

Meritage Vocal Arts Ensemble MOZART! Choral Festival

Custom Tour #7 (11 nights/13 days)

Day 1 Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Depart via scheduled air service to Berlin, Germany

Day 2 Wednesday, June 17 Berlin (D)

Arrive in Berlin

Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to the awaiting motorcoach for a transfer into Berlin

Take a panoramic introductory tour of Berlin's highlights and a Spree River Cruise (explore Berlin's magnificent architectural treasures and experience the city's amazing transformation by boat on a one-hour cruise on the River Spree) en route

Late afternoon hotel check-in

Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight

Berlin is a vibrant, multi-faceted city steeped in culture and history. Since the fall of the Wall and the reunification of the city, Berlin has been continuously reinventing itself as a political, business and cultural center. Superb museums, sophisticated architecture, and famous landmarks offer the Berlin visitor plenty to see and do

Day 3 Thursday, June 18 Berlin (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day sightseeing of the eastern sector of Berlin with its famous Unter den Linden Strasse, (iconic boulevard of linden trees), the Russian War Memorial, what remains of "the wall," and "Checkpoint Charley" as we pass into the western sector to experience Kurfurstendamm Strasse, home to some of Berlin's most luxurious stores. Also see Berlin Dom, Reichstag, etc.

Visit to Charlottenburg Palace. With the Berlin Municipal Palace destroyed, Charlottenburg Palace is now Berlin's best example of the architectural skills of the Prussian kings. The Palace and park are open to the public

Lunch on own

Balance of the day at leisure for sightseeing, shopping or other activities

Evening dinner on own and overnight

Day 4 Friday, June 19 Berlin (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning visit to the Alliierten-Museum. Located in the heart of the former US-sector in Berlin-Zehlendorf, the Allied Museum documents the history of the Western occupying powers during the Cold War era in Berlin from 1945 up to 1989

Lunch on own

*Concert in Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church as part of the American Celebration of Music in Germany**

Evening dinner on own and overnight



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Day 5 Saturday, June 20 Berlin / Halle / Leipzig (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Halle to visit the birthplace of Händel. In addition to the composer's personal effects, the museum houses an exhibition of musical instruments and history of music in the region

Lunch on own

Continue to Leipzig for dinner and overnight

Leipzig has musical associations with some of the greatest composers: Bach worked and lived here a big part of his life; Mendelssohn was born and lived here; Wagner was born here (but never lived here), and nearby Halle is the birthplace of Georg Frederick Händel
Breakfast at the hotel

Day 6 Sunday, June 21 Leipzig (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

A guided tour of Leipzig includes entrance to the Bach Museum. The reconstructed Bose House stands in the shadow of the Thomaskirche. It was once the home of the Bach family and now contains the largest Bach archives in Germany, as well as many mementos of the composer. Also visit St. Thomas Church (famous because Bach was the organist and choirmaster here, and it is the home of the St. Thomas Boys Choir, one of the most famous in the world)

*Sing recital in the Thomaskirche**

Lunch on own

*Concert in the Protestant Reformed Church as part of the American Celebration of Music in Germany**

Evening dinner on own and overnight

Day 7 Monday, June 22 Leipzig / Bayreuth / Rothenburg (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Bayreuth to visit Wagner Theater and grounds. Also visit the grave sites of Richard and Cosima Wagner

Lunch on own

Continue to Rothenburg for dinner and overnight

Officially known as Rothenburg ob der Tauber, this medieval town (one of the oldest on the Romantic Road), takes every visitor right back to the middle of the 16th Century

Day 8 Tuesday, June 23 Rothenburg (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

A guided tour of Rothenburg includes a visit to the Medieval Crime Museum. On 4 floors, about 2000 square-meters, and in more than 130 glass-cases you will see a unique and complete glance at more than thousand years of legal history. Additionally, these exhibits include instruments of torture, items used in the execution of sentences

Lunch on own

Afternoon at leisure for sightseeing, shopping or other activities

*Concert as part of the American Celebration of Music in Germany**

Evening dinner on own and overnight



Day 9 Wednesday, June 24 Rothenburg / Salzburg (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Salzburg via a stop in Garmisch-Partenkirchen. The towns of Garmisch and Partenkirchen were merged for the 1936 Winter Olympics and, to this day, host international skiing events. Each retains its own distinct character: Garmisch has a more cosmopolitan, 21st-century feel, while Partenkirchen has retained its old-world Alpine village vibe. Enjoy a cruise on Königsee.

Lunch on own

Continue to Salzburg for dinner and overnight

Salzburg, Mozart's birthplace, is a delight from the first sight of the outline of the Hohensalzburg Fortress, the symbol of the power of the prince-archbishops. The city's picturesque streets with their wrought-iron signs, its spacious squares with sculptured fountains and the noble architecture of its buildings inspired by bishops with a passion for construction, leave memories which linger for years

Day 10 Thursday, June 25 Salzburg (B,L)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning guided tour of Salzburg including Mirabell Palace and Gardens, Mozart Square, the Dom (cathedral), University Church, entrance to the Mozarthaus (Mozart's birthplace) and a cable car ride up to the Fortress (for an unparalleled view of the city below)

Festival Welcome Lunch

Afternoon massed Rehearsal

Dinner on own

Evening massed rehearsal

Day 11 Friday, June 26 Salzburg (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning at leisure for optional tours

Afternoon massed rehearsal

Dinner in a local restaurant (or hotel if nearby)

Evening massed dress rehearsal with Orchestra in the Dom

Day 12 Saturday, June 27 Salzburg (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Sightseeing today will include driving past Schloß Leopoldskron, featured in *The Sound of Music*, and entrance to Schloß Hellbrunn, whose gazebo was also featured in *The Sound of Music* and whose trick fountains have entertained guests for centuries

Afternoon at leisure for sightseeing, shopping or other planned activities

Dinner on own

Mozart! Festival Finale Concert in the Salzburger Dom

Day 13 Sunday, June 28 Depart for home (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Munich's International Airport for return flight

**Subject to confirmation*

This is a very flexible itinerary.

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