

**“PORCELAIN PAINTING ART & BEYOND” TOUR TO GERMANY**  
**2012 TOURS WITH PAINTING CLASSES IN DRESDEN / LENGGRIES**

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

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 the King of Poland. In 1708, white porcelain was manufactured for the first time in Europe under the leadership of E.W. von Tschirnhaus and J.F. Boettger.

The “**Saxon Porcelain Manufactory of Dresden**” was founded in 1872 and is still keeping alive the long tradition of European porcelain art. Few skillful shapers and painters are manufacturing delicate porcelain items purely by hand. In 1708, the European porcelain was invented in Dresden being the baroque royal capital of Saxony.

The “**State Porcelain Manufactory Meissen**” was founded in 1710 and is Europe’s first porcelain manufacturer. Table services, figurines, accessories are still hand-crafted. The "Crossed Swords" is the oldest trademark in the world to have been used without interruption since their creation.

In 1757, G.H. Macheleid from Thuringia independently developed a technique to make porcelain. Since then, many small manufacturers along the so called “**Porcelain Roads in Thuringia and Northern Bavaria**” have made their ways creating an exciting diversity of local designs: decors featuring native flowers, birds, landscapes, portraits, herbs...

Founded in 1751, the “**Royal Prussian Porcelain Manufactory KPM**” stands for the very finest porcelain and one of the leading luxury brands in the world. The legendary King of Prussia, Frederick the Great, gave the company its name and trademark in 1763.

The “**Nymphenburg Porcelain Manufactory of Munich**” has been handcrafting finest porcelain services, figures and objects of the greatest quality and purity for 260 years. Its history is inseparably associated with the famous royal Wittelsbach dynasty in Bavaria.

“Porcelain Painting Art & Beyond” Tours include **two 2-day hands-on painting classes** with experienced professional instructors – one in **Dresden** and one in **Bavaria**. We will visit prestigious porcelain manufacturers as well as precious porcelain collections at historic places and royal palaces. We organize encounters with local porcelain painters.

You will also have time to discover Germany’s historic castles and palaces, parks, gardens, traditional small towns and villages, scenic landscapes and, last but not least, the many authentic local culinary delights Germany has to offer throughout the year.

**We offer to plan and organize individual trip extensions in case you want to add a few days in Germany or Europe. We also provide alternate programs for accompanying family / friends and “non-painters” who would like to join the group but who do not want to participate in the porcelain painters’ hands-on workshops.**

The custom “Porcelain Painting & Beyond” Tours to Germany are a joint project of:



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## “PORCELAIN PAINTING ART & BEYOND” TOUR TO GERMANY

Travel dates: **August 30 – September 13, 2012 (Thu – Thu, 15 days)**  
**October 11 – 25, 2012 (Thu – Thu, 15 days)**

Tour price starts at: **\$3,984** (ground package, double occupancy, cash payment)\*  
Based on a group size of either 4-6 or 10-16 travelers  
*\* Based on exchange rate 1 EUR = 1.35 USD*  
Add \$600 single supplement (twin bed rooms to share available)

Packages include: Hotel accommodation with breakfast (air conditioned if available)  
Private bus with driver and bilingual travel escort throughout  
Admission fees for tour-related trips, museums, galleries, castles etc.  
Two 2-day porcelain painting classes with lunch snacks  
6 group meals including beverages / 1 wine tasting / 1 coffee & cake

**Day 1 – Thursday: Individual departure from the U.S. or elsewhere**

**Day 2 – Friday: Individual arrival in Germany’s capital Berlin**

Welcome at the hotel – Classic sightseeing tour on a boat through central historical and modern Berlin – Brief walking tour in the historic district Berlin-Mitte – Welcome dinner – Overnight: Berlin.

**Day 3 – Saturday: Berlin – KPM and more**

Guided tour at KPM porcelain manufactory with demonstration – Flea Market Berlin – Time for individual excursions in Berlin (personal tips and maps will be provided) – Overnight: Berlin.

**Day 4 – Sunday: Porcelain Manufacturer Meissen – Wine Tasting – Dresden**

Guided tour the Meissen Porcelain Manufacturer – Saxony Wine Tasting – Dresden – Overnight: Dresden.

**Day 5 – Monday: Porcelain Painting Seminar “Dresden style” – Day 1**

Welcome and Introduction – Painting class – Coffee & Cake – Shopping – Dresden – Overnight: Dresden.

**Day 6 – Tuesday: Porcelain Painting Seminar “Dresden style” – Day 2**

Appraisal firing results – Painting class – Guided tour through manufactory – Excursion to Weesenstein castle – Scenic historic train ride through countryside – Dinner in Dresden – Overnight: Dresden.

**Day 7 – Wednesday: Erfurt – Medieval town in Germany’s green heart**

Pick-up of final pieces – Lunch in Erfurt – Walking Tour – Individual activities – Overnight: Erfurt.

**Day 8 – Thursday: Thuringian Porcelain Road – Local gems**

Porcelain manufacturers Volkstedt and Kaemmerer with guided tour and shopping – Lunch – Local gems in the beautiful Thuringian Forest (castle, mustard mill or others) – Overnight: Erfurt.

**Day 9 – Friday: Thuringian Forest and Franconia – Porcelain & Glass – Romantic Road**

Glass manufactory Lauscha – Porcelain in Franconia – Transfer to Rothenburg – Overnight: Rothenburg.

**Day 10 – Saturday: Medieval Rothenburg ob der Tauber – Bad Toelz/Lenggries**

Guided walking tour in Rothenburg – Shopping – Bad Toelz in Bavaria – Overnight: Bad Toelz/Lenggries.

**Day 11 – Sunday: Porcelain Painting Seminar “Bavaria” (Sohr / Kugelmeier) – Day 1**

Welcome and Introduction – Painting class in Lenggries (Sohr / Kugelmeier) – Overnight: Bad Toelz/Lenggries.

**Day 12 – Monday: Porcelain Painting Seminar “Bavaria” (Sohr / Kugelmeier) – Day 2**

Appraisal firing results – Painting class – Excursion (castle & countryside) – Overnight: Bad Toelz/Lenggries.

**Day 13 – Tuesday: Nymphenburg porcelain manufactory Munich – Erding**

Pick-up of final pieces – Visit Nymphenburg porcelain manufactory and Palace in Munich – Overnight: Erding.

**Day 14 – Wednesday: Bavaria’s royal capital Munich – Erding**

Guided walking tour in Munich – Shopping – Individual activities – Erding – Overnight: Erding.

**Day 15 – Thursday: Transfer to airport MUC - Individual departure from Munich**

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Itinerary and accommodation is subject to change. \* Tour price is subject to change due to currency fluctuations. Tour price does not include airfare, travel insurance, shipping costs, creditcard payment (add 5% creditcard fee), personal expenses etc. – see Terms & Conditions.

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**Please contact us for further information and tour registration.**

