

OUR TRIP ABROAD - 1977

Sept. 22 - Oct. 8

We left Kennedy International Airport aboard a German Airliner 747 LUFTHANSA Flying to Frankfurt and then changing planes our flight continued to Cologne arriving at noon, Friday, Sept. 23rd. Our stay of one night was at the Am Augustiner Platz.

^{AFTER A} brief siesta Landis and I went walking in the shopping district of Cologne.

² This unusual sculptor took our eye. Water was coming from the top and flowing down on all sides. ⁴ No cars are allowed in their malls. ³ Streets were lined with exquisite shops, and the window displays were elegant.

The next morning we took a bus tour of the city. ⁴ Cologne lies on the banks of the Rhine River. The city is 35 miles long, and has 8 bridges crossing the river.

⁵ The magnificent Cologne Cathedral is in the background.

⁶ This is a portion of old Cologne which started as a Roman Colony.

⁷ A view of the left side of the Cathedral, which was the only damage done by a bomb in WW II and never repaired. 90% of Cologne was destroyed during the war, but they were told to spare the Cathedral.

⁸ A view of the right side; ⁹ an inside window; ¹⁰ the top of the cathedral and the spire. The cathedral took over 600 yrs. to build 1248-1880. ¹¹ The towers stand 512 high. The huge organ has 7600 pipes.

¹² A view of the Alt Koln Restaurant had an interesting clock and Glockenspiel. We ate our first lunch here where we sampled their Mosel wine which is very mild.

Saturday afternoon we headed south. ¹³ This a view of Loreley Rock from the roadside; ¹⁴ also a view of the Rhine and a castle.

Arrived in Wiesbaden, a resort known for its boiling mineral springs which were discovered by the Romans. We stayed at the Forum ¹⁵ for 2 nights.

Sunday morning we drove back to Boppard to board our cruise on the Rhine. We stopped at this beautiful place ¹⁶ to make reservations for our noon lunch, but they couldn't accomodate us. ¹⁷ This is a picture of the type of boat we were on; ¹⁸ the next the one we were actually on.

The next few pictures are views from the boat. ¹⁹⁻²⁰ A view of 2 old churches; ²¹ one of the many barges we passed. The River is very busy with industrial transportation and sightseeing boats. ²²⁻²³ The next two pictures are of castles of two brothers. Notice the wall separating them. They must have had some kind of problem that they had to build a wall to separate them. ²⁴ A village scene; ²⁵ MORE VINEYARDS ²⁶ another castle. ²⁷ There were many castles built along the Rhine. They selected high spots so they could protect themselves from enemies.

²⁸ A view of one of the fortresses that has been turned into a hostel where grape pickers stay during the harvesting season. ²⁹ More vineyards - notice the marking 555 Kilometers, which is the distance to the North Sea.

³⁰ A view of the Imperial Castle that was built on a small island. We left the cruise at St. Goar and drove to a small village, Rudesheimer where we had lunch. ³¹ A narrow street, and then a view of the ³² Lindenwirt Restarant where we ate. Had good German music.

³³ More views of vineyards from this town; notice them way up on top of the hill. The
³⁴ next picture you can see a chair lift in operation, which went up to some monument.

Monday, the 26th we left Wiesbaden and drove south to the Student Prince, University town of Heidelberg. We had lunch at the Red Ox Inn, which is ³⁵ 220 yrs. old and run by the same family. (was nothing to brag about). Heidelberg has a population of over 100,000. It is the largest city that was not destroyed in WW II. It lies on a narrow strip between the Neckar River and the Rock of Heidelberg Castle.

³⁶ A view of the locks on the Neckar River. There are a total of 27 of them. We visited the University prison and the castle that overlooks the city. It was built in 1500 and 1600s. It is considered a masterpiece of German architecture. This view is an old portion of
³⁷ the castle, which took 3 centuries to build. Our guide took us in to see the ³⁸ largest wine keg which holds 55,000 gal. On the top of it they have a dance floor which holds 12 couples. Various views of Heidelberg - the buildings are all of red sandstone. ³⁹ One from the street level up to the castle; ⁴⁰ another from the castle looking down on the Old Bridge and town.
⁴¹ ~~another view~~ ⁴ Heidelberg University is a very large college; founded in 1386 it is the oldest in German. 20,000 students attend, so you can see that Heidelberg is mostly a college city and resort.

