

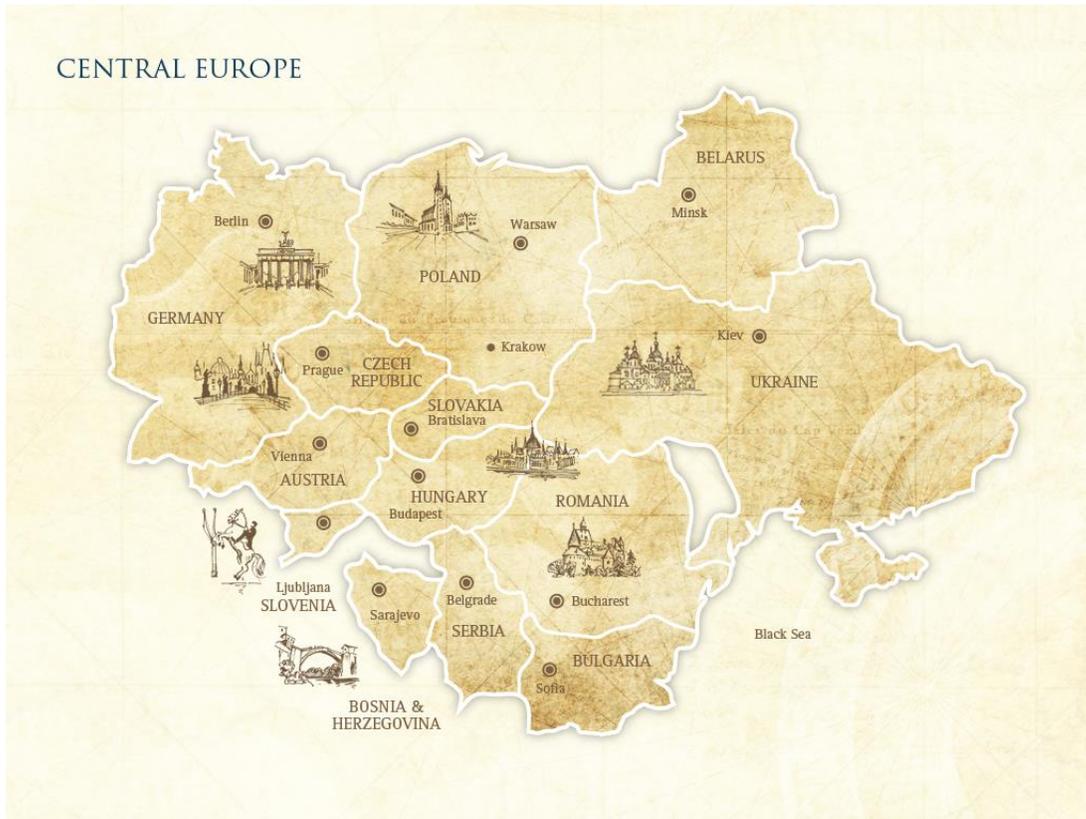


EXETER
INTERNATIONAL

ESSENTIAL BERLIN
2021



CENTRAL EUROPE



FEATURING EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCES:

PRIVATE TOUR OF THE HOFFMANN COLLECTION

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE:

DAY 1	ARRIVAL INTO BERLIN
DAY 2	OVERVIEW TOUR BERLIN
DAY 3	JEWISH HERITAGE TOUR
DAY 4	EAST BERLIN TOUR
DAY 5	POTSDAM DAY TRIP
DAY 6	BERLIN MUSEUM ISLAND
DAY 7	DEPARTURE

WHY EXETER INTERNATIONAL?

Our Experience

At Exeter International we have been creating memories and crafting custom-designed journeys for 27 years. We are a team of specialists committed to providing the best travel experiences in our destinations. Each of our experts has either travelled extensively on reconnaissance trips, or has lived in their area of expertise, giving us unparalleled first-hand knowledge. Because we focus on specific parts of the globe, we return to the same destinations many times, honing our experience over the years.

