

# FROM BEETHOVEN TO DVORÁK *Prague Instrumental Festival*

Festival Tour #4 (7 nights/9 days)

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**Day 1 Saturday, March 16, 2019**

Departure via scheduled airline service to Berlin, Germany

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**Day 2 Sunday, March 17 Berlin (D)**

Arrive in Berlin

Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to the awaiting motorcoach for a transfer into Berlin

Take a panoramic introductory tour of Berlin's highlights and a Spree River Cruise (explore Berlin's magnificent architectural treasures and experience the city's amazing transformation by boat on a one-hour cruise on the River Spree) en route

Late afternoon hotel check-in

Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight

*Berlin is a vibrant, multi-faceted city steeped in culture and history. Since the fall of the Wall and the reunification of the city, Berlin has been continuously reinventing itself as a political, business and cultural center. Superb museums, sophisticated architecture, and famous landmarks offer the Berlin visitor plenty to see and do*

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**Day 3 Monday, March 18 Berlin (B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day sightseeing of the eastern sector of Berlin with its famous Unter den Linden Strasse, (iconic boulevard of linden trees), the Russian War Memorial, what remains of "the wall," and "Checkpoint Charley" as we pass into the western sector to experience Kurfurstendamm Strasse, home to some of Berlin's most luxurious stores. Also see Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, Berlin Dom, Reichstag, etc.

Lunch, on own

Afternoon at leisure for sightseeing, shopping or other activities

*Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Germany*

Evening dinner and overnight

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**Day 4 Tuesday, March 19 Berlin / Halle / Leipzig (B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Leipzig via Halle to visit the birthplace of Händel. In addition to the composer's personal effects, the museum houses an exhibition of musical instruments and history of music in the region

Lunch, on own

Continue to Leipzig

Evening dinner and overnight



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*Leipzig has musical associations with some of the greatest of all composers: Bach worked and lived here a big part of his life; Mendelssohn was born and lived here; Wagner was born here (but never lived here), and nearby Halle is the birthplace of Georg Frederick Händel*

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**Day 5      Wednesday, March 20      Leipzig      (B,D)**

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Breakfast at the hotel

A guided tour of Leipzig includes entrance to St. Thomas Church (famous because Bach was the organist and choirmaster here, and it is the home of the St. Thomas Boys Choir, one of the most famous in the world). Also visit the Bach Museum. The reconstructed Bose House stands in the shadow of the Thomaskirche. It was once the home of the Bach family and now contains the largest Bach archives in Germany, as well as many mementos of the composer

Lunch, on own

*Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Germany*

Evening dinner and overnight

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**Day 6      Thursday, March 21      Leipzig / Terezin / Prague      (B,D)**

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Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Terezin (former fortress and Nazi Concentration Camp for children), including entrance to the fortress and Museum of the Ghetto. Terezin offers poignant insights for musicians because of the music written here by prisoners

Lunch, on own

Continue to Prague for dinner and overnight

*Prague achieved much of its present glory in the 14th century, during the long reign of Charles IV, king of Bohemia and Moravia and Holy Roman Emperor. During the Middle Ages, Prague enjoyed a golden age - a time when Prague was larger than Paris or London! The Hapsburgs also left their artistic and architectural mark. Today, Prague is universally declared one of the most beautiful cities in Europe*

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**Day 7      Friday, March 22      Prague      (B,D)**

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Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day guided tour of Prague includes a visit to Hradcany Castle, including its St. Vitus Cathedral, the Old Royal Palace, the Golden Lane, and the Daliborka Tower

Lunch, on own

*Afternoon rehearsal*

Evening dinner and overnight

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**Day 8      Saturday, March 23      Prague      (B,D)**

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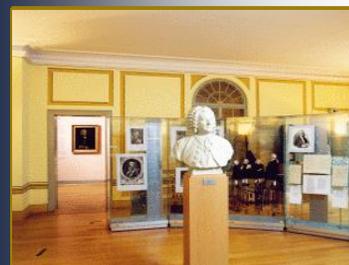
Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day guided tour of *Musical Prague* including entrance to the Dvořák home in Nelahozeves where Antonin Dvořák was born. Also visit Lobkowitz Palace with its large music archive containing works by over five hundred composers and musicians. The Music Archive is most celebrated for its collection of works by Handel, Mozart, Haydn and Beethoven

Lunch, on own

*Prague Instrumental Festival Finale Concert at Smetana Hall*

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Evening Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant  
Overnight at the hotel

**Day 9      Sunday, March 22      Depart for home      (B)**

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Breakfast at the hotel  
Transfer to Prague's airport for return flight

***This is a very flexible itinerary.*** Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.

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