

Tour Code: JSRT17

Wartburg Castle



Join John and Gretchen Steer on a

# Reformation Tour

Oct. 22 - Nov. 2, 2017

Castle Church Doors



Luther stube



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Heidelberg Castle



Rothenburg

**Day 1: Sunday, October 22, 2017 • Depart**

Today we depart for our transatlantic flight to Frankfurt, Germany.

**Day 2: Monday, October 23, 2017 • Rudesheim**

Upon arrival at the Frankfurt airport we meet our motor coach and guide. We depart for the quaint town of Rudesheim (stopping along the way for coffee) on the Rhine River. We have time to walk along the Rhine and stop at the shops on Drosselstrasse. This famous lane is lined with restaurants and cafés, traditional taverns and intimate courtyards where there is live music and dancing every day. We check into our hotel and have dinner. **(D)**

**Day 3: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 • Mainz**

After our leisurely breakfast and maybe a walk again on Drosselstrasse, we meet at the Rhine River where we take a cruise from Rudesheim to St. Goarhausen. From here we drive to Marksburg Castle, which reminds us of life in medieval times. Viewing the kitchen, great hall, bedchamber, chapel, armory, wine cellar and battlements allows us to travel back into the Middle Ages. We re-board our coach for the drive to Mainz. We check into our hotel and have dinner. **(B, D)**

**Day 4: Wednesday, October 25, 2017 • Mainz**

Our morning begins in Mainz as we focus on Bible printing history and the contribution of Johann Gutenberg, who developed moveable type. We view original copies of the Bible in the Gutenberg Museum. We also see Mainz Cathedral, dating back to 975. We have some free time for lunch, then drive to Worms. There is no better way to spend an afternoon following in the footsteps of Luther. We see the site of the Worms Debates (Diet of Worms), now a park. We hear the stories of Luther as he declared "Here I stand; I can do no other. God help me." Before returning to Mainz we enjoy dinner at an area winery. **(B, D)**

**Day 5: Thursday, October 26, 2017 • Rothenburg**

Today we drive to Heidelberg to see the beautiful old town and stroll on the Stone Bridge over the Neckar River. We tour Heidelberg Castle, which boasts the world's largest wine barrel, fascinating history and stunning views. We hear about the Heidelberg Confession, written in 1562 by 28 year old professor Zacharias Ursinus, and 26 year old preacher Caspar Olevianus. This is one of the important Calvinistic statements of faith. Then

we continue to Rothenburg ob der Tauber, one of the most picturesque and best-preserved of the towns along the "Romantic Road". It's one of Germany's best walled medieval cities, with most of the buildings constructed by 1400. We have a chance to walk the ramparts of the city walls. Tonight after dinner we join the night watchman tour. **(B, D)**

**Day 6: Friday, October 27, 2017: Eisenach**

In 1521, while fleeing from the wrath of the Pope, Luther took refuge in the Wartburg Castle after a fake kidnapping staged by his friend and protector, Frederick the Wise. We tour Wartburg and see where Luther finished translating the New Testament into German in just 11 weeks. Luther spent time in the nearby town of Eisenach as a school boy and sang in the choir of St. George's Church, where the Bach family also worshiped. The rest of the afternoon is free to visit the Bach Museum or Luther House Museum after which we check into our hotel in Eisenach. Tonight we enjoy the Bach Afterhours Concert. **(B, D)**

**Day 7: Saturday, October 28, 2017 • Erfurt**

This morning we drive to Leipzig, one of Europe's flourishing trade and commercial centers during the Middle Ages, which became the center of resistance to Communist rule a quarter century ago. Here we have the privilege of visiting the Nikolaikirche (St. Nicholas Church), the home of the faithful "Pray for Peace" Christians, and the powerful force that transformed Germany's East and West. In 1989, thousands of East Germans gathered by candlelight in this church to form human rights and pro-democracy demonstrations that led to the destruction of the infamous Berlin Wall and the dissolution of East Germany. Another Leipzig highlight is our visit to Thomaskirche (St. Thomas Church), where Luther preached and Johann Sebastian Bach performed and directed the renowned Boys' Choir. **(B, D)**

