

Your Specialist for Tailor-Made Group Tours to Germany and Europe  
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## Beethoven's 250<sup>th</sup> 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.*

*Concert tour including good will concerts in Bonn area and in picturesque towns along the River Rhine. Visit the Beethoven House Bonn, Cologne Cathedral, and the Romantic Rhine Valley. Exchange with international musicians, participate in a music workshop or a local music festival, and perform together with local music groups. The music world will meet in Bonn - Don't miss this life-time experience.*

**Day 1 | Frankfurt - Rhine Valley:** Arrival Frankfurt airport. Meet your English speaking tour manager and travel by private bus through the Romantic Rhine Valley with stop en route in **Rüdesheim**. See the famous vineyards of the **Rheingau** – the top Riesling area. Welcome dinner and wine tasting at **Eberbach monastery**. Overnight at your hotel in the Rhine Valley.

**Day 2 | Rhine Valley – Bonn:** Rhine River Cruise passing the famous Loreley Rock in the Middle Rhine Valley. Continue by coach to your concert venue with stops along the way to visit the picturesque towns of the Rhine Valley, like **St. Goar** which brings you to the heart of the UNESCO World Heritage Upper Middle Rhine Valley, a region which features a unique landscape with picturesque views, castles, churches and local scenes of great artistic and historic significance. Set up & rehearsal followed by rehearsal with local music group of joint pieces. Lunch in *Weinhotel Landsknecht* restaurant on the River Rhine. Shared Concert with local music group. Reception & light supper provided by the local music society. Continue by coach to your hotel Bonn area for overnight. Bonn is the birthplace of the world-famous composer Ludwig van Beethoven. Bonn as the former capital of Germany still houses federal and international institutions. One of Bonn's landmarks is the mighty Minster Church whose history dates back to early Christianity.

**Day 3 | Bonn – Cologne:** Morning excursion to Cologne to visit Cologne Cathedral (UNESCO world heritage). Cologne Cathedral is a building of superlatives that is the centre and hallmark of this city on the Rhine. The cathedral which houses the relics of the three Wise Men became one of the most important places of pilgrimage in Europe. 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 brewery restaurant Cologne. Return to Bonn area for rehearsal and evening concert. Dinner and overnight at your hotel Bonn area.

**Day 4 | Bonn – Bad Neuenahr:** 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

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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. Lunch in restaurant *Em Höttche* at the historical market place. Depart by coach for the spa town Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler. Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler is the centre of the **Ahr Valley** and embedded in vineyards. It is one town with two centres, the romantic half-timbered houses in the centre of **Ahrweiler** are surrounded by the medieval town walls, which are still entirely preserved, whereas in Bad Neuenahr you surrender to the exquisite flair of the spa town and the new art buildings. Set up & rehearsal. Reception by the mayor of Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler and outdoor concert at the spa gardens. Dinner at local restaurant. Overnight at your hotel Bonn area.

**Day 5 | Bonn – Königswinter – Namedy:** After breakfast transfer to Schloss Drachenburg, Königswinter, take the Drachenfels Railway up the mountain. Option to visit the Castle or just take in the splendid view of the Rhine. Transfer by coach to **Remagen** for dinner in brewery restaurant on the Rive Rhine *Brauhaus Remagen*. Continue to Schloss Burg Namedy – set up & rehearsal. Outdoor Concert at the inner yard of Castle Namedy (if weather permits). Dinner and overnight at your hotel Bonn area.

**Day 6 | Bonn – Mainz – Bad Ems:** After breakfast check out and continue to Mainz for a guided walking tour including Mainz Cathedral and the Gutenberg museum. Founded by the Romans in the first century BC, Mainz is one of Germany's oldest cities. This is a place where history, culture and commerce combine harmoniously in a beautiful city. Mainz Cathedral represents a peak point of Germany's Romanesque cathedral architecture. At the Gutenberg museum the story of the city's most famous son Johannes Gutenberg is revealed. In homage to the man that invented the printed press, the Gutenberg museum has become world renowned for specializing in the history of the printed word. Lunch in local restaurant. Check into your hotel in Mainz. Afternoon transfer to the spa town Bad Ems for rehearsal and concert at the local music festival. The Emperor's Spa thrills by its historical scenery: magnificent baroque buildings and masterpieces of the spa-architecture. The wealth of sights is the result of the historic past of the Emperor's Spa dating back to Roman times. Famous people of the European history, aristocrats, artists and writers have left their traces. The composer Jacques Offenbach for example worked as a concert master here in Bad Ems for 12 years. Some of his works were performed for the first time in the "Kursaal" (Marble Hall). He composed parts of his opera "Orpheus in underground" during that time. Dinner and overnight at your hotel in Mainz.

**Day 7 | Mainz – Heidelberg – Wiesbaden:** After breakfast travel south to Heidelberg to explore the historical flair of this traditional University City and to visit the famous Heidelberg Castle. Lunch in a local restaurant. Afternoon visit to Wiesbaden to participate in a Henkell Sparkling winery cellar tour. Experience the impressive rococo Marble Hall and the 200,000-litre casks in the seven-storey-deep wine cellars. Taste exquisite varieties and enjoy a tantalizing excursion into the world of sparkling wine. Farewell dinner. Overnight at your hotel in Mainz.

**Day 8 | Mainz – Frankfurt:** After breakfast check out and get transferred to Frankfurt airport for your return flight.

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*Program can be adapted to your wishes. Good will concerts for amateur music groups, workshops, master classes, joined concerts with local music groups, and festival participations can be arranged. All services are subject to availability at the time of booking.*

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