

TRAVEL BROCHURE

ACADEMY
TRAVEL
HEIDELBERG



FOREWORD

DEAR FRIENDS,

as you read through this brochure, we hope that you will find the travel package that is exactly suited to your needs. We also hope that you will see what makes Germany such a remarkable place to visit. Every year, thousands of Germans choose to stay in Germany rather than travelling abroad for holidays, and they are joined not only by guests from neighbouring countries, but also visitors from far-flung continents. There is truly something for everyone: stunning natural landscapes, fairytale castles, spa towns and hiking trails. Germany is an unforgettable and incomparable part of the world.

At Academy Reisen, we are very proud of the selection of travel packages that we have assembled for you, ranging from three-day tours to a week and longer. Key to an enjoyable stay is an attentive host who caters to your individual needs, and the hotels that we have chosen all meet this high standard. They also meet a high standard of quality and comfort, and the staff of each and every hotel are primed to make sure that you have an unforgettable stay, where you will be given plenty of opportunities for rest and relaxation, but no chance of boredom. Good food is also a priority, as our chefs use fresh, local ingredients to prepare regional specialities and other culinary delights.

We guarantee that everybody will find something that they will enjoy among our packages. If you are in the mood for luxury, our hotels will give you a wonderfully comfortable home away from home. History buffs will be enchanted by the medieval towns along the way, and by the palaces along the Castle Road. If natural beauty is what you long for, the Bavarian lakes or the spectacular landscapes of Northern Germany are what we would recommend.

And the best has been saved for last... All of our tours come as package deals, but you can arrange your trip in exactly the way that suits you. With your own car or a rental that we can organise, you can go wherever the road takes you.

Please note that our prices apply to double rooms. You can book single rooms for request. Extra costs, eg. visitor's tax, may be incurred during your stay.

Enquire today and set the wheels for your holiday in motion.

Warm regards,
Academy Reisen



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HEIDELBERG & MAULBRONN

HEIDELBERG - MAULBRONN

Package includes

3-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 1 night's stay in a 'Standard' double room
- Glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine on arrival, season depending
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the partner restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, where available
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Maulbronn

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 2-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Bottle of water in your room
- Guided tour of the monastery for two
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi

Itinerary

Day 1: Heidelberg

Your journey begins in Heidelberg. Your hotel is at the heart of the romantic Old Town and you can check in as soon as you arrive. The hotel is ideally located as a base from which you can visit the many attractions that Heidelberg has to offer. Absolutely unmissable is Heidelberg Castle, with its spectacular view of the town and the Neckar River.

Day 2: Schwetzingen & Maulbronn

Following a restful night and a generous breakfast, you will start out for Maulbronn. We highly recommend a short detour via the gorgeous Schwetzingen Castle and the country roads around Bruchsal. Arriving in Maulbronn after an eventful day, you will have the chance to relax in your room before enjoying a two-course meal in the hotel restaurant.

Day 3: Maulbronn

Today's breakfast will set you up for the day, as you set out for a guided tour of Maulbronn Monastery, which is a UNESCO world cultural heritage site. You will have plenty of time to enjoy the rest of the day in Maulbronn, before you start for home.

3 days
187€/p.p.

A VISIT TO THE TOWN MUSICIANS OF BREMEN

BREMEN - BREMERHAVEN

Package includes

3-star hotel in Bremen

- 1 night's stay in a double room Buffet breakfast for two Kettle with coffee and tea facilities
- Complimentary use of wellness area incl. massage benches
- Free entry in the House of History Bremen for two
- 1 x surprise gift
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Bremerhaven

- 1 night's stay in a double room Buffet breakfast for two 3-course evening meal in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary use of the sauna (from 5 pm to 10 pm)
- Free entry in the German Maritime museum for two
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Bremen

Your journey begins in the home of the famous Town Musicians of Bremen. Your exploration of this multi-faceted town begins in the Schnoor quarter, where romance seeps into each of its tiny, narrow laneways. The town hall is c. 600 years old and its cellar, hearty cuisine and excellent wine make it a must-see for any visitor to Bremen. The town hall, together with its statue of Bremen Roland, is a UNESCO world cultural heritage site.

Day 2: Bremen & Bremerhaven

A generous breakfast will get you off to a great start on your second day. The Museum of Local History in Schöbebeck Castle is always worth a visit. The castle's origin is shrouded in mystery to this day. Indulge in the culinary specialties of the city - 'Kohl und Pinkel' (kale with smoked sausage) is best enjoyed in good company.

Your journey continues to Bremerhaven, the home of the Hobgoblin. The original ships in the German Shipping Museum are fascinating, and not only from afar - you are welcome to touch the exhibits and even give them a try! After all this excitement, why not finish the day at the Weser beach - its wicker chairs and beach bar create a wonderfully relaxed atmosphere.

Day 3: Bremerhaven

Your exploration of Bremerhaven is far from over! The coastal town offers a range of activities for young and old alike, and you can meet a host of water animals and Nordic species in the seaside zoo. There is a fantastic view of the city at the SAIL City viewing platform, in the city's highest building. In the afternoon you will set out for home, carrying lovely memories along with your luggage.

3 days
179€/p.p.

THE EUROPÄISCHER HOF HOTEL, HEIDELBERG

Package includes

5-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 2 nights' stay in a 'Comfort' double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Bottle of water and fruit bowl on arrival in your room
- Complimentary use of the Panorama Spa Club
- Complimentary WiFi

Itinerary

Day 1: Heidelberg

Leave the stresses and strains of your journey to Heidelberg behind you as you relax and unwind in the hotel's Panorama Spa Club. In the evening, you will be treated to a fantastic meal in the hotel restaurant.

Day 2: Explore Heidelberg

Today you will start your exploration of Heidelberg. The steep steps to the famous castle ruins are worth the effort, as you will be rewarded with a spectacular view of the Old Town and the Neckar. Be sure not to miss the Old University or the world-famous student prison. All of this will work up your appetite for a three-course evening meal in the hotel restaurant.

Day 3: Farewell to Heidelberg

Following a generous breakfast and a few pleasant hours in Heidelberg, you can start out for home whenever suits you best. You are guaranteed to have gathered lovely memories, which will stay with you long after you have left the city behind.

3 days
405€/p.p.

IN PLAIN VIEW OF CASTLES

NECKARBISCHOFSSHEIM - WALDENBURG

Package includes

4-star hotel in Neckarbischofsheim

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary phone calls to German landlines
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Waldenburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two at 6pm in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary use of the hotel spa
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Neckarbischofsheim

Neckarbischofsheim is a small town in the Rhine-Neckar area, close to Heidelberg and Schwetzingen, and you will find not one, not two, but three castles in the area. The "old castle" is Neckarbischofsheim's oldest surviving building. The former knights' hall is used nowadays for wedding ceremonies, and the other buildings are home to the Museum of Local History. The "new palace" has housed the Schlosshotel since 2001. The most modern of the three castles, the "Alexanderschloss" has served as the city hall since 1997. As well as all of this spectacular architecture, Nickarbischofsheim also offers medieval charm, glorious woods and the rolling hills of Kraichgau.

Day 2: Neckarbischofsheim & Waldenburg

Following a generous breakfast, you will set out for the climatic spa resort of Waldenburg. Pure relaxation is guaranteed in your hotel, as you pamper yourself in our very own spa and later enjoy a three-course evening meal. A castle visit is - naturally - a must, but so too are the old town centre, the town hall and the Phoenix Fountain.

Day 3: Waldenburg

On the final day of your trip among the castles, treat yourself to a final stroll through Waldenburg or a bike trip through the idyllic local landscape, before you set out for home.

3 days
209€/p.p.



CASTLE ROAD - IN LUXURY

HEIDELBERG - ZWEIFLINGEN

3 days
427€/p.p.

Package includes

5-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 1 night's stay in our 'Comfort' double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (not including drinks)
- Bottle of water and fruit bowl upon arrival in your room
- Complimentary use of the Panorama Spa Club
- Complimentary WiFi

5-star superior hotel in Zweiflingen

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (not including drinks)
- Complimentary minibar
- Complimentary use of the spa
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Heidelberg

You will arrive in the lovely city of Heidelberg. Your first day will be spent visiting beloved tourist attractions such as Heidelberg Castle and the Old Bridge. In the evening, you will be spoiled for choice with a three-course meal in the hotel restaurant. Throughout your stay, you are more than welcome to visit the Panorama Spa Club.

Day 2: Castle Road

Following a peaceful night's sleep and a five-star breakfast buffet, you will make your way to Zweiflingen (Heilbronn). Enjoy the relaxing trip along the Neckar, taking in the view of a number of castles along the way. With your own transport, the number of visits you make and the pace of your travel is entirely up to you. As soon as you have checked in, you are welcome to treat yourself to pampering and relaxation in the expansive hotel spa. A three-course meal will set you up for a wonderfully calm evening in idyllic Hohenlohe.

Day 3: Hohenlohe and surroundings

Before you set off for home today, be sure to enjoy our generous breakfast buffet. Take a final opportunity to gather impressions and memories with a short excursion through Hohenlohe.



CASTLE TRAIL FROM BADEN TO WÜRTTEMBERG

HEIDELBERG - WALDENBURG

3 days
192€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- 1 glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine on arrival per person depending on season
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the partner restaurant (not including drinks)
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, where available
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Waldenburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (not including drinks)
- Complimentary use of the hotel spa
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Heidelberg

As soon as you have checked in, your exploration of the romantic city of Heidelberg can begin. The famous main street offers 2km of sights and shops, culminating in the atmospheric castle ruins at the peak of the Königstühl. From here you can enjoy the view of the picturesque Neckar Valley, for a moment stepping into history as you survey the former lands of the Grand Duchy of Baden.

Day 2: Castle Road

The scenic route that you will take today stretches over the Castle Road until you reach the lovely region of Hohenlohe. This fantastic drive offers you the opportunity to gather impressions and memories, as you decide whether to visit just one castle at your leisure, or even all ten. Absolutely unmissable is the view of four castles from Neckarsteinach, as are the castles in Hornberg and Guttenberg.

In the evening you can check into your hotel and enjoy the unique view of the land surrounding Hohenlohe.

Day 3: Waldenburg & Hohenlohe

Waldenburg - also known as 'Hohenlohe's Balcony' - is a state-recognised climatic spa and is the ideal destination for tours by foot, by bike or by horse. If none of these are to your taste, why not enjoy a day's swimming and relaxation by Lake Neumühlsee? How you spend your day is entirely up to you, so that you can start for home relaxed and rejuvenated.

ON THE TRAIL OF KNOWLEDGE

HEIDELBERG - DARMSTADT

3 days
177€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine on arrival, depending on season
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the partner restaurant (not including drinks)
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, where available
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Darmstadt

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course meal for two in the partner restaurant (not including drinks)
- One-day DarmstadtCard for two people
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Heidelberg

You will be greeted in your hotel with a glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine, as you take in the sights and sounds at the heart of the university town. When you set out to explore the town, make sure not to miss the Old University and the Student Prison.

Day 2: Heidelberg & Darmstadt

The second day on your quest for new knowledge will take you to Darmstadt, approximately 50 minutes away from Heidelberg. The City of Knowledge offers a huge amount in terms of cultural interest.

Day 3: Darmstadt

Following a nourishing breakfast and a pleasant morning in Darmstadt, we suggest that you spend the afternoon in Frankfurt, where you will see Germany's greatest skyline. At the end of the day you will start for home, refreshed and filled with new knowledge.

A SOJOURN IN BADEN

HEIDELBERG - BADEN-BADEN

3 days
202€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine on arrival, depending on season
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the partner restaurant (not including drinks)
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, where available
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Baden-Baden

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course meal for two in the hotel restaurant (not including drinks)
- Visitor's tax
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Heidelberg

Your journey begins in romantic Heidelberg, a beautiful city which is home to the oldest university in Germany. Your hotel is located in the centre of the city, so you will lose no time between checking in and starting to explore the town. Stroll through the picturesque Old Town until you reach the famous symbol of German Romanticism, the ruins of Heidelberg Castle. Spend the evening with a 3-course meal at the partner restaurant, located at the Old Bridge.

Day 2: Heidelberg & Baden-Baden

Following a generous breakfast in the hotel, you will set out for the bath town and spa resort of Baden-Baden. Relax into a wonderful feeling of calm, as this city offers as many beauty treatments and opportunities for pampering as your heart desires. Any one of the numerous thermal baths will calm your body and spirit, so that you will be fully relaxed when you return

to your hotel.

Day 3: Baden-Baden

How you spend your last day is left entirely up to you. We recommend a good breakfast before visiting "the most lovely casino in the world", as Marlene Dietrich called Baden-Baden's most popular attraction. We promise that you will be amazed by its mix of tradition and timeless elegance. For those who would prefer to dive straight into the style and charm of the 19th century, the colonnades of the Baden-Baden spa rooms are well worth a visit.



