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*The medieval town of Rothenburg, one of the jewels on the Romantic Road
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GERMANY'S ROMANTIC ROAD

Plus the Black Forest and Heidelberg

14 days, Wednesday, April 17, to Tuesday, April 30, 2019

This tour explores the Romantic Road, Germany's most popular tourist itinerary, stretching through idyllic hills and valleys from the vineyards rising above the banks of the Main River in Franconia, to Mad King Ludwig's fairytale castles in the Bavarian Alps. Our itinerary includes superb historic cities such as Würzburg, Nuremberg, Augsburg, and Heidelberg, as well as picturesque medieval towns like Rothenburg and pretty villages such as Oberammergau. This tour is offered in collaboration with Guelph Arts Council and is conducted by historian Jacques Pauwels, specialist in German history, author of 'The Myth of the Good War,' 'Beneath the Dust of Time,' and 'The Great Class War 1914-1918.'

Tour cost, based on double occupancy, from Toronto: \$4,795, INCLUDING all taxes and other surcharges - "land only": \$3,755 - Single room supplement: \$645

PROPOSED ITINERARY:

Day 1 - Wednesday, April 17: Late afternoon departure from Toronto for Frankfurt on a non-stop flight of Air Canada. Dinner and a light breakfast will be served on board.

Day 2 - Thursday, April 18: Early morning arrival in **Frankfurt**. A private coach will be waiting here to take us via the Autobahn into the Palatinate region, straddling the Rhine to the south of Frankfurt. Our destination is the historical city of **Worms**, associated with the legendary Song of the Nibelungs, Charlemagne and other medieval emperors, and Martin Luther; together with the neighbouring city of Speyer, Worms is also listed on

UNESCO's tentative list of World Heritage Sites because of their important role in Jewish history and culture. Arrival in Worms, and as it is likely to be too early to check into our hotel, we tour the town's major attractions, the impressive Romanesque "imperial" Cathedral, the Luther Memorial, the ancient Synagogue (reputedly Germany's oldest), and the oldest Jewish Cemetery in Europe, in use since the 11th century. Then we check into the centrally-located first-class Dom-Hotel (<http://www.dom-hotel.de>). This evening, welcome drink in a typical tavern, followed by dinner in the hotel.

Worms and its Cathedral on an ancient print >

Day 3 - Friday, April 19: After breakfast, we motor to the nearby university town of **Heidelberg**, everybody's favourite German city, tucked between the banks of the Neckar River and its huge ruined castle on top of a steep hill. Here we will first focus on the *Altstadt*, the historical city centre, bisected by the lively *Hauptstraße* (main street), allegedly the longest pedestrian shopping street in Germany; major sights are the old university on Universitätsplatz, the *Heiliggeistkirche* (Church of the Holy Spirit), and the old bridge across the Neckar River. Then we visit the huge castle, a tentative UNESCO World Heritage Site, to inspect the world's biggest wine barrel and to enjoy fabulous views of the old town and the river below. After some free time for shopping and individual exploring, dinner in a *Kneipe*, a traditional student tavern, before we return to our hotel in Worms.



< *Heidelberg, with the huge castle and the bridge across the Neckar River.*



Day 4 - Saturday, April 20: Departure from Worms after breakfast. We head for the town of **Speyer** and visit the fine Romanesque Cathedral that served as mausoleum to medieval German emperors (<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/168>), another monument with UNESCO World Heritage Site status, as well as the *mikve*, a Jewish ritual bath dating back to the 12th century. Continue to **Maulbronn Monastery**, yet another UNESCO site, described as "a Cistercian monastery founded in 1147, still surrounded by fortified walls, and considered

to be the most complete and best-preserved medieval monastic complex north of the Alps, and featuring an exceptionally interesting water-management system with reservoirs and a network of canals" (<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/546>). In late afternoon, we enter Germany's very scenic **Black Forest**. Late afternoon arrival in **Freiburg**, the very attractive urban hub of the Black Forest and one of the "greenest" cities on earth (https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2008/mar/23/freiburg_germany_greenest_city). We will stay in an "ecological" hotel, the Green City Hotel Vauban (<https://green-city-hotel-vauban.de/en>). Dinner in a typical restaurant.

Day 5 - Sunday, April 21 [Easter Sunday]: A full day of leisurely touring in the bucolic hills and valleys of the legendary Black Forest! Our program will include a visit to a traditional workshop manufacturing cuckoo-clocks and other typical artefacts; the lovely lakeside resort of **Titisee**; the **Feldberg**, the area's tallest mountain; and the belvedere of **Schauinsland**, with spectacular views of the Rhine Valley, Alsace, and the Vosges Mountains to the west and, to the south, the Swiss Alps. We finish today's program with a leisurely walking tour as well as some free time in Freiburg, crisscrossed by little streams bringing fresh water from the nearby hills and featuring an impressive Gothic Cathedral as well magnificent old merchants' houses. No group dinner this evening.

