

Educational Tours



EF STEM

Sustainable Living in Germany & Switzerland

Recycling. Clean energy. Cars of the future. Germany and Switzerland have been at the forefront of some of the world's most forward-thinking approaches to technology and energy. And it's easy to see why—these countries are a perfect blend of European charm and start-up culture.

Learn about Germany and Switzerland's innovative sustainability efforts by seeing state-of-the-art models of renewable energy, urban farming, and eco-tourism. Be a part of the creative conversation firsthand as you embark on an urban quest in the green city of Freiburg, hike through an Alpine glacier, and discover a vast underground city in a nuclear bunker in Lucerne.

Explore a world built on STEM

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math shape communities across the globe. Our STEM-focused tours showcase the value of diverse ways of thinking and building, while also highlighting the powerful universality of STEM subjects. At EF, we've spent over 50 years witnessing the power of educational travel, and we know how it can transform STEM learners. Each STEM tour challenges travelers to think critically, and helps students develop innovative solutions to global problems.

What to expect on a STEM tour

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Apply STEM principles by participating in project-based learning that goes well beyond theory.

INNOVATIVE LOCATIONS

Tour exciting international destinations that host some of the world's most advanced laboratories, universities, and companies, or are simply perfect global "classrooms" to study analytical issues of the day in real life.

INDUSTRY EXPERTS

Collaborate and learn with scientists, engineers, researchers, and other STEM practitioners in the field.

YOUR EXPERIENCE INCLUDES

Full-time Tour Director; sightseeing tours; entrances fees for Topography of Terror Museum, sustainable development activity, local business visit, urban farming visit, Mercedes-Benz Museum, Innovation Academy, Hofgut Sternen, Swiss glacier, Entlebuch Biosphere, nuclear bunker; round-trip flights; 8 overnight stays in hotels; breakfast and dinner daily; lunch on Day 7

Explore the sustainable city of Freiburg, Germany with a local expert from Innovation Academy.

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"Learning must be tied to real-world, relevant experiences in order for students to connect with their education."

Valerie F., Former Science Department Chair



Berlin's Brandenburg Gate was modeled after architectural elements from the Acropolis.



Visit the Black Forest, the backdrop for many of the Brothers Grimm fairytales.

Days 1-2: Fly to Germany

Meet your Tour Director at the airport in Berlin, the vibrant capital of reunified Germany. As you stroll the city on a guided tour, you'll see the contrast of old and new—a mix of Baroque buildings, skyscrapers, and quaint cafes where entrepreneurs meet to brainstorm.

Day 3: Berlin

Take an expert-led tour of the city, then learn about the Nazi regime at the Topography of Terror Museum. You'll also tour one of Berlin's repurposed industrial complexes with an urban planner, and hear more about how the city was rebuilt after reunification.

Day 4: Berlin

This morning, see creativity out in the field during your visit to an innovative local company. In the afternoon, learn about city agriculture at a working urban farm.

Day 5: Stuttgart | Freiburg

Take a high-speed train to the automobile engineering hub of Stuttgart, where you can learn more about the history and the future of mobility during a visit to the Mercedes-Benz Museum.

Day 6: Freiburg

Visit the medieval city of Freiburg, now known for having reinvented itself as an eco-friendly community. Explore the city with Innovation Academy, a non-profit that focuses on sustainable living initiatives. Enjoy a guided urban quest through Freiburg's eco-districts, which feature green buildings, bike trails, and urban gardens.

Day 7: Freiburg | Lucerne region

At Hofgut Sternen, nestled in the picturesque Black Forest, check out local crafts, like the famous cuckoo clocks, and tour the village's sustainable facilities, including an on-site power plant. For lunch, cook your own *flammkuchen*, a style of flatbread from the nearby Alsace region.

Day 8: Lucerne region

Ride a cog railway to the top of the Swiss Alps, where you'll see a glacier up close. Back on the ground, take a tour of Lucerne. Visit the poignant Lion Monument and the medieval Chapel Bridge, where you can admire the murals overhead.

Day 9: Entlebuch | Lucerne region

Hike with an environmental scientist through the Entlebuch Biosphere, a nature reserve and UNESCO World Heritage Site at the foot of the Alps. Then head underground for an expert-led tour through a massive nuclear bunker in Lucerne, outfitted with hospital facilities, dormitories, and even a prison.

Day 10: Depart for home

Return with global perspectives and a renewed passion for sustainability.

The world leader in international education

For over 50 years, EF has been working toward one global mission: Opening the World Through Education. Your teacher has partnered with EF because of our unmatched worldwide presence, our focus on affordability, and our commitment to providing experiences that teach critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, and global competence.

AFFORDABILITY

We always offer the guaranteed lowest prices so more students have the opportunity to travel and experience the world.

INSIGHT

We believe in experiential learning at the most important sites. Your Tour Director is with you at every step, providing their own perspective and local tips.

SAFETY

We're committed to your safety. With 500 schools and offices in over 50 countries, EF staff can react quickly and in person wherever you travel.

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