

# ALL GAY ROMP AROUND GERMANY + OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY + OKTOBERFEST

**GERMANY**

**10 DAYS**

**September 18 – 27, 2010**

Join Hermes on this historic trip! We'll explore Germany's major cultural centers – Berlin, where the first gay rights movement emerged in 1896, and Munich, where countless steins are raised every year during the rollicking Oktoberfest. We'll also discover a city still rising from the ashes of WWII, stroll medieval cobbled streets, and drive along byways dotted with fairy-tale castles. But the main act of this thrilling itinerary is the Oberammergau Passion Play, performed only once a decade! Berlin, including Gay Berlin and Pergamon Museum

- **Wittenberg**, including Schlosskirche, Luther's "Theses Doors," and St. Mary's Church
- **Dresden**, including Old City, Semper Opera, Hofkirche, and Zwinger Gallery
- **Drives along Castle Road and Romantic Road**
- **Rothenburg**, including the medieval city, Jakobskirche, Marktplatz, Rathaus, and Christmas Village
- **Oberammergau Passion Play**, including 3-course lunch and 3-course dinner
- **Munich**, including Oktoberfest and Glockenbachviertel
- Accommodations for 9 nights in 4-star hotels
- Services of a Hermes Tours escort
- Services of an expert, local guide in all cities
- **\$125 per person savings if you reserve by July 31, 2009**
- **This tour will sell out fast! It is only possible to see the Passion Play in Oberammergau once every 10 years. Call us today to reserve your space.**

## Day 1 – Saturday, September 18 – Arrive in Berlin (D)

Arrive in Berlin today. The city's open, pre-war culture gave rise to famed sex researcher Magnus Hirschfeld, whose institute was famously ransacked, and prolific writer Christopher Isherwood. Marlene Dietrich, Albert Einstein, and David Bowie all called the city home at various times in their lives.

Tonight, enjoy a Hermes welcome dinner to get better acquainted with one another.

## Day 2 – Sunday, September 19 – Berlin (B)

After breakfast, join our private sightseeing tour of Gay Berlin, including the famous Pergamon Museum. Entire buildings from the ancient world were transported here, piece by piece, and reassembled into gargantuan exhibits. This is also the best place in Germany to admire religious art.

After lunch on your own, the rest of the day is at leisure.

## Day 3 – Monday, September 20 – Berlin-Wittenberg-Dresden (B)

We travel to Wittenberg today and the inspiring Schlosskirche (Castle Church). Martin Luther posted his "95 Theses" on these church doors for all to see, ushering in the Protestant Reformation. We also visit the beautiful St. Mary's Church

where Luther preached, now home to the world's largest collection of Reformation artifacts.

We arrive in Dresden later this afternoon.

#### **Day 4 – Tuesday, September 21 – Dresden (B)**

Enjoy a tour of Dresden this morning, including the Old City, the Hofkirche and adjacent Semper Opera, and the Zwinger Gallery. We'll also view the newly rebuilt tower-like Frauenkirche, the most important Protestant Church in pre-war Germany. Today, Dresden is one of Europe's most prestigious cultural centers. This afternoon is free to enjoy the city.

#### **Day 5 – Wednesday, September 22 – Castle Road - Rothenburg (B)**

After breakfast we journey along the scenic Castle Road and Romantic Road. Our destination is Rothenburg. Within its walls, a nearly intact medieval city transports you back in time. We'll visit the Jakobskirche (Church of St. James) with its splendid Gothic interior; explore the Marktplatz with its Rathaus, whose older section dates to the 13th century; and Kathe Wolfahrt's festive Christmas Village.

#### **Day 6 – Thursday, September 23 – Romantic Road (B)**

We continue along the lovely Romantic Road today and arrive in Rottenbuch.

#### **Day 7 – Friday, September 24– Oberammergau Passion Play (B,L,D)**

Today is the centerpiece of our trip, the Oberammergau Passion Play. The world famous, 5-hour performance runs every ten years to fulfill this village's promise to God for having spared them of the Black Plague during the Thirty Years War. The original performance was in 1634. This is a milestone event for dramatists and travelers alike!

#### **Day 8 – Saturday, September 25 – Munich - Oktoberfest (B)**

After breakfast we depart for Munich, just in time for Oktoberfest! This Bavarian Beer Fest is also a rich German tradition, founded in 1810. Thankfully, it happens more often than every 10 years!

#### **Day 9 – Sunday, September 26 – Depart (B,D)**

We'll explore the colorful Glockenbachviertel today, the focus of Munich's gay life. After lunch on your own, your afternoon is free. Join us for our festive Hermes Farewell Dinner this evening.

#### **Day 10 – Monday, September 27 – Depart (B)**

This morning is the end of our tour. You are free to make your return flight for any time today.

#### **Included:**

Services of professional gay tour guide throughout the trip. Accommodations as listed, rooms with private bath or shower, hotel taxes, portorage, tips and service charges. All meals as per itinerary, Transportation in luxury air-conditioned mini coach. Entrance fees to all sites on itinerary.

**Group Size:** The maximum group size for this tour will be 39 guests. As the Oberammergau Passion play only happens every 10 years we expect this trip will sell out very quickly.

**Not Included:** Round-trip air transportation to Berlin and returning from Munich; transfers to/from airports, meals and activities not specifically included in the itinerary; insurance; alcohol; soft drinks; bottled water; laundry; telephone calls; faxes and any other expenses of a personal nature. Usual tips to drivers and guides are not included.

**Hotels:**

**Berlin:** Hotel Berlin or similar

**Dresden:** DRS Mercure Elbpromenade or similar

**Rothenburg:** Rothenburg Altes Brauhaus or similar

**Rottenbuch:** Rottenbuch Moosberck-Alm or similar

**Ettal:** Posthotel

**Munich:** Munich Azimut Ost or similar

Costs: \$3195 per person based on double occupancy.

Single Supplement: \$625 per person

*Please note there are no single rooms available for your stay in Oberammergau. For these nights you will be asked to room with another traveler in twin beds.*

**Early booking discount of \$125 when booked by July 31, 2009**

Deposit due at time of registration: \$500

Final payment due 80 days prior to departure

**Please note that Hermes Tours has changed its payment policy for 2010 tours. Final payment may be made via credit card without surcharge. You will be asked to sign a credit card authorization form. For your convenience you may also set up a payment plan.**