

TOUR 1: Baden-Baden – City Tour and Casino

Accompanied by a DKG member, the group will travel from Steinbach to Baden-Baden using the local bus. The guide will meet you at the Kurhaus in Baden-Baden at 09:40. You begin with a city tour on the Tourist Road Train to get a first impression of Europe's Summer Capital (where Queen Victoria, Napoleon III and Empress Sisi took a holiday) and its sights: magnificent palaces, lovely parks and shady alleys, the fourth-biggest Festival Theatre in the world, the new Museum Frieder Burda picture gallery, the Caracalla Spa and Sauna, and the elegant Casino where the group will get off and have a guided tour until 11:30.

After the Casino visit, you can return to Steinbach on the next scheduled bus, or you can stay longer in Baden-Baden and return on a later bus.

The fee covers your bus fare, the guide, the city train and entrance to the Casino.

TIME in Baden-Baden: approx. 2 hours

COST € 25 per person

WALKING: Very little, except on level ground to and from the Casino.



Photo by permission R. Ellwanger



Photo by permission Baden-Baden Casino

TOUR 2: Panoramic Freiburg

The coach with guide meets the group at Steinbach and travels via the Black Forest whose beauty was praised by Mark Twain. He would be surprised how much more of the country can be seen today since hurricane "Lothar" raged at 200 km/h in 1999. The Black Forest is one of the very last regions in Europe that have kept their natural appearance.

Freiburg, founded in the 11th century, will show its medieval charm and almost Mediterranean serenity. But watch out! It is said that visitors who come to Freiburg and who step into one of the Bächle (mini street canals) have not visited Freiburg for the last time. Freiburg's highlight is the Minster, the 'most beautiful tower of Christianity'.

Time will be available for lunch.

TIME: Full-day coach tour (9:00 - 18:00)

COST € 40 per person. Entrance fees, drinks and meals will be extra according to individual choice.

WALKING: There will be free time in Freiburg at lunch time to walk in the city individually if you wish.



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TOUR 3: Rebland Wine Trail

The guide meets the participants at Steinbach for a 45-minute walk through the vineyards to Neuweier, which is on the famous Baden Wine Route. There will be a wine-cellar tour, followed by wine-tasting at Winzer-genossenschaft (6 different wines from recent vintages, served with bread).

The fee covers the guide and the wine tasting in Neuweier. From Neuweier back to Steinbach you can travel by bus (extra €4.90 per person), but those who wish to walk are welcome to do so!

TIME: Half-day tour (15:00 - 19:00)

COST € 20 per person.

WALKING: about 45 minutes (one way) through the vineyards, but there is a regular bus running, so it would be possible to arrange to join the group at the winery.



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TOUR 4: Highlights of Heidelberg

Heidelberg is one of the most romantic towns in Germany with its Castle (called 'the most beautiful ruins in Germany') overlooking the old part of the city on the river Neckar. Even Mark Twain said this ruin couldn't have found a better place and it's quite possible that you will 'lose your heart' to Heidelberg like so many painters and poets did (Goethe, Brentano, Hölderlin). You can also see the enormous Big Barrel that can hold more than 200 000 litres of wine plus a dancing floor. The coach will drive up to the Castle where the Castle walking tour starts at 11:00 and will take about two hours. During the lunch break you should try to sample some of the picturesque flair of the old city (pedestrian precinct).

TIME: Full-day coach tour: 08:30 - 18:00

COST € 55 per person. The fee covers the tour guide, the entrance to the castle with local guide; meals are not included in the price; lunch break at 13:00)

WALKING: Within the castle and during lunch break, as mentioned; the temperature in August can be up to 77° Fahrenheit, 28° Celsius. This tour could be quite arduous for people who find prolonged walking difficult.



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TOUR 5: Explore Alpirsbach and the Roman Cloister

Just before the conference starts, there is time to visit that small town right in the middle of the Black Forest with its famous monastery and cloister (Kloster) – Alpirsbach. Enjoy beer-tasting at the former monastic Alpirsbacher brewery, the Klosterbräu, which produces a large variety of beers, well-known in the region. There will be time to purchase souvenirs, have lunch or a snack.

The fee covers tour guide, entrance to the monastery with local guide and beer-tasting, accompanied by bread rolls. You will be back in Steinbach in time for the Opening Ceremony.

TIME: Half-day coach tour (09:00 - 15:00)

COST € 50 per person. This price does not include the cost of lunch. There are several restaurants close to the Kloster and brewery.

WALKING: The Kloster and brewery are situated very close to each other. Additional walking within Alpirsbach will be according to choice.



