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Berlin's Brandenburg Gate

“GERMANY’S EAST FROM DRESDEN TO BERLIN”

A 12-day tour, from Monday, March 22, to Friday, April 2 (Good Friday), 2010.

An “in-depth” tour of Germany’s eastern region of Saxony, with the great art city of Dresden, known as the “German Florence”, Bach’s Leipzig, the famous porcelain-town of Meissen, and Luther’s Wittenberg, plus Berlin, Germany’s underestimated but truly magnificent capital, one of Europe’s most dynamic and exciting cities, featuring spectacular architecture, absolutely fabulous museums, fascinating history, superb music, and unexpectedly good food. This tour is organized in cooperation with the Guelph Arts Council (GAC) and will be conducted by historian Jacques R. Pauwels, PhD, whose doctorate focused on the history of Nazi Germany.

Tour cost in double occupancy: \$ 3,495 from Toronto – the single room supplement is \$ 425

Proposed Itinerary:

Day 1 - Monday, March 22:

Evening departure from Toronto for Frankfurt with Lufthansa. Dinner and a light breakfast will be served on board.

Day 2 – Tuesday, March 23:

Early morning arrival in Frankfurt, and short connecting flight to Dresden. Upon arrival, panoramic city tour of this fabulous art city, also known as the “German Florence” or the “Elbe Florence”, as this city is situated on the banks of that great river. Although Dresden was devastated in a terrible Allied air raid in February 1945, most important monuments were rebuilt, among them the Semper Opera House, the 18th-century Zwinger Palace, the Cathedral, and the Church of Our Lady. After the tour, we check into the first-class/4-star Hotel Am Terrassenufer, centrally located on the banks of the Elbe River. Free time to settle in. (hotel website: www.hotel-terrassenufer.de/18.html?&L=0;

for very favourable reviews, *see* www.tripadvisor.com). This evening, dinner in the restaurant of our hotel.

Day 3 - Wednesday, March 24:

Morning visit to the city's two most important museums, the Albertinum with its fabulous Green Vault, an exquisite collection of jewels and other art objects, and its gallery of 19th and 20th century painters; and the Old Masters Gallery in a wing of the Baroque Zwinger Palace. The rest of the day is free to shop or explore Dresden on your own.



Dresden still looks very much like it does on this 18th-century painting

Day 4 - Thursday, March 25:

Full-day excursion to Leipzig. In this Saxon sister-city of Dresden, our sightseeing tour will include the Battle of Nations Monument, St. Thomas Church with the tomb of the composer J.S. Bach, the adjoining Bach Memorial, the Old Town Hall, the St. Nicholas Church, and the Augustusplatz with the Opera and the famous Gewandhaus concert hall. Return to Dresden in time for dinner.

Day 5 - Friday, March 26:

Morning boat tour on the Elbe River. Afterwards we take a sidetrip to the nearby historical town of Meissen, situated on the banks of the Elbe River and dominated by a huge castle and cathedral high on a hill. We explore the picturesque old town and visit the world-famous porcelain factory. *This evening, it might be possible to enjoy an opera on an optional basis; please advise us immediately if you are interested.*

Day 6 - Saturday, March 27:

Morning departure from Dresden. We motor to Torgau, where American and Soviet troops met and fraternized in the final days of World War II. On to Wittenberg, known as the cradle of the Reformation since it was here that Luther posted his famous 95 theses on the door of the Castle Church in 1517, which is still there and will be visited. In the afternoon we continue to Berlin. Arrival at our four-star hotel, the Am Zoo, ideally situated in the heart of the city, on the famous (and glamorous) Kurfürstendamm Boulevard, main artery of former "West Berlin" (www.hotelzoo.de). Before dinner in the hotel, there may be time for a leisurely walk along the lively "Ku'damm" with its elegant shops, hotels, restaurants, and interesting sights such as the Emperor William Memorial Church.



< April 25, 1945: American and Soviet soldiers meet at Torgau

Luther Memorial in Wittenberg >

Day 7 - Sunday, March 28:

Full-day panoramic tour of the German capital, with countless major sights, including the

following: the Olympic Stadium, originally built for the 1936 Olympics, sponsored by the Nazi regime; the Reichstag, the German Parliament, an imposing edifice which was burned down at the time of the Nazi takeover and heavily damaged during the war, but was recently renovated and now features an amazing glass cupola created by the famous architect Sir Norman Foster; the Brandenburg Gate, as emblematic of Berlin as the Eiffel Tower is of Paris; the new Holocaust Memorial, built virtually on top of the bunker where Hitler committed suicide; Potsdamer Platz, Europe's busiest intersection before the war, a bombed-out wasteland bisected by the Berlin Wall after 1945, and now a showcase of postmodern architecture by the likes of Renzo Piano; the elegant Unter den Linden Boulevard in the historical heart of Berlin, featuring monuments such as the huge Cathedral, the State Opera, the Humboldt University, and the equestrian statue of Frederick the Great; Berlin's old "Red City Hall"; Alexander Platz, the heart of former East Berlin, with its 365-meter high TV-Tower; Checkpoint Charlie, where tourists used to cross the Berlin franchise of the Iron Curtain; and of course the remaining section of the Berlin Wall, including the "Wall Gallery", a stretch of *Mauer* decorated by artists from all over the world.



