



**Round trip from 4 to 12 July 2018**  
**"Berlin and Northern Germany"**  
**with our American friends**  
**in the context of the**  
**Verl-Delphos Friendship Link**



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**WED, 04.07.2018 Departure from Verl, Magdeburg, on to Berlin**

- from 06:00 a.m. Start with the coach, access at the Apelmeier depot in Kaunitz (06:00 a.m.), in Bornholte railway station (06:10 a.m.), on the market square in Verl (06:15 a.m.), at the Blue Grotto (06:25 a.m.) and at Strothweg (06:30 a.m.).
- 11:30 a.m. Stop in Magdeburg for a one-hour guided tour of the famous Hunderwasser House (guided tour of the Green Citadel 2 in two groups), opportunity for a lunch snack.
- 02:00 p.m. Continue to Berlin, at the entrance to the city combined with a first sight-seeing tour (city tour part 1).
- 05:00 p.m. Check-in at the "RIU Plaza Hotel", which is located in the city center near Wittenbergplatz and KDW, only ten minutes' walk from the Memorial Church and the Kurfürstendamm.
- 06:30 p.m. Departure to Alexanderplatz by public transport, as the bus driver has already exhausted his driving time for this day.
- 07:00 p.m. Festive dinner with three-course menu in the "Restaurant Sphere", the revolving restaurant at the top of the Alexanderplatz television tower. (Food is included in the price; drinks must be paid individually.) Afterwards return to the hotel in the group or for those who wish, free time in the German capital.

**THU, 05.07.2018 German Bundestag and city tour**

- 07:30 a.m. Breakfast in the hotel; an important reminder: **Today, everyone must have their identity card or passport with them!**
- 09:00 a.m. Departure for another small sightseeing tour (city tour part 2), which ends at the Brandenburg Gate or Reichstag building.
- 10:30 a.m. We arrive at the west entrance of the Paul-Löbe-Haus, Konrad-Adenauer Straße 1 in the immediate vicinity of the Reichstag building and go through the entrance formalities there.
- 11:00 a.m. Talk with our member of the Bundestag Ralph Brinkhaus in room E101 of the Paul-Löbe-Haus.
- 12:30 p.m. Snack at the Paul-Löbe-Haus visitors' restaurant. (Food is included in the price; drinks must be paid individually.)
- 01:15 p.m. We find ourselves at the left entrance of the west portal of the Reichstag building and go through the security check there.

- 02:00 p.m. Visit to a plenary session of the German Bundestag in the visitors' gallery. We are lucky to be able to experience this, because it is the last week of the sitting before the summer break!
- 03:00 p.m. We leave the plenary hall and then visit the roof terrace of the Reichstag and the world-famous dome. However, it must be pointed out that the visit to the dome of the Reichstag building depends on the current working situation of the parliament, but also on weather or security conditions. A visit to the dome can therefore not be guaranteed!
- 04:30 p.m. Afterwards we return to the hotel by bus, whereby we will again use the trip for a sightseeing tour (city tour part 3).
- 05:30 p.m. Arrival at the hotel. The evening is free and can be arranged individually. Berlin offers countless possibilities in this respect, even and especially within walking distance of the hotel!

**FRI, 06.07.2018 Allied Museum, Olympic Stadium and onward journey to Wismar**

- 07:30 a.m. Breakfast at the hotel and check-out
- 09:00 a.m. Departure from the hotel. First we go to the old airport Tempelhof, where we take a photo stop and learn a lot about the history of the airfield, which played an important role during the Berlin blockade in 1948/49, when the "raisin bombers" of the airlift landed there.
- 10:00 a.m. Arrival at the "Allied Museum", which we experience in a one-hour guided tour on the theme "How enemies became friends".
- 12:00 p.m. Start of a guided tour of the "Olympic Stadium". In good weather we can climb up to the observation platform of the bell tower and enjoy a wonderful view of Berlin from there.
- 01:30 p.m. Continue by coach to Wismar.
- approx. 5:30 p.m. Arrival and check-in at the Steigenberger Hotel "Stadt Hamburg", which is located on the market square and thus right in the center of the old Hanseatic city.
- 06:30 p.m. Dinner at the Steigenberger Hotel. (Food is included in the price; drinks must be paid individually.)
- 08:30 p.m. Although it will certainly not be dark yet, our "Night Watchman Tour" through the old town of Wismar begins, which will take about two hours.