**Day 8: Sunday, October 29, 2017 • Erfurt**

A local guide will take us on a tour including St. Mary's Cathedral, St. Severin's Church and the famous Merchant's Bridge. We visit the Augustinian Monastery where Luther became a monk on July 17, 1505. We see his monastic quarters, including one cell furnished to look as it would have when he lived there. We then visit Buchenwald, the largest German concentration camp memorial, complete with exhibitions. We return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. **(B, D)**

**Day 9: Monday, October 30, 2017 • Wittenberg**



*Buchenwald concentration camp memorial*

This morning we travel to Wittenberg where our local guide takes us on a tour of Lutherstadt. It was here in 1517 that Martin Luther nailed his famous 95 Theses and Melanchthon helped forge Reformation theology. It is also where the Cranachs painted portraits of Luther. We spend time in the Lutherhalle (Luther House) Museum, where Luther lived first as a monk, then later with his wife and children. We view some of Luther's personal library, rare manuscripts, and early Bibles. The tour also includes Castle Church, Stadtkirche St. Marien (St. Mary's church) where Luther preached and where his children were baptized, and the Luther Oak where he burned the edict from Rome, condemning him as a heretic. We have dinner and overnight in Wittenberg. **(B, D)**

**Day 10: Tuesday, October 31, 2017 • Wittenberg**

Today is a free day in Wittenberg to enjoy the festivities of Reformation Day. **(B, D)**

**Day 11: Wednesday, November 1, 2017 • Berlin**

We drive to Berlin today for a city tour which includes a stop at the Brandenburg Gate. We also see the Cathedral, the Reichstag building and the lively boulevards and visit the Cold War Check Point Charlie Museum. This afternoon we visit the Dietrich Bonhoeffer Museum. Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a Berlin Pastor and Professor of Theology who resisted National Socialism during a time when tyranny and racism ruled Germany, victimizing religious, ethnic and social minorities. Tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner at our hotel. **(B, D)**

**Day 12: Thursday, November 2, 2017 • Return**

Today we transfer to the airport for our return flight home. **(B)**



*Brandenburg Gate*

**Tour Price: \$4,789**

Prices are *per person, double occupancy*  
*Land & estimated air*  
with a minimum of 25 participants

**Single supplement: \$525**

**Your Tour Includes:**

- **Estimated Airfare (\$1300)** and related taxes, fees and fuel charges
- **Land Transportation** via private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- **Accommodations** (double occupancy) in three or four star traditional European Hotels
- **Meals** as indicated in the itinerary
- **Admission** to all activities indicated in the itinerary except those listed as optional
- Services of **professional tour manager**
- Local **step-on guides** for city tours and major attractions
- **Luggage handling** of one piece per person
- **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 gratuity for coach driver and tour manager
- 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 recommended.)*

**Payment Schedule:**

A deposit of \$500 per person is due with reservation. Final payment is due 100 days prior to departure date. Invoice 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 99 days before departure a \$100 administrative fee plus any airfare penalties will be assessed. From 99-14 days, a \$300 cancellation penalty plus lost airfare deposits and any unrecoverable deposits to ground suppliers will be assessed. Airline tickets once purchased are nonrefundable. Anyone canceling less than 14 days 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.

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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.



# Reformation tour

Please register me for:

- JSRT17: Oct. 22 - Nov. 2, 2017 • \$4,789
- Single Supplement • \$525

## Passenger Information (1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**Legal Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Name for name badge): \_\_\_\_\_

**Passport #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Passport Exp. Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Passport Authority:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Place of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dietary Needs:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Passenger Information (2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**Legal Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Name for name badge): \_\_\_\_\_

**Passport #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Passport Exp. Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Passport Authority:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Place of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dietary Needs:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work phone/cell:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Roommate name:** \_\_\_\_\_ OR **Single supplement:** \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

## Travel Insurance (please check one)

- I wish to purchase Travel Guard insurance and have included the premium with my deposit.
- I wish to decline the travel insurance offered through Travel Guard.

## **Deposit Payment Information** (please check one)

- Enclosed is my \$ \_\_\_\_\_ deposit and insurance premium (if applicable). **Make checks 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.org](http://www.tsa.org) for more information.

Prices in this brochure were effective on 9.21.16. 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 travelling in the group. I agree to the terms and conditions of this tour.

**Signature of 1<sup>st</sup> traveler:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of 2<sup>nd</sup> traveler:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



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9.21.16 land & est. air