

Deutschland *SINGT!*

Soli Deo Gloria...



Soli Deo Gloria



International Choral Festival 2021

Join celebrated composer/conductor, **John Leavitt** in a concert tour featuring gala concert events in Germany's historic cities of Berlin and Leipzig. Germany's rich musical heritage - boasting the likes of **Bach, Brahms, Beethoven, Mendelssohn** and **Wagner** - sets a perfect backdrop for our international music festival.

The festival will take place **June 1 - June 8, 2021**, and will feature mixed-voice choral ensemble and individual singers joining together in a mass chorus, under the direction of our esteemed **Artistic Director, Dr. John Leavitt**

During this 6-night tour of Germany, we will rehearse together as we prepare for two formal Gala performances with local musicians. Our first performance will be in the **Kaiser Wilhelm Kirche** in Germany's capitol city of Berlin, and the grand

finale concert will take place in the historic **St. Nicolas Church in Leipzig**, where Bach premiered his St. John Passion on Good Friday in 1724.

Cities Visited:

- ▶ Berlin
- ▶ Potsdam
- ▶ Leipzig
- ▶ Halle
- ▶ Wittenberg

When: **June 1 - June 8, 2021**

Where: **Germany - Berlin, Potsdam, and Leipzig**

Cost: **LAND \$1699 + AIR \$1400 (estimated)**

**+ 3-Day Optional Excursion to Dresden and Prague
(additional cost)**

Day 1: Tuesday 1 June: Depart the USA

Flight Itineraries TBD

Day 2: Wednesday 2 June: Arrival in Berlin

Morning arrival into Berlin airport. After customs formalities the group will be welcomed by tour director and board our waiting motor-coach. Enjoy a visit to the **Berlin Cathedral** and **Alexanderplatz**, a large square with many important sights, and a rich history to discover. After some on-foot exploration and shopping in Central Berlin, we will check into our hotel. **Welcome Dinner** provided.

Day 3: Thursday 3 June: Berlin

Today we'll take a guided excursion through the city, seeing such historic sites as the **Reichstag**, **Brandenburg Gate**, **Checkpoint Charlie**, the **Holocaust Memorial** and remnants of the **Berlin Wall**. In the afternoon we will return for our first rehearsal.

Day 4: Friday 4 June: Berlin

This morning we enjoy some free time in the famous **Kurfürstendamm**, or Ku'damm, as it is called by the locals. The street takes its name from the former *Kurfürsten* (prince-electors) of Brandenburg. This long boulevard could be considered the Champs-Élysées of Berlin - lined with shops, houses, hotels and restaurants. Be sure to check out Kaufhaus Des Westens - **KaDeWe** - an impressive department store. In the afternoon we turn our attention once again towards music, rehearsing and preparing for tonight's Gala concert, perhaps in the **Kaiser Wilhelm Kirche**.

Day 5: Saturday 5 June: Potsdam, Wittenburg, Leipzig

Departing Berlin we stop in **Potsdam**, the capitol city of the German state of Brandenburg. **Sanssouci Palace** once was the summer palace of Fredrick the Great, King of Prussia. Enjoy a tour of the palace and take a walk through the beautiful gardens. Then its off to Wittenberg, **birthplace of the Reformation**. See the **Castle Church**, where Luther famously posted his **95 Theses** in 1517 and is now entombed. We spend the night in Leipzig.

Day 6: Sunday 6 June: Halle, Leipzig

We head out for a day trip to Halle this morning. Halle is the birthplace of G.F. Händel. We will stop at the Händel Museum, which is housed in the building where Händel was born, and also features a musical instrument museum with over 700 artifacts. We will visit the charming Altstadt town center. Check out the **Marktkirche Unser Lieben Frauen**, where Bach played the organ when it was inaugurated in 1716. Before we leave town perhaps we will stop at the oldest chocolate factory in Germany for a tour and a visit to their Chocolate Museum. Arrival at a local venue in Leipzig for afternoon rehearsals ahead of tonight's Gala Concert, perhaps in **St. Nikolas Church**, built in 1165, where **Bach** often performed works, including the premier of the **St John Passion** on good Friday in 1724.

Day 7: Monday 7 June: Leipzig

We continue sightseeing this morning with visits to the **St. Thomas Church** (possible recital) where Bach was the choir director from 1723 until his death in 1750, the neighboring **Bach Museum**, where handwritten Bach manuscripts are on display, and the old town square. This afternoon is at leisure for optional sightseeing and shopping before we enjoy a **Farewell Dinner**.

Day 8: Tuesday 8 June: Departure

Morning departure to Berlin airport for your return flight back to the US.

Optional 3 Day Extension: [Dresden and Prague - on the next page](#)

Optional 3 Day Extension: Dresden and Prague

Day 8: Tuesday 8 June: Dresden

Today we head east to Dresden, the **Baroque Jewel** of Germany. Destroyed by bombing in the Second World War, Dresden has been remarkably restored and is an important center for music and art in Europe. We will enjoy a guided tour of the city, and a **sightseeing river cruise** on the Elbe River. In your free time, take a walk through the historic city center and visit one of the many fantastic museums in town.

Day 9: Wednesday 9 June: Bautzen, Görlitz, Prague

Today we make short visits to two interesting German border towns on our way to the Czech Republic. **Bautzen**, famous for being a Cold War prison town for political enemies of the State. Stroll through the town center and enjoy the many old towers, including the **Leaning Tower of Bautzen**. Then its off to Görlitz, a German town directly on the Polish border. Take a walk across the **Old Town Bridge into Poland** to grab lunch. Before leaving Görlitz and Germany behind, we stop at the **Landskron Brewery** for a tour of how that wonderful German beer is made. Enjoy a beer at the end of the tour! Then its off to Prague, where we will enjoy a **group dinner** before checking into our hotel.

