

# American Celebration of Music in Germany

with a visit to the *Czech Republic*

## Standard Tour #3 (7 nights / 9 days)

### Day 1

Departure from the USA via scheduled airline service to Berlin, Germany. Enjoy full meal/beverage service and in-flight entertainment during this trans-Atlantic flight.

### Day 2 Berlin

Arrive in Berlin. Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to the awaiting motorcoach for a transfer into Berlin. Take a panoramic introductory tour of Berlin's highlights and a *Spree River Cruise* (explore Berlin's magnificent architectural treasures and experience the city's amazing transformation by boat on a one-hour cruise on the River Spree) en route. Late afternoon hotel check-in. Welcome Dinner.

*Berlin, for so long a symbol of the world's division into two opposing camps, owes its economic and cultural dynamism today to the fact that both the Federal Republic and what used to be called East Germany had for thirty years been determined to use the city as a shop window for their respective ways of life. Berlin became truly important under the reign of Friedrich-Wilhelm of Brandenburg. He welcomed the influx of French Huguenot craftsmen, theologians, doctors and scholars who helped transform the city and strengthen its influence on its neighbors.*

### Day 3 Berlin

Half-day guided tour of Berlin, including Unter den Linden, Kurfürstendamm, Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, the Berlin Dom (Cathedral), and entrance to the Reichstag, and the Imperial Parliament, a huge and elegantly proportioned Neo-Renaissance palace. *Possible afternoon clinic/workshop.*

### Day 4 Berlin

Morning sightseeing includes a visit to Charlottenburg Palace. With the Berlin Municipal Palace destroyed, Charlottenburg Palace is now Berlin's best example of the architectural passions and skills of the Prussian kings. The Palace and park are open to the public. In addition to the Historical Apartments, the Palace houses the Museum of Prehistory and the Gallery of Romanticism from the New National Gallery. See also the Egyptian Museum and Papyrus Collection, including the world-famous Bust of Queen Nefertiti. Other features of interest in the park are the Schinkel Pavilion, the Belvedere and the Mausoleum. *Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Germany.*

### Day 5 Leipzig/Dresden

Transfer to Dresden via Leipzig. A guided tour of Leipzig includes the Former Town Hall, St. Nicholas Church, St. Thomas Church (famous because Bach was the organist and choirmaster here, and it is the home of the St. Thomas Boys Choir, one of the most famous in the world), the Bach Museum, Augustusplatz, and the Battle of the Nations Monument. Continue on to Dresden for dinner/overnight.



**Music Celebrations International**

*Concert Tours With Integrity*

Dresden - thanks to an exceptional artistic and architectural heritage (Dresden has been nicknamed the "Florence of the Elbe"), it has become one of the most popular and important tourist centers in Germany. It was originally a Slav town, but Germanized in the 12th Century. The major development of the city took place during the first half of the 18th Century in the reigns of the Electors Augustus II and III. They built the magnificent Baroque Zwinger, the Japanese Palace, Hofkirche and assembled outstanding collections of paintings and objets d'art. Today, Dresden's museums, its opera (Semper-Oper), the Staatskapelle and the Staatsoper orchestras enjoy a worldwide reputation.



### Day 6 Dresden

A guided tour of Dresden includes the world-famous Zwinger Palace with its Old Masters Gallery, the Semper Opera, the Cathedral, and the Neustadt Quarter. *Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Germany.*

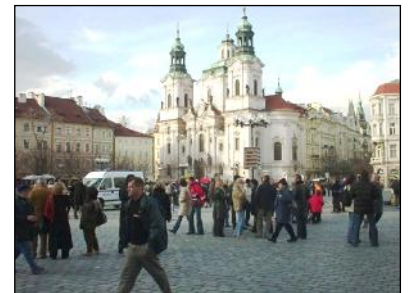


### Day 7 Prague

Morning transfer to Prague. A guided tour of Prague includes the Charles Bridge, Old Town Square which contains the Tyn Church and Astronomical Clock, the Jewish Quarter, and also visit Hradcany Castle and St. Vitus Cathedral.



*Prague is one of the most enchanting cities in Europe. It was under Charles IV during the 14th century that Prague briefly became the seat of the Holy Roman Empire, virtually the capital of Western Europe, and acquired its distinctive Gothic imprint. Prague escaped serious wartime damage and is considered one of the most beautiful cities in Europe today. Mozart claimed that no one understood him better than the citizens of Prague, and he was only one of several great masters who lived or lingered here.*



### Day 8 Prague/Kutná Hora

Enjoy a morning at leisure in Prague. *Conduct a midday concert.* Afternoon excursion to Kutná Hora. This city was once Prague's chief rival in Bohemia for wealth and beauty. Today it is still undeniably beautiful with an intact Gothic and baroque townscape. The town owes its illustrious past to silver, discovered here during the 12th century. Sightseeing includes St. Barbara's Cathedral (Kutná Hora's masterpiece and a high point of the Gothic style in Bohemia), Mintner's Chapel, Little Castle (once part of the town's original fortifications), Vlassky dvur (an Italian Court - the old mint), St. James Church and other highlights. Return to Prague for evening Farewell Dinner.



### Day 9 Depart for Home

Transfer to Prague's International Airport for return flight to USA. Return home in the evening of the same day.