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Swiss Sophistication

Zürich & Basel Featuring Art Basel

June 13 - 21, 2027



With Christopher Noey, *Lecturer*

Trip Highlights

Join an official curator for a special inside look at **Art Basel**, the most prestigious event for modern and contemporary art, featuring influential galleries from around the globe.

Tour Kunsthaus Zürich during a private, curator-led visit, viewing works by Van Gogh, Monet, Rembrandt, Chagall, and Swiss sculptor Alberto Giacometti inside Switzerland's largest art museum.

Enter Lucerne's **Museum Sammlung Rosengart** for a private visit to see works by Picasso, Klee, and other artists collected by Angela Rosengart and her father, Siegfried, art dealers who knew many of these artists.

Visit the **Vitra Campus** in Weil am Rhein, Germany, a major destination for design and architecture featuring works by Pritzker Prize winners, including Frank Gehry, Zaha Hadid, and Herzog & de Meuron.

Experience a behind-the-scenes look at Frank Gehry's **Vitra Design Museum**, his first European building.

Take a private tour of **Musée Unterlinden** in Colmar, a museum built around a 13th-century Dominican convent, and view Grünewald's famed *Isenheim Altarpiece*, made between 1512 and 1516.

Enjoy a private visit to the UNESCO-recognized **Chapelle Notre-Dame-du-Haut** in Ronchamp, France, one of the 20th century's most studied religious buildings, designed by famed Swiss architect Le Corbusier.

View Kunstmuseum Basel during a private, curator-guided tour of a collection studded with great Old Master and Modern artworks.



Kunstmuseum Basel, courtesy of Basel Tourismus

About the Museum Travel Alliance

Celebrating 50 years of cultural travel in 2027, Arrangements Abroad operates exclusive journeys for the Museum Travel Alliance. MTA trips bring together patrons from more than 150 of America's leading museums, including the **Institute for Contemporary Art at Virginia Commonwealth University**, offering scholar-led, special-access experiences in destinations across the U.S. and around the world

Activity Level:
Intermediate



Pace Level:
Moderato



Visit Arrangements Abroad's website for more information about Activity and Pace Levels at www.arrangementsabroad.com/faqs.



Traveling With *You*

Christopher (Chris) Noey is an art historian, author, and Emmy Award-winning producer of films on art and culture. At The Metropolitan Museum of Art, he created video installations for a wide range of exhibitions and served as series director for the innovative online features *82nd & Fifth* and *The Artist Project*. Mr. Noey has taught at Williams College and the City College of New York.

The **Institute for Contemporary Art at Virginia Commonwealth University** is a proud member of the **Museum Travel Alliance (MTA)**, which offers exclusive travel programs for patrons of leading cultural institutions. Since 1970, **Art Basel** has drawn leading collectors, curators, and art lovers to **Switzerland** each June. Join **Christopher Noey**, an Emmy Award-winning filmmaker and art historian, to experience curator-led access to the world's leading event for modern and contemporary art.

From **June 13 to 21, 2027**, celebrate Swiss art, design, and craftsmanship in **Zürich** and **Basel**, with excursions to **Lucerne** and border towns in **Germany** and **France**. To reserve your place, [click here](#) to register online. You may also contact the Museum Travel Alliance at Arrangements Abroad by calling 212-324-1893 or emailing trips@museumtravelalliance.com. We spoke with Chris about the program.

You have led several trips to Art Basel. What can guests expect from the experience, and how does the rest of the journey add context to the fair?

Chris Noey: Art Basel is the benchmark for the global modern and contemporary art market. We'll join curators, collectors, artists, and some of the world's most influential galleries to see works ranging from 20th-century modern masters to the most cutting-edge art of today. With the special guidance of an Art Basel curator, we'll enjoy a much deeper look at the fair's museum-quality works and large-scale projects that go far beyond the usual booth exhibits.

