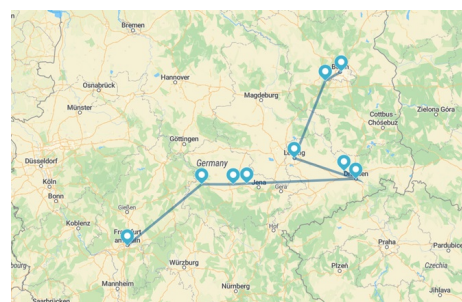




Germany, 8 Days · Tailor-made by car

## Route of Brandenburg, Saxony and Thuringia

This is going to be a truly unforgettable tour. Reasons to convince your travel companions? Take note. You'll have the chance to explore Berlin, with all its attractions and amazing sights such as the Brandenburg Gate, the Reichstag or some of the remaining pieces of the Wall. The capital of Germany never fails to disappoint, just like the other major cities included in this tour. Dresden, almost completely rebuilt after the intense bombings of World War II, and Frankfurt, with one of the most impressive skylines in Europe, are two other prime examples. Leipzig also plays a pivotal role in this trip, as all its streets ooze art and culture. Richard Wagner was born here, Johann Sebastian Bach lived here and Mendelssohn died here. If you're looking for some inspiration and a unique cultural and leisure-related atmosphere, you'll definitely find it here. Our list of illustrious characters then takes us to Weimar. Bach, the philosopher Nietzsche and also Goethe all lived here. But Weimar is also a stop for reflection and recollection. You can choose to visit one of the Nazi concentration camps. And for petrolheads, the museums of Eisenach - where the first ever BMW saw the light - will be a must-visit. So, hit the road and discover the essence of Germany!



CULTURAL

**Departure date:** Departures from June 2026 till June 2027

**From:** London

**Travel details** \_\_\_\_\_

## DAY 1 · CITY OF ORIGIN - BERLIN

Flight departure from the city of origin to Berlin and rental car pick-up.

Get ready to discover the best-kept secrets of the eastern part of the country! Berlin has so much to offer the traveller eager for new experiences. That's why we're going to propose two things for you to do. The first is to carefully read all our tips, while the second is to be flexible tomorrow with your departure time for Dresden, seeing as you'll be spending two nights there.

Berlin is one of the most fascinating cities in the entire world and there is so much to see. Make sure you dedicate most of your time to its most emblematic landmarks. One of them is, without a doubt, its parliament building. The Reichstag and its fascinating Norman Foster-designed dome will instantly mesmerise you, as will the Brandenburg Gate.

Its symbolism is tremendous and reminds Germans and tourists alike how paramount unity is. Another must-see is the Gendarmenmarkt. It's stunning and, even though it was partially rebuilt after World War II, still oozes a wistful air. To erase any hint of melancholy from your mind, there's no better medicine than to head to the most modern part of Berlin, which revolves around Potsdamer Platz. Your camera will be busy at the Sony Center and the Theater am Potsdamer Platz. A further must-visit is the Berlin Wall. The most popular area is the East Side Gallery, but there are others that are less touristy yet equally fascinating. People flock to Checkpoint Charlie, where a military hut and two American soldiers recall one of the most famous episodes of the Cold War. A good place to take a breather is Nikolaiviertel, where you can park up, take a leisurely stroll around and have some food or a drink at any of the bars in the district. You can spend the afternoon seeing Berlin Cathedral and sampling some of the city's top museums. The well-known Museum Island is home to the capital's best museums, showcasing much-revered works on the world museum circuit. It may seem an extravagance to spend time at museums on such a lightning visit, but it's a good choice if the weather isn't behaving very well. At some point in the day, taking advantage of having the car, you could head out to the monument to the Jews murdered in the Holocaust. It's truly moving and will give you an idea of how respectfully this very dark episode of German history is remembered. After an intense day, our recommendation is to relax while you discover Berlin's culinary culture.

Overnight stay in Berlin.

## DAY 2 · BERLIN - POTSDAM - LEIPZIG

Before setting off for Potsdam and Leipzig, you can extend your visit to Berlin by a bit. One of the visits you can do today is the Red Town Hall (Rotes Rathaus), the seat of the city government. Another symbol of this city is its TV Tower (Fernsehturm).