Photo by permission K. York



Logo by permission: Alpirsbacher Brauwelt



TOUR 6: Rebland Wine Trail once again (for people staying until Sunday)

You might not have had the opportunity to participate in that tour on Tuesday – well, here is your chance!

For tour details please see TOUR 3, August 2nd.

TIME: Half-day tour (15:00 - 19:00)

COST € 20 per person.

WALKING: about 45 minutes (one way) through the vineyards, but there is a regular bus running, so it would be possible to arrange to join the group at the winery.



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TOUR 7: Black Forest Experience

The coach (with guide) starts at Steinbach and then takes a route via some of the most popular sights of the Black Forest with stops at

- Triberg: highest waterfalls of Germany
- Vogtsbauernhöfe: open-air museum in Gutach where authentic farmsteads of the Black Forest will give you a fascinating insight into rural living conditions of the 16th - 18th centuries.
- Glass blowing at Wolfach: guests can watch glass blowers working but can also try to produce their own vase under the guidance of a glass blower.

TIME: Full-day coach tour (09:00 to 18:00)

COST € 55 per person. The fee covers admission to the open-air museum and glass blowing; cost of meals is not included; timing of lunch break is to be arranged with the guide.

WALKING: Walking within the open air museum - about 1 hour on mainly level ground.



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TOUR 8: Königsschloss Neuschwanstein (Bavaria)

The coach leaves Steinbach at 07:30. The driver, as your guide, will arrange a stop for breakfast on the way to southern Bavaria. You will get a first impression of Schloss Neuschwanstein, which is one of the three castles designed by Bavarian King Ludwig. It is by far his most spectacular one (it inspired Walt Disney's castle for Sleeping Beauty). Ludwig only lived there for 170 days before he died mysteriously! You will see the interior on a guided tour of about an hour. Afterwards the coach takes you to your hotel, where you will have dinner.

Next morning – after breakfast at the hotel – you will be taken to the nearby Forggensee, a huge water reservoir constructed in the 1950's in the foothills of the Bavarian Alps, with popular cruises in summer. On the return journey the coach will stop for you to see picturesque waterside sights along the shore of Lake Constance (Bodensee).

TIME: Two-day coach tour (Sunday August 7th and Monday August 8th).

COST € 148 per person in a shared double room (Single room supplement: € 25). The fee covers the overnight hotel with half-board (dinner and breakfast), admission to Neuschwanstein Castle and the boat trip on the Forggensee. Other meals are **not** included.

WALKING: Within the castle (about 1 hour).



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TOUR 9: Cruising on the Neckar and Rhine (3 days)

Sunday: The coach, with its driver as your guide, leaves Steinbach at 06:30 and heads for Heilbronn in time to board your boat for the cruise on the Neckar at 08:30. Lunch is served on board (“Schnitzel” with potato salad) and you arrive in Heidelberg at 16:30. After transfer to your hotel you have time to explore the city – especially the romantic old part, overlooked by the famous castle ruins.

Monday: At 08:30 you travel by coach from Heidelberg to Bingen/Rhine, where the Rhine cruise to Koblenz starts at 10:30. A 3-course lunch is served on board. At 14:30 you arrive in Koblenz (the “Deutsches Eck”, the confluence of the Mosel and Rhine, and the fortress Ehrenbreitstein are well-known features of the city). After transfer to your hotel in Koblenz you will have time for sightseeing in the city.

Tuesday: 08:30 You leave Koblenz for a coach tour along the Mosel valley to historic Trier, Germany’s oldest city, where you have a city bus tour.

Among the highlights is the Porta Nigra, the ‘Black Gate’, best preserved Roman city-gate north of the Alps and listed since 1973 as one of the city’s nine UNESCO world heritage sites. The cathedral is the oldest church in Germany. Founded 1700 years ago, it has an imposing Romanesque exterior, which could easily be mistaken for a fortress; inside is magnificent baroque decoration and Gothic vaulting.

There will be time for lunch and/or sight seeing before you return to Steinbach by coach.

TIME: Combined coach & boat trip; 3 days: Sunday August 7th – Tuesday, August 9th.

COST € 315 per person sharing a double room (single-room supplement: € 48 per person). Tour price includes breakfast at overnight hotels and meals on the cruise boats. Other meals are **not** included.

WALKING: According to personal choice.



Bingen. Photo by permission T. Galvin



Trier / Porta Nigra. Photo ©Dreamstime



Mosel Wine Valley. © Magellan Wine Imports



Mosel Valley. Photo © A. Rich