FROM MONASTERY TO CASINO

MAULBRONN - BADEN-BADEN

3 days
199€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star hotel in Maulbronn

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 2-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (not including drinks)
- Bottle of water in your room
- Guided tour of the monastery for two people
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi

4-star hotel in Baden-Baden

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 2-course meal for two in the hotel restaurant (not including drinks)
- Visitor's tax

Itinerary

Day 1: Maulbronn

Your journey begins in the culturally significant monastery city of Maulbronn. The time of your arrival and the events of the day are left entirely up to you. You will be welcomed back to the hotel restaurant at 6pm.

Day 2: Maulbronn & Baden-Baden

After a generous breakfast at the hotel, you will set out for a guided tour of the monastery. Since 1993, the monastery has kept its status as UNESCO world heritage site thanks to its pristine condition. The monastery is surrounded by a magnificent cultural landscape and all of the surrounding buildings add to the ensemble.

How long you spend in Maulbronn is entirely up to you, before you set off for Baden-Baden. After your 3 course evening meal, visit the casino. Starlet of the silver screen, Marlene Dietrich, called Baden-Baden's casino "the most lovely in the world". The casino is a wonderful mix of history, tradition, style and elegance.

Day 3: Baden-Baden

Baden-Baden is entirely worthy of your full attention on the final day of your trip. After breakfast, you can set off immediately on a sightseeing tour of the city. We recommend relaxing in the Caracalla thermal baths, or the Friedrichsbad spa.

FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF GOETHE

DARMSTADT - RHEINAU

3 days
145€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star hotel in Darmstadt

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course meal for two in the partner restaurant (not including drinks)
- One-day Darmstadt Card for two people
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Rhinaiu

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Use of the sauna for two - dressing gown, towel and slippers provided
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Darmstadt

Your journey begins in Darmstadt. Your DarmstadtCard will allow you free reign of the City of Knowledge. Many new sights and impressions will come your way, which we hope you will never forget.

Day 2: Frankfurt & Rheinaiu

After a generous breakfast you will set out for Frankfurt, which is only 30 minutes away. Perhaps the most famous part of the city is its skyline, which is known as Germany's greatest. As this trip is inspired by Goethe, we highly recommend a visit to the birth home of the world-famous artist. Having satisfied your cultural and historical appetite, it is always a good idea to hit the high street on a visit to Frankfurt. In the evening, you will set off for Rheina. After a busy day, the hotel sauna will provide much-needed relaxation.

Day 3: Strasbourg

Today is another busy day, as you set out immediately after breakfast to another wonderful city. You will make the trip over the border into French Alsace, where your ultimate destination is Strasbourg. This is where Goethe gained his doctorate and created contacts amongst his academic colleagues. Strasbourg is a city where you can take in the sights both by foot in the Old Town, and by boat on the Ill River. At the end of this eventful day, you will start out for home.

UNESCO OLD TOWNS

WURZBURG - REGENSBURG

3 days
190€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star hotel in Wurzburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi

3-star hotel in Regensburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant, including a glass of sparkling wine
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Wurzburg

Your first UNESCO world heritage site is the Old Town of Wurzburg. The Residence, with its spectacular courtyard and magnificent square, is one of the most extraordinary Baroque palaces in the world. The city has a host of other cultural highlights to enjoy. The Marienberg fortress is the symbol of the city, and the old Main bridge is another must-see. Your home for the evening is a carefully selected three-star hotel, the perfect base for sightseeing.

Day 2: Wurzburg & Regensburg

After breakfast, you will set out for one of Germany's best-maintained medieval towns. The Old Town of Regensburg is as spectacular now as it was in the early 14th Century, and has also been named a UNESCO world cultural heritage site.

Day 3: Regensburg

On your last day in Regensburg, you will have time to visit the sights that you have not yet had the chance to see, or simply take time out to wander through the Old Town before you leave.

IN THE LAP OF LUXURY

ZWEIFLINGEN

3 days
449€/p.p.

Package includes

5-star superior hotel in Zweiflingen

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary use of the minibar
- Complimentary use of the hotel spa
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1-3: Zweiflingen

Pure luxury awaits for the three days of your stay in Zweiflingen-Friedrichsruhe. Two things in particular will work wonders for anyone in need of a little space away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life: the hotel itself, and the spectacular natural landscapes that surround it. A trip to our exclusive spa will make you feel like royalty - relax in front of an open fire, in the sauna or in the double whirlpool tub. We pride ourselves on excellent service and if all of that pampering sharpens your appetite, you are very welcome to fresh fruit or juice, or to indulge in a sweet surprise.



ROMANS, NUNS AND MONKS

TRIER - MAULBRONN

3 days
168€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star hotel in Trier

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Maulbronn

- 1 night's stay in a 'Standard' double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 2-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Bottle of water in your room
- Guided tour of the monastery for two
- Late check-out available until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi

Itinerary

Day 1: Trier

Your journey begins in the city known as "the second Rome" - so-called because of its many Roman structures. Trier is the oldest city in Germany, founded over 2000 years ago. You should be sure to visit the amphitheatre, the Roman Bridge and the Porta Nigra, the Roman city gate of days gone by. The Basilica of Constantine, the Church of Our Lady and the cathedral are other must-see sights.

Day 2: Trier & Maulbronn

Today you will leave the Romans behind as you enter the more sacred world of nuns and monks. We are sure you will enjoy our partner hotel, where you can relax in the evening with a two-course meal.

Day 3: Maulbronn

After breakfast, you will be taken on a guided tour of the magnificent Maulbronn Monastery, which has been named a UNESCO world cultural heritage site. How you spend the rest of your time in Maulbronn before you head for home is entirely up to you.

CHURCHES AND MONASTERIES IN SOUTHERN GERMANY

3 days
152€/p.p.

INSEL REICHENAU - PFAFFENWINKEL

Package includes

3-star hotel in Schaffhausen/Reichenau Island

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Tour of the historic hotel (guild house) with the hotel's resident expert
- Complimentary use of the EuroFit fitness centre
- Complimentary WiFi
- Schaffhauserland visitor's tax

3-star hotel in Pfaffenwinkel/Steingaden

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Reichenau Island

The first day of your journey will be spent on gorgeous Reichenau Island, the largest of three islands in Lake Constance. Take a visit to Reichenau monastery, which was founded in 724 by the missionary bishop Pirmin and developed into the intellectual centre of the Occident during the intervening centuries. It has been recognised as a world cultural heritage site since 2000. The island is not only a cultural landmark - it also has culinary delights to offer, as it is well-known throughout Southern Germany that this is where the best quality vegetables are grown.

Day 2: Lake Constance & Pfaffenwinkel

Be sure to take the time to enjoy lovely Lake Constance today before you continue to Pfaffenwinkel.

If you are here during the summer, the lake is a great place to cool down - or you can take a boat trip to Mainau Island, where you can see masterpieces of botanic art.

Day 3: Pfaffenwinkel

The third and final day of your trip will be spent in Pfaffenwinkel. This is home to the largest church of pilgrimage of the 18th century - the Wieskirche. The church has been a UNESCO world cultural heritage site since 1983 and is one of the few church buildings of its time to be in its original condition. Its beautiful natural landscapes provide another good reason to visit Pfaffenwinkel, offering the visitor a chance to relax and enjoy the gorgeous surroundings.

LET IT SNOW

HEIDELBERG - KOBLENZ

Bookable in the
Christmasmarket-season
(location dependent).

3 days
260€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine on arrival, depending on season
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the partner restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, depending on availability
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star superior hotel in Koblenz

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 4-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Boat tour to Loreley (duration 2,5 h)
- Complimentary use of the hotel spa
- Complimentary WiFi

Itinerary

Day 1: Heidelberg

On the first day of your trip you will travel to the romantic city of Heidelberg. Spend the day getting to know the city - the Old Bridge and the castle ruins are a must for any visitor. The Christmas Market stretches from Bismarckplatz to Karlsplatz, leading you through Germany's longest pedestrian zone. We highly recommend a visit to the Christmas market at the castle, or for true romantics, ice-skating at the Karlsplatz rink.

Day 2: Heidelberg & Koblenz

In such a beautiful city it is hard to see everything in one day. So it is good that you can decide for yourself how long you will spend at each part of your journey! Following a generous buffet breakfast, you can take another stroll through the Old Town before setting out for Koblenz. You will have the chance to see the loveliest parts of the city, as the Christmas market stretches over several parts of the Old Town.

With over 100 booths and stands, there is something to gladden every Christmas heart! We highly recommend a trip to the Romanticum. As you step on board an imaginary steamboat, you will be a time traveler going through the history and legends of the Rhine region.

Day 3: Koblenz

After a peaceful night's sleep and a tasty breakfast, you will have some more time to wander around the market. Today you can go on a real boat trip to the Lorelei before visiting the symbol of the city of Koblenz: the "German Corner". This is where the Mosel meets the Rhine, creating a spectacular attraction for visitors from all over the world. Now you can set off for home, truly ready for the Christmas season, carrying not only gifts for others in your luggage, but also lovely memories for yourself.

O CHRISTMAS TREE

REGENSBURG - NUREMBERG

Bookable in the
Christmasmarket-season
(location dependent).

3 days
206€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star hotel in Regensburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (including glass of sparkling wine)
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Nuremberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Drink on arrival
- Buffet breakfast for two
- NurembergCard for two (includes ticket for all public transport routes)
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Regensburg

Your journey begins in Regensburg, one of Germany's oldest cities. There are no less than four Christkindle markets here and they are all marvelous! The market at Thurn and Taxis Castle is particularly beautiful. As well as the sights and sounds, there is also the taste of local specialties to enjoy. There are Old Bavarian delicacies and mulled wine varieties to please every palate. You might surprise yourself by really enjoying something new - give it a try!

Day 2: Regensburg & Nuremberg

As soon as you have set yourself up for the day with a hearty breakfast, you can visit the symbol of the town: the Stone Bridge. The bridge links the Old Town to the Stadtamhof quarter, which is a UNESCO world cultural heritage site. Then it is on to Nuremberg, the second-largest city in Bavaria. Nuremberg's world-famous Christkindle market is a magnet for visitors from all over the world.





BADEN'S CASTLE ROAD

HEIDELBERG - NECKARBISCHOFSSHEIM

4 days
305€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 2 nights' stay in a 'Standard' double room
- Glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine on arrival, depending on season
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the partner restaurant (drinks not included)
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Neckarbischofsheim

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary phone calls to German landlines
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1 & 2: Heidelberg & surrounding area

Not only are Mannheim, Schwetzingen and Heidelberg within a stone's throw of one another, they also have an aspect of historical interest in common: their stunning, world-famous castles and grounds. Europe's second-largest Baroque castle is in Mannheim, and its beauty is matched by Schwetzingen Castle with its spectacular grounds. Your home for the evening is in Heidelberg, where you can take in the view of the mystical castle ruins, perched on top of a hill and surrounded by beautiful scenery.

Day 3: Castle Road & Neckarbischofsheim

Your third day will take you further along the Castle Road to idyllic Neckarsteinach, where you can soak up the panoramic view of four castles at once. Your route will bring you directly to the 'Pearl of the Neckar Valley', Hirschhorn, a picture-perfect tiny town. Leaving Eberbach and Mosbach behind, you will visit one of the oldest castle grounds on the Neckar - Neckarbischofsheim Castle.

Day 4: Neckartal

Before you set out for home on your final day, we recommend a hike in the footsteps of Götz von Berchlingen in Horneck Castle, or a detour to the former spa town of Bad Wimpfen. Its cityscape attracts hundred of visitors from all over the world each year. If you are here during the Advent season, the traditional German Christmas market is a unique spectacle that takes place within view of the city gates.



THE COMFORT OF KINGS

NECKARBISCHOFSSHEIM - BRAUNSBACH - FRANCONIAN SWITZERLAND

4 days
327€/p.p.

Package includes

4-star hotel in Neckarbischofsheim

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary phone calls to German landlines
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Braunsbach

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 4-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Castle-hotel in Franconian Switzerland

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Neckarbischofsheim

This lovely small town in the north of Baden-Württemberg offers the perfect starting point for your kingly travels along the Castle Road. Neckarbischofsheim is situated between Heidelberg and Heilbronn and is an ideal base for visiting the castles and palaces of the area. The 'new palace' was built in 1829. Surrounded by lush grounds, it is now home to the Schlosshotel.

Day 2: Neckarbischofsheim & Braunsbach

Following a restful night's sleep and a breakfast fit for an emperor, you will set out for enchanting Braunsbach, just 75 km away. Combined with the heights of comfort, the charm of the majestic Kocher Valley in the heart of the Hohenlohe region offers a powerful remedy for the stresses and strains of everyday life. In the evening you will be treated to a 4-course meal of regional specialities.

Day 3: Braunsbach & Franconian Switzerland

Today you will leave Baden-Württemberg behind and set out for Bavaria. We recommend taking the scenic route over Rothenburg o. d. Tauber - 'Franconian Jerusalem' - and Nuremberg, before you arrive at Rabenstein Palace in the heart of Franconian Switzerland. As you enjoy a delicious evening meal, you will get the chance to marvel at the fairytale charm of the hotel.

