

DISCOVER GERMANY

AUGUST 29–SEPTEMBER 6, 2017



WITH NHPBS AND STEPHEN RENO

Travel in the footsteps of Bach and Luther on a cultural and musical exploration of Germany in the 500th anniversary year of the Reformation.





Rarely has a single person caused such far-reaching change in the world as did Martin Luther. As we approach the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, people of all faiths feel inspired to learn more about the story of Martin Luther's life and the immense cultural legacies he left around the world, and to visit the important sites of his life and work.

Join New Hampshire PBS and religious studies scholar and longtime friend of NHPBS Stephen Reno on a Reformation Cultural Tour of Germany. We will visit the sites of Martin Luther's life and work, which are also rich in inspiring music history. The most prominent example is Leipzig, where J.S. Bach was director of the famous Thomanerchor (St. Thomas Boys Choir). Leipzig is also the birthplace of Richard Wagner and was the home of Felix Mendelssohn, who founded the first music conservatory in Germany, conducted the Gewandhaus Orchestra, and brought about a revival of Bach's rich legacy. From Leipzig it is a stone's throw to several more notable locations: Wittenberg, where Luther posted the 95 Theses that started the Reformation, and Halle, the hometown of Georg Friedrich Händel and site of several sermons performed by Luther. You will also travel to Augsburg, famous as the site of the Augsburg Confession and the Peace of Augsburg, as well as Eisenach, where J.S. Bach was born and Martin Luther spent significant phases of his life. The tour ends in Berlin, Germany's vibrant capital.

Combine this grand musical and cultural history with breathtaking scenery and you will have a deeply moving and enriching experience in Germany, all while supporting New Hampshire PBS!



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Augsburg City Hall and Perlach Tower

DAY 1 TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2017 *Depart from North America*

Depart from Boston on a flight bound for Munich, Germany. Select meals, snacks, and refreshments will be served on the flight. Be sure to read through the great tips and travel information in your Music Contact International handbook!

DAY 2 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2017 *Arrive In Munich, Germany*

Morning arrival in Munich, Germany. Upon arrival at the airport, meet your tour host Stephen Reno and your Music Contact International tour manager. There will be a chance to exchange money and buy lunch at Marienplatz, the city's central square with the world-famous "Glockenspiel," seen and heard by thousands of people each day.

In the early afternoon, depart by private motor coach for Augsburg, the third largest city in Bavaria. Founded by the Romans in 15 B.C., it is one of the oldest cities in Germany. Particularly during the Renaissance and Industrial eras, Augsburg played a leading role in Europe. The city is famous as the site of the Augsburg Confession and the Religious Peace Treaty—the latter representing the first meaningful step towards freedom of religion, but also one of the reasons for the Thirty Years' War, which hit the city and all of Germany hard. Check in to your hotel, settle in and refresh before joining your tour manager on an orientation walk to get a feel for the local ambiance.

A special welcome dinner is planned for your group at the Rathauskeller restaurant in City Hall. Enjoy time to get to know your fellow travelers as your tour host and tour manager preview the days to come.

DAY 3 THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2017 *Augsburg*

After breakfast in the hotel dining room, meet your local guide to embark on a guided walk of Augsburg. See the Town Hall, which is considered the most significant secular Renaissance building north of the Alps, the Perlach Tower—the most recognizable symbol of Augsburg—and the Church of St. Ulrich and St. Afra, where the Peace of Augsburg was signed in 1555 and which has included a Catholic and a Protestant section since the early 1700s. You will also see the Church of St. Anna with its adjoining monastery which was a focal point of the Reformation in Augsburg, as Martin Luther stayed there when he was summoned to Augsburg to defend his theses before the papal legate, Cardinal Cajetan, in October 1518. The church's west choir contains the Renaissance burial chamber of the Fugger Family, the immensely wealthy family of bankers and merchants that counted various Popes, emperors, and kings among its customers and whose trade network reached throughout Europe and beyond.

Your guided walk will conclude at the late Gothic Cathedral of the Holy Virgin. Be sure to take in the stained glass windows (among the oldest in Germany), the frescoes from the Romanesque and Gothic periods, and the altar paintings by Hans Holbein the Elder, one of the most famous of South German painters and a native son of Augsburg.

