

DAY ONE	→	WURZBURG
DAY TWO	→	ROTHENBURG
DAY THREE	→	NUREMBURG
DAY FOUR	→	AUGSBURG
DAY FIVE	→	MUNICH
DAY SIX	→	NUESCHWANSTEIN
DAY SEVEN	→	TRIBURG
DAY EIGHT	→	HEIDELBURG



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A SUBLIME TOUR ON THE ROMANTIC ROAD

EXPLORE GERMANY'S HISTORICAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE



DAY ONE FRANKFURT – WURZBURG – ROTHENBURG OB DER TAUBER

- Arriving Frankfurt and you will assist and driven to Würzburg for a private tour.
- **WURZBURG** Würzburg, described as the city of bishops and wine, has been a bishopric since the 8th century, and most of what attracts visitors to Würzburg has its origins in the heyday of the Prince-Bishops. In 1979, the city celebrated 1,200 years of wine production.



- **RESIDENCE PALACE** This magnificent Baroque palace – one of the largest and most beautiful in Germany is surrounded by wonderful garden. It was built and decorated in the 18th century by an international team of architects, painters (including Tiepolo), sculptors and stucco-workers, led by Balthasar Neumann.
- **FORTRESS MARIENBERG** Is a symbol of Würzburg and served as a home of the local prince-bishops for nearly five centuries. It has been a fort since ancient times, although most of the current structures were built in Renaissance and Baroque styles between the 16th and 18th centuries.



- **OTHER SIGHTS** include **Church of St. Mary on Market Square** (Marienkapelle on Marktplatz); pass through **Old Bridge (Alte Mainbrücke)**; **Residence Church (Hofkirche)** Continue to **Rothenburg ob der Tauber**.
- **OVERNIGHT HERRNSCHLÖSSCHEN** The best hotel in Rothenburg with 1,000 years of history the elegance of a manor house, warm colors, exclusive furnishings, and an extraordinary interior design. It was constructed in the 11th/12th centuries, and this makes it one of the oldest preserved residential houses in Germany.

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DAY TWO ROTHENBURG

→ **ROTHENBERG OB TAUBER** A part of the Romantic Road, and a historical backdrop from Roman times up to the present day. The walls and history of Rothenburg still work their magic for those who take the time to explore away from the crowded central 'sights' and especially for those who stay overnight and wander the lanes, walls and cobbled streets by moonlight.

→ **FULL DAY TOUR** Starting from the **Market Square**; see the **City Councillors' Tavern (Ratsherrntrinkstube)** and neighbouring merchants' buildings. This was the location for events, meetings, markets and executions in the Middle Ages. You will also see the **Little Square (Plonlein)** and **Town Hall (Rathaus)**.

→ **ST. JACOB'S CHURCH** Including the Altar of the Holy Blood, also known as the Twelve Apostles Altar, in the east choir, which represents on its back the oldest depiction of the city of Rothenburg and rare images of the Jakobs pilgrim legend.

→ **ST. WOLFGANG'S CHURCH** a Late Gothic fortress church (Wehrkirche) constructed as an integral part of the town defenses. It formed part of the bastion, guarding the northern entrance into Rothenburg — the underground casemates and rampart in the loft may still be accessed from inside the church.

→ **CASTLE GARDENS** This peninsula of land juts out from Rothenburg, thus having splendid views across the valley. Views of Rothenburg and of the Medieval wall can also be seen. If time permits you may also visit **Medieval Crime Museum** and/or German **Christmas Museum**.

→ **NIGHT WATCHMAN TOUR** Iconic, intriguing, and unmissable, an exhilarating way to learn about architecture and history.

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DAY THREE ROTHENBURG – NUREMBURG – AUGSBURG

- Check out and be driven to Nuremburg for a private tour.
- **NUREMBURG** This important trading centre, which became a free imperial city in 1219, was the unofficial capital of the Holy Roman Empire. From 1050 until the 16th century, nearly all the German emperors had a residence in the Kaiserburg (castle). By the end of World War II, it had sustained devastating bombing by the Allies, and gained further fame as the site of the Nuremberg Trials.
- **HAUPTMARKT** The centre of activity and commerce in Nuremberg since ancient times. The celebrated marketplace runs Monday through Saturday. Visitors and locals love to shop the plentiful fruits and vegetables, fresh bread, treats, ready-to-eat meals, and fresh flowers and features several iconic landmarks.
- **CHURCH OF OUR LADY (FRAUENKIRCHE)** Which was built by Emperor Karl IV, contains many sculptures, some of them heavily restored. Numerous works of art from the Middle Ages are kept in the church, such as the so-called Tucher Altar. You will also see **St. Lawrence Church (St. Lorenz Kirche)** and the **Hospital of the Holy Spirit (Heilig Geist Spital)**.
- **NUREMBURG CASTLE/IMPERIAL FORTRESS** Atop the rocky promontory above Nuremberg was one of the most important fortified imperial palaces of the Holy Roman Empire.
- **ALBRECHT-DURER-HOUSE** Germany's most famous artist, lived and worked in this massive half-timbered house for nearly 20 years, from 1509 onwards.
- Continue to **Augsberg**. Dinner at local restaurant
- Overnight at the **Maximilian Hotel**, with more than 300 years history and hospitality



