## A Once-in-a-Lifetime International Music Experience

# **YOUR 2025 ITINERARY**

Itinerary as of 04/23/24



#### June 23, 2025 Check In, Meet and Greet, Rehearsal – Texas A&M University - Commerce

Get checked in, meet your roommate and move into your dorm room. The evening will include rehearsal, dinner and recreation time with your newfound friends.

#### June 24, 2025 Rehearsal Day

After breakfast, you'll spend a full day in sectionals and rehearsals working on the performance literature.

#### June 25, 2025 Rehearsal, Bon Voyage Concert

Your final rehearsals occur throughout the day and culminate with a concert for your family, friends and supporters. Pack up tonight so you are ready to depart early tomorrow morning.

#### June 26, 2025 Travel Day

Rise and shine with an early morning breakfast, load the coaches and transfer to the airport for departure to France.

## June 27, 2025 ➤ Arrive in Paris, Palace of Versailles, Normandy

Welcome to Paris! Pass through customs and grab your luggage and we're off to Versailles Palace, the summer palace of Louis XIV. Admire the state apartments, Chapel and the Hall of Mirrors. There are numerous historical buildings in Versailles, including the one in which, on September 3, 1783, the Government of British King George III, by signing the Treaty of Versailles, recognized the independence of the 13 United States. We will transfer to Normandy, check into your hotel and enjoy a nice dinner. Get some much-needed sleep!

## June 28, 2025 ➤ Omaha Beach, American Cemetery, Concert, Bayeux Tapestry Museum

It's up early for breakfast then a stop at Point-du-Hoc, a 40-meter-high cliff that the Elite Ranger Force scaled on D-Day. Our next stop is Omaha Beach, the landing area in Normandy used by Allied forces in the WWII D-Day invasion. Today, the beach is dotted with the remains of German bunkers and, on the shore, the stainless-steel sculpture Les Braves commemorates American soldiers. Next, we travel to the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial. The cemetery honors American troops who died in Europe during World War II. The Concert Choir will perform. We'll finish our day at the Bayeux Tapestry Museum. The Tapestry tells the story of the events surrounding the conquest of England by the Duke of Normandy. This will be a very special day of remembrance.

#### June 29, 2025 Paris Sights, Concerts, Montmartre

After an early morning breakfast, it's back to Paris! Paris is the city of light and offers many sights including Cathédrale Notre-Dame, Arc de Triomphe and The Louvre Museum. Shopping and the excitement of the city abound. Both ensembles will perform then we're off to Montmartre. The charming hilltop Montmartre district, also known as La Butte, is a former artists' village once inhabited by Picasso and Dalí and home to the domed Sacré-Cœur basilica. Scale the many steps up to Montmartre for an amazing view of the city and wonderful dinner.

#### June 30, 2025 ➤ Paris, Seine River

Today will be filled with sightseeing and shopping in Paris. After breakfast, we'll make our way to the city. Don't miss your chance for a selfie with the Eiffel Tower. You'll want to enjoy a crepe in a local café and maybe even some escargot. Tonight, you'll enjoy a beautiful dinner cruise on the Seine River.

#### July 1, 2025 Luxembourg, Heidelberg

After breakfast, you'll board the coaches as we set course for Germany! On our journey, we'll make a stop in Luxembourg, a small European country surrounded by Belgium, France and Germany. Grab some lunch in the capital, Luxembourg City, famed for its fortified medieval old town perched on sheer cliffs. Next, we cross the border into Germany and arrive in Heidelberg for a nice dinner.

#### July 2, 2025 Heidelberg Tour, Concerts

We'll be up early for breakfast at the hotel before heading out on a guided tour of Heidelberg, founded in the 14th century. You'll see gothic Heiliggeistkirche church towers over the cafe-lined Marktplatz, a town square in Altstadt, the Alte Brücke (Old Bridge) and the Church of the Holy Spirit. Today will also include a visit to Heidelberg Castle. Both ensembles will perform today followed by dinner nearby.

### July 3, 2025 ➤ Travel to Oberammergau, Neuschwanstein Castle

Enjoy a great traditional breakfast and load your suitcase once again as we begin our travel to Oberammergau. On our way, you'll visit Neuschwanstein Castle, a 19th-century historicist palace on a rugged hill of the foothills of the Alps in the very south of Germany, near the border with Austria. We'll arrive early evening in Oberammergau for hotel check in and dinner.

#### July 4, 2025 ➤ Zugspitze Mountain, Concerts

After breakfast, we're off to Zugspitze Mountain where you'll ride by cable car and cogwheel train up Germany's highest mountain, with breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains and valleys. Later that day, both ensembles will perform at Ammergauerhaus. Dinner tonight will be back in Oberammergau.

#### July 5, 2025 Dachau, Munich, Concerts, Salzburg

Pack and load the coach as we journey on to Austria. Just outside Munich, you'll experience Dachau Concentration Camp. Dachau was one of the first concentration camps built by Nazi Germany and the longest running one, opening in March of 1933. The camp was initially intended to intern Hitler's political opponents, which consisted of communists, social democrats and other dissidents. You'll have free time for shopping and lunch in Munich before departing for our hotel in Salzburg.

#### July 6, 2025 Walking Tour of Salzburg, Concerts

Start the day with a hearty breakfast as we begin our first day in Austria. You'll learn all about Salzburg with a guided walking tour. Salzburg is an Austrian city on the border of Germany, with views of the Eastern Alps. The Altstadt, birthplace of famed composer Mozart, is preserved as a museum displaying his childhood instruments. Both ensembles will perform today followed by dinner nearby.

#### July 7, 2025 ➤ Travel to Vienna, Melk Abbey, Concerts

Enjoy a great traditional breakfast and load your suitcase once again as we begin our travel to Vienna. On our way, you'll visit Melk Abbey, a Benedictine abbey above the town of Melk, Lower Austria, on a rocky outcrop overlooking the Danube River. The abbey contains the tomb of Saint Coloman of Stockerau and the remains of several members of the House of Babenberg, Austria's first ruling dynasty. After hotel check in, both ensembles will perform.

## July 8, 2025 ➤ Walking Tour of Vienna, Leisure Time, Farewell Dinner

Start the day with a hearty breakfast as we begin our final full day overseas. You'll learn all about Vienna with a guided walking tour. It's your last chance to purchase any souvenirs and gifts for friends at home. Tonight will include a special Farewell Dinner.

#### July 9, 2025 Flights Home

It's the last morning of a magnificent tour filled with experiences that will stay with you forever. We're off to Vienna International Airport for departure. Today you will gain back the six hours you lost on your flight to Paris many days ago! We return to the U.S. excited, enthused and exhausted yet enriched.

#### July 9 – 11, 2025 ➤ Prague, Czech Republic-Optional Extension

For those interested in one more stamp in your passport, you may choose to stay a few days longer and visit Prague, the capitol city of the Czech Republic. Nicknamed, "the city of a Hundred Spires," Prague is known for its Old Town Square, the heart of its historic core, with colorful baroque buildings, Gothic churches and the medieval Astronomical Clock, which gives an animated hourly show. Prague has the largest castle in the world and is home to the longest river in the Czech Republic. This optional excursion will include ground transportation, meals and housing as the previous portion of the tour. Those staying for these two days will fly back to the U.S. from Vaclav Havel Airport Prague.