The afternoon is free for you to enjoy lunch and explore Augsburg further on your own. You may wish to visit the City Hall's Golden Hall, famous for its magnificent and pompous portals, coffered ceiling and mural paintings, or the Lutherstiege Museum in St. Anna, which showcases important documents of the Reformation, or the Fuggerei, the world's oldest social housing complex. It was founded in 1521 by Jakob Fugger for impoverished Augsburg citizens and is a city within a city with its own church and surrounding wall with three gates.

Your tour manager will be happy to make suggestions for dinner this evening.

DAY 4 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2017 *Augsburg | Coburg | Eisenach*

Following breakfast at the hotel, check out and board the motor coach for today's journey to Eisenach, a city where Martin Luther, Johann Sebastian Bach, and Saint Elisabeth all left their legacies.

"Almost all of my relatives live in Eisenach... no other city knows me better," Luther wrote about the town. It was in Eisenach that Martin Luther attended parish school as a young man and on the nearby fortress Wartburg that he found refuge after defending his theses in front of the Holy Roman Emperor. 300 years before Luther's stay, the Wartburg had been home to Saint Elisabeth of Thuringia, who continues to inspire people to this day. More than 150 years after Luther's time in Eisenach, Bach was born there. Johann Pachelbel also made Eisenach his home while working as court organist for the Duke of Saxe-Eisenach and became a close friend of J.S. Bach's father and a tutor for the Bach children.

Today's travels will take you through northern Bavaria, the so-called "Franconian Switzerland," and the Thuringian Forest. Along the way, you will also cross the former border between East and West Germany and hear about how this former death strip was transformed into Germany's longest, most bizarrely-shaped nature preserve! Arrive at the impressive Veste (Fortress) Coburg in the late morning. A 15-minute walk up to the fortress will reward you with sweeping views over the city of Coburg and the surrounding landscape. Embark on a guided tour to learn more about the fortress' history and the times Martin Luther stayed here, most importantly in 1530 during the Imperial Diet of Augsburg.

Following your tour, enjoy a lunch with a fantastic view at the fortress restaurant, then continue your journey to Eisenach. Upon arrival in Eisenach, check in to your hotel on the edge of the Thuringian Forest. Take some time to rest and refresh, then gather together on the hotel terrace to enjoy dinner with a view of Wartburg Castle in the distance.



Luther House, Eisenach



Brandenburg Gate, Berlin



St. Nicholas, Leipzig

DAY 5 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2017 Eisenach

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel, then embark on a guided walk of Eisenach. See the Markt (market square), which was the cultural center in the Middle Ages. The restored Town Hall, the Parish Church of St. Georg where J.S. Bach was baptized, and the Schloss (castle) all surround the old marketplace. As part of your tour, you will visit the Bach House, a 600-year old building that houses exhibitions about J.S. Bach's life and work, a collection of musical instruments from Bach's time, and a specialty library. The museum also features hourly demonstrations of various Baroque instruments from its vast collection and delightful on-site gardens. You may wish to visit the Luther House, where Martin Luther lived during his school years in Eisenach from 1498 to 1501. The exhibitions housed here are designed to bring to life the world of the late Middle Ages and to put into context the far-reaching impacts of Martin Luther's work.

This afternoon, transfer to the nearby Wartburg, the almost 1,000-year-old castle that rises above the city and is served only by a drawbridge. This fortress served not only as a military fortress, but as a center of government and culture and, in the early 13th century, as the venue for the Minstrel's Contest which later found expression in Wagner's opera *Tannhäuser*. Martin Luther found protection in the castle from 1521-1522 and it was here that he translated the Bible into German. The fortress was declared a UNESCO world heritage site in 1999. Enjoy a guided tour of the fortress to learn more about the many facets of its fascinating history! After touring the Wartburg, transfer back to the city for the evening.

You may choose to dine at your hotel, or venture out and sample local specialties in one of Eisenach's many charming restaurants or beer halls.

DAY 6 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2017 Eisenach | Erfurt | Weimar | Leipzig

Following breakfast in the hotel, check out and board your motor coach for today's journey to Leipzig. En route, stop in Erfurt, where Luther studied law and entered the Augustinian monastery, and visit the mighty Marienstift, the Erfurt cathedral where Luther was ordained as a priest.