Leaving Heidelberg we drove further south through the Black Forest. Had a ⁴² rest stop in Freiburg, where we had a piece of Black Forest Cake and coffee for \$2.⁰⁰ each. Our destination for the night was Feldberger Hotel in the Black Forest. The drive was a very beautiful one. The fir trees are dark giving the name Black Forest. ⁴³ The next day, Tuesday was an exceptional beautiful day, so we decided to go for an early morning walk. This is a ⁴⁴ view of the ski slope taken from our hotel; and the ⁴⁵ weather-station to which we started to climb. We didn't quite make it, were afraid we'd miss breakfast.
⁴⁶ ⁴⁷ Our motel was at the foot of the highest peak in the Black Forest.

⁴⁸ A chapel was erected a short distance from our hotel, and we walked to see it since it was a very unique and contemporary structure. (Catholic). On our way, a ⁴⁹ view of hikers walking in front of us. This is a beautiful spot for hiking, skiing, or any type of winter sport. The Black Forest is noted for its manufacture of wooden toys, cuckoo clocks and musical instruments. It was at this place that we encountered another group from Berks County. Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Hawthorne were with them. Small world.

Tues. morning we left Feldberg and followed the Rhine Valley to Switzerland. Switzerland is completely surrounded by the Alps. A ⁵⁰ view of the crossing at Basel where we had to be checked entering a new country. We had a short rest stop in Basel, where we snapped this picture of the ⁵¹ trolley cars. Our lunch stop was at Bern, the capital of Switzerland. We first viewed the ⁵² bears in these bear pits. Bern comes from a German word meaning bears.

⁵¹A view of the old city gate on Main Street with the clock; ³⁸a part of the shopping district; and a view ⁵⁹of the residential district.

Traveling on we arrived in Interlaken on Tues. afternoon at 3:00 p.m. for a 2 night stay at the Royal St. George Hotel. We went for a walk, and took ⁶⁰⁻⁶⁴five picture of Jungfrau from the street. The weather was gorgeous. Jungfrau is the highest view in Europe, 11,700 ft. above sea level. ⁶⁵A view of an old house in Interlaken; more ⁶⁶flowers, the Casino, and the ⁶⁸floral clock. ⁶⁹A snap of our bus driver, Alan from Belgium who was quite a good chap. ⁷⁰A clean-up cart pulled up as we walked along, so we snapped it to show how they clean up. Europeans are constantly sweeping and cleaning. A view of the ⁷¹Interlocken Depot which we thought was beautiful.

The next day was out of this world. The temperature was 65 degrees and we left by bus at 9:00 for our trip to the train station; went up to the summit of Jungrau by train and cog rail. These next ⁷views were taken on the way up - ~~6 pictures~~.

We stopped at ⁷⁹Elgerwand which was 9400 ft., and then at ⁸⁰Eiseneer, 10,368 ft. Several ⁸¹⁻⁸⁴views from the top with the glaciers. Words cannot describe the beauty up there. We saw some snow slides on the way up. We ate lunch at the Cafeteria up there and then we were out on the side of the mountain. We were up for 2 hrs. Walked through an ice palace while up there. ⁸⁵⁻⁹²These next slides are all coming down. The scenery was breath taking; our slides do not do it justice.

⁹³A view of part of our group outside our hotel. (Mildred and Gladys; Blinks, Nemetz's. Mr. Nemetz was returning to Check. to visit his brother and sister.

Thursday we left Interlocken and crossed the Brunig Pass and arrived in Lucerne.

The most famous Landmark of the city are the two roofed bridges. A view ⁹⁴of the one we walked across - was lined with red geraniums. On the inner walls there were a series of paintings from the early 1600's. A view of one of the ⁹⁵narrow streets decked out with flags. For lunch we stopped at the ⁹⁶Stadtkeller for a music, wine and food. We had a swiss cheese fondue, roasted swiss Bratwurst (homemade sausage), potatoes fried in butter, mixed salad, and dessert. During our meal we had swiss singers and yodlers. They tried to teach some in the restaurant to yodel (had one of our group, one from Manheim, Hershey and Harrisburg) A man played a long swiss horn, which was really outstanding. The whole affair sure was worth the \$10.00 we paid for it. The man standing the closest is our tour guide, Joch.

we passed many beautiful apple orchards ^{loaded with red apples.} Continuing our trip for the day, we journeyed to the Austrian border, crossing at Bregenz, and headed to Feldkirch, where we stayed ⁹⁷⁻⁹⁸one night at the Weisses Kruez Hotel. (2 pictures.) After breakfast the next morning we took a short walk to take pictures. A view of one of the many ⁹⁹houses and barns built altogether. Notice the manure pile just outside the barn. The ¹⁰⁰cemetaries over there are all very beautiful. In this view you can see how they plant flowers all around the monuments. A view of ¹⁰¹a home in back of the cemetery, which we thought might be the priest's home. While the group went to the bank to get Austrian money I took a picture ¹⁰²of the garden where we were parked. They really have gardens filled with all kinds of vegetables and flowers.

