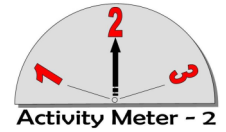




This travel package planned & escorted by Les Huth

Germany—Heritage & History

14 Days: September 25-October 8, 2012



Do you celebrate your German heritage and wonder what life was like for your ancestors? This is a great tour for anyone interested in the heritage of German immigrants as we travel with one of the most knowledgeable experts on German emigration and immigration, Dr. Wolfgang Grams. Enjoy the hospitality of the local people as you explore emigration from Germany, immigration into the US, as well as the culture and history of Germany. "Unique experience" best describes this trip of a lifetime!



September 25 get ready to travel but leave the arrangements to us! We will depart from our scheduled departure cities for an overnight stay in Des Moines.

September 26 Transportation is provided for our mid-afternoon flight from Des Moines International Airport to **Frankfurt, Germany**. (Flight arrangements are available from many US cities. We'll be happy to have your friends join us from other parts of the country. Call for more details.) Your experienced tour expert is there to assist you from start to finish, ready to make sure all your travel details are in order. (In-flight meals)

September 27 early this morning we arrive in Frankfurt, ready to explore the **Rhine River Valley**, famous throughout the world for its charming towns with rich histories. We'll meet our tour director and bus at the airport before journeying to **St. Johannisberg** for a visit to the world's oldest **Riesling vineyard**. Prost! - ein Toast! We'll continue to **Rüdesheim** and board our **Rhine river cruise ship** for a 3-hour cruise to **Boppard**. En route, you'll be in awe as numerous castles dot the horizon and you view the famous **Loreley**, a rock on the eastern bank of the Rhine near St. Goarshausen which soars some 120 meters above the waterline. It marks the narrowest part of the river between Switzerland and the North Sea. Legend has it that a mermaid in the valley of the Loreley lured sailors on the Rhine to their deaths with her beguiling song. Continue to **Neuwied**,

where our hotel location for 2 nights is the exquisite Baroque **Palace of Engers**, the former summer resort of the Prince Bishop of Trier, located directly at the banks of the Rhine River. You'll feel like royalty! (One additional meal YTBD)



September 28 our excursions today take us to **Marksburg Castle, Koblenz and Moselle Valley**. This castle along the Rhine dates from around 1200 and was never destroyed – it remains a symbol of medieval times. At Koblenz, we'll visit German Corner at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle rivers. Our path takes a sightseeing detour in the lovely Moselle Valley, full of ancient legends and traditions, works of art, grandiose architecture and of course vineyards. The Moselle region has a rich Roman heritage and particularly at Koblenz you'll find a variety of Roman villas, manor houses, temples, graves, historical wine presses and lime works that take you back in time to the world of Roman Antiquity. We return to our "palace" tonight. (B, + one additional meal YTBD)



Reservations & Info: 1-877-694-8687 or www.northlandtravel.com

September 29 today we continue our travels, venturing to **Osnabrück** and **East Westphalia**. Today we learn about **Germanic sagas and mythology**. En route to Osnabrück, we stop near Detmold to visit the mighty statue of “**Herman the German**” **Arminius**, a Cheruscan chieftain who defeated the Roman legions in a decisive battle in the year 9 AD just north of Osnabrück. (Tomorrow, we’ll visit the battlefield.) This day also acquaints us with our tour planner’s, Les Huth’s, personal family history as we visit his ancestral connections in Dörrentrop and meet local friends. If you’re adventurous you might choose an optional outing to a Cologne cathedral. (Throughout the trip, as time allows, our tour director, Dr. Grams, will assist with arranging additional options by request.) Our accommodations for the next two evenings are located near the market place in Osnabrück. (B, + one additional meal YTBD)



