



Art, Architecture and Music in Berlin, Dresden & Hamburg 2021

22 SEP – 7 OCT 2021

Code: 22141

Tour Leaders **Dr Iva Rosario, Tony Rosario**

Physical Ratings 

Explore the history, art, architecture, music and culture of three dynamic German cities - Berlin, Dresden and Hamburg.

Overview

Lectures and site visits by art and architectural historian, musician and musicologist [Dr Iva Rosario](#), expert in all these aspects of Central European culture.

- Explore some of Germany's – and Europe's – greatest art and antiquities collections including Berlin's Pergamon Museum, Gemäldegalerie & Alte Nationalgalerie, Dresden's wonderful Zwinger and Hamburg's huge Kunsthalle.
- Enjoy fine performances in each city: at the Berlin Philharmonie, at Dresden's Semperoper and at Hamburg's Elbphilharmonie.
- Wonder at the fascinating contrast between such timeless palatial masterpieces as Sanssouci, Berlin's Charlottenburg and Dresden's Zwinger, and the very latest in European architecture, such as Daniel Libeskind's revolutionary Jewish Museum in Berlin.
- Visit the Reichstag Conversion and walk inside Norman Foster's Reichstag glass cupola for a spectacular view over Berlin.
- Led by a local architect, explore the Potsdamer Platz, Berlin's spectacular 'gallery' of modern architecture.
- Discover the extraordinary painting and sculpture collection of Berlin's new Berggruen Museum; among its huge collection are 70 Klees, 30 Matisses and 120 Picassos!
- Learn about the royal house of Saxony, the growth of Prussia and its creation of the German state, and the fascinating history of the medieval and Renaissance Hanseatic League of trading cities.
- Visit Quedlinburg, a UNESCO World Heritage town and one of the best preserved in the country, where an astounding number of impeccably preserved half-timbered houses over-look medieval streets.
- Cruise Hamburg's port, the second largest in Europe, past UNESCO-listed warehouses.
- Spend 8 nights based in the [4-star Hotel NH Collection Berlin Mitte Friedrichstrasse](#), located in the heart of East Berlin, close to major museums, Unter den Linden and the Reichstag.

Testimonial

We enjoyed our action-packed visit to Berlin for several reasons: The high calibre of the tour leader and manager, the interesting range of sites visited, the pleasant group, the use of public transport (which gave good insight into the city), some time for own interests, comfortable & convenient hotels and the small group. Jane and Allan, WA.

What a fascinating variety of information was shared by our well-informed guide, Iva Rosario, as we toured through a variety of galleries, museums and palaces together (helped by her in-depth knowledge of these places)! Lively discussions followed the 'Philosophy of Architecture' which we were exposed to by local architect Jorn Köppler, as he guided us through different areas of Berlin. Maree, VIC

The tour met and indeed exceeded my expectations. Great accommodation and excellent leadership – very knowledgeable and friendly. I certainly learned a great deal and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Rosemary, VIC

16-day Cultural Tour of Berlin, Dresden and Hamburg

Overnight Berlin (8 nights) • Dresden (3 nights) • Hamburg (4 nights)

Overview

On this tour, art historian, musician and musicologist Dr Iva Rosario investigates the powerful contrasts between German traditions, carefully preserved and restored, and ultra-modernity. We explore Berlin's, Dresden's and Hamburg's ongoing renewal in art and architecture, planning and performance, music and many other elements of contemporary urban life in precincts like Berlin's Potsdamer Platz and individual masterpieces like Hamburg's revolutionary Elbphilharmonie. German reunification unleashed a vibrant wave of creative energy, transforming great monuments, extensive art collections and the physical and cultural fabric of old Berlin, Dresden and Hamburg. Berlin's latest projects include the Humboldt Forum (replacing the communist Palace of the Republic); massive modernisation on Museum Island; and the Hamburger Bahnhof – the former railway station is now one of the world's most successful exhibition spaces for contemporary art. These newest developments build on earlier architectural adventures including Norman Foster's Reichstag Dome, Daniel Libeskind's Jewish Museum, and the Potsdamer Platz (consisting of a range of projects designed by leading international architects including Renzo Piano, Arata Isozaki and Richard Rogers). We contrast these new architectural projects that we explore with local experts to a grand heritage of buildings including the beautiful Prussian palaces, Sanssouci and Charlottenburg, and the Saxon monarchy's exquisite Zwinger Palace. We explore magnificently renovated museums housing vast collections of ancient, European and modern art, including Berlin's Pergamon and Egyptian Museums, Gemäldegalerie, Alte Nationalgalerie, new Berggruen Museum and Bröhan Museum of decorative art and design, as well as Dresden's Gemäldegalerie des Altes Meister and Hamburg's vast Kunsthalle. We shall enjoy performances in each city, take a cruise on Hamburg's historic Hanseatic harbour and sample the best of modern German cuisine at restaurants.

Leaders



Dr Iva Rosario

Australian-born Prague resident & world authority on Bohemian culture during the reign of Emperor Charles IV. Iva has lectured on ASA tours to Germany, the Czech Republic, Austria, Hungary & Poland since 1998.

Dr Iva Rosario is the daughter of Czech parents who endowed her with a love of the language, history and culture of their homeland. Her early education was completed in Western Australia, where she obtained a BA, B.Ed and B.Mus (Hons) at the University of Western Australia. In 1992 she completed a B.Litt (Hons) at the University of Melbourne followed by a Ph.D in Fine Arts. Her doctoral dissertation examined the art and political propaganda in the fourteenth-century Czech court of Emperor Charles IV and its relation to the broader European context. This study has been published under the title: *Art and Propaganda: Charles IV of Bohemia, 1346-1378*, Boydell Press, 2000. She maintains her contact with The University of Melbourne as an honorary Senior Fellow. Iva joined ASA in 1997 and has since led over 50 tours for ASA to the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Austria and Poland. Iva is currently resident in Prague.



