



Reformation Tours, LLC presents the
Reformation Freedom Tour

April 26-May 7, 2024

Hosted by Pastor Don Willeman
Christ Redeemer Church, Hanover, NH



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**“For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore,
and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.”
Galatians 5:1 ESV**

Over 500 years ago, a movement of rediscovery began that we now know as the Protestant Reformation. When Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the Castle Church door of Wittenberg, a liberating power was unleashed as the biblical gospel of justification by grace alone began to refresh the Church. This movement spread all across Europe and the world, and wherever it went, it set people free from crippling sin, guilt, and superstition.

You are invited to join us as we tour the key sites of the Reformation in Germany, France, Switzerland and the Czech Republic. In addition to seeing the sights, we will have times to learn and reflect on what this liberating power of the gospel means for us in our day. All the while, we will enjoy wonderful European cuisine and accommodations as we fellowship with other believers.

I look forward to this time with all of you! I hope you can join us!

Rev. Don Willeman,
Lead Pastor, Christ Redeemer Church

Don Willeman is the founding pastor of Christ Redeemer Church of Hanover, NH. He has a Master of Theology (Th.M.) degree from Dallas Theological Seminary and has led church-based ministries in Ohio, Michigan, Texas, and Vermont. Don loves history, and for the past 23 years, he has taught Church and Reformation history classes many times to Dartmouth College students and others.

In addition, he has led over a half dozen history tours to Europe highlighting both the Reformation and early Christian sites.

He is married to Dori, and together they have four children.



Tour design by Rowena Drinkhouse
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Tour Map

This overview map shows the tour route from the Czech Republic, through Germany and France and ending in Switzerland. The numbers refer to the overnights in each location.



Tour Itinerary

IF = In-flight meals, **B** = Breakfast, **L** = Lunch, **D** = Dinner

Day 1: Friday, April 26, 2024: Depart

We will depart from the USA. Group flights can be arranged. Reformation Tours can also arrange pre-tour nights in Prague for anyone who wishes to travel before the tour begins. **(IF)**

Day 2: Saturday, April 27, 2024: Arrival in Prague

When we arrive in Prague, our Reformation Tours' Tour Director will greet and escort us to our waiting deluxe, air-conditioned motor coach. We will have some free time for lunch, then our expert local guide will take us on a walking tour focused on Jan Hus, the leading personality of the Czech Reformation movement. We'll visit Bethlehem Chapel where he preached (possibly closed for renovations) and see the Hus monument outside Týn Church. Hus was a contemporary of John Wycliffe and was heavily influenced by his writings. They both agreed



that all Christians are members of Christ's church, and that Jesus is the head. We will end the day with our welcome meal at the hotel. **(IF/D)**

[Hotel Ambassador, Prague](#)

Day 3: Sunday, April 28, 2024: Prague



This morning we'll have the opportunity to attend an English-language church service or have free time. In the afternoon we will explore Prague Castle, a complex of palaces, courtyards, streets and churches including St. Vitus Cathedral, which took 600 years to complete. We will then take a stroll across Charles Bridge, past the famous statues to the Old Town Square. We will finish by the Jan Hus Monument, built to commemorate the 500th anniversary of his martyrdom. This evening we will have fun at a Czech dinner, including seeing folk dancing.

(B/D)

Day 4: Monday, April 29, 2024: Prague, Wittenberg

We will cross the border into Germany this morning and travel to Lutherstadt Wittenberg. It was here in 1517 that Martin Luther nailed his famous 95 Theses to the door of Castle Church (Schlosskirche). Although the original doors were destroyed in the Seven Years War, we can see Luther's texts cast in bronze on the new doors. Our local guide will take us to St. Mary's Church where Luther regularly preached. We can also visit the Old Latin School next door. Luther's former home, the Lutherhalle, is now a Reformation Museum and we will see where he lived with his family, as well as some of Luther's very own personal library, rare manuscripts, and early Bibles. We will dine in our hotel this evening. **(B/D)**



[Luther Hotel, Wittenberg](#)

Day 5: Tuesday, April 30, 2024: Erfurt



We'll drive to Erfurt and have free time for lunch. Our guide will take us on a walking tour including St. Mary's Cathedral, St. Severin's Church and the famous Merchant's Bridge. We will end the tour at the Augustinian Monastery where Luther became a monk on July 17, 1505. We will be able to see his monastic quarters, including one cell furnished to look as it would have when he lived there. At the end of the tour we will have a group worship service in the chapel. We will dine together this evening. **(B/D)**

[Mercure hotel, Erfurt](#)

Day 6: Wednesday, May 1, 2024 (May Day): Eisenach, Mainz

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 will tour the Wartburg and see where Luther finished translating the New Testament into German in just eleven weeks. Luther spent time in the nearby town of Eisenach as schoolboy and sang in the choir of St. George's Church, where the Bach family also worshiped. The afternoon will be free to explore the town of Eisenach, including the Bach House, the Luther House and St. George's Church. In the afternoon we will drive down to Mainz and dine in an authentic German restaurant. **(B/D)**



[Hilton City, Mainz](#) (name about to change)

