



Rochester's sister cities in

Germany

Sept. 12 - 20, 2025



Stadt
Moosburg
an der Isar



Rothenburg



Hosted by:
Mayor Kim Norton



308A Elton Hills Drive NW
Rochester MN 55901
(507) 289-3332
(800) 658-7128
Fax: (507) 281-9747
Email: tours@ed-ventures.com
www.ed-ventures.com



Rochester, MN has two sister cities in Germany. We make official visits to these two cities, meet with city leaders and local committees, and tour key sites in each city. Our goal is to foster closer ties and exchange ideas to build better cities in both countries.

Day 1: Friday, Sept. 12, 2025 • Depart U.S.

Our journey begins as we board our international flight bound for Munich, Germany. Inflight meals

Day 2: Saturday, Sept. 13, 2025 • Moosburg a.d. Isar (sister city)

We are met at Munich airport and drive to our first destination (about an hour) with a stop for lunch. Moosburg a.d. Isar is Rochester's Sister City. We visit this town, located on the Isar River, and receive a welcome from our local hosts. It is the oldest town in southern Germany, with a Benedictine Abbey established as early as the 8th century. The town has a cultural and historical richness that it fosters to set itself apart from nearby, larger municipalities. Our team meets with local officials to observe how they are fostering community pride in the younger generations, maintaining their own culture and enveloping new technology and ideas into venerated traditions. Moosburg officials determine a schedule of activities, which includes enjoying the Herbstschau, the cities fall festival. **D**

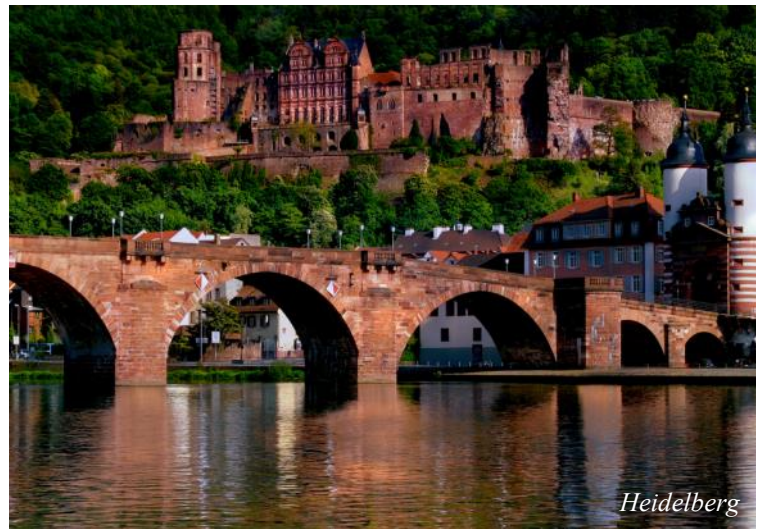
Note: Itinerary can be changed based on events with local dignitaries.

Day 3: Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025 • Moosburg a.d. Isar (sister city)

Today we take part in the Herbstschau Parade. We have free time to explore and mingle with our friends from Moosburg. **B, D**



Rhine Cruise



Heidelberg

Day 4: Monday, Sept. 15, 2025 • Moosburg a.d. Isar (sister city)

Included in our itinerary today are town highlights. During WWII, a prisoner of war camp, Stalig VII-A was built, which was turned into a civilian internment camp after the liberation by the Americans in 1945. We visit a memorial fountain for the camp. We also see the important alter-piece of the Kastulus Minster and the nature preserve on the Isar River. Additional activities are coordinated in conjunction with our hosts. Tonight we have a farewell dinner with some of our new friends. **B, D**

Day 5: Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2025 • Rothenburg ob der Tauber

We make our way northwest to the medieval walled city of Rothenburg ob der Tauber. This delightful little town is a favorite of travelers from around the world. After checking in at our hotel, we visit the St. James Church and see the famous altar created by the renowned woodcarver, Tilman Riemenschneider. The rest of the afternoon is ours to walk along the city wall, admire the half-timbered buildings or shop at Käthe Wohlfahrt's Christmas Village. After dinner, we learn more about life in medieval times as we accompany the Night Watchman on a guided tour of the town. **B, D**

Day 6: Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025 • Rudesheim am Rhein

After breakfast, we make our way to Heidelberg. One of the most important castles of the Renaissance period dominates the Altstadt (Old Town). We take the funicular up to the castle, then tour the old town with a local guide. This afternoon we cruise the Rhine River. Along the way, we hear about the history of the many castle ruins and legends, including the siren *Lorelei*, whose beauty and singing caused sailors to crash their ships against the rocks. After our cruise, we transfer to our hotel and have some time for shopping before dinner. Tonight, we partake in a tasting of the region's fine Rhine wines in a local vintner's wine cellar. **B, D**



Rudesheim

Day 7: Thursday, Sept. 18, 2025 • Münster (sister city)

