



# 2026 HEART OF EUROPE TOUR

Including Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, France, Belgium & the Netherlands

13 Nights / 16 Days • Escorted from Honolulu

**Tour #3: September 22 – October 07, 2026 • Tour Manager: Kim Mc Cumsey**

**Featuring:** Frankfurt • Schriesheim • Heidelberg • Rhine River • Rothenburg • Bavaria • Munich Tyrolean Village • Innsbruck • Dolomite Mountains • Lake Garda • Verona • Lake Lugano Swiss Alps • Burgundy and Champagne Wine Regions • Troyes • Paris • Antwerp • Amsterdam

**Overview:** Since 1960, Image Tours has offered its signature tour of Europe's most beloved countries, featuring spectacular scenery and rich local flavor. Ideal for travelers seeking an introduction to the Old World at great value, the tour includes a Rhine River boat ride past castles and vineyards, and a walk along Rothenburg's medieval wall. Sip ale at Munich's Hofbräuhaus Beer Hall. Enjoy views of the Alps from an Austrian chalet, marvel at Paris's architectural triumphs, and try on traditional Dutch wooden shoes. Join us for an unforgettable journey through Europe's most popular destinations, crafted for a truly enriching travel experience. The tour's **highest elevation** is 3,855 feet in the St. Gotthard Tunnel, with some routes reaching 6,919 feet and Swiss hotels at 2,900 feet. **Walking Expectations:** "Active" — an average of 3½ miles per day often encountering uneven surfaces, steps, and inclines.

Held annually in Munich, Bavaria, Germany since 1810, **OKTOBERFEST** is the world's largest beer festival. More than 6 million people from around the world attend the 16 to 18 day event each year. During the event, large quantities of Oktoberfest beer is consumed. Only beer conforming to strict regulations and brewed within the city limits of Munich, can be served at the Munich Oktoberfest.

**Your Heart of Europe Land Tour Includes:** Roundtrip Economy Airfare from Honolulu Accommodations in Superior Tourist Class and First Class Hotels 12 Daily Breakfasts — Either Continental or Buffet • 6 Dinners Services of a Europe-based Tour Manager • Land Transportation — Deluxe, Air-Conditioned Motorcoach Airport Transfers • Baggage Handling • All Taxes, Transfers, and Fees

\*Per person based on double occupancy. All taxes and fees included. Subject to change at anytime with/without notice. Single Supplement: \$1,495. Final Payment Due: 05/15/26. Tipping is not included — guideline (per person per day): Tour Manager: €6.00 (euros) • Driver: €6.00 (euros). Image Tours Non-refundable Deposit: \$250 per person (credit card OK) Final payment by credit card OK. Non-Stop Travel (NST) Deposit: \$500 per person (credit card OK) • Final payment by personal check only. Pricing: prices are subject to change at any time and the applicable price will be determined by the current pricing in effect on the date we receive each deposit and reservation application. After deposits are received, a \$75 per person NST cancellation fee will also apply. NST cannot guarantee that all tour members will travel on the same air itinerary as tour escort. Tour escort assignments are subject to change with/without notice. Air cancellation penalties: for cancellations receive 150 days — final payment date — deposit forfeiture: after final payment date — 100% of total charges. Travel to Europe in 2026 will require a Visa or Visa Waiver — price of this Visa or Visa Waiver is not included in the price of this tour. NST at its discretion, may use group and individual photos on its website, print, television, and various social media. † Early booking discount is per person. Purchase of NST's complete Air and Land Package is required. †† Earn rewards every time you refer a friend. For each "New-to-NST" customer you refer, both you and your referral can receive a \$25 discount off your next NST escorted group.

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Select sightseeing is included in tour. Additional optional tours are available for purchase through Image Tours. Itinerary shown is based on Image Tours' 2025 tour. Tour itinerary and inclusions are subject to change.

**Day 1: Tue, Sept 22** — HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu.

**Day 2: Wed, Sept 23** — IN TRANSIT.

**Day 3: Thur, Sept 24** — FRANKFURT, GERMANY — SCHRIESHEIM. Upon arrival, clear passport control, and collect your luggage. Meet your Europe-based Tour Manager, who will accompany you to your deluxe motorcoach. Settle in for a pleasant through central Germany to your hotel in the village of Schriesheim. This evening, get acquainted with your fellow tour members during a **"Welcome to Europe Dinner"** at the hotel. HOTEL SCHEID or Similar (2 Nights) (D)

