

## Sample Itinerary

### Churches and Monasteries in Franconia (7 days)

Würzburg – Volkach – Ebrach – Bamberg – Schlüsselau – Bad Staffelstein –  
Bamberg – Pottenstein - Gössweinstein – Nuremberg (Nürnberg)



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**DAY 1**     **USA – Frankfurt**

Departure from the USA (overnight flight)

**DAY 2**     **Frankfurt – Würzburg**

Arrival in Frankfurt

Transfer to Würzburg – 75 miles (by car, coach, or direct connection by ICE high speed train)

Hotel check-in

Guided city tour

**Würzburg Tourist Office**

Am Congress Centrum

97070 Würzburg

Tel: +49 (931) 372 650

Fax: +49 (931) 372 652

E-Mail: [tourismus@wuerzburg.de](mailto:tourismus@wuerzburg.de)

[www.wuerzburg.de](http://www.wuerzburg.de)

**DAY 2  
Cont'd**

**Würzburg**

**Places of interest:**

- Residence Palace (UNESCO World heritage site)
- Palace church and gardens
- Wine cellar "Staatlicher Hofkeller" beneath the palace
- Steinburg Castle
- Marienberg fortress
- Historic Town Hall
- Cathedral St. Kilian (Catholic)
- Chapel of St. Mary
- Käppele Pilgrimage Church

**Würzburg** – The capital of lower Franconia is one of the loveliest baroque cities in Germany and became famous as the center of Franconian wine production. It is a popular stop among tourists traveling the Romantic Road, beautifully embedded in the valley of the Main River and is surrounded by grapevine-covered hills. Interesting places to visit include the UNESCO World Heritage site Residence Palace, the medieval fortress Marienberg, the historic town hall building and the Romanesque cathedral St. Kilian, the fourth largest Romanesque church in Germany. The Late Gothic Chapel of St. Mary with its rich ornamental sculptures, of which the statues of Adam and Eve and the "Beautiful Madonna" are especially noteworthy. From the old bridge "Alte Mainbrücke", you will enjoy fantastic views of the fortress "Marienberg" and the pilgrimage church "Käppele".



Cathedral



Marienberg Fortress

Dinner at the restaurant and winery Juliusspital Weinstuben

**Juliusspital Weinstuben**

Juliuspromenade 19  
97070 Würzburg  
Tel: +49 (931) 54080  
Fax: +49 (931) 571 723  
E-Mail: [info@juliusspital.de](mailto:info@juliusspital.de)  
[www.juliusspital.de](http://www.juliusspital.de)

**Overnight in Würzburg**

**DAY 3      Würzburg – Volkach – Ebrach**

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out

Transfer to Volkach – 24 miles (by car or coach)

Walk through the town incl. visit to Pilgrim Church Mary in the Vineyard and Church 'Madonna in the Rosary' (Catholic)

**Volkach Tourist Office**

Rathaus

97332 Volkach

Tel: +49 (9381) 40112

Fax: +49 (9381) 40116

E-Mail: [tourismus@volkach.de](mailto:tourismus@volkach.de)

[www.volkach.de](http://www.volkach.de)

**Volkach** – This town in the district of Kitzingen on a bend in the river Main was founded in 906 A.D.. It is located right at the heart of the Franconian winegrowing region. Volkach's main tourist attraction is the annual Franconian wine festival in August which is the culminating festival for the entire wine region. The Pilgrimage Church 'Mary in the Vineyard' can be reached through a lovely hike through the Volkach's vineyards. The Church 'Madonna in the Rosary' features a magnificent wood sculpture by Tilmann Riemenschneider.



Church Mary in the Vineyard

Transfer to Ebrach – 13 miles (by car or coach)

Lunch

Walk through the town incl. visit to former Cistercian Monastery

**Ebrach Tourist Office**

Rathausplatz 2

96157 Ebrach

Tel: +49 (9553) 92200

Fax: +49 (9553) 922 020

E-Mail: [info@ebrach.de](mailto:info@ebrach.de)

[www.ebrach.de](http://www.ebrach.de)

**DAY 3  
Cont'd**

**Ebrach - Bamberg**

**Ebrach** – Founded in 1127, the old abbey was the first ever Cistercian monastery to be built on the right bank of the Rhine, and was completed at the end of the 13th century. During the Baroque period, it underwent radical changes. The layout of the church with its flat-ended chancel is directly inspired by Cîteaux. Some fine Rococo ironwork gates, a Renaissance altarpiece depicting the Vision of St Bernard, and a Baroque organ can be seen inside. A prison now occupies the site.



