



Reformation Tour of Europe

May 19-28, 2026 – Estimated Cost \$3500
This is an adult only tour (Min. Persons – 6)



Step into history. Walk the cobblestone streets where Martin Luther sparked the Reformation, where reformers, like John Calvin and John Knox, stood boldly for their faith, and where the Word of God reshaped the world. Learn how the first printed Bibles at the Gutenberg Museum set the Reformation on fire. Join Christ Compass Academy on a once-in-a-lifetime journey across Germany and Switzerland, where faith, culture, and history meet.

Day 0: Departure/Travel

Our journey begins as we gather at Knoxville Airport, flying overnight across the Atlantic. Excitement builds as we anticipate walking in the very places where God moved powerfully through the Reformers.

Day 1: Arrival in Germany & Berlin

Welcome to the capital of Germany, Berlin. The day is spent staying awake and exploring 20th century reformation and historical site.

Highlights:

- **Checkpoint Charlie**
- **Brandenburg Gate**
- **The Jewish Holocaust Memorial**
- **Old Prussian St. Matthew Church (1880)** – Dietrich Bonhoeffer preached here before joining the Confessing Church in opposition to Nazi-controlled Christian Churches.
- **Bonhoeffer House**



After exploring Berlin, we will take a leisurely drive through the former East German countryside to Wittenberg, where Martin Luther famously nailed his 95 Theses to the door of All Saints Church. Upon checking into the hotel, we will walk the streets where Luther and others shared the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We explore the city as we prepare for a full day in Wittenburg tomorrow.

Highlights:

- The **Martin Luther Monument** in the Market Square
- The **monument to Philipp Melancthon**, considered to be the “Second Reformer” and one of the authors of the Augsburg Confessions of 1530
- Market Square where **Luther, Melancthon, and Bugenhagen** would share God’s word.
- The **Bugenhagen House** where Johannes Bugenhagen, considered the “Third Reformer” and personal advisor to Luther, lived. Bugenhagen also led the service of the marriage between Luther and his bride, Katharina, in 1525.



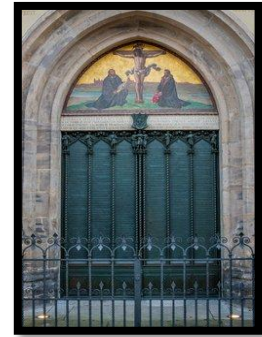
Overnight: Wittenburg at Hotel Cranach-Herberge City Centre

Day 2: Wittenberg

Today is all about Luther and the early reformers in Germany starting at the heart of the Reformation at All Saints' Church where Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the church doors. As we walk these historic streets, we'll see where the Reformers lived, taught, and boldly proclaimed God's Word.

Highlights:

- **All Saints Church (1511) *Schlosskirche* (Castle Church):** Posted Luther's 95 Theses. With permission from the church, we will share communion following the service.
- **St. Andrew's Church (1503):** Luther's final resting place on February 19, 1546.
- **University of Wittenberg (1502):** Where Luther taught seminary.
- **Town and Parish Church of St. Mary's (1187):** Site of the first evangelical service (1521).
- **Luther House (1504):** Martin Luther's residence. Originally an Augustinian monastery, known at the time as the "Black Monastery", the name alluded to the color of the Augustinian monks' cowls. Martin Luther also lived here as a monk from 1508 and after the monastery was closed in 1532 became the residence of Luther.
- The **Luther Oak** where Luther took the Papal Bull he had received, warning him of his excommunication if he did not cease his "heretical teachings", and burn the document on 10 December 1520



We conclude the day with a traditional German dinner.

