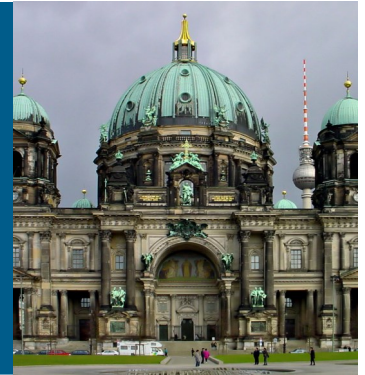


# Hanseatic Ports of Northern Germany

8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS — GROUP TRAVEL  
SUGGESTED ITINERARY — CAN BE CUSTOMIZED



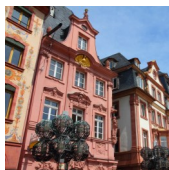
This itinerary was crafted to show you a fascinating glance into Germany's rich past. In just over a week you will visit German cities along the North Sea and the Baltic Sea of immense cultural heritage. And despite the fact that no fewer than four UNESCO World Heritage Sites are featured in the itinerary, you'll find that these destinations are unspoiled and not jam-packed with tourists. This tour also gives travelers the chance to experience Germany's two largest cities: Berlin and Hamburg.



## DAY 1 ~ ARRIVAL IN HAMBURG

At the conclusion of your flight to Hamburg, your group will be met by a guide in the airport's arrivals hall and taken on a panoramic tour of this maritime metropolis' key highlights by private coach en route to your hotel. After checking in, enjoy free time to explore or freshen up before tonight's welcome dinner in the hotel's restaurant.

After dinner, your evening is free to maybe take a stroll along the banks of Binnenalster Lake or to enjoy Hamburg's world-famous night life.

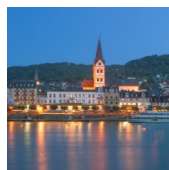


## DAY 2 ~ LÜNEBURG

After breakfast in the hotel, your group will check out and head south by private coach to the historic city of Lüneburg. Lüneburg participated in the Hanseatic Diet starting in 1363 and remained in the League right through to the 17th century. The city's several-hundred-year monopoly on salt production in the region linked the city with Lübeck, the chief Hanseatic city. The cityscape attests to the city's earlier wealth and intensive trading during the Hanseatic boom.

Your walking tour of the Old Town includes the picturesque riverside quarter, the Town Hall- one of northern Germany's largest and most beautiful medieval town halls- and "Am Sande" Square featuring some magnificent brick buildings. The tour continues with a visit to the German Salt Museum where your group will learn how a nondescript mineral is a vital building block of life and is nicknamed "white gold." Today concludes with a transfer to your hotel in Bremen.

Evening at leisure in beautiful Bremen.



## DAY 3 ~ BREMEN/ LÜBECK

After breakfast in the hotel, your group will checkout and leave its baggage with the reception staff before beginning an exciting city tour.

The 1,200 year old city of Bremen, located on the Weser River, was a major trading port in the Hanseatic League and remains an important commercial and industrial city today. This morning will begin with a walking tour through Bremen's Old Town. Walk along the moats of the former medieval city walls in Wallangen Park and through the bustling pedestrian zones. The highlight of your tour will undoubtedly be Market Square, dominated by the "Weser

## INCLUSIONS

- 1 night in each Hamburg and Bremen
- 2 nights in Lübeck
- 1 night in Stralsund
- 2 nights in Berlin
- Breakfast daily
- Lunch and dinner per itinerary
- Air conditioned private coach
- English speaking assistant and guides
- Admission tickets as outlined in itinerary

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit four UNESCO World Heritage Sites
- Historic waterfronts and town halls
- Gothic brick architecture
- Vibrant Berlin's top attractions
- Visit Potsdam's Sanssouci Park

EuropeExpress



Renaissance” façade of the UNESCO-listed Town Hall and statute of Roland. Your tour continues along artistic Böttcherstrasse and the Schlachte riverside promenade and eventually ends back at the hotel where you will collect your baggage and proceed by private coach to the city of Lübeck.

