

SEARCH FOR THE HOLY GRAIL
SEMINAR NEAR MOUNT SAINTE-ODILE, FRANCE

Robert Powell & Estelle Isaacson

Monday the 31st to Sunday the 6th August 2017

**at the hotel/restaurant , Clos Hermitage, overlooking the village
Hohwald in the heart of the Alsace region of France**

The hotel/restaurant offers accommodation and meals (organic and vegetarian). With an excursion to Mont Sainte-Odile, Barr, and Andlau; another to Colmar (Grünewald's *Isenheim Altar*); and a third excursion to Dornach/Arlesheim to visit the sites of Trevrizent's cave, Sigune's hermit cell, the lake of Anfortas, and the site of the Grail castle, and also the modern Grail castle—the Goetheanum—designed by Rudolf Steiner. Languages for this seminar/conference: English/German with translation into French. Arrival on Monday, 31 July 2017 in time for dinner at 7:00 pm; departure on Sunday, 6 August 2017 after breakfast—Information and registration: Laurence Penetrat, 17 rue de la Mairie, 11260 Rouvenac, France. Tel: +33-468-741-479—Email: penetrat.laurence@orange.fr

Information concerning the three excursions that will be made during the week:

1st excursion [1]—half day (afternoon)—on Wednesday, 2nd August

2nd excursion [2]—half day (afternoon)—on Thursday, 3rd August

3rd excursion [3]—whole day (morning & afternoon)—on Friday, 4th August

With each excursion the plan is to be back at the hotel Clos Ermitage by 7 pm in time for dinner.

[1] **Wednesday afternoon** immediately after lunch, departing at 2:00 pm, we shall travel to the nearby world-famous **Mount Sainte-Odile**. After visiting this sacred site, we shall then drive to Barr at the foot of Mount Sainte-Odile. Barr is the birthplace of Titurel, the founder of the Grail family, and astonishing confirmation of this is to be found in the local church in the little town. Barr was also visited by Rudolf Steiner, who was invited there by the French author Edouard Schuré, author of *The Great Initiates*, who had his summer villa on the outskirts of Barr. (See online a translation of Schuré's essay *The Personality of Rudolf Steiner and His Development*: <http://wn.rsarchive.org/Books/GA010/GA010a/English/HR1960/personality.html>).

Then we shall visit Andlau, which is “Anschouwe” in Wolfram von Eschenbach's *Parzival*. Gandin, the king of Anschouwe, is the father of Gahmuret, who, in turn, is the father of Parzival, who later becomes the Grail king in the line of Titurel, the founder of the dynasty of Grail kings. Parzival is the offspring of Gahmuret and Herzloyde, queen of Kanvoleis, which is modern-day Colmar that we shall visit tomorrow (Thursday). Andlau Abbey, which we shall visit after our visit to Barr, was founded in 880 by the Empress Richardis, who was married to the great-grandson of the Emperor Charlemagne.

[2] **Thursday afternoon** immediately after lunch, departing at 2:00 pm, we shall travel to the famous site of **Colmar**. There we shall see a great masterpiece of religious art: the *Isenheim Altar* painted by Matthias Grünewald between 1510 and 1515: <http://www.artbible.info/art/isenheim-altar.html>

As mentioned in [1], Colmar is Kanvoleis in the Parzival story, where Herzeloide, the mother of Parzival, was queen. At an early age, Parzival was taken from his birthplace of Kanvoleis by his mother to live in the vicinity of the Arlesheim Ermitage, where he spent his childhood playing in the woods of that area. We shall visit the Ermitage tomorrow (Friday).

[3] Friday morning immediately after breakfast, departing at 9:15 am, we shall travel to the Arlesheim Ermitage. Following in the footsteps of Herzeloide and Parzival and also of Saint Odile, we shall travel to Dornach/Arlesheim, and there, first of all, we shall visit the Ermitage: <http://www.wanderland.ch/en/services/places-of-interest/sehenswuerdigkeit-0423.html>

This area of the Ermitage was identified by Rudolf Steiner as the location of the cave of Trevrizent, with the meditation retreat of Sigune close by, where Parzival came across Sigune mourning the death of her slain knight: Schionatulander. We shall also visit the nearby site on the Hornikopf hill which has been identified as that of Titurel's Grail castle, where Parzival later became Grail king. And, of course, we shall visit the modern Grail castle, the Goetheanum: https://www.revolvvy.com/topic/Goetheanum&item_type=topic

Schedule of the week—31 July-6 August 2017—including three excursions—[1], [2] and [3]:
[1] is on Wednesday afternoon; [2] is on Thursday afternoon; [3] is on Friday, the whole day.
Choreocosmos and all meals and seminar activities will take place at the hotel Clos Ermitage.

Monday, 31st July—arrive and check in. Dinner at 7 pm. After dinner, **seminar introduction at 8:15 pm in the hotel Clos Hermitage.**

Tuesday, 1st August—breakfast at 8am—Choreocosmos from 9:30 to 10:45am—Study/Conversation from 11:15am to 12:30pm—lunch from 12:30 to 1:30pm—Study/Conversation from 2:30 to 3:45pm —Choreocosmos from 4:15 to 5:30pm—dinner at 7:00pm—Celebration at 8:30pm

Wednesday, 2nd August—breakfast at 8am—Choreocosmos from 9:30 to 10:45am—Study/Conversation from 11:15am to 12:30pm—lunch from 12:30 to 1:30pm—2:00pm departure at 2:00pm for **excursion [1]**—dinner at 7:00pm—free evening

Thursday, 3rd August—breakfast at 8am—Choreocosmos from 9:30 to 10:45am—Study/Conversation from 11:15am to 12:30pm—lunch from 12:30 to 1:45pm—departure at 2:00pm for **excursion [2]**—dinner at 7:00pm—Celebration at 8:30pm

Friday, 4th August—breakfast at 8am—departure at 9:15am for **excursion [3]**—dinner at 7:00pm—free evening

Saturday, 5th August—breakfast at 8am—Choreocosmos from 9:30 to 10:45am—Study/Conversation from 11:15am to 12:30pm—lunch from 12:30 to 1:30pm—Study/Conversation from 2:30 to 3:45pm—Choreocosmos from 4:15 to 5:30pm—dinner at 7:00pm—Closing celebration at 8:30pm

Sunday, 6th August—breakfast at 8am—depart from the hotel Clos Ermitage after breakfast

Choreocosmos: It is a pleasure to announce that there is a piano at the hotel Clos Ermitage, and so this year it is possible for us to have musical accompaniment from Russian pianist Alla Fastovskaja, who will also play the accompaniment for the evening celebrations.

(continued on next page)

**Additional practical information concerning the week of the seminar—
Your arrival—please reply to Laurence Penetrat (contact information below):**

Please could you let me know when you will arrive and how—by car, plane, or train? And, if you travel by car, could you eventually pick up someone on the way?—at the Basel-(Bale)-Mulhouse airport or at the Strasbourg airport?

Since we are a big group of 60 participants, rooms have been reserved in different hotels in the village of LE HOHWALD. I will have a complete list of the hotel assignments later on, which I will send to you as soon as it is ready.

All meals will be at the restaurant of the hotel Le Clos Ermitage, where also all the events of the seminar/workshop will take place.

I look forward to meeting you soon!

Laurence Penetrat—

Contact information:

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