Day 4: Franconian Switzerland

Today will be entirely devoted to the natural paradise that is Franconian Switzerland. Hikers and nature lovers beware - this place will steal your heart away! The falconry is open to visitors all summer long, and Sophie's Cave with its awe-inspiring stalactites attracts hundreds of visitors each year. Tear yourself away whenever you can, so that you can set out for home.



FRANCONIAN CASTLE ROAD

BAYREUTH - BAMBERG

4 days
280€/p.p.

Package includes

4-star hotel in Bayreuth

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant or partner restaurant
- Complimentary use of the hotel spa
- Complimentary upgrade to a deluxe double room, where available
- Tourist map of Bayreuth
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Bamberg

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the partner restaurant (not including drinks)
- Free parking

Itinerary

Days 1 & 2: Bayreuth

This city of culture, renowned for its annual Richard Wagner Festival, is the first stop on your journey through Franconian Switzerland. You can enjoy all of the benefits of a centrally located 4-star hotel. The historically significant Old Town with its festival hall and Margravian Opera House are only a few minutes away by foot. Make sure to visit the 'New Castle', which was built in the 18th century.

Days 2 & 3: Bamberg

Your trip from Bayreuth to Bamberg will bring you through Kulmbach, Kronach and Coburg, where you can experience more of the best sights along the Franconian Castle Road. Having your own car will allow you the freedom to create your own route and decide what you would like to see along the way. The next day, you can explore the former Episcopal and Imperial city at your own pace.

The New Residence, the Altenburg palace and the spectacular Old Town are at your doorstep.

Day 4: Nuremberg

It would be a terrible shame to visit Franconia without seeing Nuremberg. Before setting out for home on your last day, make a detour to the Franconian capital. The Old Town offers a huge number of attractions, including the Hospice of the Holy Spirit, the Imperial Castle, and the Albrecht Dürer House.

Package includes

3-star hotel in Augsburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Munich

- 2 nights' stay in a 'Superior' double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 2-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant, including one drink each
- Complimentary use of the minibar
- Munich city map
- Complimentary Sky TV
- Complimentary WiFi

Itinerary

Day 1: Augsburg

Your journey begins in Augsburg, a city with southern flair and a beautiful Old Town, filled with narrow laneways and public squares. Augsburg is best known for its 'Fuggerei' - the world's first alms house - as well as its Golden Hall and Town Hall, considered one of the most significant secular buildings north of the Alps.

Day 2: Augsburg & Munich

Following a restful night and a generous buffet breakfast, you will make your way to the city on the banks of the Isar. As soon as you have checked in you will head for Marienplatz, at the centre of Munich's Old Town. There is so much to enjoy around the area - the Old Town Hall, the New Town Hall, and many more. In the evening, you will be treated to a two-course meal in the comfort of your hotel.

Day 3 & 4: Munich

You will have plenty of time to explore Munich and its surroundings. We recommend the Deutsches Museum, the Olympiapark and the many impressive buildings in the city centre. Football fans should make a detour to the Allianz Arena. There is also a huge amount to see and do in the surrounding area, and you should take some time away from the city before you set out for home.



FROM THE BLACK FOREST TO ALSACE

FREUDENSTADT - OBERKIRCH NEAR OFFENBURG

4 days
236€/p.p.

Package includes

4-star hotel in Freudenstadt

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 4-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (not including drinks)
- Visitor's tax
- Complimentary use of the lakeside spa
- Use of dressing gown and slippers

3-star hotel in Oberkirch near Offenburg

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- 1 drink upon arrival per person
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (not including drinks)
- Complimentary wine tasting for two in the local vineyards
- Complimentary 'Konus-Karte' ticket for free travel on Black Forest public transport
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Freudenstadt

The first day of your trip brings you to Freudenstadt in the northern Black Forest. This is a healthy start to your holiday, as you can enjoy the sunshine of this state-recognised spa resort while you stay in 4-star accommodation on the banks of Lake Langenwaldsee.

Day 2: Freudenstadt and Oberkirch near Offenburg

After you have seen the sights in Freudenstadt - home to Germany's largest marketplace, which was originally intended to be the site for a castle - you will travel on to Offenburg. Offenburg is known as "the gate to the Black Forest" and is particularly famous for its Riesling wines. You will spend the night in the lovely Rench Valley in Oberkirch.

Day 3: The Black Forest

After today's generous buffet breakfast, you will get the chance to sample the unique wines of a local vineyard. Your travel pass will allow you free range of busses and trams in the Black Forest. A trip to Offenburg is advised, where you can explore historical buildings such as the Baroque Town Hall.

Day 4: Strasbourg

After your final night in Oberkirch, you will take a day trip to the Alsace. Strasbourg has earned the name "Capital of Europe" through a number of European initiatives that have been based there, as well as the UNESCO-protected Old Town. You will take a city tour with a difference, as you take in the sights of Strasbourg from the river on a boat tour. Treat yourself to a typical Alsace tart flambée before starting for home, having gathered memories as well as souvenirs.

BY LAKES AND IN CITIES

MUNICH - BERNRIED ON LAKE STARNBERG

4 days
255€/p.p.

Package includes

4-star hotel in Munich

- 2 nights' stay in a 'Superior' double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 2-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant, including one drink each
- Complimentary use of the minibar
- Complimentary city map
- Complimentary Sky TV
- Complimentary WiFi

3-star hotel in Bernried on Lake Starnberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Visitor's tax included
- Complimentary use of the pool and sauna
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1 & 2: Munich

Your first stop is the famous state capital of the Free State of Bavaria. As soon as you have checked in to your hotel, your exploration of Munich can begin. Munich boasts a number of unmissable sights: Marienplatz with its New Town Hall and Old Town Hall, the Church of Our Lady, the Residence and Stachus Square. Take a stroll through Munich's Old Town and do as much shopping as your wallet will allow.

Day 3: Munich & Lake Starnberg

Another healthy start to the morning is guaranteed with a delicious buffet breakfast, which you should be absolutely sure not to miss today. After setting yourself up for the day, it is entirely up to you how you spend the rest of your time in the Munich area. There is plenty to do if you decide to stay a while longer in Munich, or you could visit the beautiful 'land of five lakes' in the surrounding area.

Day 4: Bernried at Lake Starnberg

Today is your chance to immerse yourself in the spectacular natural landscape around Lake Starnberg. Be sure to take the opportunity for a boat trip while you are here. We hope that you will feel relaxed and rejuvenated as you set out for home.



FOUR DAYS ON THE CASTLE ROAD

During the Nuremberg
Christkindlesmarkt:
4 days 297€/p.p.

4 days
268€/p.p.

BAYREUTH - GÖSSWEINSTEIN - NUREMBERG

Package includes

4-star hotel in Bayreuth

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant or partner restaurant
- Complimentary use of the hotel spa
- Complimentary upgrade from Comfort Class to Deluxe, depending on availability
- Tourist map of Bayreuth
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Gößweinstein

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the partner restaurant (drinks not included)
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Nuremberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Drink on arrival
- Buffet breakfast for two
- NurembergCard for two (includes ticket for all public transport routes)
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Bayreuth

On this tour, you will start your Castle Road journey at the end and work your way back. Your starting point is Bayreuth, near the border with the Czech Republic. As soon as you have checked in, you can start your exploration of this lovely Franconian town, which is home to Bayreuth University and the famous festival hall. The Margravian Opera House is a UNESCO world cultural heritage site. It has gained a reputation as the most beautiful surviving Baroque theatre in Europe, and is well worth a visit.

Day 2: Natural Park of Franconian Switzerland & Gößweinstein

Today is entirely devoted to Mother Nature. When you visit the Natural Park you will also see the little town of Pottenstein as well as the building which gave the town its name - Pottenstein Castle, with its wonderful museum. Your journey will then take you on to Gößweinstein, also named after a castle, which dates back to the eleventh century.

Day 3: Gößweinstein & Nuremberg

After breakfast, we recommend a trip to historic Forchheim. Here, you can see for yourself why the Imperial Palace is the jewel in the crown of the city. However, what you do with your day is entirely up to you, and you could also choose to travel straight to Nuremberg and devote the entire day to the Franconian metropolis.

Day 4: Nuremberg

Nuremberg is a highlight of any trip to Germany. It is a city with many facets and offers the visitor a fascinating and unique travel experience. Nuremberg Castle, the Imperial Palace and the Old Town with its wide range of architecture are just three of the sights that you must see while you are here. Today is also the day that you set out for home and we think that you will be very happy with all that you have seen and experienced over the past few days.



IN AND AROUND NUREMBERG

NUREMBERG - COBURG - KULMBACH

During the Nuremberg
Christkindlesmarkt:
4 days 283€/p.p.

4 days
254€/p.p.

Package includes

4-star hotel in Nuremberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Drink on arrival
- Buffet breakfast for two
- NurembergCard for two (includes ticket for all public transport routes)
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Coburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Large bottle of mineral water in your room
- Complimentary WiFi

3-star hotel in Mitwitz (near Kulmbach)

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Weekends from May - September: Castle tour
- Complimentary use of the aqua-wellness spa
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Nuremberg

The starting point for your journey in and around Nuremberg is the city itself, the Franconian capital and metropolis of Nuremberg. A huge number of architectural gems awaits, including Nuremberg Palace, the symbol of the city built high upon a sandstone cliff.

Day 2: Nuremberg & Coburg

Following a generous buffet breakfast, your journey continues along the Castle Road via Bamberg to Coburg. Bamberg is built on seven hills and boasts a huge range of historically and culturally significant attractions, as well as a uniquely beautiful Old Town. The Veste Coburg is one of Germany's most magnificent castles and also remains one of the country's best-maintained. Here, you can look forward to learning all about a former place of retreat, beloved of Martin Luther.

Day 3: Coburg & Kulmbach

Even more castles await in Coburg and the surrounding area - Callenberg, Ehrenburg and Rosenau. It is entirely up to you how long you spend at each one, before making your way to the Rosenberg Fortress in Kronach. Your home for the evening is a carefully selected three-star hotel in Mitwitz, near Kulmbach.

Day 4: Kulmbach

Kulmbach, on the banks of the Main River, boasts truly spectacular natural landscapes and its fortress is one of the most impressive works of architecture in Bavaria. You absolutely cannot miss Plassenburg Palace, which towers high above Kulmbach and serves as the modern cultural centre of the Upper Main region. Then you will set out for the sixth and final city on your journey, Bayreuth, the university city which is also famous for its festivals. You will probably feel exhausted as you set out for home, but we hope you will also be delighted with the new experiences and memories you have gathered along the way.



WHITE CHRISTMAS

FREIBURG - HEIDELBERG - TRIER

Bookable in the
Christmasmarket-season
(location dependent).

4 days
293€/p.p.

Package includes

4-star hotel in Freiburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Guided tour of Freiburg for two
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 1 night's stay in a 'Standard' double room
- Glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine on arrival, season depending
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the Reichskrone Restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, depending on availability
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Trier

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Freiburg

Your journey begins in Freiburg, the fourth-largest city in Baden-Württemberg. The Christmas market is spread over three squares and two streets, and delicious smells, colourful wares and bright lights are to be found everywhere. The Freiburg Christmas market will bring you to a place where Christmas dreams can come true! The market is officially opened each year by the Lord Mayor, who bears responsibility for cutting an enormous gingerbread biscuit! This is then shared among the people attending - will you be there to have a piece?

Day 2: Freiburg & Heidelberg

After a hearty breakfast, you will be ready for another stroll around the city. Your next meal will be in the oldest guesthouse in Germany. The walls of the "Zum Roten Bären" are part of the oldest section of Freiburg. Afterwards, you will set out for Heidelberg. The Heidelberg Christmas Market stretches from Bismarckplatz through the pedestrian area to Karlsplatz. There are about 140 booths here and they are all waiting for your visit! Whether you are in the mood for something sweet or savoury, for mulled wine of the alcoholic or non-alcoholic variety, there is something here for everyone!

Day 3: Heidelberg & Trier

Once you have filled up at breakfast time, you should definitely visit the castle ruins - these are a must for any visitor to Heidelberg. This is certainly a city for hopeless romantics, and a stroll along the banks of the Neckar with its views of the castle and the Old Bridge will show this beyond the shadow of a doubt. Your journey will then bring you on to Trier. The Trier Christmas market is officially opened by the Mulled Wine Queen in the medieval main square at Trier Cathedral, a UNESCO world cultural heritage site. A Christmas atmosphere is guaranteed as you wander among 95 lovingly decorated wooden huts. You will certainly not feel the cold as you enjoy a roast sausage with a cup of mulled wine!

Day 4: Trier

Another tasty breakfast is a good start to your last day and your last stroll through the city. The Kaiserthermen ("Imperial Baths") are one of the city's main attractions - they were one of the largest public baths of the Roman Empire in the 4th Century and they are certainly worth a visit. Now you can set off for home, carrying not only gifts for others in your luggage, but also lovely memories for yourself.

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN

FREIBURG IM BREISGAU - FREUDENSTADT - BADEN-BADEN

Bookable in the
Christmasmarket-season
(location dependent).

