

# Berlin to the Black Forest

**ITINERARY NIGHTS:** Berlin (2), Nuremberg (1), Heidelberg (2), Munich (2)

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Berlin City Tour • Pergamon Museum • Potsdam • Wittenberg • Dresden • Rothenberg • Würzburg • Rhine River Cruise • Heidelberg Castle • Augsburg • Munich City Tour • BMW Museum • Neuschwanstein • Linderhof • Oberammergau • Hofbrau Dinner



**DAY 1** Fly through the night to Berlin.

**DAY 2 BERLIN** *Guten tag!* Welcome to Germany. Your TSA Tours representative waits to escort you to your hotel in this once divided city.

**DAY 3 BERLIN** Your **Berlin City Tour** includes a drive down the famous street of Kurfurstendamm to the Charlottenberg Palace, the Brandenburg Gate, the Alexanderplatz, and the one-time location of Check-point Charlie. Later visit the **Pergamon Museum**, with one of Europe's finest collections of Greek art and artifacts.

**DAY 4 NUREMBERG** Travel to Nuremberg via **Potsdam**, site of the treaty defining the future of Germany after World War II. Also drive through **Wittenberg**, a key town in the Reformation, and **Dresden**, home of the famous porcelain dolls. Arrive in the medieval town of Nuremberg, a charming place famous for its half-timbered burgher's houses, delicious

gingerbread (*Lebkuchen*) and sausages (*Rostbratwürste*).

**DAY 5 HEIDELBERG** Stop in the completely preserved walled city of **Rothenburg**, with its Gothic *Rathaus*, cobbled lanes, and gabled houses. Also visit Würzburg in the wine-growing Main River valley before arriving in Heidelberg, an ancient university town on the Neckar River celebrated in song and poetry. On either side of the picturesque Alte Brücke (Old Bridge), there are splendid views of the castle ruins, their red sandstone ramparts distinct against the green of the forest, and of the old town clustered around the Church of the Holy Spirit.

**DAY 6 HEIDELBERG** Sail past medieval monasteries and fairy tale castles set high on crags on today's **Rhine River Cruise**. Vineyards up the hillsides and islands in the river

produce an ever-changing pattern of scenery. The legendary Lorelei Rock can be seen between Mainz and Koblenz. Along the entire length of the river, every castle, each island, even the rocks, has a tale of chivalry or legend. Then ride a funicular up to **Heidelberg Castle** and see its 18th century wine barrel that holds 49,000 gallons of wine to this day! Stand at the viewpoint on the promontory and look out over the Neckar valley and the lovely Rhineland plain.

**DAY 7 MUNICH** Transfer to Munich by way of **Augsburg**, home of the great medieval merchant dynasties. On your **Munich City Tour** see the Marienplatz, the Flower Market, the Glockenspiel, and Frauenkirche Cathedral, built in 1468. Also see Olympic Park, visit the **BMW Museum** and see St. Peter's church, founded in 1050 AD.



**DAY 8 MUNICH** Visit two incredible castles built by "Mad" King Ludwig II, **Linderhof** and the royal castle of **Neuschwanstein**, which was Walt Disney's inspiration for Sleeping Beauty's castle in Disneyland. A tour of the interior, where gilded paneling, heavy tapestries and acres of marble proliferate, confirms the impression of unreality. Linderhof lies deep in the forest, in one of the wildest valleys of the Ammergau Alps. Ludwig had this small cream-colored palace built in the region that royal hunters of the House of Bavaria reserved for their own use. Continue to **Oberammergau**, a small town hemmed in by the wooded foothills of the Ammergau. This charming resort owes its fame to the internationally known Passion Play, which is performed only once every ten years. Celebrate your last evening in Germany with a **Hofbrau Dinner**, complete with brass bands, Bavarian songs, *dirndls* and *lederhosen*.

**DAY 9 DEPART** Board your flight home, with fabulous memories of Berlin to the Black Forest.

*For more information, please contact:*