500th Anniversary Protestant Reformation Tour of Germany
(12 days/10 nights)
Itinerary

Day 1 -------------- Departure US
Overnight flights to Frankfurt, Germany.

Day 2 -------------- Arrival/ Eisenach
“Guten Tag” and welcome to Germany! Meet your German tour escort and transfer to Eisenach with a stop in Mühlhausen to see one of the largest remaining medieval city centers in Germany.
Check in to Eisenach hotel and welcome group dinner.

Day 3 -------------- Erfurt/Eisenach
Guided walking tour of Eisenach, including J.S. Bach’s birthplace, and Erfurt, the young Luther’s spiritual home and capital of the land of Thuringia.
Overnight in Eisenach.

Day 4 -------------- Wartburg/Leipzig
Today, visit stunning Wartburg Castle, one of Germany’s best-preserved medieval castles. Continue to Leipzig with a stop in Weimar, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its rich cultural heritage.
Arrival in Leipzig, home to one of Germany’s most important universities and a major musical center as well as center for publishing. Richard Wagner was born here and Johann Sebastian Bach and Felix Mendelssohn are both closely associated with the city.
Overnight in Leipzig.

Day 5 -------------- Leipzig
Guided walking tour of “Bach’s Leipzig”, including Thomaskirche where Bach was chief organist and director of music for 27 years; the baroque Nikolaikirche, site for the premiere of the St. John Passion; and the Bach Archives.

Day 6 -------------- Eisleben/Wittenberg/Leipzig
Excursion to Wittenberg and Eisleben, two towns that are deeply connected with Martin Luther's life and work. Wittenberg is known as the cradle of Reformation, with many fascinating historical buildings including the Luther House, the Cranach Houses, the historical City Hall and the Castle Church.
Eisleben is a small mining town where Martin Luther was born and died. The house where he lived can still be seen, as well as the church where he worshipped.
Day 7

Dresden

Transfer to Dresden, the capital city of Saxony, was long considered a Kundstadt (City of Art). Most of Dresden was reduced to rubble by the Allied air raid, much of Dresden’s glorious architecture was reconstructed in honor of the city’s 800th anniversary in 2006. Guided tour of the city including the Kreuzkirche and the elegant Zwinger, a palatial complex that was once home to Augustus the Strong, Duke of Saxony and King of Poland.

Day 8

Meissen/Dresden

Excursion to the charming town of Meissen, famous for its porcelain and the Albrechtsburg Castle, one of the finest secular buildings of the Late Gothic period. Overnight in Dresden.

Day 9

Rothenburg

Transfer to Rothenburg, traveling along the Romantische Strasse (Romantic Road). The succession of picturesque villages and towns, some with their medieval fortifications still intact, make this one of the most scenically beautiful routes in Germany. Stop in Bayreuth, site of the Wagner Festival, for a glimpse at the Margravial opera house.

Day 10

Rothenburg

Rothenburg is one of the most charming, wonderfully preserved medieval towns in all of Europe. Guided walking tour of the old town inside the 13th century city walls.

Day 11

Worms

Transfer to Worms, with a guided tour of the town following in the traces of Martin Luther. Visit the Cathedral Dom St. Peter one of the finest Romanesque creations in Germany.

Festive farewell dinner in a fine local restaurant

Day 12

Return US

Transfer to the airport for your return flight(s) to the U.S. Welcome home!

This tour will be customized per the needs and mission of the group / leaders. It can include concerts arranged for your musical ensemble and participation in a Worship Service. The length of the tour can also be adjusted to 8 or 9 nights.