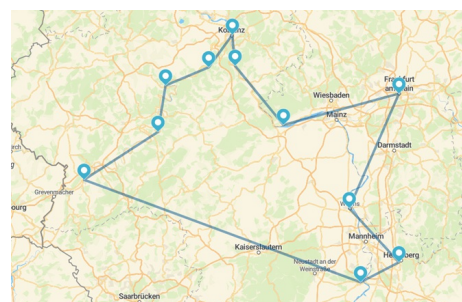




Germany, 6 Days · Tailor-made by car

Route around the Castles of the Rhine and the Moselle Valleys

Get ready to embark upon one of the most romantic tours in northwest Germany. The Rhine Valley is a truly unique area, surrounded by vineyard-swathed hillsides and dotted with medieval villages and legendary castles. Many poets and painters found inspiration here thanks to its extraordinary charm and stunning landscapes such as Rüdesheim, where Germany's best Rieslings are found. The story of Martin Luther was linked to Worms, a town on the Rhine with over 6,000 years of history and which witnessed how the actions of this seminal figure changed the course of history. Luther would ultimately take refuge at the Castle of Wartburg, one of the treasures that you'll see on this enthralling tour. Driving through the outstanding natural environments of this German region, you'll arrive in Koblenz, where the Rhine and the Moselle come together and give life to a magical environment. If you follow the course of the Moselle, also nestled among hills covered by vineyards home to ancient wineries, you'll reach Cochem, Trarben-Trarbach and Brodenbach, where you'll feel like a true medieval knight at its castle. And when it comes to anecdotes, there are the two neighbouring castles in Kamp Bornhofen separated by a wall, yet once owned by two enemy brothers. Meanwhile, Heidelberg Castle - which dates from the early 19th century - is considered the best example of German Romanticism. The Castles of the Rhine and Moselle Valley tour delves into the German soul with a visit to Trier, the oldest city in the country. It ends with a visit to the futuristic financial metropolis of Frankfurt, the city of skyscrapers and the Brothers Grimm. A perfect blend of nature, history and modernity that will make your trip truly perfect.



NATURE

CULTURAL

FAMILIES

Departure date: Departures from July 2026 till July 2027

From: Cork, Shannon, Dublin

Travel details

● DAY 1 · CITY OF ORIGIN - FRANKFURT

Flight departure from the city of origin to Frankfurt and rental car pick-up. Get ready to discover the best-kept secrets in the beautiful region of Bavaria! Start your journey on German soil after dropping off your bags at your central hotel and familiarising yourself with the area. Depending on the time of arrival in Frankfurt, we suggest starting off with a stroll around the old quarter. Get lost as many times as you want because all the roads will take you to Römerberg, the city's bustling main square. This is home to the Town Hall which in turn is the seat of Der Römer, aka the Lord Mayor. A few minutes from here, the Dom St. Bartholomäus cathedral stands alongside other lay buildings. The first things that will strike you is its colour, as it was built in red sandstone, and its gigantic 96-metre spire that commands incredible views of most of the city... but only for those brave enough to climb the stairs all the way up! From here you'll be able to admire the Frankfurt skyline like nowhere else. You'll see why they call it the city of skyscrapers. Once you've admired the panorama, head back down for a dose of culture. This is another of the city's strong points, as there are lots of museums and many of them are the best of their kind in Europe. The Jewish Museum of Frankfurt is remarkable, but the most outstanding is the Städel Museum, where you can admire works by some of history's most renowned artists. There's no shortage of Picassos, Renoirs or Rembrandts. If you're travelling with children, your luck is in as you won't have to make any excuse to visit even more museums, and particularly the Kinder Museum, a space designed to fascinate the little ones. If that isn't enough, the zoo is very close by, or you could drive out to Hanau. If you're a fan of the Brothers Grimm, we won't have to tell you that it's their birthplace. Hanau is half an hour from Frankfurt and offers an enjoyable activity to experience with the family: the Tale Route. You'll see flags identifying the places that inspired the Brothers Grimm to write tales such as Little Red Riding Hood or the Pied Piper of Hamelin. Obviously, you can't visit the city without eating a Frankfurter sausage. Although it sounds very touristy, it's practically mandatory. If it's not your cup of tea, you could plump for some hearty cured pork chops. And there are also two classic drinks: either a good German beer or an Apfelwein, a low-alcohol drink made from apples. You could always head to the Zeil for some retail therapy before dinner. Overnight stay in Frankfurt.

