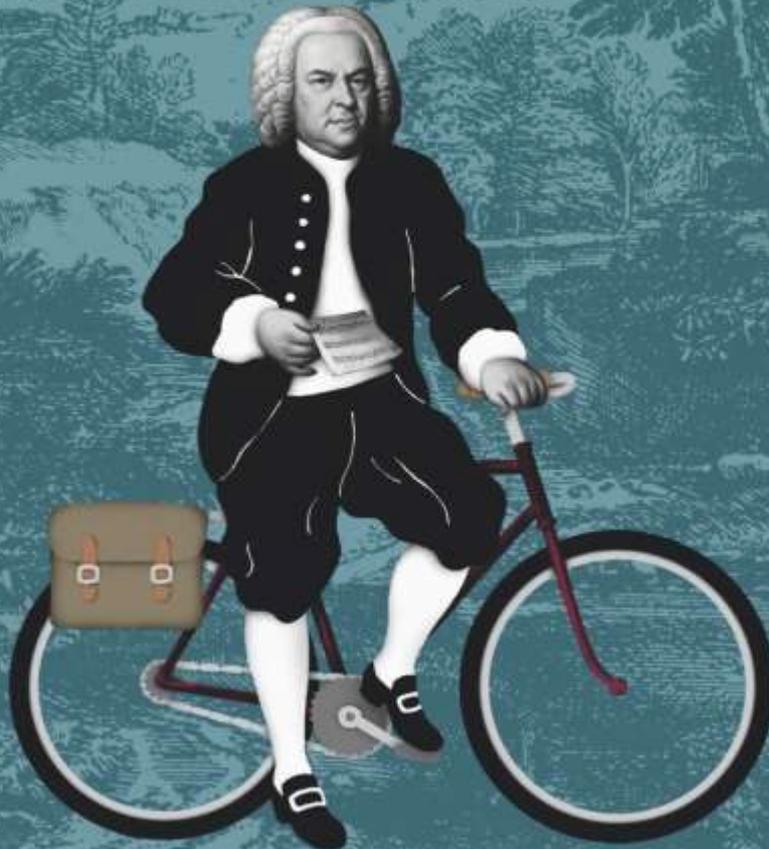




# Bach by Bike 2021



New: bookable only via Bach by Bike!

**EXCLUSIVE BIKE JOURNEY ON THE TRAIL OF JOHANN  
SEBASTIAN BACH**

**TRAVEL INFORMATION 2021**

Dear friends of music and cycling,

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) lived all his life in what is today Thuringia, Saxony and Saxony-Anhalt. As a world-famous composer, it is extraordinary that his life and work took place almost entirely within this limited area.

Mareike Neumann and Anna-Luise Oppelt, two young Bach- and bike-enthusiasts, took the opportunity to develop a unique journey from Bach's birthplace Eisenach to his place of death, Leipzig. Come with us and "experience" Bach by Bike! The tour includes not only Eisenach and Leipzig, but also Mühlhausen, Wechmar, the Bach family's ancestral hometown, and Gotha, Ohrdruf, Arnstadt, Dornheim, Erfurt, Weimar, Naumburg, Weißenfels, Halle and Köthen.

On long-distance bike paths, you will discover the charming landscapes of the Thuringian Forest, Ilm Valley, the wine-producing area Saale/Unstrut and the Saxonian Burgenland. You will explore museums, memorials and many original, preserved places, such as Dornheim Church, Bach's wedding church. In addition, you will meet people who, often on voluntary basis, protect Bach's heritage. Guided tours of organs, exclusive visits, intimate concerts and - for those who enjoy singing – sight-reading of Bach chorales during breaks will round off the trip.

In 2021 every tour includes a festival; you will listen to top-class concerts in the end or during the tour (Bachfest Leipzig, Bach Biennale Weimar, Bach places of MDR Music Summer, Köthen Autumn Festival - Köthener Herbst).

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we are currently unable to guarantee that the festivals/concerts will take place. If a festival has to be cancelled due to the pandemic, the tours will naturally be adapted to the situation, we will do our best to provide a replacement programme in cooperation with our many musical partners at the locations, and the discrepancy in the tour price will be refunded. The main focus of the tours is the experience of exploring the stages of Bach's life by bicycle. The journey is its own reward here!

In 2021, the tours will be conducted exclusively by Bach by Bike for the first time. We have developed a sustainable tour concept and pay our tour guides, musicians and local partners fair wages.

Our travel package includes an all-round service with luggage transport, lunch packs or picnics and selected and bicycle-friendly hotels along a beautiful route. Upon request and depending on availability you can book rental touring bikes or e-bikes.

