

My German Adventure

Friends and Family Tour June 9 - 20, 2020



Join us as we together deepen the understanding of our Christian faith, Lutheran heritage, and history that shape society, culture, and politics, and the challenges we face in a post-Christian society.

A maximum of 20 guests will have time to immerse themselves in German culture and have personalized experiences. We will not overwhelm you with too many facts and details, but hope you will return with new inspirations and a deeper appreciation for your heritage.

And we will definitely have a lot of fun!

Itinerary*

Date: **June 9 - 20, 2020**

12 days designed for 20 travelers

Day 1: Tuesday, June 9 - Leave the United States of America

Today we embark on our exciting journey to Germany.

Day 2: Wednesday, June 10 - Arrive in Berlin

Upon arrival at Berlin Airport we will be transferred to the hotel, which is located close to the most important sights like **Brandenburg Gate and the Reichstag**. In the afternoon we'll venture out on a walk or bike

tour and get something to eat. In the evening you may join us for an optional service at our SELK partner church Trinity, which is famous for being a mission church to refugees from Iran and Afghanistan (D)

Overnight in Berlin (1 of 2)



Day 3: Thursday, June 11 - Berlin

In the morning we will visit sights that will make the Cold War come alive, like **Checkpoint Charlie** and the **Berlin Wall Memorial**. In the afternoon we will learn about the **Nazis' Topography of Terror** and taste German food in the evening. (BD)



Overnight in Berlin (2 of 2)

Day 4: Friday, June 12 Potsdam - Wittenberg

This morning we'll take off to Potsdam and visit **Sanssouci**, which was the summer palace of Frederick the Great, King of Prussia, in Potsdam near Berlin. It is often counted among the German rivals of Versailles. We will also stop by at **Cecilienhof**, which played an important role in history and during World War II when it hosted the Potsdam Conference between July 17 and August 2, 1945.



We'll then continue our journey to Wittenberg, the city of the Lutheran Reformation where everything will be set up for the year city-wide celebration of "Luther's Wedding: for three days, visitors are entertained by hundreds of performers and stallholders at the traditional fair, and fortified by an array of delicious food and drink. This wedding ceremony unparalleled in Germany attracts visitors from the rest of the country, Europe, and the USA. The historical parade starting at 2 pm on Saturday is undoubtedly one of the highlights of the festival weekend. Over 10,000 spectators are expected to attend this annual spectacle, which is unparalleled in central Germany. A varied, sumptuous program presented at historic locations associated with the Reformation can be enjoyed from Friday until Sunday. The Castle Church with its famous door onto which Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses in 1517 will be surrounded by the hustle and bustle of the traditional fair. Jugglers and musicians will be demonstrating their skills, there'll be a host of fascinating craft stalls, and all sorts of deliciously tempting food and drink can be sampled. And fortunately, the castle guard and even a team of mercenaries will be on hand to protect onlookers from near and far!" from the official website:

<https://www.lutherhochzeit.de/en/festival/home/>

Our hotel is right around the corner from Luther's church and after a first stroll around the city, you will be able to immerse yourself in the festivities with ample of free time. Dinner is on your own (B)

Overnight in Wittenberg (1 of 3)



Day 5: Saturday, June 13 - Wittenberg

In the morning we will visit Luther's House, the University, and the Castle Church where Luther nailed his 95 Theses on the door.

Luther's Wedding Parade will start at 2 pm, watch it and then walk around to take in all the sights and activities. You may then attend an English service in Luther's own city church, St. Mary's at 5 pm with the option of renewing your own wedding vows. Dinner on your own (B).

Overnight in Wittenberg (2 of 3)

Day 6: Sunday, June 14 - Wittenberg

On Sunday after a hearty breakfast we will also have a chance to visit the **LCMS International Lutheran Center** at the Old Latin School in Wittenberg and visit Melancthon's house. Luther's wedding festival will still be going strong until the evening. Take everything in! Dinner will be on your own (B).

