

Itinerary

Day 1, Saturday, January 5, 2019: Your Journey Begins

Depart the US, transatlantic overnight flight to Berlin.

Day 2, Sunday, January 6, 2019: Herzlich Willkommen!

Arrive in Berlin, transfer to Wittenberg. Check in at Colleg Wittenberg for the next three days as well as another six nights at the end of the program. After dinner, a welcome and orientation meeting will get you off to an excellent start (3 overnights in Wittenberg). D

Day 3, Monday, January 7, 2019: Wittenberg through

Day 5, Wednesday, January 9, 2019: Wittenberg (breakfast and dinner daily)

In Wittenberg, the following tours and lectures are planned:

- Guided tour of Wittenberg, which includes the Castle Church and Town Church, as well as the Luther House and Melancthon House Museums.
- Coffee and cake and a presentation of the Luther Garden, a project of the LWF that will culminate in the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.
- Sunday worship service with local church members.
- English Stammtisch (has to be on a Thursday evening).
- Meeting with vicars and professors of the Preacher's Seminary in Wittenberg.
- Meeting with Protestant sisters of a convent in Wittenberg.
- Lecture on church life in East and West Germany (before and after the re-unification of Germany).

- Day trip to Eisleben and Halle

We visit Eisleben. Luther's birth and death occurred here, in his "Bethlehem" and "Jerusalem." His home is typical of the Middle Ages. An exhibition interprets the spiritual environment of Luther's childhood. Our tour includes a stop at St. Andrews, where Luther gave his last four sermons. We continue our journey and travel to Halle. Visit the Market Church, where we will 'see' George Frederick Händel who composed "The Messiah." Martin Luther's body rested here overnight en route to Wittenberg. A chamber is devoted to his death mask. Our visit includes the Francke Foundations, a center of Pietist practice, from where Henry Melchior Muhlenberg began his 1742 journey to organize the Lutheran Church in North America.

- Half-day trip to Torgau

In 1544, Martin Luther consecrated the Castle Church at Schloss Hartenfels as the prototypical Protestant worship space. We will visit this perfectly preserved Renaissance castle and its "Beautiful Oriel" chapel. Explore the cantilevered spiral staircase. We continue to nearby St. Mary's Church, where Katharina von Bora, Luther's lively wife "Katie," is buried.

Day 5, Wednesday, January 9, 2019: Buchenwald and Weimar

We leave Wittenberg today and travel to Weimar, with time on own to visit the Herder Church and the city of Weimar. After some free time for lunch, continue to the former concentration camp Buchenwald, where a quarter million people were imprisoned between 1937 and 1945. All of them suffered and 50,000 of them died. Among the prisoners were Lutheran pastors Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Paul Schneider, outspoken

opponents of National Socialism. A private guided tour will allow us time for reflection and a service of reconciliation. We continue to Eisenach, check in for the next three nights, dinner and overnight. BD

Day 6, Thursday, January 10, 2019: Eisenach and Wartburg Castle

First on our list is a visit to the Wartburg Castle, where Luther disguised himself as a squire named "Junker Jorg" and hid away after he was declared an outlaw at the Diet of Worms in 1521. Here, at the Wartburg Castle, he created one of his most important works — the translation of the New Testament into German. On our guided tour of the castle, we will also see the room where Luther lived and worked on his translation. In the afternoon, we visit the Bach House to experience what a typical home looked like in the 18th century, see an interesting collection of antique instruments and enjoy a musical presentation using a variety of these period pieces. A walking tour of Eisenach will bring us to St. George's school, which Luther attended from 1498 to 1501, to the market square and St. George's Church, where Johann Sebastian Bach was baptized and Martin Luther sang in the boys' choir. BD

Day 7, Friday, January 11, 2019: Coburg

This morning our tour will bring us to Coburg Castle. Because of its location and beauty, it is also called the "Franconian Crown". It is the biggest in size and is one of the best preserved fortresses in Germany. In 1530, Martin Luther had lived for half a year under the protection of Elector John the Steadfast. You can see paintings of Albrecht Dürer, Lucas Cranach the Older and Grunewald. Back to Eisenach for dinner and overnight. BD

Day 8, Saturday, January 12, 2019: Erfurt

We return to Wittenberg, and visit Erfurt enroute. Take a city tour in the footsteps of Martin Luther. We will see the university district, where Luther studied, and visit St. Mary's Cathedral, where he was ordained. Back to Wittenberg, dinner and overnight. BD

Day 9, Sunday, January 13, 2019: Leipzig

Enjoy a full day in Leipzig. Join the St. Thomas congregation for Sunday worship. Afterwards, a local guide is waiting for you. In May 1989, the people of Leipzig first organized the demonstrations that brought hundreds of thousands into the streets for the "Peaceful Revolution." We will visit their rendezvous point at the Gothic St. Nicholas Church, built in 1165. After time and lunch on your own (we suggest to go for lunch at the historic Auerbachs Keller, where, in a scene made famous in Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's *Faust*, Faust and Mephistopheles drank with the local students before flying away on a barrel). We meet for a presentation by a participant in the Peaceful Revolution before we return to Wittenberg. BD

Day 10, Monday, January 14: Wittenberg through

Day 13, Thursday, January 17: Wittenberg

(breakfast and dinner daily)

Activities please see above

Day 14, Friday, January 18, 2019: Auf Wiedersehen!

It is time to say goodbye. A morning transfer will bring you to Berlin's airport for your homebound flight. B

Confirmed accommodations:

Wittenberg	3 + 6 nights	Colleg Wittenberg
Eisenach	3 nights	Haus Hainstein

Payment, cancellation, terms and conditions:

- Full payment is due eight weeks prior to the program. No deposit requested. Payment can be made either in cash, with check, or wire transfer.
- The entire tour, a portion of it, or individual tour members may be cancelled without a fee up to ten weeks prior to departure. A 20% fee is required for cancellation made ten to eight weeks prior to departure, a 40% fee is required for cancellation made eight to four weeks prior to departure. A 70% fee is required for cancellation made less than four weeks to one week prior to departure. No refund for cancellation made less than one week prior to departure or no-show. Group rates are subject to change if size of group varies due to cancellation.
- Airfares are not included.
- Booking party is responsible for all visa, health and passport regulations.
- Participants are encouraged to purchase trip insurance to cover health, trip cancellation or delay, and loss of baggage.
- Participants should be able to climb stairs (sometimes many) without assistance and to walk at a modest pace for a mile at a time.
- Notification of double/single occupancy and the names of the participants should be received ten weeks in advance.
- The travel group is responsible for the payment of any single room supplements required due to an odd number of participants of either gender requesting double occupancy.
- All rates are net without commission and in US Dollars.
- Rates are applicable for 2019. Due to currency fluctuations, we reserve the right to adjust prices after renegotiation with the booking party.
- In the event that any dispute arises on which any party has a right to assert a civil claim related to this tour agreement, the exclusive jurisdiction for that claim shall be in a court of competent jurisdiction, located in Lutherstadt Wittenberg, Germany.