



**9th March 2008
STUDY TOUR
OF
IDAR OBERSTEIN
GERMAN GEMSTONE ROUTE**

*The National Association of Goldsmiths
Representing Jewellery Retailers Since 1894*



In association with



DAY 1 - SUNDAY - 9th March 2008

Depart Heathrow 1150, arrive Frankfurt 1445 - Flight No. LH4727

You will be met by coach at Frankfurt Airport and transferred to the Hotel Sonnenhof in Veitsrodt.

HOTEL SONNENHOF

Situated in the German gemstone area near the jewellery metropolis Idar-Oberstein. Facilities include modern rooms indoor pool, sauna, solarium, lift and conference room.



DAYS 2 to 5 - MONDAY 10th March to Thursday 13th March 2008

The coach will be available for site visits in and around the Idar Oberstein area - the final dates of when the visits are to take place are yet to be finalized but will include:



Steinkaulenberg Mine

The hour-long visit explains how the industry exploited the local rocks, the working conditions in the mine, financial gain, the background geology, and how the industry developed over time.



German Gemstone Museum

This stunning museum displays minerals and worked gemstones. Not only does the museum have some truly amazing raw material, it also demonstrates the variety of artefacts which Idar Oberstein produces including some historical material. There are explanations of crystal properties, demonstrated with impressively large and superb samples. The lighting and display techniques are of the very best.

Alte Biehlschleife

Visit traditional water-powered lapidary workshop (Biehleschleife). This explains how the local resources of hilly landscape, and high rainfall provided the power for driving lapidary machinery. Run-down of the traditional raw materials favoured in historic times.

Space is limited in the workshop, and in the past the group has been divided into two, the other half visiting cameo engraver Erwin Pauly some 20 minutes away by coach, for a demonstration of hard-stone cameo work (design, selection of suitable stone, dyeing, engraving).

Erwin Pauly

The World of Erwin Pauly offers a selection of thousands of different cameo models in classic and modern style. This 6000 year old craft has been revived by his wonderful designs. The quality of his work reaches the highest level. Erwin Pauly and his sons Andreas and Gerhard as well as his team of highly skilled carvers enrich their design with modern elements. Classic style cameos are also available.



Oberstein Historical Museum

Visit Oberstein historical museum. This equally splendid museum houses yet more wonderful material. It concentrates on the historical; raw materials now unobtainable, a fraction of the controversial Ruppenthal historical collection, as well as representative material from Idar-Oberstein's output over the centuries. There is a floor devoted to local geology including some fine fossil fish.

Gebruder Bank

Visit Gebrüder Bank. Professor Bank's establishment will demonstrate gem cutting, usually allowing some audience participation. Professor Bank himself will discuss stone variety using his vast personal collection, and how a cutter optimises a stone for best size, colour, and other special effects.

German Gemmological Laboratory

Visit German Gemmological Institute (DGG) to see their teaching museum, call in on students currently undergoing training (usually diamond grading and standard gemstone identification techniques).

Hans Ullrich Pauly

Visit Hans Ullrich Pauly (son of the previously mentioned Erwin Pauly), who cuts anything into everything - top quality stuff, and may demonstrate his techniques. Memorable are his leopards and animal-head cuff-link pairs. He has a small but select collection of jewellery and objects for sale.

Sonja Kreis

Visit Sonja Kreis for demonstrations of goldsmithing and of modern gem-cutting (fantasie facetting of reverse side).

Horst Kuhnen

Demonstration of diamond cutting.

Manfred Wild

Manfred Wild who designs and makes fantasy 'Faberge' objects, from the smallest walnuts and iced biscuits, through working musical boxes in the form of the Doctor Zhivago Ice Palace, to table pieces of ruby elephants standing a foot high, there is almost nothing he does not do.

Helmut Wolf

Helmut Wolf, specialising in large stone bowls (demonstrations of cutting technique), and other large objects such as tables.

DAY 6 - FRIDAY - 14th March 2008

Following breakfast a coach will take you back to Frankfurt Airport for your return flight departing 1520 for arrival in Heathrow at 1555 - Flight no. LH4732



PLEASE NOTE: Programme may be subject to change at short notice.

COSTS per person

£680 Based on 2 passengers sharing a double
(£748 Non member) room on the new floor of the hotel.

£715 Based on 1 passenger in a single room
(£786 Non member) on the new floor of the hotel.

£644 Based on 2 passengers sharing a double
(£708 Non member) room on the old floor of the hotel

Rooms are allocated on a first come first served basis

Twin rooms are not available

PRICE INCLUDES

- **Flights including all taxes in economy class**
- **Transfers to and from Frankfurt Airport**
- **Meet & Greet service**
- **Tour Guide**
- **Accommodation as stated including daily breakfast & dinner excluding drinks**
- **Visits to all museums, artists, exhibitors etc including transport**

NOT INCLUDED

Personal travel insurance, Gratuities, Items of a personal nature at the hotel i.e. drinks, telephone calls, laundry etc