Overnight in Wittenberg (3 of 3)



Day 7: Monday, June 15 - Dessau-Wörlitz Garden Realm, Quedlinburg

We are going to visit the beautiful UNESCO World Heritage Site Dessau-Wörlitz Garden Realm and have a picnic lunch there to recover from all the partying in Wittenberg. After this we will travel to the romantic town of Quedlinburg, another World Heritage site with narrow, cobblestone streets and over 1300 half-timbered houses. We will stay at a timber frame hotel (Maria Aurora) and enjoy dinner at the local brewery. (BD)



Overnight in Quedlinburg (1 of 1)

Day 8: Tuesday, June 16 - Eisleben, Buchenwald, Erfurt

After breakfast we are off to Eisleben, where Martin Luther was born and died. In the afternoon we will visit Buchenwald, a Nazi concentration camp. Next stop is Erfurt, where Luther studied law and entered the



Augustinian monastery as a friar. We will spend the night in the monastery and have dinner there as well! (BD)

Overnight in Erfurt (1 of 1)

Day 9: Wednesday, June 17 - Eisenach, Wartburg

Today we will take a little hike to the Wartburg, where Luther was kept safe after the pope declared him an outlaw. Here Luther translated the New Testament into German. In the afternoon we have a chance to visit Johann Sebastian Bach's house and museum in Eisenach. We will spend the night in an old house belonging to the Herrnhuter Brüdergemeine, (Unitas Fratrum) one of the oldest Protestant denominations in the world (Moravian church) and have dinner there. (BD)

Overnight in Zinzendorf (1 of 1)

Day 10: Thursday, June 18 - Dresden

We will make our way to the beautiful city of Dresden and see the historic city and the famous Frauenkirche. In the evening will go on a relaxing boat ride on the river Elbe, which includes dinner. (BD)

Overnight in Dresden (1 of 2)



Day 11: Friday, June 19 - Dresden, Sächsische Schweiz

We will end our journey with an excursion to the beautiful "Sächsische Schweiz" National Park and have a wonderful fare-well-dinner in Dresden. (BD)

Overnight in Dresden (2 of 2)

Day 12: Saturday, June 20 - Dresden - USA (or wherever your travels take you)

All good things have to come to an end and today we will leave Dresden for the airport and fly back to our homes. (B)

*Subject to change

(B)= Breakfast (D)= Dinner

This itinerary will be further fine-tuned and includes special events such as Evening Prayer, Divine Services, devotions and surprises. Due to unexpected circumstances like weather conditions, heavy traffic, changes of museum opening times, etc. we reserve the right to changes. Rev. Dr. Tiews will provide special commentary on events of the Reformation and Christianity in contemporary Germany. He holds dual German/US citizenship and is fluent in both English and German, as is his wife Lula.

Please know that we will walk quite a bit - good health and great walking shoes are a must. You are not required to participate in everything that is on the itinerary :)

Included:

- Transportation in Germany includes bus, train, boats, and bicycles
- 10 nights in selected 3- 4 star accommodations, centrally located and with special flair - Breakfast every morning
- 7 dinners and 2 lunches as indicated in itinerary
- Tour guides and museum admission fees
- All local tours with English speaking guides
- Town maps, info sheets, pamphlets provided for all travelers
- All local and federal taxes included as well as bank and administrative fees.

Not included:

- Flights to/ from Germany
- Some lunches and dinners
- Personal expenses, passports, luggage, telephone calls

Price per person, double occupancy: ~~\$2,599 - \$2,999~~
\$2,499 - \$2,899

Price per person, single occupancy: ~~\$3,099 - \$3,599~~
\$2,999 - \$3,499

We can't give you an exact price at this time because it depends on the number of travelers and the Euro exchange rate in 2020. We promise to pass all savings on to you and hope the US dollar will still be strong.

In order to reserve our travel guides, bus and hotel rooms we need a non-refundable deposit of \$250 per person by November 1st, 2019.

The remaining payment will be due about twelve weeks prior to departure. There is an upper limit of 20 travelers, so register early. If not enough people **register by December 1, 2019** we will have to cancel the trip and your deposit will be returned. We have until December 20, 2019 to accept additional registrations. **Substitutions for travelers are possible** as long as you haven't bought an airplane ticket. Make sure your passport is valid for at least 6 months after our trip in June 2020. No visa is required.