After leaving Feldkirch we crossed the Aarlberg Pass nearly a mile high surrounded by Alps and valleys speckled with Gingerbread chalets. We had a coffee break here and I sampled their apple streusel.

Our lunch stop was in Innsbrook, which is the capital of the Austrian province of Tyrol. We viewed the Wilten Basilica which is seen mainly for the amount of gold used in the interior. A view of the Gold roof - don't know it's significance except it was gold. Two pictures of the Inn River where we sat and ate our own lunch that day. The water in some of the rivers is glacier water, which has a different color. It is grayish-green. A snap of a row of baroque type buildings. A view of the tower of the gate. Another view of the gold roof with the Alps in the background. A view of a cafe where we made an afternoon rest stop. It was quite an interesting place. They had 3 live cows just in back of the dining area.

Then we had to cross over into Germany on our way to Austria. At the border they detained the bus for 1½ hours because the bus driver failed to have his log book in order. Our guide was rather upset. We never got to Salzburg until 8:00 p.m. The following morning we had a tour of the town which means castle of salt.

Two views of the palace where Von Trapp in Sound of Music had his 7 children and to which he brought the new barroness.

A view of a large fortress built in 1077 used now for Seminars. A picture of a baroque fountain. A partial view of the Salzburg Cathedral; notice the three different dates of dedication. Took 14 yrs. to build.

A picture of a statue in St. Peters Courtyard; and a picture of Peterskeller, where Paul told us to eat. (we didn't have time)

This is a view of ancient catacombs.

A picture of the Salzburg Theater - there are 2 stages, one which goes back into the rocky hillside.

A view of Mozart's birthplace which is now a museum. We saw the piano on which he played.

Leaving Salzburg we drove to Melk where we boarded a paddleboat steamer for our ride on the Danube. As we started out we saw a big 18th century monastery.

We passed many fortresses and wine villages going through the Wachau District. After 1 3/4 hrs. we disembarked at Krems and continued by motorcoach to Vienna, arriving at 6:00 p.m.

Landis had to get a taxi to the Opera House to pick up our tickets for that night and we had to get dressed and head back to the Opera House to hear "The Hunter's Bullet" by Weber. The Opera House was very elegant.

Sunday morning, Oct. 2nd we began a sightseeing tour of Vienna. We spent two hours in the Schoenbrunn Palace, which was the summer residence of the Hapsburg Family. It is Baroque architecture outside and Rococo inside.; also a view of the horizontal clock at the top of the picture. A view of Neptune Fountain on the grounds and a picture of Gloriette Hill. And two pictures of the geometrical gardens with Gloriette Hill in the distance.

We also saw and drove through the heart of Vienna where we saw the Parliament Bldgs, the museums of Fine Art and History, Town Hall, St. Michael's Church and the Square of the Heroes. We had the afternoon free, so we rested and then headed for the Volksoper to get tickets for Sunday evening. They had sold ours, but we were able to secure two others ones, second to the front row. We saw "Der Bettelstudent" (The Beggar student). While waiting for the ticket office to open we ate in a small cafe where we tasted the famous sacher cake.

Monday we had free, so we started our own tour. Took a taxi to St. Stephen's Cathedral, ⁽³²⁻¹³³⁾ which is probably the most famous building in Vienna. It's gothic spires rise 450 ft. above the city. This cathedral was badly damaged during WW II but was repaired after the war. A view of another church - ¹³⁴ (Not sure if this St. Peter's) built in 1702.

A snap of the Rathaus or Town Hall, ¹³⁵ also a bought slide of it. ¹³⁶

A picture of the Square ¹³⁷ of the Heroes with an equestrian statue; a snap of the Johann Strauss ¹³⁸ monument; also a different ¹³⁹ view that we bought; ⁽¹⁸⁾ a statue ¹⁴⁰ of Mozart;

a statue ¹⁴² of Franz Joseph who was the Emperor and spent most of his life in the castle we saw before; ^{Schwarzenborn}

A view of the outside of the Vienna ¹⁴³ State Opera House. A bought picture ¹⁴⁵ of Belvedere Castle, which we didn't get to see.)

