

University of Wisconsin Eau Claire Concert Choirs

Performance Tour of
**GERMANY
& FRANCE**



May 26 – June 6, 2020

Directed by Dr. Frank A. Watkins





Performance Schedule

Thursday, May 28
Evening concert at the Grunewald Church or another historic church in Berlin, Germany—possibly a joint concert with a local choir

Friday, May 29
Evening concert at St. Nicholas Church in Leipzig, Germany

Saturday, May 30
Late-afternoon informal concert at St. Thomas Church in Leipzig, Germany

Tuesday, June 2
Sing during or after morning Mass at the Notre Dame Cathedral in Amiens, France

Wednesday, June 3
Informal concert and wreath-laying ceremony at a cemetery in Normandy, France

Thursday, June 4
Late-afternoon concert at a church in Paris



Directed by
Dr. Frank A. Watkins
715-836-2329 | watkinfa@uwec.edu

Tour Cost
\$2,275 per person, land only, based on double occupancy

Register online at
bookings.wittetravel.com
use booking code 052620WATK
or complete and return the printed registration form.

ACTIVE – Activity levels vary from day to day. Sightseeing is often a brisk walk over distances of several miles on cobblestone streets and uneven ground.

May/June 2020
Tuesday, May 26
Departure
Flight arrangements are coordinated by the university.

Wednesday, May 27
Arrive Berlin
Guten Morgen, and welcome to Germany! Upon arrival, we'll meet our tour managers and drivers. An orientation tour will introduce us to Berlin, Germany's cosmopolitan capital, and we'll see such famous landmarks as the majestic Reichstag, the Brandenburg Gate, Checkpoint Charlie, and the *Kurfürstendamm*—an area filled with cafés, restaurants, theaters, and fashionable shops. A visit to the Kaiser-Wilhelm Memorial Church is



planned, a symbol of peace and reconciliation. We'll then check in at the hotel and enjoy a welcome dinner. (D)

**Thursday, May 28
Berlin**

After a good night's sleep and breakfast, we're ready to do some exploring! Our day begins with a more in-depth tour of Berlin with visits to the Cathedral (Dom) and the Nikolai Quarter, the oldest part of Berlin. After time for lunch, we'll visit the Berlin Wall Memorial at Bernauerstrasse, see the East Side Gallery, and have some free time before dinner and rehearsal. Our first concert performance is planned in Berlin this evening, possibly a joint concert with a local choir. (B, D)



**Friday, May 29
Berlin > Potsdam > Leipzig**

We'll travel southwest to Potsdam this morning to visit the ornate Sanssouci Palace, the summer residence of Frederick the Great. This elaborate rococo palace was built between 1745 and 1747 and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We'll also see the nearby Schloss Cecilienhof, where the Potsdam Conference was held. We'll then head to historic Leipzig, a city steeped in musical tradition. It was here that Johann Sebastian Bach spent his most productive years, Richard Wagner was born, and Friedrich von Schiller composed his "Ode to Joy" in a house just outside town. We'll check in at the hotel and have an early dinner, followed by rehearsal. We plan to perform an evening concert at St. Nicholas Church in Leipzig. This church was the rendezvous point for the "Peaceful Revolution" in 1989. (B, D)

**Saturday, May 30
Leipzig > Erfurt**

Our day begins with a walking tour of Leipzig that includes the Town Hall and St. Thomas Church, where Bach was cantor for 27 years and Martin

Luther's sermon here, in 1539, introduced the Reformation to this part of Germany. We plan to give an informal, late-afternoon concert at St. Thomas Church. We'll then head to Erfurt, known as the "Town of Flowers." We'll have some time before or after dinner to stroll through the Old Town and see the massive Erfurt Cathedral and the Krämerbrücke (Merchants' Bridge), a unique structure lined with quaint shops. (B, D)

**Sunday, May 31
Erfurt > Koblenz**

Departing Erfurt, we'll travel west to the lovely town of Koblenz, situated at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle rivers. A walking tour will introduce us to the city, and we'll see the Deutsches Eck with its massive equestrian statue and Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, followed by a scenic cruise on the Rhine River. Tonight's dinner and overnight will be in Koblenz. (B, D)

