

## Research and Travel

Dr. Wolfgang Grams  
Babenend 127  
26127 Oldenburg  
Germany



Pho.: ++49 441 962 04 33 Fax: ++49 441 962 04 34 E-Mail: [info@routes.de](mailto:info@routes.de) Internet: [www.routes.de](http://www.routes.de)

# The Farewell

## Heritage, History, Culture

### Bremen - Bremerhaven

4-Days Field Trip ( Minigroup or Individual Travel)



More than 7 million people emigrated through Bremen and Bremerhaven and made the cities the most important port of embarkation next to Le Havre, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Liverpool, Cobh and other European ports.

Your itinerary follows historic emigration patterns and routes from the peasant's farms to Bremen and on to Bremerhaven. During your tour the city will speak to you of the growth of „emigration fever“ and the promise of America. Meet people, learn about living conditions in the old times, understand the motivation to leave one's home, discover the history of Bremen, Bremerhaven and the North German Lloyd and experience how the journey was organized.

A visit to the German Emigration Center at Bremerhaven and a farewell dinner in the steerage section of an historic sailing vessel will complete your fantastic trip. Tour orientation and guiding services by university expert tour guide, access to research facilities as well as a Routes to the Roots service package and a special Heritage Map for the Northwest of Germany are included.

"Bremen - America" is the ideal package to start or finish a trip to Germany.



## Itinerary

### Day 0 Transatlantic Flight from USA to Germany or individual travel to Bremen

#### Arrival by aircraft:

Depart via any gateway city and arrive at Bremen airport the next day. Incoming flights from the US arrive via Frankfurt, Munich, Berlin, Hamburg, Amsterdam, London, Paris and other cities. All airlines have connecting service to Bremen.

#### Arrival by train:

Intercity Express trains from all major cities arrive at Bremen Central Station every hour.

#### Arrival by car:

Driving time to Bremen from Frankfurt is ca 5 hours.

### Day 1 Welcome to Bremen, Tour Orientation

Transfer to your hotel is on your own (Airport: 20 min taxi ride, Central Station: 5 min walking). Detailed information and hotel address will be provided with booking / confirmations. Check in and relax or spend time on your own. Hotel has a welcome package for you.

Your program "Bremen - Bremerhaven - America" starts at 3 pm at your hotel. You will be met by your tour director during a welcome reception and a tour orientation. Included is a *'Research and Travel'* service package with maps, manual of German handwriting etc. You will receive a reprint of a 19th century passport to make you a "legal traveler" during the next days. We then go on a guided walking tour of the old town ending at the river Weser just where the barges and flatboats left for Bremerhaven. There are many historical landmarks and monuments which bear witness to Bremens great past as a Hanseatic city and to the enormous impact that emigration had on the city's wealth. Millions of people stayed here while waiting for an overseas passage, many of them came from Eastern Europe on their way to Bremerhaven.

In this respect the monument of the Bremen City Musicians, well known fairy tale characters, will gain a new meaning for you as symbol of the desire of a better life in foreign parts. A visit at Bremen's splendid historic Town Hall is included (not available at any time, may be used for official purposes and postponed or replaced by alternative destination). A welcome dinner in Bremens Ratskeller rounds up the day.

Hotel: 3 nights in Bremen

### Day 2 Explore the Countryside

A full days excursion to introduce you to historical-biographical portraits of people once leaving there hometowns from around here. Lunch will be in a traditional country side inn as we reach the Open Air Museum of Cloppenburg. Farmhouses, churches, windmills and old structures will tell you how "emigration-fever" grew in this area and will acquaint you with life and work in the old days. A visit to the old industrial museum in the city of Delmenhorst completes your afternoon program.

Back in Bremen, the evening is free to browse through the neighboring Schnoor district with it's many cafes, restaurants and bars. Dinner individual.

### Day 3 Emigration through Bremerhaven

This morning board a ship for a ca. 4 hours cruise on the Weser river northbound to Bremerhaven. Until the 1860ies almost all emigrants spent ca 2 days on small barges before railroad services connected the cities. Meet your guide in Bremerhaven to continue sightseeing. Explore the migration experience and share the experience of saying good-bye as you pass the monument to the emigrants, the legendary Columbus Terminal or the Lloyd shipyard. You also see the sites that many Americans saw first when they arrived here like Elvis Presley and many other soldiers did.