Afterwards, transfer to nearby Weimar, a city where Germany's humanist traditions run strong. Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Friedrich Schiller, J.S. Bach, Lucas Cranach the Elder, Johann Gottfried Herder, Franz Liszt, Friedrich Nietzsche, Walter Gropius, Paul Klee, and Vasilii Kandinsky are among the luminaries who lived and worked in this town. Martin Luther also often spent time in Weimar and preached many important sermons here.

Enjoy free time for lunch in Weimar. You may also wish to visit the Goethe House or the Schiller House to learn more about the legacies of these famous writers, or the Liszt House, where the composer spent several months each year during the last 15 years of his life.

Continue to Leipzig in the late afternoon and check in to your hotel. Take some time to rest and refresh, then join your tour manager on an orientation walk. Enjoy dinner together at the Arabic Coffe Baum restaurant, once the haunt of famous poets and musicians!

DAY 7 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2017 Leipzig | Halle

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel, then embark on a guided walk of Leipzig. The city is known as an important center for commerce and publishing and has hosted annual trade fairs since the Middle Ages. Home to such musical giants as Bach, Wagner, and Mendelssohn, however, the city is perhaps best known for its contribution to the world of music. Moreover, a famous scene in Goethe's *Faust* takes place in Leipzig and has immortalized the city's passages (passages) in the annals of world literature. The city has also gained its reputation in the music world through the St. Thomas Boys Choir (Thomanerchor), the Gewandhaus Orchestra and the Mendelssohn Bartholdy National College of Music. Visitors can now hear the world-renowned Gewandhaus Orchestra play in the New Concert Hall (Neues Gewandhaus), which seats 1,900 people and is located on Augustusplatz.

The influence of Johann Sebastian Bach can be felt throughout the city. Visit the Church of St. Thomas (Thomaskirche), where Bach was choirmaster for 27 years. The church was built between 1212 and 1222 for canons of the Augustinian order. This church was also where Martin Luther's sermon on Whit Sunday took place in 1539. Be sure to also visit the magnificent St. Nicholas Church, where the Peaceful Revolution of 1989 began with weekly peace prayers that turned into protest marches of tens of thousands of courageous citizens.

Following your tour, enjoy some free time to stroll through the city's famous passages which form a hidden network of courtyards and alleys and harbor inviting shops and restaurants. You may also wish to visit the Mendelssohn House or the Bach Museum.

In the early afternoon, travel by motor coach to nearby Halle, the hometown of composer Georg Friedrich Händel. See the picturesque market square, which is flanked by no less than five towers: the Red Tower, which dates from the 15th century, and the four towers of the Market Church of St. Mary, which was constructed starting in 1529 by combining portions of two pre-existing churches. Luther preached here three times in the years 1545-46, and his body was laid out in this church in 1546 when it was taken from Eisleben to Wittenberg. A cast of his face and hands is kept in the church's sacristy. Also of note is the Reichel Organ, on which Händel learned his craft.

Continue your tour with a visit to the Händel House. The house in which this great composer was born now boasts an excellent collection of historical instruments, along with dozens of original scores. Next, visit the Francke Foundations, a Luther-inspired social, cultural, and educational organization with rich international connections and deep ties with Lutherans in North America. Built from 1698 onward under the direction of Pietist A.H. Francke, the foundation began as an orphanage and school and had major impacts on the German educational system.

Return to Leipzig in the evening. For dinner, we recommend Auerbachs Keller, which has been immortalized in Goethe's drama *Faust*.

DAY 8 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2017 Leipzig | Wittenberg | Berlin

Following breakfast in the hotel, visit the studios of MDR, one of Germany's major public broadcasting stations. Enjoy a tour of the studios and learn about the funding system of public radio and TV in Germany. Following your visit, board your motor coach to travel to Berlin.



Reichstag Dome, Berlin



St. Thomas, Leipzig



Statue of Luther, Wittenberg

En route, stop in Wittenberg, also known as "Lutherstadt" (Luther City), famous as the place where Luther set off the Reformation in 1517. Upon arrival in Wittenberg, meet your local guide for a walking tour. As both the town preacher and a university philosophy professor, Martin Luther left his mark on nearly every sight. See the Castle Church, which was originally attached to the royal residence. This church was the site of the beginning of the Reformation and on the original doors of this church, Luther posted the 95 Theses condemning the abuses of the Church. The text is now on display in the church.

