



**Relax in
Austria,
Germany,
Belgium &
Czech Republic,
2008**

**Independent Walking
& Cycling Holidays**



Twenty Two Unspoilt Regions



Welcome to Russell Hafter Holidays

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General Information

Other Walking and Cycling Holidays in Germany, Austria and Belgium

We also arrange walking holidays in Alsace, the Eifel, the Palatinate, in the Thuringian Forest, in the Berchtesgaden National Park and in Upper Lusatia, and elsewhere in the Belgian Ardennes.

For more information, please phone **01946 861652** or visit **www.russell-hafter-holidays.co.uk**

Germany, Austria, Belgium and the Czech Republic are:

- Romantic castles and half-timbered towns steeped in history and tradition
- Forests and vineyards, beer and fresh food
- Friendly local inns where the owner takes a real pride in their service, food and drink

Russell Hafter Holidays are:

- Holidays, not endurance tests
- Time to enjoy a glass of wine, a beer from the local brewery, or coffee and cake
- Freedom to discover somewhere new
- For those who just want to walk or cycle for a few afternoons a week or all day

Russell Hafter Holidays offer:

- Experience unrivalled by that of any other operator
- Value for money
- Total flexibility with your travel - you decide when and how you travel
- Genuinely personal service
- Complete financial security (see back cover)



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Walking



Germany, Austria, Belgium and the Czech Republic are wonderful countries for the walker. Rambling is a popular activity everywhere and you will often be greeted by local people.

Cycling



Cycling trips are wonderful experiences for couples and families. Germany and Austria have some of the finest cycling routes in the world, away from traffic, yet with excellent surfaces and well waymarked.

Forests



European forests teem with life and colour, and birds, animals and butterflies are to be seen everywhere. Walking in the forest on a sunny day is a wonderful experience. The trees provide shade from the heat, but the dappled light breaking through the leaf canopy combines with the heady aroma of pine oil, wild raspberries and other fruits brought out by the warmth of the sun to create a marvellous feeling of wellbeing.

Your luggage

On holidays, where you travel from hotel to hotel, your luggage is always taken care of. All you need is a small pack for map and notes, camera and a snack. On most holidays it is included in the price; on a few it is priced separately.

When should you go?

In spring the country is quiet and many of the trees are in blossom. In summer the weather is at its most reliable; several degrees warmer than Britain. Long periods of sunny weather are usual, though you can expect dramatic thunderstorms. Autumn is the most popular time as there is little risk of really high temperatures. Later the leaves on the vines and on the hills turn yellow and red. Days are sunny, though nights can be crisp. In winter you can walk through snowy landscapes on well cleared paths.

Food and Drink



The cooking you will find on our holidays is perhaps the best in Europe. It may not be haute cuisine, but it is tasty and wholesome. Apart from in the Czech Republic, breakfasts are substantial and include cheese and cold meats.

Vegetarians Where half board is offered, we can usually arrange vegetarian food if requested in advance. The Hotel Kirschbaum in Morbach (page 4) has an excellent vegetarian menu. Otherwise we will advise hotels, but can take no responsibility for the menu available at the time.

First class wines are produced in many parts of Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic. Bavaria and Franconia have some 800 breweries. Belgian and Czech beers are a special experience!

Accommodation



Where ★ classifications do not exist, we categorize accommodations as follows:

Pensions Small, family-run. Food only served to residents. Only a few rooms. Normally no bar.

Inns Main business providing food and drink to visitors and local people. More bedrooms than pensions.

Hotels Larger than inns. Bedrooms larger. Often a restaurant and a bar.

Superior hotels Large establishments with a wide range of facilities such as swimming pool or sauna. Larger bedrooms. Often more than one bar.

- **Please do not expect to find Tea and Coffee making facilities in hotels.**

Travel & The Environment

Walkers and cyclists are naturally concerned for their environment and are increasingly worried about the impact of air travel on global warming. With the time taken up by airport security, the time saving compared with rail travel is often small. All of Belgium and most of Germany are easily reached within a day by train. Of course, you have total flexibility as to how you travel to your holiday, but for a relaxing journey from the very start, you need surface travel. From an Inter City train or a modern ferry you enjoy the scenery and slowly immerse yourself in another culture. We offer a full range of surface travel options, allowing you to choose what suits you. We do not arrange flights, but we are happy to advise. Please contact us if you want to buy a holiday without travel.

Rail Only (Eurostar) The easiest way to travel is by Eurostar through the Channel Tunnel. You can always travel via Brussels and Cologne, but for the Black Forest and much of southern Germany travel via Paris is just as easy. You can even travel out via Brussels and back via Paris.



If you need to travel to London, it makes sense to take an afternoon train to Brussels, Paris or Cologne and spend the night there: much more interesting and cheaper than a night in a London hotel. The only extra cost is the price of your hotel.

Rail & Sea Sail overnight from Newcastle, Hull or Harwich with onward rail travel. Please ask us for prices.

By Car We have inclusive prices for self-drive customers through the Channel Tunnel and on the Harwich - Hoek van Holland ferry. Please ask for prices on other ferry routes.

Air & Rail Price panels always include a "From Airport" price. This includes rail travel from the named airport(s) to your holiday. We can always arrange rail travel from other airports which may suit you better. **Please ask.**



NEARBY GERMANY



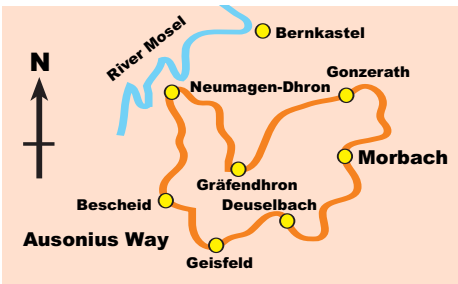
Under the heading of Nearby Germany we include a group of walking areas that are easily reached within a day, travelling by train or car from most of the UK. These include the Eifel, the Hunsrück, the Rhine and the Mosel Valleys.

Hahn Airport, served by Ryanair from Stansted and Prestwick, is very conveniently situated for the Hunsrück and the Mosel.



THE HUNSRÜCK

The Hunsrück was once a major source of precious stones and still shows many traces of settlement by the Romans. The country is similar to the Black Forest, but is much quieter. Life is still very much centred in the unspoiled villages, as depicted in Heimat, shown some years ago on BBC2. The director grew up in Morbach.



Morbach



Morbach lies on the Ausonius Way in the centre of the superb hill country of the Western Hunsrück. There is a network of over 200 miles of footpaths through an ever-changing landscape of extensive forests and sleepy glens, where you will find romantic castle ruins and picturesque watermills. The Mosel Valley and the romantic wine town of Bernkastel are within easy reach.

Accommodation is at the 3★ Hotel Kirschbaum, which combines modern comfort and traditional values of courtesy and service. A special option is the **excellent vegetarian cuisine**.

This is a 6 night holiday. Contact us if you would like a longer or a shorter stay. The following are some suggested walks for this holiday

Walk 1. Bus to Gonzerath, then follow the Ausonius Way past Baldenau Castle back to Morbach (about 11 miles).

Walk 2. Walk up to the summit of the Erbeskopf, the highest peak west of the Rhine. Return through the fine forests lying to the south of Morbach (about 12 miles).

Walk 3. A circular walk past a rock outcrop to one of the characteristic Hunsrück watermills, then to Walholz Church and Hunolstein Castle. Back to Morbach along a river valley and through open country (about 10 miles).

Walk 4. Take the bus to Bernkastel, on the Mosel. Then either walk across the Mosel Heights to Traben-Trarbach, or take a river trip, or simply walk through the narrow streets and alleys of this enchanting town.

Tour Details: 6 nights bed and breakfast in a hotel, in rooms with shower/WC. Dinner if ordered. Transfers. Cycle hire extra.

Dates: Available throughout the year

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Luxembourg	£474
MOR	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£362
	From Hahn Airport	£325
	Half Board	£ 65
	Single Supplement	£ 85
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ 37

The Ausonius Way



Ausonius was a Roman poet who lived on the Mosel; his best known work is a song in praise of the river. Neumagen-Dhron was the summer residence of Emperor Constantine. This seven day walk through the western Hunsrück takes you along Roman roads and past remains of Roman settlements, temples and villas. Elsewhere there are romantic glens leading up from the Mosel, virgin woodland, old watermills, ruined castles and fine views. Daily ascent and descent ranges from 750 to 1900 feet.

Day 1. Arrive in Trier or Wittlich. Transfer to Gräfendhron or start at Morbach.

Day 2. Two 2100' summits lie between the start and the village of Gonzerath on the Hunsrück heights (11 miles).

Day 3. Walk past watermills and Baldenau Castle to Morbach (11 miles).

Day 4. After the summit of the Erbeskopf (2700') with its fine views in all directions, walk downhill to Deuselbach (12 miles).

Day 5. Walk through the romantic Singing Valley to Geisfeld (16 miles).

Day 6. Follow a valley up to virgin forest with fine views over the Mosel. Walk down to Bescheid (12 miles).

Day 7. Through a forested valley to the Five Lakes View, then along the Mosel Heights Way to Neumagen-Dhron (11 miles).

Day 8. A walk through valleys and over hills. Walk up to the Wacken, then down the Golden Valley to Gräfendhron (14 miles).

Tour Details: 8 nights Bed and Breakfast in hotels, pensions or inns, in rooms with shower/WC. Baggage transfer. Extra nights may be taken at any point.

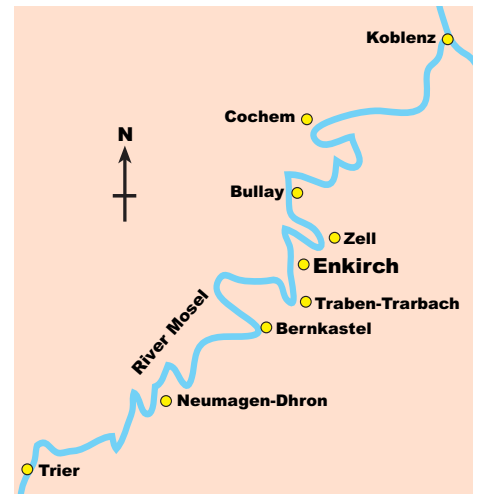
Dates: Available throughout the year

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Luxembourg	£449
AUS	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£337
	From Hahn Airport	£299
	Single Supplement	£ 90
	Extra Night (Double Room)	£ 29



THE MOSEL VALLEY

The Mosel valley, flowing between the Eifel and Hunsrück massifs, forms a striking contrast to that of the Rhine. The deep open curves covered with striking wine slopes rise to superb wooded and rocky landscapes. Vines have grown on the Mosel since Roman times. Paths take you through and above the vineyards with fabulous views across the valley.



Enkirch



Enkirch, widely known for its fine half-timbered houses, is on the right bank of the Mosel roughly half way between Bernkastel and Cochem.

The 3★ Hotel Dampfmühle lies about half a mile from the river in a side valley. Surrounded by vineyards and forest, it is a family run hotel with a heated outdoor pool and a fine terrace.

This is a 6 night holiday. Contact us if you would like a longer or a shorter stay. The following are some suggested walks:

Walk 1. Follow the Mosel Heights Trail south to Traben-Trarbach. Cross the river and return to Enkirch via the Mount Royal vineyards and the foot ferry (about 7 miles).

Walk 2. Follow the Mosel Heights Trail north to Zell. Cross the river and walk through vineyards to the ferry and back to Enkirch (about 12 miles).

Walk 3. Follow the river to Burg, then return through the vineyards with views from above the river (about 7 miles).

Tour Details: 6 nights bed and breakfast in a hotel, in rooms with shower/WC. Dinner if ordered. Transfers. Cycle hire extra.

Dates: Available from February to New Year.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Luxembourg	£429
MSL	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£287
	From Cologne Airport	£249
	Half Board	£ 70
	Single Supplement	£ 44
	Extra Night (Double Room)	£ 26

Cycling the Mosel Valley

This tour follows the Mosel from the Roman City of Trier to the end of the river in Koblenz on the Rhein.

Day 1. Arrive in the Roman city of Trier.

Day 2. Cycle through pretty villages with names familiar from wine labels. As the valley narrows, you end at Neumagen-Dhron, the oldest wine growing village on the river (about 28 miles).

Day 3. Cycle through some of the best known wine towns in the world, including Piesport and Berncastel. Finish at Enkirch, famous for its half timbered buildings (about 29 miles).