Knowledgeable Up-to-the-Minute Local Information

We are best placed to give you advice about traveling to Europe and beyond; from logistics and new protocols in museums, hotels and restaurants in each country. We are here to expertly guide you through the new normal in travel.

Original Custom Programs, Meticulously Planned

Our experts speak your language both literally and culturally. Our advice and recommendations are impartial, honest, and always have the individual in mind. We save valuable time in pre-trip research and focus on developing experiences that enrich and enhance your experience. Once on your journey you will have complete peace of mind with our local 24-hour contact person who is on hand to coordinate any changes in your program or help you in the case of any emergency.

Hand-Selected Guides

We know that guides are one of the most important components of any travel experience. That is why we only use local experts who have a history of working with our guests and whom we know personally. We are extremely particular in selecting our guides and are confident that they will be one of the most memorable aspects of any of our trips.

Flexible Deposit

We prepay deposits for services so we can access the top guides, the best drivers and maintain preferred partnerships with our partner hotels. Our deposit to confirm services is **25%** of the total trip cost. We want you to feel confident to book but also know that we are sensitive to current circumstances. Therefore, 15% of this deposit is refundable up to **31 days** prior to departure if you are unable to travel for any reason. **10%** of the deposit will be retained as a future travel credit for up to 3 years. Future travel will be priced at prevailing rates. If it is determined that you are unable to travel within 31 days of the start of services, all deposits paid will be converted to a future travel credit, less nonrefundable funds committed on your behalf and tickets such as train or theater tickets. This credit may also be applied to our sister travel companies: [Almaz Journeys](#) and [Exeter Safari Company](#).

Financial Stability

We are proud to be recognized by Allianz Insurance on their list of covered [travel suppliers](#) to give you additional peace of mind.

DAY 1



ARRIVAL INTO BERLIN

Arrival into Berlin, where you will be welcomed by your driver for your transfer to your hotel in the center of the city, Mitte.

The largest and most modern of the Central European capitals, Berlin has reinvented itself since reunification into Europe's powerhouse city. Each area has its own unique character, from the historical heart in Mitte to the hipster center of Kreuzberg. With over 80 museums from contemporary art to WWII history, and the outstanding Berlin Philharmonic—now joined by the Frank Gehry designed Pierre Boulez Saal concert hall—high culture predominates.

Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

EXETER SERVICES

Arrival Transfer

HOTEL

Rocco Forte De Rome

DAY 2



OVERVIEW TOUR

Meet your guide this morning for a walk along Unter den Linden. Berlin's magnificent boulevard and the centerpiece of the Old Berlin. Unter den Linden leads from the Schlossbrücke Bridge to Pariser Platz at the Brandenburg Gate.

You will see the renewed beauty of the Pariser Platz. The new buildings which have been added to this historic square are based on their historic forbearers. This area was originally a parade ground. Noble villas, embassies and the luxurious Hotel Adlon arose around the square, which was then destroyed during the Second World War. You will also see the Brandenburg Gate, Berlin's only remaining city gate and a symbol of the city. Situated as it was in the no man's land just behind the Berlin Wall, it also became symbolic of the division of the city.

Afterward, continue with a visit of Berlin's Holocaust Memorial, which opened in May 2005, the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II. The location is directly behind the Hotel Adlon. The memorial commemorates the Jewish victims of Nazi terror and consists of approximately 2,700 concrete slabs arranged in a grid pattern on unevenly sloping ground, symbolizing an undulating graveyard. You are able to enter and walk through the field of slabs from all four sides and you will experience the wavelike form differently from each position. This moving and solemn memorial contains the names of 4.4 million murdered Jews. Don't skip the information center located underground.

Today, we suggest having lunch at the Reichstag's Restaurant, Käfer, located next to the Norman Foster-designed glass dome and has a panoramic view of the city. This is the best way to view the building and dome without having to stand in line. Your guide will leave you here and then you can stroll back to your hotel when you're finished. If you wish, you can step into Tiergarten, across the street from the Reichstag, and enjoy some time in this beautiful park.