Day 6 - Monday, April 22: Departure after breakfast. We enjoy more wonderful Black Forest scenery as we motor to the town of **Donaueschingen** to see the *Donauquelle*, the source of the Danube. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Source_of_the_Danube). On to **Lake Constance**, a vast and beautiful body of water separating Germany from both Austria and Switzerland (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lake_Constance). In the village of **Unteruhldingen**, we visit a reconstructed village of lake dwellings built on stilts, dating back to the Neolithic and the Bronze Age, that is, to 4.000-850 BC; this is one of the "Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps" that are collectively classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site (<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1363>).

In the afternoon we enter the Allgaeu Region, a.k.a. as the Bavarian Alps. Our destination is the picturesque village of **Schwangau** near the town of Fuessen, the southern terminal of Germany's Romantic Road. Dinner and overnight in a traditional Bavarian inn, the Weinbauer ([/www.hotel-weinbauer.de](http://www.hotel-weinbauer.de)), located within view of one of the world-famous "fairy-tale castles" of "Mad King Ludwig"!



Hotel Weinbauer in Schwangau

NINE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES VISITED ON THIS TOUR:

Heidelberg Castle - Jewish heritage cities of Speyer and Worms - Speyer Cathedral -
Unteruhldingen, one of the Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps -
Mad King Ludwig Fairytale Castles in Bavaria – Pre-Alpine and Alpine meadows and marsh landscapes of
Ammergau – Wies Pilgrimage Church – Palace of the Prince-Bishops of Würzburg – City of Bamberg

Day 7 - Tuesday, April 23: Today we tour what is described by the Michelin Guide as "the exclamation mark at the end of the Romantic Road," the very romantic "fairytale castles" of Bavarian King Ludwig II, a.k.a. "Mad King Ludwig, including a visit to either **Neuschwanstein**, perched high on a hill, OR **Linderhof**, another architectural marvel surrounded by fabulous Alpine scenery; these "dreams in stone" are featured on the tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Today, group lunch OR dinner.

Day 8 - Wednesday, April 24: A full-day tour of Bavaria's lovely countryside, including Alpine and pre-Alpine meadows and marsh landscapes that have been placed on UNESCO's tentative list of (natural) World Heritage Sites, such as the **Ammergau**. This exploration will include visits to the **Wies Pilgrimage Church**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site (<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/271>), the world-famous, and very picturesque, Passion Play village of **Oberammergau**, and the imposing baroque church of **Ettal Abbey**. In late afternoon, we return to our hotel along a scenic road through the Austrian Alps, via the town of **Reutte**. The rest of the day is at leisure. No group dinner this evening.

One of Mad King Ludwig's "dreams in stone," Neuschwanstein Castle >

Day 9 - Thursday, April 25: Departure from Schwangau after breakfast. Following the Romantic Road, we motor via **Landsberg**, where Hitler was imprisoned after his failed "Beerhall Putsch" and wrote *Mein Kampf*, to **Augsburg**. Already founded by the Romans, this city experienced its golden age during the late Middle Ages and the Renaissance, when it was a major centre of finance, personified by families of bankers such as the Fuggers; the city also played an important role in the history of the Reformation, as reflected in the "Augsburg Confession" of 1530 (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augsburg_Confession).



Our local sightseeing program will include Town Hall Square, Maximilian Street with its magnificent merchants' homes, and the Fuggerei, the world's oldest social housing complex, founded by the Fugger Family in the early 16th century. In the afternoon we continue to **Dinkelsbühl**, one of the prettiest of the medieval towns along the Romantic Road, featuring impressive ramparts pierced by four city gates, a baroque castle, a fine late-Gothic church, and plenty of beautiful traditional wood-framed houses. After our visit, we continue to the historical university city of **Würzburg**, nestled in a meander of the Main River and surrounded by vineyard-covered hills such as the legendary Steinberg. Dinner and overnight in the centrally located first-class Hotel Maritim (<https://www.maritim.com/en/hotels/germany/hotel-wuerzburg/hotel-overview>).



