

Education
First



*College Study
Tours*

HISTORY: THE HOLOCAUST IN EUROPE



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11 OR 14 DAYS

Germany • Czech Republic

PROGRAM FEE INCLUDES:

- Round-trip airfare
- 9 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (plus 3 nights with extension)
- Complete European breakfast daily
- 4 dinners (plus 1 dinner with extension)
- Full-time bilingual EF Tour Director
- 1 institution visit
- 1 lecture
- Select guides and entrances to special attractions as per itinerary

* PLEASE NOTE: Itineraries are subject to change. Institution visits and lectures will be scheduled subject to availability and confirmed prior to departure date.



After World War II, Munich was completely re-built and adhered to a pre-war architectural plan, unlike other German cities.

Gain insight into the effects of World War II on Eastern Europe. Learn about the Cold War and its impact on countries most affected by World War II, including Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic. As 2009 marks the 20th anniversary of the destruction of the Berlin Wall, learn about its function as a divisive symbol of power. Then, reflect on the long-term effects of World War II with visits to Auschwitz and the Jewish Museum.

Day 1 Flight

Overnight flight • Relax as you fly across the Atlantic to Germany.

Day 2 Berlin

Arrival in Berlin • Touch down in the capital of reunified Germany. It took nearly a decade, from 1989 to 1999, to move the former capital of Bonn to the slowly reconstructed Berlin. Since the Berlin Wall came down in late 1989, the city has continued to evolve into a thriving metropolis. One place to easily recognize Berlin's emergence is in Potsdamer Platz. This area, filled with cafés and restaurants, was a hub for artists and poets prior to World War II, which destroyed most of it. Today, Potsdamer Platz once again bustles, thanks in part to the sprawling Sony Center, as well as DaimlerCity, which boasts an observation deck with the continent's fastest elevator. After clearing customs, you are greeted by your bilingual EF Tour Director, who will remain with you throughout

your stay. A private motorcoach takes you to your comfortable hotel for check-in.

Walking tour of Berlin • Stroll among the cafés, restaurants and embassies of the elegant, tree-lined Unter den Linden, sometimes known as the Champs-Élysées of Berlin. Your tour director shows you the city's most famous sites as you continue to the Reichstag, Germany's Parliament. The building, constructed in the late 19th century, was the seat of the Weimar Republic government until it was seized by the Nazis in 1933. Sir Norman Foster's glass dome, added to the top of the Reichstag between 1995 and 1999, is now one of the city's most recognizable landmarks, offering fantastic views of Berlin from its top.

Day 3 Berlin

Guided sightseeing of Berlin • Ride past the Kaiser Wilhelm Gedächtniskirche (left unrestored as a reminder of the ravages of war) and down the glittery Kurfürstendamm, Berlin's liveliest street. Pass the Rathaus Schöneberg,



The grand Neuschwanstein was the inspiration for Disneyland's Sleeping Beauty castle.

where 1.5 million West Berliners flocked to hear President Kennedy's famous "*Ich bin ein Berliner*" speech in 1963. On your way to the Eastern sector, pass the Reichstag, former seat of the parliaments of the German Empire and the Weimar Republic. Arrive at the Brandenburg Gate, once the symbol of the undeclared Cold War, and now the symbol of a reunited Berlin. It was at this gate that the famous images of East and West Berliners dancing atop the crumbling Berlin Wall were filmed and broadcast around the world. As you see where the Berlin Wall actually stood, imagine the bleak watchtowers and piercing spotlights that guarded "the border" until November 1989. Journey down Unter den Linden, once considered one of the world's most elegant boulevards.

Visit to the Checkpoint Charlie Museum •

On the site where Checkpoint Charlie once guarded the border between East and West Germany, you'll visit a museum devoted to the era of the Berlin Wall. Inspect the "escape cars" once used to cross the border. See if you can find the secret compartment where escapees hid. Then view a photo exhibit that evocatively portrays the 30-year separation of East and West Germany, reunified in 1989.

Guided visit to the Jewish Museum • Explore 2,000 years of German-Jewish history at this museum, which is over 9,000 square feet and features contemporary art installations, multimedia exhibits and cabinet displays. Your guided tour may cover topics as diverse as Jewish life and traditions (what kosher really means), the emergence of modern Judaism.

