

Day-to-day Itinerary – Draga-Coots All-Stars Germany Tour

September 12 – 26, 2012

Visit [Crisp Tours](#) and various websites on this document by simply **CTRL + Click** on the highlighted link. Many websites also have an [English translation](#). Visit the band members on line: [Bob Draga](#) – clarinet, [Danny Coots](#) – Drums, [Eddie Erickson](#) – banjo, [Jason Wanner](#) – piano, [Bobby Durham](#) – string base, tuba & vocals, [Dave Tatrow](#) – trumpet, [Bill Allred](#) – trombone

A daily itinerary will be posted daily and is subject to change due to weather, scheduling, etc.

The All-Stars will play every day except when other activities are scheduled.

Breakfast served daily at your hotel. Dinners included are except where indicated.

Day 1: Wed, 12 Sep - Depart on an overnight flight to Munich. This is a long flight so we suggest you go to bed early before you travel, stay hydrated (less alcohol), snooze during the flight if you can and you'll experience less jetlag.

Day 2: Thu, 13 Sep – Upon arrival to the [Munich](#) airport, we will meet at the information booth after going through customs. We will gather everyone together and meet our busses. Our busses have [Kreuz-Reisen](#) (Kreuz Tours) written on the side. Everyone's patience is greatly appreciated as it takes time to round up our folks arriving on different flights.

After an approximate 1 ½ hour bus ride, we'll arrive at our new home in [Grassau](#). We will be staying in two hotels, the [Hotel Sperrer](#) & [Hotel Hansbaeck](#), both first class accommodations with elevators. Upon arrival, a welcome drink awaits you at [Hotel Sperrer](#) where there we will do personal introductions as your luggage is taken to your room. After dinner, there will be a short evening of jazz before retiring after a very long day.

Day 3: Fri, 14 Sep – **Morning free** after breakfast to explore the [Grassau area](#). After breakfast, there will be time to [exchange money](#), shop or just relax. [Grassau](#) has nearly anything you might need all within walking distance, to include two [banks](#), a post office, several places to get fresh bakery goods, coffee shops, several eateries & restaurants to include pizza, Oriental and Bavarian specialties, pharmacies, groceries, souvenirs, clothing stores, a [tourist information office](#), bus service, newspaper stands, medical services 24-7 and much more. This afternoon we'll take a short bus ride to the [Amerang Farmers' Museum](#). You'll see farm house build centuries ago and how people lived back then. For lunch, there is a little restaurant there where you can get the best soup around. Jazz after dinner tonight.

For those who like a little night life, there are a couple of bars in Grassau and the typical Gasthaus will usually stay open as long as drinks are being ordered. The [Hotel Sperrer](#) has a card room and TV room downstairs with CNN in English. Both hotels have wireless pay Internet.

Day 4: Sat, 15 Sep – **Morning free.** This afternoon will take short bus ride for a cruise on [Lake Chiemsee](#), we'll bring along some musical instruments so we can dance and party on the boat ride over to [Herrenchiemsee](#), the larger of two islands. Once on the island, it's about a ¾ mile flat walk to [King Ludwig's Chiemsee Castle](#). There are optional horse and buggy rides available to take you to the castle. The castle, really a palace, was designed after the French Sun King, Louis XIV's Palace of Versailles near Paris. The tour takes us through only a portion of the inside which was completed. There is also a small museum which is included with your tour ticket.

Day 5: Sun, 16 Sep – This morning you can sleep in, go to church or attend an early morning **Gospel Jazz Concert** from 9:30 -11:30 am. For those who would like to attend church services, there is a Catholic Church Service in the village church - check the times. Other services could be available, but transportation might be a problem. Early this afternoon, we'll take a local two-seater alpine ski lift to the [Grassauer Almen Wanderung](#) (Grassau Alpine Hiking trails), also known as the [Hochplatte](#) (High Plateau). You will see spectacular views of the village of Grassau and Lake Chiemsee on a clear day. If the weather is favorable, we might see Hang-Gliders and Parachute Jumpers taking off from a favorite launching site. There's a [small restaurant](#) which serves the finest German dishes and pastries.

After dinner, we head for the town hall for a local [Heimatabend](#), a Bavarian Traditional [Schuhplattlers](#) Show in the village. You will see the locals in their traditional outfits and dance their traditional dances. Drinks and food will be available for purchase. It is suggested we support the waitress by ordering something – this is their only income for providing service. (We had our jazz fix in the morning and there'll be live Oomph music tonight.)

