

Research and Travel

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Erika Hansen Plattdütsch Conference Tour to Germany 2012

September 05– 18, 2012

**Meet the People, Enjoy Hospitality
Explore Germany and France, Belgium, Netherlands** Aurich Conference Site



**Düsseldorf, Aurich East Frisia, Groningen, Amsterdam and Maastricht, Netherlands, Gent, Brügge
and Brussels, Belgium, Normandy, Paris and Reims France, Luxemburg**

Itinerary (Updated 07 Dec 2011)

- 1 Wed Sept 05** Depart USA LUFTHANSA Chicago – Düsseldorf
- 2 Thu Sept 06** Arrive Düsseldorf and on to East Frisia
Stopover Groningen, Welcome to Aurich

LUFTHANSA from Chicago arrives early morning. Earlier arrivals have a pre-tour night at Düsseldorf and meet with the group upon the group's arrival.

Participants who stay in Groningen leave the group with a stopover en route to Aurich and will be picked up again after the conference.

Meet your tour bus and guide at the airport. Relaxed 4 hours drive to Aurich. **Informal evening event at Aurich: President Helmut Collmann welcomes everybody at the East Frisian Heritage Society Conference Site.**

Hotel: 4 nights Piquerhof Aurich (walking distance to conference sites / pedestrian zone)

- 3 Fri Sept 07:** **Explore East Frisia and Conference Opening**
After breakfast we go on an orientation tour together with German participants of the conference: **“Explore East Frisia”**: the Northsea coast, locks and dyckes, historic organs, traditional home and mansions, moorlands and canals. Back to Aurich. Relax at hotel.

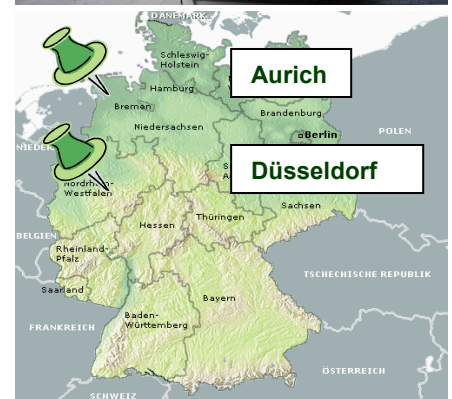
6 pm: Official opening ceremony of 17. Düütsch-Amerikaansche Conference incl of welcome dinner.

Hotel: Aurich

- 4 Sat Sept 08 :** **Conference Program and Local Excursions**
Lectures , presentations, workshops. Three alternative excursions in the afternoon:

- **“When the Wind Blows”**: The Emminga-Story and the history of the sister windmills at Felde and Golden Illinois.
- **”Ships, Logs and Dyckes”**: From traditional ship building to maritime technologies
- **“Traditions of Liberty”**: East Frisian history and heritage

Evening: festive dinner and entertainment at Conference
Hotel: Aurich





East Frisian Flag and Coat of Arms



Organ (1534) Rysum



Romanic church

5 Sun Sept 09**Conference Program and Local Excursion**

Excursion. **“An East Frisian Sunday”** includes English / Low German church service by pastor Hoogestraat at Victorbur and local heritage museums. Evening. Entertainment and theater, Bye Bye to Aurich and the Conference.

Hotel: Aurich

6 Mon Sept 10**Amsterdam NL and Delft**

Bye bye to Aurich. Via spectacular Zuidersee / Northsee levee highway to Amsterdam. Stopover at Groningen NL. Amsterdam sightseeing and Canal cruise approx 1,5 hrs.

Hotel: Delft

7 Tue Sept 11**Brussels and Waterloo, Belgium**

Drive to Brussels via Antwerp for Brussels sightseeing and free time. Then Waterloo. Continue with short ride to Gent for hotel 2 nights.

Hotel: Gent The city of Antwerp opens a new Red Star Line Museum, Option for 2 nights Antwerp and start excursions from there.)

8 Wed Sept 12**Excursion to Brugge and Oostende/ Zeebrugge**

Brugge sightseeing. Option to include Zeebrugge and Oostende shore

Hotel: Gent



Amsterdam



Gent



Brussels

9 Thu Sept 13**Continue to Normandy, France**

Via Amiens and Rouen to Caen or Bayeux. Sightseeing Rouen, hotel location 2 nights to be decided Bayeux or Caen.

Hotel: Bayeux

10 Fri Sept 14**Normandy and the D Day History**

Omaha Beach and other locations/sites. D Day museum and visitor center at Colleville sur Mer, US Cemetery and other sites. Bayeux tapestry museum.

Hotel: Bayeux

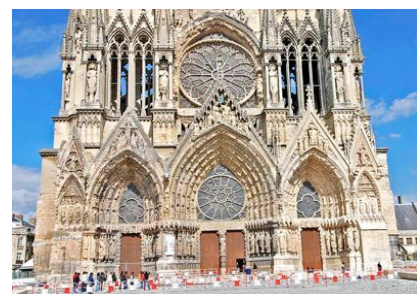
- 11 Sat Sept 15** **Via Paris to Reims**
Routing via Paris and/or Versailles for stopover and compact city tour and sightseeing in Paris. Continue to Reims for overnight.

