



Beethoven's 250th anniversary in 2020

In 2020 Bonn will honor its most famous son. Beethoven's music, world-famous conductors, orchestras and soloists, events indoors and outdoors will help make the 2020 anniversary year a once-in-a-lifetime celebration of Beethoven's life and work. Beethoven himself expressed his hope for world peace when he created his Ninth Symphony in 1824, working the fourth movement around the lyrics of Schiller's poem „Ode to Joy“. Today Beethoven is still considered one of the greatest innovators in music history. His musical genius and

humanistic convictions were rooted in the enlightened attitudes that prevailed at the court of Elector Maximilian Franz; his love of nature was awakened in the Rhine Valley and in Bonn's picturesque countryside. Both these features resound in his music, even in the late works of his Viennese years.

Beethoven Festival Bonn: A festival in the city of Beethoven's birth

The heart of the Bonn Beethovenfest is the music of Ludwig van Beethoven. Here performances by internationally acclaimed artists and ensembles give local, regional, nationwide and worldwide impetus to the preservation of his oeuvre. To the present day the festival has created dramatic interdisciplinary ties to Beethoven's past, present and future.

We organize your customized music tour to Germany including an outstanding concert performance as part of the *Beethoven Festival Bonn* next year: *Ludwig van Beethoven: Violin concert D-Dur op. 61 / Symphonies (Mahler/Schostakowitsch) / Violin: Anne-Sophie Mutter / Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra / Conductor: Manfred Honeck* which will take place on Sunday, 6 September 2020 in Bonn.

Performance Tours & Music Festivals

We offer tailor-made performance tours to Germany and/or Europe for amateur music and dance groups. Good will concert tours for bands, orchestras, choirs, and performing tours for folk dance groups and ballet ensembles as well as joint concerts and exchange with local German music groups can be arranged. Music groups will have the opportunity to participate and demonstrate their talents in public performances and to participate in local music festivals.

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Annual Music Festival in the Rhine / Lahn Valley, May to October 2020

13th International Youth Music Festival in the Main-Spessart district, 17 – 21 July 2020

Beethoven International Youth Music Festival in Bonn 22 – 26 June 2020: Three Concerts and Exchange Program with local music groups and/or schools

Special Interest Tours & Music Workshops

Walk in the footsteps of artists and masters. Visit places and sources of inspiration. Discover the European Music and Dance Culture. We organize your individual group round trip: Baroque | Cities of Music | Composers | Contemporary Dance | Festival | Jazz | Music Theatres | Musical Landscape | New Music | Organs | Religious Music | Romanticism | Tango | Traditional Folk Dance | Viennese Music

We organize workshops with selected musicians and master classes: Chamber Music Seminar | Kodály Chorus Training | The Suzuki Method | New Forms of Teaching | New Concert and Presentation Formats | „Teach the teacher“-Concepts in cooperation with the *Beethoven Campus Bonn* and other music schools and institutes.

Cultural Tour for Music Friends: Berlin – Beethoven - Bonn

Berlin possesses some of the finest art galleries and museums in the world and offers the highest standard of music and opera performances. The number, variety and quality of museums make Berlin among the world's most desired destinations for art lovers. Berlin has three opera houses, over 1500 theatres and stages, more than 175 museums and collections, roughly 300 galleries, and a multitude of other cultural possibilities. Berlin is a city where truly outstanding performances can be virtually guaranteed.

Day 1: Arrive **Berlin** Tegel. Take an orientation tour by coach: the New Embassy quarter, Reichstag, Brandenburg Gate, Pariser Platz and Unter den Linden. Dinner in the hotel.

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Photo: Beethoven-Haus Gartenansicht mit Büste

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Day 2: Walk through the oldest part of the city to 'Museums Island', a group of major museum buildings. Visit the Neues Museum, the stunning new home to the Egyptian Museum, restored and recreated by British architect David Chipperfield and the Alte Nationalgalerie, which superbly displays European painting of the 19th century, including the finest collection of German Romantics. Some free time before an evening concert performance.

Day 3: Visit **Charlottenburg** - Charlottenburg castle, the earliest major building in Berlin, is an outstanding Baroque and Rococo palace with splendid interiors. The Berggruen Collection of Picasso and classic modern art is also displayed. Guided visit of the production and store room of the Staatliche Gipsformerei (Replica Workshop) which is the largest institution of its kind in the world. High-quality art replicas of works mainly from the collections of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, but also from other European museums, have been produced here for almost 200 years. Evening concert performance.