Have a wonderful trip on an exclusive bike travel on the trail of Johann Sebastian Bach!

Bach by Bike – Mareike Neumann und Anna-Luise Oppelt

*Mareike Neumann Anna-Luise Oppelt*



DETAILS UND WEITERE INFOS: [www.bachbyike.com](http://www.bachbyike.com)

## TOUR 1 TO THE BACHFEST LEIPZIG

### Eisenach – Leipzig, 300 km

June 12 – 21, 2021, 10 days

#### DAY 1, INDIVIDUAL ARRIVAL AND EISENACH

Upon your self-organized arrival, we meet at the hotel in Eisenach at 2 pm. If you ordered a rental bike, we meet already at 1 pm. Afterwards, we take a tour around the city where Johann Sebastian Bach was born and visit the Bachhaus Eisenach. Explore the original places, streets and alleys where young Bach grew up. In the evening, your tour guides and Christian Stötzner, organist of Georgenkirche, will open the season with a concert at Bach's original baptismal font with arias and duets for alto, tenor and organ.

*1 night at Hotel Glockenhof in Eisenach\**

#### DAY 2, EISENACH – GOTHA – OHRDRUF, 60 KM

We depart from Eisenach and cycle along the Hörsel, passing through the gentle rises and falls of the mythical Hörsel hills. Around noon we arrive at Friedenstein Castle in Gotha. Having recollected our strength during the break, we continue the trail towards Wechmar, the Bachs' place of origin. There we visit the ancestral home of the Bachs, housing the largest family tree of the musicians' family. Come evening, we bike the short distance to Ohrdruf, and stay overnight in a hotel right next to the grounds of Ehrenstein Castle.

*1 night at Hotel Schlossgartenpassage in Ohrdruf\**

#### DAY 3, OHRDRUF – ARNSTADT, 25 KM

In the morning, we explore Ehrenstein Castle and the idyllic village of Ohrdruf. Bach stayed here as a pupil with his elder brother. A unique highlight is the preserved library within the tower of Michaelis Church which holds hymnbooks and books of sermons dating back to Bach's time. After a brief stop in the Thuringian Forest we reach Arnstadt. Following Bach's footsteps, we walk around the historic city center make our way towards the Bach House and visit the Bach Church to hear organ music and an introduction to the history of the building.

*1 night at Hotel Goldene Henne in Arnstadt\**

#### DAY 4, ARNSTADT – DORNHEIM – ERFURT – WEIMAR, 52 KM

The next morning, we visit the Bach exhibition at Arnstadt's Palace Museum. Around noon we depart to see Bach's wedding church in nearby Dornheim. After a guided tour of the church (where Bach fans from all over the world are still getting married today), we continue on our way along the Gera towards Thuringia's capital, Erfurt. Here you are shown the most important places of interests concerning Bach and stroll through the city centre before reaching our destination for the day, Weimar.

*1 night at Hotel Amalienhof in Weimar\**

#### DAY 5, WEIMAR – BAD SULZA, 35 KM

In Weimar, you are guided around the surviving Bach sites, such as the city castle and city church, where many of Bach's children were baptized. During the afternoon, we take the idyllic Ilm Valley bike trail going past castles, such as the summer residence of Weimar's dukes and duchesses. Finally, we get to the Thuringian Wine Gate and the spa town of Bad Sulza, where weary cyclists can recover in the local thermal baths.

*1 night at Hotel an der Therme in Bad Sulza\**



#### DAY 6, BAD SULZA – NAUMBURG – WEIßENFELS, 40 KM

A few kilometres onwards, we leave the Ilm behind and for the rest of the day follow the trail along the Saale, passing by romantic castles until we reach Bad Kösen with its impressive graduation works. Further on our way, the route leads us along the lower vineyards of Saale/Unstrut until we arrive in Naumburg. We visit St. Wenzel with the famous Hildebrandt organ. After lunch we cycle to Weißenfels to a guided tour of the chapel of Neu-Augustusburg Castle.

*1 night at Parkhotel Güldene Berge in Weißenfels\**

#### DAY 7, WEIßENFELS – LEIPZIG, 60 KM CYCLING

The next morning, we visit the Jägerhof, the place where Bach's Hunting Cantata was performed for the first time and the Heinrich-Schütz-House. Later, we cycle east towards the White Elster. If the weather is nice, we stop at the baroque castle Wiederau for lunch, and enjoy coffee and cake whilst listening to a cantata dedicated to Wiederau. The tour continues on the Elster bikeway through the Leipzig lake district to Leipzig. In the evening, we listen together to a concert at Nikolai Church Leipzig with Bach's St. John's Passion, the place where the passion was performed for the first time. Peter Dijkstra is conducting soloists, the Netherlands Chamber Choir and Concerto Köln.

