

WAGNER'S RING CYCLE MUNICH

Munich – 11 days

Departure: July 18, 2018

Return: July 28, 2018



Munich, where Richard Wagner siphoned money from "mad" king Ludwig to finance his operas in staging his tetralogy of the Ring Cycle, sung by the three world-renowned singers Jonas Kaufmann as Siegmund, Nina Stemme as Brünnhilde, and Stefan Vinke as Siegfried.

The super-deluxe Vier Jahreszeiten Kempinski hotel, a block away from the opera house, with its bountiful breakfast every morning and The Spa on the top floor, with stunning views across Munich's roof tops will be your accommodation for more than a week.

Opera Performances

In Munich:

July 20 - Das Rheingold

July 22 - Die Walküre

July 24 - Siegfried

July 27 - Götterdämmerung

CAST

Wotan - Wolfgang Koch

Siegmund - Jonas Kaufmann

Siegfried - Stefan Vinke



Alberich - John Lundgren

Brünnhilde - Nina Stemme

Mime - Wolfgang Ablinger-Sperrhacke

Frica - Ekaterina Gubanova

Erda - Okka von der Damerau

Wednesday, July 18. (D)* DEPART FOR MUNICH

Depart this evening aboard any airline of your choice to Munich, Germany arriving the next morning. Dinner and light breakfast served on the plane.

Thursday, July 19. (B,D). MUNICH

Upon arrival at Munich International airport take a taxi to the super deluxe centrally located VIER JAHRESZEITEN KEMPINSKI HOTEL, where you will stay nine nights. We will reimburse you the taxi fare. Briefing and cocktails at the hotel. Gala Welcome dinner at a gourmet restaurant.

Munich has more to offer than the BMW car factory and the 110 million gallons of beer brewed annually. For a city of its size, it has one of the finest collections of art within one museum, the Alte and Neue Pinakothek and the Deutsches Museum started in 1903, to show one of the most important collections of scientific and technical matters in the world. Munich's cultural wealth, its atmosphere – a blend of gaiety, tolerance and respect for traditions have combined to make it one of the most appreciated German cities.

Friday, July 20. (B). MUNICH

Morning sightseeing of this third largest city in Germany begins with a drive around the city to see the Olympic Park, site of the 1972 Summer Olympic, the BMW headquarter, Nymphenburg Palace and the 2 square miles of the English gardens with several beer gardens. This evening we will see the opera Das Rheingold by Wagner at the Bayerische Staatsoper.

Saturday, July 21. (B). MUNICH

This morning we will take a walking tour of the Old City founded by the monks of the Benedictine Order to see Marienplatz, the city hall with its famous Clock Tower, the churches of



Our Lady, Holy Spirit and St. Peters and to see Richard Strauss Fountain with bas reliefs showing scenes from his opera Salome.

Sunday, July 22. (B). MUNICH

Today is free to stroll along any of the four Grand Royal Avenues of the 19th century with magnificent official buildings leading to music quarters, state ministries and palaces. This evening we will see the opera Die Walküre by Wagner, with Jonas Kaufmann as Siegmund and Nina Stemme as Brünnhilde.

Monday, July 23. (B). MUNICH

This morning we will visit the Munich Residence Palace which has been open to the public as a museum since 1920 and is today one of the most important palace museums in Europe. Afternoon at leisure.

Tuesday, July 24. (B). MUNICH

Today you are free to visit the famous Museum Square of Munich with the Alte (old) Pinakothec or Neue (new) Pinakothec and Art galleries with their fabulous collection of fine arts. This evening we will see opera Siegfried by Wagner at the Bayerische Staatsoper, with Stefan Vinke as Siegfried and Nina Stemme as Brünnhilde.

Wednesday, July 25. (B,L). MUNICH

This morning we will drive about 60 km (36 miles) out east of Munich to see the amazing Royal Palace of Herrenchiemsee. In 1873 King Ludwig II of Bavaria acquired the Herreninsel as the location for his Royal Palace of Herrenchiemsee modeled on Versailles. Richard Wagner's great opera cycles might not exist were it not for the support of his patron Ludwig II. His enormous fairy-tale castles which virtually bankrupted the country were the grand sets made flesh, No expense was spared for the staging of Wagner's operas, which were often performed with Ludwig the sole member of the audience, and in return Wagner gave him his genius and his love. Lunch is included.

Thursday, July 26. (B,D). MUNICH

Today is free to stroll around the Marienplatz and see the open - air markets nearby. This evening we will have our Gala Farewell dinner at a gourmet restaurant.



Friday, July 27. (B). MUNICH

Today is free to window shopping at the famous shops across the street from our hotel, ranging from Giorgio Armani to Gucci. This evening we will see the opera *Götterdämmerung* by Wagner at the Bayerische Staatsoper, with Stefan Vinke as Siegfried and Nina Stemme as Brünnhilde.

Saturday, July 28. (B). MUNICH – BACK HOME

Morning departure aboard your airline back home, arriving the same afternoon. Auf Wiedersehn. See you on another H.A.T. Tour. We will arrange transfer for your flight.

* B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner (including wine)



LAND COST

DOUBLE: \$7,950 PER PERSON

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$1,250 PER PERSON

TOUR INCLUDES

- 9 nights at the Deluxe Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten Kempinski Hotel
 - Orchestra level seats at the Bavarian State Opera
 - Welcome Reception with cocktails
 - Buffet breakfast daily, 2 dinners with wine in gourmet restaurants and 3 light meals with wine during the first interval of the operas
 - Guided tours as listed in the itinerary by our special, state authorized Munich guide
 - Excursion to the beautiful Royal Palace at Herrenchiemsee, 60 km from Munich
 - Guide, driver and bellboys gratuities
 - Complete package with details of operas listed and on-site Tour direction
 - Transfers from airport and hotels provided on published arrival and departure
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H.A.T. Tours

Address: PO Box 46876, St. Petersburg, Florida, 33741, USA

Phone: (727) 367 3973

Fax: (727) 360-8459

Toll free: (800) 472-4448

E-mail: operas@hattours.com

Website: www.EuropeanOperaTours.com

