

10 Days/9 Nights

Departs Daily from Frankfurt



Highlights of Germany: Frankfurt, Berlin, Dresden, Nuremburg, & Munich

Historical charm and modern flair are on delightful display in Germany's most exciting cities.

ACCOMMODATIONS

- 1 Night Frankfurt
- 2 Nights Berlin

- 1 Night Dresden
- 2 Nights Nuremburg

- 3 Nights Munich

INCLUSIONS

- Private Arrival & Departure Transfers
- Hop on/Hop off Frankfurt Tour
- Berlin Walking Tour

- Hop on/Hop off Dresden Tour
- Nuremberg Old Town Walking Tour
- Munich Walking Tour

- Neuschwanstein & Linderhof Tour
- 1st Class Rail between Cities
- Daily Breakfast



ARRIVAL:

Arrive in Frankfurt and have your private transfer awaiting you. After checking in to your hotel, you'll have time to explore the city before dinner. You'll discover the most interesting sides of Frankfurt with the hop on/hop off City Tours on double-decker buses. Take in the sunshine and the sights on the open upper deck, from where you are guaranteed the superb views of Frankfurt's many sightseeing attractions. Get on and off the bus as you like and discover Frankfurt your own way. With your one-day pass, create your own adventure with 14 possible stops including Römer (town hall), St Paul's Church, the Botanical Garden and the majestic Opera House.

In the evening, dinner on your own, but here's a chance to experience one of Frankfurt's culinary traditions; Old Sachsenhausen. With its apple wine pubs, these historic half-timbered houses and narrow alleys stand for Frankfurt coziness and hospitality. One of the better ones is Apfelwein Solzer, continuing to produce its own apple wine along with traditional Frankfurt specialties, including marinated hard cheese, sausages, dumplings, ribs and steak, all served with a jug of the eponymous "apfelwein." The Old Sachsenhausen quarter is just a short taxi ride on metro across the Main River.

(Accommodations, Frankfurt)



FRANKFURT TO BERLIN:

After breakfast, make your way to the main rail station (Hauptbahnhof) for your 4 hour trip to Germany's vibrant capital, Berlin. In the afternoon discover Berlin's most famous sights with the hop-on/hop-off sightseeing tour. You can join the tour at any of the 18 stops along the route, and step off and rejoin as you wish. Explore world-renowned palaces such as Museum Island, taking a boat tour, Checkpoint Charlie, or shopping on Kurfurstendamm in between. Of course, you can also simply sit back, relax and enjoy our 2-hour 15 min tour non-stop.

(Breakfast, Frankfurt, Accommodations, Berlin)

DAY
3

BERLIN:

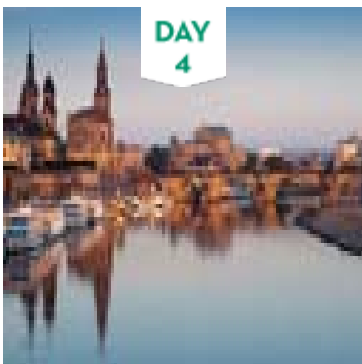
After breakfast, get ready to see all the major attractions of this fascinating city. This walking tour is the perfect introduction to Berlin, as it covers all the main sights in



the city center, like for example: Brandenburg Gate, the Berlin Wall, Checkpoint Charlie, Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe (Holocaust Memorial), Reichstag Dome (new home of the Bundestag), Pariser Platz (and site of new American Embassy), Museum Island and Pleasure Garden (Lustgarten), Pergamon Museum, Unter den Linden, TV Tower, Berlin Cathedral, Gendarmenmarkt and much more.

Your guide's superb story-telling skills weave the themes of Prussian, Imperial, Nazi, Cold War, and 21st century Berlin into a detailed narrative, using the latest historical research. On the way, meet characters who have left their imprint on the city: Albert Einstein, Marlene Dietrich, and JFK, and stand above where Hitler took his life in April 1945. Learn how and why the Berlin Wall was constructed in 1961 and see where daring escapes across it took place before its fall as a result of the peaceful revolution of 1989!

(Breakfast, Accommodations, Berlin)



BERLIN TO DRESDEN:

Take the 2 hour train ride to Dresden, the capital and jewel of Saxony. This 800 year old city has literally risen from the ashes. Largely destroyed by Allied bombing during WWII, Dresden has been painstakingly restored to its past grandeur. Your hop-on/hop-off city tour voucher allows you to visit all the sights of Dresden including the Frauenkirche, the ornate Semper Opera house, and the Royal Palace.

(Breakfast, Berlin, Accommodations, Dresden)



DRESDEN TO NUREMBERG:

Enjoy the scenic Franconian countryside from your first class rail car before arriving in Nuremberg. With almost 1000 years of history, this ancient city is known for its medieval architecture and timbered houses in the Altstadt (Old Town). After checking into your hotel, take time to explore some of the attractions. A few options are the popular National Germanic Museum with its impressive collections of coins, paintings, archives, and decorative arts. Just to the north of the old town, lies the Castle of Nuremberg; one of the most important surviving medieval fortresses in Europe.

And for rail buffs: the superb Nuremberg Transport Museum (Verkehrsmuseum Nürnberg) with its many displays relating to the country's railroads. One of the oldest such museums in Europe, its collection also includes royal trains and perfectly restored steam and diesel engines, as well as a variety of interactive displays.