*3 nights at Hotel Michaelis in Leipzig\**

#### DAY 8, BACHFEST LEIPZIG

After an extensive tour around the city's many Bach sites we listen to a concert of our patron Nils Mönkemeyer playing 2 concerts of Bach's good friend Georg Philipp Telemann and 2 of the famous Brandenburg concertos. In the afternoon and evening there is time to explore the city individually.

#### DAY 9, BACHFEST LEIPZIG

During the day, there are many opportunities to visit church services and other concerts of the Bachfest as well as the Bach Museum individually. At 6 p.m., we meet at St. Thomas Church for the final concert of the Bachfest, Bach's Mass in B Minor conducted by Jordi Savall and enjoy the rest of the evening together.

#### DAY 10, DEPARTURE

After breakfast everyone will embark on their individual journey home. Alternatively, you can join our return shuttle to Eisenach.

*\*or similar*

## INCLUDED IN THE PRICE:

- **9 nights** at mid-range hotels incl. breakfast
- **Lunch packs or picnics** (on cycling days)
- **1 group dinner** in Ohrdruf
- **Guided tour**
- **Luggage transport** from first to last hotel
- **All entrance fees to museums and churches:** Bachhaus Eisenach, Chapel of Castle Friedenstein Gotha, Bachstammhaus Wechmar, Ehrenstein Castle Ohrdruf, Michaelis Church Ohrdruf, Bachhaus Arnstadt, Palace Museum Arnstadt, Traukirche Dornheim (Wedding Church), St Wenzel Church Naumburg, Heinrich-Schütz-House Weißenfels, Chapel of Neu-Augustusburg Castle Weißenfels, Bach Museum Leipzig
- **City tours** in Eisenach, Ohrdruf, Arnstadt, Weimar, Leipzig
- **Organ tour** and organ concert in Bach Church Arnstadt, Wender organ
- **Concert** at Georgenkirche Eisenach, June 12, 2021 with Bach by Bike, alto and tenor and Christian Stötzner, organ
- **Concerts Bachfest Leipzig:**
  - Friday, June 18, 2021, 8 pm, Nikolai Church Leipzig: St. John's Passion
  - Saturday, June 19, 2021, 2 pm, Haus Leipzig: Brandenburg Concertos
  - Sunday, June 20, 2021, 6 pm, Thomas Church: Final Concert, B-Minor Mass
- Sheet music and information leaflets on Bach's compositions
- List of equipment

Double room per Person: 1990,- €

Single room supplement: 215,- €

*Changes reserved*

Minimum number of participants: 15

## Optional extras:

- **Rental touring bike or rental e-bike;** all bikes include bike bags and locks: 135,- €/ 198,- €
- **Rental helmet:** 36,- €
- **Return shuttle** from Leipzig to Eisenach (incl. person, luggage and individual bike) on Monday, June 21, 2021 at 9 am.: 75,- €



## Meeting point:

We meet at Hotel Glockenhof in Eisenach. From 1 pm to 2 pm the rental bikes will be adjusted. At 2 pm we welcome everyone at the reception. 14 days before the beginning of the tour, you will receive the last travel documents with detailed information of travel itinerary and the mobile telephone numbers of your tour guides.

## Address:

Hotel Glockenhof  
Grimmelgasse 4  
99817 Eisenach  
Tel.: +49-(0)36912340

Bach by Bike-emergency telephone:  
+49-228-24000224/  
+49-30-97986340



## **TOUR 2 THE YOUNG BACH – TO BACH BIENNALE WEIMAR**

### **Mühlhausen – Weimar, 185 km**

**July 3 – 12, 2021, 10 days**

#### **DAY 1, SELF ORGANIZED ARRIVAL AND MÜHLHAUSEN**

We meet at 2 p.m. at the hotel in Mühlhausen and explore the medieval town together. Young Bach had his second employment here. We visit the Divi Blasii church with an organ tour and St. Mary's Church as well as the city archive, where we will see the certificate of Bach's employment. In the evening, we enjoy three concerts of the organ-night "A feast for the queen of instruments" with organ, trumpet and timpani.

*1 night at Hotel Brauhaus zum Löwen in Mühlhausen\**

#### **DAY 2, MÜHLHAUSEN – EISENACH, 45 KM**

On our way to Eisenach we cycle through UNESCO World Heritage Hainich National Park, famous for its primeval beech forest. Enjoy the geographical center of Germany in Niederdorna and fantastic views of the Thuringian Basin.