Art Basel is the centerpiece of a journey into Swiss craftsmanship and collecting, beginning in the lakeside city of Zürich. There, we'll have a curator-led tour of **Kunsthaus Zürich**, whose collection features Van Gogh, Monet, Rembrandt, and major holdings by Swiss sculptor Alberto Giacometti. At **Fondation Beyeler** in **Riehen**, near Basel, we'll see great works of modern and contemporary art in a bucolic Renzo Piano building designed for Ernst Beyeler, the dealer who helped found Art Basel.

In Lucerne, we will share a private visit to the **Museum Sammlung Rosengart**. The museum grew from the collection of Angela Rosengart and her father, Siegfried, art dealers who were deeply connected to Picasso, Chagall, Klee, and many other major 20th-century European artists. At **Kunstmuseum Basel**, a curator will take us through one of the world's oldest public art collections, bought by the city in 1661.

Tell us about the architecture-focused excursions to border towns in Germany and France.

Chris Noey: Vitra, a Swiss furniture company, has commissioned buildings by Pritzker laureates on its campus in Weil am Rhein, Germany, just across the border from Basel, and we'll have access to restricted areas. The **Vitra Campus** includes innovative early works by Frank Gehry and Zaha Hadid, as well as two sites by Herzog & de Meuron, who also designed Art Basel's exhibition halls. We'll also visit one of the monuments of 20th-century architecture on a private visit to Le Corbusier's chapel at **Ronchamp**, France, renowned for its sculptural, spiritual design, and masterful use of light and shadow.

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Map of the region

Sunday, June 13: *Departure*

Depart on an overnight flight to Zürich, Switzerland.

Monday, June 14: *Zürich, Switzerland* (R)

Arrive in **Zürich** and transfer to the hotel, the **Mandarin Oriental Savoy**, then join the group for a **guided walking tour** through the city center. Later, meet at the hotel for a **welcome reception** with remarks by **Chris Noey**.

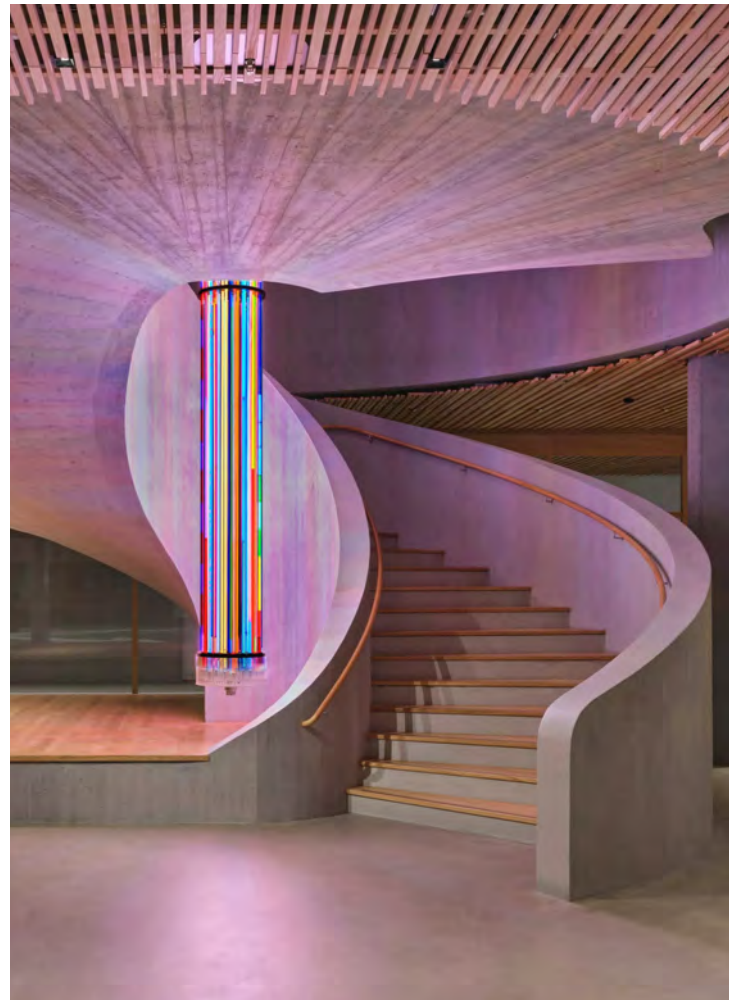
Tuesday, June 15: *Zürich* (B,L,D)

Join Chris Noey this morning for a **lecture and Q&A session**. Then, meet a curator at **Kunsthaus Zürich**, Switzerland's largest art museum, for a private tour. The collection spans eight centuries and includes works by Van Gogh, Picasso, Monet, Chagall, Rembrandt, Alberto Giacometti, and Edvard Munch.