Also see the Luther House, which is now a museum displaying a collection of Luther's Bibles and artwork. A bronze statue of Luther and his fellow reformer Melanchthon can be seen in the Market Place which is surrounded by houses with Renaissance gables. Following the tour, enjoy some time on your own for lunch and then board your motor coach and continue to Berlin.

Upon arrival in the late afternoon, check in to your hotel. Take some time to rest and refresh, then join your tour manager and host on an orientation walk along the famous Linden Boulevard to the Brandenburg Gate. Later, gather together at a local restaurant for a festive farewell dinner. There will be ample opportunity to reflect on the rich experiences of your journey together before returning to the hotel for a good night's sleep!

DAY 9 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2017 *Fly Home or Extend Your Stay in Berlin*

After breakfast at the hotel, check out and transfer to Berlin's Tegel Airport for your flight back to Boston. Select meals, snacks, and refreshments will be served on board the flight. Welcome home—be sure to set your watch back!

Alternatively, you may opt to extend your stay in Berlin and participate in a coach and walking tour of Germany's capital or visit some of the city's outstanding museums and historic monuments.

SUGGESTED ITINERARY FOR EXTENSION DAY IN BERLIN:

Meet your local guide for a panoramic coach and walking tour of Berlin. As the capital of Prussia, the First German Empire, the Weimar Republic, Hitler's Third Reich, and the Federal Republic of Germany, Berlin is a city of immense historical importance. During your stay you will see evidence of the grandeur of the Hohenzollern Dynasty, the destruction wrought by full-scale war and division, and the painstaking efforts to construct a unified city in the post-Cold War era.

Begin your tour with the famous Brandenburg Gate. Located in what was once the no man's land between East Berlin and West Berlin, the gate now stands as a symbol of the reunited city. Another symbol of the city's reunification is Potsdamer Platz. Here, stunning glass offices, apartments, and shopping centers have been erected where western tourists and East German border guards once faced off. Also see the Reichstag. Heavily damaged by the Nazis in 1933 and by the Russians in 1945, this building has been reconstructed and now serves once again as home to the German Parliament.

See the Berlin Cathedral, the former church of the Hohenzollern Dynasty. Ride down the famous thoroughfare Unter den Linden and the busy shopping avenue Kurfürstendamm. During your tour you will also see remains of the Berlin Wall (1961–1989), which stood for 28 years as the most potent symbol of a divided Europe.

The afternoon is free for you to have lunch and explore the city on your own. We highly recommend a visit to the Holocaust Memorial, designed by the U.S. architect Peter Eisenman and located near the Brandenburg Gate, and its excellent underground exhibit that traces the fates of Jewish families and individuals from Berlin under Nazi persecution.

Perhaps spend some time strolling through some of the nearly 85 museums for which Berlin is famous. The Museumsinsel (museum island) Museums include Altes Museum, the Neues Museum, Alte Nationalgalerie, Pergamon Museum, and Bode Museum. Exhibits range from 18th and 19th century art to Near Eastern antiquities and Islamic art. One of the Pergamon Museum's most treasured pieces is the world-renowned Ishtar Gate from Babylon built during the reign of Nebuchadnezzar II before 562 BC. You may also wish to visit the Checkpoint Charlie Museum, which documents the history of Cold War Berlin and whose fascinating exhibits show the inventiveness and desperation with which many East Germans tried to leave the constraints of the former German Democratic Republic. Checkpoint Charlie served as the only crossing for foreigners and members of the Allied Forces between East and West Berlin during the Cold War.



Brandenburg Gate, Berlin

LAND PACKAGE INCLUDES

ACCOMMODATIONS

7 nights in upper middle class hotels (4-star):

- 2 nights Augsburg
- 2 nights Eisenach
- 2 nights Leipzig
- 1 night Berlin

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation as described in the itinerary in a modern climate controlled motor coach with a professional driver

MEALS

Breakfast served daily in the hotel dining room.