*1 night at Hotel Glockenhof in Eisenach\**

#### **DAY 3, EISENACH – GOTHA, 40 KM**

In the morning we take a tour around the city where Johann Sebastian Bach was born and visit the Bachhaus Eisenach. Explore the original places, streets and alleys where young Bach grew up. We depart from Eisenach and cycle along the Hörsel, passing through the gentle rises and falls of the mythical Hörsel hills.

*1 night at Hotel am Schlosspark in Gotha\**



#### **DAY 4, GOTHA – WEIMAR – OHRDRUF 20 KM**

Upon arrival in Gotha, we visit Friedenstein Castle, where we will see the world's oldest baroque theatre, the Ekhof Theatre, with its original stage machinery. We continue the trail towards Weimar, the Bachs' place of origin. There we visit the ancestral home of the Bachs, housing the largest family tree of the musicians' family as well as the original mill, formerly owned by great-grandfather Veit Bach. In the afternoon, we bike the short distance to Ohrdruf, and stay overnight in a hotel right next to the grounds of Ehrenstein Castle.

*1 night at Hotel Schlossgartenpassage in Ohrdruf\**



#### **DAY 5, OHRDRUF – ARNSTADT, 25 KM**

Today we explore Ehrenstein Castle and the idyllic village of Ohrdruf. Bach stayed here as a pupil with his elder brother. A unique highlight is the preserved library within the tower of Michaelis Church which holds hymnbooks and books of sermons dating back to Bach's time.

We briefly stop in the Thuringian forest and reach Arnstadt in the early afternoon. Following Bach's footsteps, we walk around the historic city center and then make our way towards Bachhaus Arnstadt and the Bach Church to hear organ music and an introduction to the history of the building.

*1 night at Hotel Goldene Henne in Arnstadt\**

#### **DAY 6, ARNSTADT – DORNHEIM – ERFURT, 27 KM**

We visit the Bach exhibition at Arnstadt's Schlossmuseum (Palace Museum). We start cycling by following along the way Bach's wedding party took to his wedding church in neighbouring Dornheim. After a guided tour of the church (where Bach fans from all over the world are still getting married today), we continue on our way along the Gera towards Thuringia's capital, Erfurt. In the evening you can stroll around the "Thuringian Rome" individually.

*1 night at Hotel Zumnorde in Erfurt\**

#### **DAY 7, ERFURT – WEIMAR, 25 KM**

In the morning you are shown the most important places of interests concerning Bach. After the city tour, we reach our destination Weimar on a short stage along the "Thuringian city-chain". In the evening we will hear the opening concert of the Bach Biennale Weimar with harpsichordist Andreas Staier & friends. Further details about the program of the Bach Biennale with the motto "Bach natural" will soon be available at: [www.bachbiennaleweimar.de](http://www.bachbiennaleweimar.de).

*3 nights at Hotel Amalienhof in Weimar\**

#### **DAY 8, BACH BIENNALE WEIMAR**

Today we listen to more concerts of the Bach Biennale. After this there is some time to explore the city. In the evening we will join another event of the Bach Biennale.

#### **DAY 9, BACH BIENNALE WEIMAR**

In Weimar, you are guided around the surviving Bach sites, such as the city castle and city church, where many of Bach's children were baptized. The city tour is accompanied musically. In the afternoon we visit the final concert of the Bach Biennale, taking place in beautiful Ilm park with Alfredo Bernardini and Ensemble Zefiro.

#### **DAY 10, DEPARTURE**

After breakfast, everyone will embark on their individual journey home. Alternatively, you can join our shuttle to Mühlhausen.

*\*or similar*

## INCLUDED IN THE PRICE:

- **9 nights** at mid-range hotels incl. breakfast
- **Lunch packs or picnics** (on cycling days)
- **1 group dinner** in Ohrdruf
- **Guided tour**
- **Luggage transport** from first to last hotel
- **All entrance fees to museums and churches:** city hall-archive Mühlhausen, St Mary's Church Mühlhausen, Church Divi Blasii Mühlhausen, Bachhaus Eisenach, EkhoF-Theater Gotha, Chapel of Friedenstein Castle Gotha, Bachstammhaus Wechmar, Veit Bach Mill Wechmar, Ehrenstein Castle Ohrdruf, Michaelis Church Ohrdruf, Bachhaus Arnstadt, Palace Museum Arnstadt, Traukirche Dornheim (Wedding Church)
- **City tours** in Eisenach, Ohrdruf, Arnstadt, Erfurt, Weimar
- **Organ tours** and organ concerts in Church Divi Blasii Mühlhausen and Bach Church Arnstadt, Wender organ
- **Concerts** and events of Bach Biennale Weimar (amongst others):
  - Opening concert Staier&friends „Bach privat“
  - Final concert Zefiro and Alfredo Bernardini
- Sheet music and information leaflets on Bach's compositions
- List of equipment

