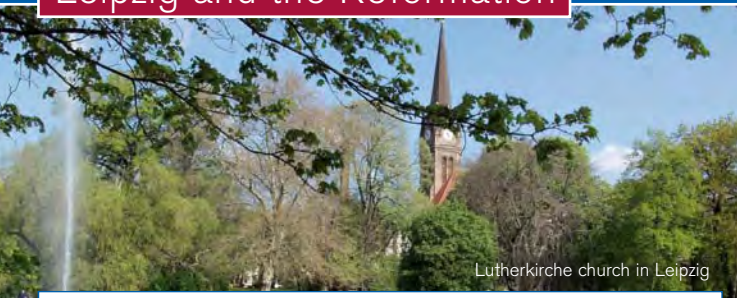


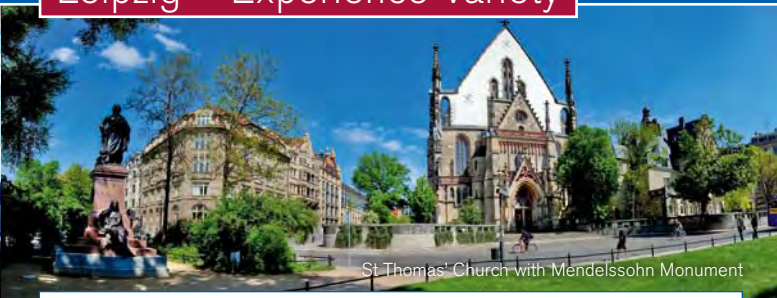
## Leipzig and the Reformation



Lutherkirche church in Leipzig



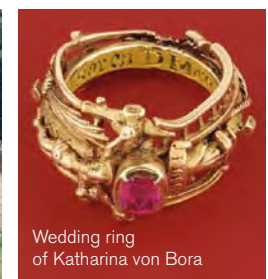
Bach Festival on Augustusplatz square



St Thomas' Church with Mendelssohn Monument



7 Nimbschen Convent



Wedding ring of Katharina von Bora

### Katharina von Bora

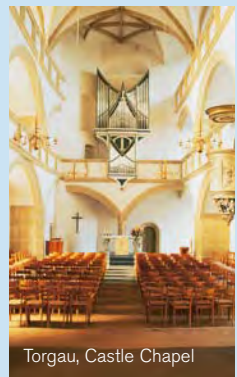
At Easter 1523 the nun Katharina von Bora escaped from the Cistercian convent in Nimbschen near Grimma together with eight other sisters and henceforth lived in Wittenberg. Two years later she finally married Martin Luther, with whom she then had six children.

### Reformation finds the way to Leipzig

Henry the Pious introduced the Protestant faith as a state religion in the Duchy of Saxony at Pentecost 1539. The official ceremony in Leipzig was also attended by Luther. He preached in the chapel of the Pleissenburg fortress and held a ceremonial speech in St Thomas' Church, accompanied by a performance of the St Thomas' Boys Choir. The Reformer's last visit to Leipzig was in August 1545, when he attended the evangelical consecration of the university church. On February 18, 1546 he died in Eisleben.

### 5 Torgau

Torgau, the former Saxon electoral residency, was the political center of the Reformation. Luther visited the town more than 40 times. It was here where the Torgau Articles were written, the basis of the Augsburg Confession in 1530. The Castle Chapel was consecrated by Martin Luther himself in 1544 as the first Protestant church in the world. Up to our time, its remarkable architecture shows much of the new church doctrine. The town also houses the only memorial place to Katharina Luther, who died in Torgau in 1552 and was buried in St Mary's Church.



Torgau, Castle Chapel

### 6 Eisleben

Martin Luther (1483–1546) was born and died in the town of Eisleben. An exhibition on the Reformer's life and work has existed there for over 300 years. The house where he was born and the museum of Luther's last residence are UNESCO World Heritage Sites since 1996. Also worth visiting are the church of St Peter and Paul, where Luther was baptized, and St Andreas' Church, where he preached his last four sermons.



Eisleben, Market square

## Leipzig – Experience Variety



Mädler Passage arcade



Leipzig pub district

Bach's re-discoverer **Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy** (1809–1947) – also inseparably linked with Leipzig – had a formative influence on the Protestant church music as well: The son of Jewish parents was still a child when he converted to Protestantism. His deep religious feelings decisively influenced his musical work: Beside the "Reformation Symphony" he also wrote the two outstanding oratorios "St Paul" and "Elijah".