Tuesday, October 4th we left Vienna to cross the rolling hills of Austria and crossed the Czech. border at Mikulov. We caught our first glimpse of the barbed wire separating the two countries with guards carefully watching. We were not allowed to take pictures. We surrendered our passports and waited for 1 hr. and 15 min. until the guards thought we were safe to enter their country. They brought a small dog out to sniff the luggage and the inside of the bus for drugs. After all was in order a Czech. woman guide boarded our bus. Her English was very broken and she was flighty. We stopped in Brno for lunch. Wasted so much time until she got us a restaurant, and then more time until we got fed. Had ham and cheese sandwiches. (Took 2 hrs. in all)

Motored on - hit a detour and she decided to take a shortcut and we wound up on narrow back roads. They finally stopped and she and our American guide got off the bus to check signs with a flashlight. Funny, but spooky. (One lady in our group from Canada said, "Can't you just see the headlines in the papers tomorrow in U.S. "American Express Tour group in bus lost in Czechoslovakia." We continued on the same road until we came to a tee ~~in~~ with the sign to "Prague". We all applauded and the bus driver crossed himself. He was really perplexed. We arrived at our hotel at 8:00 and had dinner at 9:00 p.m.

The next morning we toured part of modern Prague. It is known as the city of 500 spires. Here is two ¹⁴⁴⁻¹⁴⁵ views of odd designs found on the buildings. A view of St. ¹⁴⁶ Vitus Cathedral

built by the Romans in the Fourth century; and ¹⁴⁷ a closer view ^{of tower & clock}

A picture of St. Wenceslas Chapel and a chastity cage.

A view of the \$30,000¹⁴⁹ government cars; a snap of the fortress close to the cathedral.¹⁵⁰
We spent two hours walking around Wenceslas Square, where we were bored to death.
Our guide had made a point to tell us it was the Americans who destroyed Prague in WW II.

Leaving Prague Thursday morning we headed for the German border. Arriving at 10:30 we had to again surrender our passports. The bus driver had to take baggage out so the guards could check in back of the luggage for any stow-aways. They also checked the bus and all doors that could be opened. After two hours they allowed us to cross over into Germany.

These two pictures¹⁵¹⁻¹⁵² are some of our group at a rest stop just before the border. We arrived in the quaint and medieval village of Rothenburg. It is encircled by parapets and fortified gates. We could not believe the terrific contrast in this quaint place from the city of Prague.

Friday morning we had a lovely guide (a Mary Poppins type) direct us on a walking tour.

A picture of our hotel and bus with Gladys in the pink coat. A view of the narrow streets - too narrow for busses, where you can see the oldest tower and clock and gate built 1000-1200. A picture of the oldest house built around 1200.¹⁵³

A picture of where they hoisted the grain in old times; note the little door at the top of the building.¹⁵⁶ Two pictures of a bay window that was used for a privy.¹⁵⁷⁻¹⁵⁸

A snap of beautiful floral windows.¹⁵⁹ The bridge made famous in the movie, Chitty-Chit-Bang-bang.¹⁶¹ A country scene; a view of the crest of the tower; another

scene looking out from the wall; The large square with the clock; their town hall.¹⁶²¹⁶³¹⁶⁴¹⁶⁵

Our stay in this peaceful place ended much too soon. We were ready to leave the parking lot when we discovered a car had parked us in such a way that we couldn't make the turn up the narrow street. Wasted 15 min. in calling the police. Finally got out after 10:00 o'clock and took the Romantic Road to Fessen.

Two telescopic views of the Neuschwanstein Castle, built by King Ludwig II in the middle 1800s. Made famous by Walt Disney. A picture of our guide, and several more snaps of the castle with regular lens.¹⁶⁶⁻¹⁶⁷ A view of one of the toboggan passes and a mountain view.¹⁶⁸¹⁶⁹⁻¹⁷⁰¹⁷¹¹⁷²

We then headed for Munich arriving at 7:00 p.m. Had 15 minutes to get ready for our farewell dinner at our hotel. Wasn't too impressed with the evening. Too much beer and all the jokes were in German. The music was good, however.

Saturday morning we went for a walk before we left. ~~xxxxxx of xxxx Glockenspiel xxxx the Town Hall xxxx only xxxxxxxx 00xxxxxx~~

A view of Munich Cathedral; a bought slide of a cathedral and the town hall; another scene of Marien Square with a Cathedral; a slide of Nymphenburg Castle (we didn't see this); a snap of the glockenspiel which only plays at all:00; a scene of Munich; another of the Olympic tents; the Hotel and Beer Hall where we stayed; another picture of a beer hall; and then 2 scenes of the parting of the ways. Some did not return with us. We headed for the Munich airport and flew to

Frankfort. Boarded the plane at 2:00 and never took off until 3:15 their time. We arrived in New York at 6:30 and went through customs. Had to stay in N. Y. overnight and came home Sunday morning in a heavy rain.