A Musical Journey Through Austria

April 16th - 25th 2020

Dear Vassar Travelers,

In the year of Ludwig van Beethoven’s 250th birthday, join me for a very special journey to Vienna and Salzburg. Both cities’ centers are UNESCO World Heritage Sites with well-preserved architecture, magnificent museums and gardens, gustatory delights, and music everywhere. Our travels between these cities will provide memorable experiences of the Vienna Woods and the Wachau Valley, known for picturesque scenery, ancient monastic sites, and fine wines.

Our tour begins in Vienna, where we will stay in the historic center, steps from St. Stephen’s Cathedral and surrounded by architectural and cultural magnificence befitting the former capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and seat of the Habsburg Dynasty. World-class musicians and performances will grace our time together and we’ll also attend a service with music by the Vienna Boys Choir and a show of the Lippizaner Stallions of the famous Spanish Riding School.

Highlights of Salzburg, where we’ll spend two days, are its Baroque historical district and cathedral, the spectacular Medieval Hohensalzburg Fortress perched high above, and the Mirabell Palace and Gardens located just across the Salzach River. Following in the footsteps of Mozart, we’ll visit his birthplace and enjoy a Mozart dinner concert in the Baroque Hall of the ancient St. Peter monastery, where musicians in historic costumes perform Mozart’s music during an elegant candlelit dinner prepared according to traditional recipes from Mozart’s time.

I hope to enjoy your company on this remarkable trip, filled with glorious architecture, art, dining, drink, music, and memories.

Jon Chenette
Professor of Music

The cost of this itinerary, per person, double occupancy is:

- Land Only: $4980
- Single Supplement: $1490

The following services are included:
- Hotels: 8 nights’ accommodation in first class hotels including all hotel taxes and service charges, and porterage of one large suitcase per person.
- Coaching: All ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary
- Meals: Breakfast daily, 1 lunch and 4 dinners
- Guides: Discover Europe tour guide throughout. Local guides as detailed in the itinerary.
- Entrances: Entrance fees to all sites as detailed in the itinerary
- Tickets: Best available seats for the Vienna Boys Choir, a performance at the Spanish Riding School by the Lippizaners, and 4 concert performances (all subject to availability when schedules are announced)
- Lectures: Lectures by your Vassar faculty host

Please note that travel insurance is not included on this tour. Insurance information will be mailed to each registrant on receipt of deposit.
Thursday, April 16th - Evening departure from your chosen US gateway city. **Overnight: Plane**

Friday, April 17th - Your arrival at Vienna airport, will be met for the transfer to our city-center hotel. Here you can unpack, relax, and begin to explore the elegant, old-world Austrian capital and its beautiful architecture. We’ll meet up in the evening for dinner. **(D) Overnight: Vienna**

Saturday, April 18th - After a leisurely breakfast at the hotel, we will embark on a morning walking tour of some of the wonderful museums in the neighborhood. Our first stop will be at the palace of Beethoven’s patron, Prince Lobkowitz. A short walk then brings us to the Secession Building to see Gustav Klimt’s famed “Beethoven Frieze.” Finally we will end our walking tour with a visit to the Kunsthistorisches Museum, one of the most important fine art museums in the world, and its special installation, *Beethoven. The Exhibition*. The rest of the day is free until we gather this evening to attend a performance by the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, with Zubin Mehta conducting and Pinchas Zukerman on violin. **(B) Overnight: Vienna**

Sunday, April 19th - It is a short walk this morning from your hotel to the Chapel in the Hofburg Palace where you attend the Vienna Boys Choir Mass at 9:15. Then you go immediately to the Spanish Riding School (also in the Hofburg palace) to see the show at 11:00. After a break for lunch, afternoon sightseeing with a local guide introduces this sparkling jewel of the Hapsburg Empire and gives you an overview of all that the city has to offer. An early dinner is included at a local restaurant, before we attend the Vienna State Opera’s production of Richard Strauss’s *Der Rosenkavalier*. **(B, D) Overnight: Vienna**