Enjoy the rest of the afternoon at leisure.

EXETER SERVICES

Guide (4 Hours)

HOTEL

Rocco Forte De Rome

DAY 3



EAST BERLIN TOUR

This morning meet your guide and driver for an overview of Berlin's recent history. You will then drive through Potsdamer Platz, a perfect example of urban renewal. As late as the 1990s, this was a desolate wasteland. Architecturally this is Berlin's most modern area with striking buildings designed by Renzo Piano, Richard Rogers and Hans Kollhoff. There is just one significant building that survived the destruction of WWII due to its steel structure, the Weinhaus Huth. Today this is home to the Daimler Contemporary art collection and, on the ground floor, the second restaurant of the wine experts Lutter & Wegner.

Your first stop will be the Topography of Terror. This indoor/outdoor museum on the site of the former headquarters of the Gestapo and SS is an essential visit. After the war, the original buildings were pretty much destroyed and razed to the ground. Later, the Berlin Wall border between East and West was exactly at this location and 200 meters of the Wall at Niederkirchnerstraße – which marked the border between the districts of Mitte (East Berlin) and Kreuzberg (West Berlin) – have been preserved. Along the wall is the outdoor portion of the museum that documents the rise of the Nazi Party and its rule in German politics. The indoor documentation center was opened in 2010 and houses the permanent exhibition: Topography of Terror: Gestapo, SS and Reich Security Main Office on Wilhelm- and Prinz-Albrecht-Straße and temporary exhibitions.

Today your driver will also drive by the Checkpoint Charlie. After the building of the Berlin Wall in 1961, the checkpoint remained an official crossing point until the reunification in October 1990 when the booth was removed and the watchtower was later destroyed. The course of the former wall is now marked on the street with a line of bricks and a copy of the booth and sign that once marked the border crossing was later erected where Checkpoint Charlie once stood.

Afterwards you may stop by the "East-Side Gallery." This is the longest cohesive section of the Berlin Wall. This stretch of the Berlin Wall has been painted by various artists after the fall and it stretches for a mile or so. We recommend that you walk a bit and explore some of the different subjects portrayed.

Later today you will also visit one of the most interesting exhibits detailing life in a divided Germany – the Berlin Wall Memorial and Documentation Center. This is located direct at a former border strip on Bernauer Strasse and both the no-man's-land strip and watchtower have been preserved. The Documentation Center shows the history of the Wall, its construction and how it divided the city. You can walk right in no-man's land yourself – on the footsteps of those who tried to escape communist oppression and flee to the West.

The best part of this museum is the outside part in the park, visiting remnants of the wall, and the chapel of reconciliation.

EXETER SERVICES

Vehicle, Driver & Guide (8 Hours)

HOTEL

Rocco Forte De Rome

DAY 4



JEWISH HERITAGE TOUR

This morning, meet your guide for your visit to the Neue Synagoge. The synagogue was first inaugurated in 1866 and features the oriental-influenced architecture that was popular at the time. The synagogue was heavily damaged by Allied bombing in World War II and was essentially demolished in 1958, except for the front façade and entrance. In 1995 it was reopened as a museum showing the history of the synagogue and of Jewish life in Berlin. Today it serves at the Jewish Center and the museum is also renewing its permanent exhibition.

Later, your guide will take you on a walking tour of the immediate area, one of the most vibrant in Berlin, and full of Jewish history. You will see the site of the first Jewish cemetery where Moses Mendelssohn was buried and the Jewish high school named after him. We will also visit the Museum of Otto Weidt's Workshop for the Blind. Known as the "Schindler of Berlin," this museum will introduce you to the efforts of Otto Weidt to protect his Jewish employees from persecution and deportation. He employed mainly blind and deaf Jews who produced brooms and brushes. Enjoy some free time in the area to shop and have lunch on your own.

