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## FROM BERLIN TO HAMBURG: DISCOVER THE MEDIEVAL CHARMS OF HANSEATIC CITIES

**Trip Code:** BHL\_PP

**Duration:** 8

**Destination:**

**Travel Dates:** 2022/2023

### DAY 1 BERLIN TEGEL

Passengers are welcome to board our ship in Berlin starting at 6:00 p.m. After comfortably settling into your cabins, we'll introduce our crew at a welcome cocktail. We'll enjoy dinner on board.

### DAY 2 BERLIN - NEDLITZ

This morning will be dedicated to a guided tour of **Berlin**, the capital that once illustrated the division of the world into East and West. After our tour, we'll return on board and begin to cruise to Nedlitz. Discover the idyllic charm of the lakes formed by the Havel River and enjoy the scenery and admire the historical buildings as we pass by *Pfaueninsel* (Peacock Island). We'll then leave on a visit to the gardens at the **Sanssouci Palace**, once the residence of Frederick the Great. After our excursion, we'll return on board and begin to cruise to **Brandenburg**. Join us for dinner and an evening of entertainment.

### DAY 3 BRANDENBURG - MAGDEBURG

We'll spend the morning cruising. This afternoon, take a guided tour of **Magdeburg**—situated midway on the Elbe River and also on the historic Roman Roads. This former Hanseatic League city is a melting pot of cultural and architectural riches. We'll return on board and continue cruising to Calvörde. Join us for an evening of dinner and dancing.

### DAY 4 WOLFSBURG - LUNEBURG

Join us for a visit to the Autostadt theme park, dedicated to German automobile design. Opened during Expo 2000 in **Hanover**, the Autostadt is every car-lover's dream—a huge campus full of museums, games, restaurants, and a five-star hotel. After our excursion, we'll return on board the ship. We'll spend the afternoon cruising to Lüneburg, and we'll arrive in the evening.

### DAY 5 LUNEBURG - HAMBURG

Join us this morning for a guided tour of Lüneburg, one of the best-preserved Hanseatic cities. During the Middle Ages, its salt deposits made it one of Germany's wealthiest areas. The Old City has conserved its traditional brick architecture from this prosperous time. This afternoon, join us for a guided tour of

**Hamburg.** Soak up the atmosphere and enjoy the maritime charm of Germany's second-largest city. Our guided tour will bring you to the top sites, including the main shopping street *Mönckebergstraße* in the city center, the Alster Lakes, the *Rathausmarkt* (City Hall Marketplace), the stock exchange, and St. Michael's Church. We'll continue on foot through the historical center—one of the oldest sections of Hamburg. After our excursion, we'll return on board the ship. Our ship will begin to cruise. We'll ride on the **Scharnebeck twin ship lift**, one of the highest in Europe with a maximum vertical lift of 125 feet (38 meters).

## DAY 6 HAMBURG - LÜBECK

In the morning, as an option not included in the packages, we'll enjoy a tour of the Speicherstadt warehouse district and the **Hamburg International Maritime Museum**. The district, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is a part of the Hafencity quarter and has conserved its traditional architectural style featuring rows of red-brick, gabled buildings. The area contains the largest warehouse complex in the world, is over a century old, and is the symbol of the maritime history of the Hanseatic city of Hamburg. Afterwards, we'll visit a maritime museum housed in one of the oldest warehouses of the Speicherstadt. The museum has ten different levels, each exhibiting a different aspect of the close relationship between humankind and the sea through the ages and across civilizations. Exhibitions with numerous documents and objects—historical globes, maps, compasses, model ships, and so on—retrace three-thousand years of maritime history. The museum also contains a model of one of the cabins of the ocean liner SS France and a Lego model of the RMS Queen Mary 2.

Or enjoy some free time in the city.

After our excursion, we'll return on board for lunch.

This afternoon, we'll leave by coach for a guided tour of **Lübeck**. Known as the "**Queen of the Hanseatic League**," Lübeck was founded in 1143 by Adolf II, Count of Schauenburg and Holstein. UNESCO lists the city as a World Heritage Site because of its aristocratic homes and numerous red-brick Gothic monuments. Founded on the banks of the Trave River, the historic center is home to a unique collection of monuments from different eras—namely the Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, and Classical periods. We'll discover the Holsten Gate leading to the old city center, Lübeck's most well-known landmark and a symbol of the power once possessed by this former Hanseatic city; St. Mary's Church, an absolute Gothic gem; and the castle monastery. We'll wrap up our excursion by visiting a tea room where we'll enjoy some delicious marzipan, a local specialty. Afterwards, we'll return on board in Hamburg. Tonight is our festive gala evening.

## DAY 7 HAMBURG

Enjoy breakfast on board this morning before disembarking. *End of our services.*

## DAY

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