



Reformation Tours, LLC presents the
Luther Anniversary Tour

April 21— May 2, 2017

Hosted by Uli Buschmann



Luther Anniversary Tour



We invite you to join expert German tour host Uli Buschmann on a 12 day journey in the footsteps of Martin Luther. Imagine yourself going to the epicenter of the Reformation and walking in the very places once frequented by Martin Luther and his contemporaries. It's going to be an amazing trip, and we would love to have you join us to share in this experience!

IF = In flight meals, B = Breakfast, D = Dinner

Day 1: Friday, April 21, 2017: Flights

We will depart the US today on our overnight flights to Frankfurt, Germany. Pre-tour nights are available for early arrivals. **(IF)**

Day 2: Saturday, April 22, 2017: Frankfurt, Worms

On arrival in Frankfurt, we will transfer to our hotel in the delightful village of Hofheim, close to Frankfurt. In the afternoon, we will travel to Worms where Luther was summoned to appear before the emperor. We will walk through the majestic Romanesque cathedral and then go to the site, now in a park, where he stood and gave his final testimony. We'll have a photo stop at the stunning Reformation Monument. On the way back to our hotel, we will stop at an historic "Strausswirtschaft" inn for a traditional meal in this wine growing area. **(IF/D)**



Day 3: Sunday, April 23, 2017: Frankfurt, Erfurt

This morning, we will attend the morning church service (in English) at Trinity Lutheran Church in Frankfurt. Founded in 1956 for Americans living in the area, many of them service personnel, it has become a meeting point for many nations over the years. We will then travel to Erfurt and check-in to our hotel where we will be based for three nights. We will dine in our hotel this evening. **(B/D)**

Day 4: Monday, April 24, 2017: Erfurt

Erfurt is closely linked to Martin Luther. In his early years, Luther attended the local university which ranks among the three oldest universities in Germany. After he had taken a vow to become a monk, he entered the Augustinian Monastery and lived there for 6 years (1505– 1511). We'll be guided around the monastery including seeing a replica cell. St Mary's Cathedral is one of the oldest churches in Germany, going right back to the Christianization by St. Boniface starting AD 719. Erfurt also boasts a unique medieval bridge which is the only one of its kind in northern, continental Europe. One reason Erfurt is on the map is a lowly plant that grows only in that area



which is used to dye fabrics. The scientific name of the plant is *Isatis Tinctoria*. In German, it is called Waid or Glastum, and the common English name is Woad. We will visit Frau Sigritt Weiss, one of the few "blue printers" who still makes beautiful tablecloths, etc. **(B/D)**

Day 5: Tuesday, April 25, 2017: Eisenach, Erfurt

In 1521, while fleeing from the wrath of the Emperor and Pope, a fake kidnapping was staged by Luther's friend and protector, Frederick the Wise in order that he could take refuge in Wartburg Castle. We will tour the castle and stand in the room where Luther lived and worked for almost a year. Among other things, he translated, for the first time, the New Testament into the German language. Back down in the city, we'll visit St. George's church where Martin was a choir boy while he went to school in Eisenach and later on his way to Worms, where he did what he did best; preach. Eisenach was also home to Johann Sebastian Bach. He was baptized in St. George's, and several members of the Bach family were organists here. We will have free time in the afternoon to visit the Bach House before we return to Erfurt. **(B/D)**



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Day 6: Wednesday, April 26, 2017: Eisleben, Wittenberg

This morning, we will continue to the little city of Eisleben which is sometimes referred to as Luther's "Bethlehem and the Jerusalem". Our first port of call will be the house where little Martin was born on November 10, 1483. The next day after his birth, Luther was baptized in the nearby church of St. Petri-Pauli, just a few steps up the street from the house. This old, Gothic church has currently been beautifully restored in view of the big Luther celebrations in 2017 to celebrate baptism as a Christian institution. Throughout his life, Martin often returned to Eisleben, finally once again as an old man to settle a dispute within the ruling family of the area. After three weeks, he finally succeeded. One day later, on February 18, 1546, he died. We'll take a look around the church where he gave his last 4 sermons and where his body was laid out before returning home to Wittenberg. Mid afternoon, we continue our journey to the city of Wittenberg, thus, more or less precisely, following the reformer's last journey on this earth. Our home for the next 2 nights will be in Wittenberg. Dinner is included tonight at our hotel. (B/D)

Day 7: Thursday, April 27, 2017: Wittenberg

Today, we will tour the Luther House Museum where Martin Luther and his family lived. This Reformation museum's collection includes Luther's pulpit and first editions of his books. Nearby is St. Mary's Church, a twin-towered Gothic church



where Luther preached the Reformation, got married (1525), and baptized his six children. We will go to the spot where Luther reputedly burned the Papal Bull by which Rome condemned

him as a heretic. In the Castle Church, we will see Luther's tomb and gather outside the doors where Luther posted his 95 Theses against the sale of indulgences—and launched the Reformation in 1517. We will have a very special Luther-themed meal this evening. (B/D)