EXETER INTERNATIONAL EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCE

In the afternoon, you will enter one of the most famous apartments in Berlin – that of Erika Hoffmann. Once per week she opens their apartment for viewings of part of their personal art collection and today you will have the opportunity to visit this unique space privately. The pieces displayed in the apartment change annually, and whatever you see will be thought provoking. The exhibition occupies two floors of a renovated factory building that Erika bought with her husband Rolf so they could expand and live with their collection, which was their passion. After Rolf's death, Erika continued collecting and has now decided to gift the entire collection to the city of Dresden, where it will slowly move over the next five years.

After the tour, enjoy some time in the area at leisure or return to your hotel independently.

EXETER SERVICES

Guide (6 Hours)

HOTEL

Rocco Forte De Rome

DAY 5



POTSDAM DAY TRIP

Today, after meeting your guide in the hotel lobby, you will drive outside of the city to Potsdam - the former home of Prussian Kings.

En route, you may stop at the famous villa on the Greater Wannsee Lake, where on January 20, 1942, senior Nazi officials met to discuss the 'Final Solution' – the plan of the extermination of the Jews of Europe. This meeting, which only lasted about 90 minutes, has since become known as the 'Wannsee Conference'. Today, the building serves as a memorial and education center and was featured in the television film Conspiracy.

You can also visit the memorial at Track 17, once one of the major sites of the deportation of Berlin Jews.

Potsdam celebrated its 1000th birthday in 1993 and is known for its palaces and beautiful gardens. The enormous Park Sanssouci is among the most beautiful palace complexes in Europe. The Sanssouci Palace was the first building to be erected in Potsdam as a summer residence of Frederick the Great. Over the years, the park was expanded and new palaces and pavilions were added. You would need at least one whole day to enjoy the park fully. You will tour the old residence of the Prussian Dynasty, which today is a center of culture and history.

Your guide will also take you to the Cecilienhof Palace, the historical venue of the Potsdam Agreement. Built in the style of an English country manor, this was the family home of the Hohenzollern dynasty after they lost the crown.

Afterwards, return to the hotel and enjoy your evening at leisure.

EXETER SERVICES

Vehicle, Driver & Guide (8 Hours)

HOTEL

Rocco Forte De Rome

DAY 6



BERLIN

This morning, meet your guide and head back to Unter den Linden and stroll to Museum Island, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that is the home to many of Berlin's top museums, including the Neues Museum. Here you will find the bust of Nefertiti in her stunning new environment. This museum houses the contents of the Egyptian museum, as well as the Museum of Pre- and Early-History.

If you wish, you can also visit Berlin's incredible Pergamon Museum, located right next door, and filled with a fabulous collection of ancient Greek art. Its main attraction is the Pergamon Altar (2nd century BC) but this is closed until 2023 for a multi-year renovation. The frieze depicting the battle between the Gods and Giants is regarded as a masterpiece of Hellenistic art. You can also see the market Gate of Miletus, an outstanding example of Roman architecture.

Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure

EXETER SERVICES

Guide (4 Hours)

HOTEL

Rocco Forte De Rome

DAY 7



DEPARTURE

This morning after check-out, your driver will meet you in the lobby of the hotel for your transfer to the airport to catch your onward flight.

EXETER SERVICES

Departure Transfer

WHAT'S INCLUDED



Cost of the Program:

Based on two (2) guests traveling together: From \$6,775 per person

Based on four (4) guests traveling together: From \$4,975 per person

Accommodations

Berlin

Deluxe Room for 6 nights at the Rocco Forte De Rome; tax and breakfast included.

The Hotel De Rome puts guests right in the heart of historic Berlin on Bebelplatz. This superb location is just steps from Unter den Linden and all of Berlin's best sites. Guests may also walk to Gendarmenmarkt, one of our favorite squares in Berlin, featuring top restaurants, cafes, and boutiques. The hotel is situated in the old Dresdener Bank head office and makes use of the architectural splendor of this historic edifice. You will find features of the original, ornate, and classical design with a contemporary twist. The Hotel De Rome features 146 large guest rooms and suites, most offering high ceilings and most with views of this historic neighborhood. All bathrooms have separate walk-in showers, some with marble details.

