

Germany Go East Special (10 days / 9 nights, Friday – Sunday on ground)

This new tour starts and ends in one of the most inspiring cities of the world, Berlin! Located in the middle of the former GDR, Berlin is the perfect initial point to explore traditional and modern German breweries and brewpubs in East Germany. The variety of local beer specialties is as diversified as the landscapes, cities, town and villages you will cross. You will see the whole array of contrasts from historic microbreweries to some of the most modern German breweries. Brewing beer has a long history in the Eastern part of Germany: Weissbier and Schwarzbier are originated in Thuringia (17th century), the German brewery boom originally started in the 13th century in Northern Germany for export to Scandinavia...Have a look yourself, travel with us – Go East.

Tour highlights:

Traditional and modern German Breweries
Germany's smallest brewery
Germany's brewery with the oldest functioning brewing technology
Authentic German brewpubs and Bierkneipen
German beer & local food specialties
Germany's capital Berlin (UNESCO world cultural heritage sites)
Brandenburg's capital Potsdam (UNESCO world cultural heritage sites)
Monastery Neuzelle
Saxony's capital Dresden and river Elbe Valley
Castle Colditz, Saxony
Leipzig – fairs, music, books, design, art and beer
Thuringia's capital Erfurt
Thuringian Forest & Fortress Greifenstein
Harz Mountains
Hanseatic town Wismar (UNESCO world cultural heritage site)
Baltic Sea coast and European Brick Stone Gothic

Tour Itinerary:

Day 1 (Fri) – inspiring Berlin – constantly in transformation...

- pick up at Berlin Central Train Station or Airport
- brewery [Berliner Buergerbraeu](#) (oldest Berlin brewery from 1753, family-run) with guided brewery tour & beer snack (on our way we'll pass the "East Side Gallery" at the Berlin Wall and other sights)
- Brewery [Schlossplatzbrauerei Coepenick](#) (Germany's smallest brewery)
- check-in at the Brewpub Hotel [Brauhaus Spandau](#)
- Sightseeing bus tour (castle Charlottenburg, Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, Victory Column, Brandenburg Gate, Reichstag building with walkable Glass Dom and much more)
- Brewpub [Lindenbraeu](#) at the Sony-Center Potsdamer Platz
- East Berlin Beer night: brewpubs and bars in East Berlin including walkabout with sightseeing ([Brauhaus Lemke am Hackeschen Markt](#), [Brauhaus Mitte](#) near Alexanderplatz, [Georgbraeu](#) in the Nikolaiviertel, brewpub Hops & Barley and several authentic Berlin beer pubs)
- Drop-off at the hotel in Berlin

Day 2 (Sat) – Potsdam, a day trip to Prussian Charm and History

- Leisure breakfast
- Leisure day trip to the capital of the state Brandenburg and former residence of Prussian kings, Potsdam (UNESCO world heritage sites)
- Guided tour on bus (Marble Palace, Castle Cecilienhof – location of the Potsdam conference in 1945 after the end of World War II)
- Beer lunch at brewpub [Meierei Potsdam](#) (summer beergarden) or at brewpub [Krongut Bornstedt Potsdam](#)
- Walkabout in Potsdam Old Town
- Brewpub [Braumanufaktur](#) with beer snack and special bottle labeling
- Drop-off at the hotel in Berlin
- Guided brewpub tour at the brewery hotel [Brauhaus Spandau](#)
- You can either spend the evening at the brewpub-hotel or you can go out on your individual pub night (pub recommendations will be provided)

Day 3 (Sun) – on our way to Dresden, the capital of Saxony

- Leisure breakfast
- Berlin hotel check-out
- Heading south-east to the Monastery Brewery [Klosterbrauerei Neuzelle](#) close to the Polish border, Distillery with “Schwarzbier-Schnaps”, Monastery Neuzelle (considered to be one of the best preserved monastery complexes in Europe)
- Traveling further south we enter Saxony and stop at the Brewery [Boehmisch Brauhaus](#) Grossroehrdorf
- Brewery [Feldschloesschen](#) Dresden or Brewpub [Waldschloesschen](#) Dresden in Saxony’s capital and the former residence of Saxon kings and German Emperors, the city of Dresden
- Check-in at the hotel in Dresden
- Sightseeing in Dresden with river Elbe valley (Church of Our Lady, Semper Opera House, Hofkirche, Theatre Place, Palace Zwinger, Bruehl Terrace, Dresden-Neustadt and much more)
- Walkabout and Pub night Dresden