### A captivating city

Leipzig is not only steeped in history. It is also a young and creative city with an innovative art and culture scene. Enjoy the unique atmosphere during open-air concerts, in bars and pubs, in cabaret theatre performances or in the "Spinnerei" art galleries. Shopping fans get their money worth on leisurely strolls through the city centre's lovingly restored passageways and arcades, shops and department stores.



Leipzig is the ideal starting point to explore further historic sites of the Reformation in Central Germany.

## Our Tour Packages

If you want to follow in the footsteps of Martin Luther and the Reformation in Leipzig, you can easily do this with the tour packages of Leipzig Tourismus und Marketing GmbH – whether you travel alone or in a group.

### Martin Luther and Leipzig – for groups

- 2 overnights/ breakfast in a first class city hotel in Leipzig
- Guide for a 2-hour themed walking tour "Martin Luther and Leipzig"
- Luther Meal (3-course meal excl. drinks) in the Thüringer Hof Inn (which around 1515 was owned by Dr. H. Schmiedeberg, a friend of Martin Luther)
- Visit of the City History Museum in the Old City Hall, incl. guided tour (among other things display of Luther writings, Luther Chalice, ring of Katharina von Bora)

From **€119** per person in a double room  
single room surcharge from €30  
minimum number of participants 10

### Martin Luther and Leipzig – for individual travelers

- 2 overnights/ breakfast in a centrally located upper 3-star hotel
- Ticket for the public guided bus and walking tour on a day of your choice
- 3-day LEIPZIG CARD for public transport and individual Leipzig tours
- Luther Meal (3-course meal excl. drinks) in the Thüringer Hof Inn (which around 1515 was owned by Dr. H. Schmiedeberg, a friend of Martin Luther)
- Visit of the City History Museum in the Old City Hall (among other things display of Luther writings, Luther Chalice, ring of Katharina von Bora)

From **€179** per person in a double room  
single room surcharge from €60

\* Valid: all year, \*\* Valid: March–December  
Subject to availability and price changes by service partners  
Please note: Museums are closed on Mondays.

Leipzig Tourismus und Marketing GmbH shall be pleased to arrange excursions upon your request to other sites of the Reformation such as Lutherstadt Wittenberg, Eisleben or Eisenach.



www.luthertour.eu



www.luther2017.de

### Bookings and Information:

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**Leipziger Freiheit**

Leipzig Tourismus und Marketing GmbH



The Spirit of Reformation

Luther Window in Leipzig's St Thomas' Church

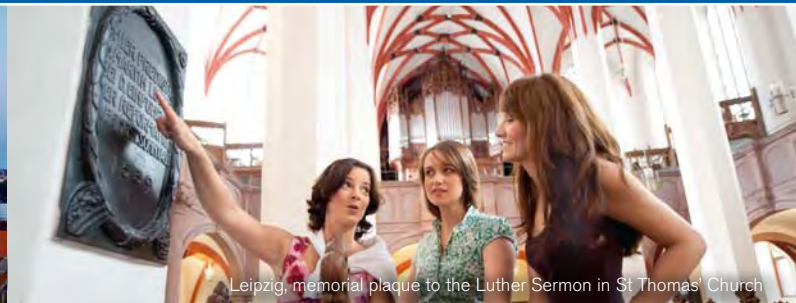
## Leipzig – in the Footsteps of Luther and Bach

**Leipziger Freiheit**

Leipzig Tourismus und Marketing GmbH



Leipzig city center



Leipzig, memorial plaque to the Luther Sermon in St Thomas' Church



Leipzig, Old City Hall and Market square



Boys of the St Thomas' Choir in front of St Thomas' Church



St Nicholas' Church and square



Luther as "Knight George"



New City Hall in Leipzig

## Martin Luther in Leipzig

Martin Luther was born in Eisleben in 1483. He studied theology and then went to Wittenberg, where he became professor at the theological faculty of the university. From Wittenberg he repeatedly traveled the about 60 miles to Leipzig – sometimes even on foot. The Saxon center of book printing and publishing was of great importance for the progress and stabilization of the Reformation movement. It was here where the Lutheran writings as well as numerous evangelical hymn books were printed in large numbers to be then distributed throughout the country.



Johann Sebastian Bach

The Leipzig printing workshop of Melchior Lotter, for example, all together issued 160 writings of the Reformer. Lotter was also the first to produce a poster print of the 95 theses. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther had nailed his theses against the sale of indulgences to the door of Wittenberg's Castle Church, which had caused quite a sensation. This incident marked the beginning of Luther's public debate with the clergy and with the papacy in particular – it was the birth of the Reformation.