The Documentation Center Nazi Party Rally Grounds is one of Germany's most important museums, dedicated to the bleakest period in the country's history. In a wing of the Congress Hall where Nazi Party rallies were held it's most notable

exhibit is called "Fascination and Terror", and deals with many facets of the Nazi's time in power. And the famous Nuremberg Trials subsequently took place here after the war.

On a lighter note, the Hauptmarkt is home to the aptly-named 14th-century "Beautiful Fountain" with its ornate decorations and figures. It's here that Nuremberg's famous Christmas Market is held; a two-week extravaganza attended by more than a million visitors.

(Breakfast, Dresden, Accommodations, Nuremberg)



NUREMBERG:

After breakfast, you will have the opportunity to take a pleasant walking tour through the Old Town offers information on the castle, the fountains, wells, the cities churches and art treasures as well as a flavour about the cities colourful past and cosmopolitan present.

(Breakfast, Accommodations, Nuremberg)



NUREMBERG TO MUNICH:

The short 90 minute train ride to Munich allows a leisurely breakfast, plus ample time to explore this Bavarian capital in the afternoon. Marienplatz is the central square in the heart of Munich and holds the New Town Hall of Munich. The tower of the New Town Hall houses the Glockenspiel, a beautiful chiming clock that is over 100 years old. Come here at 11 am. or noon to hear the Glockenspiel ring and watch the 32 life-sized figures reenact historical Bavarian events. Have your camera ready as this site is guaranteed to be on your walking tour tomorrow. Nearby is the Catholic Cathedral of Our Blessed Lady (Frauenkirche); the most identifiable landmark of Munich and the city's largest church.

Just a few blocks northeast of the Munich city center is the English Garden, Munich's largest park. Bigger than Central Park in New York, this green oasis is a wonderful place to explore.

West of the English Garden is a unique ensemble of three museums, each of them highlighting a different period in European art. The Alte Pinakothek is one of the oldest art galleries in the world and home to over 800 European masterpieces from the Middle Ages to the end of the Rococo. The Neue Pinakothek features art and sculpture from the late 18th to the beginning of the 20th century. The Pinakothek der Moderne is the largest museum for modern art in Germany and spotlights art of the 20th century, including photography and video.

After working up an appetite, maybe a stop at the Hofbrauhaus is in order. One of the most famous beer halls in Germany, it's perfect for a home-brewed beer and a platter of local specialties or plan for an evening dinner at the Bavarian style

restaurant, Schneider Weisse Brauhaus.

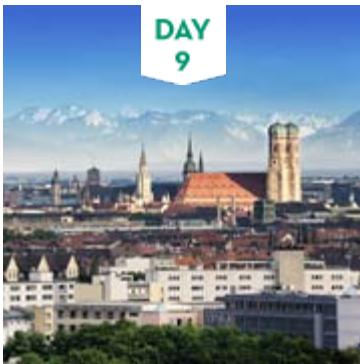
(Breakfast, Nuremberg, Accommodations, Munich)



MUNICH:

On this morning tour we'll show you the highlights of all the key historical sites, the most beautiful churches, and the most famous beer halls. The more sinister aspects of 20th century Nazi history will be addressed, but the tour will show the better face of this lovely city. Your guide will be relating some of Munich's best stories and most interesting facts. It's been called "the beer capital of the world," "the northernmost Italian City", "the Athens of the Alps", and has inspired artists, writers, architects, musicians, scientists, more than one madman, and many visitors.

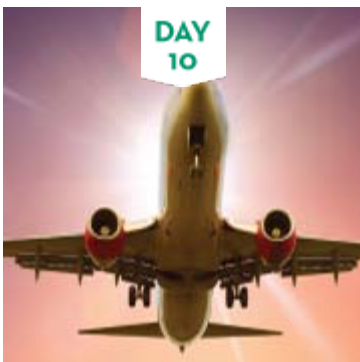
(Breakfast, Accommodations, Munich)



MUNICH:

Get ready for a full day tour as we head into the Bavarian Alps. Hidden in the seclusion of the mountains, King Ludwig II built two of his dream castles: Neuschwanstein (noy-SCHWAN-stine) and Linderhof. This excursion shows you two extraordinary castles, both testifying to the vision of Bavaria's fairy tale king. There will be a short stop in Oberammergau, known for its once-a-decade performance of the Passion Play and history of woodcarving. We'll have approximately 4 hours to visit Neuschwanstein as well as time for lunch. Please note that there is a walk uphill to the castle (30 minutes), or you can opt to take the bus (payable locally). This tour also offers a comprehensive visit of Linderhof with its fantastic grotto and Moorish pavilion. Please note: castle entrance fees paid locally. The tour does not include the entrance fees and are to be paid before entering (the guide collects the cash from the passengers and buys the tickets for them). Each Castle is around 12 Euros, so 24 Euros for both of the castle visits (entrance is free for children 17 yrs and younger). Normally there is only time to see Neuschwanstein and Linderhof. However there is also Hohenschwangau Castle at the foot of Neuschwanstein, but we suggest only to go there for a short outside visit.

(Breakfast & Accommodations, Munich)



DEPART MUNICH:

After breakfast, your private transfer will take you to the airport or rail station, onward to your next Avanti destination.

(Breakfast, Munich)