We continue our journey north, with a visit to Cologne. This city was first established during the Roman period, then an important city during Medieval and Renaissance times, and a key Prussian city. Today the city is a cultural destination, with many museums, alluring architecture, and both historic and modern shopping districts. We tour the Cathedral, a centerpiece of the city's tourist attractions. Then we have some free time to explore on our own before continuing to our second sister-city visit in Münster. The city is very focused on becoming a leader in climate protection. Under the motto "Our Climate 2030" it is striving toward climate neutrality by the year 2030. We meet with local officials who are working in the areas of sustainability, local transport, water consumption and noise pollution. We also learn how they are promoting community member involvement and disseminating best practice information. We have a group dinner. **B, D**

Day 8: Friday, Sept. 19, 2025 • Münster (sister city)

We continue our collaboration with the Münster Sister City delegation today. We also tour many of the highlights of the city, including the cathedral, the city hall, old town, and the city museum. This afternoon we have several options to choose from. Some of us may be interested in visiting Saerbeck, a city committed to producing more energy than it consumes. We tour the Bioenergy Park where solar panels, wind turbines and a composting plant create a sustainable source of power for the region and beyond. Other options include a visit to some of the other 30 museums in the city or to stroll the botanic garden at the university. Yet another option is to rent a bike and explore the extensive bike trail system. This evening we have dinner together. **B, D**

Note: Itinerary can be changed based on events with local dignitaries.

Day 9: Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025 • Return to USA

This morning, we travel to the Amsterdam Schiphol Airport for our flights back to the USA. **B**

Optional Post Tour - Munich

Day 1-A: Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025 • Munich

Our journey begins as we board a train to Munich, Germany. Tonight we have dinner at a typical German restaurant. **B, D**

Day 2-A: Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025 • Munich

Today we explore Munich. This is a city that has one foot planted firmly in its history while the other stands on the cutting edge of technology and manufacture. Our first stop is the BMW Museum where we see the displays of both tradition and future trends of BMW. Later we meet up with a local guide who acquaints us with the sights of Bavaria's fun-loving capital including the Marienplatz with the famed Glockenspiel, the Maximilian Straße with its elegant shops, the Residenz Palace, and more. **B, D**

Day 3-A: Monday, Sept. 22, 2024 • Munich

"Prost!" It's time for Oktoberfest! It began as a celebration of the marriage of the crown prince of Bavaria in 1810. It is now billed as the largest folk-festival in the world. We have plenty of time to sample the great pretzels, the foaming festival beer, the spit-roasted chicken, beef, and all the other delicious foods. We have a lunch reservation in one of the many beer tents. The rest of the day is free to explore the carnival rides, more entertainment tents, or return to the city center to see more of Munich. **B, L**

Day 4-A: Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2024 • Return

We have the morning free to explore Munich. We meet up with the Sister Cities Tour group and travel to Moosburg. **B**

For those who would like to stay longer in Germany we can assist with arrangements upon request.

To register online: <https://ed-ventures.grcoll.co/v2/go/knsg25>

Tour Price: \$4,149* per person

Includes estimated air from Minneapolis

*Price is based on a minimum of 20 paying participants, double occupancy

Single supplement = \$480

Optional Munich Post-tour \$1,999 (10-14 Pax)
Post-tour Single Supplement \$500

Your Tour Includes:

- Estimated **Roundtrip airfare** from Minneapolis to Munich and return from Amsterdam, related taxes and fees (\$1,500)
- **Land Transportation** via private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- Post Tour – Train Münster to Munich
- **Accommodations** (double occupancy) in superior tourist and moderate first-class hotels
- **Meals per the itinerary**
- Services of a **professional tour manager**
- Local step-on guides for city tours and major attractions
- **Admission** to all activities indicated in the itinerary except those listed as optional
- **Luggage handling** of one piece per person at hotels where available
- Luggage strap, luggage tags and trip journal
- **All taxes and tips** for provided services except as noted below

Your Tour Does Not Include:

- Meals not indicated on itinerary
- **Beverages**, except with breakfast
- **End of tour gratuities** for tour manager and coach driver
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees. (Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date.)
- **Optional insurance** for health, baggage and cancellation. *(This insurance is available and offered by Ed-Ventures.)*

Payment Schedule:

Deposit with registration: \$500 per person

Final payment due June 12, 2025: Balance per person

Invoices will be sent out prior to final payment. Passengers may add after this date subject to air and land availability. Generally airlines do not increase the price of a ticket after it has been contracted. However, prior to the issuance of a ticket, airlines may (and regularly do) impose fuel, tax, or security surcharges. In the event a surcharge is imposed after Ed-Ventures has received a final payment, Ed-Ventures will send an additional invoice for the surcharge amount. Early registration is encouraged.

