

Midlife Madness

on the
Rhine & Danube



26 days - May 2020

WORLD-RENOWNED ONCE-A-DECADE SPECTACLE:
Oberammergau Passion Play



THIS FAMOUS PASSION PLAY, PERFORMED ONCE every 10 years in the picturesque village of **Oberammergau** (Bavaria, Southern Germany) being staged in **2020**. And, if you'd like to witness this unique re-enactment, you can join our **Mad Midlife Cruise** on the **Rhine & Danube**.

The **Oberammergau Passion Play** dates back to 1633 and the Thirty Years War when, after much suffering and death caused by the plague, with millions dead and dying all over Europe, the population of this alpine village vowed that, if they were spared, they would perform "the play of the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ" every 10 years. They've kept their promise throughout the centuries, and the power of their six-hour performance draws more visitors (religious and non-religious) each decade – over half a million in 2010!

Situated in Bavaria's stunningly beautiful alps, Oberammergau Village is also famous for its wood carvings, plus the glorious frescos that adorn the walls of the old houses. And the Passion Play – which takes place on a huge purpose-built outdoor stage, with the sky and mountains as

backdrops – is a wonderful spectacle of pageantry and devotion involving almost half the population and a cast of more than 2000 villagers.

With the help of our booking agent, **Glen Armstrong** (House of Travel Ellerslie), we've arranged a memorable Oberammergau tour for our Kiwi group. At the end of our Rhine & Danube Cruise, we'll travel by coach from **Budapest** (spread over both banks of the Danube) ... to **Linz** (with its elegant Old Town) ... to **Salzburg** (setting for *The Sound of Music*) ... to **Oberammergau**.

Following the **Passion Play** (and two nights in the atmospheric village) ... we'll continue to **Heidelberg** (a lively university town overlooked by a half-ruined castle) ... arriving finally in **Frankfurt** (Germany's financial centre, straddling the Main River).

Said one Kiwi who witnessed the 2010 performance: "*The Passion Play was excellent, the acting was fantastic, the costumes wonderful and the music and scoring were first-class. It would've been worth the whole trip just to see the play. Everyone I talked to agreed: it was the definite highlight of our time away!*"

D O YOU WANT TO JOIN US AT THE PASSION PLAY? YOU NEED TO DECIDE QUICKLY!

Tickets for the 2020 performances are already selling fast, and accommodation will soon be gone. Please secure your place at Oberammergau now by completing the **Interim Booking Form** (see over page) and sending it to Glen Armstrong (our booking manager) with your **holding deposit of \$150** pp. Once we've finalised itinerary dates and prices for the main **Rhine & Danube Cruise**, you'll be sent our 29-page **INFOPACK** and can then make your formal booking. The sooner you let us know re Oberammergau, the sooner we can lock in your ticket/s and accommodation.

Email info@midlifemadness.tours today ... or phone **Glen toll-free on 0800 323 333**

**Midlife Madness
Cruises & Tours**

tour leaders John & Robyn Cooney
booking agent Glen Armstrong • 0800 323 333 • midlifemadnesstours@hotmail.co.nz

Midlife Madness CRUISES & TOURS



INTERIM OBERAMMERGAU 2020 BOOKING FORM

Please complete this INTERIM OBERAMMERGAU BOOKING FORM (one per person) – and pay a non-refundable holding deposit of \$150 per person – to secure your ticket to the 2020 Passion Play.



Yes, please book my place and hold my ticket for the

2020 OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms
(please circle)

Age Date of Birth/...../.....

Address

.....

Phone hm / wk Mobile

Email address

Have you been on a **previous** Midlife Madness cruise or tour? (please circle) YES–NO

IMPORTANT – PLEASE NOTE

1. This interim booking form must be accompanied by a holding deposit of **\$150** pp to cover the cost of your Oberammergau Passion Play TICKET.
2. Your \$150 holding deposit is **non-refundable** – unless we are able to **resell** your Oberammergau ticket.
3. Our 6-day Oberammergau Tour will follow our May 2020 river cruise: **Midlife Madness on the Rhine & Danube**. Final dates and prices for the river cruise are expected early next year – at which point you'll be sent our full 29-page **INFOPACK**.
4. You'll then need to complete your **formal Rhine & Danube booking** – and the \$150 can then be **deducted** from the full deposit that will be required.
5. Confused? Have any questions? Contact **Glen** (House of Travel Ellerslie) **0800 323 333** (toll-free) – or email info@midlifemadness.tours.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING THIS UNIQUE EXPERIENCE WITH YOU!

OBERAMMERGAU HOLDING DEPOSIT

I enclose my non-refundable HOLDING DEPOSIT – \$150 per person – to secure my ticket to the 2020 Passion Play.

PAYMENT METHOD: (please tick one)

I enclose my **cheque** for \$.....

Please charge my **credit card**

\$.....

VISA/MASTERCARD (please circle)

Card No:

Name on Card:

Signed:

Expires:

If paying **Online** by **direct credit** or **credit card**, phone House of Travel for bank a/c details: **0800 323 333**

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO
HOUSE OF TRAVEL

MAIL WITH THIS COMPLETED FORM TO
House of Travel, PO Box 11164,
Ellerslie, Auckland 1051

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