

LITURGICAL LIVING along the Rhine River

• June 3-13, 2025 •

a pilgrimage through

**NETHERLANDS,
GERMANY
& FRANCE**
(+ SWISS HIGHLIGHTS)

with Kyle & Tsh Oxenreider



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What does it mean to live liturgically?

The word “liturgy” simply means “the work of the people,” but its connotation, like a river, runs much, much deeper. To live liturgically means to recognize — with our life’s rhythms and practices — that there are seasons, traditions, and ways of being that expand far beyond our own time-bound perspective. Yes, it includes understanding that there’s a season named ‘Advent’ that’s separate from Christmas. But why does that detail matter? And how would recognizing something like the Church’s historic liturgical calendar affect our otherwise daily, ordinary lives?

Living liturgically affects us beyond simply our acknowledgement of fasting and feasting days — though that’s certainly part of it. To live liturgically means to humbly admit that there’s a way to mark time that’s beyond our own finite time, and that we submit to seasons and traditions that unite us with the communion of saints who have gone before us (and who will come after us).

What’s arguably most true is that living liturgically means living in tandem with others, in communion with both our Maker and our neighbor, as a shared practice in becoming more fully human. It’s a way to live that’s simple to wade into and welcome to all, yet takes a lifetime (and then some) to unearth it all. What better way to learn more deeply what it means to live liturgically than with newly-formed friendships (who are probably like-minded kindred spirits), as we taste and see together what the historic cultures and God-breathed landscape of the Netherlands, Germany, France, and Switzerland has to offer?

Kyle & Tsh Oxenreider are explorers down to their bones, and ever since they met on a dirt road in war-torn Kosovo 20-plus years ago, travel has been in their family's DNA. They've lived abroad and traveled to well over thirty countries, and along the way they've learned a heckuva lot about home. Several years ago they took their three kids on a round-the-globe journey, spending a school year learning from the greatest textbook there is: the world. Kyle is a small business owner, and Tsh is a podcaster, teacher and author of six books, including *At Home in the World: Reflections on Belonging While Wandering the Globe*. Together, they're experienced travel guides, and both of them are Catholic converts after spending most of their lives as devoted evangelicals, and Anglicans.



Their favorite style of travel? Laid-back adventure. When you travel with them, you'll try new things and ask new questions about the world and your place in it, but not at the cost of unwise risk. We'll learn from

locals, trod on old soil, and spend time each day unpacking what we've learned, usually over a local drink.



GREECE & TURKEY, 2024



IRELAND, 2023



ITALY, 2022



The *Symphonie*, our home for seven nights, is a premium ship sailing on the Rhine River which displays the most stunning scenery in Europe. Our group will have the entire ship on this exclusive private sailing, accommodating up to 102 passengers in 53 cabins spread over two decks. The ship has a restaurant where meals are served, a panorama lounge for gatherings, board games, and nightly entertainment with a bar. The sun deck offers comfortable seating where we'll relax and enjoy the stunning views. All beverages, including coffee, tea, wine, beer, and other alcoholic beverages, are included.



Itinerary

June 3, Tuesday / Day 1: Depart for Amsterdam

Depart for an overnight flight to Amsterdam, Netherlands. *(Add-on airfare from most major airports, as well as premium and business class upgrades, are available upon request.)*

June 4, Wednesday / Day 2: Arrive in Amsterdam

We'll meet our English-speaking tour guides for our pilgrimage as we visit the picturesque village of Zaanse Schans, where we'll view traditional wooden houses and a bonafide windmill. We'll then immerse in the Dutch's love affair with cheese and make our own during a workshop at a working farm. We'll go through the Beemster region, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the Netherlands' first polder (a tract of land reclaimed from a body of water and surrounded by dikes), then stop at a family-run farm in Middenbeemster and enjoy a drink. We'll learn the basics of cheese-making during a hands-on demonstration (and take some with us). We'll also visit the charming town of Edam, world-famous for its namesake cheese, where we'll have lunch and stretch our legs.