**SAT, 07.07.2018 Excursion to Schwerin**

- 07:30 a.m. Breakfast at the hotel.
- 09:00 a.m. Departure to Schwerin.
- 10:30 a.m. We split up into two groups and take an expert guided tour of the old town of Schwerin down to the lake.
- 12:30 p.m. Break at Lake Schwerin, combined with the possibility to have a refreshment or a small lunch.

- 02:00 p.m. With so-called audio guides we experience Schwerin Castle, which lies directly on the lake and is the seat of the state parliament of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania.
- 03:30 p.m. Start of the return journey to Wismar.
- approx. 5:00 p.m. Arrival at the hotel. This evening is at leisure. With its many small but fine restaurants and pubs, Wismar invites you to stroll around and explore it individually. A tip: Don't miss a fish roll or a portion of fried fish directly from the cutter in the harbour!

### **SUN, 08.07.2018 Continue to Lübeck and Hamburg, "Miniature Wonderland"**

- 07:30 a.m. Breakfast at the hotel and check-out
- 09:00 a.m. Departure to Lübeck
- 11:00 a.m. We experience the wonderful old Hanseatic city of Lübeck, which has many other monuments and sights to offer in addition to the Holsten Gate, in a guided tour that lasts about 1 ½ hours and ends at Café Niederegger, Lübeck's "secret landmark". There you can dive into the world of marzipan and surely take home some sweet souvenirs...
- approx. 2:00 p.m. Further journey to Hamburg.
- 04:00 p.m. Arrival and check-in at the "Hotel Hafen Hamburg", which is located near the landing bridges and only a few minutes' walk from the Reeperbahn and the fish market. Opportunity to have a snack, because the program is not over for today...
- 06:30 p.m. Evening walk along the mooring of the "Rickmer Rickmers" and the inland harbour to the Speicherstadt.
- 07:00 p.m. Visit to the "Miniature Wonderland", the world's largest model railway system with beautiful dioramas, showing landscapes in which not only trains but also cars run and ships swim, not to mention the many thousands of people in miniature format, showing totally real-looking life situations that inspire amazement and often even smiles... a real must for every visitor to Hamburg!

### **MON, 09.07.2018 City tour, Elbphilharmonie, boat tour and "Bullerei"**

- 07:30 a.m. Breakfast at the hotel.
- 09:00 a.m. Departure for an approximately two-hour city tour through Hamburg, which ends at the Elbphilharmonie in Hafencity.
- 11:30 a.m. Visit of this unique building of the century (without concert halls). The 110-metre-high futuristic building at the confluence of the Alster and Elbe rivers became the new landmark of the Hanseatic city immediately after its construction. The visit takes about one hour.
- 01:00 p.m. Start of a boat cruise through the port of Hamburg. During this for many, many decades really classic Hamburg tourist attraction we have the opportunity to have a little refreshment on the ship.

- 03:00 p.m. End of the boat tour. Afterwards you will enjoy a relaxing afternoon at your leisure, which you have certainly earned after the extensive program completed so far...
- 06:30 p.m. Meeting in front of the hotel and departure for dinner.
- 07:00 p.m. This evening has something special to offer: A meal in "Bullerei", the restaurant of the TV chef Tim Melzer, who is known far beyond Germany's borders. Let us surprise you... (Food is included in the price; drinks must be paid individually.) After lunch we return to the hotel by public transport, because the bus driver has exhausted his driving time for this day.