Aerial view of Ebrach Monastery

Transfer to Bamberg – 22 miles (by car or coach)

Hotel check-in

Dinner

Overnight in Bamberg

**DAY 4**

**Bamberg**

Breakfast at the hotel

Guided city tour incl. St. Peter and George Cathedral

**Bamberg Tourist Office**

Geyerswoerthstrasse 3

96047 Bamberg

Tel: +49 (951) 297 6200

Fax: +49 (951) 297 6222

E-Mail: [info@bamberg.info](mailto:info@bamberg.info)

[www.bamberg.info](http://www.bamberg.info)

**Places of Interest:**

- New Residence Castle with rose garden
- Monastery St. Michael
- Little Venice
- Cathedral Square with St. Peter & George Cathedral and Old Court
- Altenburg Castle
- Old Quarter Island Town
- Old Quarter Mountain Town
- Rottmeister House
- Museum of History in the Old Court
- Franconian Brewery Museum

**DAY 4  
Cont'd**

**Bamberg – Schlüsselau – Bad Staffelstein**

**Bamberg** – From the 10th century onwards, this town became an important link with the Slav peoples, especially those of Poland and Pomerania. During its period of greatest prosperity, from the 12th century onwards, the architecture of Bamberg strongly influenced northern Germany and Hungary. In the late 18th century it was the centre of the Enlightenment in southern Germany, with eminent philosophers and writers such as Hegel and Hoffmann living there. Bamberg's nicknames - the "Seven Hill City" or "Franconian Rome" - refer to the part situated on the hills. Cathedral Hill was the spiritual and secular centre of power in the diocese of Bamberg for centuries. This is where some of the UNESCO town's most prominent buildings are located, including the St. Michael Monastery and the Imperial Cathedral of St. Peter & George with the world famous Bamberger Reiter, Emperor's grave and the Gothic altar.



St. Peter & George Cathedral



Rottmeisterhaus

Lunch

Transfer to Schlüsselau – 11 miles (by car or coach)

Visit to Cistercian Monastery with Pilgrimage Church of the Holy Trinity

**Kloster Schlüsselau**

Schlüsselau 2

96158 Frensdorf-Schlüsselau

Tel: +49 (9502) 202

Fax: +49 (9502) 7548

E-Mail: [pfarrei.schluesselau@erzbistum-bamberg.de](mailto:pfarrei.schluesselau@erzbistum-bamberg.de)

[www.erzbistum-bamberg.de](http://www.erzbistum-bamberg.de)

Transfer to Bad Staffelstein – 28 miles (by car or coach)

Guided city tour

**Bad Staffelstein Tourist Office**

Bahnhofstrasse 1

96231 Bad Staffelstein

Tel: +49 (9573) 33120

Fax: +49 (9573) 331 233

E-Mail: [info@bad-staffelstein.de](mailto:info@bad-staffelstein.de)

[www.bad-staffelstein.de](http://www.bad-staffelstein.de)

**DAY 4**  
**Cont'd**      **Bad Staffelstein – Bamberg**

**Places of Interest:**

- Pilgrimage Church Vierzehnheiligen (see also front page)
- Former Benedictine Abbey Banz
- Staffelberg plateau
- Town Hall
- Parish Church St. Kilian
- Town Tower
- Anna Chapel
- Obermain Thermal Spa

**Bad Staffelstein** – This small town in the Upper Franconia region is known for its beautiful surrounding landscapes and has been given the nickname "Gottesgarten am Obermain" (Eden on the Upper Main). Its main sights are the Pilgrimage Church of Vierzehnheiligen designed by Balthasar Neumann, the former monastery of Banz Abbey, now Banz Castle, and the 1770 feet high Staffelberg mountain. Most recently, Bad Staffelstein also became more and more known for its thermal spa.



Inside the Pilgrimage Church

Transfer back to Bamberg – 20 miles (by car or coach)

Dinner

Overnight in Bamberg

**DAY 5**      **Bamberg – Pottenstein**

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out

Transfer to Pottenstein – 32 miles (by car or coach)

Guided city tour

**Pottenstein Tourist Office**

Forchheimer Strasse 1

91278 Pottenstein

Tel: +49 (9243) 70841

Fax: +49 (9243) 70840

E-Mail: [verkehrsbuero@pottenstein.de](mailto:verkehrsbuero@pottenstein.de)

[www.tourismus-pottenstein.de](http://www.tourismus-pottenstein.de)

**DAY 5  
Cont'd**

**Pottenstein – Gössweinstein**

**Places of Interest:**

- 'Devil's Cave' stalactite cave
- Pottenstein Fortress
- Historic Old Town
- Schöngrundesee Lake

**Pottenstein** – a health resort in the 'Franconian Switzerland', a region known for its romanticist countryside with gentle hills, lovely stream valleys and steep dolomite 'chimneys'. Pottenstein nestles at the joining point of three valleys surrounded by high cliffs and at the foot of the 1000 year old castle that has played an important role throughout the town's history. The scenic landscape and nature offer a wide spectrum along with a one of a kind natural attraction, the Devil's cave with its fascinating stalactite and stalagmite caverns.