After lunch in the Old Town, visit the recently opened **Universitäts-Kinderspital Zürich**, one of the world's most inspiring children's hospitals, designed by Herzog & de Meuron. Explore its village-like layout featuring playful wooden "cottage" rooms, lush courtyards, and light-filled spaces.

This afternoon, explore the **Löwenbräukunst-Areal**, a former brewery complex that has become one of Zürich's main contemporary art districts. Visit the **Migros Museum of Contemporary Art** to view installations, performance-based work, and recent acquisitions.

After exploring Löwenbräu's other galleries on your own, gather for dinner at an acclaimed restaurant near the hotel this evening.



Universitäts-Kinderspital Zürich



Kapellbrücke, Lucerne

Wednesday, June 16:

Zürich / Meggen / Lucerne / Zürich

(B,D)

Travel by private coach to **Meggen** for an inside look at **Piuskirche**, a mid-century church completed by Swiss architect Franz Füg in 1966. Its steel frame holds 888 thin slabs of Greek marble, which filter daylight into the nave.

Continue to **Lucerne** for a guided walking tour of the **Old Town**. Cross the 14th-century covered **Kapellbrücke** and view its 17th-century triangular roof paintings, which depict scenes from Lucerne's history. Lunch is at leisure.

This afternoon, enjoy a private visit to the **Museum Sammlung Rosengart**, housed in a former Swiss National Bank building in Lucerne. The collection was built by Angela Rosengart and her father, Siegfried, art dealers who knew many of the artists whose work they collected, including Picasso, Klee, Monet, Matisse, and other major modern artists.

Return to Zürich this evening for dinner at a local restaurant.

Thursday, June 17:

Zürich / Basel / Art Basel

(B,D)

Depart Zürich for **Basel**, set on the Rhine where Switzerland, Germany, and France meet. The city has long been a center of trade, scholarship, printing, and collecting, and each June, it becomes the center of the international art market during Art Basel.

Upon arrival, attend **Art Basel** with the guidance of an official curator. More than 200 leading galleries present modern and contemporary work at the fair, where collectors, curators, artists, and museum leaders gather to see new presentations and major works brought to Basel for the week.

After time for lunch at leisure and independent exploration, check into Basel's **Grand Hotel Les Trois Rois**, a landmark hotel on the Rhine, whose guests have included Pablo Picasso, James Joyce, and Empress Michiko of Japan. Gather this evening for dinner at a local restaurant.



Rafaela Vogel, *signos de inter y ex (6)*, 2025 Art Basel



Vitra Schaudepot, Weil am Rhein, Germany

Friday, June 18:

*Basel / Weil am Rhein, Germany /
Basel, Switzerland*

(B)

Cross into Germany this morning to visit the **Vitra Campus** in **Weil am Rhein**, just across the border from Basel. The working furniture company's campus has become a major site for architecture and design, with buildings by Frank Gehry, Herzog & de Meuron, Zaha Hadid, Tadao Ando, SANAA, and others.

Tour the **Vitra Schaudepot**, also designed by Herzog & de Meuron. The Schaudepot displays more than 400 key pieces of furniture design, from early bentwood chairs to works by Le Corbusier, Alvar Aalto, and Gerrit Rietveld.

Visit the **Vitra Fire Station** (1991-1993), Zaha Hadid's first completed building, and go behind the scenes at the **Vitra Design Museum**, Frank Gehry's first building in Europe, completed in 1989. The museum is devoted to design and its relationship to architecture, art, and everyday life. Explore the building's deconstructivist, sculptural forms and stroll through its four large exhibition galleries.