Hotel: Reims
- 12 Sun Sept 16** **Abbey Signy, the Ardennes and the Battle of the Bulge**

Visit Abbey Signy and on to the Ardennes to Belgium and Luxembourg. Sites of the "Battle of the Bulge" or Luxembourg city for stopover sightseeing to be decided. Also option for Sedan. On to Maastricht, NL

Hotel: Maastricht
- 13 Mon Sept 17** **Maastricht, Netherlands**
Local excursion and leisure activities, sightseeing and shopping. Possibly hotel at Düsseldorf that night. Enjoy Germany's "longest bar" and many microbreweries for a farewell evening.

Hotel: Maastricht or Düsseldorf
- 14 Tue Sept 18** **Düsseldorf and homebound flights**
Transfer to Düsseldorf airport (approx 1,5 hrs from Maastricht, approx 15 min from Düsseldorf hotel) homebound flights, arrival at US destination the same day.



Using a 40 seater coach, extra large distances between seats, restroom, coffee, cookies softdrinks in coach included:

Per person in a double room (based on group of 25 participants):	approx. USD 4.300,-
!! Including Air Fare with LUFTHANSA Chicago – Düsseldorf – Chicago !!	
Single accommodation surcharge	approx USD 530,-
Deduction for participants who do not attend the conference	approx USD 500,-

LUFTHANSA requires a deposit of USD 100,- by December 20 to secure a seat

Checks should be made out "German trip 2012" and sent to Mary Burchett. See address on next page

Tour price includes:

- Airfare LUFTHANSA Chicago – Düsseldorf – Chicago !!
- Carefully designed program, itinerary and activities, local networking, planning of activities receptions etc
- Full time experienced bi-lingual expert tour director and guide Dr. Wolfgang Grams. Local bi-lingual step-on guides in Brussels, Gent, Brugge, Maastricht
- 12 nights accommodation in double room incl. breakfast every morning (4 star or 3star hotels, carefully selected). All rooms with private restrooms, bath/shower, TV, hairdryer, telephone, in some hotels minibar), accommodation for children modified as per hotels policy (usually multi bed family room or extra room next door for children to share)
- Meals: full breakfast every morning, one meal per day (usually at hotel: two or three course dinner for group,) or as per days activities, lunches during conference
- Transportation in modern comfortable tour bus (ca 40 seat) with professional driver incl. costs for gasoline, road tolls, parking fees, drivers accommodation incl. coffee, water, cookies in bus.
- Amsterdam boat ride ca 1,5 hours
- Entrance fees / admissions: Waterloo, Bayeux D-Day and tapestry museum, Rouen and Reims cathedral
- Conference package: incl registration fees, meals, receptions, entertainment and extensive excursions with entrance fees, meals
- Customers protection insurance / German " Sicherungsschein" as required by German law.

Not included

- Drinks with dinners (coffee, juice etc. with breakfast of course included)
- It is customary to tip e.g. waiters , waitresses, taxi drivers or other personal with small amounts or round up invoices for individual expenses
- Customary tips for tour directors or/and bus drivers are at your discretion

For reservation and questions please contact Erika Hansen, Mary Burchett or Wolfgang Grams

Erika Hansen and Mary Burchett

c/o Mary Burchett
5513 Woodland Avenue
Davenport Iowa 52807
Phone Mary: 563 - 355 6274
Phone Erika: 563 - 242 5000

Email Mary: burchettme@prodigy.net

LUFTHANSA requires a deposit of USD 100,-- by December 20 to secure a seat CHICAGO – DÜSSELDORF – CHICAGO. Checks should be made out "German trip 2012" and sent to Mary Burchett. Please add USD 300,-- for tour deposit. Total of USD 400,-- to secure your reservation.

Terms and Conditions (general terms Dr. Grams, Research and Travel)

Consumer protection

All deposits and payments are secured with a consumer protection certificate issued by R&T ("German Sicherungsschein") as required by German law. This insurance certificate is mandatory for every German tour operator and protects payments should a tour operator fail to provide contracted services due to insolvency.

Deposits

Deposit of Euro 200,- per person is due with confirmation, Euro 50,-- of which are non-refundable in any case of cancellation. Should we have to cancel a tour the complete deposit is fully refundable.

Payment

Final payment is due when invoice is sent and is expected ca. 8 weeks prior to departure.

Tour price

See above with respective number of travellers. A change in the number of participants will result in a new calculation. Price in USD may be flexible due to currency exchange rate. Original price is in Euro.

Currency exchange rate

The rate to match the Euro tour price is the day when a check is mailed from the US or the day a bank-transaction is performed. We will send out an invoice early and allow payment until ca 8 weeks prior to beginning of tour so you can determine the date of transaction and a hopefully favorable exchange rate.

Cancellations

We have always been generous in any case of cancellations but we reserve the right to charge fees in order to cover our expenses or fees required by airlines, bus- or cruise-companies, hotels, guides etc.

Cancellation fees (% of the tour-price) may apply for cancellations received:

From confirmation to 60 days before beginning of tour: no fees except Euro 50,-- handling fee from deposit

59 - 15. days before beginning of tour:	30 %
14 - 8 days before beginning of tour:	50 %
7 - 3 days before beginning of tour:	70 %
3 - 1 days before beginning of tour:	80 %
No show	100 %

Travel insurance

R&T carries all general liability insurance as any other Germany based tour operator. You can buy additional travel insurance (e.g. cancellation protection) at the US based on our confirmation and invoice to you.

Jurisdiction

Court of Jurisdiction is Oldenburg, Germany

Information

Please call, e-mail or fax us with any question you may have. We are looking forward to meeting you in Germany.

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