Overnight: Wittenburg at Hotel Cranach-Herberge City Centre

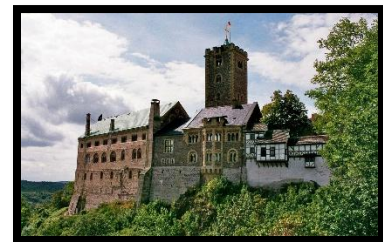
Day 3: Eisenach & Wartburg Castle → Wiesbaden

We say goodbye to Wittenberg and drive to Eisenach to visit **Wartburg Castle (1067)**, where Martin Luther famously translated the Bible from Greek and Latin to German. This Bible still used today in German called "September Bible" New Testament (1522). He hid there under the pseudonym of Junker George after the Diet of Worms.

Highlights:

- **Wartburg Castle** (guided tour)
- **Luther House** in Eisenach (time permitting)

Afterward, we drive to Wiesbaden for dinner and explore the city by night.



Highlights:

- **Jewish Memorial** – Erected and dedicated to the Jewish citizens killed in Wiesbaden during the Holocaust. The memorial is on the site of Wiesbaden's Jewish synagogue that was burned down by the Nazi Party. You will also find, throughout the city, gold block markers at the homes of Jews killed during the Holocaust.
- **Roman Ruins** dating back to the occupation of Roman in 6AD
- **The Kurhaus (Casino – meaning theater)** where novelist Dostojewski wrote his book "The Player" based on own gambling experience having lost all of fortunes.
- **The Hot Springs of Wiesbaden**
- **The Green Man** – A monument dedicated to the reunification of Germany in 1990.



*Overnight: Wiesbaden at **Radisson Blu Hotel Schwarzer Bock***

Day 4: Wiesbaden/Mainz

After breakfast, we cross over the Rhine River to the city of Mainz.

Highlights:

- **Gutenberg Museum** – View original Gutenberg Bibles (16th century). Possibly use the printing press yourself!
- **Evangelische Christuskirche** – A Protestant church built between 1896 and 1903.



Upon returning to Wiesbaden, grab your lunch in the Bahnhof (train station) as we head by train up the Rhine River to the beautiful town of **Rüdesheim**.

Highlights:

- Rhine River boat cruise to Assmannshausen (castle views)
- Ski lift ride to the hilltop
- Hike to Niederwald Monument. A monument for the First Unification of Germany (1871–1883).
- Panoramic views of the Rhine Valley
- Gondola ride back to Rüdesheim

In Wiesbaden, take some time to explore the pedestrian zone and take in German culture.

*Overnight: Wiesbaden at **Radisson Blu Hotel Schwarzer Bock***

Day 5: Worms → Neuschwanstein Castle

After an early breakfast, we make our way to the city of Worms the site of the **Diet of Worms (1521)**, where Martin Luther continued to refuse to recant his views, leading to his conviction of Hearsay by Charles the V and sentence to death.

Highlights:

- **Luther Monument**
- **Worms Cathedral**
- **Site of the Diet of Worms**

Finally, we head to the Bavarian Alps, along parts of the famous **Romantic Strasse** (road) to the breathtaking **Neuschwanstein Castle** built in 1882 by King Ludwig II of Bavaria. We'll enjoy a relaxing horse-drawn carriage to the top of the mountain to the base of the castle. Before the start of the tour, take a moment to see the breathtaking views of the valley below. After tour we will take a slow hike off the mountain and drive to the beautiful town of **Garmisch-Partenkirchen**, site of the 1936 Winter Olympics. After settling into the hotel for the night, we will enjoy a wonderful Bavarian dinner. Take some free time in the evening to enjoy the town and the fresh mountain air.



*Overnight: Garmisch-Partenkirchen at **HYPERION Hotel Garmisch - Partenkirchen***

Day 6: Zugspitze – Alpine Drive – Austria, Liechtenstein, Switzerland → Lucerne

We start our day with a trek to the highest peak in Germany; The Zugspitze. Starting in Garmisch train station we pass by the ice arena from the 1936 Winter Olympics and into the German countryside. We will climb up into the Alps and into a tunnel that ends at the base of the peak. From there a cable car to the peak at 9718 feet with views of 4 countries. Take in the breathtaking views as walk into Austria, do forget you passport to get an unofficial stamp. On the return trip enjoy the record-breaking cable car ride down 3.2 km (2 miles) and a 6382-foot descent to the valley. Enjoy the magnificent views of Lake Eibsee. Finally, we take the train back into Garmisch. Back into the car we continue our trip through the Alps, crossing **Austria and tiny Liechtenstein** before entering Switzerland. Snow-capped peaks, green valleys, and lakes make this day an unforgettable highlight of our journey.