Double room per person: 1890,- €

Single room supplement: 210,- €

*Changes reserved*      Minimum number of participants: 15

### Address:

Hotel Brauhaus zum Löwen  
Felchtaer Str. 2-4  
99974 Mühlhausen / Thüringen  
Deutschland  
Tel.: +49 (0)3601 / 471-0

Bach by Bike-emergency telephone:  
+49-228-24000224 / +49-30-97986340



### Optional extras:

- **Rental touring bike or rental e-bike;** all bikes include bike bags and locks: 135,- €/ 198,- €
- **Rental helmet:** 36,- €
- **Return shuttle** from Weimar to Mühlhausen, incl. person, luggage and individual bike on Monday, July 12, 2021, at 9 am: 40,- €

### Meeting point:

We meet at Hotel Brauhaus zum Löwen in Mühlhausen. From 1 pm to 2 pm the rental bikes will be adjusted. At 2 pm we welcome everyone at the reception. 14 days before the beginning of the tour, you will receive the last travel documents with detailed information of travel itinerary and the mobile telephone numbers of your tour guides.



## TOUR 3 TO THE MDR MUSIC SUMMER

### Eisenach – Köthen (incl. Mühlhausen und Leipzig), 340 km

July 16 – 26, 2021, 11 days

#### DAY 1: INDIVIDUAL ARRIVAL AND EISENACH

Upon your self-organized arrival, we meet at the hotel in Eisenach at 2 pm. If you booked a rental bike we meet already at 1 pm. Afterwards, we take a tour around the city where Johann Sebastian Bach was born and visit the Bachhaus Eisenach. Explore the original places, streets and alleys where young Bach grew up. In the evening we will listen to a concert of the MDR Music Summer with the famous Thomanerchor from Leipzig in the Georgenkirche, Bach's baptistery.

*1 night at Hotel Glockenhof in Eisenach\**

#### DAY 2, EISENACH – GOTHA – MÜHLHAUSEN, 37 KM

We depart from Eisenach and cycle along the Hörsel, passing through the gentle rises and falls of the mythical Hörsel hills. Around noon we arrive at our hotel at the garden of Friedenstein Castle in Gotha. Having recollected our strength during the break, we continue by train towards Mühlhausen where young Bach had his second employment. We visit the city archive, where we will see the certificate of Bach's employment. In the late afternoon we will hear a concert of MDR music summer in the Divi Blasii Church with the recorder-player Dorothee Oberlinger and her ensemble before travelling back to Gotha.

*1 night at Hotel am Schlosspark in Gotha\**

#### DAY 3, GOTHA – WECHMAR – ARNSTADT, 27 KM

In the morning we will visit the chapel of Castle Friedenstein in Gotha and cycle on towards Wechmar, the Bachs' place of origin. There we visit the ancestral home of the Bachs, housing the largest family tree of the musicians' family. We continue the trail along the Bach-Cycling-Route to Arnstadt. There we will get a guiding through Arnstadt. Come evening, we visit a concert at the Bach Church with the MDR radio choir and Bach Church-organist Jörg Reddin.

*1 night at Hotel Goldene Henne in Arnstadt\**

#### DAY 4, ARNSTADT – DORNHEIM – ERFURT – WEIMAR, 52 KM

We visit the Bach exhibition at Arnstadt's Schlossmuseum (Palace Museum). Around noon we depart to see Bach's wedding church in nearby Dornheim. After a guided tour of the church (where Bach fans from all over the world are still getting married today), we continue on our way along the Gera towards Thuringia's capital, Erfurt. Here you are shown the most important places of interests concerning Bach and stroll through the city centre before reaching our destination for the day, Weimar.

*1 night at Hotel Amalienhof in Weimar\**

#### DAY 5, WEIMAR – BAD SULZA, 35 KM

In Weimar, you are guided around the surviving Bach sites, such as the city castle and city church, where many of Bach's children were baptised. During the afternoon, we take the idyllic Ilm Valley bike trail going past castles, such as the summer residence of Weimar's dukes and duchesses. Finally, we get to the Thuringian Wine Gate and the spa town of Bad Sulza, where weary cyclists can recover in the local thermal baths.

*1 night at Hotel an der Therme in Bad Sulza\**



#### DAY 6, BAD SULZA – NAUMBURG – WEIßENFELS, 40 KM

A few kilometres onwards, we leave the Ilm behind and for the rest of the day follow the trail along the Saale, passing by romantic castles until we reach Bad Kösen with its impressive graduation works. Further on our way, the route leads us along the lower vineyards of Saale/Unstrut until we arrive in Naumburg. There, a guided tour of the famous Hildebrandt organ awaits us, which conveys the singularity of Bach's sound ideal until today. After lunch we cycle to Weißenfels to visit the chapel of Neu-Augustusburg. Finally, we stop off to the sounds of Bach's Hunting Cantata at the Jägerhof, the place it was performed for the first time.