Day 4. This stage is the most dramatic. The river makes sweeping curves at Zell and Bremm, while the heights above the valley are crowned with castles. The day ends in Cochem (about 30 miles).

Day 5. From Cochem take the ship to Treis-Karden, then ride to Moselkern. A side trip from here to Eltz Castle is recommended. Then to medieval Kobern-Gondorf before passing other dramatic castles to end the tour in Koblenz (about 25 miles).

Tour Details: 5 nights bed and breakfast in inns, in rooms with shower/WC. One dinner with a typical Mosel Valley menu (Vegetarian alternative available if notified at time of booking). Cycle hire. Saddle bags and paniers are not provided. Transfers from Hahn airport are not included. Baggage transfer. Additional nights may be taken in Trier. The minimum size for bookings will be 2 persons.



Dates: Starting any Sunday or Monday, April to October.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Luxemburg	£473
RTK	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£396
	From Cologne Airport	£354
	Single Supplement	£ 47
	Rebate for using own cycles	£ 39
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ ask
	Baggage Transfer (2 to 4 people)	£119

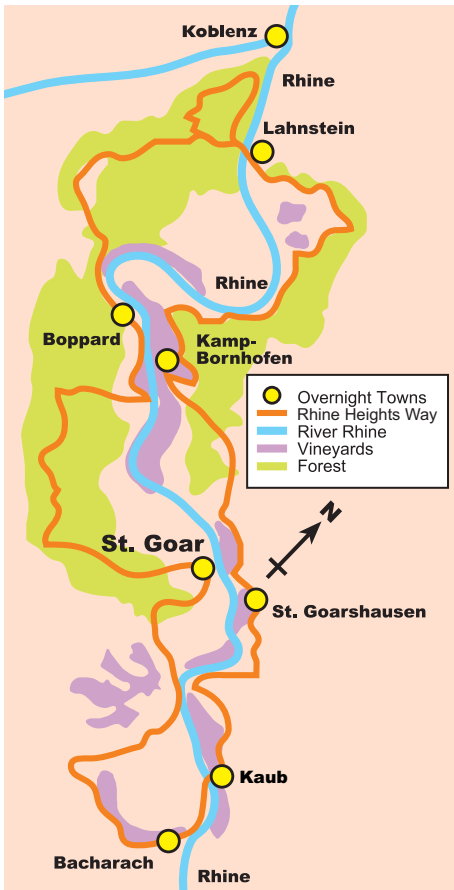
It may be possible to start on other days of the week, please ask.

We thoroughly enjoyed our holiday in the Hunsrück, and all your arrangements worked perfectly. The hotels were excellent and varied.

Ellen Priestly, Preston,
on the Ausonius Way

THE RHINE

The Upper Middle Rhine is a UNESCO World Heritage Region. Once the province of robber barons, their former fortresses are now the romantic ruins that give the river much of its character. The river is the setting for the Nibelungenlied, the national epic that was the inspiration for Richard Wagner's Ring Cycle. In the centre is the rock of the Loreley, the nymph who sought to attract passing ships onto the rocks below. The hills of the western bank form the edge of the Hunsrück.



In the centre of the Upper Middle Rhine lies St. Goar, dominated by the massive ruins of Rheinfels Castle, the largest castle on the Middle Rhine. The Rhine Heights Way passes the castle and a visit is strongly recommended. St. Goar himself is the local vintner's patron.

The Hotel Landsknecht is a family run 3★ hotel, officially accredited as a walker's hotel, and set on the bank of the river a mile to the north of St. Goar. It is the only hotel on this part of the river to have a terrace directly on the river, with fine views of Maus Castle and the vineyards on the opposite bank. St Goar is also an excellent base for a single centre cycling holiday.

The Lorenz family not only run a fine, friendly hotel, but also make fine wines in Boppard.

You can enjoy these wines in the restaurant, or taste and buy in the Vinothek. The hotel also has two self-catering apartments, if you prefer this type of accommodation.

This is a six night holiday. Contact us if you want a longer or a shorter stay. Some suggested walks for this holiday follow.

Walk 1. Follow the final stage of our Rhine Heights Way Holiday, either as far as Oberwesel (about 6 miles), or all the way to Bacharach (about 13 miles). Return by ship or train.

Walk 2. Take the ship to Bad Salzig and follow the Rhine Castles Trail to St. Goar (about 8 miles).

Walk 3. Climb from the hotel up the slope above the river to a couple of superb viewpoints, then return via forest (about 4 miles).

Walk 4. Take the ferry to St. Goarshausen, follow the path up to Katz Castle, then take the Rhine Heights Way to Maus Castle. Return to St. Goarshausen via Nochern (about 7 miles).

Tour Details: 6 nights bed and breakfast in a hotel, in rooms with shower/WC. Dinner if ordered.

Dates: Available throughout the year.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Cologne	£434
OMR	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£314
	From Cologne or Frankfurt Airport	£279
	Half Board	£118
	Single Supplement	£132
	Extra Night (Double Room)	£ 27
	Cycle Hire (1 week)	£ 42
	Self-catering	£ ask

The Rhine Heights Way

This seven night tour is a high level route above the Rhine from Kaub to Lahnstein high above the east bank, then returning to Bacharach along the Rhine Heights Way above the west bank.

The paths are high above the river, so most days start with a fairly steep climb.

Day 1. Arrive in Bacharach (west bank).

Day 2. Cross the river to Kaub, climb to Gutenfels castle. Through vineyards to the Loreley and past Katz Castle to St. Goarshausen (15 miles).

Day 3. Walk past riverside vineyards along the river to Maus (Mouse) Castle, then inland to Kamp-Bornhofen (13 miles).

Day 4. Walk across country to Castle Liebeneck. Cross several side valleys of the Rhine to Marksburg Castle. Along the river to Lahnstein (12 miles).

Day 5. Cross the river, climb to a Roman Temple, then to a superb view over the river before descending to Boppard (14 miles).

Day 6. A climb, offering fine views over the river, then through vineyards and up to the heights. Down a wooded valley to St. Goar and Rheinfels Castle (15 miles)

Day 7. Walk up to the forest above town, over the Spitzenstein, then down to the river at Oberwesel. Follow a stream to Perscheid, then descend to Bacharach (13 miles).

Tour Details: 7 nights bed and breakfast in inns and hotels, in rooms with shower/WC. Baggage transfer. Ferries across the Rhine on Day 2 & Day 5 are not included.

Dates: Available throughout the year.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Cologne	£593
RHW	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£473
	From Cologne or Frankfurt Airport	£439
	Single Supplement	£ 54
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ 38

UPPER BAVARIA AND THE ALLGÄU



Upper Bavaria is one of the most beautiful areas in Europe. From Füssen in the west to Berchtesgaden in the east, there are charming towns and villages full of geranium covered houses protecting onion dome topped churches. To the south the alps dominate the view, while to the north there are gentle rolling hills and some of the most scenic lake country you will find anywhere.

There are magnificent baroque and rococo churches to be seen, for this is a country that welcomes religious orders, with wonderful churches in Diessen, Rottenbuch and Wies all on the King Ludwig Way.

The highest point north of the Alps is the Hoher Peissenberg, also on the King Ludwig Way.

The King Ludwig Way reaches its climax at Neuschwanstein and Hohenschwangau castles on the Austrian border, just outside Füssen.

The countryside includes hills, forests alive with deer, squirrels, butterflies and wild flowers, watermeadows and important wetlands as well as farmland where you will hear the evocative sound of cowbells.



Holiday was above expectation and very good value for money. Organisation in both the UK and in Germany good.

Richard Burgess, Liverpool,
on the King Ludwig Way



Many thanks for a wonderful trip. To be in Dinkelsbühl for the Kinderzeche was a real bonus.

Vivien Auger, Farnborough,
on the Imperial Cities Walk in Franconia

The King Ludwig Way



One of the best known of all German Footpaths, the King Ludwig Way has been featured on the Travel Show on BBC2. The route is mainly easy going, along farm roads and tracks

Starting officially at Berg on Lake Starnberg the route follows the lakeshore, then climbs through forest and past a lake and across meadows to Andechs Abbey, where there is a fine brewery. Then you continue down a thickly wooded gorge to the Ammersee, which you cross by ship to Diessen. From here the way crosses a nature reserve and passes through dense forests to the monastery at Wessobrunn.

The way continues to the foot of the Hoher Peissenberg (3261 ft). You can either climb this for its fine view, or skirt around, as you choose, before continuing to Hohenpeissenberg and Peiting.

From Peiting you walk through dense forest, then the stunning gorge of the Ammerschlucht to Rottenbuch, Wildsteig and across meadows offering fine views of the Alps to the Wies Church. From here you either cross a nature reserve, pass a Celtic settlement, and through meadows with magnificent views of the Alps to Berghof or Buching, or walk to Steingaden (Minster) and then follow River Lech to reach Trauchgau.

The final stage of the walk goes past a lake, then up the huge chasm of the Pöllatschlucht to Neuschwanstein Castle. Finally through woodland along the Austrian border, high above the Schwannsee lake to Füssen. We offer two alternative packages.

Standard package - Tour KLW/6

- Day 1.** Arrive in Diessen.
- Day 2.** Transfer to Berg, walk to Diessen (about 16 miles).
- Day 3.** Diessen to Peiting (about 15 miles).
- Day 4.** Peiting to Wildsteig (about 12 miles).
- Day 5.** Wildsteig to Berghof (about 16 miles).
- Day 6.** Berghof to Füssen (about 15 miles).

Tour Details KLW/6: 6 nights Bed & Breakfast, in inns and hotels in Diessen (2 nights), Peiting, Wildsteig, Berghof & Füssen, in rooms with shower/WC. Transfer Diessen-Starnberg. Baggage transfer.



Relaxing package - Tour KLW/8

- Day 1.** Arrive in Diessen.
- Day 2.** Transfer to Berg, walk to Andechs (about 12 miles).
- Day 3.** Andechs to Wessobrunn (about 11 miles).
- Day 4.** Wessobrunn to Hohenpeissenberg. Train to Peiting (about 10 miles).
- Day 5.** Peiting to Wildsteig (about 12 miles).
- Day 6.** Wildsteig to Wies and Steingaden, (about 11 miles) or rest day.
- Day 7.** Steingaden to Buching (about 11 miles).
- Day 8.** Buching to Füssen (about 15 miles).

Tour Details KLW/8: 8 nights Bed & Breakfast, in inns and hotels in Diessen, Andechs, Wessobrunn, Peiting, Wildsteig (2 nights), Buching & Füssen, in rooms with shower/WC. Transfers Diessen-Berg, Hohenpeissenberg-Peiting, Wildsteig-Steingaden. Baggage transfer.

For both tours, baggage transfer limited to two pieces per person. Self-drive prices include transfer back to your car.

If neither of the above plans fits in with what you want, we can tailor-make your trip as you want, shorter or longer than the above, with or without baggage transfer. Please phone 01946 861652 for more information.

Dates: When two or more people book, at any time from the end of April to early October. Those booking on their own must check with us for available dates.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Cologne	£597
KLW/6	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£441
	From Munich Airport	£394
	Single Supplement	£ 65
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ 38

Tour Code	Supplement (Double Room)	£ 66
KLW/8	Supplement (Single Room)	£ 81

I very much enjoyed this holiday. As always, the organisation was first class. I shall be back for more next year.

James Bassnett, Altrincham,
on the Rhine Heights Way

Other Holidays in Upper Bavaria

We offer a number of other holidays in this area - **The Priest's Way** and **The Lech Heights Trail** walking tours, and **The Ammersee Tour** by bike. We also offer single centre holidays in **Oberstdorf**, **Berchtesgaden** and **Garmisch**.

Please ask for details, or visit www.walking-in-germany.co.uk/upper.htm for walking tours and www.cycling-in-germany.co.uk for cycling tours.



The Royal Bavarian Cycle Tour



This cycle tour covers much of the same ground as the King Ludwig Way, though leaving out any hill climbing!

Day 1. Arrive in medieval Landsberg.

Day 2. Cycle via Kaltenberg Castle and St. Ottilien monastery to Stegen and then to Würthsee (about 27 miles).

Day 3. Today you tour the land of the five lakes; first to Pilsensee, then to Andechs monastery - as well known for its brewery as for its architecture. Then via Pähl to the southern edge of the Ammersee lake, a wildlife reserve. Continue through Diessen to Raisting (between 16 & 35 miles).