**Monday, June 1
Koblenz > Namur > Amiens**

Today's travels take us through Belgium, where we'll stop to visit the city of Namur with its medieval fortress, and then

into France. Our destination is Amiens in northern France's Somme River Valley. A walking tour will provide an opportunity to learn about this charming city that is known for its Gothic Amiens Cathedral and floating markets along the city's canals. Our day concludes with dinner at the hotel. (B, D)

**Tuesday, June 2
Amiens > Caen**

We plan to sing during or after the morning Mass at Amiens Cathedral. With the cathedral celebrating its 800th anniversary in 2020, this is sure to be a unique experience! Afterwards, we'll have some time to explore the town and then head to Caen, the chief town of Lower Normandy. Upon arrival, we'll visit Caen's Memorial with its 13 stone slabs, each engraved with a message of peace, that represent the nations involved in the 1944 Battle of Normandy. Then we'll check in at our hotel for a two-night stay and relax over dinner. (B, D)

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- ① Reichstag, Berlin, Germany
 - ② Kaiser-Wilhelm Memorial Church, Berlin, Germany
 - ③ St. Thomas Church, Leipzig, Germany
 - ④ Erfurt, Germany
- Cover: Berlin, Germany



Wednesday, June 3
Caen > Normandy >
Caen

An excursion to the Normandy Landing Beaches awaits us today, with stops at such famous places as Sainte-Mère-Église, where 15,500 American paratroopers were dropped to protect Utah Beach during the D-Day invasion, as well as Pointe du Hoc, Omaha Beach, and the American Military Cemetery and Memorial at Colleville-sur-Mer that contains the graves of 9,380 American soldiers. We will also perform an informal concert and participate in a wreath-laying ceremony at the cemetery here. Upon our return to Caen, we'll have dinner. (B, D)

Thursday, June 4
Caen > Paris

Today we'll head to Paris, France's capital city and the incomparable "City of Lights!" Our orientation tour includes views of the elegant Champs Élysées, Arc de Triomphe, Place Vendôme, Opera Garnier, and Royal Palace. We'll also see Notre Dame Cathedral (likely an exterior view only due to fire), walk through the Luxembourg Gardens, and tour the Latin Quarter and Place de la Bastille. Our final concert performance is planned for the late-afternoon in Paris, possibly at La Madeleine, followed by dinner. (B, D)

Wednesday, June 5
Paris

A full day in Paris includes the area of Montmartre with a visit to the lovely Basilica of Sacré Coeur and Place de la Concorde with its Obelisk of Luxor. We'll also ascend the Eiffel Tower for wonderful views of the city and have some time to explore and shop for souvenirs. We'll "cap off" our Paris experience by enjoying a farewell dinner restaurant and seeing this magical city by boat during a cruise on the Seine River. (B, D)

Thursday, June 6
Return to the U.S.

After breakfast, we'll transfer to the Charles de Gaulle Airport. Flight arrangements are coordinated by the university. (B)

- ① Basilica of Sacré Coeur, Paris, France
- ② American Military Cemetery, Colleville-sur-Mer, France
- ③ Arc de Triomphe, Paris, France
- ④ Cruise on the Seine River, Paris, France

witte Performance Tours

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The cost of your tour includes:

Land transportation. Two deluxe air-conditioned motor coaches will be used for transfers, excursions, and travel between cities. Because motorcoach travel is restricted in many cities, sightseeing is often done on foot or via public transportation.

Accommodations in moderate first-class to standard first-class hotels based on two students sharing a room with private facilities. When hotels in these categories are not available, top-quality superior tourist-class properties are selected. Adult directors and chaperons will be accommodated in twin-bedded rooms. **The supplement for single accommodations is \$580.** If you register alone but want a roommate, we will do our best to assign one. If a single room must be assigned to any member of the group for any reason, even if it is at the last minute or while on tour, we will need to charge the single supplement. Changes in rooming arrangements requested by the participant 45 or fewer days prior to departure may result in additional charges.