Monday, April 20th - This morning we visit the Schönbrunn Palace, the exquisite summer residence of the Hapsburgs. We’ll enjoy a guided tour of the interior and have time to stroll the gardens before heading back into the city for a free afternoon and evening. **(B) Overnight: Vienna**

Tuesday, April 21st - A full day excursion out of the city today takes us south to the town of Eisenstadt, home to the fabulous Esterhazy Palace. The Esterhazy family were important landowners under the Habsburg monarchy and they made their palace here in Eisenstadt their principal residence. It was here that they invited Franz Joseph Haydn to be their Kapellmeister, and he lived here full time from 1762 to 1790 and then on a part time basis for the rest of his life. We’ll tour the palace and visit the “Haydn Explosive Exhibition” before returning to our hotel in Vienna before an evening concert of Haydn symphonies at the Musikverein. **(B) Overnight: Vienna**

Wednesday, April 22nd - Leaving Vienna today, our route takes us southwest of the city and into the Vienna Woods. We’ll stop first at Mayerling the site of the hunting lodge where Crown Prince Rudolf of Austria and his lover Baroness Mary Vetsera died in a murder-suicide pact in 1889, scandalizing the society of the time. From here we’ll visit the oldest continuously occupied Cistercian Monastery in the world, the nearby Abbey of Heiligenkreuz, founded in 1133. After a stop for lunch (included), we’ll drive to Salzburg. On arrival we’ll check in to our hotel, and have time to rest and freshen up before attending a Mozart dinner concert where musicians in historic costumes perform Mozart’s music during an elegant candlelight dinner prepared according to traditional recipes from Mozart’s time. **(B, L, D) Overnight: Salzburg**

Thursday, April 23rd - With its magnificent alpine setting, ornate Baroque churches, and Mozart legacy, Salzburg epitomizes all that is Austrian. A morning walking tour with a local guide introduces this “Rome of the North” and its medieval and baroque architectural treasures. We’ll visit the house where Mozart lived for the first 17 years of his life and explore the surrounding neighborhoods. The afternoon is free—you might do a little shopping in the Altstadt (Old Town), designated by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site, or visit the Fortress Hohensalzburg. The evening is free. **(B) Overnight: Salzburg**

Friday, April 24th - This morning we head back east along the Danube Valley to the town of Melk. Here we’ll stop for a guided tour of the fabulous Baroque Benedictine Abbey for which the town is famous and then have time for lunch in the town. From here we’ll take a short boat ride down the Danube—the best way to see the natural beauty of the Wachau Valley—to the town of Krems. Here we’ll meet our coach and check into the nearby Durnstein Castle, now a wonderful hotel beautifully situated on the banks of the river. A farewell dinner at the castle this evening rounds off this magnificent trip. **(B, D) Overnight: Durnstein**

Saturday, April 25th - Morning transfers to Vienna Airport for returning flights to the U.S.  **(Note: Durnstein is an hour from Vienna Airport, so please do not book flights departing earlier than 11:00 am) (B) Overnight: Home**

Key to included meals: B - breakfast, L - lunch, D - dinner
General Instructions
1. Please type or print.
2. Make checks payable to DISCOVER EUROPE, LTD.
3. Be sure to read the Terms & Conditions and the Refund Policy contained on the reverse before signing.
4. Complete both sides of this form.
5. Detach the bottom section and return to Discover Europe with your deposit of $500 per person, if this has not already been paid. Keep the top section for your records.

Detailed Instructions
NAME(S). Please make sure that your name appears on this form exactly as it does on your passport. Include your “Known As” or preferred name.

PASSPORT DETAILS. Having your passport details ahead of time enables Discover Europe to speed the check-in process at hotels and helps in the event of lost or stolen documents.