Day 4 Berlin

Guided sightseeing of Old Jewish Quarter

• Take an enlightening tour of the Old Jewish Quarter. Devastated during World War II, this historic center has since undergone a major cultural revitalization and is now a thriving Jewish community in Berlin. Gaze at the domes of the New Synagogue, which was built in 1860 and stands as a symbol of this area's rebirth. Explore

the site where brave opposition to the Nazi persecution occurred and hear the inspirational history of this resilient community.

Excursion to the House of Wannsee Conference • Marking the 50th anniversary of the House of Wannsee Conference that took place here in 1942, the former villa opened their doors to the public in 1992 as a museum and archival library. In 2006, a new exhibition was installed that addresses what Hitler called "The Final Solution."

Panel Discussion on the Cold War * • Attend an eye-opening and informative panel discussion on life during the tumultuous Cold War period. Spanning over forty years, from the mid-1940's until the 1980's, the Cold War was the divisive relationship between the United States and the Soviet Union. Learn the history of the deadly blockade erected through East and West Berlin known as the Berlin Wall and hear accounts of daily life living on either side of the Iron Curtain.

Day 5 Warsaw

Transfer by train to Warsaw • Journey to Warsaw, Poland's capital since 1611. Even though approximately 85 percent of the city was destroyed in World War II, you'll notice that much of the Old City has retained its charm. After the war ended, people used photographs, paintings and other historical documents to rebuild the city to its original splendor.

EF walking tour of Warsaw • Your tour director introduces you to this city with historic roots. In 1939 Nazi forces took over the city. Thousands of Jewish citizens were forced to live in the small, ghetto area near the Old Town. Approximately 100,000 Jewish people from other parts of Poland were brought to live in the ghetto. Most died due to cramped quarters and inadequate living conditions. You'll see the Gestapo headquarters, where insurgents were taken for questioning and the Pawiak Prison, where anyone suspected of opposing the Nazis was sent. Time permitting, you may wish to visit one of the museums dedicated to World War II history.

Day 6 Warsaw

Guided sightseeing of the Warsaw Ghetto

The Warsaw Ghetto was established in 1940 as a way to isolate the Jewish population from the rest of the city. When the Nazis closed off the ghetto from the outside world, approximately 380,000 people lived there. However, during the next three years, the population dropped dramatically to approximately 70,000 due to starvation and disease. You'll see the Warsaw Ghetto Monument, which commemorates the heroic efforts of the Jewish resistance fighters. Then visit the Jewish Cemetery, where many of the residents of the Warsaw Ghetto were buried. Today, the director of the cemetery and his team are working to index all the graves and help people reconstruct their family trees.

Day 7 Krakow

Arrival in Krakow • Arrive in Krakow, Poland's former capital.

EF walking tour of Krakow • Enjoy the unspoiled splendor of Poland's former capital as you walk the narrow streets of Krakow's Old Town on our EF walking tour. Hitler's armies were driven out of Krakow before they had a chance to destroy it, thus the city has retained its original charm.

Day 8 Krakow

Visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau • From 1940 and 1945, between 1.1 and 1.5 million people died at the Auschwitz and Birkenau death camps as a result of Hitler's "Final Solution" to rid Europe of Jews and other ethnic minorities. A chilling reminder of man's inhumanity, the camp has since been turned into a memorial museum. A walk through the barracks, many still preserved in their original state, reminds you of the atrocities that occurred here not long ago. Observe a moment of remembrance for the 6 million victims of the Holocaust, and view a film about the horror of Auschwitz and the Third Reich.

Day 9 Prague

Transfer to Prague • Continue on to Prague, former capital of the Holy Roman Empire. Located on the Vltava River, the city gracefully balances the legendary beauty and classical features of old Europe with its lively, Bohemian spirit.