Jewels of the Romantic Road: Dinkelsbühl and Würzburg

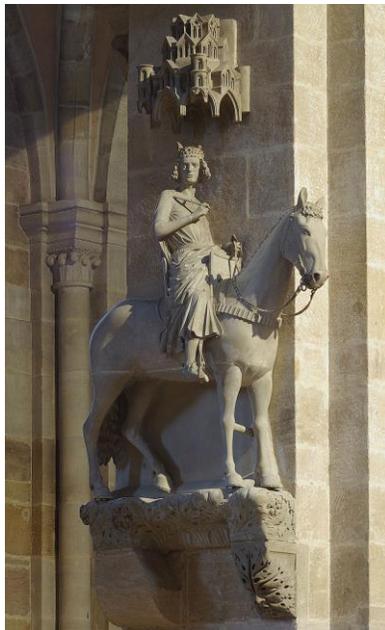
Day 10 - Friday, April 26: Morning walking tour of Würzburg, with sights such as the medieval bridge across the Main River, decorated with statues and offering views of the Marienberg Fortress on top of a vineyard-covered hill, the wonderful Romanesque Cathedral, and the Residenz, the exuberant baroque palace of the prince-bishops who used to rule this city, decorated by superb frescoes by Tiepolo and classified as a UNESCO

World Heritage Site. Afternoon free to shop and/or explore on your own. This evening, dinner of traditional Franconian specialties in a typical restaurant.

Day 11 - Saturday, April 27: Excursion to **Bamberg**, a city that earned UNESCO World Heritage status in its entirety because it has managed to preserve the appearance and atmosphere of the centuries stretching from the Middle Ages to the 18th century, when it was one of Germany's major commercial and intellectual centres (<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/624>). Architectural and artistic witness to that illustrious past are the Town Hall, situated on a little island in the Regnitz River, the impressive Cathedral with tombs of emperors and popes, the episcopal palaces, and "Little Venice," a cluster of picturesque fishermen's houses from the 19th century along the banks of the river Regnitz. We will of course also pay our respects to the city's most famous burgher, a masterpiece of Gothic sculpture known as the "Bamberg Horseman," considered the first monumental equestrian statue since classical antiquity (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bamberg_Horseman)! Return to Würzburg via some of the area's famous wine villages, such as **Volkach**, whose wine has traditionally been marketed in round bottles (later to be imitated by Mateus!) known as *Bocksbeutel* and served in big glasses called *Römer*. No group dinner this evening.

The Bamberg Horseman

Franconian Bocksbeutel bottle



Day 12 - Sunday, April 28: Departure after breakfast. We motor east to Nuremberg, for many centuries one of Germany's outstanding commercial and cultural centres, conjuring up names such as Albrecht Dürer, but also

associated with the evil dictatorship of the Nazis, whose infamous party rallies were held here in the 1930s - and whose postwar trial was held here. Visit to the picturesque Old Town, carefully restored after the destruction wrought during WW II, the Dürer House, the Nazi Party Rally Grounds (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nazi_party_rally_grounds), and the German National Museum, the largest museum of cultural history in the country (<https://www.gnm.de/en>). In late afternoon we leave Nuremberg and drive to the medieval walled town of **Rothenburg ob der Tauber**, unquestionably the most beautiful and interesting jewel along the Romantic Road. We stay in the charming, centrally located first-class/four-star Hotel Eisenhut (<https://www.eisenhut.com/en>). Today, lunch OR dinner.

Day 13 - Monday, April 29: A full day to enjoy the medieval atmosphere and superb architecture of Rothenburg! In the morning, leisurely walking tour of the town, including sights such as the Market Square with the Renaissance Town Hall (*Rathaus*), the Councillors' Tavern (*Ratstrinkstube*), and St. George's Fountain; the city fortifications, including walls, gates, and towers; the attractive Castle Garden, with great views of the Tauber River Valley; the *Plönlein*, a small square considered to be one of the most photographed spots in Germany; and the St. Jakobskirche (Church of St. James), containing a masterpiece by the famous 15th-century Würzburg sculptor Tilman Riemenschneider. The rest of the day is at leisure. *Auf Wiedersehen*-dinner this evening in the restaurant of our hotel.



< *Ruins of the Stadium for Nazi Party Rallies in Nuremberg:*

Day 14 - Tuesday, April 30: After a leisurely breakfast, transfer to Frankfurt Airport in time for the departure of our non-stop return flight to Toronto with Air Canada.