Day 4. First to Wessobrunn and its monastery, then through forest to Peissenberg. Finally along the River Ammer to Peiting (about 29 miles).

Day 5. Cycle through the beautiful countryside of the Pfaffenwinkel to Steingaden, where there is an impressive church, then to the world famous Wies Church, probably the finest of all Bavaria's rococo masterpieces. Finally to Füssen at the foot of the alps (about 28 miles).

Day 6. Leave Füssen along the shore of the Forggensee lake. Continue to a viewpoint (fine view of the alps) and to the north of the lake. Then follow a former railway route via Lechbruck to the attractive town of Schongau (about 27 miles).

Day 7. The final day takes you back to Altenstadt which you passed through yesterday. Continue along the former rail route to Welden in time for lunch at a famous trout farm. Finally back to Landsberg (about 27 miles).

Tour Details: 7 nights bed and breakfast in hotels and inns, in rooms with shower/WC. The minimum size for bookings is two persons. Extra nights may be taken at the beginning or the end. Cycle hire. Baggage transfer.

Dates: Available from May to October.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Cologne	£728
KBR	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£558
	From Munich Airport	£524
	Single supplement	£ 83
	Rebate for using own cycles	£ 31



At the Foot of the Alps - Füssen



Füssen has something for everyone. The River Lech cascades down from the heights through this small town at the foot of the Alps. There is a castle, an abbey and a fine museum; the Royal Castles of Neuschwanstein and Hohenschwangau are nearby. Oberammergau and King Ludwig's hunting lodge at Linderhof are only a short bus ride away. This is as well as walking on the King Ludwig Way and the Lech Heights Trail.

The Hotel zum Hechten is a typical Bavarian family inn in the heart of the old town where the Pfeiffer family will make you feel very much at home.

Tour details: 6 nights Bed & Breakfast in a hotel, in rooms with shower/WC. Dinner if ordered. Cycle hire extra.

Dates: Available throughout the year.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Cologne	£515
FUS	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£345
	From Munich Airport	£311
	Half Board Supplement	£ 79
	Single Supplement	£ 62
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ 38



Oberammergau



Oberammergau is the heart of the Ammergau Alps, the most popular area in Germany for alpine and pre-alpine walking.

Known worldwide for its famous passion play, this is still a traditional small Bavarian town with much local character.

Woodcarving has been a folk art in the area for centuries and the highly characteristic wall paintings or Lüftmalerei that adorn many buildings are also part of a nearly 300 years old tradition. Within easy reach of Oberammergau are both the magnificent abbey of Ettal and Linderhof, the only Royal Castle that King Ludwig II actually used.

A holiday here allows you to combine safe walking in the alps, using the cable car and chair lifts, with highly attractive low level walking through areas known for rare plants and wildlife.

The Hotel Turmwirt, run by the Glas family, is a comfortable 3★ hotel in the heart of town, with a typical Bavarian restaurant, serving also a number of good vegetarian dishes.

This is a six night holiday. Contact us if you want a longer or shorter stay. Some suggested walks follow.

Walk 1. Take the cable car to the summit of the Laber, walk round the Ettaler Mannl and then down to the valley (about 5 miles).

Walk 2. Follow the Altherrenweg path above the valley, but below the forest to Unterammergau. Return via the river valley and a nature reserve (about 7 miles).

Walk 3. Take the bus to Linderhof, then walk back, first through forest and then through classic pre-alpine meadows (about 7 miles).

Walk 4. Take the chair lift to the Kolbensattel, then walk up the Pürschling. Return via Unterammergau (about 8 miles).

Tour Details: 6 nights Bed & Breakfast in a hotel, in rooms with shower/WC. Dinner if ordered.



Dates: Available throughout the year.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Cologne	£521
OAG	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£351
	From Munich Airport	£318
	Half Board Supplement	£108
	Single Supplement	£165
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ 41

THE BLACK FOREST



Within the UK, the Black Forest is the best known of all the walking areas in Germany. Over the centuries, the forest has been partly cleared, providing a dramatic contrast between woodland and open country. The hills are cut by deep valleys and there are long ranging views from summits. Everywhere there is superb walking.

The freshness of the woods and streams, the Black Forest houses snuggling under their massive roofs, the quiet valleys, the traditional crafts of glass making, wood carving and clock building all contribute to the popularity of the area. Combine a gastronomic tradition that draws on nearby France and Switzerland and you can see just why the Black Forest is for many the ideal holiday area.



Schluchsee



The southern Black Forest includes the highest summits and most of the lakes. The towns may be busy during the day, but are peaceful in the evening. The small spa town of Schluchsee is your base for a southern Black Forest Holiday. Set on the shores of the largest lake in the Black Forest, some 3100' above sea level, the town is sheltered by the high ridges of the Feldberg massif to the north, but is open to the warmth of

the south. This ideal situation creates a most agreeable climate and a well deserved reputation for sunshine. There are miles of footpaths, ranging from gentle walks around the lake and in the gentle hills to the east, to more demanding routes climbing the heights of the Feldberg to the north and west. Even in winter over 35 miles of paths are kept clear so that you can enjoy walking in the clear winter air.

Schluchsee was the winner of the 'Best Walkers Town in Germany Award' in 2005.

The Hotel Schiff is in the pedestrianised centre of town, just a couple of hundred yards from the lake. Dating back to 1562, it is one of the oldest buildings in town. Fully modernised, most bedrooms have a view of either the lake or the town square. The hotel has a swimming pool, sauna and beauty salon. The dining rooms and bars are decorated in typical Black Forest style. Lift to all floors.

This is a 6 night single centre holiday. If you want a shorter or longer stay, we will arrange it.

The following are some suggested walks. On other days spend a day in Freiburg, or take a day trip on the lake.

Walk 1. Enjoy a relaxing walk round all or part of the lake (11 miles).

Walk 2. Along the lake shore. Climb to open rocks (fine view), past an inn to a chapel. Descend through forest to a striking forest tarn, and back to the lake (9 miles).

Walk 3. After a short train journey, climb to the foot of the Feldberg, then walk some of the nature trails on the highest mountain in the Black Forest (9 miles).

Walk 4. Bus to Lenzkirch. A steep climb through forest to a chapel, then through open country down to the lake (7 miles).

Tour Details: 6 nights bed and breakfast in a hotel, in rooms with shower/WC. Dinner if ordered. Free use of hotel swimming pool and sauna. Cycle hire extra.

Dates: Available throughout the year.

Tour Code	Rail via Paris / Strasbourg	£443
SEE	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£302
	From Frankfurt Airport	£297
	Half Board Supplement	£ 97
	Single Supplement	£ 44
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ 32
	Bicycle hire	£ ask

Superb walking, wonderful scenery, excellent footpaths and easy to follow. Cosy hotel, excellent food and drink throughout our stay.

Bernard Smalley, Sale,
in Schluchsee

A walk around the Feldberg



This walk includes the Feldberg, the highest peak in the Black Forest, and the Belchen, the summit offering the finest views, as well as romantic valleys before ending on the shores of the Titisee, the finest natural lake in the Black Forest.



Day 1. Arrive in Titisee.

Day 2. Follow the Westweg north to Heiligenbrunnen. Continue through the forest, then across a high plateau to Höhwart. Descend to Hinterzarten (13 miles, about 1900 feet ascent).

Day 3. Climb gently through forest to the Feldsee lake, ending high on the shoulder of the Feldberg (9 miles, about 2500 feet ascent).

Day 4. Climb to the summit of the Feldberg, follow the Westweg to a nature reserve and to Notschrei (8 miles, about 1650 feet ascent).

Day 5. Head west to a valley noted for its capercaillie and through forest. Climb the Belchen before descending to Wieden (11 miles, about 2500 feet ascent).

Day 6. Across meadows and through forests to the Todtnau Waterfall, one of the most dramatic in the country, before continuing to Todtnau (14 miles, about 2100 feet ascent).

Day 7. Walk to a waterfall, then climb up to the Hof-Eck Pass. Follow the Westweg south to the summit of Hochkopf before descending to Todtmoos-Strick (11 miles, about 3100 feet ascent).

Day 8. First to a gorge, then over a pass. Follow the Old Monk's Road down to St. Blasien (cathedral) before continuing to Höchenschwand (14 miles, about 1400 feet ascent).

Day 9. Almost entirely through magnificent forests, passing the Schwarzabruck lake on the way to Rothaus (9 miles, about 2500 feet ascent).

Day 10. Enjoy views of the Schluchsee lake and the Feldberg before dropping down to Lenzkirch. Climb to the top of the Hochfirst before descending to Titisee (13 miles, about 2100 feet ascent).

Tour Details: Two packages are available, of 10 and 5 nights Bed & Breakfast, usually in superior hotels, in rooms with bath/WC. Many hotels have a swimming pool. Baggage transfer limited to 20kg. Extra nights may be taken at any point.

Two different tours are available:

10 nights: Full tour described above...**Tour RUF/10**

5 nights: Hinterzarten to Todtnau.....**Tour RUF/5**

Other durations may be possible - please ask.

Dates: Available May to October only.

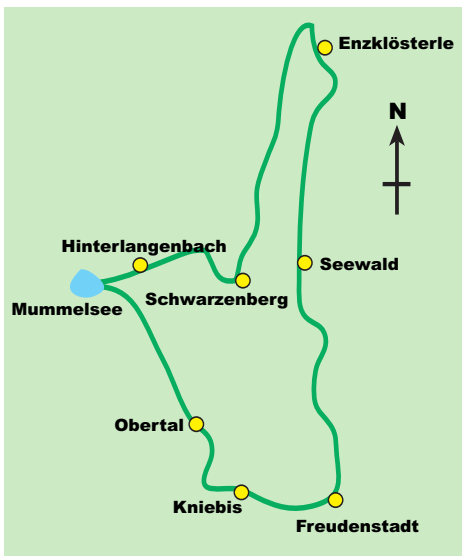
Tour Code	Rail via Paris / Strasbourg	£657
RUF/10	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£516
	From Frankfurt Airport	£511
	Single Supplement (per night)	£ 11
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ ask
RUF/5	Deduct from RUF/10 prices	-£152

The information you provided was very good and very well researched. You were more than patient with my endless questions prior to the trip and thanks again for that! From the moment we landed we followed your information and arrived safely at our first hotel.

I would have no hesitation in recommending you and your company to any would be traveller and we would only deal with your company again the next time I walk in Germany.

Séan Barry, Co. Clare, Ireland,
on the Walk Around the Feldberg

The Red Deer Trail



If you have not visited the Northern Black Forest for sometime, you will find that it repays a repeat visit. The landscape has opened up and the views have become more wide reaching. This walking tour to the north of Freudenstadt, leads you through the nature reserves and woodlands of the Northern Black Forest. The route includes both the largest area of upland moorland in the whole of Germany and the Mummelsee Lake, the highest and largest lake in the area, dating from the ice age.

The hotels on this tour are all 4★, and most have their own swimming pool. All offer high quality Swabian and Baden cuisine. This part of Germany is famed far and wide for three restaurants that hold Michelin stars; one is in the Hotel Sackmann where you stay on day 4.



Other Holidays in the Black Forest

We can offer you a number of other walking tours and single centre holidays throughout the Black Forest, including the Ortenauer Wine Trail, a linear path through the vineyards in the north west corner of the Black Forest.

Please ask for more details or visit: www.walking-in-germany.co.uk/forest.htm

Day 1. Arrive in Freudenstadt.

Day 2. Leave Freudenstadt, heading north through fir forest along a forest nature trail. Continue along the Mittelweg with its magnificent view over the valley of the River Murg to Seewald (about 13 miles).

Day 3. Continue past gentle meadowland with fine views. Then a stretch of ancient forest and down to the Kaltenbach Lake. Follow the valley down to Gompelscheuer and through meadows along the bank of the River Grosse Enz. Continue to Enzklosterle (about 11 miles).

Day 4. Leave via the Mittelweg and walk past the Hohlohsee wetlands nature reserve; take the Westweg over the Toter Mann (3002 feet) and across the Schramberg plateau. Finally to Schwarzenberg (about 11 miles).

Day 5. First through watermeadows to Schön Münzach, then along the valley to Hinterlangenbach (about 8 miles).

Day 6. Past a game reserve to Seibelseckle and along the Westweg to the Mummelsee lake. Return to Seibelseckle, then south over the Steigerskopf and the Saukopf with a fine view over Wildsee lake. On to the Ruhestein, then down into Obertal (about 12 miles).