Tony Rosario

Former banker with a special interest in WWII and in the society, politics & culture of post-communist Europe. Tony has led ASA tours to Spain, Germany, Poland and the UK since 2004.

Harold (Tony) Rosario has a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Western Australia and a Master of Finance from RMIT. He is an ex-banker and spent many years working abroad in Hong Kong and Tokyo. He is currently resident in Prague with his wife Iva Rosario and takes a keen interest in the social, political and cultural developments in the post-communist countries in Europe. He is an avid (albeit high-handicap) golfer and lover of classical music. He is a keen amateur photographer and traveller, combining both these pleasures on frequent excursions around Central and Western Europe. Tony first joined ASA as tour manager in 2004.

Combine this tour with

Slovenia: Villages, Castles, Vineyards, Scenic Valleys and the Julian Alps 2021

2 SEP – 19 SEP 2021

Silver Coast & Golden River: Art, Architecture & Culture of Portugal 2021

3 SEP – 21 SEP 2021

Crossroads of the Caucasus: Azerbaijan, Georgia & Armenia 2021

31 AUG – 21 SEP 2021

Venice: Jewel of the Adriatic 2021

7 OCT – 21 OCT 2021



Itinerary

The following itinerary describes a range of sites which we plan to visit. Many are accessible to the public, but others require special permission which may only be confirmed closer to the tour's departure. The daily activities described in this itinerary may change or be rotated and/or modified in order to accommodate alterations in museum opening hours, musical performance schedules and confirmation of private visits. Participants will receive a final itinerary together with their tour documents prior to departure. Meals included in the tour price are indicated in the detailed itinerary where: B= breakfast, L=lunch and D=dinner.

Berlin - 8 nights

Day 1: Wednesday 22 September, Arrive Berlin

- Introduction

Participants taking the ASA 'designated' flight from Australia are scheduled to arrive into Berlin in the afternoon and will transfer directly to [Hotel NH Collection Berlin Mitte Friedrichstrasse](#). If you are travelling independently to Berlin, you should take an officially marked taxi to the hotel. (check-in time is 3.00pm). In the late afternoon, we shall meet up and take a brief orientation walk around the area of the hotel in the former East Berlin, close to Unter den Linden, one of Berlin's most famous boulevards. (Overnight Berlin)

Day 2: Thursday 23 September, Berlin

- Brandenburg Gate
- Guided tour by local architect, including Reichstag & government area, DZ-Bank (exterior), Pariser Platz
- Afternoon at leisure
- Group Dinner at a Local Restaurant

This morning, we make our way towards the Brandenburg Gate, the most evocative site in the city, recalling

the many stages of the city's history, from its imperial grandeur, through the turmoil of the 20th century with two world wars, the post-war division of the country and its re-emergence as a unified nation in 1990. Our morning will be spent with a local architect who will take us on an exploration of this central area of Berlin that was recreated following the reunification.

Our first visit is to the Deutscher Bundestag, one of the most interesting constructions in Europe. Sir Norman Foster designed an extraordinary glass dome from which visitors gain a wonderful panorama of the city. Today we view it from the outside (we visit the interior in a few day's time). Across the road at the Pariser Platz we visit Frank Gehry's fabulous DZ-Bank, a spectacular modern building that contrasts dramatically with the stately architecture of the Brandenburg Gate. Here we see the vibrant strength of Berlin's cultural and physical renewal, an explosion of imaginative architecture built on the foundations of the old imperial city.

The afternoon is at leisure. Tonight we enjoy a group Welcome Dinner at a local restaurant. (Overnight Berlin) BD

Day 3: Friday 24 September, Berlin

- Walking tour of the Mitte and Unter den Linden
- Marienkirche
- Alexander Platz
- Berlin Fernshturm (TV Tower)
- Hackesche Höfe

Today we walk along the Unter den Linden on a tour of Berlin's Mitte (Central) district, a veritable microcosm of the city's entire history. Nowhere else in Berlin do the buildings reflect so much of the city's evolution. We visit the Russian Embassy, built in a typical Stalinist 'wedding cake' style (1950), the former palace of Prince Heinrich, now the Humboldt University (1753), Schinkel's Classical New Guardhouse (Neue Wache, 1818), the beautiful Baroque Arsenal designed by Schlüter (Zeughaus, 1695-1706), the neo-Renaissance Berlin Cathedral (1905) and the Gothic Marienkirche (late 14th century).

We visit the Marienskirche, founded in the late 13th century and constantly altered over the centuries, until Carl Gotthard Langhans, architect of the Brandenburg Gate, gave it its present Neo Gothic form in 1789. Of special note is the imposing pulpit by Andreas Schlüter (1703). Its most interesting feature, however, is a long 15th-century fresco (c.1484) of *The Dance of Death*, found under whitewash in 1860, and possibly painted after the city's population was decimated by plague; it may have been based upon a more sophisticated example in Lübeck.

A brief detour will give us the opportunity to view one of Berlin's loveliest squares, the Gendarmenmarkt, with its two cathedrals and Konzerthaus designed by Schinkel in 1821. Nearby is what remains of Frederick the Great's grandiose plans to build a cultural centre called the Forum Fredericianum, and the State Opera House (Deutsches Staatsoper), constructed by Knobelsdorff between 1740 and 1743. Behind the Opera House is the copper-domed St Hedwig's Cathedral (1747-1773), modelled on the Roman Pantheon by the architects Lequay and Boumann.

