

Aspine Adventure

Aug. 23 - Sept. 6, 2025

Hosted by: Scott & Tammy Monroe







tom's christian tours

2835 Willard Lane • Waukesha, WI 53188 (262) 408-5518



Day 1: Saturday, August 23, 2025 • Departure
Our journey begins as we board our trans-Atlantic flight for Milan,
Italy.

Day 2: Sunday, August 24, 2025 • Milan

Upon arrival in Milan, we meet our guide and begin to explore the city of Milan. It was from here that the Emperor Constantine delivered his edict in 313 which gave freedom of worship to Christians. We have time today to explore a little on our own, perhaps to shop at the Galleria Vittorio Emanuel, visit the La Scala Theater, or simply relax from our flight and enjoy a cappuccino and brioche. **D**

Day 3: Monday, August 25, 2025 • Lake Como

A highlight of our morning is a visit to the former dining room of the Santa Maria della Grazie monastery to view Da Vinci's world famous wall painting, "The Last Supper." Then we make our way north to the fabulous Lake Como region. With its calm, idyllic setting at the southern foot of the Alps, it has been attracting visitors for centuries. We begin to explore the area and have dinner at a local restaurant. **B**, **D**

Day 4: Tuesday, August 26, 2025 • Lake Como

This morning we take a cruise on Lake Como boarding the hydrofoil for a ride to Bellagio at the picturesque junction of all three legs of Lake Como. We have time to explore on our own before taking a ferry to Tremezzo. In Lenno, we tour Villa Balbianello, built by cardinal Angelo Maria Durini in 1787 on the site of a Franciscan monastery. The gardens may look familiar from Casino Royal or Star Wars II. We return by ferry back to Como. **B**, **D**

Day 5: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 • Lucerne

This morning we drive north to Bellinzona in the Italian region of Switzerland, a UNESCO World Heritage site and former stronghold guarding the Ticino Valley for over 1000 years. A local guide leads us on a walking tour of the historic center and acquaints us with its main features of interest: the three castles built at successive heights, forming a kind of defensive chain. Then we continue on to Lucerne, Switzerland and "William Tell country." It was in the cantons adjacent to Lake Lucerne that Tell and his contemporaries won independence from the German empire in 1293. Our sightseeing in this attractive city includes the impressive Lion Memorial, a moving tribute to the loyalty of Swiss mercenaries at the outbreak of the French Revolution, and the ancient Chapel Bridge. **B**, **D**

Day 6: Thursday, August 28, 2025 • Lucerne

Have your cameras ready for today's excursion into the Alps. We drive over the Brünig Pass, then past Interlaken to Lauterbrunnen, where we board a cog-wheel train and ride to the Kleine Scheidegg, a plateau below the Jungfrau, Mönch, and Eiger mountains. For hiking enthusiasts there is the possibility of taking a different route which allows for a non-strenuous hike to the same destination. After lunch,



which absolutely must include "Rösti," out-of-this-world fried potatoes prepared over an open fire, we descend by train to Grindelwald in the neighboring valley where we meet our coach. There is an opportunity for shopping and exploring either here or in Interlaken before returning to our hotel. Evening entertainment is a Swiss folklore show which features traditional singing, dancing, and the distinctive music of the Alpenhorn. **B, D**

Day 6: Friday, August 29, 2025 • St Gallen

This morning we continue on, stopping at Maestrani Swiss chocolate factory for a delicious tour! We visit a dairy farm or a cheese factory in the Appenzell district of Switzerland and of course sample some cheese. We visit the Abbey of St Gall a UNESCO World Heritage site before checking into our hotel in St Gallen. B, D