At the Kaaswaag, or cheese weighing house, we'll wander the museum on Dutch cheese production, sample several cheeses, and see the old-fashioned scales used by merchants to weigh cheeses brought to the market.

We'll board our ship at 5 pm, and after settling into our cabins, we'll have a welcome drink and meet the crew, fellow passengers, and our group leaders. *(overnight onboard; welcome drink & dinner included)*

June 5, Thursday / Day 3: Leisure Day in Amsterdam

The ship is docked in Amsterdam for the day, giving us ample time to explore Amsterdam on our own. Mass will be celebrated on the ship in the morning. Visit one of the many museums (be sure to purchase tickets online in advance), the flower market, rent a bike, or take a boat tour through the city's many canals. You may also stay in town for lunch or return to the ship. Before dinner in the evening, we'll meet in the lounge for a talk by one of the group leaders.



Our ship will then cruise through a canal to Nijmegen. *(overnight onboard; breakfast, lunch, & dinner included)*

June 6, Friday / Day 4: Canals, Windmills, & Flowers

We'll celebrate Mass at the iconic Gothic masterpiece St. Stephen's Church in Nijmegen, a charming Dutch city known for its rich history, picturesque architecture, and vibrant cultural scene. We'll then visit the Dutch open-air museum in Arnhem, then return to the ship to spend time with other passengers as we have lunch on the ship. In the afternoon, we'll sit on the deck and leisurely watch the ship sail past lovely villages and windmills. We'll also gather in the lounge for a retreat with the group leaders. Our ship will then cruise in the



evening toward Cologne, Germany. *(overnight onboard; breakfast, lunch, & dinner included)*

June 7, Saturday / Day 5: Cologne & Koblenz, Germany

Early this morning we'll arrive in Cologne, a 2,000-year-old city, where we'll enjoy a guided tour of the world-famous Cathedral and Treasury. The

immense Cathedral is the most visited tourist attraction in Germany—amazingly, although much of the city around it was destroyed during World War II (and fourteen bombs hit the Cathedral itself), it emerged mostly unscathed. St. Edith Stein studied Catholicism in Cologne



and converted on Jan 1, 1922 at St. Martin's Church; later she was beatified on May 1, 1987, in Cologne by Pope St John Paul II and canonized by him in 1998 at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. We'll hear the story of the saint, also known as St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, including her journey as she left Cologne for Echt, Holland. We'll also see the Church of St. Andrew and the tomb of St. Albertus Magnus, as well as attend Mass.

We'll have lunch on the ship as we enjoy watching the prettiest part of the Rhine as we sail past castles and lovely little towns. In the afternoon, we'll arrive at Koblenz, a small walkable city ideally situated at the Rhine and the Moselle confluence. We'll enjoy wine tasting in Koblenz and leisure time exploring the town or relaxing on the ship.
(overnight onboard; breakfast, lunch, & dinner included)

June 8, Sunday / Day 6: Rudesheim & Mainz, Germany

In the morning we'll disembark in the wine village of Rudesheim to celebrate Mass at St. Hildegard Church and visit the Benedictine Abbey of St. Hildegard of Bingen. Pope John Paul II called Hildegard “a light for her peoples and her time” and was later made a Doctor of the Church by Pope Benedict in 2012. The Abbey is on a hill above Rudesheim with a magnificent view of the Middle Rhine Valley. Set amidst scenic vineyards, the Abbey is home to a community of nuns who continue to live by the rules of Saint Benedict, dedicating themselves to prayer and work. You may choose to walk from the town to the Abbey or take the bus.



Rüdesheim am Rhein is one of Germany's most prolific and scenic wine regions and offers beautiful hikes through its mountains and prime views over the dazzling Rhine River valley. Explore this lovely city before we return to our ship at noon for lunch.