Day 8 - Monday, March 29:

Morning excursion to the old Prussian town of Potsdam, situated in an idyllic setting of forests and lakes on former East-German territory. Here we visit the Versailles-style palace of King Frederick the Great, Schloss Sanssouci, as well as the Cecilienhof villa, site of the 1945 Potsdam Conference. Return to our hotel in Berlin via the notorious Glienicke Bridge, where captured spies used to be exchanged, and the resort of Wannsee with its memories of the infamous Wannsee Conference of January 1942, where Himmler outlined Hitler's plans for the Holocaust. Return to Berlin and rest of the day at leisure. This evening, dinner of Berliner specialties in a typical restaurant!



Sanssouci Palace in Potsdam

Day 9 - Tuesday, March 30:

After breakfast, visit to the so-called “Museum Island” in central Berlin, a cluster of museums constructed in the 19th century under the auspices of the Kings of Prussia, heavily bombed during WWII, and carefully restored afterwards. We start with Pergamon Museum, focusing on the cultures of the Ancient Near East; this fabulous institution not only features the great Hellenistic Pergamon Altar but also other amazing monuments such as Babylon’s Ishtar Gate. Afterwards we head for the adjoining New Museum with its Egyptian collection, including the world-famous Bust of Nefertiti, queen of the enigmatic Pharaoh Akhenaton! (This museum was almost totally destroyed during the war, and only reopened its doors in 2009.)

Museumed-out? We suggest lunch in one of the many attractive eateries in the nearby old Nicolai District, a boat tour on the Spree River, or shopping in the intriguing restored complex known as the Hackesche Höfe. But if you have energy left, use the 3-day museum pass you will have received to also visit the Old Museum, which has a superb collection of Greco-Roman antiquities, and/or the Old National Gallery, featuring wonderful 19th-century art, including French impressionists.

Tonight we enjoy a magnificent Cirque du Soleil-style show in the Friedrichstadt Palace, one of the biggest and most impressive theatres in the world! (For more information, see www.friedrichstadtpalast.de/040000e_information.asp)



< *Bust of Nefertiti*

Day 10 - Wednesday, March 31:

After breakfast, we head for the *Kulturforum*, the cultural hub of the western part of the city, with prestigious institutions such as the new Berlin Philharmonie, the State Library, and - our objective this morning - the *Gemäldegalerie*, Berlin’s world-famous Picture Gallery, which features paintings from just about every style and period. (We have also arranged for a private viewing of some famous lithographs and sketches by the likes of Dürer, Brueghel, and Rembrandt!) After this visit - and perhaps after lunch in the gallery’s excellent self-service restaurant? - feel free to use your museum pass to drop into the New National Gallery, located just next door, with architecture by Mies van der Rohe and 20th-century art by the likes of Picasso, Léger, Klee, Ernst, Moore, Calder, etc.

This evening we attend a classical music concert in the world-famous Berlin Philharmonic Hall, in the neoclassical Konzerthaus, or in another prestigious venue.

Day 11 - Thursday, April 1:

Your last day in Berlin is entirely at leisure. You may want to check out the popular flea market, or (using your pass, which is still valid!) visit more museums, such as the small but exquisite Berggruen Picasso Collection, the Bröhan Museum of the *Jugendstil* (Art Nouveau) decorative art, the Museum of Prehistory and Early History (with attractions such as Schliemann’s Treasures of Troy!), the Museum of Contemporary Art in the former Hamburg Railway Station, the Jewish Museum, designed by another renowned architect, Daniel Liebeskind; and the German Museum of Technology. We also recommend a visit to the fabulous department store KaDeWe, where the food section is claimed to be the world’s finest...

This evening, “Auf Wiedersehen”-dinner in a typical restaurant.

Day 12 - Friday, April 2:

Following breakfast, transfer to the airport and return flight to Canada with Lufthansa.

Tour cost, based on double occupancy: \$ 3,495 from Toronto

Single room supplement: \$ 425

Included in the tour price are:

- Return flight in economy class;
- Accommodation in a centrally located four-star/first-class hotel, based on two per room (all rooms have private facilities) – the single room supplement is \$ 425.00;
- Airport transfers;
- Meals: buffet breakfast daily, and dinner daily *except* on days 9 and 10;
- Sightseeing, visits, and excursions as indicated in the itinerary, including admission;
- A classical music concert and a show at the Friedrichstadt Palace;
- Hotel taxes and gratuities as well as gratuities for coach drivers and local guides.