A photograph of you and the tower together will require you to stray considerably from its base, but first you can walk around it.

And two final proposals: shopping on the Friedrichstraße - the heart of Berlin - and a tour of Charlottenburg Palace. One of the most typical excursions from the capital is to see Potsdam, capital of the State of Brandenburg and undoubtedly one of the most monument-rich places in Germany. Just thirty minutes' drive away, this is a must-see destination, as even though it suffered intense bombings during World War II, it still boasts several palaces, parks and gardens that dodged the air raids. There are no replicas or rebuilds here. Everything is original. Special mention goes to the Schloss Sanssouci palace, summer residence of the Prussian emperors and kings of the Hohenzollern dynasty for more than three centuries and built by the most renowned architects of the time, creating what today is an illustrious complex of gardens and palaces declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Entrance is ticket-only and must be booked in advance. So, if you're going to stop off in Potsdam to discover what is hidden behind its walls, make sure you reserve your tickets online. (Note: Admission not included). The inside of the palace will definitely impress, as will the Neues Palais, separated by 2 kilometres of parks and gardens. Other attractions here are the Bildergalerie and Charlottenhof Park. When you're done, you can set off for Leipzig. (Note: For architecture lovers, we recommend a stop in the city of Dessau, birthplace of the Bauhaus style).

Overnight stay in Leipzig.

### DAY 3 · LEIPZIG

A fascinating day lies ahead today. Leipzig is outstanding and will quickly infect you with its energy and charisma. The city was the driving force behind Europe's economic and spiritual life for several centuries. As on previous days, many of your visits will be closely tied to prominent players in German society and culture. In Leipzig, you'll have the chance to visit museums dedicated to Richard Wagner (who was born here) and Mendelssohn (who died here), as well as the Thomaskirche, whose choir was led by Johann Sebastian Bach for several years. In fact, he died in Leipzig and his remains are found in the church. Another person who had a close bond with the city was Nietzsche, who studied at the university here. The city centre architecture is full of carefully-restored historical testimonies. Any recommendations? A stroll around the Marktplatz, where you'll find the Altes Rathaus (Old Town Hall). It dates from 1556 and is on a par with the Neues Rathaus (New Town Hall), another building that will fascinate you. As you'll see, Leipzig is a place to enjoy at your leisure, strolling around town, soaking up the vibrant culture that oozes from every corner and visiting its attractive museums. They include the Museum of Modern Art and the Museum in der Runden Ecke, better known as the Stasi Museum, where you can learn about all the secrets the Cold War, the Ministry for State Security (aka the Stasi), and forty years of Soviet-influenced control of the then German Democratic Republic (GDR). The Stasi is uncovered here. Their methods, their costumes and their disguises are all revealed. It is very interesting indeed. And if a whole day in the city is too much for you, then we propose a trip out to the Cospudener See. You can sail on this lake, and there are two kilometres of beaches, a spectacular pier and a very wholesome ambience. Leipzig's nightlife is very lively and provides a one-off opportunity to enjoy the city with the intensity it deserves.

Overnight stay in Leipzig.

### DAY 4 · LEIPZIG - DRESDEN

Today, it's time to say goodbye to Leipzig and head off in the direction of the capital of Saxony. It will take 1 hour and 20 minutes if you go on the A14. Dresden is one of the most beautiful cities in Central Europe and nicknamed Florence on the Elbe.

Like much of the German territory, Dresden was bombed during World War, although the allied forces showed little mercy to this city. In just two days, they reduced to rubble dozens of buildings that have been rebuilt again, although many others disappeared forever. To get your bearings, the city is divided into two - the new part (Neustadt) and the old town (Altstadt) - by the River Elbe. The historic part concentrates most of the things to see in the city, which is why our advice is to start off by visiting the Altstadt and leaving the Neustadt for another day. First stop should be the restored Church of Our Lady (in German, Frauenkirche). It is truly incredible, both from an architectural point of view and given the history that it cherishes within its walls. During World War II, it was reduced to rubble and rebuilt according to the original plans. Its dome and its interpretation centre are spectacular. We also highly recommend a stroll around the Neumarktplatz, where - weather permitting - there are many terraces to have a coffee before continuing to the next stop.