September 30 we’ll delve into local history as we further examine Osnabrück and learn about the 30 Years War in Europe. Visit **Old Town** and **Town Hall** where the Osnabrück Peace Treaty ended the European 30 Years War in 1848. Next, it’s your chance to explore as we enjoy free time at the historic town center before our excursion to see the **Varus battlefield** of 9 AD and the related **museum**. We’ll get together with members of the **Osnabrück/Westphalian Heritage Society** in the **Linnenschmidt Inn** – a former emigrant agency. (B, + one additional meal YTBD)

October 1 if our day had a theme, today it would be “Life in the Old Days and the Saga of the Town Musicians.” Curious? Wait and see. We continue to **Bremen**, where we’ll stay the next 3 nights. A **special lunch** is planned en route: we gather around an open fireplace in a historic farm building within the **Cloppenburg Museum Village and Lower Saxon Open-Air Museum**. Enjoy a traditional farmers stew and fresh beer from the local inn while we explore how emigration fever spread in the rural areas in Germany during the 19th century. Now it’s just a short ride to our final destination of the day - Bremen. Once we arrive, our time will be spent sightseeing in the **Old Town**, learning Bremen’s Hanseatic past, including the architecture of the **Böttcherstrasse**, the “**Schnoor**” **neighborhood** (Bremen’s oldest district) and other sites. To top off our day, we learn the story of the famous **Bremen Town Musicians** and explore Bremen’s important role in early travel patterns to America. Tonight we savor the local flavor with **dinner** at Bremen’s Town Hall restaurant, the Ratskeller. (B,L,D)



October 2 it’s on to **Bremerhaven** to explore the **migration experience**, by first, partaking in lunch at what’s known as the “last bar before New York.”

See famous **Columbus Pier** where Elvis Presley arrived and Marlene Dietrich left! The curator welcomes us to the **German Emigration Museum** (our German tour director, Dr. Grams, co-planned and also provided the biographical portraits of the exhibits). We return to Bremen, where you might choose to experience 4-hours of vintage sailing on a replica of the “Weser-pund” which once brought numerous emigrants to Bremerhaven. (B, L)



October 3 we go on a full-day excursion to explore the area of the former “Grand Duchy” of **Oldenburg** and the area of **East Frisia**. Windmills and canals lead us to the **Moor-Museum** near **Aurich**. Seeing the rustic cottages will remind you of the pioneers’ early sod houses in the Midwest. Numerous emigrants from East Frisia settled in Iowa and

Illinois. Imagine how your forefathers coped with life when they cultivated this German land 200 years ago. See an original **Hinrich Emminga Windmill at Felde** (a “twin” to this mill stands in Golden, Illinois) and in **Rysum**, hear Europe’s oldest playable organ (1457). (B, + one additional meal YTBD)

Reservations & Info: 1-877-694-8687 or www.northlandtravel.com

October 4 we'll begin making our way to **Berlin** today by way of **Hamburg**, and in the process view the contrasts between the former East and West Germany. It was from the nearby hamlet of Glaisin that Carl Wiedow emigrated to Victor, Iowa, in the 1850s. His life was portrayed to generations of Germans in the emigration novel *Jörn Jacob Svehn, der Amerikafahrer*, based on fictional letters, which has even been translated into English at Des Moines, Iowa. We'll overnight en route to Berlin. Tomorrow, we arrive in Berlin, Germany's capital city which is constantly changing yet succeeds at uniting a stunning array of contrasts, combining old and new. It's estimated more than 1,500 events take place every day giving its 3.4 million residents lots to choose from. (B, + one additional meal YTBD)



October 5 today we continue our journey to Berlin. Upon arrival we'll spend a half-day touring what many people call "Europe's most exciting city." Explore German-American history, the history of German reunification and the old and new cross roads between the East and the West, including "**Checkpoint Charlie**" (the name given by the Western Allies to the best-known Berlin Wall crossing point between East Berlin and West Berlin during the Cold War), **the remains of the Wall, Potsdam Square, Brandenburg Gate, the historical Reichstag building** and many other attractions. As an option you may consider a visit to Sachsenhausen, a former concentration camp. We'll overnight in Berlin the next 3 nights. (B, + one additional meal YTBD)