We'll then arrive at the city of Mainz for a visit to the Gutenberg Museum. Here, we witness Gutenberg's first Bible and the evolution of printing, as well as the historical development of books, media, art, and printing technology. We'll have lunch on our own in Mainz, then continue to St. Martin's Cathedral, built in the 8th century and towering in all its might and grandeur over the city, and finally celebrate Mass at St. Stephen's Church before returning to the ship for dinner and dancing in the lounge. We'll then sail to Strasbourg. *(overnight onboard; breakfast, lunch, & dinner included)*

June 9, Monday / Day 7: **Speyer & Strasbourg, France**



We'll disembark in Speyer to visit the Speyer Cathedral, the burial site of German kings and the oldest church in Germany. We'll also have an opportunity to taste the famous spaghetti ice cream before we board our bus for a 90-minute ride through the countryside to Strasbourg to celebrate Mass and tour the ancient French city. Sights include the famous Strasbourg Münster and the Petite France Quarter, a former mill and tanner district that still maintains its medieval charm. We'll also visit the beautiful Cathedral of Our Lady, which is home to the world's first documented Christmas Tree — Strasbourg is the self-described 'Capital City of Christmas,' as the Strasbourg Christmas Market is the oldest and largest in France. Following a boat ride on the city canals, we'll enjoy lunch at our leisure in town. In

the evening we'll enjoy the Captain's Gala Dinner on the ship and head to the Black Forest region overnight. *(overnight onboard; breakfast & dinner included)*

June 10, Tuesday / Day 8: **Breisach, Germany & Colmar, France**

After cruising through the night we'll arrive in Breisach, the gateway to the Black Forest. Our morning excursion through the mountain landscape, rolling meadows, and dense forests will remind us of the fairytales written about this area. In the heart of the Black Forest we'll visit a local workshop for a cuckoo clock-making demonstration. In the afternoon, we'll cross into



France and the medieval city of Colmar, which dates back to the 9th century. With tiny cobblestone streets, half-timbered houses, and wonderful signs above shop doors, the village looks like something out of a movie. The city is on the Alsace Wine Route, with local vineyards specializing in Riesling and Gewürztraminer wines, the perfect drink on a warm June afternoon. We'll celebrate Mass at the Dominican Church before returning to Breisach and our ship for dinner. We'll then set sail for Basel.

(overnight onboard; breakfast & dinner included)

June 11, Wednesday / Day 9: **Basel & Einsiedeln, Switzerland**



We'll enjoy our last buffet breakfast on board the ship before disembarking in Basel. We'll then travel through Switzerland to the Einsiedeln Marian Shrine and explore the magnificent monastery with its elaborately decorated pastel ceilings, marble side altars, and a large high altar. The most important part of the Basilica is the Lady Chapel, which is reminiscent of Christ's tomb in Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Above the chapel's altar is the Black Madonna, resplendent in rich robes and surrounded by gold clouds. We'll visit the monastery, celebrate Mass, enjoy lunch, and then continue on to Lucerne for dinner and overnight.

(overnight onboard; breakfast & dinner included)

June 12, Thursday / Day 10: **Lucerne, Switzerland & Our Lady of the Rock**

Today we'll travel to Orselina, located on the border between Italy and Switzerland, to see the pilgrimage church of Our Lady of the Rock (Madonna del Sasso), which can be reached only by foot — either a 30-minute hike to the top of the mountain or by a funicular (which is what we'll take!). We'll visit the Shrine and celebrate Mass, then end the day with a special farewell dinner in a local restaurant. *(overnight in Lucerne; breakfast & special dinner included)*



June 13 Friday / Day 11: **Return Home**

After breakfast, we'll be transferred to the Zurich airport for our flights home, taking with us fond memories of our unforgettable journey down the Rhine River.