Included is a visit to the German Emigration Center (Deutsches Auswandererhaus Bremerhaven) Europes largest and award winning museum on emigration. Dr. Grams, owner of Research and Travel, was member of many planning committees and finally contributed with historical biographical research for the Emigration Center. For dinner we have two great choices: a steerage section of an original mid-19th-century sailing or "The Last Bar before New York. Back to Bremen ca 9 pm. Bye bye to your guide.

**Day 4 Farewell or optional Individual Travel**

The tour ends after breakfast at your hotel. Transfer to Bremen airport (30 minutes), Hamburg airport (90 minutes), Central Station or pick up of rental car will be on your own. We will provide every assistance that is needed.

<b>Costs and Arrangements</b>		
<b>Price per person:</b>	<b>Euro</b>	<b>640,--</b>
<b>Single supplement:</b>	<b>Euro</b>	<b>90,--</b>
<b>Extra nights in Bremen or Bremerhaven</b>	<b>Euro</b>	<b>60,-- sharing a room, per person incl breakfast and taxes</b>
<b>Departures in 2009:</b>	<b>all year round</b>	
<b>Tour starts:</b>	<b>day 1 in Bremen</b>	<b>3 p.m.</b>
<b>Tour ends:</b>	<b>day 4 in Bremen</b>	<b>after breakfast</b>
<p>This program is available all year round for 4 participants minimum. With pleasure we design customized arrangements for you.</p>		

**Included (land only):**

- 3 nights in first class tourist hotels (three plus/four stars) with private facilities, double occupancy, full breakfast buffet each morning.
- Full time bilingual university expert / driver guide.
- Transportation in comfortable air-conditioned Minivan for sightseeing and excursions with driver guide.
- Weser river cruise Bremen to Bremerhaven
- Tour orientation, "Routes to the Roots" service package (brochures, maps, manual for German handwriting, reprint of historic documents).
- Heritage Map Northwest Germany
- All admissions. (City Hall Bremen, German Emigration Center, Open Air Farm Museum in Cloppenburg, Museum Delmenhorst.)
- 3 full breakfast and 3 dinners, 1 reception
- All taxes and service-charges on hotels, meals and other prepaid services.
- Optional: based on availability of crew: Historic sailing (ca Euro 40 p. pers.)

**Not included:** Airfares, transfers upon arrival and departure, beverages with lunch/dinners, individual cost for research, customary gratuities to tour directors / drivers.

### **Optional Extension Your Personal Itinerary**

We have designed a special service for the individual traveler who wants to benefit from pre-travel research and arrangements: „**Your Personal Itinerary**“: Based on your advance information we check your request and start preliminary research about the possible origin of your family. A dossier with all relevant information and professional tourist service allows you to find your way to the places, records and people you like to see.

You may want to travel on you own or decide to hire additional guiding and driving services (ca Euro 420,-- per full day incl use of vehicle; 1 – 3 participants).

#### **Day 4 Visit your forefathers place of origin**

After breakfast meet with your tour director for a final check and orientation of your itinerary to come. Board train or pick-up rental car and continue your trip according to our proposals. Every destination within Germany can be reached within 8 hours maximum. Overnight accommodation according to local destination.

#### **Day 5 Local Heritage program**

We can prepare a local heritage program for you. Walk in your forefathers steps, see where they lived, find traces of the past in names, buildings, meet people at their farm, visit church and cemetery, enjoy local hospitality. Upon request we can pre-arrange meetings in church offices, local archives or with local experts.

#### **Farewell Day Home**

Transfer according to your flight connections. Arrive at your US destination early evening local time.

#### **Costs for Individual Extensions:**

Costs to design your Personal Itinerary include pre-trip research on the possible place of origin. Based on an hourly fee of Euro 38,-- costs are usually between Euro 200 - 300. You can also set a limit or agree on a step-by-step progressional plan. Please note that extensive genealogical research can be extremely time consuming and is not included in this service but can be carried out according to individual agreements.

Costs for transportation, accommodation and possible guiding services will be additional and based on final arrangements.