

Freiburg am Breisgau

Tour Code: PTG24



A Visit to Three Sisters in

Germany

June 16 - 29, 2024

Sponsored by:
Madison-Freiburg
Sister City Committee
&
Kassel-Dane Taskforce

Castle of Sleeping Beauty



Black Forest Cake



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Lion castle or Lowenburg, Kassel



Day 1: Sunday, June 16, 2024 • Departure

Our journey begins with a coach transport to O'Hare Airport in Chicago, where we board our international flight bound for Frankfurt, Germany. **Inflight meals**

Day 2: Monday, June 17, 2024 • Kassel

Upon our arrival in Frankfurt, we meet our coach driver and tour guide and drive to Kassel, Germany. Kassel is a charming city and cultural center located in the north of the state of Hessen in Germany. It is home to numerous palaces, attractive green spaces, and world-famous scenic parks. It is also known as the capital of the German Fairytale Route. A local guide joins us for a brief orientation of the city where we spend the next three nights. This evening we enjoy dinner together at our hotel. **D**

Day 3: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 • Kassel

Today we explore Kassel and the area around it. We visit the Ducal Palace of nearby Celle, which was built in 1318 and has the only church north of the alps with completely preserved Renaissance features. We enjoy the marketplace and have free time for lunch as well as bring back memories of our childhood books when we visit the Grimm World Center and exhibition. Dinner is on our own tonight. **B**

Day 4: Wednesday, June 19, 2024 • Kassel

We continue our exploration of our sister county with a visit to a famous distillery (St. Albert's), the site where Hessians who fought in the Revolutionary War embarked on their way to America (Karlshafen), and one of the oldest nature preserves in Europe where you can see Sleeping Beauty's Castle (Sababurg). We have dinner in a local restaurant. **B, D**

Day 5: Thursday, June 20, 2024 • Cologne

We bid 'Auf Wiedersehen' to Kassel and make our way to Cologne, Germany today where a local guide introduces us to the historic old town of Cologne and the highlights of the city including the Cologne Cathedral, Hohenzollern Bridge, and the Old Historic Town Hall. Then we visit a local brewery where we have the opportunity to learn about and sample some of the Kolsch beer. Tonight, we enjoy dinner at a local beerhall. **B, D**

Day 6: Friday, June 21, 2024 • Cologne

This morning we visit the Praetorium and see the Roman ruins which have been built over during the centuries. Next is a sweet visit to the Cologne Chocolate Museum. We have lunch

Cologne Cathedral



and then the remainder of the day to explore on our own. **B, L**

Day 7: Saturday, June 22, 2024 • Rüdesheim

Today we make our way to Rüdesheim, the most picturesque of the Rhineland "wine villages." We spend our afternoon with "Vater Rhein," the "Granddaddy" of the German waterways. A cruise on the most scenic segment of the river past majestic medieval castles and fortifications perched high on the banks overlooking the river, picturesque villages with pointed church spires, and countless immaculately-kept vineyards. We disembark at Bacharach and have time to explore. This evening we have dinner at a winery. **B, D**

Day 8: Sunday, June 23, 2024 • Rüdesheim

This morning we tour a local winery and vineyard. The remainder of the day is free to explore on our own. You may like to try one of the friendly restaurants or wine taverns in the Drosselgasse or perhaps make an excursion up to the Niederwald Memorial, which commemorates the re-establishment of the German Empire in 1871. **B**

Day 9: Monday, June 24, 2024 • Strasbourg

Today we explore Strasbourg, a UNESCO city which lies along a major section of the Rhine River, with river traffic going north and south, and a road axis connecting the Vosges Mountains to the west, and the Black Forest to the east. Highlights of our guided tour include the intimidating 11th century Cathedral of Notre Dame, and the historic Grande Île with La Petite France, where artisans worked their trades in the Middle Ages. We have the remainder of the day free to explore, try local wines, walk the parks and boulevards, or shop in the historic neighborhood, full of criss-crossed streets and half-timbered buildings. **B, D**

Day 10: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 • Freiburg am Breisgau

We have a free morning in Strasbourg to explore on our own. Then we make our way to Freiburg. A local guide orients us to the city. This evening we have dinner in a local restaurant. **B, D**