Day 7. Climb up to the Buhlbachsee lake, then over the top of the Black Forest ridge to Zuflucht. Follow the Westweg to Alexanderschanze and through forest to Kniebis (about 10 miles).

Day 8. The tour finishes with a relaxing walk through mixed forest and over moorland to Freudenstadt (about 9 miles).

Tour Details: Packages of 8 and 4 nights Bed & Breakfast are available, mainly in 4★ hotels, in rooms with shower or bath and WC. All hotels (except at the end of day 5) have swimming pools. Baggage transfer. Extra nights may be taken at any point.



Two different tours are available:

8 nights: Full tour described above... **Tour AFR/8**

4 nights: Freudenstadt to Schwarzenberg, transfer to Freudenstadt. **Tour AFR/4**

Dates: Available from April to October.

Tour Code	Rail via Paris / Strasbourg	£718
AFR/8	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£577
	From Frankfurt Airport	£572
	Single Supplement	£ 44
	Extra night (Double room)	£ ask
AFR/4	Deduct from AFR/8 prices	- £215
	Single Supplement (AFR/4)	£ 44

The Heart of the Southern Black Forest - Hinterzarten



Hinterzarten has a unique situation at the foot of the Feldberg. Here the magic of the Black Forest truly lives on - the whole community is a protected landscape area, while the approach through the dramatic Höllental (*Hell's Valley*) is truly a journey to remember!

Many times awarded the title "Most beautiful town in Baden-Württemberg", the range of walks and other holiday activities is unsurpassed.

The town organises both full and half day walks with a German leader throughout the year. You are welcome to join these if you want.

The Hotel Imbery is a 3★ hotel and popular cafe in the centre of the village. With large, light and spacious rooms, it has been welcoming our guests on the Walk Around the Feldberg for many years.

This is a 6 night single centre holiday. If you want a shorter or longer stay, we will arrange it. The following are some suggested walks.

Walk 1. The dense footpath network on the slopes of the Feldberg allows walkers of all abilities to enjoy walking with panoramic views. Day 1 of the Walk Around the Feldberg on the previous page is just one option.

Walk 2. Follow the Black Forest homeland trail to the Ravenna Gorge, returning through the Löffel Valley (about 11 miles).

Walk 3. Walk or train to Titisee. From there follow the path around the shores of one of the most beautiful lakes in Germany (about 7 miles).

Tour Details: 6 nights bed and breakfast in a hotel, in rooms with bath or shower/WC. Dinner if ordered. Cycle hire extra.

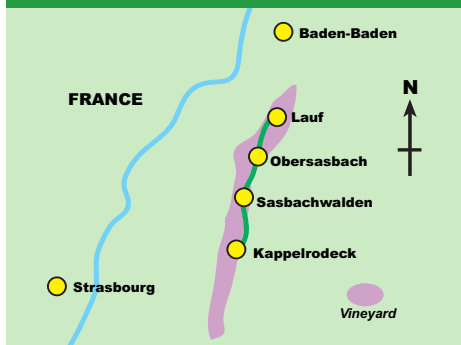
Dates: Available throughout the year.

Tour Code	Rail via Paris / Strasbourg	£488
HIN	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£347
	From Frankfurt Airport	£342
	Half Board Supplement	£ 75
	Single Supplement	£ 22
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ 39

Superb walking, wonderful scenery, excellent footpaths and easy to follow. Cosy hotel, excellent food and drink throughout our stay.

Bernard Smalley, Sale,
in Schluchsee

The Baden Red Wine Tour



This is a holiday in an area renowned for good food and fine wines, romantic watermills and beautiful flowers. Sasbachwalden (day 4) has been awarded a gold medal in the "Most Beautiful Village in Germany" competition.

This walk leads through gentle wine-slopes and romantic woodland on the western edge of the northern Black Forest and offers fine views over the Rhine Valley. On arrival in each wine growing village your host greets you with the local red wine. Here walkers of all abilities will find true relaxation from the stresses of modern life.

Day 1. Arrive in Baden-Baden, transfer to Lauf.

Day 2. A circular walk, including the well named Panorama Way, offering magnificent views over the surrounding area (7 miles).

Day 3. Follow the river valley, then uphill to a superb viewpoint before descending to Obersasbach (8 miles).

Day 4. Past a lake, through woodland and vineyards to Sasbachwalden (9 miles).

Day 5. Either follow the Ortenauer Wine Trail (4 miles), or take a longer route that leads higher up over the valley into Kappelrodeck and Waldulm (6 miles).

Day 6. Follow the Geological Nature Trail, a circular walk past fascinating rock outcrops set in superb forest (5 miles).

Tour Details: 6 nights Bed & Breakfast in inns, in rooms with private shower/WC. 4 glasses of local Red Wine. Baggage transfer. Transfers. Extra nights may be taken at any point.

Dates: Available throughout the year.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Cologne	£502
BRI	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£353
	From Frankfurt Airport	£361
	Single Supplement	£ 71
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ 33

CENTRAL FRANCONIA



The country between the Rivers Main and Danube, Central Franconia is our favourite part of Germany. The Franconian Heights Nature Park is the background to a host of romantic towns such as Rothenburg and Dinkelsbühl. All are architecturally fascinating and are as well suited to relaxing as to sightseeing and exploring.

The area is one of the driest and sunniest in Germany, so the forests offer the perfect walking environment on a hot day.

Imperial Cities of the Romantic Road



This tour parallels the world famous Romantic Road and passes through four former imperial cities of the Holy Roman Empire.

In between are wonderful forests. Either walk straight through for 6 nights, or spend 9 nights over the walk, spending two nights each in Rothenburg, Dinkelsbühl and Nördlingen.

Day 1. Arrive in the romantic medieval city of Rothenburg ob der Tauber.

Day 2. After exploring Rothenburg, walk up the Tauber valley, through forest and past Mary Magdalen's Spring to Schillingsfürst (10 miles).

Day 3. Walk to the former monastery at Sulz. Through forest, up to the ridge and on to a mill, then to Feuchtwangen (12 miles).



Other holidays in Franconia

We also arrange both walking and cycling holidays along the Altmühl valley, and walking in the Steigenwald.

For more information, please phone 01946 861652 or visit www.cycling-in-germany.co.uk/altmuhl.htm or www.walking-in-germany.co.uk/francon.htm

Day 4. An easy walk through lonely forests with many animals brings you to the beautiful town of Dinkelsbühl (10 miles).

Day 5. Fine wooded walk passing the "Devil's Rampart", actually the Roman Limes, ending at Raustetten (14 miles).

Day 6. The final stretch crosses the Ries plateau, a meteorite crater 15 million years old. First, though, to Maihingen (baroque monastery church) and Wallerstein with its famous plague monument. Finally to Nördlingen (12 miles).

Tour Details: 6 or 9 nights Bed & Breakfast in inns and hotels, in rooms with shower/WC. Minimum size for bookings: 2. 20kg baggage transfer. Extra nights may be taken at any point.

Dates: Available April to October.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Cologne	£615
MDW/6	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£461
	From Frankfurt Airport	£456
MDW/9	Supplement 3 extra nights	£134
	Single Supplement	£ 92
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ 38



The romantic heart of Central Franconia



A single centre holiday based in Schillingsfürst, whose central location makes it the ideal spot. The Hotel Post has been welcoming our guests for many years now and is very comfortable as well as offering excellent cooking. The terrace has wonderful views over the upper valley of the River Tauber, and there is a schnaps distillery too.

This is a six night holiday. Contact us if you would prefer a shorter or longer stay. Some suggested walks follow:

Walk 1. Bus to Rothenburg. Explore this superb town, then walk the route described above.

Walk 2. Walk to Feuchtwangen as described above. Enjoy coffee and cake in the old cloisters. Return by bus (12 miles).

Walk 3. Walk through remote villages and woodland where deer, polecats and wild boar may be seen, and buzzards and red kites are to be seen overhead (up to 14 miles).

Walk 4. Walk past springs and brooks through the rolling hills above the Tauber valley, giving you fine views over the countryside (9 miles).

Tour Details: 6 nights Bed & Breakfast in a hotel, in rooms with shower/WC. Dinner if ordered. Transfers. Cycle hire extra.

Dates: Available throughout the year.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Cologne	£460
SLF	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£299
	From Stuttgart Airport	£279
	Half Board Supplement	£ 83
	Single Supplement	£ 73
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ 32



THE RIVER DANUBE

The Danube is the longest river in Europe. It rises on the edge of the Black Forest and passes through very varied countryside across southern Germany before the Austrian border at Passau. The route passes through dramatic limestone gorges, nature reserves and water meadows, and you will see abbeys, palaces and dramatic cathedrals.



Cycling the German Danube



Day 1. Arrive in Donaueschingen.

Day 2. Cycle through the Swabian Limestone hills to the beginning of the Danube Gorge. End at Mühlheim (about 29 miles) or Fridingen (32 miles).

Day 3. Through nature reserves and the Danube Gorge past Beuron Monastery to Sigmaringen – fine palace (about 28 miles from Mühlheim).

Day 4. A day cycling past the open hills of the Swabian Alb to Obermarchtal (about 30 miles).

Day 5. First to Zwiefalten Castle and Abbey, then to half-timbered Munderkingen. End at Ehingen (about 14 miles).

Day 6. Either cycle via the Blaubeuron Springs and Abbey, or follow the Danube direct to the cathedral city of Ulm, (highest spire in the world) with an attractive old town centre (about 26 miles via Blaubeuron or 23 miles direct).

Day 7. Through water meadows and past Günzburg, an attractive small Bavarian town. Then via lakes to Dillingen and its striking rococo palace (about 36 miles).

Day 8. Through farmland to Donauwörth. Take the train to avoid the hills between here and the



stunning small town of Neuburg an der Donau. Continue to Ingolstadt (about 38 miles).

Day 9. Via medieval Vohburg and through hopfields to Weltenburg. Take a short journey by river boat through the gorge to Kelheim and then the train to end in Regensburg (about 31 miles).

Tour DON Details: 9 nights bed and breakfast in 3★ and 4★ hotels, in rooms with shower/WC. Dinner on 8 nights if ordered. Rail and ship tickets en route. Cycle hire. Baggage transfer. Extra nights may be taken in Donaueschingen, Ulm and Regensburg.

If using your own bikes, please discuss your travel with us before booking.



Dates: Available 9 May to 18 October, start any Fri, Sat or Sun.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Cologne	£754
DON	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£601
	From Frankfurt or Munich Airports	£589
	Half Board Supplement	£116
	Single Supplement	£116
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ ask
	Rebate for using own cycles	£ ask



Cycling the Austrian Danube

Cycle from the German border city of Passau, where the Danube meets the Rivers Inn and Ilz, via Linz and the monastery at Melk to Vienna.

Most of the route is traffic free. The towpath is mostly tarred; some stretches have a sand surface.

Day 1. Arrive in Passau. *If you have arrived by air in Vienna, transfer to the start of the tour at Passau.*

Day 2. Cycle from Passau, along what is at first a broad valley to Oberzell and Engelhardtzell. The valley narrows, and the day ends by the dramatic Danube Bend at Schlägern (about 25 miles).



Day 3. Cycle through empty countryside to the Aschach Dam. Continue via Wilhering and the church of 1000 angels into the fine city of Linz, the capital of Upper Austria (about 37 miles).

Day 4. Cycle first to Enns, the oldest town in Austria. Cross the river by ferry to Mauthausen. Continue to Wallsee and then via Perg to Grein, which is approached through a beautiful narrow valley with rocky wooded slopes. There is a fine castle here high above the river (about 40 miles).

Day 5. Leave Grein and cycle past the island of Wörth, and the "Black Wall", and on to the Niebelungengau to the Habsburg castle at Persenbeug. Finally via Pöchlarn and the monastery at Melk. Take the ship to Spitz (about 35 miles).

Day 6. Cycle into the Wachau, a renowned fruit growing area. Cross to the south bank and ride through vineyards to Rossatz, where you cross back to the north bank to Dürnstein, where King Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned. Finally to Traismauer (about 25 miles).

Day 7. The final stage takes you through woodland to the Roman town of Tulln, which now boasts a fine church. Continue to Greifenstein on the edge of the Vienna Woods (about 36 miles).

Much of the way into Vienna, though attractive, is trafficked, so we include rail tickets from here into Vienna.

