

# Sites of the Lutheran Reformation

## Study Tour - May 27-June 11, 2010

Here is a wonderful opportunity to visit some of the most important historic sites of the Lutheran reformation of the sixteenth century. We will visit the sites where Lutheranism was born and shaped, led by people such as Martin Luther, Phillip Melanchthon, Justus Jonas and Johannes Bugenhagen. There will be time for worship, prayer, music and discussion.

The tour leaders are Dr. Gordon A. Jensen, Professor of Reformation History and Theology at Lutheran Theological Seminary Saskatoon (LTS), and Ms. Barbara Groote, a student at LTS and Research Assistant for Dr. Jensen. Ms Groote grew up in Germany, and Dr. Jensen has lived in Wittenberg while on sabbatical.

Participants may also take this course for academic credit, by paying the regular tuition fee and submitting the required registration forms by the appropriate deadlines. There will be an 'online course' component for those taking the course for academic credit, which will entail readings, reflections, and two historical research papers.

### *The Itinerary*

**Day 1**  
May 27 We will depart for Frankfurt, Germany on Thursday, May 27, and after an overnight flight, we will arrive around lunchtime on May 28<sup>th</sup>

**Day 2**  
May 28  
Friday After arriving at the Frankfurt airport, we will load into vans and begin our journey to Eisenach, where Luther attended the parish school at St. George's while staying with the Cotta family. We will have dinner in Eisenach, and we will then try to stay awake in the evening for a while with a walk around town, before getting a good night's sleep.

**Day 3**  
May 29  
Saturday In the morning, we will visit the Wartburg Castle where Luther was "kidnapped into exile" for ten months in 1521-1522. Then we will go into Eisenach to visit the Luther House museum and the birth house of J.S. Bach, the great Lutheran musician.

In the afternoon, we will make the short trip to Erfurt, where Luther studied for an arts degree and a law degree, and where he joined the Augustinian monastery as a monk in 1505. We will tour the monastery, which will be our home for the next three nights.

**Day 4**  
May 30  
Sunday After Sunday morning worship, you will have an option of going to either Mühlhausen or Buchenwald.

Mühlhausen is home to the parish where Thomas Müntzer served. He was an influential chaplain for the Peasants in the 1525 Peasants' revolt. You will visit the Parish church where Müntzer preached, along with the Peasants' museum, dedicated to those involved in the revolts.

Those going to Buchenwald will visit the WWII concentration camp and then stop in Weimar to visit the museum and also the church where Bach worked for a decade.



The Wartburg Castle  
near Eisenach



Inside a chapel in the Augustinian monastery,  
Erfurt

Day 5  
May 31  
Monday

Today's highlights will include a visit to the Erfurt Cathedral and the Elizabeth Chapel.

The rest of the day will be free to rest, take a nap to get over the remnants of jet lag, or, if you are up to it, to explore the city of Erfurt, perhaps shopping in the "Anger," the wide pedestrian promenades of Erfurt, and one of the most attractive shopping areas in the eastern part of Germany. You can also walk and shop along the picturesque Kämerbrücke.

If interested, you can also go just north of Erfurt, to the marker along the path where Luther encountered a thunderstorm and in fear, vowed to become a monk in 1505. And, as they say, "the rest is history...!"



The picturesque Erfurt

Day 6  
June 1  
Tuesday

This morning we will drive to Mansfeld, where Luther's parents first rented, and then bought, a house. It was here that Luther began school. We will tour the first house they owned and have a look at the Mansfeld Castle.

In the afternoon, we will go to Eisleben, visiting the houses where Luther was born in 1483 and died in 1546, as well Sts. Peter and Paul church (where Luther was baptized) and St. Andreas Church. We will spend the evening in Eisleben.



The Luther statue in the town square of Eisleben

Day 7  
June 2  
Wednesday

After breakfast, we will travel to Wittenberg, the primary city of the Lutheran reformation. Once we arrive, we will visit the All Saints Castle Church. We will also visit St. Mary's City Church, where Luther and his family attended, and where Martin and Katharina's children were baptised. It was here that Bugenhagen served as pastor.

After visiting these churches, we will then tour the house of Lucas Cranach the Elder, the famous painter of the reformation and one-time major of Wittenberg. If there are any concerts happening in the evening, we will be sure to attend! We will spend three nights in this picturesque town.



Inside the Wittenberg "City Church"

Day 8  
June 3  
Thursday

Today will include a visit to the Black Cloister, where Luther lived as a monk as a young professor at the University of Wittenberg, and it became the house where Katharine and Martin Luther lived after their marriage in 1525. Today it houses a magnificent museum. Luther was not the only reformer in the city, and we will visit the home of his colleague, Philip Melancthon, a Biblical Scholar and humanist. Don't forget to visit his garden, filled with herbs commonly used in the 16<sup>th</sup> century!



The courtyard of the Luther house

In the afternoon, we will attend the English service in the Children's Chapel, and in the evening, we will go to *Stammtisch*, where you will meet people from Wittenberg who love to practice their English and will tell you about what it is like to live in this city today.

Day 9  
June 4  
Friday

Today is a free day, to do what you would like. You may want to visit other museums or revisit places you've already seen. Or, you may want to rent a bicycle and ride along the river, relax with a book, walk through the village, or sample some of the local food and drink. There will also be the possibility of access to laundry facilities.