Day 8: Friday, April 28, 2017: Torgau, Leipzig

This morning, we will drive to Torgau, the political center of the Reformation. During the 15th and 16th centuries, the town was the residence of the prince-electors of Saxony. We will begin with a tour of St. Mary's Church, where Luther's wife, Katharina von Bora, is buried. The magnificent renaissance Hartenfels Castle includes the first purpose-built Protestant church, which

Luther consecrated in 1544. In the afternoon, we will continue on to Leipzig. Luther was here more than once, but Leipzig is really the town of Johann Sebastian Bach. Bach served as cantor in St. Thomas Church for 27 years. We will hear Bach's music at the motet concert in the afternoon. (B/D)

Day 9: Saturday, April 29, 2017: Leipzig

We will have a leisure day today, but we will begin with an introduction to Leipzig. In the market square, we will see the beautiful old city hall. The museum collection includes Katharina von Bora's wedding ring. In St. Nicholas Church, we will hear the story of the prayer meetings. 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. The rest of the day is free to explore museums, shop, or relax. In the early evening, we will transfer to our hotel in Zeitz, where we will be based for two nights. We will dine in our hotel. (B/D)

Day 10: Sunday, April 30, 2017: Meet the Luthers!

Have you ever wondered if there are any traces left of Martin Luther's family? Although it's been 500 years since the start of the Reformation, family

members are still in the area. We will spend the day in the town of Zeitz and meet Henriette Rossner, who is a 13th generation descendent of Martin Luther. We will visit the headquarters and library of the Luther Association housed in a magnificent castle. We will also have a private organ concert in the cathedral, meet the mayor in the town hall, and have a very special local meal. (B/D)



Day 11: Monday, May 1, 2017: Alsfeld, Frankfurt

On our journey back to Frankfurt, we will have a leisurely lunchtime break in the fairytale city of Alsfeld. This charming medieval town is still characterized by a wealth of half-timbered buildings. We will continue our journey to Frankfurt and check-in to our hotel. We will have a farewell meal in a local restaurant this evening. (B/D)

Day 12: Tuesday, May 2, 2017: Return

We will transfer to the Frankfurt Airport for our return flights, or continue our travels in Europe. (B)

RUS17 Tour Price: \$2,599*per person, land only

*Price based on double occupancy with a minimum of 15 participants

Terms and Conditions

Your Tour Includes:

- Transportation: via deluxe air-conditioned coaches
- Accommodations (double-occupancy) in superior 3-star and moderate 4-star hotels
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- Uli Buschmann as Tour Director throughout the tour
- Local step-on guides for city tours and major attractions
- Admission to all activities indicated in the itinerary
- All transfers, as a group
- Baggage handling (1 piece of baggage per guest)
- Travel insurance during the tour (upgrade available for pre-tour coverage)
- All taxes and tips except as indicated below

Your Tour Does Not Include:

- Air transportation (contact us for options)
- Single supplement (\$360)
- Meals and beverages not identified in itinerary
- Items of a personal nature, such as passports and visas. Passports must be valid for 6 months beyond return date.
- Gratuities for Uli and our driver

Payment Schedule:

- Deposit of \$350 will secure your place on the tour. Please send all payments to Reformation Tours, LLC. P.O. Box 854, Belleville, IL 62222.
- Final invoices will be sent in January 2017
- Final payment is due by February 5, 2017
- Reservations will be accepted until March 22, 2017, subject to availability .

Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing and 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 until 100 days prior to departure (2/27/17), a \$100 per person penalty will be charged for cancellation. From 99-14 days prior to departure (5/24/17), a \$350 per person penalty plus any nonrefundable deposit will be charged for cancellation. Anyone canceling 14 days or less prior to departure will receive no refund. In the unlikely event the tour does not reach minimum enrollment required, all deposit money will be returned.

Reformation Tours reserves the rights to alter itineraries without notice should it become necessary. While on tour, if conditions necessitate changes, or if certain features are un-available or limited, we reserve the right to vary or substitute alternatives. All prices are calculated at the exchange rate in effect at the time of this quotation. Should currency fluctuations necessitate an adjustment in tour price; the adjusted price will be reflected in the final invoice.

For more information contact:



Reformation Tours, LLC

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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, the number of participants and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee.

Responsibility: **Reformation Tours, LLC.**, their officers and employees, tour hosts, or any other persons or vendors connected with the tour shall not under any circumstances be liable to the client under or by reason of this agreement directly or indirectly for any accidents, injury, delay, damage, or inconvenience caused to the client by negligence of others, by malfunctions of transportation systems or equipment, by acts of war, terrorism, or rebellion, strikes, theft, itinerary changes, extreme weather conditions, or cancellations, and the client hereby releases the above mentioned corporation and persons from any and all such liability. 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 the price.