**Day 4: Fri, Sept 25** — HEIDELBERG — RHINE RIVER — SCHRIESHEIM. Start your tour with a visit to Heidelberg. Situated on the Neckar River and dominated by its red sandstone castle ruins, this renowned university town is considered by many to embody the spirit of Germany. Proceed to the embarkation point of your **scenic boat ride on the Rhine River**, one of Western Europe's most important waterways. Glide past endearing villages, hillside vineyards, medieval castles, and fortresses. Pass by the legendary **Loreley Rock**, which is the subject of boatmen folklore about a bewitching siren. Sample your choice of German specialties during an independent dinner in a charming Rhineland village before returning to your hotel. (B)

**Day 5: Sat, Sept 26** — ROTHENBURG — BAVARIA. The route this morning takes you along the **Autobahn (Expressway)** to the northern section of the **"Romantic Road,"** known for its unspoiled countryside, ancient castles and storybook villages. Spend a few hours in Rothenburg, a beautifully preserved medieval village, surrounded by its original defensive wall. The cobblestone streets are lined with historic inns and charming storefronts, including the famous **Käthe Wohlfahrt's Weihnachtsdorf**, a sprawling, **year-round Christmas shop**. Take a walk on the city wall for a **bird's-eye view of the town** and the lovely landscape in the valley beyond. This afternoon, make your way to your hotel in the scenic and festive state of Bavaria. SEMINARIS HOTEL NUREMBERG or Similar (1 Night) (B, D)

**Day 6: Sun, Sept 27** — MUNICH — TYROLEAN VILLAGE, AUSTRIA. Take in Munich's landmarks as you drive into Bavaria's capital. There will be time to explore the **Marienplatz (Main Square)** with its unique **Glockenspiel (Clock Tower)**. Travel via **Ubahn (Subway)** to the **OKTOBERFEST FAIRGROUNDS**. Experience the **world's largest beer festival** first hand. After lunch, head south to the Austrian border. Take in the natural beauty while motoring through the majestic Austrian mountains. Enter Tyrol, one of the friendliest and most scenic regions in Austria. Continue to your chalet-style hotel in a typical Tyrolean Village. Q! HOTEL MARIA THERESIA or Similar (2 Nights) (B, D)

**Day 7: Mon, Sept 28** — TYROLEAN VILLAGE. This day is devoted to the boundless splendor of the Austrian Alps. Awe-inspiring mountain landscapes surround you as you walk through your Tyrolean Village, admiring the flower-adorned and frescoed chalets. Consider taking a chair lift up the mountain to behold the magnificent Alpine vistas. Another choice is to join your Tour Manager for a full day optional **Salzburg and Dinner Excursion** (see Optional Excursions), which includes a guided tour of Salzburg (known for Mozart's birthplace and setting for *The Sound of Music*) and a traditional Austrian meal. (B)

**Day 8: Tue, Sept 29** — INNSBRUCK — DOLOMITE MOUNTAINS, ITALY — LAKE GARDA — VERONA. The Hapsburg dynasty is responsible for much of the architectural beauty you will see during the morning stop in Innsbruck. Most notably, Maximilian I, ruler of the Holy Roman Empire from 1493 to 1519, commissioned the iconic **Golden Roof Balcony**. Innsbruck is the capital of Tyrol and has twice hosted the Winter Olympics. Enter Italy via the **Europa Brücke (Bridge)**, a remarkable feat of highway engineering through the Dolomite Mountains. Descend to **Lake Garda (Lago di Garda)**, whose steep mountain shores give it a **subtropical climate** with rich vegetation, including colorful oleander bushes, olive and citrus trees, and grape vines which produce some of the famous Italian wines. During an afternoon stop, stroll along the lake front, browse the quaint markets, or enjoy a gelato (Italian ice cream). From Lake Garda, it's a short drive to the legendary city of Verona, made famous by Shakespeare's tragic love story of *Romeo and Juliet*. Experience an authentic Italian meal during an independent dinner before transferring to your hotel. DB HOTEL VERONA or Similar (2 Nights) (B)

**Day 9: Wed, Sept 30** — VERONA. Today is yours to absorb the Italian art, architecture, music, and overall romantic atmosphere at your own pace. Explore Verona and its nearly 2,000-year-old Roman arena that is still used today for performances of beloved Italian operas. Use your time to browse the fashionable shops or take a local bus back to turquoise-colored Lake Garda, where you can relax on the shore while sipping a Campari or Cappuccino. Another choice for today is to join the optional **Venice Excursion** (see Optional Excursions) to see canals, gondolas, bridges, and delicately-blown glass. This excursion includes dinner at a classic Venetian restaurant. However you choose to spend the day, Italy's captivating ambiance will surely leave an everlasting impression. At the end of the day, return to your Verona area hotel. (B)