Optional 2-Night Extension in Switzerland



June 13, Friday / Day 11:
**Lucerne, Switzerland
& Mt. Titlis**

We'll depart by motorcoach to Engelberg Abbey and then by cable car to the top of Mount Titlis, considered one of Switzerland's top destinations. We'll visit Engelberg Abbey and have time to explore the lovely little Swiss town, then return to Lucerne for a walking city tour and dinner at our leisure. (*overnight in Lucerne; breakfast included*)

June 14, Saturday / Day 12:
**Lucerne, Switzerland
& Jungfrauoch**

Discover Europe's highest train station on this full-day train tour to Jungfrauoch. We'll admire the Bernese Oberland on our way to Lauterbrunnen, where we'll complete our Alpine ascent by cogwheel train. On our arrival we'll marvel at the UNESCO-listed landscape and explore summit attractions, such as the Ice Palace and Sphinx Observatory, where we can soak up panoramic views of Aletsch Glacier, Europe's longest glacier. We'll then return to Lucerne for dinner at our leisure (*overnight in Lucerne; breakfast included*)



"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." – **Mark Twain**

COST BREAKDOWN

what's included:

- 7-night Rhine River Cruise on the MS Symphonie, a premium category ship renovated in 2017
- Breakfast, lunch, & dinner on the ship
- Open bar including wine, beer, spirits, soft drinks, water, coffee & tea (champagne and premium drinks are an additional cost)
- All shore excursions and sightseeing (as noted)
- Air-conditioned deluxe motorcoaches
- Parking fees for buses
- Accommodations at first-class hotel in Lucerne for 2 nights
- Service charges and hotel taxes
- Buffet breakfast daily at the hotel
- 1 hotel dinner (standard 3-course menu; beverages may be purchased at an additional cost)
- Farewell dinner with wine at a local restaurant in Lucerne
- All transfers with a private air-conditioned motorcoach as per itinerary
- Professional, English-speaking, Christian tour guide throughout (one guide per bus)
- Train and funicular tickets in Switzerland
- Entrance fees are included to sites specifically listed (outside view means no entrance is included)
- Luggage handling at hotels (one piece per person in/out)
- Whisper sets
- Select International Tours Travel Portfolio

add-on highlights of Switzerland:

- 2 nights hotel accommodations
- Daily buffet breakfast
- Touring as listed in the itinerary
- Private bus transportation
- Full day train tour
- English-speaking tour guide throughout
- Local taxes

note:

- *Group airfare pricing is available by September 2024*
- *When not specified, beverages may be purchased at an additional price.*
- *We recommend purchasing "cancel for any reason" insurance.*

Rates do not include:

- Personal expenses
- Medical and Travel Insurance
- Gratuities of \$220.00 for the ship's crew, drivers, guides, and included meals will be added to the invoice and collected ahead of time for the passengers' convenience.
- Church donations
- Any items not explicitly mentioned in the listed inclusions
- Beverages at meals unless otherwise noted
- Airline seat assignments and assistance with pre-flight check-in
- European visa requirement

Baggage charges not included:

- Any airline baggage charges
- Baggage handling at the airports and hotels over one suitcase per person
- Any charges incurred due to excessive luggage, including the cost of an additional baggage, vehicle, or portage charges



11 Day Land and Cruise Tour – MS Symphonie

MAIN DECK *Price per person*

1 Suites

Land and Cruise

Cash Price

5,095.00

Credit Card

5,299.00

MAIN DECK *Price per person*

31 Doubles

Land and Cruise

Cash Price

4,795.00

Credit Card

4,987.00

MAIN DECK *Price per person 2*

Singles

Solo Occupancy-Land and Cruise

Cash Price

7,490.00

Credit Card

7,790.00

UPPER DECK *Price per person*

1 Suites

Land and Cruise

Cash Price

5,395.00

Credit Card

5,611.00

UPPER DECK *Price per person*

16 Doubles

Land and Cruise

Cash Price

5,095.00

Credit Card

5,299.00

UPPER DECK *Price per person 2*

Singles

Solo Occupancy-Land and Cruise

Cash Price

\$7,990.00

Credit Card

\$8,310.00

OPTIONAL 2 Night Extension in Switzerland

(Minimum 20 people required)