Day 4: Europe's greatest building project in the 1990s, Potsdamer Platz showcases an international array of architects (Piano, Isozaki, Rogers, Moneo). Scattered around the nearby 'Kulturforum' are museums, the State Library and the Philharmonie concert hall (Hans Scharoun 1956–63). Free afternoon, an opportunity to visit the Museum of Musical Instruments or the Gemäldegalerie which houses one of Europe's major collections of Old Masters.

Day 5: **Potsdam** - Excursion to Potsdam which in the 18th century developed into Brandenburg-Prussia's second capital and acquired fine buildings, parks and gardens. Sanssouci, created as a retreat from the affairs of state by Frederick the Great, is among the finest 18th-century complexes of gardens, palaces and pavilions to be found anywhere. Visit his single-storey palace atop terraces of fruit trees, the Chinese Tea House and the orangery, and see the city centre with its Dutch Quarter and Neo-Classical buildings. Return to Berlin.

Day 6: Explore Berlin Mitte - Private collection and gallery visits and a visit to a studio of a local artist. Stroll around the Scheunenviertel (Old Jewish quarter) to the Hacksche Höfe and explore the Berlin of the 1920s and the Jewish life in Berlin. Attend a jazz concert night or visit Clärchens Ballhaus – Berlin's most legendary dance hall, opened in 1913, when there was that mad hype about tango, it has survived two world wars, communist spies and even a Quentin Tarantino movie production.

Day 7: Check out and continue to **Dresden**. Once called "Florence on the Elbe" because of its numerous baroque buildings Dresden still offers a lot to the visitor. Music enthusiasts all over the world are familiar with Dresden. This is due not least to the guest performances by the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra and the Sächsische Staatskapelle working at the famous Semper Opera House, the Dresdner Kreuzchor and Dresdner Kapellknaben choirs. Enjoy a 3 hours guided tour of Dresden and visit the Semperoper and the Zwinger palace. See the Silbermann organ at the Hofkirche (court church). Open-air concerts and musical

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evenings can be enjoyed in the Baroque atmosphere of the old town and in Dresden's palaces and parks. Overnight in Dresden.

Day 8: Check out and continue to Bonn. En route lunch stop in **Eisenach**. On the top of the city you will find the well known castle of the Wartburg. This castle was the residence of Luther during the time he translated the bible from Hebrew and Greek into German. Visit the Bach House in Eisenach and the Georgenkirche, where Bach was christened. Late afternoon arrive in **Bonn**.

Day 9: Morning guided visit of the Beethoven House Bonn and walking tour of the city centre. Ludwig van Beethoven's birthplace is of great importance for people throughout the world and the main attraction in the musical city of Bonn. The museum presents the largest Beethoven collection in the world. Its impressive authentic documents combined with new media bear witness to Beethoven's life and compositions. Enjoy a private concert performed on historical instruments at the chamber concert hall of the Beethoven House. Evening free to attend one of the numerous music and art events which will take place in Bonn to celebrate Beethoven's 250th birthday.

Day 10: Morning excursion to **Cologne** to visit Cologne Cathedral. The Gothic cathedral houses the remains of the Three Wise Men, which Archbishop Rainald von Dassel had brought to Cologne from Milan after the latter city was conquered in 1164. Because of these relics, the cathedral became one of the most important places of pilgrimage in Europe. Its two massive towers have dominated the city's skyline since their completion in 1880. Afterwards guided walking tour of the old town. Highlights include the Dionysus Mosaic, Roemerstrasse, Gulichplatz, Farina-House (birthplace of Eau de Cologne), the Jewish Quarter, Old Market Square, Town Hall, Great St. Martin Church. Lunch in traditional brewery restaurant Cologne. In 1778 Beethoven's first known public performance took place in Cologne. His father advertised his age as six years, although he was in fact seven, probably to draw favourable comparisons with the child prodigy Mozart. He played various clavier concertos and trios. Return to Bonn with stop en route in **Brühl** to visit Palaces Augustusburg and Falkenlust with their extensive gardens and park grounds.

Day 11: Morning free for individual sightseeing. Afternoon excursion to the **Ahr Valley** with stop en route to visit Drachenburg Castle in **Königswinter**. Take the Drachenfels Railway up the mountain and take in the splendid view of the **Rhine**. Rhine cruise from Königswinter to Remagen and transfer to the romantic wine village **Ahrweiler**, embedded in vineyards, and surrounded by the mediavial town walls. The Ahr region is considered to be the „German red wine paradise“ and famous for the pinot noir and pinot madeleine. Farewell dinner with wine tasting in the world's oldest winegrowers' cooperative. Overnight in Bonn.

Day 12: After breakfast check out and get transferred to Cologne airport for your return flight.

**** Programs can be adapted to your wishes. All services are subject to availability at the time of booking.*

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