

Martin Luther



Festival of Choirs



*A singing pilgrimage
in the footsteps of Martin Luther*

in Luther's Erfurt, Germany

July 3-7, 2008

Trump Tours

2008 Martin Luther Festival of Choirs



A singing pilgrimage in the footsteps of Martin Luther

Location: Erfurt, Germany

Date: July 3-7, 2008



Highlights:

- Perform music in places where Luther worked, lived and prayed
- Perform individual choir concerts at the historic **Augustinian Abbey** in Erfurt, where Luther was a monk
- Perform a mass sing with Lutheran music under the direction of **Dietrich Ehrenwert – Music Director of the Augustinian Choir and Church State Music Director of the state Saxony**
- Visit the Luther and Bach House in Eisenach
- Tour **Wittenberg** and see the famous **95 Theses** on the castle church door - Luther is buried under the pulpit
- Visit the famous “Merchants Church” where Luther preached
- Sing at the Luther memorial in front of the Merchants Church
- Stay 4 nights in **Erfurt**, first mentioned in 724, the town that Luther called “the perfect place for a city”
- Visit the **Wartburg Castle**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where Luther lived in protective custody. He assumed the name Junker Joerg and translated the New Testament from Greek into German. Also one of the authentic locations of the famous “Luther” movie, an US American / German co-production.

Why sing at the Martin Luther – Festival of Choirs?

Music, Faith and Fun.

Music: The international language that brings people together. You love to sing and share your music with other people.

Faith: Combine your faith with the opportunity to sing in authentic Luther sites in Germany creating an experience for professional exchange and spiritual growth.

Fun: You love to participate in well organized choir festivals, where you get to listen to other excellent choirs, but also have the opportunity to be part of a truly international choir as you join together in a mass sing.

Whether you are an experienced festival attendee, or this is your first festival, you will slake your passion for singing and your thirst for knowledge and history.

Martin Luther – Prophet, Teacher and Hero: “Here I stand. I cannot do otherwise”



Life Magazine ranked Martin Luther as the 3rd most influential person in the past Millennium. The theological and spiritual strength and dynamics of this remarkable man have not only changed the face of Europe, but have ultimately reached people all over the world. The churches of the Reformation and, more specifically, those who carry his name as “Lutherans” today represent a worldwide confessional family. Because of his refusal to recant his 95 Theses at the Diet of Worms, Luther went into hiding at the Wartburg Castle, and it was here that he began the translation of the Bible into German. He **inspired**

the development of congregational singing within Christianity, and his best known hymn is “A Mighty Fortress is our God”.



TRUMP TOURS

220 N. Walton Blvd.
Bentonville, AR 72712
(479) 271-9898
(800)-758-2042

rhumbert@trumpgroups.com
www.vineyardsandcastles.com

Why Erfurt, Germany?



Erfurt is the ideal setting for this festival because of its rich Lutheran history. Martin Luther once said: *“Erfurt is situated in the best location. It is the perfect place for a city.”* It is here that he studied law (1501-05) before joining the Augustinian monastery (1505-1509). He then studied at the University of Erfurt and became Doctor of Theology (1512).

Erfurt is characterized by its medieval city center, half-timbered buildings and inhabited Kraemerbruecke (Merchants’ Bridge). The dramatic Cathedral steps will become a meeting point for festival participants. The centrally located hotel is within walking distance to the Luther sites, shopping and restaurants. Other famous personalities that lived in Erfurt are Napoleon, Goethe and Johann Sebastian Bach.

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1, Wednesday July 2, 2008

USA – Frankfurt, Germany

Board your international flight to Frankfurt, Germany. Meals and snacks will be served on the flight.

Day 2, Thursday July 3, 2008

Frankfurt, Erfurt, Reception



Arrive Frankfurt in the morning. Be greeted by a Trump Tours tour manager who will be with you until departure. Transfer to Erfurt and check into your hotel. Relax in your hotel or explore the city.