*1 night at Hotel Jägerhof in Weißenfels\**

#### DAY 7, WEIßENFELS – LEIPZIG, 60 KM

The next morning, we visit the Heinrich-Schütz-House. Later, we cycle east towards the White Elster. If the weather is nice, we stop at the baroque castle Wiederau for lunch, and enjoy coffee and cake whilst listening to a cantata dedicated to Wiederau. The tour continues on the Elster bikeway through the Leipzig lake district to the last stop of the tour, Leipzig. The evening is at your free disposal.

*2 nights at Hotel Michaelis in Leipzig\**

#### DAY 8, LEIPZIG

After an extensive tour around the city's many Bach sites there is an opportunity to visit the Bach Museum and explore the city individually.

#### DAY 9, HALLE A.D. SAALE, 40 km

We leave Leipzig behind and cycle along the dikes of the White Elster until we reach the city center of Halle. Here, we visit the Museum of the eldest Bach Son, Wilhelm Friedemann-Bach-House, and the Handel-House, Handel being one famous Bach contemporary.

*1 night at Hotel Ankerhof in Halle a. d. Saale\**

#### DAY 10, HALLE A.D. SAALE – KÖTHEN, 45 KM

We continue to the final stage of the trip to the residential city of Köthen. Here we listen to a concert of MDR music summer with pianist Martin Stadtfeld and a chamber orchestra and spend the evening discovering Bach's traces during a tour of the city and will have a special baroque dinner like in Bach's time.

*1 night at Hotel Anhalt in Köthen\**

#### DAY 11, DEPARTURE

After breakfast everyone will embark on their individual journey home. Alternatively, you can join our return shuttle to Eisenach.

\*or similar

## INCLUDED IN THE PRICE:

- **10 nights** at mid-range hotels incl. breakfast
- **Lunch packs** or picnics (on cycling days)
- **1 dinner** on the last day in Köthen
- **Guided tour**
- **Luggage transport** from first to last hotel
- **All entrance fees to museums and churches:** Bachhaus Eisenach, Chapel Castle Friedenstern Gotha, Bachstammhaus Wechmar, city hall-archive Mühlhausen, Palace Museum Arnstadt, Traukirche Dornheim (Wedding Church), St Wenzel Church Naumburg, Heinrich-Schütz-House Weißenfels, Chapel of Neu-Augustusburg Castle Weißenfels, Bach Museum Leipzig, Handel-House Halle, Wilhelm-Friedemann-Bach-House Halle
- **City tours** in Eisenach, Weimar, Leipzig, Köthen
- **Organ tours** and organ concerts in Bach Church Arnstadt, Wender organ and in St Wenzel Naumburg, Hildebrandt organ
- **4 concerts of MDR Music Summer:**
  - Fr, July 17, 2021, 7.30 pm, Eisenach Georgenkirche: Thomanerchor
  - Sa, July 18, 2021, 5 pm, Mühlhausen Divi Blasii: Dorothee Oberlinger
  - Su, July 19, 2021, 5 pm, Arnstadt Bach Church: MDR Radio Choir and Jörg Reddin
  - Su, July 26, 2021, 5 pm, Köthen Bachsaal: Martin Stadtfeld
- List of equipment
- Sheet music and information leaflets on Bach's compositions

Double room per Person: 2090,- €

Single room supplement: 250,- €

*Changes reserved*

Minimum number of participants: 15



### Address:

Hotel Glockenhof  
Grimmelgasse 4  
99817 Eisenach  
Tel.: +49-(0)36912340

Bach by Bike-  
emergency telephone:  
+49-228-24000224/  
+49-30-97986340



### Optional extras:

- **Rental touring bike or rental e-bike;** all bikes include bike bags and locks: 150,- € / 220,- €
- **Rental helmet:** 40,- €
- **Return shuttle** from Köthen to Eisenach (incl. person, luggage and individual bike) on Monday July 26, 2021 at 9 am: 85,- €



### Meeting point:

We meet at Hotel Glockenhof in Eisenach. From 1 pm to 2 pm the rental bikes will be adjusted. At 2 pm we welcome everyone at the reception. 14 days before the beginning of the tour, you will receive the last travel documents with detailed information of travel itinerary and the mobile telephone numbers of your tour guides.

