

Best of Germany



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-  Start Location
-  Plane
-  Cruise
-  Over night

-  Visited Location
-  End Location
-  Train
-  Ferry

Day 1 | Welcome to Frankfurt



Welcome to Frankfurt and savor an opportunity to see the sights on your own before meeting your Travel Director this afternoon for an orientation of Römerberg and the financial district. This evening, enjoy a Welcome Reception with your fellow travelers, including a light dinner and welcome drink to kick off your discovery of the best of Germany.

Hotel: Sheraton Offenbach

Day 2 | Cruise Along the Rhine and Journey to Cologne



Resist the alluring calls of Loreley and board your leisurely cruise along the Rhine. Glide past vineyard-clad hills, stopping at lunch for a Be My Guest experience in a 13th-century castle perched high above the river valley. Share stories of knights and feuding lords and ladies over lunch before continuing to Cologne, where we'll view the Gothic spires of its magnificent cathedral during our orientation of the city.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Hotel: Mercure Koeln Belfortstrasse

Day 3 | Onwards to the Port City of Hamburg



Journey through the lush green landscape of Lower Saxony as we make our way to the international trade center of Hamburg, where we'll join our Travel Director for an orientation tour of the city's iconic sights. Spend some time at leisure exploring the city's seafaring heritage. Wander along the trendy Mönckebergstrasse, visit one of the city's brewhouses or consider a guided cruise through the city's harbor and discover why Hamburg is called Germany's 'Gateway to the World'. Tonight, we will dine at our hotel.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Crowne Plaza City Alster

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

The Fab Four and Hamburg Harbor Cruise - Join us for a boat trip around Hamburg's famous harbor. This "Gateway to the World" has been the center of trade for the city for centuries and was once a key port for the Hanseatic League. Enjoy the sights as we cruise past the Elbphilharmonie building, waterfront mansions, the Speicherstadt district and looming cargo ships. We will also pay tribute to The Beatles, with a spin through the district of Hamburg where the Fab Four honed their skills before making it big.

Adult: 42.00 EUR

Day 4 | Journey to Berlin



Follow the picturesque Elbe Valley from Hamburg, crossing the former 'Iron Curtain' to the historic city of Berlin, whose once-turbulent history has shaped its rebirth as a charismatic capital city. Join your Local Specialist to explore the iconic landmarks of unified Berlin. See the Neo-Renaissance Reichstag, the Tiergarten, Brandenburg Gate and Unter den Linden.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Catalonia Berlin Mitte

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Berlin by Twilight with Dinner - Come along for a fun night of hearty food, wine, beer and music before we drive through the city as the sun goes down and the landmarks of this impressive German Capital illuminate.

Adult: 76.00 EUR

Day 5 | Discover the History and Icons of Berlin



Ascend the iconic Berlin TV Tower for 360° views of the city and Spree River. You'll learn how this landmark changed from being a symbol of the communist regime of East Germany to a symbol of a reunited Berlin before enjoying some time exploring Berlin your way. You could choose to join an Optional Experience to delve into the secrets of Berlin's past, including a visit to the site of Checkpoint Charlie.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Catalonia Berlin Mitte

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Berlin's Secret Past Revealed - Uncover secrets of Berlin's past with your Local Specialist on a guided tour of the city. View the Holocaust Memorial, touch a remaining section of the Berlin Wall, see the site of Checkpoint Charlie, and learn more about Berlin's WWII and Cold War past.

Adult: 37.00 EUR

Bridges, Lakes & Prussian Royalty - On the western outskirts of Berlin, we'll explore the area around Wannsee & Potsdam with our Local Specialist and discover the varied historical events and sights in this part of Germany. We stop on the shores of the Wannsee lake which was the setting for the infamous 1942 Wannsee Conference to plan the "Final Solution". Continuing past harbors and houses we cross Glienicke Bridge, better known as the Spy Bridge from the Cold War era, and onto the beautiful and extensive gardens of Fredrick the Great's summer palace Sanssouci, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. To complete our journey across the centuries, we dine riverside in a former royal hunting lodge and enjoy regional specialties in a charming setting.