Pottenstein Fortress

Visit to the 'Devil's Cave' stalactite cave

**Zweckverband Teufelshöhle**

Forchheimer Strasse 1  
91278 Pottenstein  
Tel: +49 (9243) 208  
Fax: +49 (9243) 208  
E-Mail: [info@teufelshoehle.de](mailto:info@teufelshoehle.de)  
[www.teufelshoehle.de](http://www.teufelshoehle.de)

Lunch

Transfer to Gössweinstein – 5 miles (by car or coach)

Guided city tour incl. Pilgrimage Church of the Holy Trinity

**Gössweinstein Tourist Office**

Burgstrasse 6  
91327 Gössweinstein  
Tel: +49 (9242) 456  
Fax: +49 (9242) 1863  
E-Mail: [info@goessweinstein.de](mailto:info@goessweinstein.de)  
[www.ferienzentrum-goessweinstein.de](http://www.ferienzentrum-goessweinstein.de)

**DAY 5**  
**Cont'd**      **Gössweinstein – Nuremberg (Nürnberg)**

**Places of interest:**

- Basilica of the Holy Trinity
- Franciscan Monastery
- Castle Gössweinstein
- Pilgrimage Museum

**Gössweinstein** – The town's landmark is without a doubt the Parish and Pilgrimage Church of the Holy Trinity. Its two towers greet visitors from afar. The Church was built around 1735 and is known as one of the most important Franconian buildings of the late Baroque period. Just as well worth a visit is the 1000 year old Castle Gössweinstein with Gothic elements.



Pilgrimage Church

Transfer to Nuremberg – 30 miles (by car or coach)

Hotel check-in

Dinner

Overnight in Nuremberg

**DAY 6**      **Nuremberg**

Breakfast at the hotel

Guided city tour

**Nuremberg Tourist Office**

Frauentorgraben 3

90443 Nuremberg

Tel: +49 (6221) 97970

Fax: +49 (6221) 167 969

E-Mail: [tourismus@nuremberg.de](mailto:tourismus@nuremberg.de)

[www.tourismus.nuernberg.de](http://www.tourismus.nuernberg.de)

**Places of Interest:**

- Old walled city with crafts shops and gothic churches
- Lutheran Lorenz Church
- Kaiserburg Castle
- Church of St. Sebaldus

**DAY 6  
Cont'd**

**Nuremberg**

**Places of Interest (cont'd):**

- Church of Our Lady
- Albrecht Durer House
- Renaissance Town hall
- Toy Museum
- Germanic National Museum
- Dokumentationszentrum Reichsparteitagsgelände, Information Center about Nürnberg's history in Nazi times
- Christmas Market (December)

**Nuremberg** – Visitors to Nuremberg, a lively city with a medieval feel, will find evidence of its 950-year old history at every turn. Having been severely damaged during World War II, the medieval city center with its main buildings has been reconstructed using the original stone. Thick walls with 80 towers enclose the historical old quarter, where beautiful works of art in the Gothic churches, like the impressive Church of Our Lady, bear testament to the city's heyday – not to mention the impressive Kaiserburg Castle above the city. Nuremberg also was the First free imperial town to adopt the Reformation. In December, the city hosts one of Germany's oldest and most famous Christmas markets.



Kaiserburg Castle



Church of Our Lady

Lunch

Free time at leisure

Dinner at the 500 years old restaurant “Goldenes Posthorn” - in the middle ages Albrecht Dürer and Hans Sachs dined here

**Goldenes Posthorn**

Glöckleinsgasse 2 (am Sebalder Platz)

90403 Nuremberg

Tel: +49 (911) 225 153

Fax: +49 (911) 227 645

E-Mail: [info@goldenes-posthorn.de](mailto:info@goldenes-posthorn.de)

[www.goldenes-posthorn.de](http://www.goldenes-posthorn.de)

**DAY 6**  
**Cont'd**

**Nuremberg**

Overnight in Nuremberg

**DAY 7**

**Nuremberg – USA**

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out

Transfer to Nuremberg Airport

Departure to the USA