Not included are:

- *****Airport taxes, security fees, and fuel surcharges, presently (June 1, 2009) totaling approximately \$ 400, but subject to change;**
- All expenses of a personal nature;
- Meals other than those mentioned above;
- Beverages with dinners;
- Travel insurance as follows:

All-inclusive package:

Up to age 59: \$240.84
Ages 60-64: \$294.84
Ages 65-69: \$354.24
Ages 70-74: \$479.52
Ages 75 and over: Call for rates

Non-medical package

Up to age 59: \$203.04
Ages 60-64: \$227.88
Ages 65-69: \$254.88
Ages 70-74: \$289.44
Ages 75 and over: Call for rates



The Reichstag Building

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Ont. Reg. #1034992

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSITS:

Reservations should be made as early as possible to ensure the departure of your choice. A deposit of \$750.00 is required at the time of registration. **Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of your deposit and application form. No reservations will be accepted without a signed application form.**

REFUND OF UNUSED ARRANGEMENTS:

Because the rates of Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. are based on group participation, no refund can be made for any tour accommodation or tour service or tour feature not taken. If cancellation occurs while the tour is in progress, no refund can be made for the tour portion not taken. We strongly suggest that to allow for any unexpected contingencies, you purchase the all-inclusive insurance.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Refund of deposit is made in full if cancellation is received in writing by Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. more than 90 days prior of the departure date of the tour less a \$500.00 non refundable administrative fee per person. For cancellation received in writing 90 days prior or less the following cancellation charges apply:

90 days to 46 days before departure:	25% of tour cost
45 to 15 days before departure:	50% of tour cost
within 14 days prior to departure:	100% of tour cost

RESPONSIBILITY:

Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. reserves the right without notice, to withdraw any part or all of the tour. Factors such as airline schedule changes, hotel overbookings, inclement weather, etc. may necessitate changes in the itinerary as outlined. There may also be other circumstances in which changes become necessary or advisable. Any savings realized by these changes will be passed on to the passengers, any resultant expenses shall be borne by the passenger. Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. acts only as an agent in securing hotel, transportation and other travel services and in no event shall be held responsible for the failure by any person or company to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. All hotel, transportation and other travel services are provided to tour members subject to all the terms and conditions under which they are offered to the public generally. The acceptance of the initial service to be provided under the tour shall be considered an acceptance by the tour member of those conditions. Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. also reserves the right to decline, to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour, in which case equitable refund will be made at the discretion of the tour operators.

AIR TRANSPORTATION:

Trans Atlantic economy flight by scheduled, IATA carriers, based on charter class fare. Other fares may also be used. All fares are subject to specific rules and regulations, to changes and to government approval.

CURRENCY:

The tour cost is based on the current exchange rate of CAD 1.65 Euros. Should the rate of exchange rise or fall by 5%, the tour cost will be adjusted accordingly.

APPLICATION FORM

Please book ___ seat(s) on the “Germany’s East from Dresden to Berlin” tour of March 22 - April 2, 2010.
Enclosed is my/our deposit of _____ (\$750 per person, *plus* insurance premium if taken.)

Deposit and insurance premium, if taken, are due with registration. You will be invoiced for the balance approximately 45 days prior to departure.

WE NOW REQUIRE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT (INFORMATION PAGES ONLY) TO BE SENT WITH YOUR APPLICATION FORM AT TIME OF REGISTRATION.

Name as on Passport. Indicate the appropriate title before each name (Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr., Ms.)

NAME(S): _____

If applicable, give your commonly used first name as you would like it to appear on your name tag: (e.g. “Liz” for “Mary Elizabeth”) _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (Residence) _____ (Business) _____ (Fax/Email) _____

If traveling alone, please indicate your willingness to share accommodations: YES _____ NO _____

SINGLE ROOM REQUIRED: _____

(We will try to find a roommate for those willing to share, but cannot guarantee success in doing so. For single travelers we are not able to match, the single supplement will apply.)

SPECIAL REQUESTS: (Dietary, wheelchair assistance, frequent flyer number, twin beds, etc.): Please list here so we can do our best to assist you:

I/we agree to the “terms and conditions” attached to the program.

Insurance: I/we accept:

All-inclusive Package _____ Non-medical Package _____ Decline Insurance _____

Signature (s) _____

If purchasing travel insurance, we require your date of birth:

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____

PAYMENT:

Cheque payable to Pauwels Travel Visa Mastercard American Express

Amount Paid: _____

Card Number: _____ Expiry: _____

Signature: _____

Please forward this completed form, copy of passport and payment to:

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