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Fall Break in Germany

October 3-12, 2025



Fall Break in Germany

This program is an opportunity for eighth grade and high school honors students and interested adults to spend 10 days learning about the history, culture, and people of Germany. Sponsored by The Center for Gifted Studies at Western Kentucky University, the program provides a carefully structured experience. Twenty-five qualified applicants will be accompanied by the program director.

Application

All travelers must be able to participate in everyday physical activities. Student applicants also must meet the following criteria:

- Enrollment in 8th-12th grade;
- Involvement in high school honors or gifted services; and
- A recommendation from a teacher, counselor, principal, or gifted and talented coordinator if traveling without an adult.

Apply at wku.edu/gifted/travel or scan the QR code. A nonrefundable \$500 deposit and a copy of your passport information page must be uploaded when you apply. Please check the expiration date on your passport. The date must not be within 6 months of travel.



Cost

The program cost of \$5,100 includes:

- Roundtrip airfare from Nashville, TN;
- Accommodations in double rooms (an adult may request a single room for an additional charge);
- Breakfast each day at the hotel;
- Admission to historic sites, museums, and other points of interest listed on the itinerary; and
- Travel by motor coach for excursions.

NOTE: Cost is subject to change should there be changes in airfares, monetary exchange rates, or service costs. The itinerary is subject to minor changes in daily activities.

Payment schedule

- \$500 deposit and a copy of your passport information page are due with application
- \$2,300 due July 15, 2025
- \$2,300 due August 15, 2025

A travel/study program
for 8th grade and high school honors
students and interested adults



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Itinerary

Friday, October 3

Depart Nashville for Munich, Germany.

Saturday, October 4

Arrive in Munich. Travel by private motor coach along the Romantic Road, a trade route in the Middle Ages, to **Rothenburg on the Tauber**. En route, visit **Nordlingen**, one of three remaining walled medieval towns on the Romantic Road. In the afternoon visit the sights of medieval Rothenburg with a local guide and then have free time to explore. Spend the night in Rothenburg.

Sunday, October 5

Depart Rothenburg for a day-long excursion to **Nuremberg**. Spend the morning touring the city with a local guide, and in the afternoon continue to explore this historic city. Points of interest include the **Palace of Justice** (site of the Nuremberg Trials), **Kaiserburg** (a complex of castles), **St. Lorenz Church**, **The Hauptmarkt**, and the **Church of St. Sebald**. Return to Rothenburg in the evening.

Monday, October 6

In the morning, leave Rothenburg and travel back down the Romantic Road, stopping to visit the walled town of **Dinkelsbuhl** and **Wallerstein**. After lunch, travel to **Dachau** and visit the site of a World War II concentration camp. Continue to Murnau to check into the hotel and have dinner.



Tuesday, October 7

Leave Murnau for a full-day excursion to visit **Hohenschwangau Castle**, boyhood home of King Ludwig II. Then take a short drive to **Neuschwanstein Castle**, the most famous of King Ludwig's three palaces. In the afternoon, ride the funicular railway to the summit of the **Tegelberg** for a magnificent view of the countryside. Return to Murnau for the evening.



Wednesday, October 8

Travel to **Linderhof Palace**, the second and smallest palace of Ludwig II. In the afternoon visit **Oberammergau**, the town famous for presenting the Passion Play every 10 years since 1634. The plays fulfill a vow to God made by the townspeople if He would spare their town from the bubonic plague. Return to Murnau for the evening.

Thursday, October 9

Leave Murnau and travel to **Salzburg, Austria**, noted for its beautiful baroque architecture, Mozart, and the Von Trapp family. In the morning, get to know Salzburg with the help of a local guide. In the afternoon enjoy the shops and sights. Points of interest include visits to **Mozart's birthplace**, the beautiful **Salzburg Cathedral**, and the massive **Hohensalzburg Fortress**. In the late afternoon take a short drive into the Alps to **Berchtesgaden**.

Friday, October 10

Travel into the Alps to visit the **Eagle's Nest**, Hitler's favorite retreat. After absorbing the fantastic mountain views, leave the Alps for Munich. On the way, visit **Herrenchiemsee**, the third of Ludwig II's palaces. The palace is located on an island in Lake Chiemsee. Continue to Munich for the night.



Saturday, October 11

Enjoy a day in **Munich**, touring the city during the morning with a local guide. Spend the afternoon exploring the shops and sights of the old city center. Points of interest for the day include visits to the **Alte Pinakothek** (art museum), **Marienplatz** and its historic churches and rathouses (city halls), **Feldherrenhall** (site of Hitler's unsuccessful takeover or *putsch* of central Munich in 1923), and **Hofbrauhaus**, Munich's most popular beer hall.

Sunday, October 12

Depart Munich and return to Nashville.