● DAY 2 · FRANKFURT - RÜDESHEIM - KAMP BORNHOFEN - KOBLENZ

Today we leave Frankfurt to visit the Rhine Valley.

Before we hit the road, you should know that the mighty Rhine flows through one of Germany's most beautiful regions. From its banks, you will be able to appreciate places of great charm, villages and towns of Roman origin, medieval castles, extensive vineyards... This is an ideal destination for enjoying the outdoors, while taking in the photogenic nature, peace and quiet, excellent wines and unique gastronomic delights. Moreover, you are in one of the most important wine-producing areas of the country, so here the grape culture is to be found everywhere, in its famous wine cellars, elegant wine bars, famous restaurants... Not to be missed!

A tour full of romanticism that starts off in Rüdesheim, an hour and fifteen minutes away from Frankfurt on the A60. This is now the wine-growing region of Rheingau, known for its incredible Rieslings (variety of white grape). When you've parked the car, take a stroll through the centre and discover the charm of German towns, many of which were rebuilt after World War II, with their slate-roofed houses, wooden windows and wrought iron plaques. But its biggest attraction is the Seilbahn cable car over the lush green vineyards to reach the Niederwald monument, which will give you one of the very best views of the Rhine Valley. This monument commemorates the unification of Germany and the creation of the Second Reich in 1871. Head over to the Drosselgasse for some food, where you'll find an array of music bars and restaurants to savour the local cuisine washed down by some regional wine. Very close to here is the Brömserburg Castle, home to a wine museum and Siegfried's Mechanisches Musikkabinett, which has an often-surprising collection of 18th- and 19th-century mechanical musical instruments. Then take the B42 and L3272 for an hour until reaching Kamp Bornhofen, located on the right bank of the river and where you'll see a peculiar scene: two hilltop castles facing one another yet separated by a wall. These are the castles of Sterrenberg and Liebenstein. They're known as the enemy brother castles, as legend has it that they were owned by two brothers who fought each other and were subsequently killed. Just thirty minutes away is Koblenz, a modern metropolis located at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle rivers. An important city due to its strategic position next to the rivers and among three mountains: Hunsrück, Eifel and Westerland. That's why in ancient times the Romans built a great fortress here, the Festung Ehrenbreitstein, which remained standing until the arrival of Napoleon's troops in the early nineteenth century. It was later rebuilt by the Prussians, making it one of the most influential castles in the continent. Koblenz is known as the Deutsches Eck (the German Corner) and is where the equestrian statue of Kaiser Wilhelm I stands. The Festung isn't the only castle in the city, as you can also tour the medieval fortress towers of Schloss Stolzenfels, which was the residence of King Frederick William IV, and where you can see what their rooms were like, decorated as they were at the time. If you want to find out about local history, it's best to visit the Mitterlhein-Museum. Here you'll learn about 2,000 years of history through all kinds of works of art. Although the best thing about Koblenz is wander around the city or have a picnic in one of its beautiful parks full of flowers in the southern area and they get to the promenade. If you have time, we suggest you pop over to Braubach. It's only eight kilometres from Koblenz and there's a fortress here that has never been conquered: the castle of Marksburg. There are guided tours of the citadel that will take you through its kitchen, lobby and even the torture chamber. (Note: Guided tour not included). For dinner, what better than to indulge in the popular German sausages? There are over 1,500 different types and will be served with bread and mustard. They usually come with a tasty sauerkraut, a kind of cabbage salad. Overnight stay in Koblenz.