Day 6: Mon, 17 Sep – Today we head south into Austria for the [Tyrol City](#) of [Innsbruck](#). We'll do both a bus and walking [tour of the city](#). You'll see the [Olympic Stadium](#) from the mountain side and walk the old medieval down town pedestrian center and see the famous [Golden Roof](#). Upon our return, we'll stop in the medieval town of [Rattenberg am Inn](#), the smallest city on the Inn river and famous for [Swarovski Crystal](#).

Day 7: Tue, 18 Sep – This morning we travel through the alpine valleys to the beautiful little village of [Reit im Winkl](#), and the [Reit im Winkl Area](#). The Bavarian houses, flowers on the balconies, the village fountain coupled with mountains and waterfalls make this a painter's and photographer's paradise. For the shoppers, the prices are most reasonable compared to other cities. (Stores close at noon on Wednesdays) For the guys, don't miss the [Schnapps Museum](#) where you can sample a variety of German schnapps. This afternoon – depending on the weather, we could offer an optional complementary mystery bus trip. Jazz tonight.

Day 8: Wed, 19 Sep – Today we take about a 45 minute drive to [Berchtesgaden](#), one of most the breath taking alpine regions in the Bavarian Alps. We'll visit the Obersalzberg [Salt Mines](#). You'll dress in the traditional miner's outfits, straddle the open train cars and ride deep into the salt mountain. The tour includes several interesting displays of how the miners worked the mines years back. The fun part is experiencing the slides the miners took to get from one level to the next. If the weather permits, we offer an optional tour to Hitler's [Eagle's Nest](#). Note: This is one tour which is not included because we can never guarantee the weather. This trip would be useless if the mountain is clouded over or raining. On our return trip home, again, weather and time permitting, we will take the scenic route through [Ramsau](#) and the [Magic Forest](#). This is one of the most beautiful drives in all of Europe. Jazz tonight after dinner.

Day 9: Thu, 20 Sep – This morning we head back to [Munich](#) to take a closer look at the [Bavarian capital](#). We'll meet our local guide for a guided city bus tour where we will see places of interest like the [Nymphenburg Palace](#), [Olympic Stadium](#) and [Englischer Garten](#), (English Garden), the city's largest park which was laid out along the [Isar River](#) just after the French Revolution—in hopes that it would calm the population and keep it from storming the duke's palace. In the spring and summer months it is a very popular public gathering place for [nudists](#). After the city tour we will end up at the original [Munich Oktoberfest](#). We suggest you make it first to the Ferris Wheel for a spectacular view of the city and over 14 huge beer tents, most over the size of a football field. Don't try to visit every beer tent. Ask if you can join someone at a table and enjoy the celebrations. Most places are reserved after 5 pm when it really gets packed. Take the time to see the sights, enjoy the Bavarian costumes, hear the songs and sounds of the biggest beer festival in the world.

This evening, we'll head downtown to [Wirtshaus zum Isartal](#) Bavarian Gasthaus. Dinner is included. After dinner, the [Draga-Coots All-Star Jazz Band](#) will share the stage with the [Munich Veterinary Street Jazz Band](#), for a joint jazz concert. ([VSJB Listen](#)) Late return.

Day 10: Fri, 21 Sep – This is a free day for shopping, exploring, hiking or just relaxing. This evening there will be a joint concert with the [Teachers Groove Big Band](#) and our own [Draga-Coots All-Stars](#). This will be a big hit for the town's people of Grassau. There will be VIP's in attendance along with the Buergermeister. All musicians play for free and all proceeds goes directly to the [Grassau Music School](#).

Dinner on your own. You may choose to have dinner in Grassau before the concert. We suggest the [Gasthof zur Post](#) right next to the [Heftersaal](#) Town Hall where the concert will be held.

Day 11: Sat, 22 Sep – Salzburg, the [City of Mozart](#). Late this morning we'll travel a short drive to [Salzburg](#), Austria. Our guide will meet us for a city walking tour. If you don't want to do the 1 ½ mile foot tour, you can stop off at the horse and buggies where you can do your own tour by coach or stroll the old part of the city on your own. You will see [Mozart's birthplace](#) house in the center of the old town. You'll find open-air markets, several [cathedrals](#) and music halls and lots of coffee sidewalk cafés. You can also take the [funicular](#) inclined railway (small discount for groups of 10 or more) to the impenetrable [Hohensalzburg Fortress](#) for a fantastic view of the city. There you will find a free museum, gift shop, a restaurant and medieval village and court yard. This is the largest fully-preserved fortress in Europe. The fortress was constructed in 1077 during a dispute with the Pope over who should be allowed to appoint the bishop. This evening is what everyone is waiting for, the [Mozart Dinner Concert](#), held in the atmospheric, baroque vaults of St Peter's Abbey, known as the [Stiftskeller St. Peter](#). Visitors can savor a fine three-course meal accompanied by the [Mozart Ensemble](#), which performs works composed by Salzburg's most famous son. The musicians are clad in

historical costumes and the whole atmosphere transports you back to Mozart's times. While no doubt extremely touristy, the Mozart Dinner is a must for any visitor to Salzburg. This elegant restaurant and concert banquet hall is one of the oldest and renowned dinner concerts in all of Europe. Formal attire is not required. No jazz tonight, it's classical. Late return.