## TOUR 4 TO THE KÖTHEN AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Leipzig – Köthen, 85 km

September 2 – 5, 2021, 4 days

### DAY 1, INDIVIDUAL ARRIVAL AND LEIPZIG

We meet at the hotel in Leipzig at 1 pm. In Leipzig, Johann Sebastian Bach spent the second half of his life here. After an extensive tour around the city's many Bach sites there is an opportunity to visit the Bach Museum. In the evening, we enjoy the excellent cuisine of our hotel together.

*1 night at Hotel Michaelis in Leipzig\**

### DAY 2, LEIPZIG – HALLE A.D. SAALE, 40 KM

In the morning we start cycling, you will receive your rental bike at the hotel, if you booked one. We leave Leipzig behind and cycle along the dikes of the White Elster, including a swimming stop at a lake if the weather is nice, until we reach the city center of Halle. Here, we visit the Museum of the eldest Bach son, Wilhelm-Friedemann-Bach-House, and the Handel-House, Handel being one famous Bach contemporary.

*1 night at Hotel Ankerhof in Halle a. d. Saale\**

### DAY 3, HALLE A.D. SAALE – KÖTHEN, 45 KM

We continue to the second stage of the trip to the residential city of Köthen. If the weather allows, we stop off at a lake. We spend the late afternoon discovering Bach's traces during a tour of the city



and will have a special baroque dinner like in Bach's time.

Afterwards, we listen to a concert in the city palace (Spiegelsaal) with sonatas for traverso and harpsichord by J. S. Bach.

Weitere Information to Köthen Autumn Festival: [www.bachfreunde-koethen.de/herbst.htm](http://www.bachfreunde-koethen.de/herbst.htm)

*1 night at Hotel Anhalt in Köthen\**

### DAY 4, KÖTHENER HERBST AND INDIVIDUAL DEPARTURE

We begin the last day of our short tour with a festive cantata service in St. Agnus. At 11.30 am, we visit a second concert of the Köthen Autumn Festival in the chapel of the city palace. We finish our tour with the final concert of the festival in St. Jacob Church at 4 pm with Brandenburg Concertos and Bach cantatas played by Le Concert Lorrain. Afterwards everyone will embark on their individual journey home. Alternatively, you can contact us regarding an additional night in Köthen.

### INCLUDED IN THE PRICE:

- **3 nights** at mid-range hotels incl. breakfast
- **Lunch packs** or picnics (on cycling days)
- **1 dinner** in Leipzig
- **1 dinner** in Köthen
- **Guided tour**
- **Luggage transport** from first to last hotel
- **All entrance fees to museums and churches:** Bach Museum Leipzig, Handel-House Halle, Wilhelm-Friedemann-Bach-House Halle, City Palace Köthen
- **City tours** in Leipzig and Köthen
- **3 concerts of Köthen Autumn Festival** (Köthener Herbst):
  - Saturday, September 4, 2021, 8 pm: Chamber music with Marten Root, traverso and Menno van Delft, harpsichord, Spiegelsaal city palace
  - Sunday, September 5, 2021, 11.30 am: N. N. chapel city palace
  - Sunday, September 5, 2021, 4 pm: Brandenburg Concertos e. g. with Le Concert Lorrain, Church St. Jakob
- List of equipment
- Sheet music and information leaflets on Bach's compositions

Double room per Person: 790,- €

Single room supplement: 75,- €

*Changes reserved*

Minimum number of participants: 15

\*or similar

### Optional extras:

- Rental touring bike or rental e-bike: on request

### Meeting point:

We meet at Hotel Michaelis in Leipzig. At 1 pm we welcome everyone at the reception. 14 days before the beginning of the tour, you will receive the last travel documents with detailed information of travel itinerary and the mobile telephone numbers of your tour guides.

### Address:

Hotel Michaelis  
Paul-Gruner-Str. 44  
04107 Leipzig  
Tel.: +49-341-26780

Bach by Bike-emergency  
telephone:

0228-24000224/ 030-97986340

## GENERAL TRAVEL INFORMATION

### ROUTE:

The cycling route runs on official (long-distance) trails and roads with little traffic which are mostly asphalted without longer slopes. There are a few sections on gravel paths.

In Thuringia there will be a bit of an up and down and we will have to manage the one or the other ascent. The first stage of tour 2 (The Young Bach) runs through the National parc Hainich; here we have some height differences to overcome on partly unpaved roads. In the following days the tour is very comfortable, and we cycle mostly along rivers. We do recommend using an e-bike to easily master the climbs of the first couple of days and to enjoy the programme of guided tours and museum visits in a more relaxed way. The tour is designed in a way that there is always a cushion of time for potential incidents, for example rain, breakdowns, etc. As a last resort, some day trips can be completed by train; you can switch to a regional train in most places, e.g. if the weather is getting bad.