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DAY FOUR AUGSBERG – MUNICH

→ **AUGSBERG** The largest city on the Romantic Road, is known for its picturesque buildings, art murals and history. Some of the sights you will view on your tour include:

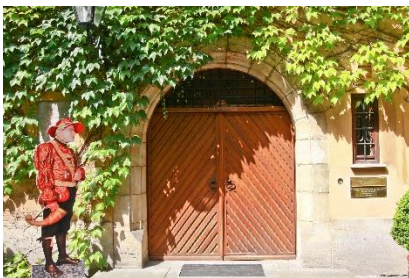
→ **AUGSBURG CATHEDRAL** One of the city's main attractions, founded in the 11th century, The exterior of the cathedral features a distinctive onion dome and a towering west façade with ornate decorations and sculptures. The interior of Augsburg Cathedral is equally impressive, with a soaring nave, intricate ceiling paintings, and a number of ornate chapels

→ **RATHAUSPLATZ** A square in the old center where the famous Rathaus (City Hall), one of the symbols of the city, is located. You will also climb the **Perlachturm**, a 70-meter tower that offers panoramic views of the city.

→ **MAXIMILIANSTRASSE** The city's most elegant street full of shops and restaurants. At Maximilianstrasse you will find the **Herkulesbrunnen Fountain** and also the **Schaezlerpalais**, an old Rococo-style mansion that now houses the Neue Galerie.

→ **ST. ULRICH AND AFRA ABBEY** One of the 40-odd self-ruling imperial abbeys of the Holy Roman Empire and, as such, was a virtually independent state.

→ **FUGGEREI** The community consists of 67 buildings, 140 residences, and a church. It is the oldest social housing complex in the world that still in use. The Fuggerei museum displays the lifestyle of earlier times. And shortly after World War II, a bunker was erected in Fuggerei. Texts, photographs, films, and exhibitions document the bombing and reconstruction of Augsburg.



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DAY FIVE MUNICH

→ Enjoy a full day sightseeing of Munich, some highlights including:

→ **CHURCH OF ST. PETER (THE KIRCHE ST. PETER)** With its iconic **Alter Peter (Old Peter)**, 91-metre (299 ft) tower that is emblematic of Munich. You will also see the **Old Yard (Alter Hof)**, St Peter's is the oldest recorded parish church in Munich and presumed to be the originating point for the whole city.

→ **FRAUENKIRCHE (DOM ZU UNSERER LIEBEN FRAU)** Serves as the cathedral of the Archdiocese of Munich and Freising and seat of its Archbishop. It is a landmark and is considered a symbol of the Bavarian capital city.

→ **ODEONSPLATZ** Named for the former concert hall, the Odeon, on its northwestern side.

→ **FELDHERRNHALLE (FIELD MARSHALL'S HALL)** Little younger than the original copy in Florence: It was built between 1841 and 1844 by the architect Friedrich von Gärtner on behalf of King Ludwig I.

→ **PALAIS LEUCHTENBERG** The largest palace in Munich. Located on the west side of the Odeonsplatz, where it forms an ensemble with the Odeon,

→ You will also see the **Marienplatz (Marien Fountain)** and **Town Hall**.

→ Overnight stay at Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten Kempinski München



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DAY SIX MUNICH – LAKE CONSTANCE ENROUTE VISIT NEUSCHWANSTEIN

→ Drive to **CASTLE LINDERHOF (SCHLOSS LINDERHOLF)**, located close to the town of Garmisch-Partenkirchen in the Ammergau Alps, King Ludwig II created Schloss Linderhof as a place of retreat. A pocket-sized trove of weird treasures, Schloss Linderhof was Ludwig II's smallest but most sumptuous palace, and the only one he lived to see fully completed. Finished in 1878, the palace hugs a steep hillside in a fantasy landscape of French gardens, fountains and follies. The reclusive king used the palace as a retreat and hardly ever received visitors here. Linderhof was inspired by Versailles and dedicated to Louis XIV, the French 'Sun King'. Linderhof's myth-laden, jewel-encrusted rooms are a monument to the king's excesses that so unsettled the governors in Munich.