Day 12: Sun, 23 Sep – This morning we head back to Munich for the original [Munich Oktoberfest](#), the [largest beer festival in the world](#) where over 6 million liters of beer are consumed in 17 days. This is a very special day for the Oktoberfest. You'll see the opening costume parade with bands and traditional outfits from different regions all over Germany. Be sure to take your place early along the parade route. Also, you don't want to miss the [Ferris wheel](#) ride for a spectacular view of the city and over 14 huge beer tents, most are larger than the size of a football field. You'll have time to see the sights, enjoy the Bavarian costumes of the locals and listen to the songs and sounds of the biggest beer festival in the world. Check out the different beer tents, but don't try to visit them all.

Dinner on your own. We'll still be home in time for you to find a restaurant for dinner or you can order from an excellent menu at our restaurant in Hotel Sperrer. You may wish to make reservations, but not necessary. If you do choose to dine at the [Hotel Sperrer](#) or [Gasthof zur Post](#) we will need a head count so the staff can be prepared. It's the Band's night off after visiting the Oktoberfest.

In addition to all the wonderful places to dine in Grassau, we might also suggest the beautiful Bavarian [Hotel Weßnerhof](#), about 1.5 mile paved and easy flat walk from Grassau. Here they raise all their own beef and pork plus make their own schnapps. Their menu (also in English) is famous for Bavarian specialties. It is here where there will have a free optional [Schnapps tasting tour](#) – not just for those wanting to try a variety of schnapps and liquors, but for anyone interested in learning how the German schnapps is produced. The schnapps will also be available for sale in the hotel lobby. Remember, it's the band's night off.

Day 13: Mon, 24 Sep – Today is the furthest bus excursion we take. It's about a 2 ½ hour bus ride to our first stop to the magnificent [Wieskirche](#) or **Field Church**. This elaborate [Pilgrimage Church](#) is isolated by its self in a field. Built in 1740, it is the most beautiful baroque church in Bavaria and probably in the world. It's famous for the miracle of tears seen on the face of the [Scourged Saviour statue](#). After its discovery, there rapidly developed a pilgrimage of unexpected proportions. Also significant is the **Door to Eternity**, or Heaven's Gate. The door is closed, but calls to be opened for believers to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. It symbolizes one that **Jesus Christ** made himself: "I am the door; by me if anyone enter in, he shall be saved. Hopefully the door will appear to lean towards you as you move from either side of the church.

Later, not far from the Wies Church, we will visit the famous [Schloss Neuschwanstein](#). Translated into English, the [New Swan Stone Castle](#) is one of the most beautiful and well preserved castles in the world. Originally ordered to be built by [King Ludwig II](#), this is the epitome of neo-romantic style and is the most famous of all medieval castles. It's a fairy-tale fantasy come true. The famous German castle overlooks the picturesque [Hohenschwangau Castle](#) and the romantic [Alpsee Lake](#).

From here it's on to [Oberammergau](#) - famous for woodcarving and the every ten year [Passion Play](#). This unique village is known for its religious airbrush paintings on the buildings, the flowers on the balconies all nestled in a little village with the Alps as a background. It's another painter's and photographer's dream come true. It's also the perfect place to send back home that cuckoo clock and other souvenirs. Most shops will ship your purchase home using your credit card. Jazzin' tonight

Day 14: Tue, 25 Sep – This is your last full day and a **free day** for last minute shopping and time to pack. There will be a midday request concert with the **All-Stars** from 11 am to 1 pm. Here is your last chance to make a request, play or sing with the band. Please have your checked baggage in front of your door or in the hotel lobby no later than 5 pm to be loaded onto the busses for the early morning departure tomorrow. Our [Special Farewell Banquet](#) will be at 5:30 pm. Everyone will have a chance to tell their story about their experiences they had on the trip. No music after banquet – early to bed or party in the Gasthaus until the wee morning hours.

Day 15: Wed, 26 Sep – Early morning departure for the Munich airport for flights back to the USA.

As of 1/30/2012