4 days
295€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star hotel in Trier

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star superior hotel in Wiesbaden

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Free entrance to the Casino
- Complimentary WiFi

4-star superior hotel in Koblenz

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 4-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Boat tour to Loreley (duration 2,5 h)
- Complimentary use of the hotel spa
- Complimentary WiFi

Itinerary

Day 1: Trier

Trier was once the seat of power for the western Roman Empire and earned the nickname "the holy city" in medieval times. The Trier Christmas market takes place every year in front of the cathedral and is officially opened by the Mulled Wine Queen. This really is a place where Christmas dreams can come true. Your spirits will rise as you enjoy delicious mulled wine, sweet gingerbread and hearty roasted sausages.

Day 2: Trier & Wiesbaden

After a hearty breakfast, you can spend the morning wandering through the city. Nells Park is the perfect spot for any wanderer, with its changing faces each season of the year. Your journey continues to Wiesbaden, the state capital of Hesse. The 'Sternschuppenmarkt' is officially opened by the Lord Mayor each year and takes place at Schlossplatz. Around 130 stands and seasonal music from the town hall stage will help you get into the Christmas spirit. It goes without saying that you should try the mulled wine and culinary treats that the market has to offer.

Day 3: Wiesbaden & Koblenz

After a tasty breakfast you will have a bit more time to get to know the city before you continue your journey. A visit to the world's largest cuckoo clock is certainly worth your time! The cuckoo pops out to meet his visitors every half hour. Then, your journey will continue to Koblenz. The Christmas market is spread over several squares and fulfills every possible Christmas wish. The Christmas spirit is alive and well on a romantic carriage ride, accompanied by the scent of roasted almonds and mulled wine.

Day 4: Koblenz

After a peaceful night's sleep and a generous buffet breakfast, you should definitely take another trip into the city. A boat trip to the Lorelei is to be warmly recommended. Too cold? Then we recommend a trip to the Roman-ticum. Another boat trip here, but this time on an imaginary steamboat! The secrets and legends of the Rhine will open up before you, and you will feel truly refreshed and happy as you start your journey home.

SPA & SHOPPING

HEIDELBERG - METZINGEN

4 days
345€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 2 night's stay in a double room
- Glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine on arrival, season depending
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Free entry to the Badewelt Sinsheim
- 3-course evening meal for two in the partner restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, where available
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Metzingen

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Welcomedrink on arrival
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 4-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant
- VIP Shopping pass of the Outleycity

Itinerary

Day 1: Heidelberg

Your journey begins in Heidelberg. Located in the heart of the Old Town, there's the largest pedestrian zone in Germany with a length of 1.6 km. Full of different stores and restaurants to the left and right, the main street is a perfect place to shop and eat. We can warmly recommend a trip to the Castle of Heidelberg!

Day 2: Heidelberg & Sinsheim

Following a restful night and a generous buffet breakfast, you will spend your day in the Badewelt Sinsheim. Steam bath, sauna, massages, thermal bath or water park - there's something for everyone!

Day 3: Heidelberg & Metzingen

After an invigorating breakfast you will make your way to Metzingen. The Outleycity with more than 70 top brands in elegant flagship Outlets, international fashion and designer collections is waiting for you with all-the-year discounts!

Day 4: Metzingen

After the breakfast you can visit the viniculture museum in Metzingen. Experience through 27 stations a time journey to the 11th century. At a few stations you can even smell, feel, taste and experience the history of the viniculture. Relax during a walk in nature before you start out for home.



INSPIRING UNIVERSITY, WONDERFUL SPA TOWNS

5 days
487€/p.p.

FREIBURG IM BREISGAU - FREUDENSTADT - BADEN-BADEN

Package includes

4-star hotel, Freiburg im Breisgau

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Guided tour of Freiburg for two
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Freudenstadt

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 4-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Visitor's tax
- Complimentary use of the lakeside 'SPA am See'
- Use of bathrobe and slippers

4-star hotel in Baden-Baden

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Visitor's tax
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1 & 2: Freiburg im Breisgau

Let the inspiration commence! Your journey starts in Freiburg, in the beautiful Breisgau region. Freiburg is not only a picture-perfect university town, but also the largest vineyard town in Germany. Hardly surprising that the old town, with its Minster and romantic streams, attracts millions of visitors each year. We invite you to be one of them, as you take in the Minster, its nearby historical shopping emporium, and the view from the local mountain 'Schauinsland'. Freiburg also offers a great base for trips further afield, such as the neighbouring Alsace or the EuropaPark theme park. With so much to choose from, delight is guaranteed.

Day 3 & 4: Freudenstadt

With so many fantastic places to visit in the region, today it is time to pack up and head for Freudenstadt in the Northern Black Forest. The state-certified spa resort has offered up its wonders to thousands of visitors over the years.

Your home for the night is a spectacular hotel on the banks of Lake Langenwaldsee. We invite you to enjoy the hiking trails and ski slopes in the nearby area as you travel along the Black Forest overpass directly to Baden-Baden.

Day 4 & 5: Baden-Baden

Your journey of inspiration will achieve its final touches in the "summer capital of Europe". It is hard to imagine a lovelier end to a journey than the spa and thermal bath resort that is Baden-Baden. You will be far from the first people to enjoy its charms - it has a long tradition of hosting visitors, including the nobility and wealthy citizens of the 19th Century. Finish your journey in style at the famous spa house and casino, the second-largest concert hall in Europe, and the ruins of the Roman Baths at the heart of the city.

STEP BACK IN TIME: A JOURNEY TO THE EAST

DRESDEN - BERLIN

5 days
254€/p.p.

Package includes

4-star hotel in Dresden

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary use of the sauna, steam room and gym
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Berlin

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Berlin city tax
- Complimentary WiFi

Itinerary

Day 1 & 2: Dresden

Your journey brings you first to Dresden, the capital of the state of Saxony. Dresden is situated on the banks of the Elbe and is widely considered to be a city of art and culture that can hold its own internationally. The architecture of the city dates from a number of eras; a prime example is the Semper Opera House, which houses the Saxon State Opera and attracts hundreds of visitors each year. The architectural symbol of the city is the Church of Our Lady, which is absolutely unmissable. Also not to be missed is a boat tour along the beautiful Elbe.

Day 3: Dresden & Berlin

The third day of your trip will bring you over the Spreewald forest to the bustling German capital, Berlin. As soon as you have checked in, you can start for the Chancellery, the Brandenburg Gate and the Bundestag. So famous, and just at your front door - the perfect recipe for a fascinating afternoon.

Day 4 & 5: Berlin

We recommend tours by both land and water - Berlin's hop-on/ hop-off bus tour is legendary, and a number of companies offer tours along the Spree. Be sure to take a detour to Checkpoint Charlie and to the 'Sphere' restaurant in the television tower, where you can enjoy a 360-degree view of Berlin. If you find all this culture and history overwhelming, you should relax with a shopping spree in our beloved metropolis. At the end of your five days, you will start the trip for home.

NORTHERN OLD TOWNS

STRALSUND - WISMAR - LUBECK

Journey not available in
November/December.

5 days
266€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star hotel in Stralsund

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)

3-star hotel in Wismar

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Tourist map of Wismar

4-star hotel in Lubeck

- 2 night's stay in a double room
- Drink on arrival at the hotel bar
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Bottle of mineral water and a surprise treat on arrival in your room
- Harbour cruise with a visit to the historic Holsten Gate (May-September only) or coffee in the traditional "Niederegg" coffee house (January - April & October - December)

Itinerary

Day 1: Stralsund

Your journey begins in the gateway to Rugen Island - Stralsund. This Hanseatic town lies at the Strela lagoon - a location that is truly unique in Germany. The town is home to many listed buildings and has been a UNESCO world cultural heritage site since the turn of the century. The medieval significance of the town is clear to any visitor who takes in its Gothic brick buildings. We warmly recommend a walking tour so that you can get to know all of the important buildings and facts about this wonderful town.

Day 2: Stralsund & Wismar

Following a peaceful night's sleep and a generous buffet breakfast, perhaps you could take a boat trip around the harbour before setting out for Wismar. The town is linked closely with Stralsund in the UNESCO list of world cultural heritage sites. Your home for the night is a carefully selected hotel in Groß Strömkendorf, just minutes away from Wismar.

Day 3: Wismar & Lubeck

This morning will be devoted to Wismar's Old Town and its many sights and sounds, before you continue your journey to Lubeck. The skyline of the 'Hanseatic Queen' is dominated by the seven church steeples and it is also home to the world-famous Holsten Gate. This is the symbol of the town and if you have a 'must-see' list for Lubeck, it should be right at the top. In the evening, you will be treated to a delicious three-course meal in the hotel restaurant.

Day 4 & 5: Lubeck

You may need to get up a little earlier than you normally would on holiday, because there is still a lot to see! But first of all, relax at the breakfast table and breathe in the scents of coffee and freshly-baked breads and cakes. Afterwards, you will be taking a visit to the Old Town, an island town containing a very historic town centre. This is where some of the most historically significant brick buildings of the Gothic period can be seen. At around midday on this fifth day, you will set off for home with many wonderful memories drifting through your mind.

TRI-COUNTRY TRAVELS

RHEINAU - LÖRRACH

5 days
285€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star hotel in Rheinau

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Unlimited use of the sauna; dressing gown, towel and slippers
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Lörrach

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Rheinau

The first stop on your journey is the lovely German city of Rheinau. We have selected a hotel where you can enjoy complete and utter relaxation in the hotel sauna, which is available to you throughout your stay. If you feel no need to unwind, but would prefer to experience the history of the area, we recommend the Museum of Rhine Transport and Local History, where you can experience the traditions and customs of the area.

Day 2: Rheinau & Alsace

Today is your second day, and also your second city, as you travel for just half an hour to our neighbours in French Alsace. You can choose between the relative calm of a short city sightseeing tour of Strasbourg, or the agreeable challenge of the Felsenweg hiking trail, one of the toughest trails of the Vosges. It is entirely up to you how you spend your day among the many attractions of Alsace.

Day 3: Rheinau & Lörrach

Today you will leave Rheinau behind you and travel approximately 150 km to Lörrach.

Day 4: Lörrach & Basel

Lörrach is the ideal base for a trip to the third country on your trip, as you head for Basel in neighbouring Switzerland. Basel is only 20 minutes away and is nestled in the border triangle of France, Germany and Switzerland. If you are fortunate enough to be in Basel when the sun is shining, we highly recommend a river trip on one of the four Rhein ferries.

Day 5: Lörrach

Before you set out for home on your last day, be sure to take the chance for a final stroll through Lörrach city centre, or a visit to one of the many castles in the area. The Rötteln castle ruins, towering above the Wiesental Valley, are absolutely unmissable.





HISTORICAL CASTLE ROAD

HEIDELBERG - BAMBERG

Offer available between
May & September.

5 days
540€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 2 nights' stay in a 'Standard' double room
- Glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine on arrival, season depending
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 1-course lunch for two in the partner restaurant, including a soft drink or beer
- Bottle of water and one complimentary refill of your minibar
- Two-day Heidelberg WelcomeCard for two (including funicular ticket)
- Boat trip for two on a solar-powered boat
- Private guided tour of Heidelberg Old Town (c. 90 min)
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, where available
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Bamberg

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the partner restaurant (drinks not included)
- Private guided tour of Bamberg with 'Dr. Skantze' (2 hours)
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1 & 2: Heidelberg

Your trip back in time starts in sunny Baden, and where better to begin than the romantic city on the banks of the Neckar, where you will be greeted by the stunning, world-famous castle ruins atop the Königstuhl. Welcome to Heidelberg! On your first day, explore the Old Town entirely at your own pace, or take a stroll through the shops of the 1km-long pedestrian area.

Following a hearty breakfast on your second day you will set out for Universitätsplatz, where your private tour guide will be waiting to meet you. Between the tour, lunch in the partner restaurant, and a boat trip on the Neckar, you really will get that holiday feeling.

Day 3: Heidelberg & Bamberg - along the Castle Road

After today's breakfast you will set out in towards Franken. That is to say, you are aiming for the city of seven hills, Bamberg. As you travel along the Castle Road, you will have plenty of time to stop off whenever the mood takes you.

Day 4 & 5: Bamberg

Today, the former Episcopal and Imperial city lies at your front door, with its unforgettable Old Town waiting to be discovered. Your tour guide will be on hand to help you immerse yourself totally and utterly in the charm of the UNESCO world cultural heritage site that is Bamberg. In the space of two hours you will discover all there is to know about the city which is home to a "young" university, a vibrant cultural scene and a number of beer breweries. On your last day, you will slowly step out of the past and come back to the present day, as you set out for home.

A WEEK OF CATHEDRALS

COLOGNE - HILDESHEIM

Package includes

3-star hotel in Cologne

- 2 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (including welcome drink)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking
- Köln-Ticket for 48h

4-star hotel in Hildesheim

- 2 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (including welcome drink)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking
- Complimentary use of sauna and fitness room

Itinerary

Day 1 & 2: Cologne

Cologne is your first stop on this journey through Germany's most significant cathedrals. The Cologne Cathedral, which at the time of its completion in the 19th Century was the largest building in the world. This cathedral is the epitome of High Gothic architecture and is Germany's most beloved tourist attraction. You should also sample true Cologne hospitality in one of the city's many charming pubs.