**Day 10: Thur, Oct 01** — LAKE LUGANO, SWITZERLAND — SWISS ALPS. Travel north through the unsurpassed splendor of the **Italian and Swiss Lake Districts**. Switzerland greets you with a background of snow-capped mountain peaks in contrast to the palm tree-lined subtropical Lake Lugano. Often referred to as the **"Rio de Janeiro of the Old Continent,"** Lugano is the perfect spot for a lunch break. In the afternoon, transfer from the Italian to the German speaking region of Switzerland by way of the **11-mile-long St. Gotthard Tunnel**. Overnight in a cozy village surrounded by the Swiss Alps. HOTEL SCHWEIZERHOF or Similar (2 Nights) (B, D)



**Day 11: Fri, Oct 02** — STANS — SWISS ALPS. A morning drive through William Tell country uncovers impressive Lake Lucerne. The soaring mountain peaks of Rigi and Pilatus stand guard over this vast water basin creating one of the most imposing sights in Europe. Stop in the old mountain village of Stans for the optional **Swiss Mountain Excursion**, offering thrilling panoramic views by funicular and cable car. In the afternoon, visit Lucerne with its **historic covered bridge** and **famous Lion Monument**, commemorating the deaths of heroic Swiss soldiers who died defending Louis XVI during the French Revolution. The rest of the day is yours to explore **Lucerne's Old Town**. Browse displays of delicious chocolates and wood-carved music boxes, or relax on the lovely lakeshore promenade. Before returning to your hotel for dinner, consider joining your Tour Manager for an optional **Swiss Lake Boat Ride Excursion** on beautiful Lake Lucerne. (B, D)

**Day 12: Sat, Oct 03** — BURGUNDY AND CHAMPAGNE WINE REGIONS — TROYES. The church bells usher in another glorious day. Follow the **Swiss Autobahn** past Basel, where Switzerland, Germany, and France meet. Here, the Rhine River becomes navigable as it starts its approximate 700-mile run through Germany and on to the Atlantic seaport of Rotterdam, the Netherlands. Crossing the border into France, the mountains give way to hilltop settlements and rustic vineyards. Make a mid-day lunch stop before continuing through the **Burgundy and Champagne Wine Regions** to Troyes. Your Tour Manager will offer a walk to the picturesque medieval town square where you can try the local champagne over an independent dinner at one of the many sidewalk cafés. MERCURE HOTEL TROYES CENTRE or Similar (1 Night) (B)

**Day 13: Sun, Oct 04** — PARIS. After a mid-morning arrival in Paris, venture out on your own or join the optional **Seine River Cruise Excursion**, featuring some of the city's popular landmarks. Before you start your independent exploration, the Tour Manager will direct you to sights such as **Place de la Concorde, Champs-Élysées, Notre Dame Cathedral, Eiffel Tower, Louvre Museum** (open every day except Tuesday), **Arc de Triomphe, and Galeries Lafayette Department Store**. Tonight, join the optional **Paris Evening Excursion** with dinner at a characteristic French bistro, located in the heart of Paris. Or, choose your own location for an independent dinner. HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS — CANAL DE LA VILLETTE or Similar (1 Night) (B)

**Day 14: Mon, Oct 05** — ANTWERP, BELGIUM — NETHERLANDS. Travel north to Belgium and proceed to the North Sea port of Antwerp, known for its convivial atmosphere and delicate lacework. Explore the city center, with its historic buildings and quaint shops. Treat yourself to an irresistible Belgian waffle at one of the outdoor cafés on the city's attractive main square. This afternoon, enter the Netherlands (Nederland) which means "low lands." Much of the country lies below sea level and is protected from flooding by an intricate system of canals, dikes and pumping stations. Many of the retired windmills, which were once used for this purpose, have been beautifully preserved and can be seen on the drive to your hotel in the region of Holland. With only one more day of the tour ahead, gather with your fellow travelers to toast to a memorable holiday during a celebratory **"Farewell Dinner."** NH NOORDWIJK CONFERENCE CENTER LEEUWENHORST or Similar (2 Nights) (B, D)

**Day 15: Tue, Oct 06** — NETHERLANDS. With the aid of an efficient public transport network, you have a full day to explore any Dutch city of your choosing. For a comprehensive sightseeing experience, your Tour Manager will offer a full day optional **Grand Holland Excursion**, featuring the neatly-groomed countryside, a picturesque Dutch village, and a boat ride through the canals of historic Amsterdam showcasing the elegant bridges and 17th century architecture. Choose from pancakes, seafood, or other Dutch specialties for your independent dinner. (B)

**Day 16: Wed, Oct 07** — AMSTERDAM — HONOLULU. Your Heart of Europe Tour has come to an end. Return flight back to Honolulu. Aloha and welcome home!

**Special Assistance:** You must notify NST, at time of reservation, of any disability requiring special attention. NST reserves the right to cancel your booking or terminate your vacation if your special needs or disabilities are not suitable for the vacation or if you are not traveling with a companion who will provide all the assistance you require. **Wheelchair and electric scooter access outside of the USA is severely restricted.** 060225