● DAY 3 · KOBLENZ - BRODENBACH (EHRENBURG) - MOSELLE RIVER VALLEY (COCHEM - TRABEN - TRARBACH) - TRIER

At the wheel, we follow the course of the Moselle River, which flows past medieval villages and beautiful landscapes where the Romans were already cultivating wine millennia ago. The nature in this area is simply breathtaking. Are you ready to experience Germany's oldest wine-growing region and the largest outstanding wine-growing area? During the crossing you will discover typical taverns and restaurants where you can try the traditional cuisine, which is always accompanied by excellent white wines. (Note: We recommend that you plan your trip in advance and sign up for some of the experiences that can be enjoyed in the area, such as taking part in a wine tasting in one of the historic wineries or wine cellars, cycling, walking through the vineyards, or learning the secrets of winemaking in the area from expert local guides. These activities are usually offered in several languages and have the necessary health standards to ensure a unique and safe experience). Off we go!

Half an hour south on the B416 is Brodenbach, on the banks of the Moselle. It's famous for the ruins of Ehrenburg Castle, a fortress from the Middle Ages. Not only is it an experience to visit it, but also to coincide with some of the activities that take place there, such as duels of fire with swords and axes, archery and catapulting, storytelling... So, check the website before you go because it's definitely worth a visit. You'll feel like a real medieval knight. A thirty-minute drive away from the castle is Cochem, the most touristy resort in the Moselle Valley and famous for its picture-postcard images. In the distance, you'll be able to make out the outline of Reichsburg Castle perched atop a verdant hill, as if it were in a fairy tale. It's an eleventh-century fortress that was rebuilt after being destroyed by the French. Its remix of styles is part of its charm. If you want to feel like a knight from bygone times, medieval dinners are recreated on summer weekends, that will transport you back in time while drinking in ceramic mugs and new knights of the kingdom being appointed. What an experience! Afterwards, we suggest strolling through its medieval streets and trying out local specialities such as herring with apple and onion or pork collar with mustard sauce. Obviously, you can't leave this area without savouring wines from the Moselle, which are said to be the best whites in the country. The best idea is to visit one of the wineries where they are produced. An hour away on the B54 is Traben-Trarbach. Ahead are the ruins of fourteenth-century Grevenburg, which stands as one of the most characteristic images of the town, and right at the foot is the Weingut Louis Klein Castle, where you can taste local wines and take a tour of its vineyards. One hour south on the A1 is Trier, Germany's oldest city, founded by the Emperor Augustus in 16 BC. The traces of its Roman past are found everywhere, while its beauty and excellent preservation led to it being named a UNESCO World Heritage Site. They include an enormous fortified gate, an amphitheatre, two thermal baths, the Römerbrücke bridge, the Basilica of Constantine and the Igel Column. Together they form one of the most important Roman sites in all of Germany, and undoubtedly one of the best preserved. Another example of its important legacy is the Trierer Dom, the oldest Gothic church in the country. And one of the unexpected surprises is the birthplace of Karl Marx. Explore its old town, admire its traditional houses and savour the famous Black Forest gâteau, made with chocolate sponge and several layers of cream and kirsch cherries. Overnight stay in Trier.