Day 3: Cologne & Hildesheim

Following a peaceful night's sleep and a generous buffet breakfast, your journey will continue to Hildesheim. The town is located in Lower Saxony and since 1985 has been the proud home of two UNESCO world cultural heritage churches. The Church of St. Michael and the Mariendom are both considered masterpieces of Early Romanesque architecture.

Day 4 & 5: Hildesheim

The last two days of your trip will be spent in Hildesheim and the surrounding areas. Once you have visited the churches, why not take a trip out as far as Alsfeld or Goslar? These two world cultural heritage sites are both close enough for a day trip and have a wonderful mix of Modernist architecture and industrial heritage.

5 days
292€/p.p.

JINGLE BELLS

AUGSBURG - REGENSBURG - NUREMBERG - WURZBURG

Bookable in the
Christmasmarket-season
(location dependent).

5 days
374€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star hotel in Augsburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two (drinks not included)
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Regensburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (including glass of sparkling wine)
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Nuremberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Drink on arrival
- Buffet breakfast for two
- NurembergCard for two (includes ticket for all public transport routes)
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Würzburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi

Itinerary

Day 1: Augsburg

The Christkindle ("Christ Child") market in Augsburg is the oldest in Bavaria. 130 booths in front of the Renaissance town hall offer a variety of tasty treats and artistic wares for young and old alike. Be sure not to miss the Engelespiel - a live Advent calendar with 23 angels - which takes place every Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 6pm in front of the town hall. And how about a romantic carriage ride through the town?

Day 2: Augsburg & Regensburg

After your breakfast, you should still have plenty of time to see the Augsburg Puppet Theatre. The stars of the puppet troupe are at their best in their own familiar surroundings. Once you say goodbye to them, you will continue on to Regensburg. There are four separate parts to the Christkindle market here. We highly recommend the market at the Thurn and Taxis Castle. There are several regional specialties and a variety of mulled wines to try here.

Day 3: Regensburg & Nuremberg

Following a generous buffet breakfast, you will have time to discover more about the city. Take a trip to the Stone Bridge, the symbol of the city. Your midday meal will be at the oldest roasted sausage restaurant in the world, Regensburg's historic Wurstkuchl. Well fed, you will continue your journey to Nuremberg.

The Christkindle Market here is one of the loveliest in all of Germany. The official opening is hosted by the Christkind himself. This is also where you will find the largest vessel for rum-infused mulled wine in the world. The barrel holds up to 9,000 litres!

Day 4: Nuremberg & Würzburg

Before you continue your journey, take another stroll through the town. If you are a fan of museums or of railroads - or of both! - we recommend the German Railway Museum. The history of the German rail system comes to life here. And now, on to Würzburg. The historic scenery of the town will take your breath away. The first Christmas market here took place around 1800, and the tradition continues to this day. Your spirits will be lifted by gingerbread, roasted almonds, mulled wine, roast sausage and much more.

Day 5: Würzburg

The next day will get off to a good start, with tasty treats from the breakfast buffet. We recommend a detour to the symbol of the town, the 'Old Crane'. This is a Baroque nautical crane, situated on the right bank of the Main river. The neighbouring brewery and guesthouse, named after the crane, will ensure that you get a good midday meal. After a lovely walk in the city, you will set out for home. The Academy Reisen team wishes you a very happy Christmas!



SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT

KOBLENZ - WIESBADEN - HEIDELBERG - FREIBURG

Bookable in the
Christmasmarket-season
(location dependent).

5 days
439€/p.p.

Package includes

4-star superior hotel in Koblenz

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 4-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Boat tour to Loreley (duration 2,5 h)
- Complimenatry use of the hotel spa
- Complimentary WiFi

3-star superior hotel in Wiesbaden

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Free entrance to the Casino
- Complimentary WiFi

3-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine on arrival, depending on season
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the Reichskrone restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, depending on availability
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Freiburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Guided tour of Freiburg for two
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Koblenz

Your journey begins in Koblenz. With over 2000 years of history, this is the oldest city in Germany. The Koblenz Christmas market stretches over several market squares and is host to more than 100 booths, where you can sample culinary specialties and take home some lovely Christmas items. And how about a romantic carriage trip? Anything your heart desires can be found here.

Day 2: Koblenz & Wiesbaden

After a peaceful night's sleep and a tasty breakfast, you will set out for a boat trip to the Lorelei, where you can take in the spectacular scenery of the Rhine Valley with its picturesque villages and castles. Afterwards, you will continue your journey to Wiesbaden. The 'Sternschnuppenmarkt' in the Hessian state capital hosts around 130 stands and is officially opened each year by the Lord Mayor. The Christmas spirit is all around you here as you enjoy good music, food and drink.

Day 3: Wiesbaden & Heidelberg

The next day starts off well, with a delicious buffet breakfast. Have you ever wondered what a casino looks like on the inside? Come and find out at the Wiesbaden casino. Take a look around and maybe even see if you are having a lucky day!

Your journey continues to the romantic city of Heidelberg. The Christmas market includes a skating rink, which is brightly lit and watched over by the castle ruins. After a couple of rounds on the ice, you should also visit the market at the castle. Various delicacies and mulled wine specialties await!

Day 4: Heidelberg & Freiburg

After another generous buffet breakfast you should definitely take the time for another stroll through the city. Heidelberg is home to the longest pedestrian area in Europe and there are lots of shops here for you to discover. Later on, you will continue to Freiburg. Have you ever seen a giant gingerbread biscuit before?! If not, you should be sure not to miss the official opening of the Christmas market, where the Lord Mayor starts the celebrations with the cutting of the giant gingerbread. It is then shared with everybody in attendance.

Day 5: Freiburg

The last day of your journey starts with another delicious breakfast. The last thing you will do on this trip is a private city tour of Freiburg, where you will make a better acquaintance with the fourth-largest city in Baden-Württemberg. We hope you will have many lovely memories as you set out for home, by now well rested and ready for the Christmas season.

CASTLE ROAD SQUARE

NUREMBERG - BAYREUTH - PRAGUE

During the Nuremberg
Christkindlesmarkt
€ 386/p.P.

5 days
415€/p.p.

Package includes

4-star hotel in Nuremberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Drink on arrival
- Buffet breakfast for two
- NurembergCard for two (includes ticket for all public transport routes)
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Bayreuth

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course meal for two at 6pm in the hotel restaurant or partner restaurant (not including drinks)
- Complimentary use of the hotel spa
- Complimentary upgrade to a deluxe double room, where available
- Tourist map of Bayreuth
- Free parking (parking deck)

4-star superior hotel in Prague

- 2 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course-meal for two at the evening in the hotel restaurant (not including drinks)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking (max. height 160 cm)

Itinerary

Day 1: Nuremberg

And it's off to Nuremberg we go! Your journey will get off to a most enjoyable start - Nuremberg is home not only to the famous Imperial Palace, but also to a beguiling Old Town. Your NurembergCard gives you reduced entry prices to a number of attractions, as well as free use of the city's public transport.

Day 2: Nuremberg & Bayreuth

On your second day on the Castle Road, you will set out for the home of Richard Wagner. As you travel along, you will get to enjoy all the charm of Franconian Switzerland with its many castles and palaces. In the evening, you will be warmly welcomed in Bayreuth with a delicious three-course meal.

Day 3: Bayreuth & Prague

After a peaceful night's sleep, you should visit the Margravian Opera House, the New Castle and the Old Castle. We also highly recommend a visit to the Festspielhaus (festival hall) and the Hermitage. After all of this, you will travel on from Bayreuth through the Fichtel Mountains to Cheb, finally reaching Pilzen and then Prague.

Day 4 & 5: Prague

Your last two days will be spent in the Czech capital and the last stop on the Castle Road - Prague. This wonderful city is anything but an afterthought, however - it is one of the highlights of the Castle Road. The Palace Gardens in particular are a real treat for the senses. The 'Golden City' will bring your journey to a very relaxed end, before you set out for home.

Fees:

01.11.-31.03.: 5 days 358€/p.P.
01.04.-31.10.: 5 days 415€/p.P.



FROM MEDIEVAL CHARM TO THE GRAND CANYON (UPPER PALATINATE!)

During the Nuremberg Christkindlesmarkt:
6 days 516€/p.p.

6 days
487€/p.p.

WURZBURG - NUREMBERG - BEILNGRIES - REGENSBURG

Package includes

3-star hotel in Würzburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi

4-star hotel in Nuremberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Drink on arrival
- Buffet breakfast for two
- NurembergCard for two (includes ticket for all public transport routes)
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Beilngries

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Guided tour of Beilngries for two
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Regensburg

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (including glass of sparkling wine)
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Würzburg

Your journey begins in Würzburg, home to Bavaria's oldest university, the Julius-Maximilians-Universität. The city boasts a number of cultural highlights besides. The symbol of the city is the Marienberg fortress, and also unmissable is the Old Bridge over the Main River. The Würzburg Residence and courtyard have been granted the honour of being placed on the list of UNESCO world cultural heritage sites.

Day 2: Würzburg & Nuremberg

After today's breakfast you will set out for medieval Nuremberg. You are guaranteed not to be bored for even a minute, as the city offers the visitor a huge number of attractions. We recommend a visit to the symbol of the city - the imposing Imperial Castle - as well as Nuremberg's churches and historical buildings, including the Albrecht Dürer House.

Day 3: Nuremberg & Beilngries

Today you will leave magnificent Nuremberg behind and continue your journey to Beilngries. Here you will find the perfect mix of rural and urban delights - the landscape of the Altmühl-Jura Valley is a sight to behold, and you will be enchanted by picturesque Beilngries.

Day 4: Beilngries & Regensburg

Following a hearty buffet breakfast, you will set out via Berching to Regensburg. This medieval gem of a town is surrounded by a well-maintained city wall, four city gates and 13 towers.

Day 5: Regensburg

Day 5 is your chance to explore the easterly part of the Free State of Bavaria, as you get to know one of Germany's oldest cities. Regensburg is home to over 1500 listed buildings, from which around 980 make up the world-famous 'Old Town with Stadtamhof' ensemble. After your city sightseeing tour, we invite you to while away a couple of hours in Regensburg before you enjoy a three-course meal in the hotel restaurant.

Day 6: Waldnaabtal

Before you set out for home today, we highly recommend taking a trip to the beautiful Waldnaabtal Valley. Nature enthusiasts will be in their element, as this is a place with unique scenic features.

GERMANY'S BAROQUE CITIES

LUDWIGSBURG - BADEN-BADEN - ETTENHEIM

6 days
540€/p.p.

Package includes

4-star hotel in Ludwigsburg

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Drink at the hotel bar on arrival
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course meal for two in the partner restaurant on your first evening
- 4-course candlelight dinner for two in another partner restaurant on your second evening
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, where available
- Late check-out until 2 pm
- Complimentary use of the spa with sauna, steam room and infrared cabin
- Complimentary use of the hotel gym
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Baden-Baden

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Visitor's tax
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Ettenheim (Ringsheim)

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1 & 2: Ludwigsburg

Your journey begins in lovely Ludwigsburg. The city is home to glorious castles and gardens, such as the Residence Palace, host to hundreds of visitors each year. The architecture of the city forms a unified work of art, the central point of which is the marketplace with its two Baroque churches.

Day 3: Ludwigsburg & Rastatt

From Ludwigsburg you will move on to another Baroque city, this time Rastatt. Rastatt is the site of one of the most beautiful Baroque palaces in Germany, which is the oldest Baroque residence along the Upper Rhine, as well as being the symbol of the city. Also well worth a visit is the 'Favorite' Palace, surrounded by magnificent grounds. After only 5 minutes travel time by car you achieve your hotel in Baden-Baden.

Day 4 & 5: Rastatt & Ettenheim

Following today's breakfast, you will travel onwards to Ettenheim, the last Baroque city on your journey. Your home for the night will be in Ringsheim, just a few moments away from Ettenheim.

Day 6: Ettenheim

Before you start on your homeward journey today, you will have the opportunity to take in the impressive Baroque art of Ettenheim. Two prime examples which you should definitely see before you leave are the Baroque church, and the Bärenbrunnen (bear fountain) at the marketplace.



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE ROMANS

AACHEN - TRIER - REGENSBURG

6 days
399€/p.p.

Package includes

4-star hotel in Aachen

- 1 night’s stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Complimentary use of the sauna
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Trier

- 2 night’s stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Rgensburg

- 2 night’s stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (including glass of sparkling wine)
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Aachen

The first stop on your journey is Aachen. This is where you will find Germany’s first UNESCO world cultural heritage site – Aachen Cathedral. This is a jewel of its time, having served as the place of coronation for 30 German kings. Today it is the symbol of the city and is home to the most significant treasury north of the Alps. You should take this chance to see as much of the imperial city as possible – we certainly recommend taking part on a guided tour.

