

*Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA presents...*

# On the Trail of Martin Luther

July 12 – 22, 2017

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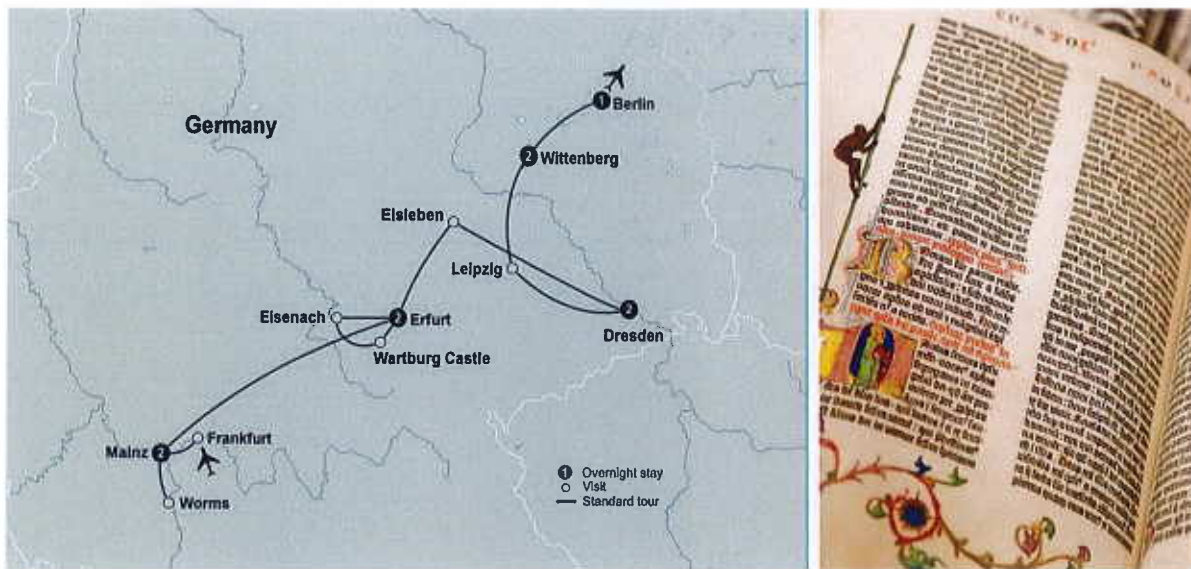
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"**Religious Tours**" are competitively priced journeys that focus on the needs of our faith-based travelers. Featuring three star hotels and more modest meals, these packages are designed to capture the reflective and humble surroundings of the world-famous spiritual sites they visit. With an emphasis on religious inclusions, these tours also include other culturally appropriate attractions and the services of a professional Tour Manager.



## Collette Experiences

- Visit the Gutenberg Museum and see the famed Gutenberg Bible.
- Travel to Worms where Luther refused to recant and the Imperial Diet (Assembly) declared him an "outlaw."
- Visit Wartburg Castle, the place where Luther translated the New Testament into German while in hiding.

**Highlights:** 500th Anniversary of the Day of the Reformation, Mainz, Worms, Gutenberg Museum, Erfurt, Wartburg Castle, Lutherhaus, Eisleben, Dresden, Leipzig, St. Thomas Church, Wittenberg, St. Mary's Church, Berlin

### **Day 1: Wednesday, July 12, 2017**

**Overnight Flight** Embark on an inspirational journey through Germany that follows the epic trail blazed by Martin Luther, marking the 500th anniversary of the day of the Reformation.

### **Day 2: Thursday, July 13, 2017 Mainz, Germany - Tour Begins**

Your tour opens in the enchanting city of Mainz, a medieval town located on the banks of the Rhine River. Tonight, meet your fellow travelers during a welcome dinner. *(D)*

**Day 3: Friday, July 14, 2017 Mainz - Worms - Mainz** Begin your day with a visit to the Gutenberg Museum where you can see a copy of Gutenberg's masterpiece — the 42-

**line Bible.** Enjoy free time to explore the town before traveling to Worms. It was in Worms that the Imperial Diet (Assembly) passed judgment on Luther after his refusal to recant. Come to know the sites significant to Luther's story during a guided walking tour of the city. Take a moment at the Cathedral where Luther presented his case; see Trinity Church; and visit monuments dedicated to Luther and other important Reformation figures. *(B)*

### **Day 4: Saturday, July 15, 2017 Mainz - Erfurt**

Today you travel to Erfurt which Martin Luther himself referred to as the "City of Towers," no doubt due to its numerous steeples. Arriving in Erfurt, embark on a walking tour of the city, passing over Merchants'



Bridge on your way to the Augustinian monastery. **Enjoy a tour of the monastery, where Luther lived and studied as a monk from 1505 to 1512.** After your tour, you are invited to a prayer service in St. Augustine's church inside the monastery. *(B, D)*

**Day 5: Sunday, July 16, 2017 Erfurt - Eisenach - Wartburg Castle - Erfurt** This morning we travel to Eisenach to explore another central town in Luther's life. Your tour of the area begins with a visit to Wartburg Castle, where Luther translated the Bible. Step into what is now "Luther's Room," where Luther lived during the many months he spent at the castle. Our next stop is at the Bachhaus Eisenach to enjoy a musical performance played on various historical instruments dating back to Bach's time. Next, join a local guide for a walking tour of the town. You will see the Lutherhaus Eisenach, where Luther resided as a child, and St. George's Church, where he was a choir boy. Enjoy some free time to explore independently. Return to Erfurt in the late afternoon. *(B)*

