

Sample Itinerary

UNESCO Tour through Western Germany (7 days)

**Cologne (Köln) – Brühl – Cologne – Essen – Aachen – Trier –
Speyer – Lorsch – Messel – Frankfurt**



DAY 1 **USA – Cologne (Köln)**

Departure from the USA (overnight flight)

DAY 2 **Cologne**

Arrival in Cologne

Transfer to the hotel and check-in

Free time at leisure

Dinner

Overnight in Cologne

DAY 3 **Cologne**

Breakfast at the hotel

DAY 3
Cont'd **Cologne**

Guided city tour incl. Cathedral (UNESCO site)

Cologne Tourist Office
Kardinal-Höffner-Platz 1
50667 Köln
Tel: +49 (221) 2213 0400
Fax: +49 (221) 2213 0410
Email: info@koelntourismus.de
www.cologne-tourism.com

Places of interest:

- Cologne Cathedral
- Historic Town Hall
- 12 Roman Churches in the old city center
- Chocolate Museum
- Roman-Germanic Museum
- Museum of Art Ludwig
- Rhine river promenade
- Wallraff-Richartz Museum of Art

Cologne – The very name bears witness to its Roman past as the town of Colonia, as do, for instance, twelve excellently preserved Romanic churches throughout the city. Cologne's skyline is dominated by the vast Gothic cathedral that was added to the UNESCO World Heritage list in 1996. Begun in 1248, the construction of this Gothic masterpiece took place in several stages and was not completed until 1880. Over seven centuries, successive builders were inspired by the same faith and a spirit of absolute fidelity to the original plans. Apart from its exceptional intrinsic value and the artistic masterpieces it contains, Cologne Cathedral testifies to the enduring strength of European Christianity. As well as the legacy from Roman times and the Middle Ages, Cologne has an extremely lively arts and culture scene. And besides being Germany's center of carnival activity and the "capital of Rhenish joie de vivre", supported by the local "Kölsch" beer, Cologne is also an extremely attractive trade fair center.



Cologne Cathedral



Medieval houses on Fischmarkt square

DAY 3
Cont'd **Cologne – Brühl**

Lunch

Transfer to Brühl – 12 miles (by car, coach, or train)

Brühl Tourist Office

Uhlstrasse 1
50321 Brühl
Tel: +49 (2232) 79345
Fax: +49 (2232) 79346
E-Mail: tourismus@bruehl.de
www.bruehl.de/tourismus

Places of Interest:

- Augustusburg Electoral Palace
- Falkenlust Hunting Lodge
- Old Town
- Town Hall (former Franciscan monastery)
- Max Ernst Museum
- Federal Academy of Finance Museum

Brühl – The traces of Brühl's history and its development up to the present day are reflected in the lively Old Town. Established as long ago as the 15th century, the Franciscan monastery today serves as the town hall. The Augustusburg electoral palace is a cultural and historical highlight of the town. The extensive baroque palace grounds invite on a journey of discovery on the trail of the rococo and classical French garden architecture. The grounds link the two unique sites of the Augustusburg palace and the Falkenlust hunting lodge which have been designated world cultural heritage sites by UNESCO in 1984.



Augustusburg Palace

Visit to Augustenburg Castle and Falkenlust Hunting Lodge (UNESCO sites)

Schlösser Brühl

Schlossstrasse 6
50321 Brühl
Tel: +49 (2232) 44000
Fax: +49 (2232) 944 3126
E-Mail: mail@schlossbruehl.de
www.schlossbruehl.de

DAY 3
Cont'd **Brühl – Cologne**

Transfer back to Cologne – 12 miles (by car, coach, or train)

Dinner

Overnight in Cologne

DAY 4 **Cologne – Essen**

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out

Transfer to Essen – 46 miles (by car, coach, or direct connection with ICE high speed train)