Day 10 Prague

Guided sightseeing of Prague • Your tour begins at the celebrated Prague Castle (Hradcany). In the castle's courtyard, you'll visit the magnificent St. Vitus Cathedral, which took more than 600 years to complete. On the nearby Golden Lane, royal alchemists once labored (unsuccessfully) to turn lead into gold. More recently, on the same street, Franz Kafka turned his angst into some of the century's finest fiction. You'll also stroll through the quaint, cobbled streets of the Mala Strana, the backdrop for Milos Forman's *Amadeus*. Cross the Charles Bridge, adorned with 30 beautiful baroque statues, to the 13th-century Old Town (Stare Mesto). Here you'll see Market Square, famous for its 15th-century astronomical clock.

Guided sightseeing of the Jewish Quarter •

Your guide introduces you to Josefov, the Jewish Quarter. Walk through Lesser Square and past author Frank Kafka's house, which has since been turned into a restaurant. Walk along Maiselova Street, one of the main streets of the former Jewish ghetto. End your tour at the Maisel Jewish Synagogue, now home to the Jewish Museum. Here you'll see Torah covers, ceremonial objects and more.

Visit to the Jewish Cemetery • Considered one of the densest cemeteries in the world, this one-block plot of land holds more than 20,000 graves. When it was built in the 15th century, the local government would not allow Jews to be buried anywhere other than the cemetery; as a result, the graves were made deep enough to hold 12 bodies each. One of the most famous people buried here is Rabbi Loew, who created the legend of the giant, clay monster, Golem, to protect the city's Jews.

Visit to the Spanish Synagogue • Built on the site of the oldest Jewish house of worship in Prague, the interior of the Spanish Synagogue is decorated with traditional Islamic motifs. František Kroupa, who composed the Czech national anthem, played the organ here from 1836-45.

Visit to the Old-New Synagogue • Originally called the New Synagogue to differentiate itself from an older synagogue that no longer exists, the Old-New Synagogue is the oldest Jewish house of worship in Europe. Since it was built in 1270, people have worshipped here almost continuously; worship services ceased only during the Nazi occupation of 1941-45.

Day 11 Home

Return flight • Transfer to the airport for your return flight home.

EXTENSION

Day 11 Nuremberg • Munich

Transfer via Nuremberg • Transfer through the German town that became infamous for its association with Nazi Germany's Third Reich and the trials that were held here to determine the perpetrators of war crimes.

Tour director-led sightseeing of Nuremberg •

Your EF Tour Director shows you the second-largest city in Bayern, the site of the Nazi war-crime tribunals. See architecture built up from the stone foundations bombed by the Allies during WWII.

Day 12 Munich

Guided sightseeing of Munich • Your guided tour takes you past the Olympic Stadium, the headquarters of BMW, and the fashionable Schwabing district. You'll also pass the Residenz (once home to the Wittelsbach dukes of Bavaria), the Deutsches Museum, the university and the Alte Pinakothek. Your tour concludes at Marienplatz, Munich's medieval heart, where you'll see the city's famed Glockenspiel.

Excursion to Dachau • Visit Dachau, a WWII Nazi concentration camp built in 1935 and lib-

erated by the Allies in April 1945. It now serves as a memorial museum.

EF walking tour of Munich • Stroll through the heart of Munich as you pass the twin copper domes of the Frauenkirche, a long-standing symbol of the city. Arrive at Marienplatz, once the intersection of medieval trade routes. Here, you can see the neo-Gothic Rathaus and the golden Mariensäule, a monument commemorating Munich's divine salvation from rampaging Swedish hordes. Then continue past the Hofbräuhaus, Munich's most famous beer hall. On a good day, almost 30,000 liters of beer are sold here.

Day 13 Munich

Excursion to Oberammergau and Neuschwanstein •

Head for the Bavarian Alps as you make your way to scenic Oberammergau, the village known for its open-air staging of the Passion Play, Germany's oldest festival. Then you'll see "Mad" King Ludwig's fairy-tale castles. Explore Neuschwanstein, the real-life model for Disneyland's Sleeping Beauty Castle. Learn about the life and mysterious death of the young king, one of Europe's most eccentric rulers. King Ludwig so preferred dreams over reality that his servants could address him only from behind a screen. In fact, the original plans for the castle were drawn up by a theater set designer, not an architect.

Day 14 Munich

Return home • Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.

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