If you are returning to Passau on a Wednesday or Saturday, you can travel back by river steamer. Please ask for more information.

Tour Details: 7 nights bed and breakfast, in 3★ and 4★ hotels, in rooms with shower/WC. Dinner if ordered. Cycle and saddlebag hire if required. Transfer from Vienna to Passau as required. Rail and ship tickets en route. Baggage transfer. Additional nights may be taken in Passau, Schlägern, Linz and Vienna.

Dates: Available 26 April to 18 October, start any day

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Cologne	£624
DPW	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£454
	From Vienna Airport	£399
	From Munich Airport	£443
	Half Board Supplement	£ 73
	Single Supplement	£ 89
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ ask
	Rebate for using own cycles	£ ask

Other Holidays in the Danube Valley

We also arrange cycling holidays from Vienna to Budapest.

For more information, phone 01946 861652 or visit

www.cycling-in-germany.co.uk/donau.htm





Cycling around Lake Constance



Lake Constance is one of the great inland seas of western Europe. The lake is big enough that often you cannot see from one shore to the other and it enjoys an almost mediterranean climate. Tropical vegetation flourishes on the island of Mainau, and elsewhere there are vineyards and orchards.

A special attraction of a holiday on Lake Constance is the opportunity to visit Austria and Switzerland as well as Germany. The area bordering the lake has an excellent reputation for its cuisine, so a cycle tour here is the perfect excuse to enjoy some tasty meals, while never having to worry about the calories!

This is a gentle, relaxing tour. Most of the route is traffic free, usually on paths along the bank and sometimes alongside a nature reserve. The path has been mostly tarred over, though about 15% has a packed sand surface. Tours can start and end at either Friedrichshafen or Bregenz.



Day 1. Arrive in Friedrichshafen.

Day 2. Follow the shore of the lake, through Wasserburg to Lindau, a beautiful old town on an island. Spend a few hours here before crossing the Austrian border to Bregenz (about 25 miles).

Day 3. Cycle through the nature reserves where the Rhine runs into the lake from the alps. Then along the Swiss bank through St. Margarethen to Rorschach (about 21 miles).

Day 4. Cycle along the rest of the Swiss bank of the lake, through a number of small towns and villages to Konstanz (about 26 miles).

Day 5. First visit the island of Mainau, world-famous for its gardens. Then by ferry to Meersburg with its castle and vineyards. Cycle west to Überlingen (about 22 miles).



Day 6. Cycle from Überlingen away from the lake to Salem and the palace of the Princes of Baden. Return to the lake at Meersburg and continue to Friedrichshafen (about 21 miles).

Tour Details: 6 nights bed and breakfast, in inns and hotels, in rooms with shower/WC. Baggage transfer. Dinner if ordered. Cycle and pannier hire. Ferry from Staad to Meersburg, entry to the gardens on Mainau and to Salem Palace.

Additional nights may be taken at any point. Transfers from the airport or from the station are by taxi, and are not included.

Dates: Start any day from 19 April to 25 October.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Cologne	£778
BDS	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£608
	From Friedrichshafen Airport	£533
	From Munich Airport	£603
	Half Board Supplement	£ 85
	Single Supplement	£137
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ ask
	Rebate for using own cycles	£ 34



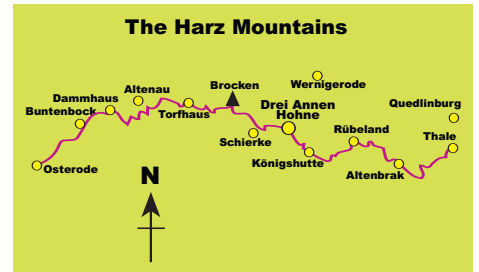
Best organised holiday we have had in years. Thank you.

William McCurdy, Ballymena, on the Upper Lusatian Hill Trail and in the Harz Mountains



THE HARZ MOUNTAINS

The Harz is one of Germany's most popular walking and holiday areas. The central and eastern Harz, in the former East Germany, contains most of the finest country, including the High Harz National Park, the area has associations with Goethe and witchcraft. The highest mountain, the Brocken, has a deep spiritual importance for the German people. The Harz is also known for its superb half-timbered towns such as Quedlinburg and Wernigerode, as well as one of Europe's finest narrow gauge steam railway networks which offers excellent access to the whole area.



We would like to thank you for a superbly organised holiday. No detail was missed and everything went very smoothly.

Margaret Lambton, Newcastle, on the Harz Witches Trail

The Harz Witches Trail



One of the "Top Trails of Germany", this route uses old trade routes, crosses the wetlands of the Upper Harz and crosses the Harz National Park via the Brocken. Then you enter what was once Germany's main silver, lead and iron producing area before finishing in limestone country and the romantic narrow gorge of the Bode Valley.

The route starts on the south western edge of the Harz with two days involving much uphill walking. After that the route is mainly downhill, with just a few small uphill stages.

From Osterode walk across a protected area of high level wetlands via Dammhaus and past Altenau to the Harz National Park. Climb to Torfhaus from where you see the Brocken rising dramatically in front to you, and continue to the summit of the Brocken.



Follow the Glassmaker's Way down past dramatic cliffs to Drei Annen Hohne. Leave the National Park and walk past a waterfall to Königshütte and the ruins of the Königsburg.

Continue via the River Bode and the remains of the imperila hunting lodge. Continue to Rübeland (fine limestone showcave), and past the dramatic Rappbode lake to Altenbrak. Continuing through a nature reserve, the trail ends along the Bode Valley, one of the most dramatic in Northern Europe, at Thale. We offer two alternative packages.



THE BAVARIAN & BOHEMIAN FOREST

The Bavarian Forest is the area northeast of the Danube Valley up to the Czech border. This is very different country from Upper Bavaria, which is the popular image of Bavaria.

Although it was always in West Germany, its position up against the Iron Curtain until 1989 meant that it became isolated during the second part of the twentieth century. It is still one of the least well-off parts of Germany, but as a result of its isolation it has retained its culture in a way that, say, the Black Forest has not.

The forest is one of the last true wildernesses in western Europe. The forest knows no political boundaries and spreads across the Czech border.

Standard Package - Tour HHS/6

- Day 1.** Arrive in Osterode.
- Day 2.** Osterode to Dammhaus (about 13 miles, 1250 feet of ascent).
- Day 3.** Dammhaus to the Brocken (about 13 miles, 1650 feet of ascent)
- Day 4.** Brocken to Königshütte (about 10 miles, no significant ascent).
- Day 5.** Königshütte to Altenbrak (about 13 miles, 400 feet of ascent).
- Day 6.** Altenbrak to Thale (about 10 miles, no significant ascent).

Relaxing Package - Tour HHS/8

- Day 1.** Arrive in Osterode.
- Day 2.** Osterode to Buntenbock (about 8 miles, 1250 feet of ascent).
- Day 3.** Buntenbock to Altenau (about 9 miles, 150 feet ascent).
- Day 4.** Altenau to the Brocken (about 9 miles, 1650 feet of ascent)
- Day 5.** Brocken to Königshütte (about 10 miles, no significant ascent).
- Day 6.** Königshütte to Rübeland (about 10 miles, no significant ascent).
- Day 7.** Rübeland to Altenbrak (about 8 miles, 250 feet of ascent).
- Day 8.** Altenbrak to Thale (about 10 miles, no significant ascent).

Tour Details: 6 or 8 nights Bed & Breakfast in hotels, inns and pensions, in rooms with shower/WC. Extra nights may be taken at the beginning or the end. Baggage transfer.

Dates: Available from May to October.

Please consult us if you want to start on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.



Dates: Available from May to October.

Tour Code HHS/6	Rail via Brussels / Cologne	£565
	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£425
	From Hannover Airport	£386
	Single Supplement	£ 66
	Extra Night (Double Room)	£ 38
HHS/8	Supplement (Double Room)	£ 98
	Supplement (Single Room)	£116

Drei Annen Hohne



Your base for this holiday is the spacious and comfortable Hotel Drei Annen, run by the Hübscher family. Set in secluded forest on the edge of the National Park and on the lower slopes of the Brocken, this hotel continues to draw praise from our customers for friendly and thoughtful service and good meals carefully prepared from fresh ingredients. Lift to all floors.

This is a six night holiday. Contact us if you want a longer or a shorter stay, or to stay elsewhere in the Harz. Some suggested walks follow.

Walk 1. Through the woods to the Zillerbach lake. Across a plateau to the view point at Armeleute Berg, then down to Wernigerode. Return by bus or train (7 miles).

Walk 2. Climb Hohne Klippen, over 3000ft, down to the rock outcrop at Ottofels and continue down the gorge to Steinerne Renne. Return by bus or train (8 miles.)

Walk 3. Through dramatic forest to Lake Mandelholz. Continue through forest to the villages of Tanne and Sorge. Return by train (10 miles.)

Walk 4. Train to the summit of the Brocken (3748ft). Walk down through the national park along Goethe's Trail (8 miles.)

Tour Details: 6 nights Bed & Breakfast in a hotel, in rooms with shower/WC. Dinner if required. Transfers.

Local taxes are not included.

Dates: Available throughout the year.

Tour Code HRZ	Rail via Brussels / Cologne	£485
	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£319
	From Hannover Airport	£297
	Half Board Supplement	£ 37
	Single Supplement	£ 92
	Extra Night (Double Room)	£ 33

Other Holidays in the Harz

We also offer other Walking Tours in the Harz:

A walk around the Brocken & The Walk across the Harz and a single centre holiday in Thale.

For more information, phone 01946 861652 or visit www.walking-in-germany.co.uk/harz.htm

The Baier Way or Bohemian Way



Once a trade route from the Danube over the hills to Bohemia, this is today a fascinating walking tour of six nights in Germany and two in the Czech Republic. Starting at Straubing, you walk over the summits of St. Engelmar and Hoher Bogen to the Czech town of Domažlice before finishing back in Germany at Furth im Wald.

The countryside includes the lush Danube valley, forests, rolling hills criss-crossed with narrow streams, and lakes. Along the way are monasteries and ruined castles. A unique walking tour.

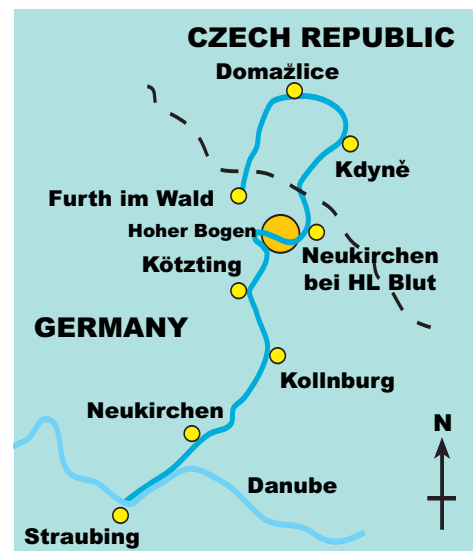


Crossing the former Iron Curtain

Day 1. Arrive in Straubing, on the Danube.

Day 2. An easy start, following the Danube downstream to Bogen before reaching the foothills of the Bavarian Forest. Continue through gentle hills and the Perlbach valley to Neukirchen (about 15 miles, average time 6 hours.)

Day 3. Soon you start to climb into the hills; some 1300ft to Meinsdorf, with a fine view over the Danube plain. Continue over St. Engelmar (2972ft) and finish at Kollnburg (about 11 miles, average time 5 hours.)





Day 4. Walk through changing hill country down to Viechtach and to the Höllenstein Lake. Continue to Buchberg and a pilgrimage church, then over the Ludwigsberg to Kötzting (about 13 miles, average time 5 hours.)

Day 5. This is the most demanding part of the walk, over densely wooded summits. The route leads via the castle ruins at Lichteneck, then over the Hoher Bogen, the highest point of the walk, before descending to Neukirchen bei Heiligen Blut (about 17 miles, average time 8 hours.)

Day 6. A day through what is still somewhat deserted border country. Cross the former Iron Curtain at Přední. Then via Orlovice to Kdyně (about 15 miles, average time 6 hours.)

Day 7. Start through the pretty village of Branišov to the top of Koráb (1050ft.). Then through wooded hills with a number fine views and passing castle ruins. Downhill into Domažlice (about 14 miles, average time 6 hours.)

Day 8. This is a more gentle walk. First to the pilgrimage church on the top of Veselá Hora (happy mountain) with fine views, then through meadows and woodland and past lakes. An ancient track leads back across the border and continues the last couple of miles to Furth im Wald (about 12 miles, average time 5 hours.)