4 three-course dinners and one lunch served as follows:

- Welcome dinner in Augsburg
- Buffet dinner at Pentahotel in Eisenach
- Dinner at Arabic Coffe Baum in Leipzig
- Festive farewell dinner at a restaurant in Berlin
- Lunch at Coburg Fortress

TOUR MANAGER

Full-time Music Contact International Tour Manager to accompany your group from arrival in Augsburg to departure from Berlin



East Side Gallery Trabi, Berlin



Bach Statue at St. Thomas

GUIDED TOURS, ENTRANCES, AND SPECIAL VISITS

- Guided walking and coach tour of Augsburg
- Guided walking tour of Eisenach
- Bach Haus Eisenach
- Church of St. Thomas
- Guided walking tour of Wittenberg
- Entrance to Luther House in Wittenberg
- Entrance to Coburg Fortress with guided tour
- Guided tour of Wartburg Castle
- Guided walking tour of Leipzig
- Guided walking tour of Halle
- Entrance to Castle Church in Wittenberg
- Visit and tour of a public TV station in Leipzig or Berlin

ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM

Allows each traveler to make individual trip payments online with a debit or credit card. Individuals receive electronic reminders, receipts and statements

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Each member of the group will receive:

- A customized handbook with detailed tour itinerary and travel information
- Electrical adapter
- Luggage tag
- Passport holder

LAND PACKAGE PRICE

\$3,588 per person in double occupancy

\$458 per person single supplement

\$299 per person in double occupancy for a one-day extension in Berlin, including hotel accommodations, breakfast, and a half-day city tour (\$409 in single occupancy)

AIRFARE AND FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS

Round-trip group flights from Boston to Munich and from Berlin to Boston are available through Music Contact International. The group airfare is currently \$975.00. Customized flight itineraries can be arranged upon request.

TOUR DETAILS

TOUR ADMINISTRATION

This tour of Germany is designed by New Hampshire PBS and Music Contact International, Inc. The tour aims to give NHPBS travelers an in-depth glimpse into the culture and history of Germany through site visits and commentary from the tour host and tour manager. Stephen Reno will host the tour. A portion of the tour proceeds benefits New Hampshire PBS but is not considered a tax-deductible contribution according to IRS regulations. If a minimum of 20 participants is not reached by May 25, 2017, NHPBS and Music Contact International reserve the right to cancel the tour. In this case, all payments made will be refunded.

CHANGES IN THE PROGRAM

NHPBS and Music Contact International, Inc. reserve the right to alter the travel program and to make changes deemed necessary for the quality of the program and the comfort, convenience, and safety of the participants. Every effort will always be made to adhere to the printed itinerary, but weather conditions, transportation difficulties or other circumstances could force the cancellation or substitution of events or specific services.

RESERVATION PROCEDURE

To register for the tour, please go online to nhptv.org/travel or call us at 1-800-624-0166 or e-mail germany@music-contact.com.

A \$1,500 per person registration fee, payable by credit card on-line, is required to reserve your place on the tour. Registrations will be accepted in the order in which they are received. Space is limited.

TOUR HOST STEPHEN RENO

Stephen Reno's name is familiar to many through his active role in the community, as he serves on the boards of directors of, for example, New Hampshire PBS, NH Public Radio, NH Center for Public Policy Studies, the BIA, and the Commission on Colleges. Since 2010, Dr. Reno has served as Executive Director of Leadership New Hampshire.

A passionate life-long learner, Dr. Reno's professional interest is world religions. Through his long career in teaching and public service, Dr. Reno's commitment has always been, and continues to be, to build bridges of understanding across religious, cultural, and political divides. He holds a Ph.D. in Religious Studies from the University of California, Santa Barbara, was Visiting Scholar at the Harvard University Center for the Study of World Religion, and helped establish the Department of Religion at the University of Leicester in the United Kingdom.

Among other academic leadership positions, Dr. Reno has served as Chancellor of the University of New Hampshire and President of Southern Oregon University in Ashland, Oregon.

Dr. Reno is excited to host NHPBS's Cultural Tour of Germany during the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. He looks forward to meeting fellow friends of New Hampshire PBS and to spending time in Germany exploring the world and works of Martin Luther and J. S. Bach, as well as observing and discussing current cultural and political trends.



Tour Host Stephen Reno



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