→ Travel to and enjoy a tour of **CASTLE NEUSCHWANSTEIN (SCHLOSS NEUSCHWANSTEIN)** The insides of. The 19th century Romanesque Revival palace served as the inspiration for the Sleeping Beauty Castle in Disneyland. It was built for the Bavarian king Ludwig II (1845 - 1886); it was begun in 1868 but never fully completed. The king saw his castle as a monument to the culture and concept of monarchy prevailing in the Middle Ages, which he greatly admired and wanted to recreate. Built and furnished in medieval styles but equipped with the latest technology of the day, it is the most famous historicist building in the world.



→ Following continue to **LAKE KONSTANZ (BODENSEE)** the third largest lake of central Europe. Near the Alps, it is situated in three countries, Germany, Switzerland and Austria.

→ Hotel check in and overnight RIVA - **Das Hotel am Bodensee.**

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DAY SEVEN LAKE KONSTANZ – BLACK FOREST – HEIDELBERG

→ After breakfast, hotel checkout and transfer to Heidelberg via the Black Forest, and visiting the following towns and places of interest:

→ **TRIBERG** See the famous **Triberg Waterfalls** Germany's highest waterfalls in Triberg are a unique memorable attraction. Foaming and roaring, with a descent of 163m the water of the river Gutach plunges over seven major steps down into the valley.

→ **THE WORLD'S LARGEST CUCKOO CLOCK** Local clockmakers Ewald and Ralf Eble showcased their mastery of the craft in the creation of this massive cuckoo clock. They followed century-old blueprints to build a clock using traditional Black Forest craftsmanship—but 60 times the size.



→ **SCHILTACH** Centred on a trickling fountain, the sloping, triangular Marktplatz is Schiltach at its picture-book best. The frescoes of its step-gabled 16th-century Rathaus depict scenes from local history.

→ **GENGENBACH** Between the town's two tower-topped gates sits the triangular Marktplatz, dominated by the Rathaus, an 18th-century pink-and-cream confection. The fountain bears a statue of a knight, a symbol of Gengenbach's medieval status as a Free Imperial City.

→ **ALPIRSBACH MONASTERY** All the more evocative for its lack of adornment, this 11th-century former Benedictine monastery effectively conveys the simple, spiritual life in its Romanesque three-nave church, spartan cells and Gothic cloister,



→ **KAISERDOM ZU SPEYER** –UNESCO-fine example of Romanesque architecture, and as the burial site of Hapsburg kings, a symbol of imperial power.

→ Continue to **Heidelberg** for hotel check-in. Overnight at **Hotel Europäische Hof. Heidelberg**

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DAY EIGHT HEIDELBERG

→ **HEIDELBERG** The symbol of Romanticism, is the inspiration of many songs and poems that makes it the town “where one can easily lose one’s heart”. Famous for its many historical sites (it began as a Celtic settlement, then a Roman fort, and has continued to prosper since then) it is a harmonic and picturesque mixture between the old and new. Enjoy a walking tour with sights including:

→ **HEIDELBERG CASTLE (SCHLOSS HEIDELBERG)** Including the inner courtyard and historic **Pharmacy Museum**, (Deutsches Apotheken Museum);

→ You will also see: **Old Town (Altstadt** including **Kornmarkt, Markplatz, Karlsplatz**); **Church of the Holy Ghost** and **(Heiliggeistkirche)**; **Old Bridge (Alte Brücke)**

→ **OLD HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY (ALTE UNIVERSITÄT)** The university museum, on the ground level of the Old University, offers an exciting tour through the history of Germany's oldest university.

→ If time permits, take the **Philosopher’s Walk (Philosophenweg)** This walk was once the way that university professors and philosophers walked above Heidelberg, perhaps getting inspiration for their next theory or poem.

→ In the afternoon enjoy a **boat cruise on Neckar River** The historic boats were revamped with great attention to detail and fitted with comfortable furniture that leaves nothing to be desired.

→ Transfer for dinner. Overnight at **Hotel Europaische Hof**.

DAY NINE Heidelberg – Frankfurt – Hong Kong

→ After breakfast, hotel check out, and transfer to Frankfurt Airport.



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