Day 11: Wednesday, June 26, 2024 • Freiburg am Breisgau

Today we explore the mysterious Black Forest, known for its dark pine-covered hills and inhabited by the elves who carve the cuckoo clocks for which the region is famous. Here we visit a cuckoo clock factory to see how the clocks are made, and of course, have the opportunity to purchase a future family heirloom. Our exploration also includes a fascinating tour of

Strasbourg, UNESCO World Heritage Site



the Vogtsbauernhof, an open air museum, featuring a collection of reconstructed Black Forest farmhouses from previous centuries. We return to Freiburg this evening where dinner is on our own. **B**

Day 12: Thursday, June 27, 2024 • Freiburg am Breisgau

This morning we cross the Rhein, once again, and drive along the French side of the River, following the famous "Route du Vin," (Wine Road.) We experience some of the delightful little wine villages, along the way, which somehow appear more rustic than those on the German side. After lunch we experience a "degustation," (wine tasting). In the afternoon we visit the lovely city of Colmar, before crossing the river and following the German side of the valley back to our hotel where we have dinner. **B, D**

Day 13: Friday, June 28, 2024 • Wiesbaden

Today we head back north to Wiesbaden where a local guide joins us as we learn about Wiesbaden's history on a walking tour. We admire the Marktkirche, enjoy the Kurpark, take a photo stop at the Kurhaus and see the thermal springs and try the natural mineral water. We also tour the Capital Building. Tonight we have a farewell dinner. **B, D**

Day 14: Saturday, June 29, 2024 • Return

We transfer to the Frankfurt airport for our return flight to Chicago O'Hare and our transfer back to Madison.

Cableway from Rudesheim



TOUR COST: \$7,039* per person

Includes estimated air from Chicago O'Hare

**Price is based on a minimum of 15 paying participants, double occupancy
Discount of \$600 per person with 20+ travelers registered by Oct. 15, 2023*

Single supplement = \$896

Your Tour Includes:

- Estimated **Roundtrip airfare** from Chicago to Frankfurt related taxes and fees (\$1,975)
- **Land Transportation** via private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- **Accommodations** (double occupancy) in superior tourist and moderate first-class hotels
- **Meals per the itinerary**
- Services of a **professional tour manager**
- Local step-on guides for city tours and major attractions
- **Admission** to all activities indicated in the itinerary except those listed as optional
- **Luggage handling** of one piece per person at hotels
- Luggage strap, luggage tags and trip journal
- **All taxes and tips** for provided services except as noted below

Your Tour Does Not Include:

- Meals not indicated on itinerary
- **Beverages**, except with breakfast
- **End of tour gratuities** for tour manager and coach driver
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees.
(Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date.)
- **Optional insurance** for health, baggage and cancellation.
(*This insurance is available and offered by Pyramid Travel.*)

Payment Schedule:

Deposit with registration:

\$500 per person

Final payment due March 4, 2024:

Balance per person

Invoices will be sent out prior to final payment. Passengers may add after this date subject to air and land availability. Generally airlines do not increase the price of a ticket after it has been contracted. However, prior to the issuance of a ticket, airlines may (and regularly do) impose fuel, tax, or security surcharges. In the event a surcharge is imposed after Ed-Ventures has received a final payment, Ed-Ventures will send an additional invoice for the surcharge amount. Early registration is encouraged.

Currency:

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

Refund/Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing. The date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Refunds are based on the number of days prior to departure date. From the time of deposit to 120 days before departure a \$100/person administrative fee plus any airfare & land penalties will be assessed. From 119-31 days, a \$500/person cancellation penalty plus lost airfare deposits and any unrecoverable deposits to ground suppliers will be assessed. Airline tickets once purchased are nonrefundable. Anyone canceling less than 30 days prior to departure will receive no refund.

Purchase of health, baggage, and trip cancellation/interruption insurance is strongly recommended.