Meals. Breakfast daily and dinners as indicated in the itinerary. Dinners do not include beverages.

Tour Personnel. Two multi-lingual European tour managers to accompany the group from arrival in Berlin until departure from Paris. The tour manager will be assisted by local guides as needed.

Sightseeing and admission fees in accordance with the itinerary.

Tipping and taxes are included for all services, including the tip for the tour managers and motorcoach drivers.

The tour cost does not include air transportation, portage of luggage, optional travel protection plan including luggage and trip cancellation coverage, optional excursions, independent meals, and any other items not mentioned as included.

HEALTH DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS. You are responsible to make absolutely certain to have the proper immunizations and required documentation of such immunizations before travel. Witte shall not assume responsibility for the accuracy of health requirements or vaccination documentation prior to departure or upon landing at the final destination. See your health practitioner for advice. Prior to travel, required inoculations, if any, must be recorded by your health practitioner on a valid vaccination certificate, and you must carry for proof of inoculation where required. If you are concerned about taking any medications or receiving certain inoculations, and adequate timing of such inoculations relative to your travel booking, consult your health practitioner BEFORE booking. Check the U.S. State Department websites <http://travel.state.gov> for relevant information relating to travel to specific destinations, the USA Centers for Disease Control <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list/> and the World Health Organization <http://www.who.int/en/> relating to health issues.

Luggage allowance. You may take one suitcase with a maximum size of 62 linear inches (height plus width plus depth) and weight of 50 lbs. You may also carry a purse, a camera and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum size of 45 linear inches and weight of 15 lbs. Hand luggage does not fit in the overhead bins on the motorcoach. There may be room for it in the storage compartment under the coach or by an empty seat on board. If not, it will need to be placed on the floor in front of your feet. You will be responsible for your own luggage throughout the tour so don't bring more than you can comfortably lift and carry. Backpack-style and over-the-shoulder luggage is recommended.

Tour cost. The tour cost is based on a group of 114 passengers and current tariffs for land arrangements.

Please note that these travel arrangements are subject to possible price increases due to additional charges imposed by a supplier or government. You may be charged additional sums by Witte to offset increased fees, fuel surcharges, taxes, fluctuations in foreign exchange markets, and/or changes in group size. Before passing on an increase, Witte will use its best efforts to minimize the amount. If it is necessary to increase the tour cost, participants will be advised at final billing and provided with a summary of the contributing factors. Your signature below indicates consent to any post-purchase price increases.

Reservations and payments. To make reservations on this tour, register online at bookings.wittetravel.com or complete the Registration Form and return it as indicated. Reservations cannot be accepted over the telephone. Payments are made according to the schedule outlined by Dr. Watkins.

Credit cards cannot be accepted for this tour.

Cancellations and refunds. Witte must receive notice of cancellation in writing. Penalties as outlined by the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire.

The nonrefundable portion of any special arrangements, or any other non-refundable arrangements made on behalf of the canceling participant, are also added to the above penalties. Allow two to four weeks for processing of refunds. Note that payments made by check are refunded by check to the person or organization that made the payments.

Membership. Witte reserves the right to accept or reject any person as a member of the tour and to expel from the tour any participant whose conduct or condition is incompatible with the interest of the group.

Special meal requests and food allergies. Note special meal requests and food allergies on your registration form. Witte cannot be responsible if special requests are not met but we will pass them on to the hotels and restaurants. If you have dietary restrictions or food allergies, be sure to carry your medications with you at all times. Also, discuss your special needs with your tour personnel and ask the wait staff about the foods you are served.

Mobility Concerns. Sightseeing on Witte tours almost always includes walking. Visits to historical places often mean climbing stairs and walking on uneven surfaces or cobblestones. The Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") is only applicable within the U.S., and facilities for disabled individuals are limited outside its borders. A qualified and physically able companion must accompany travelers who need such assistance. Motorized scooters and wheelchairs are unsuitable for many trips. Transportation services, including many tour motor coaches, are not equipped with wheelchair ramps. Handicap accessibility is not always available. Witte tour personnel are not able to provide attendant services.