Day 2: Aachen & Trier

Once you have taken in all that Aachen has to offer, the second day of your trip will take you as far as Trier. It takes about two hours to get there by car, but it is well worth it, especially if you can take a break from driving somewhere along the ancient boundary wall. The ‘German Limes Road’ is not only a beautiful scenic route, it will also keep you on the right track. For further information, visit the website of the Limes Road Association, or speak to your contact person at Academy Travel.

Day 3: Trier

Trier is Germany’s oldest town, boasting more than 2000 years of history. The town has been recognised as a UNESCO world cultural heritage site since the 1980s, with its Roman monuments, cathedral and Liebfrauenkirche. Our insider tip for day three is to take an interactive tour of Trier. This is a particularly enjoyable way to get to know the town with its unique blend of old and new.

Day 4: Trier & Regensburg

Following a peaceful night’s sleep, you should help yourself to a hearty breakfast before setting off for Regensburg without delay. You should reach the Danube town during the afternoon and you will be warmly welcomed by the team at your hotel.

Day 5 & 6: Regensburg

The two final days of your trip will be spent in “the most northerly town in Italy”, to borrow the local pet name for Regensburg. You will see the reason for this pet name for yourself when you visit the original buildings and colourful houses in the heart of the town, which lend the place a Mediteranean ambience. During one of your days here, you should take a guided tour and experience the charms of the former Roman city.

WORLD CULTURAL HERITAGE
ALONG THE RHINE

6 days
514€/p.p.

ESSEN - AACHEN - COLOGNE - KOBLENZ

Package includes

4-star hotel in Essen

- 1 night’s stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking
- Guided tour of Essen / Flyer

4-star hotel in Aachen

- 1 night’s stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Complimentary use of sauna
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Cologne

- 1 night’s stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary cologne ticket 48 hours
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star superior hotel in Koblenz

- 2 night’s stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- First evening: 4-course dinner in one of the hotels’ restaurant (drinks not included)
- Second evening: typically seasonal meal in one of the hotels’ restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary boat trip up to the Loreley (2,5 hours)
- Complimentary use of the SPA with sauna and steam bath
- Complimentary WiFi

Itinerary

Day 1: Essen

Your journey begins in Essen, where the Zeche Zollverein colliery bears witness to the industrial history of the town. This was an active hard coal mine between the years 1851 and 1986, and today is a monument to the architecture and former industry of the town.

Day 2: Essen & Aachen

The second day of your journey will bring you as far as Aachen. The glorious Cathedral of Aachen was commissioned by Charlemagne and in its present form bears witness to over one thousand years of history. A particularly important part of this history is that this is the place where 30 German kings were crowned, between the years 936 and 1531 – and it has lost none of its majesty since then.

Day 3: Aachen & Cologne

The next stop on your journey is Cologne. Another UNESCO world cultural heritage site awaits you here – Cologne Cathedral, the epitome of the High Gothic style. The building was completed in the 19th century and at that time was the largest building in the world, with its imposing facade standing at over 7000 square metres.

Day 4: Cologne & Koblenz

Your journey is far from over, as you spend the fourth day of your trip in Koblenz. Its romantic laneways, picturesque courtyards and cosy market squares will capture your imagination. This part of the Rhine region is considered the most romantic of all, with its varied, beautiful cultural landscape.

Day 5 & 6: Upper Middle Rhine Valley

The last two days of your trip will be spent in the glorious Upper Middle Rhine Valley. This has been a UNESCO world cultural heritage site since 2002 and it boasts a wealth of cultural and historical treasures.



WINTERWONDERLAND

TRIER - KOBLENZ - WIESBADEN - WURZBURG - NUREMBERG

Bookable in the
Christmasmarket-season
(location dependent).6 days
501€/p.p.**Package includes****3-star hotel in Trier**

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star superior hotel in Koblenz

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 4-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Boat tour to Loreley (duration 2,5 h)
- Complimenatry use of the hotel spa
- Complimentary WiFi

3-star superior hotel in Wiesbaden

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Free entrance to the Casino
- Complimentary WiFi

3-star hotel in Wurzburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi

4-star hotel in Nuremberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Drink on arrival
- Buffet breakfast for two
- NurembergCard for two (includes ticket for all public transport routes)
- Free parking

Itinerary**Day 1: Trier**

Your journey begins in lovely Trier. The former seat of power in the western Roman Empire boasts a vibrant and varied Christmas market... all year round! Whether you want mulled wine (with or without rum), gingerbread, roast sausages or roasted almonds, every possible Christmas wish will be fulfilled here.

Day 2: Trier & Koblenz

Your day will get off to a good start, with a generous buffet breakfast. We highly recommend a visit to the fourth-century Kaiserthermen (Imperial Spa House) before you continue your journey to Koblenz. The old Roman city is transformed into a Christmas paradise during Advent, with the scent of baked treats, herbs and mulled wine in the air. And s there any better time than just before the Christmas rush to treat yourself to a spa evening in your hotel?

Day 3: Koblenz & Wiesbaden

After a tasty breakfast, you will set out on a boat tour to the Lorelei, where you can take in the picturesque views of the Rhine Valley with its charming villages and castles. In the afternoon, your journey will continue to Wiesbaden. The Lord Mayor hosts the official opening of the market at Schlossplatz. The celebrations continue with music and Christmas specialties into the evening.

Day 4: Wiesbaden & Wurzburg

A hearty breakfast will get you set up for day 4 of your journey. Take a visit to the Casino and try your luck against the dealer. Maybe you would prefer to see the city? Then we recommend a trip to see the world's largest cuckoo clock. The cuckoo pops out to meet his visitors every half hour. Once you have seen all you would like to see, you will continue your journey to Wurzburg. The Wurzburg Christmas market has been in existence since 1800 and its historic backdrop makes it an absolute joy to behold.

Day 5: Wurzburg & Nuremberg

Another day, another delicious breakfast! Wine connoisseurs will enjoy a tour of the wine cellar; if wine is not your priority we recommend a visit to the symbol of the city, the 'Old Crane'. In the afternoon you will continue your journey as far as Nuremberg. The Nuremberg Christkindle ("Christ Child") market is officially opened each year with a prologue by the Christkindl himself. Be sure not to miss sampling one (or more!) of Nuremberg's world-famous roast sausages.

Day 6: Nuremberg

Today is the last day of your trip. After breakfast in your hotel you should definitely take the time to get to know the city. We particularly recommend a trip to the flea market or the Liebesinsel (the island of love!) - both are particularly atmospheric in the winter. By now you will be well-rested and able to look forward to the Christmas season as you make your way home.



CASTLE ROAD DELUXE

HEIDELBERG - SCHWÄBISCH HALL - NÜRNBERG - BAYREUTH - COBURG

7 days
503€/p.p.**Package includes****3-star superior hotel in Heidelberg**

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine on arrival, depending on season
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in our partner restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, where available
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star superior hotel in Schwäbisch Hall

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 4-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary use of the hotel spa
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Nuremberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Drink on arrival
- Buffet breakfast for two
- NurembergCard for two (includes ticket for all public transport routes)
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Bayreuth

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course meal for two at 6pm in the hotel restaurant or partner restaurant (not including drinks)
- Complimentary use of the hotel spa
- Complimentary upgrade from Comfort Class to Deluxe, depending on availability
- Tourist map of Bayreuth
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Coburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Large bottle of mineral water in your room
- Complimentary WiFi

Itinerary**Day 1: Heidelberg**

As soon as you have checked in, your exploration of the romantic city of Heidelberg can begin. The famous main street offers 2km of sights and shops, culminating in the atmospheric castle ruins at the peak of the Königstühl. From here you can enjoy the view of the picturesque Neckar Valley, for a moment stepping into history as you survey the former lands of the Grand Duchy of Baden.

Day 2: Heidelberg & Schwäbisch Hall

After breakfast you will continue your journey to Schwäbisch Hall. Here, you will not only learn all about the history of salt production, but also about the lives of the Benedictine monks in the former monastery of Comburg. The monastery is almost palatial - perched on a meander mountain, it is one of the gems of the Castle Road.

Day 3: Schwäbisch Hall & Nuremberg

And it's off to Nuremberg we go! Nuremberg is home not only to the famous Imperial Palace, but also to a beguiling Old Town. Your NurembergCard gives you reduced entry prices to a number of attractions, as well as free use of the city's public transport.

Day 4: Nuremberg & Bayreuth

Following a peaceful night's sleep you continue your journey to Bayreuth, near the border with the Czech Republic. As soon as you have checked in, your can start your exploration of this lovely Franconian town, which is home to Bayreuth University and the famous festival hall. The Margravian Opera House is a UNESCO world cultural heritage site. It has gained a reputation as the most beautiful surviving Baroque theatre in Europe, and is well worth a visit.

Day 5: Bayreuth & Coburg

Today you are visiting Coburg. The Veste Coburg is one of Germany's most magnificent castles and also remains one of the country's best-maintained. Here, you can look forward to learning all about a former place of retreat, beloved of Martin Luther.

Day 6: Coburg

Even more castles await in Coburg and the surrounding area - Callenberg, Ehrenburg and Rosenau. It is entirely up to you how long you spend at each one, before making your way home.



FROSTY THE SNOWMAN

AUGSBURG - REGENSBURG - NUREMBERG - WURZBURG -
HEIDELBERG - WIESBADEN

Bookable in the
Christmasmarket-season
(location dependent).

7 days
518€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star hotel in Augsburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two (drinks not included)
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Regensburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (including glass of sparkling wine)
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Nuremberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Drink on arrival
- Buffet breakfast for two
- NurembergCard for two (includes ticket for all public transport routes)
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Wurzburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi

3-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine on arrival, depending on season
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the Reichskrone restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, depending on availability
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star superior hotel in Wiesbaden

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Free entrance to the Casino
- Complimentary WiFi

Itinerary

Day 1: Augsburg

Your marathon journey begins in Augsburg. The Christkindle ("Christ Child") market is the oldest in Bavaria and has countless culinary specialties to offer the hungry visitor. Over 130 stands in front of the Renaissance Town Hall offer all that the heart desires. Arts and crafts, toys, sweet treats — all this and more is to be found in Augsburg.

Day 2: Augsburg & Regensburg

After a tasty breakfast, you will stay in the city for a while. Wouldn't it be lovely to see the cast of the Augsburg puppet troupe? These are shown in the Augsburg Puppet Theatre and bring memories of childhood flooding back!

Day 3: Regensburg & Nuremberg

Today will be off to another good start with another good breakfast. Then, you will continue your journey to Nuremberg. The Christkindle Market here is also well-known and well-loved, attracting visitors from all over the world. Be sure to try the beloved specialty "drei im Weggla" (roast Nuremberg sausage in a bread roll) — not one, not two, but three delicious sausages in one roll!

Day 4: Nuremberg & Wurzburg

Today is the day you will leave Nuremberg behind and set out for Wurzburg. The Christmas market here has been in existence for hundreds of years and the traditions are still alive and well today. You will not be left hungry, with plenty of stands offering delicious food. The atmosphere is made even better with the gorgeous historic backdrop of the town.

Day 5: Wurzburg & Heidelberg

Another generous breakfast will set you up for the fifth day of your trip, before you continue onwards to Heidelberg. The university town is well-known outside Germany and its romantic atmosphere has charmed many visitors before. The Heidelberg Christmas market stretches from Bismarckplatz in the centre of town via Europe's longest pedestrian area to Karlsplatz. For hopeless romantics, we recommend a visit to the Christmas market at the castle. There are magnificent views from the castle of Heidelberg in all its Christmas glory.

Day 6: Heidelberg & Wiesbaden

A generous buffet breakfast gets the sixth day of your journey off to another good start. Then you will continue your journey as far as Wiesbaden, the last stop on your journey. The "Sternschnuppenmarkt" has lots to offer young and old alike. The whole event takes place at Schlossplatz, which is also where the Lord Mayor conducts the official opening. A huge number of booths and stands have made it their business to gladden the hearts of their visitors, and warm you up with sweet-smelling mulled wine and gingerbread.

Day 7: Wiesbaden

Your last day will be spent getting to know the city better. Hunt down those last few Christmas gifts, or simply wander about. If you are known for your enjoyment of sparkling wine, you should set time aside to visit the cellar of Henkell und Co. This is one of the most traditionally maintained cellars in Germany, where tours are offered and come highly recommended. We think you will feel relaxed and contented as you start your journey home.

A TRIP ALONG THE UPPER RHINE

HEIDELBERG - BADEN-BADEN - FREIBURG IM BREISGAU - LÖRRACH

7 days
648€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine on arrival, season depending
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the partner restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, depending on availability
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Baden-Baden

- 2 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Visitor's tax
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Freiburg im Breisgau

- 2 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Guided tour of Freiburg for two
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star superior hotel in Lörrach

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Heidelberg

This week-long trip begins in the heart of the romantic university town of Heidelberg. We invite you to enjoy the day in the Old Town and to brave the steep slope up to the famous ruins of Heidelberg Castle, where you can take in the spectacular views of the picturesque Neckar landscape. Your evening meal in the partner restaurant will also allow you to enjoy a lovely view, this time of the Old Bridge.