Tour Details: 8 nights Bed & Breakfast in pensions, inns and hotels, in rooms with shower/WC. Baggage transfer if required. Extra nights may be taken at any point.

Dates: Available from May to October.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels / Cologne	£539
BBW	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£364
	From Munich Airport	£338
	Single Supplement	£ 45
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ 31
	Baggage transfer (1 to 4 people)	£134



Cycling from Prague to Dresden

This tour connects two of Europe's most culturally important cities. Prague has become well known since the Velvet Revolution and we strongly recommend that you book an extra day or two in Prague to explore the city fully.

To the north is Dresden, a city of art and culture like no other in Germany. We again recommend that you book days here before returning home. Visit the amazing art galleries or the opera - we can book tickets for you.



The countryside includes vineyards, castles and palaces, strange rock formations and gentle water meadows with fascinating wildlife. En route is the 2nd World War transit camp Terezín, a ghetto for prisoners en route to extermination camps. The lesser fortress is a memorial to their memory. This is a unique tour of great interest.

Day 1. Arrive in Prague.

Day 2. Leave Prague along the Vlatva, passing the castle at Troja. Enter wine country before ending at Mělník with its superb views over the confluence of the Vlatva with the Labe (about 30 miles).

Day 3. Leave Mělník for Liběchov, with its bizarre palace. Then to Terezín and finally to Litoměřice, which with its superb houses is the cultural centre of the region (about 28 miles).

Day 4. Passing the ruins of Střekov Castle above the river, you come to Ústí nad Labem. Continue to Děčín, the gateway to Bohemian Switzerland with its strange rock formations (about 30 miles).

Day 5. Follow the river through woodland and more rock outcrops to the German border. End at Bad Schandau or Krippen (about 13 miles).

Day 6. First cycle through the Elbe Sandstone Massif of Saxon Switzerland, climaxing with your journey below the Bastei cliffs, then through water meadows to Dresden (about 27 miles).

Tour details: 6 nights bed and breakfast in 3★ / 4★ hotels and pensions, mainly town centre, in rooms with shower/WC. Cycle hire. Baggage Transfer. The minimum size for bookings is two persons. Extra nights can be taken at any point. If you fly to Prague, rail transfer back to Prague.

A cheaper grade of accommodation is available.



Dates: Available 1 April to 31 October.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels/Cologne	£758
LAB	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£564
	From Prague	£534
	Single Supplement	£139
	Extra nights	£ ask
	Rebate for using own cycles	-£ 33
	Rebate for cheaper accommodation	-£ 41

Other Holidays in the Elbe Valley

We can also arrange Cycling Tours along the rest of the Elbe Valley, from the Czech Border to the North Sea.

For more information, phone 01946 861652 or visit

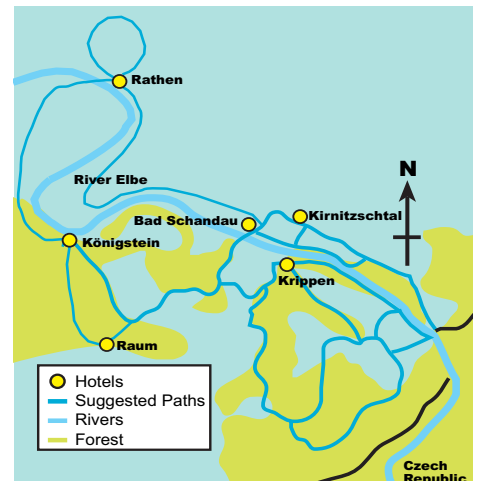
www.cycling-in-germany.co.uk

SAXON SWITZERLAND



Saxony is one of the most captivating parts of eastern Germany. Bordering Poland and the Czech Republic it is also the most foreign.

Saxon Switzerland lies along the Elbe Valley south of Dresden. You will find river landscapes, fantastic weathered rock outcrops, flat-topped and offering superb views, and popular with rock climbers as well as walkers, and unspoiled forests. There are castles and fortresses to visit too. The excellent local public transport includes paddle steamers, and a light tramway as well as buses and trains.



A Walk through Saxon Switzerland

This walking tour covers much of the finest countryside in this fascinating corner of Germany. The contrast between lush riverscapes and dramatic cliffs and rock outcrops makes for a superb holiday.

Day 1. Arrive in Krippen.

Day 2. A walk past weathered rock outcrops and over flat topped summits with fine views over the surrounding country to Raum (11 miles).

Day 3. Through a valley to the old town of Königstein with its impressive fortress. Past more outcrops to the river at Rathen (13 miles).

Day 4. A circular walk from Rathen to the world famous rocky viewpoint of the Bastei, high above the valley (8 miles).

Day 5. Along the river, then climb the Lilienstein, with breathtaking views. With views over the river continue to Bad Schandau and Kirnitzschtal (10 miles).

Day 6. Follow the valley of the Kirnitzsch to the Lichtenhain Falls. Climb to the cave at Kuhstall and back down to the river at Krippen (8 miles).

Tour details: 6 nights Bed & Breakfast in hotels, in rooms with shower/WC. Packed lunches. baggage transfer. Festive evening meal on the last night. Extra nights may be taken at any point.

No twin rooms available.

Dates: Available March to November.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels & Cologne	£572
WDS	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£396
	From Berlin or Prague	£391
	Single Supplement	£ 71
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ 31

We really enjoyed the cycling and the hotels were all very good. We especially loved Passau and Maria Taferl.

Ann Gration, New South Wales, cycling the Danube from Passau to Vienna



Krippen and Bad Schandau

The attractive small town of Bad Schandau, and the peaceful village of Krippen are opposite each other across the Elbe and within walking distance of the Czech border.

Other towns such as Königstein and Pirna can be reached by train or by steamer, you can cross the river by ferry or use the local buses.

We use 3★ hotels in Krippen. Both have been totally modernised with rooms in varying plans. Meals can be taken on outside terraces and are excellent.



This is a 6 night single centre holiday. If you want a shorter or longer stay, we will arrange it. The following are some suggested walks. On other days spend a day in Dresden, take a day trip on the river or even a trip to the nearby Czech Republic. Some suggested walks follow:

Walk 1. Walk up through forest and over fields to the foot of the Zschirnstein sandstone outcrop. Enjoy the view from the top, descend to the other side (8-10 miles).

Walk 2. Walk up through villages to the top of the Papstein. Down to the forest again to the Göhrisch, a second rock outcrop. Back down to the river at Königstein. Return by train (6 miles.)

Walk 3. Follow the river upstream. Walk up the side of the valley to Schöna. Visit the Königskrone and Zirkelstein outcrops. Return via a swimming pool, deep in the forest (6-8 miles).

Walk 4. Cross the river by ferry, then take the lift(!) up the cliff face. Walk through the dramatic Schramstein rocks along a host of waymarked routes. Descend to the valley of the Kirnitzsch, return by tram.

Tour Details: 6 nights bed and breakfast in a hotel, in rooms with shower/WC. Dinner if ordered. **Local taxes are not included.**

No twin rooms available.

Dates: Available throughout the year.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels & Cologne	£492
ELB	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£316
	From Berlin or Prague	£311
	Half Board Supplement	£ 92
	Single Supplement	£ 60
	Extra night (Double Room)	£ 31



THE AUSTRIAN LAKE DISTRICT



The Austrian Lake District (The Salzkammergut) was described as an earthly paradise by Emperor Franz Josef I and is home to some of the most dramatic scenery in the whole of Austria. It is also some of the most delightful walking country anywhere. This area with its combination of lakes and mountains is well suited to the ordinary walker or rambler. Both fine hill walking and excellent low level walks with limited uphill sections are possible.

The UNESCO World Heritage town of Hallstatt is known world-wide from the archaeological discoveries of the Hallstatt Culture, a rich Celtic society from around 500BC. The wealth of the area was, and continues to be based on salt.

In the 19th century the area gained very strong musical connections. Brahms, Bruckner and Mahler all spent much time in Bad Ischl. Later the town became especially associated with the composers of Viennese Operetta; in particular Léhar, whose villa is now a museum.

The Salt Trail

Starting from the small town of Bad Goisern, this holiday takes you through the most historic part of the Salzkammergut. The contrast between the breathtaking scenery of the Dachstein Alps and the lakes and rivers on the one hand; and the fascination of the two and a half thousand year old Celtic culture that grew up around Hallstatt, creates a unique experience.

This walking tour mixes some quite strenuous days with gentle, relaxing ones.

Day 1. Arrive in Bad Goisern.

Day 2. Walk up to the Predigstuhl, where there is a marvellous view over Lake Hallstatt. Continue through a gorge and alongside a cliff-face: there is a string of breathtaking views of the Dachstein Alps. Finally, through farm country to Altaussee (about 12 miles, 1800 feet of ascent).

Day 3. A gentle day through the Ausseerland. Following a nature trail with a salt theme, there are Roman trade routes and ruins of old fortresses (about 5 miles, 660 feet of ascent).

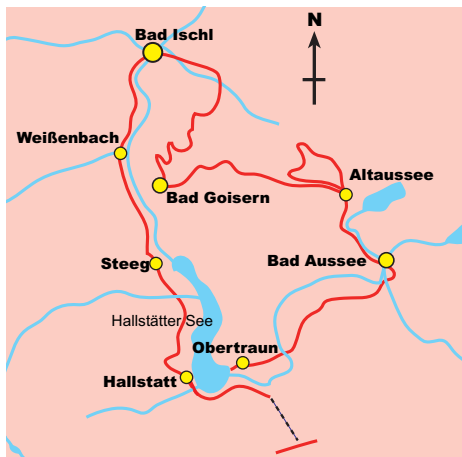
Day 4. Follow the River Altausseeer Traun to Bad Aussee. Then through the wild and romantic Koppental valley to Obertraun and continue to Hallstatt, by a short boat (about 13 miles, 130 feet of ascent).

Day 5. Follow the lakeshore to the Krippenstein. By cable car up to Schönbergalm and follow the Alpine Floral Path through meadows to the stalactite cavern and the ice cave. Return by cable car and walk back to Hallstatt (about 10 miles, 330 feet of ascent).

Day 6. Follow the Salt Trail (Soleweg), high above the lake, then along the west side of the valley of the River Traun, to Bad Ischl (about 14 miles, 130 feet of ascent).

Day 7. Walk through the former imperial hunting grounds to the alpine pastures. Descend to Bad Goisern via the Ewige Wand, a path carved into the hillside (about 12 miles, 2630 feet of ascent).

Tour Details: 7 nights B & B in 3★ inns or hotels, in rooms with shower/WC. Extra nights may be added at any point - please ask for prices. Boat crossing of Lake Hallstatt. Fare on Krippenstein Cable Car. Guided visit to the Ice Cave. Baggage transfer limited to one item per person.



Dates: Start any day from 17 May to 4 October.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels & Cologne	£669
VS	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£445
	From Munich Airport	£459
	From Salzburg	£444
	Half Board Supplement	£ 73
	Single Supplement	£ 64
	Extra night (Double room)	£ ask

Scenery in the Salzburgmergut was wonderful. An excellent holiday which we will remember for many years to come.

Colin Moss, Loughborough,
Walking around Bad Goisern

Walking around Bad Goisern

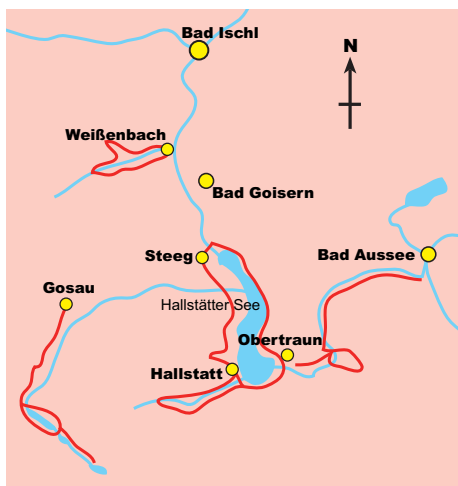


Based in the small town of Bad Goisern, this holiday also allows you to explore the neighbouring communities of Hallstatt, Obertraun and Gosau. The area was created by glaciers carving their way through the mountains, creating deep valleys, glassy lakes and wild rivers. Marvelous footpaths along river banks and by the peaceful shores of the lakes allow you to explore the area fully. Your stay will be in a family run 3★ hotel in the centre of the town, normally either the Hotel Goiserer Hof or the Hotel Moserwirt.

