Bavarian Travelers:

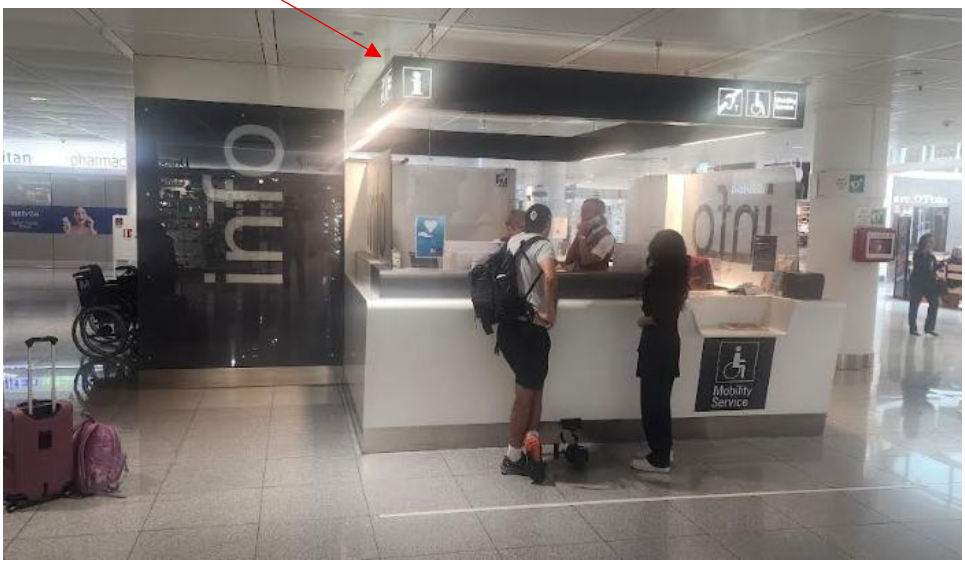
We wanted to provide some information that may be useful as our trip rapidly approaches. We have had some questions and thought this would be helpful for all.

Where do we meet?

We meet at the information center in Terminal 2 found in the main hallway. You will see a group gathering. If you arrive in Terminal 2, just as you exit customs walk straight ahead and you will find it. If you arrive in Terminal 1, make your way across the open air area to Terminal 2 and straight forward you will find it as well.

What does the information center look like?

Look for the 



How long will we have to wait for the bus in Munich?

For those arriving on earlier flights please be patient. We realize it's a long day after experiencing an overnight flight. Time passes by fast at the airport. There are snack bars and stores to browse or just enjoy the time with new friends. Our busses will arrive about the same time as our last flights arrive. We try to have all flights for our group to arrive before 12 noon. We should be on our way to our hotel shortly after we round up our last passenger.

What happens if I miss my connection and then miss the bus in Munich the first day of arrival?

This is why it's good to have the insurance. If no fault of yours, you can make a claim to cover your loss of a taxicab ride to the hotel. Also, it you miss the bus on tour, take note of the essential information below. This is also information to pass on to your family and friends to contact you.
HOTEL FARBRINGERHOFF Rottauer Str. 75, 83233 Bernau am Chiemsee, Germany. Phone: +49 8051 98690

When will I know my hotel room assignment?

You will receive luggage tags for your rooms at Munich airport. Your bags will be delivered directly to your room. We ask you to leave these tags on your bags for your return to the Munich airport. Some will be leaving from different terminals.

How do we know what's going on the next day?

You will be given an itinerary the day of your arrival. Information will be announced each day at dinner or on the bus for the next day's activities. Daily activities and bus departure times will also be posted at in the hotel lobby. Schedules are subject to change due to weather and unforeseen circumstances. Look for the Flyer in the Lobby for specific departure and arrival times as shown below:



Do I need euros and if, how much should I have with me?

Yes, you should have euros with you as you never know if you may wish to make a small purchase such as an ice cream, beer, coffee piece of cake and so on. Yes, credit cards are largely accepted but not in every situation. As for how much, hard to say as it depends on the individual. I would recommend a few hundred.

Where do I exchange my dollars for euros? Where do I get euros?

Several options:

1. You can order euros prior to departing from your local bank.

2. You can exchange dollars to euros at the airport. (Not recommended due to a higher exchange rate)

3. Withdrawal euros from the bank in Germany using your credit card. (You must know your credit card pin number to do so and it is not the same as your debit card pin. Contact your credit card company to request it. Do it ASAP as they will only mail it.)

Will I have an opportunity once in Germany to get euros?

Yes, on the first day before going to the Farmers museum, the bus will stop at a local bank which will allow you to use the ATM and with your credit card you can withdrawal the amount you desire.