**Day 6: Monday, July 17, 2017 Erfurt - Eisleben - Dresden** Begin your day with a visit to Eisleben, the site of Luther's birth and death. Delve into his life as we visit the museum inside the home where he was born; St. Peter and Paul Church where he was baptized; and St. Andrews Church where he performed his final sermons. Next, continue on to Dresden, your home for the next two nights. **This evening, get a true taste of the region when dining in a local cellar restaurant.** *(B, D)*

**Day 7: Tuesday, July 18, 2017 Dresden** This morning, join a local guide for a tour of this historical city. See the old town square, the royal residence castle and the Frauenkirche (Church of Our Lady). Enjoy ample time to explore this lovely town on the banks of the River Elbe. *(B)*

**Day 8: Wednesday, July 19, 2017 Dresden - Leipzig - Wittenberg** This morning, travel to Leipzig, a city touched by musical greatness. Discover the city's interesting history during a guided tour featuring St. Thomas Church where the boys' choir has been performing for over 800



years. Martin Luther preached here and its former cantor was the famed composer – Johann Sebastian Bach. Next, travel to Wittenberg where you will have an afternoon service inside one of the local churches remaining from the time of the Reformation. Tonight, discover the tastes of the region with a tour of a local brewery including a tasting, followed by dinner. (B, D)

**Day 9: Thursday, July 20, 2017**

**Wittenberg** Set out on a guided tour of Wittenberg. Your first stop is the former Wittenberg University where Luther served as a professor of theology. Next, explore his family home on the grounds; today it is a fascinating museum housing his writings and other artifacts from the Reformation. Travel back in time as you discover its seemingly untouched rooms used by Luther. **Continue to the oldest structure in the city, St. Mary's Church, where Luther preached, was married, and where his children were baptized.** See the Castle Church, the location where the famous *95 Theses* were posted, launching the Reformation. Have time to explore or to reflect at Luther's

tomb. Then it is on to discover the Renaissance-style home of Philipp Melanchthon, Luther's scholarly confidant who aided him significantly in communicating his revolutionary theology. Next, you are in for a special treat! Join a local family in their home to sip coffee and discuss life in Germany, both today and during Communist times. (B)

**Day 10: Friday, July 21, 2017**

**Wittenberg - Berlin** Depart this morning for Berlin. Embark on a comprehensive tour featuring Brandenburg Gate, Charlottenburg Palace, Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, Schöneberg City Hall, Kurfürstendamm and the Reichstag Building. Finally, pass through the area that was once "Checkpoint Charlie," and see what remains of the Berlin Wall. Tonight, gather with your fellow travelers for a farewell dinner. (B, D)

**Day 11: Saturday, July 22, 2017 Berlin**

**- Tour Ends** Your journey comes to a close. Depart with new perspectives, a strengthened faith and treasured memories. (B)

### Itinerary at a glance

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2, 3	Park Inn Mainz, Mainz
Days 4, 5	Radisson Blu Hotel Erfurt, Erfurt
Days 6, 7	Swissotel Dresden, Dresden
Days 8, 9	Luther Hotel Wittenberg, Wittenberg
Day 10	Intercontinental Hotel Berlin, Berlin

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

### Experience It! Luther's Castle Church

Formally named All Saints' Church, the Schlosskirche, or Castle Church, opened in 1506, the year Luther arrived in Wittenberg. This was the church where Luther nailed his Ninety-Five Theses against the sale of indulgences to the wooden doors in 1517. This was the moment that launched the Reformation. During your visit, pause at the tombs of Luther, Melanchthon and Frederick the Wise. Take time to attend services and journey back in time as you imagine yourself seated next to many prominent figures of the Reformation.

#### **Please Note:**

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing Collette airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at prescheduled times.

Included breakfasts are buffet breakfasts.

Please note that single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis. Triple accommodations are not available.

Church services on this tour may be in German; English language services will be provided when possible.

This tour includes moderate physical activity. The itinerary blends some longer days with shorter days and more leisure time. Walking tours, as well as walking slightly longer

distances, up stairs or on uneven walking surfaces should be expected.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

**A deposit of \$250 per person due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of December 06, 2016 are based upon availability. Final payment due by May 13, 2017. Please note: deposits are fully refundable up until December 13, 2016, after that date certain charges apply.**

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## The Collette Gateway

After you make your reservation, we will email you an invitation to the Collette Gateway. This online hub allows you to track your travel experience. On your personal profile page, tell us where you've been; enjoy a countdown to your tour, see information about the destinations you'll visit, connect with fellow travelers, check out popular travel tips and sign up for Travel Loyalty by Collette (TLC). The Gateway makes your travel experience easy and fun. Learn more at [gateway.gocollette.com](http://gateway.gocollette.com)

† Full credit is valid for travel within 12 months of the original trip. \$100 of the credit remains valid for travel within 13-24 months and the entire credit expires after 24 months.