

2015 “PORCELAIN PAINTING ART & BEYOND” TOUR TO GERMANY
INCLUDES A 3 ½ DAY PORCELAIN PAINTING CLASS WITH ERIKA BEMME
IN REMSCHEID FOR CLASSIC MEISSEN “INDIAN STYLE” TECHNIQUES

Germany is the birthplace of European porcelain. Until today the great tradition of artful handcrafted porcelain is very much alive at many local porcelain manufacturers in Germany.

In the early 18th century endeavors were made in Germany to unlock the secret of porcelain manufacturing. The orders were given by Augustus II "the Strong", the Electoral Prince of Saxony and King of Poland. In 1708, European porcelain was invented by J.F. Boettger in Dresden. In 1710, white porcelain was manufactured in Meissen, Germany, for the first time in Europe. Many other today world-renowned manufacturers of high-quality European porcelain have been founded since then – such as the manufacturers in Fuerstenberg or Frankfurt - Hoechst as two examples.

Fuerstenberg porcelain: <http://www2.fuerstenberg-porzellan.com/acapif/fbg2/home.prt?lang=en>
 Frankfurt – Hoechst porcelain: <http://www.hoechster-porzellan.de/en/>

Our “Porcelain Painting Art & Beyond” Tour includes a **3 ½-day porcelain painting class** for **Meissen “Indian Style”** with the experienced professional instructor Erika Bemme at her studio in Remscheid. Erika Bemme is a Meissen trained porcelain painter with heart and soul. She is specialized in the so-called Meissen “Indian Painting”. In 2003 she obtained the certificates of “Master Teacher” and “Master Artist” conferred by IPAT / USA. Also see: www.erika-bemme.de (click on “Meine Vita” / “Galerie” / “Veroeffentlichungen” – also in English).



Pictures: Two examples for Meissen “Indian Painting” + Other examples of Erika Bemme’s work

We will visit the prestigious porcelain manufacturers in Fuerstenberg and Frankfurt-Hoechst. You will also have plenty of time to discover Germany’s historic towns, castles, scenic landscapes and, last but not least, the many authentic local culinary delights Germany has to offer. We will travel along the Rhine valley with its romantic castles, ruins and vineyards and we will take you to the beautiful town of Quedlinburg in the scenic Harz Mountains with its medieval half-timbered houses and the over 1000 years old magnificent Cathedral sitting enthroned above the historic town center. Both, the Rhine River valley & the town of Quedlinburg are UNESCO world cultural heritage sites. This tour takes you to the more rural scenic countryside and to charming small towns in Germany.

Travel date: **September 10th – 23rd, 2015 (Thu – Wed, 14 days / 12 nights on ground)**

Tour destinations: Frankfurt – Ruedesheim – Rhine valley – Boppard – Koblenz – Remscheid – Fuerstenberg – Quedlinburg / Harz – Marburg – Hoechst – Frankfurt

Tour price starts at: **\$3,969** (ground package, double occupancy, cash payment)*
 Based on a group size of either 4-5 or 7-12 travelers (max. 8 painters)
 * Based on bankers buyers’ currency exchange rate 1 EUR = 1.30 USD
 Add \$550 single supplement (twin bed rooms to share available but limited)
 Package includes: Hotel accommodation with daily rich breakfast (air conditioned if available)
 Private van/bus with driver / airport transfers / bilingual tour guide throughout
 Admission for group activities as stated in the itinerary / Rhine river boat trip
 3 ½ -day porcelain painting class with lunches and refreshments
 9 additional group meals (limited beverage consumption) / Wine tasting

We offer individual trip extensions if you want to add a few days in Germany or Europe. We also provide alternate sightseeing programs for accompanying family / friends and other “non-painters”.



Basic trip itinerary for the 2015 “Porcelain Art & Beyond” Tour in Germany:

Day 01 – Thu, September 10th: Travel day

Individual departure from the U.S. / Flight to Frankfurt, Germany

Day 02 – Fri, September 11th: Arrival / Ruedesheim

Individual arrival at Frankfurt airport / Pick-up by guide / Transfer to the scenic small town of Ruedesheim at the Rhine River banks / Welcome group dinner / Overnight: Ruedesheim

Day 03 – Sat, September 12th: Ruedesheim / Rhine river valley / Boppard

Rhine River boat tour / Individual lunch / Boppard / Transfer back to Ruedesheim / Free time in Ruedesheim / Shopping / Group dinner with wine tasting / Overnight: Ruedesheim

Day 04 – Sun, September 13th: Koblenz / Remscheid / Introduction at Erika Bemme’s studio

Transfer to Koblenz / Koblenz / Individual lunch / Transfer to Remscheid / Meet Erika Bemme / Porcelain painting class: introduction, demos, get started / Group dinner / Overnight: Remscheid

Day 05 – Mon, September 14th: Porcelain Painting Class “Meissen Indian Painting”

Class from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with 1-hour group lunch break / Late afternoon: free time for individual activities or group excursion (optional) / Individual dinner / Overnight: Remscheid

Day 06 – Tue, September 15th: Porcelain Painting Class “Meissen Indian Painting”

Class from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with 1-hour group lunch break / Late afternoon: free time for individual activities or group excursion (optional) / Individual dinner / Overnight: Remscheid

Day 07 – Wed, September 16th: Porcelain Painting Class “Meissen Indian Painting”

Class from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with 1-hour group lunch break / Late afternoon: free time for individual activities or group excursion (optional) / Individual dinner / Overnight: Remscheid

Day 08 – Thu, September 17th: Collect finished pieces / Fuerstenberg

Collect finished pieces at Erika Bemme’s studio / Transfer to Fuerstenberg / Individual lunch / Fuerstenberg / Group dinner / Overnight: Fuerstenberg

Day 09 – Fri, September 18th: Fuerstenberg Castle & Porcelain Manufacturer

Visit of Fuerstenberg Castle / Guided tour at porcelain manufacturer / Group lunch / Shopping / Free time in Fuerstenberg / Individual dinner / Overnight: Fuerstenberg

Day 10 – Sat, September 19th: Harz Mountains / Quedlinburg

Transfer to scenic Harz Mountains / Rosstrappe view point / Individual lunch / Transfer to Quedlinburg / Quedlinburg / Group dinner / Overnight: Quedlinburg

Day 11 – Sun, September 20th: Quedlinburg

Visit Cathedral with Treasure Chamber / Group lunch / Free time in Quedlinburg for individual activities / Shopping / Individual dinner / Overnight: Quedlinburg

Day 12 – Mon, September 21st: Marburg / Frankfurt

Transfer to Marburg / Marburg / Group lunch / Transfer to Frankfurt / Visit historic city center of Frankfurt / Individual dinner / Overnight: Frankfurt

Day 13 – Tue, September 22nd: Frankfurt / Hoechst Porcelain Manufacturer

Guided tour at Hoechst porcelain manufacturer / Shopping / Individual lunch / Free time in Frankfurt for individual activities / Farewell dinner / Overnight: Frankfurt

Day 14 – Wed, September 23rd: Travel day

Transfer to Frankfurt airport / Individual departure / Return flight / Individual arrival in the U.S.

Trip itinerary and ground package price are subject to changes.



Donna Sullivan (main contact, Houston)

Email: donnabsullivan@aol.com

Phone: (1) 713.291.3492

The German American Connection

Ute Boese (partner for Germany)

Email: ute@tgac-us.com

Please contact us for detailed tour information and registration!