We shall spend lunchtime at leisure in Berlin's – and Germany's – largest square, Alexanderplatz. Named after Russia's Tsar Alexander I, it has been a military parade ground, farmers' market, transport hub, scene of revolutionary demonstrations (1848 and 1989) and huge shopping centre. The square, since reunification, has been undergoing constant change.

This afternoon we will visit the Berlin Fernshturm (TV Tower), the iconic tower that rises up from the centre of the former East Berlin. It was built in 1969 and has a revolving restaurant and viewing platform. While the tower attracts many tourists, the spectacular view from the top certainly makes the visit worthwhile!

We shall then visit the extraordinary complex of eight courtyards, the Hackesche Höfe, a social, cultural and commercial hub of the new Berlin. Once a hay storage area outside the city walls, it was incorporated into the city when Friedrich Wilhelm I extended the city walls. **(Overnight Berlin) B**

Day 4: Saturday 25 September, Berlin. Performance #1

- Deutscher Bundestag Dome, by Sir Norman Foster
- Gemäldegalerie in the Kulturforum, Tiergarten
- Afternoon at leisure
- Evening performance at Berliner Philharmoniker (*Subject to performance schedule*)

This morning we will first visit the great Norman Foster dome of the Deutscher Bundestag. After completing the formal security measures, we will have an allocated time to visit this extraordinary architectural masterpiece and enjoy the marvellous view of the city.

We will then travel by public transport to the museum complex which houses the art collection of the former West Berlin, the Kulturforum. In this complex is the new Gemäldegalerie. Among the 1200 paintings housed in the Gemäldegalerie are masterpieces by Botticelli, Raphael, Titian, Rogier van der Weyden, Dürer, Holbein, Rubens, Rembrandt (one of the world's largest collections), Vermeer, Watteau, Gainsborough, Reynolds, Velazquez, Goya and many more. In the afternoon there will be time to remain in this wonderful museum or to explore the other museums in the Kulturforum area. Tonight we meet up again to attend a performance at the magnificent Berliner Philharmoniker. **(Overnight Berlin) B**

Day 5: Sunday 26 September, Berlin

- Egyptian Museum
- Pergamon Museum
- Alte Nationalgalerie

Today we shall visit three important museums on the Museuminsel (Museum Island), each housing remarkable collections of art. We first visit the redesigned Egyptian Museum to see the celebrated bust of Queen Nefertiti, created about 3300 years ago. The museum also contains the wonderful Kalabasha Gate, which was presented to Germany as a gift for the help given in saving the Temple of Kalabasha during the building of the Aswan Dam in Egypt (1960-70), and another great treasure, the so-called Berlin Green, which is a remarkably realistic portrait bust of a man carved out of green stone (c.500-400 BC).

After a lunch break we visit Berlin's remarkable Pergamon Museum. This huge building houses an awe-inspiring collection of Greek, Babylonian, Roman, Islamic and Middle Eastern art. We view some of the most important pieces including the celebrated the Gate of Miletus (120 AD), the Babylonian Ishtar Gate (604-562 BC) and the wonderful Aleppo Room from Syria (1600 AD).

Our day concludes with a visit to the Alte Nationalgalerie, which has been restored to its former glory. Designed by August Stüler between 1866 and 1876, the Alte Nationalgalerie stands on a pedestal like a classical Greek Temple, with dramatic red sandstone stairways & pillars. It was planned as a cultural icon of the German nation, a temple to education for the young, and houses a wonderful collection of 19th-century art. Two newly refurbished rooms hold the gallery of romantic painting, with masterpieces by Caspar David

Frederich and Karl Frederich Schinkel, previously housed in the Charlottenburg Palace. This is the most significant collection of Friedrich's work in the world and boasts examples of his style from every period of the artist's development. (Overnight Berlin) B

Day 6: Monday 27 September, Berlin. Performance #2

- Guided tour with a local architect: the Schloßplatz and Potsdamer Platz
- Topography of Terror Installation
- Checkpoint Charlie
- Evening performance at Berliner Philharmoniker (*Subject to performance schedule*)

This morning we take a guided tour of two renewed areas of Berlin. Schloßplatz was originally the site of the 18th-century Berlin City Palace (Berliner Stadtschloß), which was extensively damaged during bombing raids in 1945 and demolished in 1950. Following the division of the city into east and west, the Socialist government decided to build the 'Palace of the Republic' and construction began in 1973. In addition to serving as the seat of the GDR parliament, the greater portion of the building, however, consisted of various rooms and halls dedicated to cultural events. After the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, the palace was closed and steps were undertaken to dispose of the asbestos in the main body of the building, which was finally razed in 2008. Our architect guide will today explain the controversial rebuilding projects, which combine the reconstruction of the baroque façade with a modern core housing an ethnological museum and other cultural spaces.

Our guided tour continues with a visit to Potsdamer Platz. It is perhaps here more than anywhere else in Berlin that the extraordinary re-invention of the city can best be experienced. Out of a previous wasteland, a whole new urban space has evolved. Nineteen new buildings including shops, apartments, hotels, theatres and offices are being crammed into a comparatively small area of some 60,000 square metres. The list of architects who are contributing to this project reads like a 'Who's Who' in the field of contemporary construction design. The names include Lauber, Piano, Isozaki, Rogers, Moneo, Kohlbecker and the entire square may be regarded as a 'gallery' of contemporary architecture.