The River Elbe offers endless opportunities for the visitor. Everything from a walk in the Elbe Park to a visit to the Brühlsche Terrasse, an ideal location to photograph the city skyline.

For culture and museum buffs, we recommend the Residenzschloss, a building that houses the Museum of Art but was once an unrivalled palace in Dresden. It takes a whole day to see all the exhibitions and collections, so decide whether you go in today or leave it for another day.

Take advantage of your stay in the city to visit the famous Dresden Opera, the imperial Zwinger Palace and the Procession of Princes (Fürstenzug), a 100-metre mural covered in tiles. Built to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the Wettin Dynasty, it is the largest mosaic in the world and one of the city's top attractions.

Overnight stay in Dresden.

## ● DAY 5 · DRESDEN - MEISSEN - DRESDEN

Take advantage of the day to finish seeing some of the outstanding sights of Dresden. We'll get back on the road towards Meissen, located around thirty minutes' drive away and internationally famous for its exquisite porcelain. It's officially the first place in Europe where porcelain was made in the eighteenth century, when this material was still only found in the Far East. This milestone, along with the industriousness and dedication shown in its production, means that Meissen is still a prosperous region today. It's also worth visiting the Meissen Porcelain Manufactory and Museum, where you can see at first hand how it is handcrafted and each piece is carefully decorated. But porcelain is not its only attraction. The minute you enter the town, you'll be surprised at the grandeur and dimensions of its Cathedral. Besides the mandatory visit to the temple, you can also stroll along the Altmarkt and the Domplatz, two pedestrian streets full of life and a great atmosphere. If you're looking for some good views, you can climb up to the Meissen Balcony. For the end of the visit, we've left another of the city's wonders: the Albrechtsberg Palace. Its construction was financed thanks to the porcelain business. A thriving business at that time, judging by the luxury of its interiors. You'll be surprised by the paintings, the exhibitions of porcelain pieces and how they make you put on some slippers if you want to visit one of their rooms.

Return and overnight stay in Dresden.

## ● DAY 6 · DRESDEN - WEIMAR - ERFURT

Today, it's definitely time to say goodbye to Dresden, because our next stop is awaiting us. A two-hour drive along the A4 will take you to Weimar. This city's streets have possibly been walked by the greatest number of geniuses ever in Germany. It inspired Bach, Nietzsche, Schiller, Liszt and Goethe, to name just a few, and attracted numerous patrons who not only allowed many artists to develop in their discipline, but also made the area flourish with huge investments into palaces. The period of greatest splendour was in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, a movement known as Weimar Classicism and only comparable to the fascinating advent of Bauhaus, one of the most important architectural movements of modern Europe. Proof of all this are visits to Goethe's house, the palaces of Belvedere, Burgplatz and Wittum, and the Duchess Anna Amalia Library. A moment for reflection and recollection should be taken at the Buchenwald concentration camp. This was Hitler's medical experiment camp and the predecessor of Auschwitz. After this highly moving visit, it's time to rebuild your soul and look for some fun in the city. Very close to here (just half an hour on the B7) is Erfurt, which boasts one of the most charismatic old quarters of all Thuringia. It's an ideal place to park up your car, leave the map behind and wander aimlessly through its cobbled side streets. Its Domplatz, dominated by the Erfurter Dom, will seduce you in a matter of seconds and encourage you to visit the stone-built Krämerbrücke bridge, just a few minutes away. If you're with your kids, the local zoo is particularly famous, especially its colony of monkeys.

Overnight stay in Erfurt.