Some suggested walks for this holiday

Walk 1. Bus to Gosau. From here there is a fabulous walk around the Gosausee lakes (about 7 miles, 725 feet of ascent).

Walk 2. Walk up the Weissenbach valley to the Chorinsky Klause. Continue to Alm pasture and return along the Bärenpfad (about 6 miles, 460 feet of ascent).



Walk 3. Bus or train to Hallstatt. Walk through the lovely romantic Echern Valley. Then follow the (Artist's Trail) to the impressive waterfalls. Return the way you came (about 3 miles, 330 feet of ascent).

Walk 4. Train to Steeg. Follow the path along the east shore of Lake Hallstatt. Climb to the saltmine, then walk high above the lake with its superb views of the mountain scenery. Return to Steeg along the Soleweg Nature Trail (about 14 miles, 1050 feet of ascent).

Walk 5. Train to Bad Aussee. Follow the river through the unspoiled valley countryside past the Koppenbrüller Cave. Finally to the station at Obertraun (about 6 miles, 170 feet of ascent).

Tour Details: 7 nights B & B in a 3★ hotel in rooms with shower/WC. Extra nights may be added. Rail tickets from Bad Goisern to Bad Aussee and from Obertraun to Bad Goisern for walk 5 are included.

Dates: Start any day from 17 May to 4 October.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels & Cologne	£572
WAW	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£362
	From Munich Airport	£369
	From Salzburg	£354
	Single Supplement	£ 73
	Extra night (Double room)	£ 38



The Landhaus Kirschbaum is friendly, well placed, comfortable, and the food at breakfast & dinner was excellent. We would certainly book again with Russell Hafter Holidays.

Steven McDonough, Colchester,
in Morbach

THE BELGIAN ARDENNES



The Belgian Ardennes is a country of hills and forests, rivers and streams, meadows and grasslands. Dotted with villages and small towns.

This countryside is exceptionally rich in wildlife; the rivers are popular with fishermen, while the woodlands team with game.

The Ardennes is a gourmet paradise. When the residents of Belgium's cities want a weekend in the country with excellent food, they head for the Ardennes!

The Crossing of the Central Ardennes



The Central Ardennes are a huge plateau, rising to 1937 feet, and cut by a succession of sometimes very deep valleys, separated by forested hills. The valleys run in different directions giving rise to varying local climates, flora and fauna.

This is a fairly demanding walk - there are many ascents; some days there is little or no walking on the flat at all. The route runs mainly through beech and oak forests, with significant stretches through open country.

The countryside is noted for its castles and châteaux; basilicas and churches, as well as idyllic river valleys.

Day 1. Car travellers arrive in La Roche-en-Ardenne; rail travellers at Sprimont.

Day 2. If necessary, transfer to La Roche. Start with a steep climb out of the valley, then through idyllic open country, close to the forests. Cross the valley of the Ourthe, to Château Roumont, finally through woodland to Sprimont (about 16 miles).

Day 3. Today there are long ascents and descents almost entirely through forest. You end at St. Hubert, known for its fine basilica and museum of Walloon life (about 15 miles).



Day 8. Walk through woodland and open country, passing Mogimont and Sensenruth to finish in the striking former ducal capital of Bouillon (about 16 miles).

Tour Details: 8 nights Bed & Breakfast in high class private rooms, in double or twin rooms with private shower/WC. Dinner on all nights except the last. Transfers as required during the the walk. Baggage transfer if required. For car travellers, transfer Bouillon to La Roche. For rail travellers, bus transfer from Bouillon to Libramont is not included.

Three different tours are available:

8 nights: Full tour described above... **Tour TRA/8**

6 nights: Sprimont to Paliseul **Tour TRA/6**

3 nights: Sprimont to Nassogne . . . **Tour TRA/3**

Dates: Available throughout the year.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels	£599
TRA/8	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£592
	From Brussels or Charleroi Airports	£513
	7 Nights Half Board	£ incl
	Single Supplement	£ 73
	Extra night (Double room)	£ ask
	Baggage transfer, per stage for 1 or 2 people	£ 21
TRA/6	Deduct from TRA/8 price	- £124
TRA/3	Deduct from TRA/8 price	- £349

La Roche-en-Ardenne

La Roche, at the start of the Crossing of the Central Ardennes, is situated on a great loop in the River Ourthe. Crowned by a ruined castle, La Roche is sometimes thought of as the capital of the Ardennes, and though the pretty small town was almost completely destroyed in 1944, it still retains its character. La Roche is well known throughout Belgium both as a base for walking through forest and along rivers and also for rock climbing. The whole area can be discovered by the network of well marked paths.

The Hostellerie la Claire Fontaine is a 4★ hotel situated a short way out of La Roche. This very comfortable hotel also has attractive gardens hotel and is one of the leading members of Logis de Belgique. The owners, the Son-Renard family, will make you more than welcome during your stay.

This is a six night holiday. Contact us if you want a longer or shorter stay. Some suggested walks follow.

Walk 1. Climb out of La Roche towards the village of Hives. Walk through a mixture of forest and high open country to Beausaint, then return along the old Corpse Road (about 8 miles).



Walk 2. Follow the Ourthe out of town to Cielle, then follow a forest stream uphill. Return via the Chapel of Ste. Marguerite and the nearby viewpoint, considered the finest in the area, before dropping down into La Roche (about 8 miles).

Walk 3. Arguably the most attractive walk in the area! Follow the valley of the Ourthe upstream to Maboge. Continue to the pretty hamlet of Borzée and end along a road high above the river offering fine views over La Roche (about 8 miles).

Walk 4. Walk to Vecpré and climb up to open hills high above the village. Through forest and then steeply down to the bottom of the valley. Follow the stream, then climb the side of the valley into the open. Follow the stream, and climb the side of the valley to open country. Walk via Beausaint back to La Roche (about 8 miles).



Dates: Available throughout the year.

Tour Code	Rail via Brussels	£357
LRA	Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek)	£308
	From Brussels or Charleroi Airports	£275
	Half Board	£ 92
	Single Supplement	£ 73
	Extra night (Double room)	£ 32

We thoroughly enjoyed our walk in the Ardennes across the Eastern Cantons of Belgium. The walking was generally easy, across rolling hills, through open farmlands and meadows, along river valleys, and into deep spruce and beech forests. Trails were generally excellent.

Carrillo & ZiYin Gantner, Melbourne, Australia, on the Four Valleys Tour

Day 4. Today you can be almost certain of seeing game. Cross the valleys of the rivers Palogne, Masblette and Diglette, you finish at Nassogne, home to a fine collegiate church (about 17 miles).

Day 5. Today is easier and through much more open country. The route first descends to the Masblette valley before starting to climb again, offering fine views. Finish at Mirwart (about 12 miles). Transfer to Awenne.

Day 6. This stage is reasonably level. The Marsau valley is one of the most beautiful of the whole route. Next stop is Redu, Belgium's Hay-on-Wye. Finally to Daverdisse, where there is a fine polychrome retable (about 15 miles). Transfer to Porcheresse.

Day 7. Today you leave the classic Ardennes forest behind and walk across meadowland. The valleys are less deep cut and you pass more villages. Much of the route follows the Our valley. End in Paliseul (about 17 miles).



Other Holidays in Belgium

We also offer the **Four Valleys Tour** in eastern Belgium and a single centre holiday in La Roche-en-Ardenne. Please ask for details, or visit www.walking-in-belgium.co.uk



Heidelberg



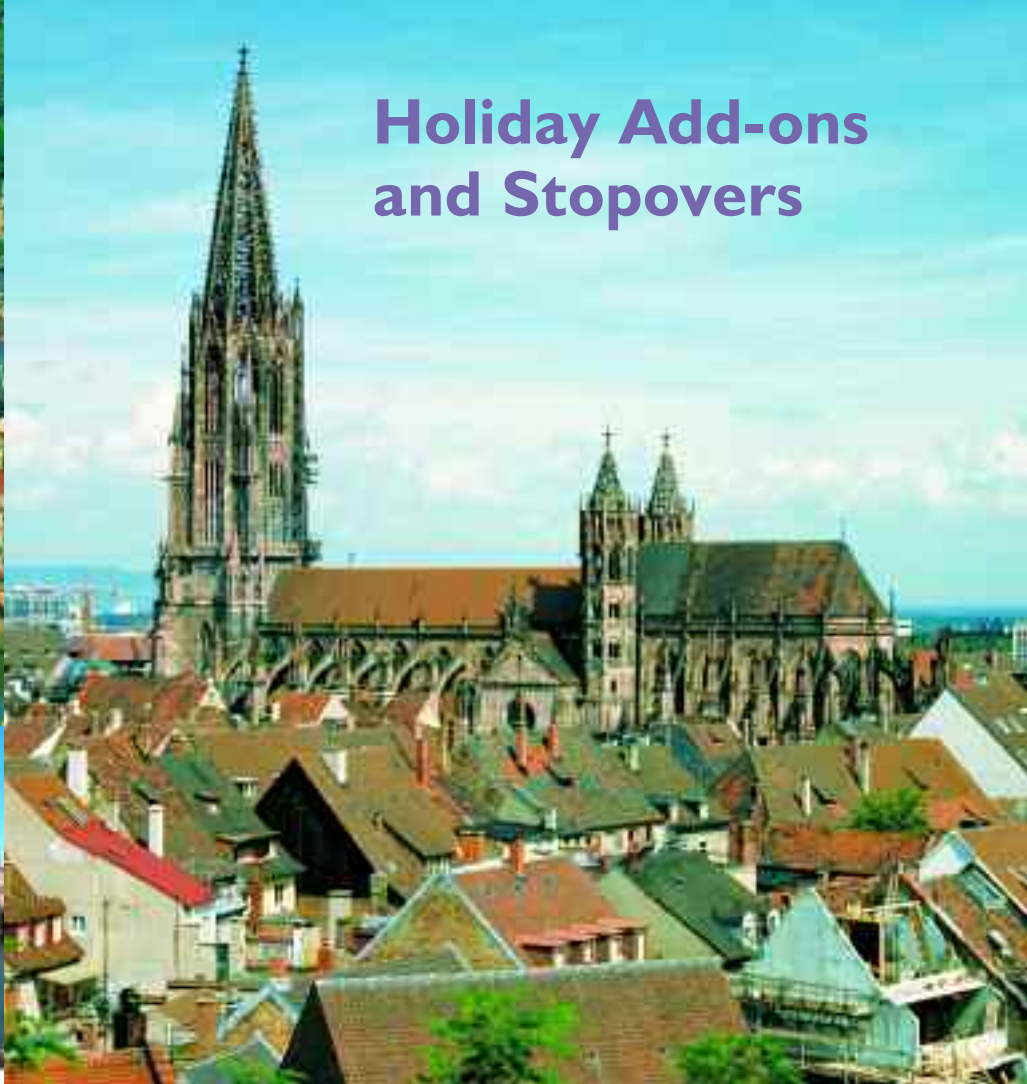
Bruges



Dresden



Freiburg



Holiday Add-ons and Stopovers

It is a fascinating experience to contrast the peace and quiet of the countryside with the culture, architecture and bustling lifestyle of a major city. If you are travelling to Bavaria, you should always consider spending a couple of days in Munich after your walk, while no visit to Saxony is now complete without a stay in Dresden, and Berlin and Prague are within easy reach too. When visiting the Black Forest, enjoy a stay in Freiburg or Heidelberg, when going to Austria, stop in Salzburg.

When you travel by train you can normally break your journey without formality for one night en route, so spend some time in Aachen, or Stuttgart, in Koblenz or Mainz or in the heart of the Romantic Rhine.

Travelling by Eurostar via Brussels, you can stop in Cologne for as long as you like. This also applies to Brussels if the journey continues via Cologne; otherwise there is a limit of 24 hours.

Travelling via Paris, you can stop in Strasbourg for as long as you like. You can stop in Paris for a maximum of 24 hours.

You can extend the 24 hour limit for an additional charge.

Please ask us what you can do during your journey!

If you are travelling by ferry, why not enjoy a visit to lively Amsterdam or the Venice of the north, Bruges?

For drivers too we can offer with a choice of interesting country hotels in Germany and Belgium where you can stop over during your journey.

Prices for these stopovers are very reasonable. Three-star country hotels start at £36 per person in a double room.