ADDRESS. If you have a temporary address, please let us have the details, including dates that you are there, on a separate sheet.

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS. Please let us know if you require any special meals both for the hotels and the airlines.

Health Information. It is very valuable for us to know ahead of time if you require any special assistance. Discover Europe tours are always paced for comfort, but inevitably there is also a certain amount of walking involved. Participants should have sufficient stamina to keep pace with the tour group and not cause delays. Please consult with your physician if have any questions regarding your ability to participate fully.

Trip Details
Please fill in the name of the trip you wish to register for, the departure date and your departure airport or city.

Emergency Contact
This information is essential.

Independent Flight Arrangements
1. If transatlantic flights are not already included as part of your tour package, Discover Europe will be very happy to book these for you. The fee for this service is $40 per ticket.
2. If you are arranging your own flights, please provide your complete flight information, giving the following: dates of travel, airline(s), flight numbers, departure and arrival airports and departure and arrival times for all flight segments that you have booked. Transportation to and from the hotel for arrival and departure arrangements that are separate from the group can be made at an additional cost. It is essential that we receive your complete flight information at least 60 days prior to your trip departure.

Rooming Requirements
Please tick the appropriate boxes. We will book non-smoking rooms. If you are sharing a room, please let us know with whom. If you would like to share a room but do not have a roommate, we will be happy to try and match you up but unfortunately cannot guarantee that this will be possible. If no match is available, the single supplement will apply.

Note: A twin room has two separate single beds in it. A double room has one large bed. Please let us know your preference.

Your host, Prof. Jon Chenette
Jonathan Chenette is newly a full-time Professor of Music at Vassar, after serving for over a decade as Vassar’s Dean of the Faculty and, for short stints, as Acting and Interim President. A composer, Chenette’s music has received international recognition, including performances on the World Music Days in Amsterdam, at the World Harp Congress in Vienna, and on an NPR national broadcast by the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. He has written an opera and numerous orchestral, chamber, and vocal works, and he teaches courses on music theory, composition, and acoustic ecology. His current project is a multi-movement work inspired by the landscapes and soundscapes of the Hudson Valley. He is intrigued by the artistic riches of Vienna and Salzburg and the political, cultural, and natural environment that gave rise to such glorious music and music-making.
1. Please be sure to complete both sides of this form.
2. Space on this journey is limited and registrations are accepted strictly on a first come, first served basis.
3. Registration and payment imply acceptance of the terms and conditions described herein. This information, as well as your itinerary description regarding dates, inclusions and prices, form the basis of your individual contract with Discover Europe, Ltd.
4. Registration and payment waive and release Discover Europe, Ltd., Vassar College their affiliates, directors, officers, employees, including any person or entity employed or utilized by them, from all claims arising from any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay or expense resulting from events beyond their control, including, without limitation: natural disasters, war, strikes, incidents of politically-motivated violence, sickness or quarantine, government restrictions or regulations, and in the absence of its own gross negligence, arising from the use of any vehicle or from any act of omission by any bus or car rental agency, airline, taxi or tour service, hotel, restaurant, or other firm, agency, company or individual.
5. Discover Europe, Ltd. reserves the right to substitute hotels, airlines, activities or excursions in response to changes in availability, local events or weather conditions, provided such substitutions do not adversely affect the overall quality of the tour. Such substitutions do not constitute grounds for withdrawal with full refund.
6. Conduct During the Tour: You are responsible for respecting the authority and following the directions of the tour guide and the laws of the countries in your itinerary. We may exclude you from participating in all or any part of the tour if, in our sole discretion, your condition or behavior renders you unfit for the tour or unfit for continuation once the tour has begun. Unfitness may include, without limitation, any behavior that, regardless of its cause, is inappropriate or offensive or interferes with the delivery of tour services, or may constitute a hazard or embarrassment. In such case, our liability shall be strictly limited to refund of the recoverable cost of any unused portion of the tour. Should you decide not to participate in certain parts of the tour or use certain goods included in the tour, no refunds will be made for those unused parts of the tour or goods.