It will be **your responsibility to reserve your flights to Berlin and back from Dresden.** Estimated airfare is around \$1500 - 1800 from Tulsa; a Dallas/Denver connection is sometimes cheaper (check out kayak.com). You might want to add time in Europe before and after our Germany Adventure tour, but be sure to be in Berlin on June 10th, 2020. Please note that we might have to cancel the trip if we don't have enough travelers signed up. So don't book your flight until we know for sure that the trip will take place (by Dec. 1, 2019).

It is advised to consider travel insurance (<https://www.travelinsurancecenter.com/>) so neither you nor we get stuck with the whole cost of the trip if something should happen that prevents you from traveling.

Questions? Email pastortiews@gmail.com or Lula at lula.tiews@gmail.com.

Registration

My German Adventure 2020 with Pastor Tiews

June 9 - June 20, 2020

Space is limited, and we encourage you to book by September 1st, 2019.

Estimated price per person in double rooms: ~~\$2,599 - \$2,999~~ **2,499 - 2,899** — Single room:
~~\$3,099 - \$3,599~~ \$2,999 - \$3,499.

Name of 1st Person: _____
(legal passport name, please)

I prefer to be called
(name): _____

Name of 2nd Person: _____
(legal passport name, please)

I prefer to be called
(name): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ email: _____

(roommate)

____ Single room throughout the tour for an additional supplement

I am a vegetarian: ____ Yes ____ No I am allergic to _____

Comments: _____

More Information, Deposits, Acceptance and Payments:

I understand the per person cost covers land transportation, double occupancy accommodation, with supplement for single occupancy, and all attractions cited in the program.

The tour cost includes only the land arrangements for travel in Germany. Air service must be arranged and paid for separately. Please send us your travel plans as soon as you know them. Hotels and guides bill us in Euros. Please know that the exact final payment amount will depend on the USD/Euro exchange rate in February 2020 as well as the number of travelers and cannot be determined precisely at this time.

Initial deposit of US \$250 per person is paid with this reservation. Balance is due by March 1, 2020. I will pay by check, payable to “My German Adventure 2020 Tours” and mail it to 2505 E. 20th Street, Tulsa, OK 74104. We can accept credit card payments via PayPal. Send an email to lula.tiewes@gmail.com, if you are interested in that option.

Cancellation:

Rev. Christian C. Tiewes and Lula Tiewes will be the registrars and coordinators for this tour. They will accept deposits and arrange for bank transfers to our German providers. An initial \$250 non-refundable deposit will be due upon registration. The balance will be due Mar 1, 2020. As long as flights haven't been purchased, substitutes for individual travelers are possible.

If you have to cancel

- up to December 10, 2020: you lose your deposit - before March 1st 2020: you pay 50% of the travel cost - after March 1st 2020: you owe the total price.

Please read carefully and sign below.

I have read and understand this entire document and agree to the general information, including the terms and conditions therein. Neither Rev. Christian Tiewes nor Lula Tiewes owns or operates any of the firms or vendors that are expected to or will provide goods or services for this trip. Those firms include, but are not limited to any hotels or other lodging establishments; guides; sightseeing attractions; air, land or water transportation companies; and restaurants or other eating establishments.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY: By traveling on this tour you affirm that you are fit to participate in this tour and accept all risks to your safety and health. All travel involves risks, and travel to some countries involves a heightened risk to your health and safety, including risks from terrorism, criminal acts, and illness. You understand and freely accept these risks, and you generally and specifically release and hold harmless Rev. Christian and Lula Buecker Tiewes from any liability

and any claims for (i) any physical, mental, emotional or other injuries whatsoever that you may sustain related to this tour; (ii) delays, damages, illness, injuries or death, or for the loss of or damage to property, from any cause (including negligence) and however occurring; and (iii) any accident, illness, injury, damage, sickness, loss of personal property, delay, or other Injury or claim of any kind related to or arising from strikes, armed conflicts, social or labor unrest or strikes/ work stoppages, war or acts of war, terrorism or terrorist acts, acts of God, mechanical or construction failures or difficulties, diseases, local laws or acts of local or government authorities, criminal acts, weather or climatic conditions, volcanic eruption, earthquake, disruption of advertised schedules, refusal of visas, or any other causes beyond their direct control.

**ENROLLMENT IN AND PAYMENT FOR THE TOUR, CONSTITUTES YOUR
ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONDITIONS AND STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY**

Signature

Date