## DAY 7 · ERFURT - EISENACH - FRANKFURT

If the prior day Weimar was a cultural melting pot, Eisenach is not far behind. Johann Sebastian Bach was born here and Martin Luther spent an important period of his life in the town. They are its most illustrious residents, although Eisenach is famous because the first BMW car was manufactured here. The imprint of the German musician is still present and his house has become a place of pilgrimage for music lovers. You can visit the rooms, try to get some of his inspiration and listen to a concert of his works. Also important is the memory left in the town by Martin Luther, who was born here and later returned to take refuge at Wartburg Castle. During his stay, he translated the New Testament into German. You can visit his house and also the magnificent Wartburg Castle. These ingredients already make it worth visiting the city. But Eisenach offers many other attractions. Wonderful options include a stroll around the Marktplatz, a tour of the Georgenkirche, and obviously a visit to everything that reminds us that we're in the birthplace of the BMW brand. There's a fascinating museum - the Automobile Welt Eisenach - that showcases different models of the brand and other F1 teams. A two-hour drive southwest will then take you to one of Germany's major cities: Frankfurt. Get lost as many times as you want because all the roads will take you to Römerberg, the city's bustling main square. This is home to the Town Hall which in turn is the seat of Der Römer, aka the Lord Mayor. A few minutes from here, the Dom St. Bartholomäus cathedral stands alongside other lay buildings. The first things that will strike you is its colour, as it was built in red sandstone, and its gigantic 96-metre spire that commands incredible views of most of the city... but only for those brave enough to climb the stairs all the way up! From here you'll be able to admire the Frankfurt skyline like nowhere else. You'll see why they call it the city of skyscrapers. Once you've admired the panorama, head back down for a dose of culture. This is another of the city's strong points, as there are lots of museums and many of them are the best of their kind in Europe. The Jewish Museum of Frankfurt and the Städel Museum are remarkable, where you can admire works by some of history's most renowned artists. There's no shortage of Picassos, Renoirs or Rembrandts. If you're travelling with children, your luck is in as you won't have to make any excuse to visit even more museums, and particularly the Kinder Museum, a space designed to fascinate the little ones. If that isn't enough, the zoo is very close by, or you could drive out to Hanau. If you're a fan of the Brothers Grimm, we won't have to tell you that it's their birthplace. Hanau is half an hour from Frankfurt and offers an enjoyable activity to experience with the family: the Tale Route. You'll see flags identifying the places that inspired the Brothers Grimm to write tales such as Little Red Riding Hood or the Pied Piper of Hamelin. Obviously, you can't visit the city without eating a Frankfurter sausage. Although it sounds very touristy, it's practically mandatory. You could always head to the Zeil for some retail therapy before dinner.

Overnight stay in Frankfurt.

## DAY 8 · FRANKFURT - CITY OF ORIGIN

Arrival at the airport with enough time to drop off your rental car and flight back to the city of origin.

Arrival. End of the trip and our services.

## Your trip includes

### Your trip includes

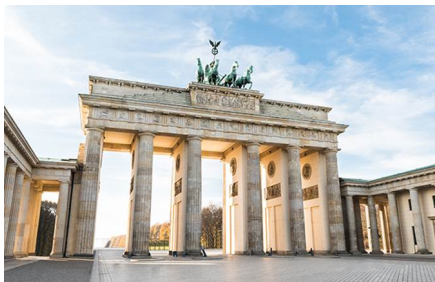
- ✓ Return flight.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Berlin.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Berlin.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Leipzig.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Leipzig.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Dresden.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Erfurt.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Erfurt.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Frankfurt.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Frankfurt.
- ✓ Rent-a-car.
- ✓ Insolvency protection.
- ✓ Amount of the supplement for collection and return of the vehicle in a different office.

## Your trip doesn't include

- ✗ Accommodation taxes in Berlin direct payment in facility.
- ✗ Accommodation taxes in Erfurt direct payment in facility.
- ✗ Accommodation taxes in Frankfurt direct payment in facility.
- ✗ Possible toll charges.

## Destinations Visited

Berlin



Potsdam



Leipzig



Dresden



Meißen



Weimar



Erfurt



Eisenach



Frankfurt



## Important remarks

- Triple rooms in Europe are generally rooms with twin beds or a double, in which a folding bed is installed to accommodate the third person. Due to the inconvenience this causes, we advise against using this option as far as possible.
- Check-in time at the hotel on the day of arrival depends on each establishment, but in no case will it be before 3:00 p.m., unless otherwise indicated.
- The proposed excursions and tours for each day are purely suggestions, as you can tailor the trip to suit your times, tastes and needs.
- A credit card is considered a guarantee, so sometimes you will need one for check-in at hotels.
- Hotels usually have cots available. Otherwise, babies will have to share a bed with an adult.
- To pick up your rental car, you'll need a credit (not debit) card in the name of the person who made the booking, who must also be the named driver of the vehicle.

- Consult the necessary documentation to enter the destinations visited and for transit in the countries where air stopovers are made.