We shall then follow the line of the Berlin Wall to Checkpoint Charlie. On the way we pass the Topography of Terror installation. Situated around the excavated underground cells of the SS headquarters, this monument tells the story of those who were taken prisoner by the SS during the Third Reich. This chilling reminder of the horrors of pre WWII Germany is situated directly under one of the few remaining sections of the Berlin Wall, a symbol of post WWII Germany. A short walk brings us to Checkpoint Charlie, perhaps one of the most evocative names of the cold-war city. Little remains of the bleak pressure point, but Checkpoint Charlie is particularly important in gauging the changes which have been wrought since the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Tonight we meet up again to attend another performance, either at the Berliner Philharmoniker or another of the city's marvellous theatres. (Overnight Berlin) B

Day 7: Tuesday 28 September, Berlin

- Schloss Charlottenburg (New Wing and Formal Baroque Gardens)
- Bröhan Museum
- Berggruen Museum

This morning we take the U-Bahn to Charlottenburg Palace. Set in a landscaped park, this mansion was built in 1695 as a summer retreat for the 'philosopher queen', Sophie-Charlotte, by her husband, Friedrich I.

Originally the palace, designed by Nering and Eosander, was comparatively small. Between 1740 and 1748, however, an extensive section was added at the behest of Friedrich the Great. Called the Knobelsdorff Wing after its famous architect, this is the most exciting section of the palace and the focus of our visit. We explore the Royal Apartments, Banqueting Halls, the White Room and the Golden Gallery which were designed in the Rococo style by the interior decorator/sculptor, Johann August Nahl in collaboration with Knobelsdorff. The apartments and halls also contain an excellent collection of masterpieces by French 18th-century painters, notably Watteau and Chardin, which were part of the king's personal collection.

Across from Schloss Charlottenburg, in one of the former gatehouses, is the wonderful Bröhan Museum, which concentrates on the decorative arts and design. The ground floor contains a series of delightful rooms decorated and furnished in Art Nouveau and Art Deco styles, as well as an exhibition of paintings by members of the Berliner Sezession.

Nearby, we shall visit Berlin's newest, and one of the world's greatest, collections of modernist art, the Berggruen Museum, given to the state by the art dealer, collector and friend of Picasso, Heinz Berggruen (1914-2007), who had spent six decades in exile from his native country. The extraordinary collection, now part of the National Gallery of Berlin, includes important works by the Baroque artist Giambattista Pittoni, and modernists like Georges Braque, Paul Cézanne, Alberto Giacometti, Georges Braque, Paul Klee, Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso; it has 70 Klees, 30 Matisses and 120 Picassos from most periods of the artist's life. (Overnight Berlin) B

Day 8: Wednesday 29 September, Berlin

- The Jewish Museum
- Afternoon at leisure

We begin this morning with a visit to Berlin's Jewish Museum, perhaps the most significant example of contemporary architecture in Berlin. Designed by Daniel Libeskind, it is important for its unique architecture and exhibition layout, which capture the spirit of the exhibition perfectly and have led to a radical new understanding of museum design throughout the world.

This afternoon will be at leisure. (Overnight Berlin) B

Desden - 3 nights

Day 9: Thursday 30 September, Berlin – Potsdam – Dresden

- Sanssouci Palace and Garden

This morning we depart Berlin and travel by coach to the historical city of Potsdam, situated just beyond the south-west border of Greater Berlin. Set in beautiful natural woodlands with many lakes and river tributaries, Potsdam boasts an idyllic location, and gained its most impressive monuments during the reign of Frederick the Great (1740-1786), who commissioned a series of palaces set within landscaped parkland.

The entire Sanssouci complex, with its many palaces and beautiful gardens, makes an excellent comparison to the French Palace at Versailles. Although Potsdam was heavily bombed, Sanssouci escaped damage during the last world war and thus the palace is still preserved in its original condition. The artistic importance of Sanssouci has been recognised by UNESCO, which has included the entire complex in the list of world heritage monuments.

Our visit will include an official guided tour of the Sanssouci Palace, a magnificent mansion located at the top of a great staircase ascending through a series of terraces. The exterior is a tour de force of Rococo design. The interior boasts several fine rooms, among them the Ante-chamber, the Library in the form of a rotunda, the Bedchamber and Study of Friedrich the Great (including the armchair in which he died), the magnificent Concert Hall, the Reception Hall with paintings by Coypel and Van Loo and the equally splendid Hall of Marble with its superb decoration of Carrara and Silesian marble. We will also see the Chinese Teahouse, a charming 18th-century pavilion, decorated with gilded statues, which many consider to be the most beautiful building in the park, and the New Chambers (1747), which were built on either side of the Sanssouci Palace. One side was designed in the form of an Orangery, and acted as the palace guest house.

In the late afternoon we travel by coach to Dresden. Dinner will be served at the hotel. (Overnight Dresden) BD

Day 10: Friday 1 October, Dresden. Performance #3

- Dresden: walking tour of the old town centre
- Guided tour of Gottfried Semper's Opera House (45 minutes)
- Albertinum, Galerie Neue Meister (New Masters Gallery)
- Evening Performance at the Semperoper (*Subject to performance schedule*)

Dresden contains outstanding art collections and fine 18th- and 19th-century architecture, with a long and proud history as the capital of the Dukes and Kings of Saxony, and as an important Central European cultural centre. It has played a particularly important role in the history of European music: Bach, Schubert, Schumann, Wagner, Richard Strauss, and Rachmaninoff are just some of the major composers who lived and worked here. The city suffered badly in the Allied aerial bombing raids towards the end of World War Two, when blanket bombing on 13 February 1945 almost completely destroyed it. Dresden formed part of East Germany during the post-war period and was an important industrial centre with a focus on research. Following the reunification of Germany, Dresden has reclaimed its place as a major cultural centre. Extensive, almost miraculous, restoration and reconstruction works allow a thorough view of the past beauty of the city. This morning our walking tour will take us past Dresden Castle, the Katholisches Hofkirche and the Dresdener Frauenkirche on Neumarkt Square. The tour will include a 45-minute tour of Gottfried Semper's Opera House, one of the greatest opera houses in Europe. It was built in 1841, over 10 years before Charles Garnier designed his famous Paris Opera. Gottfried Semper (1803-1879), a close friend of Wagner, designed his magnificent opera house whilst he was Professor of Architecture at Dresden's Königlichen Akademie der bildenden Künste; at this time, he also designed a gallery at Dresden's great Zwinger.