Tour cost, based on double occupancy, from Toronto: \$4,795, INCLUDING all taxes and other surcharges - "land only": \$3,755 - Single room supplement: \$645

Included in the tour price are:

- Return flight Toronto-Frankfurt, including all applicable airport taxes, security fees, and fuel surcharges;
- Overland travel by private coach;
- Accommodation based on double occupancy in four-star/first-class hotels except on days 6-8, when a three-star/superior tourist-class hotel will be used – a *limited number* of single rooms is available at a supplement of \$645;
- Daily breakfast, mostly buffet-style, and all but three dinners (or full lunches);
- All visits and sightseeing, including admission to museums and monuments, as shown in the itinerary;
- Gratuities for the coach driver and local guides.

Not included are:

- All items of a personal nature;
- Meals other than those shown above, and wine/beer/coffee etc. with dinners;
- Travel Insurance is available on request, please call for rates.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSITS:

Reservations should be made as early as possible to ensure the departure of your choice. A deposit of \$750.00 required at the time of registration. Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of your deposit and registration form. No reservations will be accepted without a signed application form.

REFUND OF UNUSED ARRANGEMENTS:

Because the rates of Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. are based on group participation, no refund can be made for any tour accommodation or tour service or tour feature not taken. If cancellation occurs while the tour is in progress, no refund can be made for the tour portion not taken. We strongly suggest that to allow for any unexpected contingencies, you purchase the all-inclusive insurance.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Refund of deposit is made if cancellation is received in writing by Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. more than 90 days prior of the departure date of the tour less a \$500.00 non-refundable administrative fee per person. For cancellation received in writing 90 days prior or less the following cancellation charges apply:

90 days to 61 days before departure: 25% of tour cost
60 to 31 days before departure: 50% of tour cost
Within 30 days prior to departure: 100% of tour cost

RESPONSIBILITY:

The acceptance of the initial service to be provided under the tour shall be considered an acceptance by the tour member of those conditions. We also reserve the right to decline, to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. We reserve the right without notice, to withdraw any part or all of the tour. Factors such as airline schedule changes, hotel overbookings, inclement weather, travel warnings by the Canadian Government etc. may necessitate changes in the itinerary. There may also be other circumstances in which changes become necessary or advisable.

By commencing the tour, I agree to the release and agreement as included below.

RELEASE & AGREEMENT:

By placing my deposit and commencing the tour I understand and agree to the following:

1. That all tours are delivered in conjunction with other service providers, including but not limited to travel agent and booking services, airlines, hotel and accommodation providers, transportation providers including but not limited to coach, train and ferry services, restaurant providers, and local guides. We shall not be held responsible for the failure by any person or company to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. All hotels, transportation and other travel services are provided subject to all the terms and conditions under which they are offered to the public generally.
2. I know that tour programs include walking, and may including hiking and fitness programs that have potential hazardous activities associated with them. I should not participate prior to approval by my physician. I assume any and all other risks associated with these events included but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather including high heat and/or humidity.
3. To release, indemnify and hold harmless Pauwels Travel Bureau and their affiliates (which term shall include parents, subsidiaries, officers, directors, shareholders, agents and employees of Pauwels Travel Bureau as well as Pauwels Travel themselves) (the "Released Parties") from, and agree not to sue the Released Parties for, any claims that I may have arising from, or in connection with, any personal injury, bodily injury, mental anguish, emotional distress, physical, property or other damage that I may suffer from any cause whatsoever related in any way to my participation in this tour. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, I release, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from, and agree not to sue them for any personal injury, bodily injury, mental anguish, emotional distress, physical, property or other damage that I may suffer from the Released Parties' negligence other than from intentional or reckless acts by such parties. I further agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from any and all acts of God, war (whether declared or undeclared), terrorist activities, incidents of politically motivated violence, illness or quarantine, strikes or government restrictions or the acts or omissions of any other agents over which the Released Parties have no direct or indirect control, including, without limitation, airlines, railways, bus companies, hotels, shipping companies, guides and sub-

contracted agents or tour operators. This release also includes activities not offered that may be considered risky. I further release any Tour Directors, bus drivers or other individuals involved in my tour.