Price per person

Land

Solo Occupancy

Cash Price

\$1,295.00 per person, based on 2 people

\$1,790.00

Credit Card

\$1,347.00

\$1,862.00

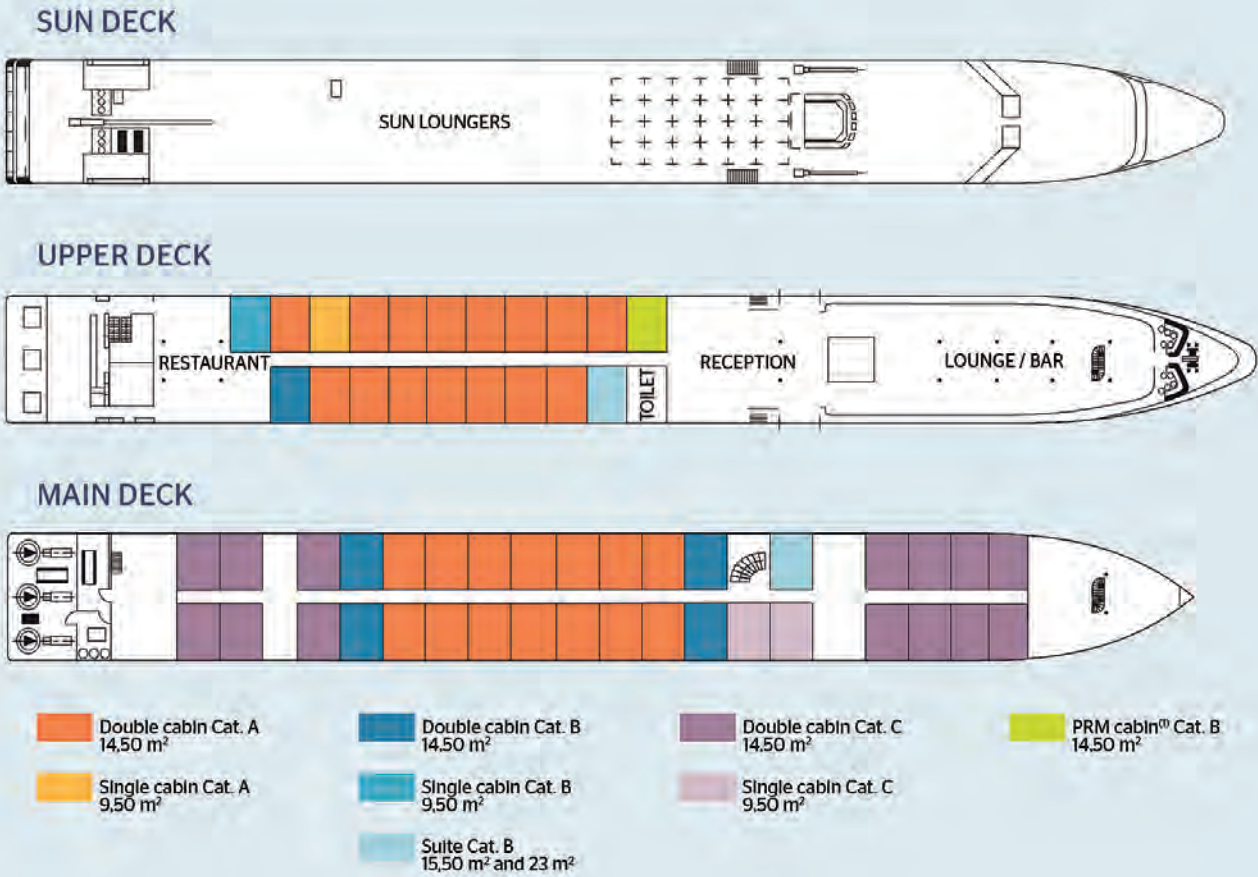
TIPPING

- For the convenience of the pilgrims a \$220.00 per person tip fund for the main tour will be added to the invoice and collected in advance. Tip fund covers gratuities for the guide, driver, baggage handling, and restaurants for included meals. \$25.00 per person will be added for the Switzerland Extension.