This afternoon we visit the Albertina, Galerie Neue Meister, Dresden's magnificent 'New Masters Gallery'. Its fine collection includes important works by German Romantics like Caspar David Friedrich, Impressionists such as Lovis Corinth, the Expressionists Emil Nolde, Max Beckman and Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, as well as the realist Otto Dix whose vicious images of the Weimar Republic and War shocked contemporaries. The collection also includes Paul Gauguin's magnificent *Two Women of Tahiti* and works by Claude Monet, Vincent van Gogh, Gustav Klimt, Paul Klee, Eduard Munch, Georg Baselitz, A.R. Penck and Gerhard Richter.

In the evening we shall attend a performance at the Semperoper (Opera House). (Overnight Dresden) B

Day 11: Saturday 2 October, Dresden

- Zwinger & Gemäldegalerie des Altes Meister

- Historisches Grünes Gewölbe (Historic Green Vault – subject to reopening in 2021)
- Neues Grünes Gewölbe (New Green Vault)

Today we visit the Zwinger Palace, a German Baroque Palace that was almost completely destroyed in the 1945 bombing raids and carefully rebuilt during the socialist era. Within the Neoclassical Semper Wing is the Gemäldegalerie Alte Meister art gallery – fortunately the artworks had been removed to safety at the start of the war. The gallery is small but it houses one of the finest collections of paintings by Old Masters in Europe, gathered by the Electors and Kings of Saxon, including masterpieces by Giorgione, Raphael, Rembrandt, Rubens, Titian, Vermeer, Van Dyck and Canaletto.

The Grünes Gewölbe (Green Vault), located in the west wing of Dresden Castle, is a unique museum that contains arguably the largest collection of precious objects such as dinner services, ornaments and jewellery, in Europe. Founded by Augustus the Strong in 1723, it was named after the malachite green painted column bases and capitals of the initial rooms. The collection features a rich variety of exhibits from the Baroque period to that of Neo-Classicism. The original rooms were destroyed in the bombing of Dresden during WWII. The Grünes Gewölbe has, however, been faithfully restored. Today, its treasures are shown on two floors: The Historic Green Vault (Historisches Grünes Gewölbe) is an accurate reconstruction of the historic treasure chamber as it existed in 1733, while the New Green Vault (Neues Grünes Gewölbe) on the 1st floor is composed of modern exhibition rooms that display precious objects in a neutral museum setting. You will marvel at the extraordinary riches that reflect the importance of conspicuous consumption to the maintenance of a courtly ambience and regal status in the 17th and 18th centuries. Some exhibits include the Cherry Stone with 185 Carved Faces made in 1589 using a magnifying glass. Another extraordinarily intricate work is *The Royal Household at Delhi on the Occasion of the Birthday of the Grand Mugual Aureng Zeb*. This is a huge gold model of the Indian court encrusted with 4909 diamonds, 164 emeralds, 160 rubies, a sapphire, 16 pearls and two cameos. This orientalist fantasy expressed the Elector of Saxony's aspirations to equal an eastern court fabled for its fabulous wealth; it cost more than the construction of Moritzburg Castle! The collection's most valuable exhibit is, however, the Green Diamond bought by August III of Poland from a merchant at the Leipzig fair in 1749. (Overnight Dresden) B

Hamburg - 4 nights

Day 12: Sunday 3 October, Dresden – Quedlinburg – Hamburg

- Quedlinburg castle and St Servatius Church

This morning we depart Dresden and travel across the country to the important city of Hamburg. En-route we stop at one of the most delightful towns in Germany – the UNESCO World Heritage Listed Quedlinburg. This is arguably the best-preserved medieval town with 1300 half-timber houses lining the cobbled streets of the old town, overlooked by the castle set on a sandstone cliff. Within the castle complex is the Romanesque Church of St Servatius. There will be time to wander these charming streets and alleys before we continue our journey to Hamburg. (Overnight Hamburg) BD

Day 13: Monday 4 October, Hamburg. Performance #4

- Walking tour of Hamburg, including St James' Church, St Michael's Church and the Town Hall
- Speicherstadtmuseum
- Evening Performance at the Elbphilharmonie (*Subject to performance schedule*)

Hamburg has a proud tradition as a trading city. Founder, with nearby Lübeck, of the powerful Hanseatic League, the city maintained its vibrant commercial life throughout the ups and downs of German history;

today it has Europe's second largest port after Rotterdam.

Today we will explore the city on foot, walking through the centre of town to the church of St Jacobi (St James), dedicated to the saint whose remains are believed to lie at Santiago de Compostela in Spain. The present church is a careful reconstruction of the hall church, which was built in the 15th century and made Lutheran in 1529. Although the church's fabric is a restoration (the tower has a 20th century design), many of its furnishings were saved from WWII bombing. Its highlight is a famous organ built by Arp Schnitger from 1693. With 60 registers and around 4000 pipes, it is the largest Baroque organ in Northern Europe. The church also has its original 15th century altars.

We shall visit the grandiose Hamburg Town Hall, the most important 19th-century historicist building in the city. It was built (1886-1897) replacing an earlier hall that had burnt in 1842 – when the city was particularly prosperous, sometime after the Kingdom of Prussia and its confederates had defeated France in the Franco-German War and the German Empire was founded. This grand building not only expressed the city's wealth, but also the independence of the State of Hamburg and Hamburg's republican traditions.

