762ft. altitude), then transfer via rack railway that climbs up to Jungfrauoch (11,370ft. altitude), the highest resort served by rack railway in Europe. This resort offers not only spectacular views of glaciers and the Alps, but also summer skiing.



### **Sunday July 6 Interlaken / Zürich**

Transfer to Zürich. En route, stop in Bern for a guided tour. Bern is the seat of the Swiss federal authorities and also houses the headquarters of several international organizations. This is a very unique capital city. There are 4 miles of covered shopping arcades in the center. Walking down broad, medieval streets past squares teeming with farmers' markets and cafés full of politicians and artists, it's easy to forget this city's importance and history. The city's perfectly preserved arcades, the fountains and the thick sturdy towers of the Middle Ages are the reasons UNESCO granted Bern World Landmark status, ranking it with the Pyramids and the Taj Mahal. Continue on to Zürich and check into a hotel near the airport. Farewell Dinner. *Optional evening concert in Zürich.*



### **Monday July 7 Depart for home**

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



Concert in the KKL



**Music Celebrations International**  
*Concert Tours With Integrity*