Day 7: Thursday, May 2, 2024: Mainz, Worms, Strasbourg



What better way to start the day than with a Rhine cruise! We'll board the boat and sail past magnificent castles and the famous Loreley rock. After the cruise we will tour the Gutenberg Museum and the Cathedral. In the afternoon we will see the site of the Worms Debates (Diet of Worms), now a park, with a plaque commemorating the Diet of Worms and the Reformation Monument. We hear the stories of Luther as he responded "Here I stand; I can do no other. God help me." We will then continue to Strasbourg and dine in our hotel. **(B/D)**

[Hotel Leonor, Strasbourg](#)

Day 8: Friday, May 3, 2024: Strasbourg, Colmar

We will have a morning tour of Strasbourg, including the Cathedral. Strasbourg was an important town for John Calvin. He pastored French Huguenot refugees, got married, and wrote a second edition to his famous book, the Institutes. Strasbourg, as a free imperial town, was a beacon for Protestantism right from the 16th century. During his time in Strasbourg, Calvin was not attached to one particular church, but held his office successively in various local churches. Our tour guide will lead an optional excursion in the afternoon to explore charming Colmar. This picturesque town escaped damage during the war and has numerous half-timbered houses.



It was the hometown of Frederic Bartholdi (creator of the Statue of Liberty) and the town includes a small museum. We will have an early evening boat ride on the canals, followed by dinner in a restaurant. **(B/D)**

Day 9: Saturday, May 4, 2024: Constance, Zurich



Today we will be in three countries: France, Germany and Switzerland. We will drive through the Black Forest region to the border of Switzerland. In Constance, we will pray on the spot where the pre-Reformer Jan Hus was martyred and see the Cathedral where some of the trials were held. Crossing over in Switzerland, we'll dine in an authentic Swiss restaurant. Overnight in Zurich. **(B/D)**

[Parkhotel, Winterthur](#) (close to Zurich)

Day 10: Sunday, May 5, 2024: Zurich, Geneva

This morning our guide will take us to key Reformation sites in Zurich to learn about Zwingli and the Anabaptists. We will tour the Grossmünster, the Helferei (where Zwingli lived) and see the Zwingli Statue. After a stroll through the historic Auld Stadt (old city) we will drive through Switzerland to Geneva. **(B/D)**

[Manotel Royal, Geneva](#)



Day 11: Monday, May 6, 2024: Geneva



Geneva was described by John Knox as “the most perfect school of Christ since the days of the apostles”, Our tour will begin at the impressive Reformation Monument. Four statues of four Reformation leaders stand as sentinels to truth and courage inspired by godly faith. We will see the Auditoire de Calvin, St. Pierre’s Cathedral, the archaeological site beneath the cathedral, and the Reformation Museum. We will enjoy a Farewell Meal before we head home or continue our travels in Europe. **(B/D)**

Day 12: Tuesday, May 7, 2024: Return

We will transfer from the hotel to the airport for our flights. **(B/IF)**

Tour Cost

The land cost of the tour is **\$3,999** based on a minimum of 30 full-paying travelers, double occupancy. The cost for single room occupancy is **\$950**, which is waived if a roommate is found.

INCLUDED:

- Land transportation via private, deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- Airport transfers as a group
- Double occupancy accommodations in 3 and 4-star hotels with good bus access.
- Porterage is included in and out when available (1 piece per person)
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary, including water with dinners
- Admission to all activities indicated in the itinerary
- Professional Tour Director throughout the tour
- Local guides for city tours
- Guides will use Whisper Headsets throughout the tour
- All other taxes and tips for provided services, other than for tour director and driver
- Full color personalized tour diary
- Travel app

NOT INCLUDED:

- Air transportation and related taxes and fees (\$1,170)
- Airport transfers separate from the group
- Meals, other than as indicated above
- Items of a personal nature, such as passport fees
- Tips for tour director and driver (suggested combined total of \$90 per person)
- Travel insurance

Tour Payments

FIRST DEPOSIT: Initial deposit of \$350 will secure your place on the tour. Online payments incur a 3% credit card fee. Checks can be mailed to "Reformation Tours", 12316 244th St, Chisago City, MN 55013-9688.

FINAL PAYMENT: The final balance is due 90 days before departure (1/27/24).

INDIVIDUAL CANCELLATIONS: All cancellations must be in writing. Date of email or postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Airline tickets, once printed, are not refundable.

- From time of deposit to 120 days prior to departure (12/28/23) \$100 per person penalty.
- From 119-90 days prior to departure (12/29/23 – 1/27/24) \$500 per person penalty plus any non-refundable deposits to airlines or ground suppliers.
- From 89-30 days prior to departure (1/28/24 – 3/27/2024): 50% of land fees are non-refundable.
- An individual cancelling less than 30 days before departure (3/27/24) will receive no refund.

INSURANCE: All participants will be assisted to purchase optional insurance for cancellation, life insurance, health insurance, and baggage.

Reformation Tours reserves the right to alter itineraries without notice should it become necessary. While on tour, if conditions necessitate changes, or if certain features are unavailable 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.