### **TUE, 10.07.2018 Not only Berlin, but also Bremen is always worth a visit!**

- 07:30 a.m. Breakfast at the hotel and check-out.
- 09:00 a.m. Departure to Bremen, only 120 kilometers away.
- 12:00 a.m. Arrival at the Mercedes-Benz off-road course "The Rock". Those participants who have registered for this program item (additional costs about 50 €, the money will be collected in advance in the bus) and possible companions who want to see the thing, get out and look forward to the off-road adventure. The coach takes the other guests to Vegesack.
- 12:45 p.m. Those who did not get off for the off-road course will experience a guided tour of the square glider "Deutschland", which is anchored on the Weser river near Bremen-Vegesack. This last German full ship was once a sailing training ship of our merchant navy and is nowadays considered a unique maritime cultural monument. After the inspection many nice restaurants directly at River Weser invite to rest and to a refreshment.
- 02:30 p.m. Return to the Mercedes-Benz Customer Center, where the two groups of participants meet again.
- 03:30 p.m. Start of a two-hour tour of the Mercedes-Benz production plant. The various C-Class models as well as the Roadsters SLC (formerly SLK) and SL are produced at the Bremen plant. After the guided tour through this truly impressive production site we drive to our hotel in the center of Bremen.
- 06:00 p.m. Check in at the Atlantic Grand Hotel, which is located in the romantic center of Bremen with its many architectural and cultural monuments. The evening is available for individual plans. In the immediate vicinity of the hotel there are numerous beautiful and interesting locations, which invite you to end this eventful day with a delicious meal and a good drop.

### **WED, 11.07.2018 "City Musicians Tour" and onward journey to Hanover**

- 08:00 a.m. After a cozy breakfast in the hotel, which is not so early today, we check out.
- 09:30 a.m. We stroll across to the market square, where your guide will show you – besides the impressive historical monuments there – with the "Roland"

and the "Bremen Town Musicians" even the most famous sights of Bremen.

- 10:30 a.m. We board the "Stadtmusikanten-Express", a small pumice train with environmentally friendly electric drive, and take a one-hour city tour, where we learn a lot about Bremen and get a good impression of the old Hanseatic city.
- 11:30 a.m. Back on the market square, we take the few steps to the cathedral and visit the world-famous "lead cellar", where we look at the naturally preserved mummies.
- 12:30 p.m. Together with your tour guide you take a short walk over to the Schnoorviertel with its many beautiful old half-timbered houses. You can explore this romantic gem on your own and enjoy a little lunch there. Or you can go back to the city center, where you will also find a large selection of interesting restaurants.
- 03:30 p.m. Drive on to Hanover.
- 05:30 p.m. Check in at the "Maritim Airport Hotel Hannover", which – as the name suggests – is located directly at Hanover Airport.
- 07:00 p.m. Farewell dinner together with the American friends in our hotel. (Food is included in the price; drinks must be paid individually.)

#### **THU, 12.07.2018 Farewell and return to Verl**

- 07:00 a.m. We have a very early breakfast at the hotel and check out.
- 08:30 a.m. Departure from the hotel. We take our American friends to the airport and say goodbye to them, because their plane takes off for Amsterdam at 10:50 a.m.
- 09:30 a.m. The Verlers set off on their journey back home by coach and hopefully have a lot of great impressions of an interesting journey in their luggage...

— *Changes of the program for organizational reasons are possible!* —

#### **HOTEL LIST:**

- 04.07. until 06.07.2018:** RIU PLAZA BERLIN  
Martin-Luther-Straße 1  
10777 Berlin
- 06.07. until 08.07.2018:** STEIGENBERGER HOTEL STADT HAMBURG  
Am Markt 24  
23966 Wismar
- 08.07. until 10.07.2018:** HOTEL HAFEN HAMBURG  
Seewartenstraße 9

20459 Hamburg

**10.07. until 11.07.2018:**

ATLANTIC GRAND HOTEL BREMEN  
Bredenstraße 2  
28195 Bremen

**11.07. until 12.07.2018:**

MARITIM AIRPORT HOTEL HANNOVER  
Flughafenstraße 5  
30669 Hannover