

ALSATIAN TRIP

. 30 to 40 adults

. A 3 stars hotel : « L'hôtel des 2 clefs » in Turckheim- 6 kms from Colmar.

.Transportation -hotel -food and visits thanks to the Colmar Tourism Office.

**SCHEDULE: from Sunday September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008 to Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008.**

**Sunday September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Arrival time Welcome at Strasbourg station by our bus driver and ride downtown.

1: 30 pm Traditional lunch in a Winstub.

4: 00 pm Strasbourg discovery on a barge (1h and 10m duration).

Bus to your hotel. Warm welcome to your 3 stars hotel and make yourself comfortable!

7:00 pm Dinner included in the hotel fare.

**Monday September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Breakfast at the hotel

9:30 am Bus to Colmar

10:00 am Welcome at the Tourisme Office in Colmar by 2 guides , 1 French, 1 English.

On foot guided tour of the old town in Colmar: discovery of the Dominican Church, the Heads'House, the Pfister 's House, the Koifhus or ancient customs, the Tanners' Quarter, the small Venice area and the Fishermen' s Wharf. (Duration : 1 to 1h30 m).Guides over.

11:30 am Wine cellar visit and Alsatian wine tasting

Free lunch and free time in Colmar.

3:00 pm Guided tour at the famous Unterlinden Museum with the worldwide known Retable d'Issenheim painted by Matthias Grünewald (1512-1516) and its huge Rhenish sculptures and paintings collection dating back to the end of the Middle Ages.

Or guided tour of the Bartholdi Museum located in his native house. The most important collection by Bartholdi is sheltered here. You'll see statues, marble busts, drawings and paintings as well as the family furniture and the artist recollections. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, a whole room is dedicated to his major masterpiece : « Liberty enlightening the world. » famous as the Statue of Liberty!

(Duration : 1 to 1h and 30m)- Guides over.

5:00 pm Boating on the river Lauch to discover the Small Venice area. Aboard a flat boat you'll discover all this charming genuine place. Along the half-timbered houses, you'll appreciate the quiet of the truck farmers' area where the vegetation is luxurious. (Duration : 30 m)- Free time.

7:00 pm Traditional dinner in a Winstub restaurant in Colmar.

10:30 pm Bus transfer to your hotel. Night at the hotel.

**Tuesday September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Breakfast at the hotel.

9:00 am Welcome at the reception desk by 2 guides (1 French, 1 English.) from the Colmar Tourism Office and travel by bus to the Haut Koenigsburg Castle.

Abandoned after 1633, this prestigious castle is offered to Emperor Wilhelm Hohenzollern II in 1899 by the city of Selestat. He dreams of the old German empire and conjures up there his Middle Ages passion by giving the architect Bodo Ebhardt the castle defence works restoration. To step over the castle threshold is diving into the Middle Ages universe.

Next stop : Riquewihr. Free lunch in the village.

Guided tour in Riquewihr, « Pearl of the vineyards ».

Riquewihr is a middle ages city located in the heart of the Alsatian vineyards and classified among the most beautiful villages in France. This typical city is worldwide known for both its architecture and its wines as its name stands for. The city is an open-air museum! genuine indeed behind its walls besieged by the vines only...

3:30 pm Guided tour of a brewery

4:30 pm Back at the hotel. Free time. Guides over.

6:00 pm Bus transfer towards Barr.

6:30 pm Tour of the Klipfel winery with wine tasting including Crémant wine and Kougelhopf.

Traditional dinner in the Klipfel winery Winstub including 4 selected wines + 1 glass of the last vine harvest of Gewurztraminer.

10:30 pm Bus transfer to your hotel. Night at the hotel.

### **Wednesday October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008**

Breakfast at the hotel.

9:00 am 2 guides (1 French/1 English) from the Colmar Tourisme Office. Bus towards Mulhouse.

10:00 am The Cars City guided tour! One of the most beautiful cars collection in the world: 400 vehicles such as Bugatti, Ferrari, Maserati, Rolls-Royce...

or The Train City guided tour: since March 11th, 2005 an original and new tour on 6000 m<sup>2</sup> makes you dive into the night to see trains better. With 6 main topics about the train history.

or The Material Printing Museum : It still keeps nowadays more than 6 million samples; by so doing it stands for the most important textile image center in the world. Stylists from all over the world are brainstorming from here. Besides samples books the museum stores 50 000 textile documents: material lengths, bed covers, scarves, shawls... They are organized into a temporary exhibit : they describe ornamental arts history from masterpieces to familiar objects, from the first European prints to contemporary creations. A permanent show tells us about historical and technical background of the textile printing adventure. Machines, colors, and tools tell about the know-how.