Day 2: Heidelberg & Baden-Baden

Following a generous buffet breakfast, you will start out for the spas and thermal baths of Baden-Baden. Throw yourself into the world of the beautiful people, as you visit the Spa House casino, the symbol of the city. The next couple of nights will be spent in the comfort of a four-star hotel.

Day 3: Baden-Baden

We recommend taking in the cultural highlights of Baden-Baden on your third day - the ruins of the Roman Baths, the theatre or the 'Festspielhaus', which is the second-largest concert hall in Europe. As you take in the sights and sounds of the Old Town, a visit (or two!) to its shops and cafés is highly recommended. Your evening will be spent enjoying a three-course meal.

Day 4: Baden-Baden & Freiburg im Breisgau

On the fourth day of your journey you will leave Baden-Baden behind, as you travel onwards to Freiburg im Breisgau. On the way, you will pass Lahr in the Black Forest, and the EuropaPark theme park in Rust. A detour to either of these places would be well worth your while, entirely depending on your own interest and mood. Your time of arrival to Freiburg in the glorious Breisgau region is entirely up to you.

Day 5: Freiburg im Breisgau

The Old Town, the Minster and Freiburg's romantic streams await! Today you will be brought for a guided tour of Freiburg's charming Old Town, where you can take in the beauty of the Minster and the spectacular view from the town's very own mountain, Schauinsland.

Day 6: Freiburg im Breisgau & Lörrach

Following two unforgettable days in the sunshine town of Freiburg, you will set out today for Lörrach. Absolutely unmissable are the Rötteln castle ruins, which loom majestically over the Wiesental Valley. Lörrach also has no shortage of castles - treat yourself to a visit to the castles of Stetten or Brombach, or to the moated castle of Inzlingen.

Day 7: Lörrach

Your last day can be spent relaxing and enjoying yourself, as you take a stroll through the shops in Lörrach city centre or the new market square. If your visit coincides with the weekly market - which in fact takes place three times a week! - you should certainly take the time to stop by.



A WEEK ON THE CASTLE ROAD

NECKARGEMÜND - ANSBACH - HEILIGENSTADT

7 days
575€/p.p.



UNESCO WORLD CULTURAL HERITAGE

ALONG THE FAIRY TALE ROUTE

7 days
506€/p.p.

Package includes

4-star hotel in Neckargemünd

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine on arrival, depending on season
- Buffet breakfast for two
- First evening: 3-course tart flambée meal for two (including drinks) at 6pm
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, where available
- Late check-out until 1pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Ansbach

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- First evening: Franconian light evening meal with wine for two in the hotel restaurant
- Second evening: 4-course candle light dinner for two in the hotel restaurants (not including drinks)
- Bottle of vintner's Secco (rosé) and Ansbach Original Pralines on arrival in your room
- Entry for two to the Margravian Residence
- Entry for two to the Margrave/Kaspar Hauser Museum
- Guided tour of Rothenburg o. d. Tauber, various times available
- Packed lunch for the excursion to Rothenburg
- Late check - out until 1 pm, where available
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Heiligenstadt

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- 'Vitality' buffet breakfast for two
- 4-course meal for two with various options in the hotel restaurant
- Use of the hotel spa with pool, infra-red heat cabin and Finnish Sauna (with variable heat settings)
- Spa goodie bag with fluffy towels
- Hiking sticks and rucksacks available to borrow
- Up to 20% off green fees in the golf clubs in Kanndorf and Pottenstein
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Days 1 & 2: Neckargemünd (near Heidelberg)

The first step on your journey is in Neckargemünd. As the name suggests, the town is on the banks of the Neckar and is only a few minutes away from Heidelberg. During your stay, a visit to Mannheim Castle, the ruins of Heidelberg Castle and the palaces of Neckarsteinach and Hirschhorn are highly recommended.

Day 3: On the Castle Road to Ansbach

The hearty breakfast will give you the boost you need in the morning, so that you can immediately start for Ansbach, which is approximately 2 hours away in central Franconia. We recommend the scenic route, which will take you through Eberbach, Schwäbisch Hall and Rothenburg before you reach your hotel for the next two days in Ansbach. The staff will be expecting you and you will be greeted with a light evening meal and wine.

Day 4: Ansbach

Ansbach awaits with a full day of activities, with free entry to the Margravian Residence and the Margrave/ Kaspar Hauser Museum. The evening's 4-course meal is the perfect end to a fascinating day.

Day 5: On the Castle Road to Heiligenstadt (Upper Franconia)

Armed with your packed lunch, you will set off for Rothenburg o. d. Tauber and explore the medieval city with a guided tour. From here it is a brief trip away from city life and into the natural landscape of Heiligenstadt. The next couple of days will be spent in the heart of Franconian Switzerland.

Days 6 & 7: Upper Franconia

Glorious scenery, hiking trails and affordable golf club green fees are all at your doorstep in idyllic Veilbronn. Bamberg and Bayreuth are only half an hour away by car, and are well worth a visit before your week draws to an end.

BAD WILDUNGEN - KASSEL - BREMEN - BREMERHAVEN

Package includes

4-star hotel in Bad Wildungen

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included) Complimentary back massage for two
- Complimentary bike rental
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star superior hotel in Kassel

- 2 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Bremen

- 1 night's stay in a double room Buffet breakfast for two Kettle with coffee and tea facilities
- Complimentary use of wellness area incl. massage benches
- Free entry in the House of History Bremen for two
- 1 x surprise gift
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Bremerhaven

- 2 night's stay in a double room Buffet breakfast for two 3-course evening meal in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included) Complimentary use of the sauna (from 5 pm to 10 pm)
- Free entry in the German Maritime museum for two
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1: Bad Wildungen (Kellerwald-Edersee National Park)

Your journey begins in one of Germany's oldest beech forests. The Kellerwald-Edersee National Park is located near Bad Wildungen and if the age-old trees here could speak, you would hear some very interesting stories. However, you don't have to be a nature lover to fall in love with Bad Wildungen; fans of Snow White will also be happy to get lost in these woods! Your home for the evening is only minutes away by car, in a lovely rural hotel in Bad Zwesten.

Day 2: Bad Wildungen & Kassel

Get your day off to a good start with a buffet breakfast, before going on a hike through the fairytale woods. Follow in the footsteps of Hansel and Gretel along the bike track that bears their name... will you find the witch's house? Back in safety, your journey continues as far as Kassel, home to the documenta art exhibition. This is the capital of the Fairy Tale Route and the fantastic GRIMMWELT opened in 2015. This is where manuscripts of the Fairy Tales are housed for viewing by the public.

Day 3: Bergpark Wilhelmshöhe (Kassel)

After a peaceful night's sleep, you will spend the day in Bergpark Wilhelmshöhe, a unique landscape park. The park is a UNESCO world cultural heritage site and is renowned for its fascinating water shows during the summer - during summer nights it is also a light show. End the day relaxed and happy with a stroll through the town.

Day 4: Kassel & Bremen

The next morning, you will set out bright and early for Bremen. We recommend stopping off at Castle Carvey in Höxter. What is now a castle was once a Benedictine monastery, and it is also a UNESCO world cultural heritage site. Your exploration of the site should definitely include a look at the Carolingian westwork.

Day 5: Bremen & Bremerhaven

Today will be spent entirely in the home of the Town Musicians of Bremen. Be sure to visit the Schnoorviertel quarter and wander through its tiny, narrow laneways. The 600-year-old Town Hall is another UNESCO world cultural heritage site and is a must-see, with its cellar, hearty food and good wine.

Day 6 & 7: Wattenmeer (Bremerhaven)

After another good breakfast your journey continues to Bremerhaven, the home of the Hobgoblin. There is a wonderful panoramic view from the platform at SAIL City, the tallest building in the city, or why not visit the seaside zoo? Spend a relaxed evening at the Weser beach. On the last day of your journey, you can join in on a mudflat hiking tour. Your tour guide will fill you in on the secrets of the Wadden Sea and its inhabitants - a fun and informative tour for all the family!



BY THE BEAUTIFUL BAVARIAN LAKES

BERNRIED BY LAKE STARNBERG - SCHÖNAU AM KÖNIGSSEE

7 days
460€/p.p.



ONCE UPON A TIME...

HANAU - MARBURG - KASSEL - HAMELN - BREMEN - BREMERHAVEN

7 days
620€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star hotel in Bernried by Lake Starnberg

- 3 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (not including drinks)
- Visitors' tax
- Complimentary use of the swimming pool and sauna
- Complimentary parking

3-star hotel in Schöna am Königssee

- 3 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (not including drinks)
- Visitors' tax
- Complimentary parking

Itinerary

Days 1-3: Lake Starnberg

You will make your own way to the hotel and create your first impression of Lake Starnberg. The pool and sauna will be available to you as you relax into the coming week. After breakfast each morning, your exploration of the surroundings can begin. The local area is dominated by five lakes and is near the Bavarian capital of Munich. Whether you choose culture and sightseeing, or swimming in Lake Starnberg or another nearby lake - boredom is guaranteed not to set in!

Day 4: Lake Chiemsee

Immediately after today's breakfast, you will set off over the "Bavarian Sea" to Schöna, on the banks of Lake Königssee in the Berchtesgaden area. The highlight is a boat trip on the lake to the famous 'Fraueninsel' and the equally glorious 'Herreninsel'. Boat trips are available year-round, starting at various times throughout the day, from Prien on the banks of Lake Chiemsee. In the evening, having had a busy day, you will travel approximately 60 minutes to Schöna.

Days 5-7: Lake Königssee

You are very welcome to start each day with a generous helping from our breakfast buffet, so that you are prepared for a day's exploration of the Berchtesgaden area. With 120km of hiking trails, you can enjoy the wonderful nature and culture of the Königssee area at your own pace. Depending on the time of year that you visit, you can avail of the region's many opportunities for snow hiking, tobogganing, cycling, swimming or motorboat sailing. If the weather does not allow for outdoor activities, you can visit the museum built in honour of the city's most renowned woman, Romy Schneider. On your seventh and final day, you can start your departure at leisure, having seen and experienced a great deal.

WEST MEETS EAST

HEIDELBERG - DRESDEN - BERLIN

7 days
446€/p.p.

Package includes

3-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Glass of sparkling wine or mulled wine, season depending
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the partner restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category - depending on availability
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Dresden

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary use of the sauna, steam room and gym
- Free parking

3-star superior hotel in Berlin

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Berlin city tax
- Complimentary WiFi

Itinerary

Day 1 & 2: Heidelberg

Your journey begins in southwest Germany, in the famous university town of Heidelberg. The mix of romance and learning is guaranteed to enchant you. We recommend a visit to the world-famous Heidelberg Castle, where you can enjoy spectacular views of the Neckar. The best way to reach the castle and the Königstuhl is the historic wooden funicular. In the evening, you will be treated to a three-course meal in the partner restaurant, with a wonderful view of the Old Bridge.

Day 3: Heidelberg & Dresden

Following a generous buffet breakfast, you will set out for Dresden, the state capital of Saxony.

Day 4: Dresden

You have all the time in the world today to visit the city of art and culture, situated on the banks of the Elbe. An absolute must-see is the symbol of the city, the Church of Our Lady. You should also be sure not to miss out on taking a boat trip along the beautiful Elbe. Let us make sure you don't go hungry, as you enjoy a three-course meal each evening.

Day 5: Dresden & Berlin

From Dresden, you will set out today for our capital city.

Day 6 & 7: Berlin

How you spend the last couple of days of your trip is entirely up to you. Berlin truly has something for everybody, whether it is the East Side Gallery, the Brandenburg Gate or Alexanderplatz. For those interested in history, the sights that must be seen to be believed are the Holocaust Memorial and Checkpoint Charlie, the best-known border crossing of GDR times.

Package includes

4-star hotel in Hanau

- 1 night's stay in a double room including a kettle with coffee and tea facilities
- Fairytale brunch for two on Sunday Welcome drink for two Late check-out - on availability
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Marburg

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal in the hotel restaurant (including aperitif) Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, where available
- Late check-out until 3 pm - on availability
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star superior hotel in Kassel

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Hameln

- 1 night's stay in a double room Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal in the hotel restaurant including a bottle of wine (0,5 l)
- Guided tour of Hameln including a coffee-break at "Museums Café" Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Bremen

- 1 night's stay in a double room Buffet breakfast for two Kettle with coffee and tea facilities
- Complimentary use of wellness area incl. massage benches
- Free entry in the House of History Bremen for two
- 1 x surprise gift
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Bremerhaven

- 1 night's stay in a double room Buffet breakfast for two 3-course evening meal in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary use of the sauna (from 5 pm to 10 pm)
- Free entry in the German Maritime museum for two
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

Please note that extra costs, eg. visitor's tax, may be incurred during your stay.

Arrival only on Saturday.

Itinerary

Day 1: Hanau

Your journey begins in the birthplace of the Brothers Grimm. Hanau is full of cultural sites that you will not want to miss. One of the places that you must definitely be sure to visit is Philippsruhe Castle.