I have a CPAP machine; will it work in the outlets in Germany since they run 220v?

Yes, most power cords such as cell phones, laptops and CPAP machines will plug in directly into the outlets with an adapter. Look at your power cord to verify as we can not be responsible should your specific equipment not have the capability. Look at your power cord as shown in the image below “AC INPUT 100-240v”. You will also need an adapter which can be purchased on amazon. There are a large variety any many to choose from. The picture below is as simple as you can get.

ResMed Power cord:



Adapter:



Where can I get distilled water for my CPAP machine?

Distilled water can be found in many of the local supermarkets such as Penny, Aldi and Edeka stores.

Will I have an opportunity to buy distilled water during the trip?

Yes, on the first day returning from the Farmers museum, the bus will stop at Penny which will allow you to purchase distilled water and small snack items you may wish to have in your room. This will be a quick stop for must needs so there will not be time for browsing. There will be other opportunities for shopping. Distilled water in German is called "**Destilliertes Wasser**" typically found in the cleaning isle.

Will there be an opportunity to tip the bus drivers and hotel and their staff?

Yes, At the end of the tour during our farewell banquet we will pass the hat around one for the hotel and the other for the bus.

How much should I tip?

Follow your heart.

Food

What if I don't like what's on the buffet?

The food is always excellent! Vegetarian – there is a variety of salad choices daily. For the vegetarian or gluten free diets or picky eaters, one can order in advance a specialized menu at their own expense.

Clothing & What to Wear

Is there laundry service at the hotel?

There is service at the hotel at your own expense. We recommend to pack accordingly and wrinkle-free clothes. As an option, bring a small container of laundry soap to rinse small items out in the sink.

What type of clothing we will need for the 2 weeks. Dressy? Mostly casual?

Dress casual, dressy outfits are not required. Don't bring a lot of square dance outfits, no petticoats. Our dances are casual attire. A western shirt and a squaw dress for the ladies will work for the special dances. Dress in layers, leave the heavy coats behind. For the Mozart Dinner Concert, gents are not required a coat and tie, however, the Germans will dress up. We will be spending the day touring the city that day with no chance to change for the evening concert. We will be coming in as a group, but still want to be respectful for this elegant dinner concert. Shorts, tank tops, no collars, raggedy jeans would not be appropriate.

How should I pack for the weather in Germany?

Fall weather is similar to Washington State. Indian summers – cool in the morning and evening and usually pleasant during the day. The weather can be unpredictable, so bring an umbrella or you can pick one up in town. Pack for layers, sweater and light jacket or windbreaker. Consider polo and short sleeve shirts. Ladies – slacks and lose fitting dresses and comfortable walking shoes. Dress in layers. No heavy coats – pack a light windbreaker. It's usually pleasant in September, but no guarantees. Dress casual and comfortable – no dressy outfits. Even the Mozart Dinner Concert does not require coat and tie. Wear your **Lederhosen** and you will be right in style. Bring comfortable walking shoes.

For Square Dancing:

Casual dress is acceptable for all square dancing. We suggest long sleeve shirts for the guys and a squaw dress (prairie skirt) for the gals. Petticoats take up too much room in your suitcase and are not necessary. Jeans, slacks or a dress is also okay. Gals may wish to take a dress along and change before the dance when visiting a club on the road. Most of the German square dancers do dress in square dance attire.

Is there a dress code?

There are no dress codes. You can wear anything you like. Blue jeans, – yes. Just be aware so you won't feel uncomfortable. We Americans stand out pretty much already without wearing something that no one else is wearing. You will find it does start getting a bit chilly as fall approaches and you can probably do well with or without shorts. For the most part, the Germans are well dressed, especially on Sundays. The Bavarians like to dress up and often put on their traditional Bavarian attire as everyday dress. Now, if you have a pair of Bavarian leather shorts, or **Lederhosen** along with the traditional suspenders and the Bavarian hat, you will be right in style.

Does everyone wear petticoats or are prairie skirts okay.

Petty Coats takes up a lot of room in your suitcase. Pack a squaw dress or prairie skirt. These can also be used during the day.

Travel What-Ifs

What happens if I get sick or have to see a doctor?

There are paramedics nearby with a doctor on call 24-7. The doctors will come directly to your room if need be. There is a larger clinic at Prien on the Chiemsee Lake, about 10 km and a huge heart hospital in Rosenheim between Munich and Bernau Am Chiemsee. If there is an emergency, call on any staff member and we will get help.

What should I do if I can't find my insurance documents before leaving on the trip?

You really don't need to take your confirmation with you. If you have a problem, missed connection, health, etc., you will submit a claim when you return. If something does come up, keep records and receipts of your mishap.