DAY 4 · TRIER - SPEYER - HEIDELBERG

Set out early today, as Speyer is two hours away following the A6 and then the A62 eastbound. It stands on the left bank of the River Rhine and is one of the oldest cities in Germany. Here you'll find one of the best Romanesque cathedrals in the country, where a total of eight Roman emperors and German kings are buried. This is why UNESCO declared it a World Heritage Site. You should also stop to admire the Altpörtel, a medieval gate that at 55 metres is the highest in Germany. The best thing is to take advantage of one of its central restaurants to savour Rhenish cuisine before setting off for our second destination today: Heidelberg, located in the Neckar river valley. It's famous for being one of the most beautiful, and also one of the most romantic, cities in Germany. What's more, this city has the privilege of being the site of the first ever university in Germany, dating back to 1386. As you can imagine, a student atmosphere reigns over the city. You will be surprised by the old student's prison, where wayward students were sent back in medieval times. Another neighbouring monument is Peterskirche, the oldest church in the city (12th century). This is also where you'll find the longest pedestrian street in the country, the Hauptstraße, which for almost two kilometres links the modern part of the city with the old quarter, crowned by the Karlstor, the beautiful city gate of Heidelberg. Nothing can beat a stroll down this boulevard to admire its historic buildings, such as the Haus zum Riesen or the Morais Palace, and discover its cute little shops. At the end of the street, you'll reach Marktplatz, home to the Heiliggeistkirche (Church of the Holy Spirit), the Town Hall, a fountain with a statue of Hercules and the Haus Zum Ritter, built in the late 16th century in a Renaissance style. This was one of the few buildings left standing after the city was destroyed in the 17th century. This square is the prime place to stop for a bite to eat, as it has many bars and restaurants. If you want to take the best pictures of the city and confirm that it really is as beautiful as they say, head over to the vantage points after the Karl-Theodor bridge, one of the symbols of Heidelberg, and walk up the Philosophenweg. From this privileged location, you will see the city with the outline of its popular castle in the background and the River Neckar at your feet. If you want to reach the ruins of Heidelberg Castle, you'll find them directly opposite, but you'll have to go up on the funicular. From the towers to the moats and the courtyard, each section is truly majestic. Inside you'll discover the wine cellar where you can taste some local wines and see the world's largest barrel, the Grosses Fass, which can hold 220,000 litres of wine. Overnight stay in Heidelberg.

DAY 5 · HEIDELBERG - WORMS - FRANKFURT

Today, you can finish seeing what remains of Heidelberg, and then take the A6 for about an hour until you reach an area of vineyards bathed by the River Rhine. You'll now have reached the ancient imperial city of Worms, a pre-Roman town that along with Cologne and Trier is probably the oldest cities in Germany. Worms is known primarily for two things. The first is its medieval Cathedral, whose round towers protect it and can be seen from a distance. And the second is for the history of its Jewish community, which in the High Middle Ages is said to have had more than 1,100 members. This city is also linked to the history of Martin Luther, as he took shelter in Wartburg Castle after refusing to renounce his teachings before Emperor Charles V. After this globally-important event, the world's largest monument to Luther was erected in the city. Worms is also the source of legends such as the Nibelung dwarfs, whose myth is recreated in the museum that bears their name. It's then back behind the wheel to take the A5 and then the A67 towards Frankfurt, our last stop today. Overnight stay in Frankfurt.

DAY 6 · FRANKFURT - CITY OF ORIGIN

Arrival at the airport with enough time to drop off your rental car and flight back to the city of origin.

Arrival. End of the trip and our services.

Your trip includes

Your trip includes

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| ✓ Return flight. | ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Frankfurt. | ✓ Selected meal plan in Frankfurt. |
| ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Koblenz. | ✓ Selected meal plan in Koblenz. | ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Trier. |
| ✓ Selected meal plan in Trier. | ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Heidelberg. | |

✓ Selected meal plan in
Heidelberg.

✓ Rent-a-car.

Your trip doesn't include

✗ Accommodation taxes in Frankfurt direct payment in
facility.

✗ Accommodation taxes in Trier direct payment in
facility.

✗ Possible toll
charges.

✗ Insolvency
protection.

Destinations Visited

Frankfurt



Rüdesheim am Rhein



Kamp Bornhofen



Koblenz



Brodenbach



Cochem



Traben-Trarbach



Trier



Speyer



Heidelberg



Worms



Important remarks

- Triple rooms in Europe are generally rooms with twin beds or a double, in which a folding bed is installed to

accommodate the third person. Due to the inconvenience this causes, we advise against using this option as far the possible.

- Check-in time at the hotel on the day of arrival depends on each establishment, but in no case will it be before 3:00 p.m., unless otherwise indicated.
- The proposed excursions and tours for each day are purely suggestions, as you can tailor the trip to suit your times, tastes and needs.
- A credit card is considered a guarantee, so sometimes you will need one for check-in at hotels.
- Hotels usually have cots available. Otherwise, babies will have to share a bed with an adult.
- To pick up your rental car, you'll need a credit (not debit) card in the name of the person who made the booking, who must also be the named driver of the vehicle.
- Consult the necessary documentation to enter the destinations visited and for transit in the countries where air stopovers are made.