After dinner at the hotel, join the other participants in an impromptu sing at the **Luther memorial** in front of the historic **Merchants’ Church**, where Luther preached. Join your tour manager on a walk to the **Augustinian Abbey**, built in 1131, for an official reception for all participating choirs. (D)

Day 3, Friday July 4, 2008

Sightseeing, Rehearsal & Concert

After breakfast at the hotel embark on a two hour guided city tour where you will walk in the footsteps of Martin Luther. Following the tour, enjoy time on your own for lunch. In the afternoon transfer to the famous Augustinian Abbey where you will meet all participating choirs for a workshop and first rehearsal. The rehearsal is led by Dietrich Ehrenwert, music director of the Augustinian Abbey. Dinner will be served at the Abbey. In the evening, each choir performs a 20-30 minute concert in the “Kreuzhof” (Cloisters) of the Abbey. (B, D)

Day 4, Saturday July 5, 2008

Wartburg Castle, Festival highlight – Mass Sing



After breakfast, board your bus and visit the majestic Wartburg Castle, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. Luther arrived here in 1521 and lived in protective custody. He assumed the name Junker Joerg and translated the New Testament from Greek into German. Visit the authentic “**Luther Room**”. Continue to Eisenach to visit the **Luther Haus** (lived here during his school years) and **Bach Monument and House** (Johann Sebastian Bach was born here). A typical ‘Thuringian’ lunch of regional specialties will be specially prepared for your group.

After returning to Erfurt, join the other participants for the final rehearsal for tonight’s main event – the mass sing. Time to refresh with dinner served at the hotel. Transfer to venue for final mass concert. (B, L, D)

Day 5, Sunday July 6, 2008

Sightseeing, Shopping



After breakfast spend the day at your leisure. We can arrange for you to sing at a church service or visit one of the surrounding towns. We highly recommend visiting **Wittenberg** today to see the famous 95 Theses if you decide not to take the tour extension. Farewell dinner this evening for your choir. (B, D)

Day 6, Monday July 7, 2008

Depart

Following breakfast, pack your bags and check out of the hotel. Transfer to the airport and flight back to the US or continue with your post tour. (B)



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Included in your tour

- ❖ 4 nights Accommodations in 3-4 star city center hotel
- ❖ 9 meals: Breakfast and dinner each day; Typical German lunch on Saturday
- ❖ Transportation provided in luxury air-conditioned motor coach as described
- ❖ Luther themed walking tour of Erfurt with local English speaking historical guides
- ❖ Tour of Wartburg Castle (UNESCO World Heritage site), where Luther translated the Bible
- ❖ Sing at a local church service, if desired
- ❖ Welcome reception on first night
- ❖ Workshop and Rehearsal in Augustinian Abbey (Friday afternoon)
- ❖ 20-30 min evening performance for individual choir in Augustinian Abbey (Friday evening)
- ❖ Workshop and Rehearsal in evening venue
- ❖ Main event with mass sing
- ❖ Full time bi-lingual tour manager
- ❖ One suitcase and one carry-on. Additional suitcases will incur a charge of \$50 per suitcase.

Price: **\$799** per person (based on double occupancy) – Land only.

\$199 (Single Supplement)

All prices are based on current exchange rates. Itinerary subject to change.

Not included in price are museum entrances not listed, tips for driver and tour escort, passport & visa fees, public transportation, personal items, beverages at meals, travel insurance.

Airfare: Please contact Trump Tours for airfare.

Music: Trump Tours will provide you with the mandatory music for the mass sing.

Insurance: We strongly recommend that everyone protects their vacation investment with travel insurance.

Next Step: **To apply with your choir please call Trump Tours or download an application form from the website (www.vineyardsandcastles.com).**

Recommended Extensions

Take this opportunity to visit other beautiful and historic sites in Germany or its surrounding countries. Trump Tours will gladly help you arrange these additional days. We can also arrange further concerts for your choir. Please refer to the *“Recommended Extension”* sheet. We gladly customize them to your needs.

Berlin Extension: Leipzig - Dresden - Wittenberg - Berlin

Frankfurt Extension: Wuerzburg - Rothenburg - Heidelberg - Frankfurt - Worms - Rhein (wineregion)

Munich Extension: Nuernberg – Augsburg – Munich – Neuschwanstein - Bavarian Alps - Salzburg



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