Day 4 (Mon) – the contrasts of rural and urban Saxony – Leipzig

- Leisure breakfast
- Dresden hotel check-out
- Castle Colditz
- Next stop: Brewery [Doebelner Brauhaus](#)
- Check-in at hotel in the city of Leipzig
- Leipzig presents itself as a multifaceted colorful city of modernity and history – Classical music, Jazz, international fairs, books, art, design ...
- Brewpub with Leipzig Gose beer specialty [Bayerischer Bahnhof](#)
- Walkabout and pub night Leipzig

Day 5 (Tue) – on our way to Thuringia – the cradle of German Culture

- Leisure breakfast
- Leipzig hotel check-out
- Heading further west we now enter Thuringia – the “Green Heart of Germany”, our first stop: Fortress Burg Greifenstein with pub “Burgschaenke” (Greifenstein is one of the largest feudal fortresses in Germany, dated back to the 12th century)
- [Microbrewery Schmitt](#) in Singen – over 100 years old historic brewing technology without use of electricity – a jewel of German Breweries
- Check-in at the hotel in Erfurt, Thuringia’s capital
- Dinner & pub night at the Brewpub [Zum Goldenen Schwan](#) Erfurt

Day 6 (Wed) – take a break in the medieval town of Erfurt...

- Leisure breakfast
- We’ll be spending a laid-back day in Erfurt
- The best way to explore the historic town is a Walkabout along the major sights (Merchant bridge, Cathedral of St. Mary, St. Peter & Pauls Church, Augustinian Monastery, Town Hall and much more)
- Brewpub lunch at the [Haus zur Pfauen](#)
- Erfurt Individual activities or visit of the Petersberg Citadel
- Pub night in Erfurt

Day 7 (Thu) – travel north through the Harz Mountain region

- Leisure breakfast
- Erfurt hotel check-out
- Heading north we now enter the state Saxony-Anhalt, our first stop: [Brewery museum Wippra](#), Harz (winner of the silver medal in the “Schwarzbier” category at the Beer World Cup 2002, Colorado),
- Next stop: Brewery [Colbitzer Heidebrauerei](#)
- Check-in at the hotel in the village Vielank close to the former border between East and West Germany
- Guided tour at the Brewery [Brauerei Vielank](#) with distillery
- Leisure night at the pub Vielank

Day 8 (Fri) – further north to the beautiful Baltic Sea coast

- Leisure breakfast
- Vielank hotel check-out
- Heading further north to the Baltic Sea coast
- Walkabout in the Hanseatic town Wismar (UNESCO world heritage site, European Route of Brick Stone Gothic) - Wismar has one of Europe’s best preserved historic town centers with a noticeable Swedish influence
- Beer lunch at brewpub [Brauhaus am Lohberg](#) Wismar
- Traveling along the Baltic Sea coast we will visit the popular and medal-decorated Brewery [Stralsunder Brauerei](#)
- Check-in at the hotel in the typical Hanseatic city Stralsund
- Pub night in Stralsund

Day 9 (Sat) – back to Berlin through scenic Brandenburg

- Leisure breakfast
- Stralsund hotel check-out
- Heading south traveling across the scenic landscape of the state Brandenburg – the “Land of Lakes”
- Walkabout in Rheinsberg (Rheinsberg castle set on a lake)
- Lunch at the Brewery [Zum Alten Brauhaus](#) Rheinsberg
- Next stop further south: Brewery [Landbrauhof Horak](#), Kremmen – one of the smallest breweries in Germany
- Welcome back to Berlin!
- Check-in at the hotel in Berlin
- West Berlin Beer night : [Brewbaker](#), [Brauhaus Lemke am Schloss Charlottenburg](#), [Luisenbraeu Charlottenburg](#), Thaddaeus Braeu Charlottenburg, [Bier Kombinat Kreuzberg](#), and several authentic Berlin beer pubs
- Drop-off at the hotel in Berlin

Day 10 (Sun) – Departure (or extra day)

- Leisure breakfast
- Berlin hotel check-out
- Individual activities, departure or extra day...

Travel Dates 2010 (Tours always start on Fridays and end on Sundays – on ground):

January 22-31, 2010 / March 04-14, 2010 / April 02-11, 2010 / April 16-24, 2010 / May 21-30, 2010 / June 25-July 04, 2010 / July 30- August 08, 2010 / August 27-September 05, 2010 / October 29-November 06, 2010 / November 26- December 05, 2010

Link to Germany Go East Special Tour at Google Maps:

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&msid=108103856146026577816.00045326ae839bc120f7d&ll=52.589701,13.557129&spn=6.596875,19.709473&z=6>

Link to Flickr Travel Impressions to Brewpubs and Breweries in Germany:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/tgac-cultourinaria/sets/72157621969799260/>

Germany – Go East Cultural Beer Tours are a joint travel project run by

“The German American Connection” and “Bier-Mania! ™ Cultural Beer Tours”

Prices and Bookings at Bier-Mania!

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