

# 10-Day Reformation Tour Germany & Switzerland

## **DAY 1** **USA/BERLIN**

Today we depart on our overnight journey to Berlin. (meals aloft)

## **DAY 2** **BERLIN/WITTENBERG**

Upon arrival in Berlin, we have a panoramic tour of this once-divided city. We see sites such as the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, Tiergarten, the Olympic Stadium, the Reichstag, the Brandenburg Gate, the famous 300-foot-wide boulevard "Unter den Linden" and the Marienkirche. We also visit the Pergamon Museum, which contains the spectacular Pergamon Altar and Ishtar Gate of Ancient Babylon. We then proceed to Wittenberg where we check into our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

## **DAY 3** **WITTENBERG/HALLE/ EISLEBEN/SUHL**

Today we tour Wittenberg, birthplace of the Reformation and city of Frederick the Wise who was patron and protector of Martin Luther. Luther lived here from 1508 until his death. We visit the historic All Saints Castle Church and its famous door where he nailed his 95 Theses and which contains the graves of Luther and Melancton. We see the University and visit Melancton's House and the Stadtkirche as well as the Luther House, which is the largest and greatest museum of Reformation history in the world. We see the Luther monument and the renaissance Town Hall. We continue to Halle, where the University of Halle is situated, famous for its role in the history of missions. We proceed to Eisleben where Luther was born in 1483 and died in 1546. There we see St. Andrew's Church, where Luther preached his last sermon, and we view the Luther Monument. We travel on to Suhl for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

## **DAY 4** **EISENACH/ERFURT/ WURZBURG**

We travel to Eisenach, birthplace of Johann Sebastian Bach, and view his house. Eisenach is also where Luther attended Latin school for



three years. After our visit here, we go to visit Wartburg Castle, set high in the Thuringian Mountains. It was here in 1521 that Luther was put into protective custody for ten months, after the Emperor condemned him as an outlaw and heretic. During this time Luther completed his translation of the New Testament into German, a tremendous linguistic task that served as the basis for the New High German. Luther's room is preserved in its original condition. Then we go to Erfurt where we visit Erfurt Cathedral and the Augustinian Monastery where Luther studied to become a monk and where he was ordained in 1507. We also visit the small cell where as a novice Luther struggled to find peace with God. From there we proceed to Wurzburg for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

## **DAY 5** **WORMS/MAINZ/WORMS/ HEIDELBERG/GOMARINGEN**

Today we travel to Worms, where in 1521 Luther challenged the church establishment by refusing to recant the great doctrines of Protestantism. It was also here that William Tyndale completed the printing of his New Testament in 1525. We visit St. Peter's Church and see the Luther Memorial, which is the largest Reformation monument in the world and contains statues of the most important figures in the German Reformation. We continue to Mainz to visit the Gutenberg Museum. Then we proceed to Heidelberg, stronghold of German Reformed Protestants in the last half of the 16th

century where the Heidelberg Catechism was produced in 1563. Heidelberg is also home to one of Germany's oldest universities, and we take some time to explore the university museum. From there we continue to Gomaringen for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

#### **DAY 6                      AUGSBURG/CONSTANCE/ SINGEN**

We drive to Augsburg, with its cathedral dating from 994, its Renaissance-style Town Hall, and St. Anne's Church where Luther met the papal legate in 1518. In 1530, Augsburg was the site of an important Imperial Diet where Protestants presented the Augsburg Confession, the foremost doctrinal statement of the Lutheran Church. In the Fugger Memorial Chapel, the Peace of Augsburg was signed in 1555 bringing peace for a period between Protestants and Catholics. Traveling westward brings us to Constance, a resort town on the border of Germany and Switzerland. It was here in 1415 where John Hus was executed that many historians date the beginning of the Reformation. After our visit we continue to Singen for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

#### **DAY 7                      STEIN AM RHEIN/ZURICH/ ZOLLIKON/LUCERNE/MULHOUSE**

We begin today with a visit to Stein Am Rhein, known for decorative frescoes on some of its medieval buildings, including a mural of Zwingli, the most influential figure in the Swiss Reformation. We travel on to Zurich, Switzerland's largest city and one of the world's most important financial capitals. Zurich was the city of Zwingli and served as the refuge for many English Protestants banished during the reign of Queen Mary. Here it is believed Miles Coverdale's first entire translation of the Bible and Apocrypha was published in 1535. We will visit the Gross-Muenster Cathedral (Zwingli's Church). We also see Zwingli related sites, such as his home and study, the home of Conrad Grebel, and the site of Felix Manz' execution by drowning in the Limmat River. We then travel a short distance to Zollikon, where the first public baptisms among the Anabaptists took place. From there we go to Lucerne, beautifully situated on Lake Lucerne with splendid views of Mount Pilatus and Mount Rigi. We see the Chapel Bridge, the Lion Monument, the Old Town, and the Spreuer Bridge. Continuing on to Mulhouse, just across the border in France, we check into our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

#### **DAY 8**

#### **BERN/INTERLAKEN/ MONTREUX/GENEVA**

This morning we drive to Bern, where we will see the ancient arcaded streets, medieval painted fountains and the Gothic Minster Cathedral, as well as the Bear Pit where the bears have amused visitors since 1441. We travel to Interlaken, a scenic route that takes us over an Alpine pass and in the shadow of the towering Jungfrau mountain. We stop in Montreux to absorb the spectacular panorama of the Dents-du-Midi peaks across the lake and view the impressive medieval Chateau de Chillon, a controlling presence on the road over the Alps. We continue on to Geneva for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

#### **DAY 9**

#### **GENEVA**

Today we tour Geneva, a delightful city situated on the banks of Lake Geneva and surrounded by alpine peaks and the slopes of the Jura Mountains. It is also called the Peace Capital of the World. We visit St. Peter's Cathedral, where John Calvin presided and taught, as well as Calvin's Academy. The winding cobbled streets of Rue Calvin are lined with 16th century patrician homes, including the residence of John Calvin. The city attracts many scholars and students with its great libraries and its 400-year-old University. We see the Reformation Monument, which pays tribute to the great religious movement and visit the Reformation Museum. We enjoy dinner at our hotel this evening. (B,D)

#### **DAY 10**

#### **GENEVA/USA**

After breakfast we transfer to the airport for our return flight to the USA. (B, meals aloft)

*All sites listed in the itinerary will be covered but the sequence and days may be altered to adjust to religious holidays, special closings of sites, air schedules, etc. Hotels listed subject to confirmation.*