Guided city tour

Essen Tourist Office

Im Handelshof

Am Hauptbahnhof 2

45127 Essen

Tel.: +49 (201) 19433

Fax: +49 (201) 887 2044

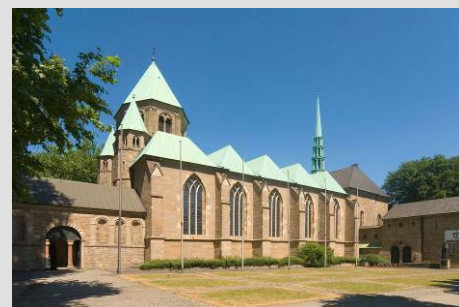
Email: touristikzentrale@essen.de

www.essen.de

Essen – European Capital of Culture 2010. Situated amidst the Ruhr area, a visit of this city is always worthwhile. Essen combines historic sites such as the Essen cathedral with sections of the Abbess Theophanu's medieval Ottonian basilica, and the cathedral treasury with one of Europe's most valuable collections of church treasures and precious religious objects from every epoch, with industrial landmarks like the Zollverein Colliery, part of the UNESCO World Heritage list. The complex consists of the complete infrastructure of a historical coal-mining site, with some 20th-century buildings of outstanding architectural merit. It constitutes remarkable material evidence of the evolution and decline of an essential industry over the past 150 years. Today it is used for cultural purposes.



Zollverein colliery complex



Cathedral

DAY 4
Cont'd

Essen – Aachen

Places of Interest:

- Essen Cathedral/ Minster with Treasure Chamber
- St. Johann Baptist Church
- Museum Folkwang
- City Hall
- Old Synagogue
- Zollverein colliery complex
- Villa Hügel Museum
- Museum Isle
- Church of Our Redeemer
- Aalto Theater and Opera house

Visit to the Zollverein Coal Mine Industrial Estate (UNESCO site)

Zollverein

Gelsenkirchener Strasse 181
45309 Essen

Tel.: +49 (201) 830 3636

Fax: +49 (201) 830 3620

Email: besucherzentrum@zollverein.de

www.zollverein.de

Lunch

Transfer to Aachen – 78 miles (by car, coach, or train)

Hotel check-in

Guided city tour incl. Cathedral (UNESCO site)

Aachen Tourist Office

Friedrich-Wilhelm-Platz
52062 Aachen

Tel: +49 (241) 180 2960

Fax: +49 (241) 180 2930

E-Mail: info@aachen-tourist.de

www.aachen.de

Places of Interest:

- Cathedral
- Cathedral Treasury
- Historic Town Hall
- Couven Museum
- Spa Park and Casino
- Carolus Thermal Baths

DAY 4
Cont'd **Aachen**

Aachen – The Romans settled here 2,000 years ago, drawn by the thermal springs. In the Middle Ages Aachen was the seat of emperors and kings, and the scene of many coronations and imperial diets. Its hot springs made this city, at the foot of the Eifel hills, the favorite residence of Emperor Charlemagne, who built a palace here. The city's historical charm is most striking in the centre of the old town with its Gothic town hall, proud town houses dating from various centuries and imposing cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Construction of this palatine chapel, with its octagonal basilica and cupola, began c. 790–800 under Charlemagne. Originally inspired by the churches of the Eastern part of the Holy Roman Empire, it was splendidly enlarged in the Middle Ages.



Cathedral



Historic Town Hall

Dinner

Overnight in Aachen

DAY 5 **Aachen – Trier**

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out

Transfer to Trier – 117 miles (by car or coach)

Guided city tour incl. Roman Monuments, Cathedral of St. Peter and Church of Our Lady (UNESCO sites)

Trier Tourist Office
An der Porta Nigra
54290 Trier
Tel: +49 (651) 978 080
Fax: +49 (651) 978 0876
E-Mail: info@trier-info.de
www.trier.de

DAY 5
Cont'd **Trier**

Places of interest:

- Cathedral of St. Peter
- Church of Our Lady
- Roman Monuments, e.g. Gate Porta Nigra, Amphitheater, Imperial Baths, Bridge
- Basilica
- Cathedral City district behind the Cathedral
- Electoral Palace
- St. Martin Abbey
- Frankenturm Tower
- Main Market Square
- House of the Three Magi
- Jew's Alley
- Karl Marx's Birth House & Museum
- Monaise Palace
- Quint Palace
- Simeonstift College & Municipal Museum
- St. Mary's Column

Trier – The town's story begins around 16 B.C. when the Romans called it *Augusta Treverorum*, and it is proud of its two thousand year old heritage. It became one of the capitals of the Tetrarchy at the end of the 3rd century, when it was known as the 'second Rome'. Roman emperors, bishops, electors and prominent citizens all left their mark on the town by the Moselle river, as can be seen in Trier's magnificent art treasures and unique architectural monuments. The best known is the Porta Nigra, the massive Roman town gate (see *front page*). The Roman monuments, outstanding testimony to Roman civilization, as well as the Cathedral of St. Peter and the Church of Our Lady have been designated UNESCO World Heritage sites in 1986.