Abbreviations for Meals

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

Terms and Conditions

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of subscription. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

Responsibility: Pyramid Travel, Ed-Ventures, Inc., their officers and employees, tour hosts, or any other persons or vendors connected with the tour shall not under any circumstances accept liability, provide refunds or pay compensation where the performance of our contractual obligations is prevented or affected, or you otherwise suffer any loss, injury, death, inconvenience or damage as a result of circumstances amounting to "force majeure". This means any event or circumstances which we or our suppliers of the services in question could not foresee or avoid. Such events and circumstances may include, acts of God, actual or threatened, war, insurrection, riots, strikes, civil action, decisions by governments or governing authority, technical or maintenance problems with transport, changes of schedules or operational decisions of air/transport carriers, terrorist activity or the threat thereof, industrial action, natural or nuclear activity, epidemic, pandemic, illness, physical injury, quarantine, medical or customs or immigration regulation, delay, or cancellation, adverse weather conditions, fire and all similar events outside our control.

Due to COVID-19, we reserve the right to adjust the tour in order to follow the guidelines and policies set by the CDC and the local governments.

The airline(s) concerned are not held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on their planes or conveyances. The passenger's contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of this tour and/or passenger. Any and/or all transportation companies herein mentioned shall not have nor incur any responsibility to any traveler aside from their liability as common carriers. Air and land costs are subject to change without notice. **Air transportation is via special, non refundable airfare. Any additional airfare assessments made by the airlines for any changes whatsoever shall be the responsibility of the client.** Other rules may also apply. Services of any A.R.C. or I.A.T.A. carrier may be used in conjunction with this tour. If there is a change in air prices and/or currency exchange rates, we reserve the right to adjust prices.

I grant Ed-Ventures, Inc and its agents the right to take photographs and videos of me during the tour and any meetings related to the tour before or after the tour. I authorize Ed-Ventures Inc, its assigns and transferees to copyright, use, and publish in print and/or electronically.

I agree that Ed-Ventures may use such photographs or videos of me with or without my name for any lawful purpose, including publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content.



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A Visit to Three Sisters in

Germany

Please register me for:

☐ PTG24 • June 16 - 29, 2024
land & est. air from ORD

☐ Single Supplement • \$896

Passenger Information (1st Traveler)

Please record information exactly as it appears on your passport. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport. *Best practice is to include a photocopy of your passport with the application.*

Legal Name: _____

(Name for name badge): _____

Passport #: _____

Passport Exp. Date: _____

Passport Authority: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female (required by airline)

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Passenger Information (2nd Traveler)

Please record information exactly as it appears on your passport. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport. *Best practice is to include a photocopy of your passport with the application.*

Legal Name: _____

(Name for name badge): _____

Passport #: _____

Passport Exp. Date: _____

Passport Authority: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female (required by airline)

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Work phone/cell: _____ E-mail: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

Sleeping Preference (circle one): Double bed (1 bed) Twin Beds (2 beds)

Roommate name: _____ OR Single supplement: _____ Yes _____ No

Travel Insurance

☐ I wish to purchase a travel protection plan. (Contact Pyramid Travel)

☐ I wish to decline the travel insurance offered. I understand I am solely responsible for any cancellation penalties and out of pocket expenses occurred should I have an emergency before or during the tour.

Deposit Payment Information (please check one)

☐ Enclosed is my \$ _____ deposit and insurance premium (if applicable). **Make check payable to Pyramid Travel**

☐ Please charge \$ _____ deposit and insurance premium (if applicable) to my Discover/MasterCard/Visa

Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Card ID Code:* _____ *last 3 digits in signature box on the back of the card

_____ Initial to acknowledge you understand that Federal law prohibits the carriage of certain hazardous materials in your luggage or on your person aboard aircraft and could result in a fine or imprisonment. Visit www.tsa.gov for more information.

Prices in this brochure were effective on 9.6.23. By signing below, I understand that price changes are possible at the time of final invoicing, due to exchange rates, an increase in carrier charges, fuel costs, taxes and tariffs, and the number of passengers traveling in the group. I understand that insurance premiums and credit card fees are non-refundable. I agree to the terms and conditions of this tour.

Signature of 1st traveler: _____ Date: _____

Signature of 2nd traveler: _____ Date: _____



Please return registration and deposit to:

Brenda L. Trainor • Pyramid Travel of Wisconsin Inc.

600 W. Verona Ave • Verona, WI 53593

9.6.23 land & est. air from ORD