

Reformation Heritage Tour

Luther of Germany plus Calvin and Zwingli of Switzerland

10 days



Berlin

Included Highlights:

- Explore Wittenberg, birthplace of the Reformation, and stop by the All Saints Castle Church, where Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door
- Travel to the beautiful Leipzig, stopping by the renowned St. Thomas Church, where Bach was organist and choirmaster
- Visit the formidable Wartburg Castle, where Luther translated the New Testament
- Discover Neuschwanstein, the beautiful castle built by King Ludwig and the basis for Disney's famous castle
- Take a comprehensive tour of Zurich, stopping by the Swiss National Museum, Old Town and Zurich Opera House
- Trace the work of the three Reformers and their impact on Christianity
- Fully Escorted
- Meals as mentioned in itinerary

YOUR DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1: NEWYORK/BERLIN

We depart on an international overnight flight to Berlin, Germany. Dinner and breakfast are served on board.

DAY 2: BERLIN

Upon arrival in Berlin, we are greeted by our Tour Escort, and then board our deluxe motorcoach for a panoramic tour of Berlin on the way to the hotel. We see the main highlights of the German capital, the Victory Column, the Reichstag, the Brandenburg Gate, Unter den Linden, the Museum Island, the Alexanderplatz with its famous Berlin TV Tower, the Checkpoint Charlie, and the Potsdamer Platz. Dinner and overnight in Berlin. (D)

DAY 3: BERLIN/WITTENBERG

This morning we travel to Wittenberg, the birthplace of the Reformation where Luther lived from 1508 until his death. We start our tour from the Elster Gate and next visit Luther's House in the Augustinian "Black" cloister. Today, the house is the largest Reformation Museum in the world and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We pass the house of Philip Melancthon, Luther's close friend, and the university building. Our tour continues to the city market with its town hall and statues of both Luther and Melancthon. Next, we visit the Church of Saint Mary (the Town Church) where Luther preached most of his sermons. Our last stop is the famous All Saints Church (the Castle Church) where Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door and stop by the graves of Berlin Reformation

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Heritage Tour Luther of Germany plus Calvin and Zwingli of Switzerland
10days Wittenberg Geneva Luther and Melanchthon inside the church.
Dinner and overnight in Wittenberg. (B/D)

DAY 4: WITTENBERG/LEIPZIG/ERFURT

After breakfast we drive south to Leipzig, also known as the “Bach’s City.” We make a short stop at the St. Thomas Church where Bach served as organist and choirmaster. Then, we continue to Erfurt where we see the Merchant’s Bridge, the Fish Market with its Town Hall, and visit the St. Mary’s Cathedral, the Church of St. Severus, and the Augustinian Monastery founded in 1277 where Luther studied and became a monk in 1505. Dinner and overnight in Erfurt. (B/D)

DAY 5: ERFURT/EISENACH/BAMBERG

This morning we visit the formidable Wartburg Castle, where Luther stayed for around ten months for his own protection after his excommunication during the Imperial Ban. He hid under the name of Junker Jorg (the Knight George) and during his stay there he translated the New Testament into German. Later we travel to Eisenach, the birthplace of Johann Sebastian Bach, followed by a visit to the Luther House Museum where he lived with the Cotta family during his studies in Eisenach. We continue to Bamberg. Dinner and overnight in Bamberg. (B/D)

DAY 6: BAMBERG/NEUSCHWANSTEIN/FUSSEN/ ZURICH

Departing Bamberg in the morning, we travel through spectacular mountain scenery to Southern Bavaria. Upon arrival, we visit the famous Neuschwanstein Castle built by King Ludwig II and the inspiration for the Disney’s Cinderella castle; the tiny village of Oberammergau where famous Passion Play is performed every 10 years; the Hohenschwangau Castle for a quick photo stop; and Fussen with its former Benedictine Monastery of St Mang. And continue to Zurich. Dinner and overnight in Zurich. (B/D)

DAY 7: ZURICH/WILDHAUS/ZURICH

This morning we enjoy an orientation tour of Zurich. We view the Swiss National Museum, the Old Town (Altstadt), the Zurich Opera House, the Bahnhofstrasse and the Fraumünster Church. Then, we visit the Wasserkerche Church (Water Church) featuring the renowned statue of Ulrich Zwingli, Zurich’s First Reformer. In the afternoon we travel to Wildhaus, the birthplace of Ulrich Zwingli, and visit his birth house that was transformed into museum. We return to Zurich late afternoon. Dinner and overnight in Zurich. (B/D)

DAY 8: ZURICH/LUCERNE/INTERLAKEN/BERN/ GENEVA

Early morning, we depart for a beautiful panoramic tour of Switzerland. Our first stop is Lucerne where we visit the worldfamous sites such as the Chapel Bridge with the octagonal Water Tower, the Lion Monument, and the Jesuit Church. We continue to Interlaken for a sightseeing tour followed by some leisure time. Finally, we drive through Bern, a wonderfully preserved medieval town. Due to the influence of Ulrich Zwingli, it is one of the earliest cantons to embrace the Protestant Reformation. We drive through beautiful Swiss scenery to Geneva. Dinner and overnight in Geneva. (B/D)

DAY 9: GENEVA

Today our walking tour starts with a visit to the College of Calvin, founded by the reformer John Calvin. We tour the Auditorium Calvin, the international Monument to the Reformation, which recognizes the international significance of the Geneva Reformation, and the newly opened International Museum of the Reformation. We continue to the World Council of Churches at the Ecumenical Center. Spend the afternoon at your leisure to explore, shop, or relax. Dinner and overnight in Geneva. (B/D)

DAY 10: GENEVA/NEWYORK

After breakfast we transfer to the airport for our flight back home arriving the same day. (B)

* (B,L,D) = Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Wittenberg



Geneva