### Total cycling route:

Tour 1: 300 km

Tour 2: 185 km

Tour 3: 340 km

Tour 4: 85 km



### CLOTHING:

We visit museums or churches during the cycling stages. We recommend having clothes for all weather with you in the daily luggage. If the weather doesn't play along, we will try and go on cycling. We ask you kindly to bring rain wear with you.

### SWIMMING:

We pass by rivers and lakes, where we are happy to stop for a swim on a warm day. We will announce this the evening before so that swimwear can be packed into the day luggage.



## ARRIVAL:

The rooms are ready to check in at 2 am at the latest. You can deposit your luggage at the hotel before.

### By train:

Mühlhausen, Eisenach and Leipzig have train stations. The hotels are within 15 min. walking distance or can be reached by public transport easily.

### By car:

#### TOUR 1 and TOUR 3:

It is not possible to park your car at Hotel Glockenhof for several days. We recommend free parking in the side roads or the public parking lot with video monitoring opposite the hotel „Alte Brauerei“ (price: 8,- € /day, please contact us directly).

#### TOUR 2:

If available you can park for 6,- €/day at Hotel Brauhaus zum Löwen. Please contact the hotel early: Tel.: +49 (0)3601471-0.

#### TOUR 4:

In the garage of Hotel Michaelis there are parking spaces for 6,- €/night, if available.

## DEPARTURE:

On departure day you can book our return shuttle (optional extras, Tour 1-3).

Weimar, Leipzig and Köthen have train stations. They are within walking distance or reachable by public transport.



## ABOUT BACH BY BIKE:

Mareike Neumann and Anna-Luise Oppelt studied together at the Music University of Detmold.

Since 2011, Mareike Neumann is a professional violinist with the Beethoven Orchestra Bonn, after playing with the Philharmonic State Orchestra Hamburg and the Museum Orchestra Frankfurt. She is also playing as a baroque violinist in several ensembles and since 2007 as a member of Ensemble Horizonte for contemporary music.

Anna-Luise Oppelt is a professional freelance mezzosoprano, having obtained her bachelor's and master's degree of Voice at the Music University of Weimar, after receiving her state exam and diploma as a certified violin and singing teacher. She is performing as a soloist in opera and concert and has been regularly invited to perform as a member of the radio choir of the MDR in Leipzig, NDR in Hamburg, the Balthasar-Neumann-Choir and several other ensembles.

Both undertake extensive bike tours together, including Norderney to Detmold (2006), Passau to Berlin (2008), Orleans to Biarritz (2010), Berlin to Danzig (2013) and Klaipeda to Tallinn (2017), and for eight years now have been guiding Bach and bike enthusiasts along this tour, an extraordinarily inspiring combination of nature and culture following Bach's footsteps.

## PREPARING FOR THE TRAVEL:

We recommend listening to Bach's music and to be eager to visit all the authentic places of origin. Apart from that, you only need to pack your bike and necessary luggage and off we go! There is a huge number of books about J.S. Bach and his life, which are also available in museums along the way. We especially recommend the book, „Exploring the world of J.S. Bach“ by Robert L. Marshall and Traute M. Marshall, published in 2016 (University of Illinois Press). And there is a new translation of “Bach and the Tuning of the World” (Alexander Verlag, 2020) by Jens Johler, available as e-book.

## FURTHER INFORMATION:

### BOOKING OPTIONS:

You can book a single room or a double room for two persons. If available, you also have the option to choose a double room with a stranger of the same sex. For this option we need to know whether you are feminine or masculine in the registration sheet. Please also note the terms and conditions.

This option is subject to the current restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

### LIMITED MOBILITY:

In accordance with article 250 § 3 of the EGBGB (Introductory Act to the German Civil Code), we are required to inform you that our tours are not suitable for people with limited mobility. If you are unsure whether you are able to participate in the tour comfortably with an E-Bike, please do not hesitate to ask us. We are happy to provide personal assistance!



### LANGUAGE:

Our tours are conducted in German. Our tour guides speak English and are happy to provide translation to international guests during the tours. Some tours are translated verbally, or you will receive a translated handout.

### GROUP SIZE AND MINIMUM NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS:

The minimum number of participants for our tours is 15. If the minimum number is not reached, we reserve the right to withdraw from the tour contract. The corresponding declaration must be sent to you at least 29 days before the scheduled beginning of the tour. The average group size is approximately 15 to 25 people.

### TOUR OPERATOR:

Bach by Bike – Mareike Neumann und Anna-Luise Oppelt GbR

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