



Best of Germany Tour

Awe & Wonder Travel

July 3-15, 2026

See all the sights on this jam-packed Best of Germany trip. Watch life unfold on a scenic Rhine River cruise, explore cutting-edge Berlin where history meets creativity, raise a stein in vibrant Munich and wander through the enchanting Black Forest that inspired timeless fairy tales. Get ready for all your German dreams to come true, on this 12-day, 11-night tour of Germany's best.

What's Included:

- 11 nights in tried and trusted hotels
- 15 meals - 11 breakfasts, 1 lunch (in a medieval castle) and 4 dinners (plus options that include additional meals)
- Ground transportation in an air-conditioned coach with wi-fi
- An expert Travel Director and professional driver
- All portage, restaurant gratuities (for included meals), hotel tips, and local taxes
- Audio headsets for flexible sightseeing
- Short Rhine River cruise
- Entrance tickets to all included sightseeing
- Travel Protection Insurance

Itinerary:

- **Day 0 (July 3):** Begin your flight to Frankfurt (airfare not included in price but can be added for an additional cost)
- **Day 1 (July 4):** Arrive in Frankfurt and meet your Travel Director this afternoon for an orientation of Römerberg and the financial district. This evening, enjoy a Welcome Reception with your fellow travelers, including a light dinner and welcome drink to kick off your discovery of the best of Germany. **Dinner Included.**
- **Day 2 (July 5):** Resist the alluring calls of Lorelei and board your leisurely cruise along the Rhine. Glide past vineyard-clad hills, stopping for a Be My Guest experience. Share stories of knights and feuding lords and ladies over lunch at a medieval castle before continuing to Cologne, where we'll view the Gothic spires of its magnificent cathedral during our orientation of the city. **Breakfast and lunch included.**





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- **Day 3 (July 6):** Journey through the lush green landscape of Lower Saxony as we make our way to the international trade center of Hamburg, where we'll join our Travel Director for an orientation tour of the city's iconic sights. Spend some time at leisure exploring the city's seafaring heritage. Wander along the trendy Mönckebergstrasse, visit one of the city's brewhouses or consider a guided cruise through the city's harbor and discover why Hamburg is called Germany's 'Gateway to the World'. Tonight, we will dine at our hotel. **Breakfast and dinner included.**
- **Day 4 (July 7):** Follow the picturesque Elbe Valley from Hamburg, crossing the former 'Iron Curtain' to the historic city of Berlin, whose once-turbulent history has shaped its rebirth as a charismatic capital city. Join your Local Specialist to explore the iconic landmarks of unified Berlin. See the Neo-Renaissance Reichstag, the Tiergarten, Brandenburg Gate and Unter den Linden. **Breakfast included.**
- **Day 5 (July 8):** Enjoy a full day to explore Berlin on your terms. You might choose to join an Optional Experience uncovering the city's defining moments with a Local Specialist visiting the Holocaust Memorial, Checkpoint Charlie and what remains of the Berlin Wall. Later, you could head out of the city on another Optional Experience to Potsdam and Wannsee to see the site of the 1942 Wannsee Conference, cross the Glienicke 'Spy Bridge' and wander through the UNESCO-listed gardens of Sanssouci Palace. **Breakfast included.**
- **Day 6 (July 9):** A short drive south brings us to Dresden, the 'Florence on the Elbe', where we'll hear about the city's restoration following its devastation during World War II as you admire its beautiful Baroque façades. See the Semper Opera, Zwinger Palace and the fully reconstructed Frauenkirche. Consider delving into the treasures of Dresden, joining an Optional Experience to explore this elegant city. **Breakfast included.**
- **Day 7 (July 10):** Visit the village of Mödlareuth, which inherited the moniker of 'Little Berlin' due to its wall separating 'east' and 'west' Germany. Gain insights into a divided Germany at its open-air museum and see a section of the original wall with its security features. This afternoon, arrive in the Bavarian city of Nuremberg, once the unofficial capital of the Holy Roman Empire and today the economic, social and cultural capital of Franconia. During your orientation see the mighty castle ramparts and stand in the Hauptmarkt main square which is dominated by the impressive Frauenkirche, a great example of the Gothic brick-style architecture of the region. Spend the rest of your day at leisure indulging in the local specialties. **Breakfast included.**