Completely renovated in 2017, the MS Symphonie is a Premium intimate-sized ship, measuring 110 m long and 11,40 m wide. It can accommodate 102 passengers in 53 cabins spread over two decks. All cabins offer a variety of amenities and provide guests with all the comforts they need during their stay. The blue (referring to the beautiful blue Danube by Johann Strauss Jr.) and yellow tones of the decoration provide a cheerful, lively and light atmosphere. Located on the upper deck, the restaurant offers a superb French cuisine in a refined setting, where large bay windows allow guests to take full advantage of the panorama. Also situated on the upper deck is the lounge / bar with a dance floor. On the sun deck, an ideal place to relax and admire the landscapes, guests can enjoy comfortable sun loungers, as well as a large shaded area.

MS SYMPHONIE DECK PLAN



DEPOSITS AND FINAL PAYMENT: Please see the bottom section of this page for instructions on how to enroll on this trip. A **deposit of \$1,000.00** per person and a copy of your passport picture page should be sent by **February 19, 2025**. **Final payment is due by March 5, 2025. A late payment fee of \$100 will be charged per person for all payments received after the final payment date. Please mail your payment to: Select International Tours, 85 Park Ave., Flemington, NJ 08822 Attn: Rebecca Stoker, 800-842-4842, rebecca@select-intl.com.**

Your passport must be valid through December 15, 2025. Reservations will not be processed until we have passport copies. Prices quoted are based on payments by check. A non-refundable 4% credit card convenience fee applies to all credit card transactions.

PILGRIMAGE PRICES: Prices are based on minimum 90 passengers. Prices may be adjusted in the event of fewer than 90 passengers, changes in currency conversion rates, or amendments in local government taxes and/or fuel surcharges. Prices are in US dollars. For European travel an exchange rate of US \$1.15 per Euro is assumed.

SOLO TRAVEL: A limited number of single rooms are available. Prices are based on two people per room. We do not guarantee roommates but will do our best to connect you with a someone willing to share.

LAND ONLY OPTION: Land only services start and end at the hotels and do not include any airfare. You are welcome to transfer from the airport with the group if you arrive at the same time, otherwise, transfers are not included.

TOUR CANCELLATION POLICY: Individual deposits are refundable except for a \$750.00 per person handling fee for cancellations made 121 days or more before departure. A \$1,000.00 non-refundable fee will be assessed if the reservation is canceled between 120 to 90 days prior to departure. Within 90 days of departure all payments are non-refundable regardless of reason for cancellations. All airline tickets are non-refundable once issued. All cancellations must be in writing. Unused portions of the trip are not refundable. If a roommate cancels, the cost of a solo supplement will be added to your invoice. You may be eligible for a refund through your travel protection. Refer to the U.S. Policy by State on our website.

TRIP CANCELLATION PROTECTION: We strongly encourage you to purchase a **Travel Protection Plan**, for the protection of your travel investment. Please consider purchasing this plan at the time of initial deposit in order to be covered for pre-existing conditions.

Visit portal.trawickinternational.com/affiliate/home/18184 or call **888-681-6272** for details and costs for the Select International Travel Protection Plan with optional Cancel for any reason (CFAR). Please note that CFAR is not available in NY State. The plans contain insurance benefits underwritten by the United States Fire Insurance Company. The plans also contain non-insurance Travel Assistance Services that are provided by an independent organization.

AIRLINE, SEATING AND SPECIAL REQUESTS: To best accommodate our pilgrims, we often utilize Group Air Reservations. These allow more predictable transfer and tour schedules. However, when booking Group Air, the airline (not Select International Tours) controls seating assignments. If you require very

specific seats, we suggest that you book your own airfare and take advantage of our "Land Only" options. You may communicate directly with the airline to request seating changes, provide mileage program information, or change passenger contact information once you receive ticket numbers—approximately three (3) weeks prior to departure. We work with instant purchase airline tickets and or group rates. If you switch from air and land to land only within 90 days from departure you will be charged a \$150 service fee in addition to any airline charges. All special needs and requests due to medical or dietary restrictions must be requested in writing at least 60 days prior to departure. Business class and Premium Coach seats are available upon written request; as are add-ons from your hometown airport. If you require very specific airlines or schedules, we suggest that you book your own airfare and take advantage of our "Land Only" options.