City hotels are more expensive, but we know reliable hotels that offer Bed & Breakfast for £38 to £40 per person in a double room. In some cities prices are cheaper at weekends, while in others, weekends are more expensive.

Please telephone us on 01946 861652 to discuss your Holiday Add-ons and Stopovers.

TRAVEL Supplements



Adjustments to Self Drive (Harwich-Hoek) Prices

Apply per person and per single crossing when 2 adults travel in a car. Please ask when any number other than 2 adults are travelling together.

From Harwich to Hoek van Holland (Stena)

Peak supplements apply from 1 July to 31 August
Single peak period crossing (day or night) add **£11**

From Folkestone to Calais (Eurotunnel)

These supplements are cumulative.

For all Eurotunnel Crossings **£17**

Peak supplements apply at weekends from 25 July to 7 September and at English school half-term weekends in May, June, October & November

Single weekend peak crossing add **£27**



Sleeping Berths for Ferries from Harwich
Sleeping accommodation must be booked when travelling overnight. No meals are included in 2008 cabin prices.

All cabins with shower / WC - Prices per berth and per crossing.

1-Berth inside	£25	3-Berth inside	£21
1-Berth outside	£31	3-Berth outside	£23
2-Berth inside	£19	4-Berth inside	£16
2-Berth outside	£22	4-Berth outside	£18



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TAILOR-MADE HOLIDAYS

Other Holidays

As well as the walking and cycling holidays featured in the brochure and on our websites, we can arrange similar holidays in many other parts of Germany and the surrounding countries.

We also arrange rail-based City Breaks, visits to Steam Railways, to Spas and to Christmas Markets, and Self-Drive Motoring Holidays. All these are tailor-made to your own requirements.

When visiting cities such as Berlin, Dresden or Prague we can also book opera tickets and, for something completely different, arrange a journey through Bavaria in a horse-drawn mail coach.

For more information, please phone 01946 861652, visit our website, www.russell-hafter-holidays.co.uk or e-mail enquiries@russell-hafter-holidays.co.uk

Booking Conditions

Agency Arrangements

1. When you contact us to make a booking, we act as agent for the relevant carrier which will be disclosed in your documentation. We reserve the right to substitute the carrier if necessary. When we have confirmed your booking, a contract exists under which we accept responsibility for the provision of all the services described in our confirmation and our invoice.

Alteration of your Holiday

1. When you have made your contract with RUSSELL HAFTER HOLIDAYS, we will use our best endeavours to ensure that none of the ingredients of your holiday arrangements has to be altered. However, you will appreciate that, because the arrangements are planned many months in advance, sometimes changes will have to be made. Where a significant change, for example a change in destination, or a change to a lower grade of hotel for more than 2 nights is made, you will be informed when you book, or, if you have already booked, as soon as possible, if there is time before your departure. You may then:

- accept the change
- book any other available holiday from this brochure (where the price is less we will pay you the difference, but where the price is more you will be expected to pay the difference) or
- cancel your booking and receive a full refund of all monies paid.

In addition, we will pay compensation as below, unless we are forced to make changes because of force majeure. For the purposes of your contract with us, force majeure is defined as unusual and unforeseeable circumstances beyond our control or that of our suppliers, the consequences of which we could not have avoided even with the exercise of all due care.

Scale of compensation (per person named on confirmation of booking) Where the change is notified:

more than 42 days before departure NIL
21 to 42 days before departure £10
7 to 20 days before departure £15
'less than 7 days before departure £20

Should we have to alter your arrangements after departure, we will make every effort to make suitable alternative arrangements. Where those arrangements are less expensive, you will be refunded the difference.

Where they are more expensive, we will bear the cost. If the revised arrangements are not acceptable to you we will make arrangements to repatriate you. In any event we will compensate you as set out above.

Cancellation of your Holiday

1. RUSSELL HAFTER HOLIDAYS reserves the right to cancel your holiday arrangements. Should this happen, we will tell you as soon as possible and you will then be entitled:-

- to book any other available holiday from this brochure (where the price is less we will pay you the difference, but where the price is more you will be expected to pay the additional cost), or
- receive a full refund of all monies paid by you.

In addition, you will be entitled to receive compensation on the basis defined in paragraph 1 (c) under alteration, unless we are forced to cancel because of force majeure, which is also defined in paragraph 1 (c) under alteration.

2. Where the holiday is cancelled by the client for reasons other than those in condition 1 above, cancellation charges as detailed below will be levied. Notice of cancellation should be sent by first class post; the date of arrival at our office will be the operative date for the cancellation. Clients who cancel are advised to obtain a certificate of posting.

More than eight weeks before departure: loss of deposit:
56 to 43 days notice: 40% 42 to 29 days notice: 60%
28 to 11 days notice: 80% 10 to 2 days notice: 90%
48 hours or less notice: 100%

Operation of the Holiday

- RUSSELL HAFTER HOLIDAYS always does its best to make sure that your holiday arrangements are satisfactory.
- We accept liability if your holiday arrangements are not supplied to you as described in this brochure and are not of a reasonable standard. This paragraph does not apply when you suffer personal injury which is subject to the terms of paragraphs 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 below.
- We accept liability for personal injury or death which you suffer as a result of our acts or omissions or as a result of the acts and omissions of any supplier contracted or subcontracted by us to provide services in connection with your holiday arrangements. This paragraph is subject to the terms of paragraphs 4, 5, 6 & 7 below.
- We do not accept liability where there has been no fault on our part, or on the part of any of our suppliers and where the events complained of are due to an event which neither we nor our suppliers could have

foreseen even if all due care had been exercised. In particular, we accept no responsibility for loss or expenses due to sickness, weather, strikes, war, loss of baggage or negligence on the part of the customer.

5. Where your holiday arrangements involve travel by air, rail or sea, or hotel accommodation, the compensation which we are liable to pay is limited in accordance with the provisions of, respectively, the Warsaw Convention as amended by the Hague Protocol 1955, the 1961 Berne Convention and the 1962 Paris Convention.

6. Should you or any member of your party suffer illness, personal injury or death through any misadventure out of an activity which does not form part of our holiday arrangements, nor part of any excursion sold through us, we shall offer you every assistance we can. This includes advice, guidance, and initial financial assistance in the form of legal expenses insurance.

7. If you have a complaint, this must be brought to our attention within 28 days of the end of the holiday.

Changes to the price of the Holiday

1. Prices are based on the exchange rates and travel costs applying at the date shown on page 18. If there is a change to the rate of or scope of VAT, then your final invoice will reflect this with a price increase or reduction as appropriate provided that the change in price amounts to at least 2% of the brochure price. There will be no change in price during the 30 days before departure.

Other Booking Conditions

- RUSSELL HAFTER HOLIDAYS shall be under no liability for any loss arising from a client's decision to travel without insurance.
- No responsibility can be accepted by RUSSELL HAFTER HOLIDAYS for inconvenience, loss, or delay arising from failure to comply with immigration regulations.
- A non-returnable deposit of £60 per person for walking holidays & £75 for cycling holidays is payable when you book. The balance is payable 8 weeks before departure. Bookings less than 8 weeks from departure must be paid in full and a late booking fee may be payable.
- RUSSELL HAFTER HOLIDAYS reserve the right to decline acceptance of any booking.
- These booking conditions are the basis of the contract you enter with RUSSELL HAFTER HOLIDAYS by completing and signing the booking form. Clients signing on behalf of third parties also bind those third parties to the contract.

Please read this information before booking. Telephone enquiries can usually be made until 7.00pm Monday to Saturday. At other times please leave a message on our answerphone.

Our Holiday Prices

All prices are per person and based on 2 people travelling together and sharing a room. These prices include:

- Accommodation as described in the Tour Details for each holiday. Single rooms may be of lower standard and are subject to a supplement.
- Travel of the type chosen by you when you book. Reserved seats on trains on longer journeys if possible. Accommodation on ships during the journey may be extra.
- Transfer of baggage between hotels, unless stated otherwise in the Tour Details.
- VAT. Also local tourist taxes, unless stated otherwise in the tour details for the holiday.
- A set of maps with a glossary, route description and local information.

Rail Travel

The Rail Price given for each holiday applies to the stated route by Eurostar from London, Ebbsfleet or Ashford, though few trains now call at Ashford. Whatever the stated route, you can always travel via Paris instead of via Brussels, or out via Brussels and back via Paris. There will normally be a small price adjustment when travelling by a different route. The early trains leave London for Brussels at 0700, 0805 and 1000; for Paris at 0655, 0730, 0832 and 0926. There are departures throughout the day and if you have to travel to London we advise taking a later train and stopping over in Brussels, Paris or Cologne. You will need to break your journey when travelling by rail to Austria, Prague or Saxony.

Rail & Sea Travel

Ask for the supplement to the Eurostar Rail Price in the price box. Transfers between ship and rail station are included.

You can take afternoon or evening sailings from Newcastle, Hull and Harwich, with return sailings usually arriving around 0900.

Please check dates of sailing with us before finalising your travel plans.

Self Drive Travel

Prices are based on 2 people travelling with a car from Harwich to Hoek van Holland (Stena Line). Adjustments for travel by other routes are on page 19. Please ask for self-drive prices when the number of people travelling together is other than 2.

Air & Rail Travel

"From Airport" prices include travel by rail or road from the airport stated. It may be convenient to travel to a different airport, depending on the services available from your local airport. Please ask for prices.

We do not sell air tickets, but are happy to advise.

Children under 14

Significant price reductions are available for children under 14 when travelling by train, as well as when they share a room with their parents. *Please ask for exact details.*

Holiday Dates

Where dates are given in this brochure, they are the dates of your first night.

Periods of High Demand

Our hotels fill up very early at public holiday periods: 9-12 May, 22-24 May, 21 July and 3 October. Please book early if you want to holiday at these times.

Late Bookings

A Late Booking is one less than 4 weeks from the date of departure. Where a late booking is possible, we reserve the right to levy a fee of £10 per booking. Please do not rely on being able to book at the last minute - we do not want you to be disappointed!

Bicycles

The bicycles that we use are mainly seven speed touring bikes, German made, with (usually) Shimano gears and back-pedal brakes. Some 21 speed or 24 speed bikes may be available on special request, which must be made at the time of booking.

Taking your own Bikes

If you plan to take your own bikes on one of our holidays, then we naturally offer a small rebate. However, unless you are booking a circular tour and are driving to your holiday, we ask that you contact us by phone before booking so that you are aware of any potential problems.

No Surcharge Guarantee

We give a no surcharge guarantee until 01.11.08 on our prices, unless government action results in a price increase of more than 2%. Our prices are calculated at an exchange rate of £1 = Euro 1.33 (27.11.2007).

Payments

We accept cheques, UK Maestro and Visa Debit cards, and Amex, Visa and Mastercard credit cards. Owing to ever increasing levies by the banks, where your FINAL INVOICE is paid by CREDIT CARD, the total payable will be surcharged by 1.75%. For Amex the surcharge is 2%.

Passports and Visas

All holidays in this brochure require a valid passport, which can take up to 5 weeks to issue. Visas are not required by EU citizens. Non EU citizens should check with the relevant consulate(s) well before travelling.

Health Notice

There are no diseases endemic in Austria, Belgium, Germany and Czech Republic that are not also to be found in the rest of mainland Europe. You should take precautions against mosquito and tick bites.

EU Health Cover - EHIC

In our opinion all travellers should carry an EHIC. Normally, no excess is charged on the medical portion of your holiday insurance if you use an EHIC. Visit your local Post Office for more information.

Financial Protection

In accordance with The Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992 all passengers booking with Russell Hafter Holidays are fully protected for the initial deposit and subsequently the balance of all monies paid to us, including repatriation if required, arising from cancellation or curtailment of your travel arrangements due to the insolvency of Russell Hafter Holidays. A certificate detailing this cover will be supplied for each person named on the booking form. **Please ensure that you receive these certificates with your Confirmation of Booking.** This insurance insurance has been arranged by Towergate Chapman Stevens through IGI Insurance Company Ltd. **Please note that under current legislation there is no financial protection covering air tickets bought directly from an airline.**

Travel Insurance

It is a legal requirement that we advise you that you can buy travel insurance to cover you while on holiday, and by signing our booking form you are confirming that you have received this advice.

If you require insurance, we have arranged tailored travel insurance from Travel and General Insurance Co. plc to meet your needs on your holiday.

To arrange cover, please phone tagconnect on **0845 4080583** quoting Russell Hafter Holidays.