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- **Day 8 (July 11):** Stroll through the narrow lanes of Rothenburg – its beautiful medieval center seemingly frozen in time and encircled by a fortified town wall that remains intact after centuries. Admire the beautiful market square, lined with half-timbered houses, and the Old Town Hall before traveling through the Bavarian countryside to Munich. **Breakfast included.**
- **Day 9 (July 12):** During your time in Munich, see the distinctive towers of the Cathedral, stroll through Marienplatz, and admire the impressive town hall with its charming Glockenspiel. A short walk from here takes you to the 13th-century St. Peter's Church, the Viktualien food market square, and a traditional beer hall. Later, join a Local Specialist for a guided visit to the Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial, a powerful experience that offers insight into this dark chapter of history. **Breakfast included.**
- **Day 10 (July 13):** Travel through the beautiful countryside to a land of fables and folklore. This morning, we tread in the footsteps of shy King Ludwig II and visit his Neuschwanstein Castle (Subject to Availability), built as a retreat for the king to withdraw from public life. We continue through the magical countryside to the Black Forest, whose mystical landscape inspired fantasy and fiction from the famous Brothers Grimm. This evening over dinner, we learn from a local expert about Hofgut Sternen's innovative design and the traditions of the Black Forest. **Breakfast and dinner included.**
- **Day 11 (July 14):** Witness a Black Forest treasure as you dive into culture and learn about the centuries-old craft of cuckoo clock making. Later, travel to Heidelberg and perhaps have the chance to capture views of the ruins of Heidelberg Castle, as well as the Baroque-style Old Town. Spend the rest of the afternoon finishing up some last-minute shopping before continuing on to Frankfurt. Tonight we enjoy a Farewell Dinner with your newfound friends, reminiscing over the iconic and unexpected highlights of our trip. **Breakfast and dinner included.**
- **Day 12 (July 15):** After breakfast, say a fond farewell after a memorable vacation. **Breakfast included.**
- **Please note:** Because of the nature of this tour, you will be walking at times in areas where you may encounter steps and uneven walking surfaces such as cobblestone streets or missing or uneven sections of flooring. Some days may require up to 3 miles of walking and other days may have you sitting on a bus for several hours. Comfort stops will be made and there is a bathroom on the bus for emergencies. Many days will have fairly early start times and the evening meal times may be later than what we are accustomed to in the United States. Snacks are recommended.





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Optional Activities (for an Additional Cost):

- Day 5: Uncover secrets of Berlin's past with a Local Specialist
- Day 5: Explore Wannsee, Potsdam and Sanssouci Palace gardens
- Day 6: Visit Dresden's Royal Treasury and Moritzburg Castle
- Day 7: See the unfinished Congress Hall of the Nazi Party
- Day 9: Learn Nuremberg's secrets with a Local Specialist
- Several dinner and evening entertainment options are also available

Approximate Cost & Reservation Details:

- Spots must be reserved by **February 1, 2026**. Applications will be accepted after this date; however, prices may differ at that point.
 - **\$225 nonrefundable deposit** per traveler - Will be applied to total cost *If paying by credit card, the deposit is **\$233** to cover the cost of the card processing fee.
- Cost for all included (as stated above) activities, transportation, accommodations, and meals is **\$4,013** per person (assuming double occupancy) if paying with check or cash. If paying by credit card, an additional **\$141** is required to cover credit card processing fees (**\$4,154** total).
- For those who are traveling solo or would simply like to have their own room, the total cost is **\$4,837** with check or cash or **\$5,007** if paying by card. Solo travelers also have the option of paying the double occupancy price and electing to be placed in a room with another solo traveler of the same sex. Triple occupancy options are available but limited. Please contact me for more information.
- Final payment is due by **March 1, 2026**. Monthly payment options are available. Please contact me for payment plan options.
- You can arrange your own airfare, or airfare can be arranged through the tour company for an additional cost. Please contact me for airfare pricing.