Currency:

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

Refund/Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing. The date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Refunds are based on the number of days prior to departure date. From the time of deposit to 120 days before departure a \$100/person administrative fee plus any airfare & land penalties will be assessed. From 119-31 days, a \$300/person cancellation penalty plus lost airfare deposits and any unrecoverable deposits to ground suppliers will be assessed. Airline tickets once purchased are nonrefundable. Anyone canceling 30 days or less prior to departure will receive no refund.

Purchase of health, baggage, and trip cancellation/interruption insurance is strongly recommended.

Terms and Conditions

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of subscription. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

Responsibility: Ed-Ventures, Inc., their officers and employees, tour hosts, or any other persons or vendors connected with the tour shall not under any circumstances accept liability, provide refunds or pay compensation where the performance of our contractual obligations is prevented or affected, or you otherwise suffer any loss, injury, death, inconvenience or damage as a result of circumstances amounting to "force majeure". This means any event or circumstances which we or our suppliers of the services in question could not foresee or avoid. Such events and circumstances may include, acts of God, actual or threatened, war, insurrection, riots, strikes, civil action, decisions by governments or governing authority, technical or maintenance problems with transport, changes of schedules or operational decisions of air/transport carriers, terrorist activity or the threat thereof, industrial action, natural or nuclear activity, epidemic, pandemic, illness, physical injury, quarantine, medical or customs or immigration regulation, delay, or cancellation, adverse weather conditions, fire and all similar events outside our control.

Due to COVID-19, we reserve the right to adjust the tour in order to follow the guidelines and policies set by the CDC and the local governments.

The airline(s) concerned are not held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on their planes or conveyances. The passenger's contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of this tour and/or passenger. Any and/or all transportation companies herein mentioned shall not have nor incur any responsibility to any traveler aside from their liability as common carriers. Air and land costs are subject to change without notice. **Air transportation is via special, non refundable airfare. Any additional airfare assessments made by the airlines for any changes whatsoever shall be the responsibility of the client.** Other rules may also apply. Services of any A.R.C. or I.A.T.A. carrier may be used in conjunction with this tour. If there is a change in air prices and/or currency exchange rates, we reserve the right to adjust prices.

I grant Ed-Ventures, Inc and its agents the right to take photographs and videos of me during the tour and any meetings related to the tour before or after the tour. I authorize Ed-Ventures Inc, its assigns and transferees to copyright, use, and publish in print and/or electronically.

I agree that Ed-Ventures may use such photographs or videos of me with or without my name for any lawful purpose, including publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content.



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Please register me for:

Germany

- KNSG25** • Sept. 12 - 20, 2025 • \$4,149
- Single Supplement • \$480
- Optional Munich Post-tour • \$1,999
- Single Supplement Post-tour • \$500

Passenger Information (1st Traveler)

Please record information exactly as it appears on your passport. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport. *Include a photocopy of your passport with the application.*

Legal Name: _____

(Name for name badge): _____

Passport #: _____

Passport Exp. Date: _____

Passport Authority: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Gender: Male Female (*required by airline*)

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Passenger Information (2nd Traveler)

Please record information exactly as it appears on your passport. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport. *Include a photocopy of your passport with the application.*

Legal Name: _____

(Name for name badge): _____

Passport #: _____

Passport Exp. Date: _____

Passport Authority: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Gender: Male Female (*required by airline*)

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Phone:** _____

Work phone/cell: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Sleeping Preference (circle one): Double bed (*1 bed*) Twin Beds (*2 beds*)

Roommate name: _____ **OR Single supplement:** Yes No

Travel Insurance (*7.2% of tour cost; policy must be purchased at time of initial deposit to cover pre-existing medical conditions*)

- I wish to purchase Travel Guard insurance and have included the premium with my deposit.
- I wish to decline the travel insurance offered. I understand I am solely responsible for any cancellation penalties and out of pocket expenses occurred should I have an emergency before or during the tour.

Deposit Payment Information (*please check one*)

- Enclosed is my \$ _____ deposit and insurance premium (if applicable). **Make check payable to Ed-Ventures, Inc.**
- Please charge \$ _____ deposit and insurance premium (if applicable) to my Discover/MasterCard/Visa

Credit Card Number: _____ **Exp. Date:** _____

Card ID Code:* _____ **last 3 digits in signature box on the back of the card*

_____ Initial to acknowledge you understand that Federal law prohibits the carriage of certain hazardous materials in your luggage or on your person aboard aircraft and could result in a fine or imprisonment. Visit www.tsa.gov for more information.

Prices in this brochure were effective on 9.30.24. By signing below, I understand that price changes are possible at the time of final invoicing, due to exchange rates, an increase in carrier charges, fuel costs, taxes and tariffs, and the number of passengers traveling in the group. I understand that insurance premiums and credit card fees are non-refundable. I agree to the terms and conditions of this tour.

Signature of 1st traveler: _____ **Date:** _____

Signature of 2nd traveler: _____ **Date:** _____



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