Main Market Square



Cathedral and Church of Our Lady

**DAY 5
Cont'd**

Trier – Speyer

Lunch

Transfer to Speyer – 119 miles (by car or coach)

Hotel check-in

Guided city tour incl. Cathedral (UNESCO site)

Speyer Tourist Office

Maximilianstrasse 11

67346 Speyer

Tel: +49 (6232) 142 392

Fax: +49 (6232) 142 332

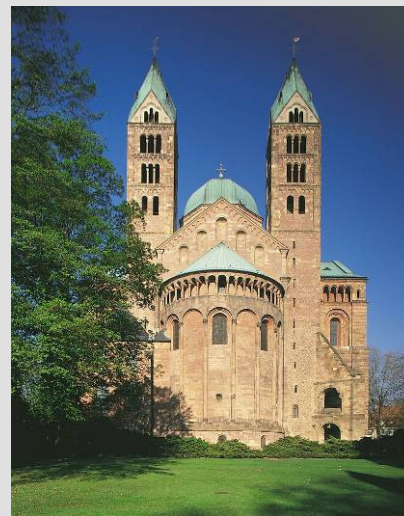
E-Mail: touristinformation@stadt-speyer.de

www.speyer.de

Places of Interest:

- Cathedral
- Memorial Church
- Old Quarter
- Jewish Courtyard with Bath
- Old Gate
- Trinity Church
- City Hall
- St. Magdalena Convent
- St. Ludwig Church
- Old Mint

Speyer – Speyer's 2,000 year history is tangible throughout the town. Emperors, kings and bishops have found their final resting place in the crypt of the magnificent cathedral. The basilica with its four towers and two domes, laid out in the form of a Latin cross, was founded by Conrad II in 1030 and remodeled at the end of the 11th century. It is one of the most important monuments from the time of the Holy Roman Empire. An old quarter with attractive shops, one of the oldest Jewish baths in Germany, the Old Gate - part of Speyer's old defensive fortifications - and the *Gedächtniskirche* (memorial church) are among the many places of interest in Speyer.



Cathedral

DAY 5
Cont'd

Speyer

Dinner

Overnight in Speyer

DAY 6 **Speyer – Lorsch – Messel – Frankfurt**

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out

Transfer to Lorsch – 36 miles

Guided city tour incl. Benedictine Abbey and Altenmünster Monastery
(UNESCO sites)

Lorsch Tourist Office

Marktplatz 1

64653 Lorsch

Tel: +49 (6251) 175 260

Fax: +49 (6251) 175 2626

E-Mail: info@nibelungenland.info

www.lorsch.de

Places of Interest:

- Benedictine Abbey
- Altenmünster Monastery
- Old Town Hall
- Palais von Hausen
- Wattenheimer Bridge

Lorsch – A lovely little town at the *Bergstrasse* (mountain road). In the Old Town visitors can find historic buildings, half-timbered houses and charming narrow lanes. The abbey, together with its monumental entrance, the famous King's Hall gate house, are rare architectural vestiges of the Carolingian era. The sculptures and paintings from this period are still in remarkably good condition.



The Carolingian King's Hall

Lunch

Transfer to Messel – 28 miles (by car or coach)

DAY 6 **Messel – Frankfurt**

Visit to Pit Fossil Site (UNESCO site)

Grube Messel

Rossdörfer Strasse 108

64409 Messel

Tel: +49 (6159) 717 535

Fax: +49 (6159) 717 536

E-Mail: service@welterbe-grube-messel.de

www.grube-messel.de

Messel – Messel Pit is the richest site in the world for understanding the living environment of the Eocene, between 57 million and 36 million years ago. The oil shale of the lake that once existed here is full of secrets and hides a wealth of animal and plant fossils, some of which are excellently preserved, ranging from fully articulated skeletons to the contents of stomachs of animals of this period. It provides an insight into continental drift and the sedimentation of the Earth, how the oceans and land bridges were formed between the various land masses, the depth and extent of the biosphere, and the climate and lifecycles from this period.



Primeval horse found in Messel

Transfer to Frankfurt – 17 miles (by car or coach)

Hotel check-in

Dinner

Overnight in Frankfurt

DAY 7 **Frankfurt – USA**

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out

Transfer to Frankfurt Airport

Departure to the USA