We arrive at our Alpin lakeside hotel in the late afternoon. Once we settled in, we'll take a boat across Lake Lucerne and into the heart of Lucerne. Enjoy some free time before we meet up for dinner and our boat ride back to our hotel.

Highlights:

*Christ Compass Academy
An educational outreach of Jesus Christ Compass Ministries*

- **Zugspitze Peak**
- **Alpine scenery**
- **Liechtenstein photo stop**
- **Lake Lucerne**

*Overnight: Lucerne at **Seehotel Kastanienbaum***

Day 7: May 26 Tuesday – Geneva, Switzerland

We continue our drive through the Swiss and French Alps stopping in France for lunch as we make our way into the City of the Reformation, the Protestant Rome - Geneva.

The afternoon is reserved for personal free time to explore the banks of the Rhone River, take a boat ride on Lake Geneva, buy last minute souvenirs, or just reflect on the trip.

NOTE: Please take note of what sites we will visit on Day 8 and avoid these sites so you can maximize your visit.

*Overnight: Geneva at **Marmont Hotel***

Day 8: Geneva, Switzerland

The entire day is devoted to the Reformation in Geneva and learning about the struggles in our church history. This will be a walking tour of the Altstadt (old city), so wear good walking shoes.

Highlights

- **International Museum of the Reformation:** The Museum of the Reformation brings to life the history and legacy of this major movement within Christianity through a unique collection of objects, paintings, books and manuscripts.
- **St. Pierre's Cathedral, (1160):** Site where John Calvin preached. We can see his chair and a restored section decorated as it would have been before Calvin. If you bravely climb the 157 steps to the top of the tower. Also see the archaeological site under the Cathedral contains treasures dating back to Roman times
- **Calvin Auditory:** In the mid-16th century, English, Scottish, Dutch and Italian Protestants gathered here to worship in their native tongue. The reformer John Knox preached at the Auditoire after he came to Geneva as a refugee
- **Lutheran Church:** Built between 1762 and 1766, this building was a gift from the city of Geneva to the German-speaking Lutheran community
- **College Calvin:** When the people of Geneva adopted the Reformation, on 21 May 1536, they also decided to build a school, which all children would be required to attend.
- **Place du Bourg-de-Four:** Geneva's oldest square!
- **Reformation Wall** – Where 10 statues of Reformation leaders stand as sentinels to truth and courage inspired by godly faith.
- **Temple de la Fusterie:** First new place of worship established after the Reformation. Built between 1713 and 1715.



- **Rues Basses and place du Molard:** January 1533 Antoine Froment, a disciple of Guillaume Farel, first preached the Reformed ideas in a public sermon.

The remainder of the day is spend exploring the scenic old city (Altstadt) and ending the day with a Swiss dinner and time to reflect, as a group, about the sacrifices our forefathers borne to make our faith stronger today.

*Overnight: Geneva at **Marmont Hotel***

Day 9: Depart for Home

After a leisure breakfast we pack up and head to the airport. Arriving in Knoxville in the evening where our families and friends are waiting to hear about the trip.

Included:

- *Flight from Knoxville to Berlin and return from Geneva to Knoxville*
- *Ground Transportation (rental car, fuel and tolls)*
- *Train to Rüdesheim*
- *Hotels with daily breakfast (double-occupancy)*

Not Included:

- *Entry fees to sites and tours*
- *Lunches and dinners*
- *Passports, visa, European Entry System (EES)*
- *Travel insurance (highly recommended at \$4 per day ask Jesus Christ Compass Ministries for link)*
- *Personal expenses*