Day 10: Thursday 10 June: Prague

After breakfast we head out on a walking tour of **Prague**, starting at **Prague Castle** and ending up in the **Old Town Square**. Enjoy free time in the beautiful city center before we walk to the river for our **Farewell Dinner** while we enjoy a cruise on the river.

Day 11: Friday 11 June: Departure

Morning departure to Prague airport





For more information:

Call: 425-357-0245

Email: info@sechristtravel.com



Deutschland Singt! CHORAL FESTIVAL

June 1 - June 8, 2021

Final costs determined by final OVERALL total number of **Traveling Participants**

Cost per Person:

LAND package - based on double occupancy

- 50+ paying participants = \$1,699.00
- 45-49 paying participants = \$1,759.00
- 40-44 paying participants = \$1,820.00
- 35-39 paying participants = \$1,880.00
- 30-34 paying participants = \$1,970.00

***\$360.00** - single occupancy supplement charge

AIR package ESTIMATE - \$1,400.00* per person

- ▶ Estimated for 2021 - Quoted price subject to change
 - Includes an estimate of \$550 taxes
- ▶ All transportation arrangements are subject to change, which may result in additional fees for schedule changes, additional taxes and fuel surcharges imposed by the government and/or transportation carrier. Airlines may also charge additional fees for baggage, instruments or equipment in excess of size and/or weight restrictions. All additional charges are the sole responsibility of the group.
- ▶ **Individual travelers (not part of a registering ensemble) need to arrange their own air travel to and from arrival and departure cities.**

TOTAL PACKAGE COST = \$3,149.00

- ▶ **+ or - based on actual airfare**

3-DAY OPTIONAL EXTENSION TO DRESDEN, BAUTZEN, GÖRLITZ AND PRAGUE

- ▶ \$749 per person, based on double occupancy (Tour Extension)
- ▶ Minimum of 30 participants
- ▶ \$180.00 - single occupancy supplement charge

Tentative payment plan:

- ▶ **June 1, 2020** = \$400 per person (\$200 towards land package and \$200 towards air package)
- ▶ **August 17, 2020** = \$400 per person (\$200 towards land package and \$200 towards air package)
- ▶ **October 12, 2020** = \$400 per person (\$200 towards land package and \$200 towards air package)
- ▶ **December 14, 2020** = \$400 per person (\$200 towards land package and \$200 towards air package)
- ▶ **February 1, 2021** = \$400 per person (\$200 towards land package and \$200 towards air package)
- ▶ **April 12, 2021** - Final Balance (based on final airfare and total number of travelers)

Your Tour Experience Includes (Subject to availability):

- ▶ Round trip air transportation – to/from Berlin, Germany
 - ▶ Based on a minimum of 10 passengers, price is estimated at \$1,450.00 ***Subject to change**

- ▶ Six (6) nights accommodation at superior tourist-class hotels, plus one (1) night in flight
- ▶ All luxury air-conditioned motor coach transportation throughout your tour in Germany
- ▶ Daily Buffet breakfasts and Dinners, as indicated in the itinerary
- ▶ Special WELCOME and FAREWELL DINNER
 - Group meals do not include beverages (outside of breakfast)
- ▶ Performance and concert management, and publicity
- ▶ GUIDED SIGHTSEEING/CITY TOURS
- ▶ ENTRANCE FEE:
 - Sanssouci Palace
 - Berlin Cathedral
 - Wartburg Castle
 - St Thomas Church
 - Bach Museum
- ▶ Tips for city guides, tour director, and coach Driver
- ▶ Taxes are included for all services

PLUS:

- ▶ A professional Tour Director to handle all tour arrangements with concern/care for the needs of your group
- ▶ A complete *Itinerary* handbook for your use
- ▶ Official Tour T-Shirt (1 per person)
- ▶ Official Tour Luggage Tags (2 per person – 1 for checked luggage and 1 for carry-on)
- ▶ Full support of an Account Manager to handle the planning aspects of your tour.
- ▶ \$2M Sechrist Travel Tour Liability Insurance coverage
- ▶ SECHRIST TRAVEL Assistance 24/7 with Emergency Mobile Phone Number

Tour Cost Does Not Include:

- ▶ Transportation to/from your HOME Airport is arranged ON YOUR OWN
- ▶ Meals not listed as ‘included’
- ▶ Entrance fees for locations/sights you visit on your own
- ▶ Anything not mentioned in “Your Tour Experience Includes” above
- ▶ Passport fees – New Passports = \$110 + \$25 (Execution Fee); Renewals = \$110
- ▶ Checked baggage fees (if applicable), portage of luggage, Instrumental rental, excess baggage or air cargo fees, optional excursions, independent meals, and any other items not mentioned as included.
- ▶ Trip Protection/Cancellation Insurance
 - Can be provided through **Sechrist Travel** and **TripAssure** for an additional cost
 - Visit: www.tripassure.com/?welcome=SECH1451WA
 - You may also purchase through your own Home Owners Insurance provider, or a company like AAA or TravelEx
- Please note, **until the number of participants is secured**, these prices and activities are estimated. On your actual travel dates, activities might not be available or vendor/festival prices and inclusions may be different than estimated