Hamburg's largest church, St Michael's, is one of the finest Hanseatic Protestant Baroque churches ever built. The church spires of Baltic port cities often acted as landfall markers for shipping. St Michael's 132-metre high Baroque copper-covered spire not only dominates Hamburg's skyline, but has guided ships sailing up the Elbe for centuries. Within the huge church the pulpit, font and high altar are particularly notable. The church played a vital role in the religious life of the city; among many citizens baptised here was Johannes Brahms.

We also visit the Speicherstadtmuseum, located in an original redbrick warehouse built in 1888, in which goods and tools collected from traditional warehouse companies and business premises of the warehouse district are exhibited. Historical photos and maps illustrate social and economic changes of over a century in this unique historical monument that used to be part of the former free-port and is now part of Hamburg's UNESCO World Cultural Heritage. The exhibition also covers the architecture of the dockland warehouse district, coffee- and tea-trading, and lighter-boating that carried goods from ships to the warehouses. This evening we attend a performance at the spectacular Elbphilharmonie, or the charming historic Laeiszhalle (*subject to performance schedule*). (Overnight Hamburg) B

Day 14: Tuesday 5 October, Hamburg

- Kunsthalle Hamburg
- Harbour Boat Tour

This morning we visit Hamburg's great Kunsthalle, one of Germany's largest museums. It has an excellent Old Master collection, including Rembrandt, Rubens, the wonderful Dutch 17th-century landscape painter Jacob Isaacksz van Ruisdael, and Giovanni Battista Tiepolo. Its superb collection includes one of the country's best Caspar David Friedrich corpuses, as well as key works by Goya, Courbet, Manet, Monet, Degas, Édouard Munch, Paul Gauguin, Paul Klee, Francis Bacon, Max Beckmann, Lovis Corinth, James Ensor, Max Ernst, Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Paul Klee, Oskar Kokoschka, Emil Nolde and Pablo Picasso, among others. We shall break for lunch in the Kunsthalle. The afternoon is at leisure to allow you to explore the city further or to remain in this magnificent museum.

It is impossible to understand Hamburg's history without fully appreciating the importance of the harbour. We therefore begin today with a cruise on Hamburg's harbour, the second busiest, after Rotterdam, in Europe. It also has a deep, important history, especially as the second most important Hanseatic Port after Lübeck. We shall cruise past warehouses, and see the Elbphilharmonie from the water and the church spires

that acted as 'beacons' to shipping from the water. (Overnight Hamburg) B

Day 15: Wednesday 6 October, Hamburg

- International Maritime Museum
- Tour of the Elbphilharmonie (*subject to confirmation in July 2021*)
- Afternoon at Leisure
- Farewell Dinner at Die Bank restaurant

The International Maritime Museum is a private museum housed in the city's oldest preserved warehouse. On display is the story of ship building and development through history, with the oldest item being a 3000 year old dugout found in the Elbe river.

We then visit Hamburg's revolutionary new Elbphilharmonie, situated on the Grasbrook peninsula on the Elbe River. Designed by Swiss architects Herzog & de Meuron, who also designed Munich's extraordinary Allianz Arena and the Beijing National Stadium (Olympic 'birds nest'), it is one of the largest and most acoustically advanced concert halls in the world. Its extraordinary glass façades rise up from the former Kaispeicher building over which it was constructed, to its expressive wave-like rooftop. Within, it holds two concert halls, a hotel and residential apartments. Between the old warehouse and the glass structure above is the Plaza, a public viewing area that extends around the whole building.

We shall convene at our hotel in the evening to end our day with a farewell dinner at one of Hamburg's 'hotspots', Die Bank brasserie and bar. As its name suggests, it occupies the banking hall on the opulent first-floor of this former bank, built in 1897. (Overnight Hamburg) BD

Day 16: Thursday 7 October, Hamburg. Tour Ends.

- Departure transfer for participants travelling on the ASA 'designated' flight

Accommodation

16-day Cultural Tour of Berlin, Dresden and Hamburg

ASA has selected 4-star hotels that are all centrally located. All hotels provide rooms with en suite bathroom.