Day 2: Hanau & Marburg

On any fairytale trip, it is only right that you should sleep well and wake up to a delicious brunch in your hotel. Take time over your breakfast and also enjoy your lunch at your own pace. Afterwards, your journey will continue as far as Marburg. After an interesting day, you will be welcomed to your home for the evening with a three-course meal.

Day 3: Marburg & Kassel

The next morning, you will discover all the university town has to offer before setting out for Kassel, the capital city of the German Fairy Tale Route. Kassel is the city where the Brothers Grimm lived at the most productive time of their creative lives. Kassel is also home to GRIMMWELT, where manuscripts of the Fairy Tales are housed for public viewing.

Day 4: Kassel & Hameln

A hearty breakfast will set you up for the day as you travel onwards to Hameln, the world-famous city of the Pied Piper. All of the main attractions are located near your accommodation and you should have no problem getting around to any of them.

Day 5: Hameln & Bremen

This journey has so much to offer, and today will bring you to the Hanseatic city of Bremen. Be sure to visit the Town Hall, which has been a UNESCO world cultural heritage site since 2004. You should also visit the monument dedicated to the Town Musicians of Bremen, located in front of the Town Hall. Bremen has many other attractions to offer and the beauty of this package is that you have the freedom to decide for yourself which ones to visit. Another perk of this package is that free entry to the Bremer Geschichtenhaus ('House of History') is included.

Day 6: Bremen & Bremerhaven

After a visit to Bremen, the road stretches onwards to Bremerhaven. This is the home of the Hobgoblin and you can also visit the German Shipping Museum; entry is free as part of this package. A relaxed evening is guaranteed as you enjoy a three-course meal.

Day 7: Bremerhaven & Wattenmeer

The next morning will get off to a good start, as you enjoy a hearty breakfast before setting out to the Wadden Sea. Take the time to explore Germany's largest unspoiled natural area, giving yourself the gift of one more relaxing day before you start your journey home.



HOHENLOHE - ALTMÜHLTAL VALLEY - LAND OF FIVE LAKES

7 days
595€/p.p.

SCHWÄBISCH HALL - BEILNGRIES - BERNRIED OF LAKE STARNBERG

Package includes

4-star superior hotel in Schwäbisch Hall

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Beilngries

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary use of the sauna and pool
- Free parking

3-star hotel on Lake Starnberg

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Visitors' tax
- Complimentary use of the pool and sauna
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1 & 2: Schwäbisch Hall

Leave the stresses and strains of everyday life behind you for a whole week! Your journey begins in historic Schwäbisch Hall. The town is located in the beautiful Hohenlohe region and boasts a unique Old Town, a spectacular marketplace and a range of cultural highlights, particularly the annual open-air theatre productions.

Day 3: Schwäbisch Hall & Beilngries

The next stop on your journey through Southern Germany is Beilngries, in the uniquely beautiful Altmühltal Valley. This is a stress-free place to take a short break, where the visitor can take all sorts of trips in the great outdoors.

Day 4: Altmühltal Valley

Today you can go on a group hike, go on a relaxing bike tour through the valley or visit some of the historical towns in the surrounding area. Immerse yourself in the Baroque charm of the towers and churches of Beilngries, before settling in for the night in a carefully selected four-star hotel.

Day 5: Beilngries & Bernried on Lake Starnberg

After breakfast, you will set out for Upper Bavaria. On your way, you will pass through the state capital of Munich, which is always worth stopping off for - take as long or short a stop here as you would like. A stroll through the shops is guaranteed to bring a smile to your face, or simply relax with a beer and enjoy the sights and sounds of Munich.

Day 6 & 7: Land of Five Lakes

This spectacular holiday and bathing destination near Lake Starnberg and four other lakes is well-known for its many - almost unlimited - recreational activities available to the visitor. Over the next two days you can choose from boat trips, museum visits, hiking trails, bathing and much more besides. After seven days of relaxation and new experiences, we hope that you will feel rejuvenated and happy when you set out for home.

NATURAL HERITAGE

BREMERHAVEN - KASSEL - KOBLENZ

7 days
515€/p.p.

Package includes

4-star hotel in Bremerhaven

- 2 night's stay in a double room Buffet breakfast for two 3-course evening meal in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary use of the sauna (from 5 pm to 10 pm)
- Free entry in the German Maritime museum for two
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star superior hotel in Kassel

- 2 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star superior hotel in Koblenz

- 2 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- First evening: 4-course dinner in one of the hotels' restaurant (drinks not included)
- Second evening: typically seasonal meal in one of the hotels' restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary boat trip up to the Loreley (2,5 hours)
- Complimentary use of the SPA with sauna and steam bath
- Complimentary WiFi

Itinerary

Day 1 & 2: Wadden Sea

Leave the worries and cares of everyday life behind you as you set out for the Wadden Sea. This Natural Heritage area is on the coast of the North Sea and is home to many plant and animal species. Geologically speaking, this is still a very young area and is still under constant formation by wind, water and waves, meaning that no two moments are entirely the same. We highly recommend a tour of the mudflats with an experienced guide, so that you can discover all there is to know.

Day 3: Wadden Sea & Kassel

The third day of your trip will begin with another tasty breakfast in your hotel. Then, the road will lead you on to Kassel. There are many lovely places to stop and take a break and it is entirely up to you where you stop and for how long - as is the case with all Academy Travel tours. Our recommendation is a quick breather in Bremen.

Day 4: Kassel

As soon as you have enjoyed your breakfast, your exploration of one of Germany's greenest towns can begin. For anybody in need of relaxation, today will be one of the highlights of your trip - because today is the day you can visit the wonderful Wilhelmshöhe Mountain Park, nestled in a luscious natural landscape. The park is known and loved for its Hercules statue and the historic water show. Another of Kassel's main attractions is the Grimm Museum, which you should be sure not to miss. This is where the famous Fairy Tales by the Brothers Grimm are exhibited.

Day 5: Kassel & Koblenz

After Kassel, the next stop is Koblenz. This is where the Rhine breaks through the Schiefer mountains, between the towns of Bingen, Rüdesheim and Koblenz. This has been recognized as a UNESCO natural heritage site since 2002.

Day 6 & 7: Koblenz

You will spend the sixth and seventh days of your trip in the company of the Lorelei in their stunning valley. This part of the Rhine area is thought to be the most romantic part of the entire stretch of river, boasting a varied and beautiful natural landscape. The next few days will give you a chance not only to enjoy lovely scenery, but also delicious local specialities and Riesling wine.



TOUR OF THE CHRISTMAS MARKETS

Bookable in the
Christmasmarket-season
(location dependent).

7 days
532€/p.p.

HEIDELBERG - BAMBERG - DRESDEN

Package includes

3-star superior hotel in Heidelberg

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Glass of mulled wine on arrival
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the partner restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary upgrade to the next room category, where available
- Late check-out until 2pm
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Bamberg

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal in the partner restaurant (drinks not included)
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Dresden

- 2 nights' stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Complimentary use of the sauna, steam room and gym
- Free parking

Itinerary

Day 1 & 2: Heidelberg

It is Advent, soon Christmas will be upon us... Your journey starts here! Today you will check in to your hotel at Heidelberg's Bismarckplatz, located in the heart of the city. After you have enjoyed a delicious, warming glass of mulled wine, you will start your exploration of the lovely Christmas markets, all the way along Heidelberg's pedestrian area. At the end of your stroll is the Castle Christmas Market, in the grounds of the famous Heidelberg Castle.

On Day 2 you can visit cities in the nearby area, such as Mannheim and Schwetzingen, where you will also discover wonderful Christmas markets.

Day 3: Heidelberg & Bamberg

Today you will leave Heidelberg and Baden-Württemberg behind as you continue your journey as far as Franconian Bavaria. The UNESCO world cultural heritage site of Bamberg is particularly charming when its Christmas market is in full swing. Your home away from home in Bamberg is a traditional hotel near the cathedral.

Day 4: Nuremberg

Our recommendation for today is a day trip to Nuremberg. This spectacular city with its Imperial Palace is less than an hour away. Anybody taking a tour of Germany's Christmas markets should experience the one in Nuremberg - at least once in their lives.

Day 5: Bamberg & Dresden

Dresden is about three hours away, meaning that you should arrive there by midday. Park your car and leave your luggage in the hotel, so that you can go straight into Dresden's magnificent Old Town. No matter what time of year you visit, a trip to the Semper Opera House and other buildings of artistic and cultural significance along the Elbe River is a must. You will have the added bonus of enjoying the charms of the Old Town in winter.

Day 6 & 7: Dresden

Following a hearty breakfast, you will set out for home. Your luggage may be heavier as you bring home gifts for loved ones, but the lovely memories you have gathered of Advent in the German markets will not weigh you down at all.

UNESCO IN NORTHERN GERMANY

Journey not available in
November/December.

7 days
519€/p.p.

BREMERHAVEN - BREMEN - LUBECK - STRALSUND

Package includes

4-star hotel in Bremerhaven

- 2 night's stay in a double room Buffet breakfast for two 3-course evening meal in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included) Complimentary use of the sauna (from 5 pm to 10 pm)
- Free entry in the German Maritime museum for two
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

3-star hotel in Bremen

- 1 night's stay in a double room Buffet breakfast for two Kettle with coffee and tea facilities
- Complimentary use of wellness area incl. massage benches
- Free entry in the House of History Bremen for two
- 1 x surprise gift
- Complimentary WiFi
- Free parking

4-star hotel in Lubeck

- 2 night's stay in a double room
- Drink on arrival at the hotel bar
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)
- Bottle of mineral water and a surprise treat on arrival in your room
- Harbour cruise with a visit to the historic Holsten Gate (May-September only) or coffee in the traditional "Niederegg" coffee house (January - April & October - December)

3-star hotel in Stralsund

- 1 night's stay in a double room
- Buffet breakfast for two
- 3-course evening meal for two in the hotel restaurant (drinks not included)

Itinerary

Day 1 & 2: Wadden Sea

Relax body and soul and become one with nature - what a great start to your holiday, as you spend two days by the Wadden Sea. This unique landscape has been recognised as a UNESCO natural heritage site since 2009. There is so much to enjoy here - a tour of the mudflats, a bike tour, unforgettable sunsets and a vast expanse of natural beauty.

Day 3: Wadden Sea & Bremen

After two days of pure relaxation, today's journey will take you as far as Bremen. Here you will find not one, but two buildings that have been included on the UNESCO world cultural heritage list since 2004. The Town Hall and the Roland Statue in the market square both symbolise the development of autonomy and market rights for the European middle classes. You should also make sure to visit the most well-known symbol of the town, the bronze statue of the Town Musicians of Bremen.

Day 4: Bremen & Lubeck

Once you have seen all of the attractions that Bremen has to offer, you will continue your journey as far as Lubeck. This is a real treat, as the entire Old Town has been recognised as a UNESCO world cultural heritage site. This includes the medieval town centre with its many attractions - the Town Hall, churches and the salt tank on the left bank of the Trave river.

Day 5: Lubeck

The fifth day of your trip will be entirely devoted to Lubeck. As well as a stroll through the UNESCO-recognised Old Town, you should also visit the historic Holsten Gate, the most famous city gates of the Late Middle Ages. From May to October you can also enjoy a boat tour of the harbour - the best views of the City of Seven Towers are undoubtedly from the water.

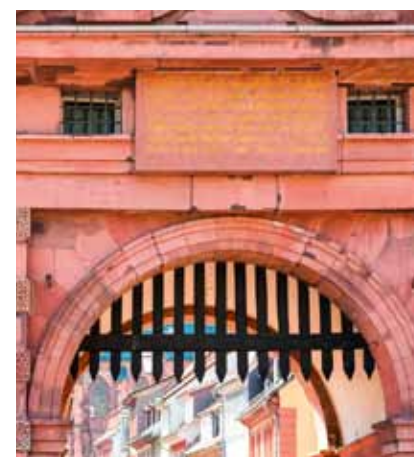
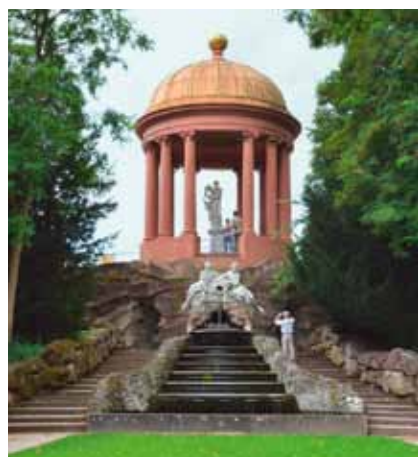
Day 6: Lubeck & Stralsund

From Lubeck you will start out on the last leg of your journey, as far as Stralsund. Just the same as in Lubeck, the whole Old Town is listed as a UNESCO world cultural heritage site. Historic monuments survive to document the political significance of the city in medieval times. It is also a great place to relax! If you have the time and the inclination, you should take a trip to the lovely coastline of the Baltic Sea.

Day 7: Stralsund & the Buchenwald forest

On this final day in Stralsund, we recommend a day trip to the old Buchenwald, which is also on the UNESCO list. There are many hiking trails to choose from, as well as unforgettable tours of the forest.





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