



## Educational Tours

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# COMMEMORATING THE LIBERATION OF THE NETHERLANDS

*Designed by Craig Zimmer | 10 days | Friday 1 May - Sunday 10 May 2020*

### INCLUDED ON TOUR:



Round-trip flights on major carriers; full-time Tour Director; weShare, EF's personalized learning experience; hotels with private bathrooms; breakfast and dinner daily; lunch on Day 5; EF Exclusive Programming & Resources.

Sightseeing: Berlin; Prague; Auschwitz & Birkenau.

Entrances: Anne Frank House; Canal Cruise; National Liberation Museum; May 4th Commemorative Ceremonies; May 5th Liberation Day festivities; Checkpoint Charlie Museum; Reichstag Dome; Tempelhof Bike Tour; Auschwitz-Birkenau; Pierogi-Making Class.

Overnight stays: Amsterdam Region (4); Berlin (2); Prague (1); Krakow (1).

### NOT INCLUDED ON TOUR:

Optional excursions; Insurance coverage; Beverages and lunches (with the exception of Day 5); Transportation to free-time activities; Customary gratuities (for your Tour Director, bus driver and local guide); Porterage; Adult supplement (if applicable); Weekend supplement; Any applicable baggage-handling fee imposed by the airlines (see [eftours.ca/baggage](https://eftours.ca/baggage) for details); Expenses caused by airline rescheduling, cancellations or delays caused by the airlines, bad weather or other events beyond EF's control; Passports, visa and reciprocity fees.





## Your itinerary

### Day 1: Board your overnight flight to Amsterdam

#### Day 2: Amsterdam

##### Arrive in Amsterdam

Descend over irrigated Dutch landscapes as you make your way to Amsterdam, capital of the Netherlands. Known both as a center of entertainment and as a city of classic design and architecture, Amsterdam is a city of astonishing contrast.

##### Walking Tour of Amsterdam

Stroll along the canal-lined streets of Amsterdam on our EF walking tour. Cross Dam Square, then pass by the Koninklijk Paleis (Royal Palace) and the Nieuwe Kerk (New Church), site of Dutch coronations.

##### Overnight in the Amsterdam Region

#### Day 3: Amsterdam

##### Group Leader-Arranged Mass

##### Visit the Anne Frank House

Visit the Anne Frank House, where the young girl hid with her family from 1942 to 1944-and where she penned the poignant diary that has been translated into dozens of languages worldwide. *(Pending availability due to limited group reservations)*

##### Canal Cruise

Cruise the canals on board a glass-topped boat, the perfect way to become acquainted with the city. You will pass some of Amsterdam's most enchanting bridges, including those depicted in some of van Gogh's paintings.

##### Overnight in the Amsterdam Region

#### Day 4: Amsterdam Region

##### Visit the National Liberation Museum

##### Participate in VE Ceremonies

Every May 4, the people of the Netherlands participate in a two-minute moment of silence for Remembrance Day. At the VE Day remembrance ceremony at either the Groesbeek or Holten Canadian War Cemetery, join fellow Canadians and the local community in memorializing those who fell during the Second World War.

##### Overnight in the Amsterdam Region

#### Day 5: Amsterdam Region | Wageningen

##### Celebrate Liberation Day and Participate in a full day of EF-Exclusive Events

Travel to Wageningen, a historic town along the Rhine river. Here, you'll commemorate Liberation Day --when the Dutch celebrate the end of Nazi occupation and honour freedom, democracy, and human rights. While you're here, you'll be participating in EF-enhanced events surrounding the celebrations.

##### Overnight in the Amsterdam Region

#### Day 6: Amsterdam | Berlin

##### Travel by Train to Berlin

Arrive in historic Berlin, once again the German capital. For many years the city was defined by the wall that separated its residents. Since the monumental events that ended Communist rule in the East, Berlin has once again emerged as a treasure of arts and architecture with a vibrant heart.