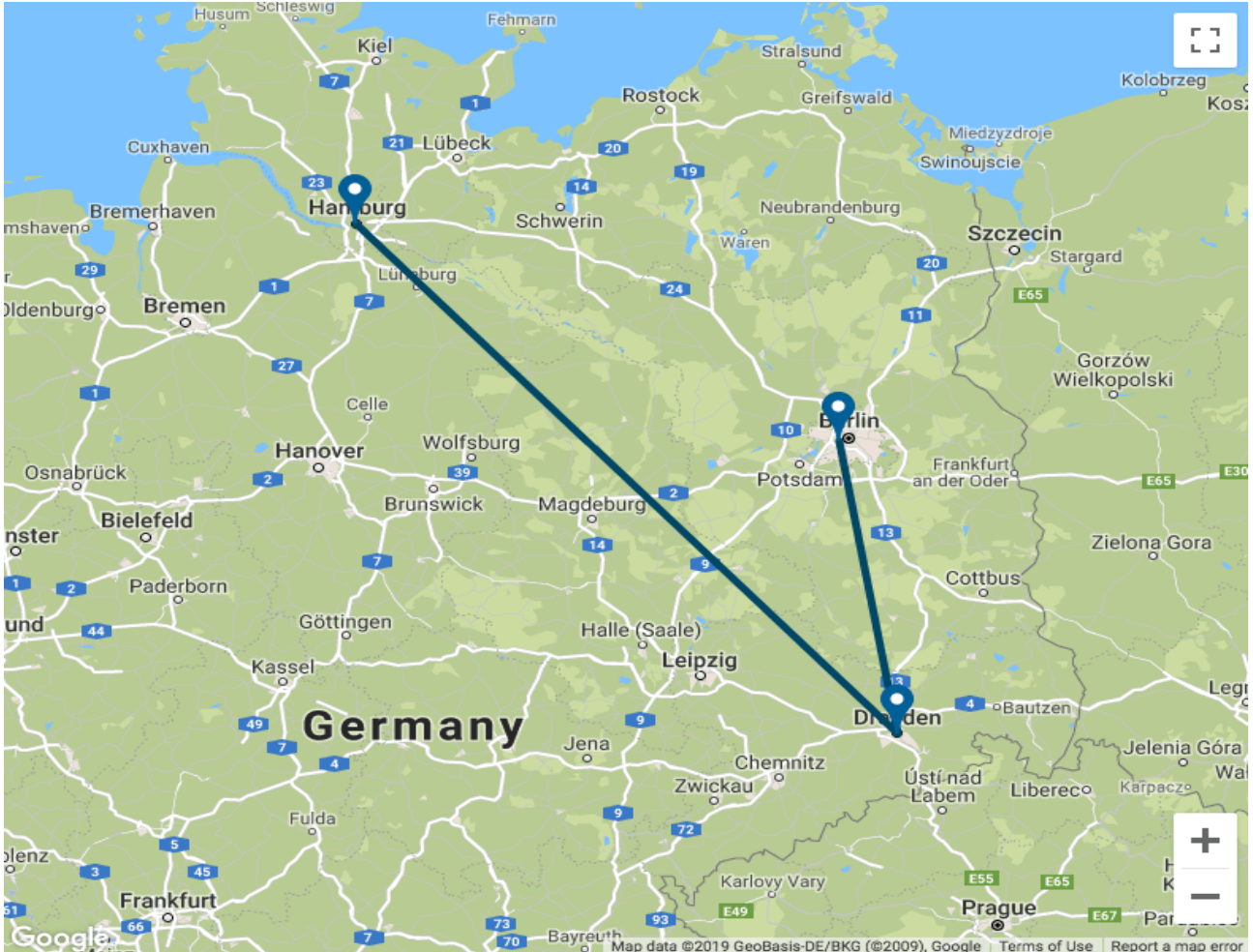
- Berlin (8 nights): 4-star Hotel NH Collection Berlin Mitte Friedrichstrasse – a modern hotel located in the heart of East Berlin. www.nh-hotels.com
- Dresden (3 nights): 4-star Steigenberger Hotel – a centrally located hotel in a historic building within easy walking distance to the city's art galleries and performance venues. www.steigenberger.com
- Hamburg (4 nights): 4-star Renaissance Hotel – a design hotel within an historic building located in the city centre, refurbished throughout. www.marriott.com

Note: Hotels are subject to change, in which case a hotel of similar standard will be provided.

Single Supplement

Payment of this supplement will ensure accommodation in a double (or twin) room for single occupancy throughout the tour. The number of rooms available for single occupancy is extremely limited. People wishing to take this supplement are therefore advised to book well in advance.

Tour Map



Tour Price & Inclusions

AUD \$TBA Land Content Only – Early-Bird Special: Book before 30 September 2020

AUD \$TBA Land Content Only

AUD \$TBA Single Supplement

For competitive Economy, Business or First Class fares please contact ASA for further information.

Tour Price (Land Content Only) includes:

- Accommodation in twin-share rooms with private facilities in 4-star hotels
- Breakfast daily, lunches and evening meals as indicated in the itinerary where: B=breakfast, L=lunch and D=dinner
- Drinks at welcome and farewell meals. Other meals may not have drinks included.
- Transportation by air-conditioned coach (public transport in Berlin) as indicated in the itinerary
- Airport-hotel transfers if travelling on the ASA 'designated' flights
- 4 Evening performances (provisionally at Berlin Philharmoniker, the Semperoper in Dresden and the Elbphilharmonie or Laeiszhalle in Hamburg)
- Lecture and site-visit program
- Porterage of one piece of luggage per person at hotels (not at airports)
- Entrance fees
- Use of audio headsets during site visits
- Tips for the coach driver, local guides and restaurants for included meals

Tour Price (Land Content Only) does not include:

- Airfare: Australia-Berlin, Hamburg-Australia
- Personal spending money
- Luggage in excess of 20kg (44lbs)
- Travel insurance



Physical Endurance & Practical Information

Physical Ratings 

The number of flags is a guide to the degree of difficulty of ASA tours relative to each other (not to those of other tour companies). It is neither absolute nor literal. One flag is given to the least taxing tours, seven to the most. Flags are allocated, above all, according to the amount of walking and standing each tour involves. Nevertheless, all ASA tours require that participants have a good degree of fitness enabling 2-3 hours walking or 1-1.5 hours standing still on any given site visit or excursion. Many sites are accessed by climbing slopes or steps and have uneven terrain.

This 16-day Cultural Tour of Berlin, Dresden and Hamburg involves:

- Exploring Berlin, Dresden and Hamburg on foot.
- Extensive walking (up to 5km per day) and standing during museum and other site visits.
- Extensive use of public transport in Berlin. When using the U-Bahn or S-Bahn, participants may need to negotiate many short flights of stairs.
- 4-star hotels with two hotel changes.

It is important to remember that ASA programs are group tours, and slow walkers affect everyone in the group. As the group must move at the speed of the slowest member, the amount of time spent at a site may be reduced if group members cannot maintain a moderate walking pace. ASA tours should not present any problem for active people who can manage day-to-day walking and stair-climbing. However, if you have any doubts about your ability to manage on a program, please ask your ASA travel consultant whether this is a suitable tour for you.