There is one restaurant on site, La Banca, that serves authentic Italian cuisine. La Banca Bar features original craft cocktails, and the hotel's Rooftop Terrace is open year-round. At the hotel, guests will also find a large spa area with fitness center and swimming pool.

Deluxe Rooms: Offering approximately 410 square feet, these rooms can accommodate a king bed or two twin beds. Deluxe Rooms feature views of the inner courtyard, St. Hedwig's cathedral, or Französische Strasse.

Meals

No meals included, other than breakfast as described above. Your final documents will include our top recommendations. *Your guides will recommend restaurants that fit your exact needs daily.*

Services

Private vehicle, driver and guide at your service as described. The timing for each day is noted in your program.

Exeter International's local offices are available for your assistance 24 hours per day while you are traveling. Our local staff may also assist you with restaurant reservations and purchasing of additional theater and museum tickets at your request.

Transportation

Transportation is included as noted. Unless otherwise noted, all transfer service is with a driver only, not a guide. In general, drivers have limited English-speaking skills. Timing for each day is noted in your program.

Guides

Hand chosen for their knowledge on local history, art, and architecture. Guides are at your disposal as noted in your itinerary.

Tickets

All entrance tickets as described in the program.

Exeter International Travel Information

BAGGAGE

The vehicles reserved for your itinerary can accommodate up to two medium-sized suitcases per person. If you intend to travel with additional luggage, please advise your travel consultant so appropriate arrangements may be made. In general, we schedule a sedan for parties of two, a minivan for parties of three to four, and a minibus for parties of five or more.

SIGHTSEEING

Sightseeing arrangements have been made with your special interests in mind. Your drivers and guides are at your disposal as indicated in the itinerary. Within those time and mileage guidelines, you are free to modify your program as you please. Should you require additional time or mileage, the costs will be quoted on request and may be paid for locally in the local currency or U.S. Dollars.

Every effort has been made to confirm that scheduled sightseeing venues will be open at the time you plan to visit them. However, individual estates, museums, gardens and other points of interest can change their hours of operation at short notice. In the event that a particular attraction is closed on the day or time of your visit, your guide will offer alternative arrangements or rearrange your sightseeing to accommodate these unexpected events.

OPTIONAL EXPENSES

Charges for extra meals, transport, sightseeing services or other optional additions to your established itinerary are your responsibility and must be paid locally in the local currency.

GRATUITIES

Gratuities are not included in your tour price and are at your own discretion. Please see your final documents for tipping suggestions.

DINING WITH YOUR GUIDE

On days when dinner and lunch costs have not been included in your itinerary (or in your tour cost), you may, at your discretion, choose to invite your guide to dine with your party. You are under no obligation to do so but, if you do extend such an invitation, the guide is your guest and you will be responsible for the cost of his/her meal.

REFUNDS

We regret that refunds cannot be issued for arrangements confirmed on your itinerary but unused once your tour has begun.

INSURANCE

Exeter International strongly recommends the purchase of travel insurance to protect your investment. You will find insurance costs noted on your invoice and insurance coverage information in your original booking packet.

PRICES AND ARRANGEMENTS

The tour price includes planning, handling and operational charges. Rates are quoted in U.S. Dollars on the current rate of exchange and tariff as of 2021. Exeter International reserves the right to increase tour prices to cover increased costs, tariffs and taxes, and to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange markets. Devaluation of a foreign currency will be weighed against any tariff increases imposed. Exeter International does not breakdown costs involved in any Small Group or Individual Travel Program.

*All arrangements are subject to availability and modification if necessary.
Prices are subject to change, if necessary, until paid in full.*

Exeter International

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