Return to Basel, where the remainder of the day, including lunch and dinner, is at leisure.

Saturday, June 19:

*Basel / Colmar, France / Ronchamp /
Basel, Switzerland*

(B,L)

Travel this morning to **Colmar**, in France's Alsace region, for a private tour of the **Musée Unterlinden**, housed inside a 13th-century Dominican convent with a later Herzog & de Meuron extension.

View the museum's most famous treasure, the **Isenheim Altarpiece**, made between 1512 and 1516 by painter Matthias Grünewald and sculptor Nikolaus Hagenauer. Its panels open to show the Crucifixion, the Annunciation, the Virgin and Child, the Resurrection, and scenes from the life of St. Anthony.



Isenheim Altarpiece, Musée Unterlinden, Colmar, France



Installation view, Otobong Nkanga, *Uearthed – Abyss*, 2021,
© Otobong Nkanga, photo: Mark Niedermann, Fondation Beyeler,
Riehen, Switzerland

Next, take a guided walking tour through Colmar's **Old Town**, passing canals, half-timbered houses, and medieval streets. Following lunch, travel to **Ronchamp** for a private visit to Le Corbusier's **Chapelle Notre-Dame-du-Haut**, the Swiss architect's 1955 chapel and part of his UNESCO-recognized ensemble of work. Its thick white walls, small windows, and sculptural concrete roof make it one of Europe's most studied modern religious buildings.

Return to Basel, where the evening and dinner are at leisure.

Sunday, June 20:

Basel / Riehen

(B,D)

Enjoy a private, curator-guided tour of the **Kunstmuseum Basel**, home to the world's oldest public art collection. The museum's holdings span centuries, including works by Hans Holbein the Younger, Van Gogh, Monet, Cézanne, Picasso, Giacometti, Rothko, Klee, and Warhol.

The museum's **Kupferstichkabinett** houses more than 300,000 drawings and prints, one of the world's most comprehensive collections of its kind. Lunch is at leisure today.

Travel to nearby **Riehen** for a guided visit to **Fondation Beyeler**, a museum designed by Renzo Piano. View modern and contemporary art in galleries that look out toward the surrounding park, with works that may include Giacometti, Cézanne, Basquiat, O'Keeffe, and other major artists, depending on the installation.

Return to the hotel and gather this evening for a **festive farewell dinner** at a local restaurant.

Monday, June 21:

Basel / Return

(B)

Depart the hotel early this morning for the flight home.

Program Rate
\$16,999 per person, double rate
\$21,699 single rate

Rate Includes

- Seven nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine at welcome and farewell dinners
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for participants on arrival and departure days
- Taxes, service, and portage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED IN RATE: International airfare; passport /visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than those noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for participants on arrival and departure days; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

DISCLAIMER: This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Institute for Contemporary Art at VCU and Museum Travel Alliance. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at <https://www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms-conditions/>.

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RESERVATION FORM

To reserve a place, please [click here](#) to register online through a secure form. You may also call Museum Travel Alliance at 212-324-1893 or 855-533-0033; email: trips@museumtravelalliance.com; or complete and return this form with your deposit of \$2,000 per person (of which \$1,000 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to *Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Museum Travel Alliance, 260 West 39th Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4424.

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Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date

Front cover: Messeplatz with CHOIR installation by German artist Katharina Grosse at Art Basel 2025, Basel, Switzerland.

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Accommodations



Mandarin Oriental Savoy, Zürich

Mandarin Oriental Savoy, Zürich

Set on Zürich's Paradeplatz in the heart of the Bahnhofstrasse, one of the world's most exclusive shopping avenues, this conveniently located historic hotel dates to 1838 and has long been a symbol of refined elegance and Swiss hospitality.

Grand Hotel Les Trois Rois, Basel

One of Europe's most magnificent city hotels, this prestigious, centrally located hideaway perches on the banks of the Rhine River, offering stunning views, dining options including a Michelin-starred restaurant, and impeccable service.



Grand Hotel Les Trois Rois, Basel