Please note: it is a condition of travel that all participants agree to accept ASA's directions in relation to their suitability to participate in activities undertaken on the tour, and that ASA retains the sole discretion to direct a tour participant to refrain from a particular activity on part of the tour. For further information please refer to the ASA Reservation Application Form.

Practical Information

Prior to departure, tour members will receive practical notes which include information on visa requirements, health, photography, weather, clothing and what to pack, custom regulations, bank hours, currency regulations, electrical appliances and food. The Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade website has advice for travellers: www.smartraveller.gov.au

Booking Conditions

Making a Tentative Reservation before the tour price has been published

ASA INTENTION TO TRAVEL APPLICATION FORM

Some ASA tours fill almost immediately. Don't miss out! You can register your 'Intention to Travel' by completing this application and returning this to ASA with a AUD \$100.00 per person deposit. Once the tour price has been published, the itinerary and ASA Reservation Application Form will be sent to you. From the time you receive the itinerary you will have two weeks to either:

- Send us a completed ASA Reservation Application Form together with an additional deposit of AUD \$400.00 per person. On receipt of this Reservation Application and deposit, ASA will process your booking and if approved, send you a tour confirmation. At this time your deposit of AUD \$500.00 is subject to the tour's Booking Conditions.

Or

- CANCEL your Intention to Travel in writing. ASA will refund your AUD \$100.00 per person deposit, less a \$33.00 service fee (including GST).

Participation Criteria

To participate in an ASA tour, you must be reasonably fit, in good health and able to participate in all activities without assistance from Tour Leaders or other tour members. If you require assistance, a fit and able travel companion must undertake to accompany and assist you with all tasks for the duration of the whole tour. ASA's ability to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate your specific needs, your health and safety and the health and safety of other tour members, is of paramount importance to us. For this reason the ASA Reservation Application includes a Medical Information section. As a general guideline, you must be able to accomplish each of these activities without assistance or support:-

- walk and stand unassisted for at least 2-3 hours a day in hot, humid conditions
- walk confidently on and over uneven surfaces
- climb at least 3 flights of stairs
- embark and disembark from ferries, buses and trains
- walk up and down steep slopes
- walk at a steady pace and no less than 1km every 15-20 minutes
- organise, manage and carry your own luggage
- follow and remember tour instructions
- meet punctually at designated times and places

- administer your own medication

Single Supplement

Payment of this supplement will ensure accommodation in a double room for single occupancy throughout the tour. The number of rooms available for single use is extremely limited. People wishing to take this supplement are therefore advised to book well in advance.



Intention to Travel Application

TOUR NAME _____

TOUR DATES _____

Booking before the tour price is available

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OR

- Cancel your Intention to Travel in writing. ASA will refund your AUD\$100.00 per person deposit, less a \$33.00 service fee (including GST).

Applicant Details (as in passport)

TITLE Mr Mrs Ms Miss Dr Other _____

FIRST NAME _____ Preferred FIRST NAME _____

MIDDLE NAME _____ SURNAME _____

POSTAL ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ COUNTRY _____ POSTCODE _____

TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____

EMAIL address _____

Date of birth ____ / ____ / ____ GENDER Male Female

Tour Accommodation (rooming preferences)

I/we would like: a twin-bedded room a double-bedded room a room for sole occupancy

I am travelling: on my own with a friend/family member Travel Companion _____

Meals

I do not have any specific dietary requests

Please **X** the box if you **CAN NOT** eat any of the following:

fish poultry red meat dairy products

eggs pork nuts

Other _____

Allergies: Refer to the Medical Information

Correspondence

Your preferred method of correspondence Postal Mail Email Address _____

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- embark and disembark from ferries, buses and trains
- walk up and down steep slopes
- walk at a steady pace and no less than 1 km every 15 - 20 minutes
- organise, manage and carry your own luggage
- follow and remember tour instructions
- meet punctually at designated times and places
- administer your own medication.

Applicant's Signature _____

Dated _____

Tour / Course Name

Name of Traveller 1 _____

Name of Traveller 2 _____

I have enclosed a payment to the value of \$ _____ (including CC or bank fee if applicable) for this tour

Payment by (please indicate): Cheque Direct Debit (see below) Credit Card (see below)

International Payments

Welcome to our international travellers! If you are making a payment and do not have an Australian bank account/credit card, we can only accept payment as follows:

- via credit card with the applicable fee - the credit card company/bank will set the exchange rate
- via bank transfer; please give your surname and tour code (eg. Smith 21705) as a reference and ask your bank to allow for all charges.

Bank cheques or personal cheques will not be accepted.

By Cheque (accept Australian cheques only)

Please make cheques payable to *Australians Studying Abroad*

Direct Deposit or Internet Banking

You will need to:

1. Provide your bank with ASA's bank details (see below) and the amount you wish to transfer OR make a direct deposit through any ANZ branch
2. Include any fees levied by the banks
3. Provide a reference number (Mobile or last name recommended).
4. Complete section below, including confirmation no. (given when transaction completed).

Australians Studying Abroad bank details

Bank ANZ
 Branch 420 St Kilda Road, Melbourne Vic
 Swift Code ANZBAU3M
 BSB 013-423
 Account No 3472-32759

Bank confirmation No. _____

Reference used: Mobile or last name recommended

Date Money Transferred

Credit Card Payment

Credit card fees apply: Mastercard & Visa 2%
 American Express 2%

Please debit my: Mastercard Visa American Express

I authorise ASA to debit my credit card for the amount due plus the applicable fee as above

Credit Card Number

Expiry Date _____ Security Code (CVC) _____

Bank the Card is linked to (eg. NAB or ANZ)

Cardholders Name

Cardholders Billing Address

Postcode

State _____ Country _____

Phone

Email

Cardholders Signature