Upon arrival in Lübeck you will be taken to your hotel to check in. The remainder of the day is free to explore at your leisure.



#### DAY 4 ~ LÜBECK

Lübeck was the formal capital and “queen city” of the Hanseatic League. The entire Old Quarter is located on an island in the Trave River and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Today’s tour will commence after breakfast in the hotel. The tour will feature the Old Town gates, the Town Hall, and the many beautiful churches including Marienkirche, the world’s tallest brick church. Other sights include the historic salt warehouses and the Medieval Hospital of the Holy Ghost.

The tour will finish by lunchtime, and the remainder of the day is at leisure to continue exploring the city’s large historical quarter; we suggest you seek out one of Lübeck’s most well-loved delicacies: marzipan.



#### DAY 5 ~ STRALSUND

Following breakfast this morning you and your fellow group members will travel east by private coach for a short tour of coastal Wismar whose Old Town shares a UNESCO listing with Stralsund. Stralsund played an important role in the rise of religious architecture and the brick gothic style. The architectural heritage in the Old Town is typical of an established Hanseatic town during the trading alliance’s 14<sup>th</sup>-century heyday. In Stralsund you will enjoy a tour of the historic center, including the

old market square bordering the 13<sup>th</sup>-century gothic Town Hall and many houses from different periods. You will also view the spectacular gothic interior of the refectory of the Monastery of Saint Catherine, the Johanniskloster Franciscan monastery built in 1254, and St Mary’s 17<sup>th</sup>-century organ, the largest of its kind still existing in Europe.

After the tour your group will check into its hotel in Stralsund, have some time to freshen up, and then head out to a local restaurant for dinner.



#### DAY 6 ~ BERLIN

After breakfast in the hotel and check out, your group will travel inland by private coach to the vibrant metropolis of Berlin, Germany’s capital. When you arrive in Berlin you will have time on your own to grab some lunch before reconvening for an afternoon tour of this fabulous city. Highlights include the Brandenburg Gate, Reichstag, Potsdamer Platz, Checkpoint Charlie, Unter den Linden, and Berlin Cathedral.

The tour will finish back at the hotel, and after check-in you will have the remainder of the day to explore this energetic city on your own.



#### DAY 7 ~ POTSDAM/BERLIN

After breakfast in the hotel, your group will travel outside of Berlin by private coach to Potsdam, a baroque city surrounded by parks. You will have a guided tour of the most spectacular of them, Sanssouci Park. With its ornate palaces, manicured gardens and picturesque pavilions you will be amazed at the incredible detail around each corner or bend in the path.



**Why Should You Encourage Your Travel Agent to Book Your Group Through Us?**

**Ease of Use**

**Experience**

**Flexibility**

**Peace of Mind**



Upon returning to Berlin, enjoy free time before reconvening with your fellow group members for a farewell group dinner at a local restaurant near your hotel.



**DAY 8 ~ BERLIN**

After breakfast and checkout, your group will travel by private coach to the airport for its return flight to the USA or Canada.

**WHY TRAVEL WITH US ?**

Whether it is taking a family trip to Paris, an educational group to Barcelona, or a church group to Rome we can build an affordable, European trip tailored to your interests. From single city itineraries to multiple cities and countries, your travel agent will work with us to create custom tours for groups of 10 to 500 people.

**We Make It Easy** - We provide a quick turnaround on custom quotes. Multi-city and multi-country itineraries are our specialty. In addition, we can help organize signup deadlines, travel documents and payments.

**Experience** - Europe Express has managed over 6,000 custom group trips since 1990. We provide expert guides and high quality travel products.

**Flexibility** - We work with your travel agent to create a tailor-made trip to accommodate your interests, booking whatever combination of travel services fit your plans and budget, including airfare, hotels, rail, transfers, sightseeing and more.

**Peace of Mind** - Dedicated local ground support means that there is always someone available to help you. Relax knowing that your trip is backed by our commitment to offer world-class quality of service.

Contact your travel agent today for a customized itinerary and group quote!



For information and reservations, please see your professional travel agent