**PAYMENT SCHEDULE**
1. A deposit of $500 must accompany this completed form (if it has not already been paid).
2. The remaining balance will be billed and payable 90 days prior to trip departure.

**TOUR COST ADJUSTMENTS**
Discover Europe makes every effort to guarantee that the published cost of your chosen tour will not change. However, we do reserve the right to make adjustments in the following circumstances:
1. Exchange rates. Should the value of the dollar fall against the currency of the countries visited on your tour by more than 10% in the 6 months prior to trip departure.
2. Group size. This tour has been based on a group size of 15-20 participants. Should we end up with less than 15 people, Discover Europe will work with Vassar to determine a course of action which will involve either paying a surcharge to keep the tour as is, or making adjustments to the tour in order to keep the cost the same.
3. Airfares. If your tour includes airfare, Discover Europe reserves the right to pass along increases in costs (taxes, airport fees, fuel surcharges, etc.) that are charged by the airline involved.
4. Late registrations (received within 60 days of departure) may also incur extra fees and charges as discounted rates for hotels and airfares may no longer be available so close to departure. Participants will be made aware of any such charges before their registration is accepted.

**REFUND POLICY**
1. Participants who withdraw more than 90 days prior to tour departure will receive a refund of all monies received by Discover Europe, Ltd., less a $200 cancellation penalty per person.
2. Participants who withdraw fewer than 90 days prior to tour departure will receive a refund of all monies received by Discover Europe, Ltd., less the following cancellation penalties:
   - 90-61 days prior to departure: $1000 per person
   - 60 days or less prior to departure: no refund
3. Please note that the final payment becomes due upon receipt of the final invoice and will remain payable, as per the above schedule, if your cancellation is received after this.
4. These cancellation penalty amounts do not include any airfares purchased on your behalf by Discover Europe, Ltd. Note that the least expensive airfares are usually non-refundable. Refunds for airline tickets will be handled separately from the refund of the land tour package.
5. Trip cancellation insurance is not included in your Discover Europe tour package. Discover Europe, Ltd., strongly advises that you purchase travel insurance for your upcoming trip. Information describing the services of a recommended travel insurance company will be made available to you upon registration by Vassar College.
6. All cancellation requests must be received in writing by Discover Europe, Ltd.
7. There is no provision for refund for any activities missed due to the participant’s absence once the tour has started.
8. Your place on this tour is not transferable.

**INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS**
1. All inclusions are listed on the day-by-day itinerary and registration form.
2. The following are not included (unless specifically mentioned in the itinerary): travel insurance, transportation to and from the participant’s home to their chosen departure airport, passport fees, excess baggage charges, tips to couriers and tour bus drivers, items of a personal nature.

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**
Name: ____________________________
Email: ____________________________
Primary Telephone: (______) ____________________________

**FLIGHT INFORMATION**
(Please check one)

- Do you want Discover Europe to book your flights: □ Yes □ No

Flight details (if self-arranged), to be provided at least 90 days prior to departure: __________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________

**ROOMING REQUIREMENTS**
(Please check one)

- □ I would like a single room (see itinerary for supplement)
- □ I will be sharing with: ____________________________

We would like a □ double □ twin-bedded room

**PERMISSIONS**
Discover Europe may include my e-mail address on the tour passenger list. □ Yes □ No

**SIGNATURES**
The undersigned has read the tour itinerary and recognizes and accepts any risk inherent therein. The undersigned also understands and hereby agrees for and on behalf of his/her dependents, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to abide by the conditions set forth in the terms and conditions listed in this brochure and to release and hold harmless Vassar College and any of their officers, trustees, agents, licensees, or representatives, from any and all liability for delays, injuries, or death or for the loss of or damage to his/her property however occurring during any portion of, or in relation to, the tour.

Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________