WALKING: Our trips require daily walking, sometimes up or down slopes, steps, and uneven terrain. We recommend preparing oneself, by walking before the trip. Anyone needing assistance is required to be accompanied by a qualified and physically-able travel companion. We are not responsible for any medical condition that occurs prior, during or after the trip.

SAFETY PROCEDURES: Select International Tours has undertaken a reasonable inquiry, with all the suppliers (including airlines, hotels, bus companies and other service providers) used on our trips to ensure they have instigated the best available procedures regarding the pandemic- protective policies advised by local government and health authorities. The client understands and agrees that the supplier(s) may not apply those policies as diligently as the policies suggest. In addition even if the supplier makes a good faith effort to enforce its good practices, some travelers may simply refuse to cooperate. Therefore the client agrees not to hold Select International Tours or group leaders responsible should they or anyone on the trip contract COVID-19 or any other illness during or after the trip

RESPONSIBILITY: By accepting this confirmation, you agree that the Group Leaders and Select International Tours, Inc. have no responsibility for any acts or omission of the travel suppliers in your itinerary and during your trip. We have no special knowledge regarding the financial conditions of the suppliers, unsafe travel conditions, health hazards, or weather hazards at locations traveled. We are not responsible for flight delays or cancellations or any charges incurred due to unforeseen circumstances. Unused portions of the trip are non-refundable. For information about destination climate, risks, and safety please consult the appropriate on-line resources. For health information consult the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. You are responsible for checking passport, visa, vaccination, or other entry requirements of your destinations. Itineraries are subject to change. We are not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen articles. We are not responsible for any sickness, injury, or death during or after the trip. Travel documents will be mailed out approximately three (3) weeks before departure. Please review them carefully for any errors.

SHIPPING & HANDLING: \$15.00 per person—not included in package price—will be added to each invoice. Your invoice will confirm the trip registration.

Netherlands, Germany, and France plus an extension to Switzerland with Kyle and Tsh Oxenreider

Trip Code: 24RS06RHTO

June 3-13, 2025 Extension to Switzerland: June 13-15, 2025

THE BENEFITS OF REGISTERING ONLINE FOR YOUR PILGRIMAGE:

Over the last several years, our clients have requested more control over the trip booking process, payments, and, most importantly, communication about the trips. Our response to these comments and requests had taken two years to implement, but we are happy with the results. Select has committed to a major financial and time investment in building an online reservation system that is easy to navigate using your home computer, tablet, or smartphone. We have addressed most of the requests and suggestions provided by clients. The benefits of the new system to you are a simplified registration process, the ability to access your information at your convenience, review your payment history and get trip information while easily communicating with your Account Manager and group leader.

When you register online, you will receive regular email updates about your trip and useful tips and tricks for making your international travel more comfortable and enjoyable. And best of all, you can register online even if you prefer to pay by check or wire transfer; just choose that option upon checkout.

We understand that some people are not comfortable with technology and prefer to register via mail-in paper registration, regardless of the many benefits of registering online. To make that easy, we have created a generic registration form on our website at <https://selectinternationaltours.com/register-online/>. You may download and print the form, fill it out and mail it with your check to Select International Tours. However, before you choose to register by mail, please know that we cannot communicate with people who do not register online as frequently and seamlessly. And you may miss some important communication regarding balances and trip preparation, as well as communication from your group leaders. We want you to be in charge and be comfortable with the registration process; our job is to inform you so you can choose the best system for you.

To learn how easy it is to register online, please view THIS SHORT 6-minute VIDEO that explains the process at <https://selectinternationaltours.com/register-online/>.

Secure Your Spot!

Register online* ✓

Pay the deposit ✓

Complete the tasks
in your online profile ✓

*See how easy it is to
register online:



selectinternationaltours.com/easy/