October 6 we'll continue exploring Berlin, learning how East Germany was rebuilt. Visit **Sanssouci Palace & Park**, by way of strolling through **Neues Palais (The New Palace)**, the park grounds and terraced gardens. This summer residence of Frederick the Great is considered a remarkable jewel of German rococo architecture. Next, we'll take a guided tour of **Cecilienhof Palace**, the site of the 1945 Potsdam Conference. Afterwards our group rides out to **Potsdam Palace** and on the return trip, we join in another sightseeing tour. In the late afternoon, the time is yours for exploring or shopping at famous KaDeWe department store. If shopping is high on your list of things to do, make sure you go to KaDeWe – in 2007, the Kaufhaus des Westens celebrated 100 years as the heart of shopping life in Berlin. Despite suffering damage in 1945 when an aircraft crashed into the building, the KaDeWe has bounced back to its pre-war status and, spread among its seven floors, you'll find everything from the latest fashions to the latest gadgets, toys and beauty services. (B, + one additional meal YTBD)



October 7 we begin the day in Berlin but soon drive to **Lutherstadt Wittenberg** where we meet our **local guide**. In Lutherstadt Wittenberg we visit the **castle church**, where in 1517 Luther nailed to the door the 95 theses against the selling of indulgences and where he and Philipp Melancthon (both main figures of the Reformation) are buried. We'll also tour **Luther's original living quarters**, now part of a local museum. We end our day by venturing back to Berlin, where we'll enjoy some free time and meet in the evening for a **farewell dinner**. (B,D)



October 8 our German journey comes to an end as we transfer to the Berlin airport and arrive in the US later today. Transportation will be waiting to return us to our departure cities. We'll return with renewed appreciation for the life and history of German immigrants to this country. (B, in-flight meals)

Reservations & Info: 1-877-694-8687 or www.northlandtravel.com

Your 14-day Germany package includes: Transportation between our scheduled departure cities and Des Moines International Airport, round-trip air transportation (based on Des Moines, call for information & rates from other US air gateways), transfers between airport and hotel, ground transportation while abroad, lodging for 11 nights, luggage handling, sightseeing tickets/admissions to bolded attractions 11 German breakfasts and 12 additional meals (meals inclusive of gratuity).

\$4,955 per person, double occupancy
\$5,355 single room accommodations

Deposit: \$600 per person, due with reservation. If deposits are not received within 3 business days, reservations may be cancelled without notice.

Balance due: July 10

Delayed reservation fee: after July 10, a reservation for this trip requires an additional \$50 per person.

Peace of Mind Protection: Not available for this travel package, but affordable cancellation protection and **travel insurance** are available. Detailed information will be sent with your confirmation or call for advance information. Without protection, the following penalties will apply, regardless of the reason for cancellation:

Cancellation up to May 21, a \$50 per person land penalty applies plus air penalty.

Cancellation from May 22-July 10, a \$600 per person penalty applies plus air penalty.

Cancellation from July 11-August 22, a 100% land penalty applies plus air penalty.

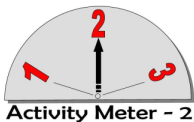
Cancellation after August 23, 100% land and air penalties apply (non-refundable).

Scheduled departure cities: Ames, Cedar Rapids, Clear Lake, Coralville, Decorah, Des Moines, Fort Dodge, Newton and Waterloo.

A valid passport is required for this package.

Air/rail/cruise tickets are subject to supplemental price increases which may be imposed after purchase due to additional costs imposed by a supplier or government (such as increased fees, fuel surcharges, taxes and/or foreign exchange fluctuations). To offset these fees, you may be charged post-purchase price increases by NorthLand Travel.

When circumstances arise beyond our control, NorthLand Travel reserves the right to make itinerary changes.



Activity Meter - 2

Moderate itinerary - some standing or stairs, a few blocks of walking



Reservations & Info: 1-877-694-8687 or www.northlandtravel.com