Day 7: Saturday, August 30, 2025 • Oberammergau

We have a photo stop this morning and look up at King Ludwig's fairy-tale palaces, Neuschwanstein, perched on a high crag. It inspired the design of Disney's Magic Kingdom. Then we continue on to visit the smallest but most extravagant of the eccentric King Ludwig's palaces, Linderhof, where ornamentation averages about 4 pounds of gold leaf per room! We explore the grotto behind the palace where Wagner played. Then we continue to the village of Oberammergau, where every ten years the renowned Passion Play is staged. The tradition originated in 1634 with a solemn vow to perform this drama if the village were spared from the ravages of the Plague. Here we have a tour of the theater. **B, D**

Day 8: Sunday, August 31, 2025 • Munich

We begin this morning at the Wieskirche ("Church in the Meadow") considered one of the finest examples of Rococo architecture in Europe. Then we continue to Munich, Bavaria's capital and one of Germany's friendliest cities. A locally guided tour that includes many highlights such as the grounds of Nymphenburg Palace, the elegant Maximillian Straße and the 1972 Olympic Grounds. Our tour ends at the Marienplatz where we watch the Glockenspiel play in the tower of the Neues Rathaus. We become familiar with the Viktualien Marketa, a place we certainly want to come back to in our free time. Dinner tonight is at Munich's Hofbräuhaus for singing and live entertainment. B, D

Day 9: Monday, September 1, 2025 • Munich

This morning we take an excursion to nearby Dachau, where the former concentration camp is now a somber testimony to an evil period in Germany's history. It is a moment in history never to be forgotten. We return to Munich. Munich has much to offer for everyone. The BMW Museum tells of the history of the company and has an amazing collection of historic bikes and cars. The Alte Pinakothek is one of the finest art museums in the world. Breweries, amazing gardens, and history prevail throughout the city. **B**, **D**



Day 10: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 • Salzburg

Our first stop today is in Berchtesgaden, where we don miners' apparel and descend into a salt mine for an unforgettable tour. Afterwards, we continue to see Hitler's Eagle's Nest, a chalet built at the top of the Kehlstein mountain. On a clear day, the site affords beautiful views of the Alps. Next, we travel to Salzburg, Austria, which is famous for being Mozart's birthplace and the backdrop for The Sound of Music. We enjoy some free time to explore the narrow winding streets of the old city before dinner. B, D

Day 11: Wednesday September 3, 2025 • Salzburg

This morning, we have two options to choose from:

A local guide joins us for a walking tour of Salzburg. Our sightseeing includes the magnificent Cathedral, Getreidegasse, the city's quaint shopping area, a photo stop at Mozart's birth house and a walk-through at St. Peter's Cemetery.

OR

We see the sights and sounds of Salzburg by bike on a 3.5 hour bike tour on a relaxing pace. (This tour option adds an additional cost to your tour of \$50 and must be chosen on or before your final payment.)

We have free time to explore a bit on our own before a special treat this evening. We have dinner and a concert in the Stiftskeller St. Peter! It is the perfect setting to enjoy delicious Austrian food and the music of Mozart. B, D

Day 12: Thursday September 4, 2025 • Vienna

We drive east today to Vienna where a local guide introduces us to the inner ring of Vienna today with a walking tour. We see Belvedere Palace, the elegant Kärtner Ring, St. Stefan's Cathedral, and more. Our walking tour includes inside visits to St. Stephen's Cathedral and the Imperial Treasury. We also stop to sample a world-famous torte at the Sacher Hotel. Dinner this evening is at a local winery where we enjoy wine and typical Viennese dinners. B, D

Day 13: Friday, September 5, 2025 • Vienna

After breakfast we visit Schönbrunn Palace, the summer home of the Hapsburgs. We take a guided tour of the grand palace and have time to explore and enjoy the grounds. This afternoon is free to explore Vienna on our own. B, D

Day 14: Saturday, September 6, 2025 • Return

Our alpine journey has come to an end as we transfer to the Vienna airport for our flight home. We depart with life-long memories of fascinating cities, magnificent mountain grandeur, and a wealth of new friends.