Mocking of Luther



Leipzig, Auerbachs Keller

## The Leipzig "Church Battle"

The advocates of the sale of indulgences, Johann Tetzel and Albrecht Archbishop of Mainz and Magdeburg, refused Luther's theses emphatically. In the summer of 1519 this resulted in a public disputation between the Reformer and the theologian Johannes Eck in the Pleißenburg fortress in Leipzig. It was to become Luther's most important visit to the Saxon trading city. The humanistic scholar Philipp Melanchthon, another driving force of the Reformation movement, accompanied him to the "Leipzig Disputation". The public debate, which started with a church service in St Thomas' Church on June 27, 1519, marked Martin Luther's definite break with the Roman Catholic Church – hence the nickname "Leipzig Church Battle". As he refused to withdraw his theses on the sale of indulgences, Luther and his followers were excommunicated and put under imperial ban in 1521.

## Martin Luther in Leipzig – a city tour

- 1 Old City Hall, Market square**  
In the Museum of City History, paintings by Lucas Cranach the Elder, Luther writings, the Luther Chalice and the wedding ring of Luther's wife, Katharina von Bora, are on display.
- 2 Fregehaus, Katharinenstraße 11**  
The gothic entrance leads to a small inner courtyard where a sandstone relief can be seen, called "The Mocking of Luther"
- 3 Hainstraße 16/18**  
A memorial plaque commemorates Luther's stay in the house of printer Melchior Lotter
- 4 Barthels Hof, Market / corner of Hainstraße**  
Luther preached from the bay window to the people



- 5 Auerbachs Keller**  
In Luther's times, Heinrich Stromer from Auerbach was the owner of this restaurant. He was a friend and supporter of the Reformer.

- 6 St Thomas' Church**  
A plaque in the nave commemorates the beginning of the Reformation, which was introduced by Luther preaching a sermon in 1539. One of the large colored church windows shows Luther with the Bible (see cover).

- 7 Thüringer Hof**  
During his visits to Leipzig, Luther often stayed at the Thüringer Hof Inn, which at that time was owned by his friend Dr. H. Schmiedeberg.
- 8 New City Hall**  
In 1905 the imposing building was erected on the foundations of the old Pleißenburg fortress, the place of the disputation – also known as the Leipzig "Church Battle"
- 9 University of Leipzig, Augustusplatz square**  
In August 1545, Luther visited Leipzig for the last time. He attended the consecration of the university church St Paul as an evangelical church.
- 10 St Nicholas' Church**  
The church owns a gothic pulpit from the time of Luther, which for this reason is called "Luther Pulpit".
- 11 Museum of Fine Arts**  
Eleven paintings by Lucas Cranach the Elder, a friend of Luther, are presented here. The most famous of them is "Picture of Luther as Knight George" (1521).

Guided tours of the city: booking via [info@leipzig-erleben.com](mailto:info@leipzig-erleben.com)



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## 1 Wittenberg

Wittenberg is generally called the birthplace of the reformation, for it was here where Martin Luther put up his famous 95 theses. Reformation sites in Wittenberg include e.g. the castle church with the theses door and Luther House with the world's biggest reformation museum. "Luther's Wedding" serves as the theme of Wittenberg's city festival every year in June. The highlight of this is a procession comprising more than thousand participants dressed in Renaissance costumes and led by the bride and groom, Katharina and Martin.



Luther's Wedding

## 2 Erfurt

Martin Luther spent the years 1501 to 1511 in Erfurt as a student and then later as a monk and priest. Among the Luther sites in Erfurt are the old university from 1392, the former Augustinian monastery, and the late Gothic St Mary's Cathedral. It was here that Luther was ordained as a priest in 1507. Each year, on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November, the city celebrates Martin Luther's birthday in conjunction with the "Ecumenical Martin's Festival," commemorating the saint on the eve of St Martin's feast.



St Martin's Festival on Domplatz square in Erfurt

## 3 Eisenach

Wartburg castle in Eisenach served as a hiding place for Martin Luther as "Knight George" from his persecutors in 1521–22. The room where he stayed in that time has been preserved in the original state. The castle is a UNESCO world heritage site. Worth a visit in Eisenach are also Luther House, with an exhibition on Luther's bible translation and the development of parsonage as an institution in Germany, as well as Bach House, where the composer J.S. Bach was born in 1685.



Eisenach, Wartburg castle

## 4 Dresden

The Frauenkirche church in Dresden is the largest Protestant church on German soil. Its spectacular reconstruction has attracted interest from all over the world. The city is famous for the numerous museums and galleries, exhibiting the treasures of the former Saxon princes and kings, and for the beautiful skyline of the Old Town along the Elbe river.



Dresden, Frauenkirche church