

# Heart and Soul of Germany!

12 days / 10 nights



DAY 1

Munich



Departure via scheduled air service to Munich, Germany.

DAY 2

Munich



Upon arrival in Munich, meet your Q Events Tour Manager and enjoy a panoramic orientation tour of Munich, including a stop at the Marienplatz (with its famous Glockenspiel). Continue to the hotel in Munich for a Welcome Dinner and overnight.

DAY 3

Munich/Dachau



A morning, half-day guided tour of Munich includes the Frauenkirche, Hofbräuhaus, and entrance to Nymphenburg Palace. Nymphenburg Palace was the summer residence of the Bavarian sovereigns, begun in 1664 in the style of an Italian palazzo. After centuries of enhancements, it now bears a strong resemblance to Versailles Palace. Afternoon excursion to Dachau, the first Nazi concentration camp opened in Germany (22 March 1933), located on the grounds of an abandoned munitions factory near the medieval town of Dachau about 10 miles northwest of Munich. We will tour Hitler's infamous camp and see the museum. Return to Munich for dinner and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 4

Munich/  
Nuremberg/  
Bayreuth



Transfer to Bayreuth via Nuremberg for a tour including the Rathaus, Hauptmarkt, Frauenkirche, German National Museum, and entrance to Albrecht Dürer's House, presenting the living and working quarters of the great artist Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528). Continue to Bayreuth for dinner and overnight.

DAY 5

Bayreuth/  
Leipzig



A morning half-day walking sightseeing tour of the Old Town in Bayreuth includes seeing the Opera House, the Neues Schloss and entrance to Bayreuth Festival Theater. In the afternoon, transfer to Leipzig for dinner and overnight.

DAY 6

## Leipzig



We take part in a walking tour where we will see Altes Rathaus, St. Nicholas Church, with its undistinguished outward façade but interior soaring Gothic Choir and St. Thomas Church which was originally built as part of a 13th-century monastery and which was heavily restored after World War II. Afternoon free at leisure. Dinner and overnight in Leipzig.

DAY 7

## Weimar/ Erfurt



A full-day excursion from Leipzig to Weimar and Erfurt. Weimar's place in European history rests unshakably on an extraordinary flowering of intellectual talent which has grown steadily over the centuries. The authors Goethe and Schiller, and the German philosopher Nietzsche lived in this city, as did Franz Liszt. Weimar is sometimes referred to as the "German Athens". Continue to Erfurt, nicknamed the "Thuringian Rome" because of its many churches, chapels and monasteries. We will enjoy a tour through this richly beautiful, medieval city, see Barfüßerkirche, an attractive ruin and silent witness to the destruction of war as it was partially destroyed by WWII bombs. The nave remains in ruins but the choir has been restored. We will explore some unforgettable sites like the Merchant's Bridge, the Fischmarkt, the central square of Erfurt's city center, surrounded by Renaissance-style patrician houses and the Town Hall and also visit St. Mary's Cathedral. Return to Leipzig for dinner and overnight.

DAY 8

## Bonn/ Cologne



Transfer to Cologne via Bonn for a tour including a visit to the Beethoven's birthplace and Museum. The house at Bonngasse No. 20, in which Beethoven was born in 1770, is the family's only residence in Bonn which is still maintained and still in its original condition. Since 1993, it has been accommodating a museum presenting the biggest Beethoven collection in the world. Here you will discover new or little known facts about the famous composer. Continue to Cologne for dinner and overnight.

DAY 9

## Cologne



Take a guided tour of Cologne that includes viewing the Old Town and its Altes Rathaus (old city hall), and the famous Cathedral (entrance included). The Cathedral, the heart of the City of Cologne, is 144 meters long, 86 meters wide and with 157-meter-tall spires. It took a mere 632 years to build and has the largest facade of any church in the world - over 7000 sq meters! Also visit the Wallraf-Richartz Museum. The museum contains 700 years of art history and has one of the world's leading collections of medieval painting, and the widest collection of impressionist and neo-impressionist art in Germany. Dinner and overnight in Cologne.

DAY 10

## Rhein River Cruise /Bingen / Heidelberg



Today drive to St. Goarshausen and take a Rhine River Cruise to Rüdesheim, enjoying the regional beauty of the Loreley Valley with its castles, vineyards and picturesque villages. Disembark in Rüdesheim and enjoy some free time at leisure in the picturesque Old Town, strolling down the Drosselgasse, a narrow cobblestone pedestrian street lined with wine and open-air garden taverns. Continue to Heidelberg for dinner and overnight.

DAY 11

## Heidelberg



A half-day tour of Germany's oldest university town includes entrance to the Castle offering a splendid view of the city beneath. In the castle, see the Great Barrel, the Courtyard and the Pharmaceutical Museum. Also see the old university itself, the Cathedral of the Holy Ghost, the Old Bridge and the Jesuit Church. This is an enchanting city in which to stroll! Enjoy an afternoon at leisure for sightseeing, shopping, or other activities. Farewell dinner and overnight at our hotel in Heidelberg.

DAY 12

## Depart for Home



Transfer to the Frankfurt Airport for the return flight home.