Will we need to present passports when traveling between Germany and Austria?

The borders are usually open but we ask that you bring your passports in case they are checking during security crackdowns.

Will we be able to get boarding passes ahead of time for our international flight?

In some cases, yes. We suggest you arrive in plenty of time to get your boarding passes at the airline ticket counter and check your seating assignments for the entire trip. You can also request an updated flight itinerary.

Hotel Amenities

Do they have wireless Internet at the Hotel?

Yes. The Hotel Farbringerhof has free wireless WI-FI.

Do the hotels have single and double beds? How about showers? What about smoking in the rooms?

In Europe, all double rooms usually have two beds together with one headboard and footboard. Each bed has its own pillow and feather covers. Single rooms have one bed. The covers are down comforters that are warm and cozy. Most Germans sleep with their windows open for fresh air. There is no top sheet. The down cover has a slip cover that serves as the top sheet. The bed is made by folding the feather cover in half.

All rooms have showers. Washcloths are not provided. Soap bars are very small. There are no shampoos or conditioners. Not all European hotels supply these. Bringing a washcloth and your own personal soap, shampoo and conditioner makes things easier. Because of the liquid restrictions when flying, these items should be in small containers or they can also be bought at the local grocery store in town.

The hotel is totally non-smoking. There are designated smoking areas. However, there is no smoking in the area where we dine for dinner. Smoking is forbidden in the dance hall or on the bus.

Do the rooms all have private showers? YES!

Will we be staying where they have an indoor pool?

Yes. Hotel Farbingerhof has an indoor swimming pool. There is a small charge.

Will there be a place to store our passports for safe-keeping at our hotel?
Yes, the hotel has a personal safe in each room.

What about hair dryers, razors, clocks and curling irons?

All rooms have hair dryers. European voltage is 220 volts at 50 hertz – not good for 110-volt clocks. Use a battery alarm clock instead. Plug a unit designed for 110 volts into 220 volts and the results will be maximum smoke. You can bring converters for your camera, razor or battery chargers. Most new electric razors, battery chargers and even your laptop computer can be charged using 220 volts with no problem, but it is suggested you read the manufacture's specifications first. You will need an adapter plug for your 110 cord to allow you to plug into the 220 outlets. Appliances that have both 110/220 volt can also be found in the US stores or online before traveling.

Why should I bring my own washcloth and soap?

Washcloths are not provided – at least not like the ones we are used to. Soap bars are very small. There are usually no shampoos or conditioners. Hotels may provide soap, but it's usually in a tiny bar for one time use. These items are considered personal items the same as shaving creams and skin creams. Bringing a washcloth and your own personal soap, shampoo and conditioner makes things easier. Because of the liquid restrictions when flying these items need to be in small containers and in a sealed plastic container. These items can be bought in the local stores in town.

What about clothes hangers? Will they have enough of them in the rooms for all our clothes that hang?
Usually there are hangers in the closets. However, it doesn't take much room to bring a few extra wire clothes hangers just in case. You can leave them behind after the tour.

Do we need to take adapters for the difference in electrical power?
Electrical plug adapters will be needed to plug your 110 volt cord into the 220 volt outlet socket. Be sure your battery charger, razor, iron, hairdryer or laptop is adapted for both 110 and 220 volts.

E Tickets

Where is my e-ticket?
Your e-ticket is the itinerary with a six-digit airline locator that you received from the airline, Orbitz, Expedia, Booking.com or what have you. The truth of the matter is, you don't need to bring a thing except two government issued IDs (one being your passport) to get your boarding passes and they will

print an itinerary for your trip. You can also do early check-in 24 before departure with your airline on line. It's suggested you show up 2 hours before your flight.

Airline App

We highly recommend downloading the app for your airline, this allows you to get real time, up to date information on your itinerary such as, gate changes, departure time changes and or any delays etc. In most cases you can have your boarding pass on your phone as well.

I received the itinerary for our travel. It all looks good to us. When you say "our tickets", I am assuming the "actual" tickets will arrive with the rest of our travel materials. Please confirm this.

I know – we all remember when you were issued paper tickets with the travel agency and you had to guard them as if they were cash! Not anymore. The copy of your itinerary ARE your **actual** tickets. They are called e-tickets. If fact, you can go up to the counter a couple of hours before your flight, show them your required ID and they will issue you a boarding pass. Do recommend you bring a copy of your flight itinerary so they can check your names and find you in the computer easier. Anyway, they already have your name and the six digit locator code in the computer. You just won't find any paper tickets anymore. For international travel you will need to check in – especially if you have checked bags.