Consult your physician if you have any concerns about your ability to participate.

Time away from the tour. Advise Witte in writing at least 45 days before departure if you plan to spend some time away from the tour. Wherever possible, you will be credited for missed hotel nights.

Final tour documents—including itinerary, hotel list, passenger list, and luggage tags—are sent about 10 days prior to departure.

Limitations of Responsibility and Disclosure. The trip outlined herein has been contracted with various suppliers. Witte acts solely as a booking agent for supplier hotels, airlines, air charters, bus companies, ground transportation, cruise lines, boat purveyors or owners, and other independent contractors providing accommodations, transportation, and/or other services, and is not the source or provider of the travel services. Each of these supplier companies is an independent entity with its own management, and is not subject to the control of Witte. Participant is advised that the suppliers whose services appear in travel documentation are responsible for providing the travel services purchased, and consents to the use of those suppliers, and understands and agrees each supplier's Terms and Conditions are contained in printed form and are set forth on their respective Web sites, which govern the transaction. All bookings are accepted by Witte as agent for the travel suppliers on your itinerary. The transportation, accommodations and other services provided by the sea, ground, and air operator suppliers offered are subject to the terms and conditions contained in the tickets, exchange orders or vouchers issued by them and/or their suppliers, including Terms and Conditions on their respective Web sites.

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In recognition of the inherent risk of travel and related activities in which you are intending to engage, you confirm that you are physically and mentally capable of participating in the travel booked, and that you willingly and voluntarily assume full responsibility for any injury, loss, or damage suffered by you or caused by you. By registering for any related travel activities, you certify that you do not have any mental, physical, or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for yourself or other participants.

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REGISTRATION FORM

University of Wisconsin Eau Claire Concert Choirs Performance Tour of Germany & France

May 26 – June 6, 2020

\$2,275 per person, land only,
based on double occupancy

For office use only

witte
wittetours.com
Fax: 616.957.9716

Register online at bookings.wittetravel.com
using booking code **052620WATK**
or complete and return this paper form

Passenger Details PRINT CLEARLY

First name _____ Middle I do not have a middle name Last _____ Preferred First Name _____
 Male Female Birthdate mm ____ / dd ____ / yyyy _____ Citizenship: U.S. Other _____
Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____
Billing e-mail _____ School e-mail _____

Passport Status: Current I do not have a passport My passport has expired. I am renewing.

Passport Number _____ Issue Date _____ Expiration Date _____
(MM / DD / YY) (MM / DD / YY)

Dietary Needs:

Vegan Low Sodium Vegetarian Diabetic Gluten free Other _____

Food allergies: _____

Mobility concerns: (walker, wheelchair, etc) _____

Medical _____

Mailing Address

Home
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

During school year
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail should be directed to the school address from mm ____ / dd ____ / yyyy _____ to mm ____ / dd ____ / yyyy _____

Emergency Contact

NOT TRAVELING WITH YOU _____ Phone (____) _____

Accommodations

Double occupancy. Roommate preference:

1. _____ 2. _____

If you do not specify a roommate, you will be assigned one. **Final roommate assignments are made at the discretion of your group leader.**

Single occupancy (\$2,275 + \$580 per person = \$2,855)

Special Equipment

Are you bringing an instrument or any items that will be in a case separate from your suitcase on the flights and on tour? Yes No

Type of instrument or equipment _____ Weight of instrument or equipment in its case _____

Measurements of case in inches: Height _____ Width _____ Depth _____

Signature

I have read, understand and accept the terms and conditions as outlined in the tour brochure. I/we acknowledge receipt of information about Witte's Travel Protection Plan as well as the Price Increase Rules.

Signature of participant _____ Date _____

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using booking code **052620WATK**

or complete and return this paper form to:

Dr. Frank Watkins, University of Wisconsin Eau Claire, Haas Fine Arts Center 235, Eau Claire, WI 54702