Next stop : Ungersheim

Free lunch at the Eco-Museum.

Guided tour at the Eco-Museum founded in 1984: It is constituted by 70 genuine peasants houses dismantled piece by piece in their native village where they were condemned to disappear.

Year after year, with million donors contributing with objects and voluntary people helping, the Alsatian Eco-Museum became one of the more important in Europe covering 100 hectares (villages /fields/ woods).

Back to Colmar with a stop over.

5:00 pm Vinery visit and Alsatian wine tasting .

6:00 pm Back to Colmar by bus. Guides stop there.

7:30 pm Arrival at the hotel and diner included in the hotel fare. Night at the hotel.

### **Thursday October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008**

Breakfast at the hotel.

9:00 am Trip to Strasbourg by bus with 2 guides (1 french/ 1 English).

Bus tour through the city:

- the European Quarter on Europe Avenue where the Europe Palace stands – Head Office of the European Assembly
- the European Council and the Human Rights Palace

If you wish to visit the European Parliament you must organize the visit by yourself:

Here it is: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/parliament/public/starticDisplay.do?id=50&pageRank=3&language=FR>

Or guided tour of the Alsatian Museum : it is a popular museum set up into old Strasbourg residences; traditional Alsatian life is conjured up there: painted furniture, suits, popular pottery, toys, religious and secular pictures. Some rooms are dedicated to special indoors restoration from various Alsatian areas: agricultural valleys, vineyards, and Vosges valleys... or craftsmen workshops such as the carpenter's one or the blacksmith's.

*In 2008 the museum undergoes some temporary improvement works and it doesn't know yet whether you'll be able to visit it.*

- Second choice : other museum in Strasbourg.

End of the bus driver service.

Noon Sidereal Time Clock guided tour : Renaissance masterpiece for which artists, technicians, mathematicians, swiss clock and watch- makers, sculptors, painters and robot inventors all work together. The current mecanism goes back to 1842.

Free lunch.

Guided tour inside the historical district called « Small France » offering half-timbered houses, sheltered bridges, and the prestigious Cathedral « Notre-Dame »- gothic style- as well as the wonderful Kammerzell House ( 1467) located on the Cathedral square.

Guides over.

5:00 pm Free time downtown .

7:00 pm Dinner at the Kammerzell House Restaurant .

10:00 pm Bus transfer to Colmar. Night at the hotel.

### **Friday October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008**

Breakfast at the hotel.

9:30 pm 2 guides (1 French/1 English) welcome you at your hotel reception desk. Bus travel on the Ridges Road through the Munster Valley. Several stop over will be scheduled to enjoy the landscape.

11:00 am Cheese dairy visit.

Lunch at an inn-farm. Free time including a digestive stroll. We resume the Ridges Road towards the Thur Valley.

4:30 pm Guided tour at the textile Museum : The museum is located inside an old wood printing building (1819). We discover the thrilling history of this royal manufacture. The exhibit shows materials under different patterns: embroidery, patchwork. Set up like a plant the museum shows the textile printing evolution and is the lively memory of an old prosperous industrial activity.

Stroll inside the Wesserling Park: With 4 sumptuous gardens and a museum, the old royal manufacture at Wesserling is a unique witness of the Alsatian textile industry. The garden belonging to the Historical monuments is one of the most beautiful in Alsace. You'll discover : an English garden, mediterranean terraces, a French garden, and a kitchen garden looking like the workers' gardens at the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

6:00 pm Back to the hotel. Free time. No more guides.

8: 00 pm Bus transfer to Colmar.

8:30 pm Dinner at a restaurant with folkdance : dancers, musicians will show traditional dances and invite you to participate.

11:30 pm Bus transfer to your hotel. Night at the hotel.

### **Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup> 2008**

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. Bus transfer to Strasbourg station.

Service over. Program liable to be modified according to availabilities.

#### **PRICES**

Price per person-double : €1020/ €950\*

Extra fare single per person by night: €28

*For a 30 persons group.*

*For a 40 persons group.\**

Available choices :Dinner at the « Auberge de l'Ill » at Illhausern : Menu €153 without drinks.

Liable to be modified.

Return trip bus transfer from your hotel to Auberge de l'Ill at Illhausern: €400 for the whole group.