> Abbreviations for Meals B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

TOUR COST: \$6,399* per person

Includes estimated air from Chicago

*Price is based on a minimum of 25 paying participants, double occupancy

Single supplement = \$1,400

Your Tour Includes:

- Airport shuttle from Green Bay to Chicago and return
- Estimated Roundtrip airfare from Chicago to Milan and return from Vienna, related taxes and fees (\$1,850)
- Land Transportation via private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- Accommodations (double occupancy) in superior tourist and moderate first-class hotels
- Meals per the itinerary
- Services of a professional tour manager
- Local step-on guides for city tours and major attractions
- Admission to all activities indicated in the itinerary except those listed as optional
- Luggage handling of one piece per person at hotels where available
- Luggage strap, luggage tags and trip journal
- All taxes and tips for provided services including end of tour tips for coach driver and tour manager

Your Tour Does Not Include:

- Meals not indicated on itinerary
- Beverages, except with breakfast
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees. (Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date.)
- Optional insurance for health, baggage and cancellation. (This insurance is available and offered by Ed-Ventures.)

Payment Schedule:

\$500 per person Deposit with registration: Final payment due May 15, 2025: Balance per person Invoices will be sent out prior to final payment. Passengers may add after this date subject to air and land availability. Generally airlines do not increase the price of a ticket after it has been contracted. However, prior to the issuance of a ticket, airlines may (and regularly do) impose fuel, tax, or security surcharges. In the event a surcharge is imposed after Ed-Ventures has received a final payment, Ed-Ventures will send an additional invoice for the surcharge amount. Early registration is encouraged.

Currency:

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

Refund/Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing. The date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Refunds are based on the number of days prior to departure date. From the time of deposit to 120 days before departure a \$100/person administrative fee plus any airfare & land penalties will be assessed. From final payment due date until 31 days, a \$500/ person cancellation penalty plus lost airfare deposits and any unrecoverable deposits to ground suppliers will be assessed. Airline tickets once purchased are nonrefundable. Anyone canceling 30 days or less prior to departure will receive no refund.

Purchase of health, baggage, and trip cancellation/interruption insurance is strongly recommended.

Terms and Conditions

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of subscription. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

Responsibility: Ed-Ventures, Inc., their officers and employees, tour hosts, or any other persons or vendors connected with the tour shall not under any circumstances accept liability, provide refunds or pay compensation where the performance of our contractual obligations is prevented or affected, or you otherwise suffer any loss, injury, death, inconvenience or damage as a result of circumstances amounting to "force majeure". This means any event or circumstances which we or our suppliers of the services in question could not foresee or avoid. Such events and circumstances may include, acts of God, actual or threatened, war, insurrection, riots, strikes, civil action, decisions by governments or governing authority, technical or maintenance problems with transport, changes of schedules or operational decisions of air/transport carriers, terrorist activity or the threat thereof, industrial action, natural or nuclear activity, epidemic, pandemic, illness, physical injury, quarantine, medical or customs or immigration regulation, delay, or cancellation, adverse weather conditions, fire and all similar events outside our control.

Due to COVID-19, we reserve the right to adjust the tour in order to follow the guidelines and policies set by the CDC and the local governments.

The airline(s) concerned are not held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on their planes or conveyances. The passenger's contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of this tour and/or passenger. Any and/or all transportation companies herein mentioned shall not have nor incur any responsibility to any traveler aside from their liability as common carriers. Air and land costs are subject to change without notice. Air transportation is via special, non refundable airfare. Any additional airfare assessments made by the airlines for any changes whatsoever shall be the responsibility of the client. Other rules may also apply. Services of any A.R.C. or I.A.T.A. carrier may be used in conjunction with this tour. If there is a change in air prices and/or currency exchange rates, we reserve the right to adjust prices.

I grant Ed-Ventures, Inc and its agents the right to take photographs and videos of me during the tour and any meetings related to the tour before or after the tour. I authorize Ed-Ventures Inc, its assigns and transferees to copyright, use, and publish in print and/or electronically.

I agree that Ed-Ventures may use such photographs or videos of me with or without my name for any lawful purpose, including publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content.