Adult: 87.00 EUR

Day 6 | Off to Dresden



A short drive south brings us to Dresden, the 'Florence on the Elbe', where we'll hear about the city's restoration following its devastation during World War II as you admire its beautiful Baroque façades. See the Semper Opera, Zwinger Palace and the fully reconstructed Frauenkirche. Consider delving into the treasures of Dresden, joining an Optional Experience to explore this elegant city.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Bilderberg Bellevue Dresden

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Dresden Royal Treasury and Moritzburg Castle - See the highlights of the fabulous Green Vault, one of the richest treasure chambers in Europe, with your Local Specialist. Afterwards, let us take you out of Dresden to Moritzburg Castle, to discover its opulent baroque interior. The surrounding woodlands were once a favorite hunting area for the Kings of Saxony.

Adult: 67.00 EUR

Day 7 | Venture to Historic Nuremberg



Visit the village of Mödlareuth, which inherited the moniker of 'Little Berlin' due to its wall separating 'east' and 'west' Germany. Gain insights into a divided Germany at its open-air museum and see a section of the original wall with its security features.

This afternoon, arrive in the Bavarian city of Nuremberg, once the unofficial capital of the Holy Roman Empire and today the economic, social and cultural capital of Franconia. During your orientation see the mighty castle ramparts and stand in the Hauptmarkt main square which is dominated by the impressive Frauenkirche, a great example of the Gothic brick-style architecture of the region. Spend the rest of your day at leisure indulging in the local specialties.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: NH Collection Nuremberg City

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Nuremberg Rally Grounds - Today, we visit the former rally grounds and unfinished Congress Hall of the Nazi Party. We meet our Local Expert, who will show us the vast area, detail the Party's fascination with rallies, and discuss the causes and consequences of National Socialism. We also see the Zeppelin Field with its infamous tribune, the Luitpoldhain, and the so-called Luitpold Arena.

Adult: 44.00 EUR

Nuremberg's Medieval Secrets Uncovered - Tonight, explore the Nuremberg overlooked by so many. Our Local Specialist shines a light on the darkened alleyways and hidden corners of this medieval masterpiece, bringing it to life. Turrets, towers and tales of a bygone era, it won't be long before you realise there is so much more to this city than beautiful fountains, plum men and lebkuchen, you certainly want to hang around for a while.

Adult: 41.00 EUR

Day 8 | Continue to Medieval Rothenburg and Munich



Stroll through the narrow lanes of Rothenburg – its beautiful medieval center seemingly frozen in time and encircled by a fortified town wall that remains intact after centuries. Admire the beautiful market square, lined with half-timbered houses, and the Old Town Hall before traveling through the Bavarian countryside to Munich.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Holiday Inn Westpark

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Bavarian Evening - A great evening dining in the local atmosphere of a typical Bavarian restaurant. Enjoy traditional Bavarian food and sample some of Munich's best beer – Prost!

Adult: 85.00 EUR

Day 9 | Explore Munich



During your time in Munich, see the distinctive towers of the Cathedral as well as Marienplatz, the central square and the impressive town hall with its charming glockenspiel. The 13th-century St. Peter's church, the Viktualien food market square and a beerhall are only a short walk from here.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Holiday Inn Westpark

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

The Dachau Memorial Site - Our Local Specialist will provide insight into Germany's first concentration camp, opened immediately after Hitler's rise to power, just outside Dachau. We'll learn about the camp, now maintained as a memorial, and the part it played in this tragic period in history.

Adult: 41.00 EUR

Day 10 | Admire Neuschwanstein Castle and the Black Forest



Travel through the beautiful countryside to a land of fables and folklore. This morning, we tread in the footsteps of shy King Ludwig II and visit his Neuschwanstein Castle (Subject to Availability), built as a retreat for the king to withdraw from public life. We continue through the magical countryside to the Black Forest, whose mystical landscape inspired fantasy and fiction from the famous Brothers Grimm. This evening over dinner, we learn from a local expert about Hofgut Sternen's innovative design and the traditions of the Black Forest on MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Hofgut Sternen

Day 11 | On to Heidelberg and Frankfurt



Witness a Black Forest treasure as you Dive Into Culture and learn about the centuries-old craft of cuckoo clock making. Later, travel to Heidelberg and perhaps have the chance to capture views of the ruins of Heidelberg Castle, as well as the Baroque-style Old Town. Spend the rest of the afternoon finishing up some last-minute shopping before continuing on to Frankfurt. Tonight we enjoy a Farewell Dinner with your newfound friends, reminiscing over the iconic and unexpected highlights of our trip.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Sheraton Offenbach

Day 12 | Farewell Germany



After breakfast, we say a fond farewell after a memorable holiday.

Meals: Breakfast