4. That the air carrier's liability for loss of or damage to baggage or property, or for death or injury to person, is limited by their tariffs, or the Warsaw Convention, or both.
5. That Pauwels Travel Bureau shall have no liability or responsibility for me when I am absent from activities, such as visits to friends or relatives or during stay-ahead/stay-behind option periods if the stay-ahead/stay-behind period does not include the services of a Tour Director.
6. To abide by directions of my Tour Director or other leadership personnel during my tour. Failure to do so may result in my termination from tour immediately. I understand that to disobey such rules or directions are to waive the right to any refund, and that I may be sent home at my own expense. The participant and family undertake full financial responsibility for any damage caused by the participant and agree to pay his/her return home on the first available flight, should his/her behavior be deemed detrimental to the welfare of the group.
7. To abide by all local laws when in Canada and abroad, including those concerning drugs and alcohol. (Minors must have parents' permission to use alcohol even if the local law would otherwise permit them to.) I understand that if I abuse or disobey such laws, even unintentionally, I waive my right to a refund, and Pauwels Travel may send me home at my own expense. I also understand that should local authorities be involved, I will be subject to the laws of the country I am visiting.
8. That if I become ill or incapacitated, Pauwels Travel and its employees, or a designated chaperone may take any action they deem necessary for my safety and well-being, including securing medical treatment (at my own expense) and transporting me home. Pauwels Travel retains the right, in its sole discretion, to contact the traveller's parent(s) and/or guardian or emergency contact with regard to health issues or any matters whatsoever that relates to the traveller's tour. These rights transcend any and all privacy regulations that may apply. In the event of a medical emergency, Pauwels Travel will attempt to cause appropriate treatment to be administered, and the traveller authorizes Pauwels Travel to do so. Pauwels Travel, however, makes no warranty that it will be able to cause effective (or any) emergency treatment to be administered.
9. That Pauwels Travel may use any film likenesses taken of me and any of my comments while on a tour for future publication and also use my contact information for future Pauwels Travel communications.

A WORD ABOUT *GROUP* AIRFARES:

Please note that when booking one of our air inclusive tours, Pauwels Travel has negotiated reduced rates with the airline that we are able to confirm and lock in up to 359 days before travel. While it is wonderful to share the savings and flexibility this provides with you, our valued guests, the privilege does come with some restrictions. In some cases it may not be possible to collect frequent flyer miles, you may not be able to check in online 24 hours before travel, or you may need to try checking in with your ticket number rather than your booking reference and, in **almost ALL cases we are not able to offer advanced seat selection.**

It is the airline that makes the reservation and has control over the booking so it is their policy, not ours, that prevents us from assigning specific seats. If a request is made, it is passed on to the airline by our staff when they submit the names to the airline, i.e., 30-60 days prior to departure. Calling us several days before you leave will not change this fact nor will getting upset with our staff.

If a certain type of seat is indispensable to you, we suggest that you book our tour on a "land only" basis and make individual flight arrangements, in which case you may be able to get the seat of your choice; Pauwels Travel would be happy to assist you with that reservation at absolutely no additional charge. We will offer you the best fare available, but please note that this can only be done once a tour is a guaranteed departure because your individual airfare's conditions are likely to involve cancellation penalties. We thank you in advance for your kind understanding of the above!

APPLICATION FORM

Please book ___ seat(s) on the "Germany's Romantic Road" tour of April 17 – 30, 2019.

Enclosed is my/our deposit of _____ (\$750 per person, *plus* insurance premium if taken.)

Please indicate with an X if you intend to travel on Group flights _____ or Land only _____.

Deposit and insurance premium, if taken, are due with registration. You will be invoiced for an interim payment of \$1500.00 and the balance due 45 days prior to departure.

WE REQUIRE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT (INFORMATION PAGES ONLY) VALID 3 MONTHS AFTER TOUR TO BE SENT IN WITH YOUR APPLICATION.

PASSPORT NAME(S): **Please** indicate the appropriate title (Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr., Ms.)

Surname _____ First _____ Middle(s) _____

Surname _____ First _____ Middle(s) _____

If applicable, give your commonly used first name as you would like it to appear on your name tag: (e.g. "Liz" for "Mary Elizabeth")

Address _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____ (Email) _____

If traveling alone, is a SINGLE ROOM REQUIRED? YES _____ NO _____

If sharing, what is your bed preference: twin _____ double _____?

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: We find the earlier a request is made, the more success we have in filling it, so please list any dietary requests, allergies, any special physical needs or frequent flyer numbers etc here. We cannot ensure requests made 30 days or less prior to departure will be possible.

Insurance, Please call the office for premiums then record it on application and add premium to deposit.

I /we would like to purchase (please check and record your rate):

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

All-inclusive Package _____ Non-medical Package _____

Other _____ **OR** Decline Insurance _____

PAYMENT: Cheque payable to Pauwels Travel Visa Mastercard American Express

Amount Paid: _____ Card Number: _____

Expiry: _____ Security Code: _____ Signature: _____

"I/we agree to the terms and conditions attached to the program, have indicated our insurance choice, indicated any special requests and included payment".

Date _____ **(Signature)(s)** _____

Please forward this completed and signed form, copy of passport and payment to:

PAUWELS TRAVEL BUREAU LTD.

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