What about exploring the Wittenberg of the 21<sup>st</sup> century? In the evening, we will attend a free organ concert at the City Church.



Outside Wittenberg

Day 10  
June 5  
Saturday

Following a leisurely breakfast, we will make our way to Torgau in time for lunch, and then spend the afternoon visiting this historic village where Katharina von Bora's was buried, and see where the *Torgau Articles* and *Torgau Book* were written.

At the Hartenfels castle, the formal royal capital, we will visit the palace of Elector John Frederick, and the site of the first Lutheran –designed church built after the reformation started.

In the late afternoon, we will travel the short distance to Leipzig, where we will check into our accommodations and then enjoy a leisurely dinner.



Inside of Hartenfels castle church

Day 11  
June 6  
Sunday

Leipzig. This university city is where Luther debated with Johannes Eck in 1519. In the process, he discovered that he was sympathetic to the teachings of Jann Huss. Leipzig is also home to the St. Thomas Church, where both J.S. Bach and F. Mendelssohn Bartholdi were organists and choir directors, and it was at the Nicholas Church that candlelight prayer services were held, which contributed to the dismantling of the Wall in 1989.

In the afternoon, we will visit the incredible Museum of Fine Arts, before our evening meal and then retiring for the night.



Pulpit and organ in the Thomas Church

Day 12  
June 7  
Monday

In the morning we will visit with seminary students in Leipzig, to get their perspective of the challenges for ministry in Germany today.. Then, it's off to Coburg we go! For 6 months in 1530, Luther lived here in the Veste Castle, safe under the protection of Elector John the Steadfast, while the discussions around the *Augsburg Confession* were held. We will visit the Coburg Castle, it's museums, as well as the famous St. Moritz church, home to reformation preachers since 1518.

Coburg was also home to Johann Strauss for 13 years, beginning in 1886. He wrote concert waltzes such as "Stories from the Viennese Forest" as well as great operettas like "Die Fledermaus" and "The Gypsy Baron." It is a day to celebrate history, faith, and music!



The Coburg "Veste" castle

Day 13  
June 8  
Tuesday

Today is a day for touring the city of Nürnberg. We will visit the National Museum, where there is a globe from 1491, lots of Cranach artwork, medieval armour, countless musical instruments and even a Rembrandt or two. As well, we will wander the streets of the old city, visit Albrecht Dürer's house and learn about his work. A visit to the church offices of the Lutheran Church in Nürnberg will give us an opportunity to find out about the challenges facing the church in Germany today. By mid-afternoon, it will be time to visit the markets and shop to your heart's content.



The Durer House

Day 14  
June 9  
Wednesday

The day is yours! You can wander around the old city of Nürnberg, rest, relax or do some shopping for souvenirs or for the deals you saw yesterday, but passed up. For those who are interested, there will be a visit to the Documentation Centre museum on the Nazi Rally Grounds, where many rallies took place in the 1930's and 1940's. The museum exhibit is extremely well done, exploring the promises, horrors, and realities of Nazism.



Documentation Centre at the Rally Grounds

Day 15  
June 10  
Thursday

Today, we head to Rothenberg ob der Tauber. When we get to this amazing medieval village, we will walk around the town walls, and watch the display of the town clock at noon that commemorates a drinking contest (You'll have to wait for the rest of the story!) We will also visit the Church of St. Jacob, with its two altars fashioned by the famous wood carver Tilman Riemenschneider. There is also fascinating "Crime and Punishment" museum, where you can find out how town gossips were treated, and see an authentic papal indulgence. This town is also the place to shop for Christmas ornaments. It is a wonderful place to wrap up this tantalizing tour of Germany. In the evening, we will drive up the road to Wurzburg, which has a wonderful palace, and spend our last night in celebration.



The town hall

Day 16  
June 11  
Friday

All good things must come to an end – including this brief reformation sites tour. In the morning, we will make the short trip to Frankfurt, where we will check in and begin the flight home, arriving in Saskatoon in time for bed. Home, sweet home!

**The total cost** of the trip, including breakfasts and evening meals each day, along with the transportation (including airfare), admission fees to museums and historic sites, accommodations (based on double occupancy, with bathroom and shower in each room), will be between CA\$3950 - \$4300 (Fee is subject to change, based on exchange rates and airfares at the time of booking).

**Please** indicate your interest in taking part in this historic study tour to Dr. Gordon Jensen at by emailing him at [gordon.jensen@usask.ca](mailto:gordon.jensen@usask.ca) as soon as possible. Participation is on a first-come – first served basis. This tour will involve a lot of walking, since this is really the only feasible way to get around in the old cities.

If you want to take the **course for academic credit** (course number is HL 298), please apply to the LTS Registrar, Ms. Susan Avant, at [susan.avant@usask.ca](mailto:susan.avant@usask.ca) by January 28, 2010. The course will be offered online, beginning May 1. You can obtain a course syllabus from the Registrar, which will give you more details about the course requirements.

**PLEASE NOTE: This Trip is limited to 14 people.** One half the costs of the trip are required as a non-refundable deposit by February 15, 2010, and the rest by April 15, 2010.

**We invite you to  
come and explore the Reformations with us!**