##### Walking Tour of Berlin

Stroll among the cafés, restaurants and embassies of the elegant, tree-lined Unter den Linden, sometimes known as the Champs-Élysées of Berlin. Your Tour Director will show you the city's most famous sites as you continue to the Reichstag, Germany's Parliament. The building, constructed in the late 19th century, was the seat of the Weimar Republic government until it was seized by the Nazis in 1933. Sir Norman Foster's glass dome, added to the top of the Reichstag between 1995 and 1999, is now one of the city's most recognizable landmarks, offering fantastic views of Berlin from its top.

##### Visit the Checkpoint Charlie Museum

On the site where Checkpoint Charlie once guarded the border between East and West Germany, you'll visit a museum devoted to the era of the Berlin Wall. Inspect the "escape cars" once used to cross the border. See if you can find the secret compartment where escapees hid. Then view a photo exhibit that evocatively portrays the 30-year separation of East and West Germany, reunified in 1989.

##### Climb the Reichstag Dome

This evening, visit the German parliamentary building. A fire destroyed much of the building in 1933. The cause of the fire is to this day unknown, however, because the communists were blamed, the Nazi party gained more popularity and soon after gained power. The reconstruction was finished in 1999 and it is now open to the public.

##### Overnight in Berlin

#### Day 7: Berlin

##### Guided Sightseeing of Berlin

Ride past the Kaiser Wilhelm Gedächtniskirche (left unrestored as a reminder of the ravages of war) and down the glittery Kurfürstendamm, Berlin's liveliest street. Pass the Rathaus Schöneberg, where 1,500,000 West Berliners flocked to hear President Kennedy's famous "Ich bin ein Berliner" speech in 1963. On your way to the Eastern sector, pass the Reichstag, former seat of the parliaments of the German Empire and the Weimar Republic. Arrive at the Brandenburg Gate, once the symbol of the undeclared Cold War, and now the symbol of a reunited Berlin. It was at this gate that the famous images of East and West Berliners dancing atop the crumbling Berlin Wall were filmed and broadcast around the world. As you see where the Berlin Wall actually stood, imagine the bleak watchtowers and piercing spotlights that guarded "the border" until November 1989. Journey down Unter den Linden, once considered one of the world's most elegant boulevards.

##### Visit the Jewish Holocaust Memorial

The Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, more commonly known as the Holocaust Memorial, was designed by New York architect, Peter Eisenman. The controversial memorial was inaugurated in May of 2005. The Information Center is located under the "Field of Stelae" and contains four exhibition rooms, one of which includes all of the known names of the Jewish victims.

### Visit the East Side Gallery

View the 1.3km-long section of the Berlin Wall showcasing approximately 106 paintings by international artists. This memorial for freedom is the largest open air gallery in the world.

### Take a Bike Tour of Tempelhof Park

Enjoy a Tempelhof Garden bike tour and explore the new community green space that thrives in the abandoned, former airport of West Germany.

Overnight in Berlin

## Day 8: Berlin | Prague

### Transfer to Prague

Encounter the legendary beauty of Prague, former capital of the Holy Roman Empire. Dubbed the City of One Hundred Spires, the city boasts an enchanting mix of diverse architecture, Bohemian culture, and storied history. Despite many recent changes, the undeniable charm of centuries past still permeates from the cobblestone streets and countless gothic spires piercing the skies

### Guided Sightseeing of Prague

Your tour begins at the celebrated Prague Castle (Hradcany). From the Castle, you'll continue to the gardens of Wallenstein Palace and then to the Lennon Wall, where your guide will share stories of Prague during the Cold War. Cross the Charles Bridge, adorned with 30 beautiful baroque statues, to the 13th-century Old Town (Stare Mesto). Here you'll see Market Square, famous for its 15th-century astronomical clock.

Overnight in Prague

## Day 9: Prague | Auschwitz | Krakow

Travel to Poland

### Guided Visit of Auschwitz-Birkenau

Between 1940 and 1945, over 1.5 million people died at the Auschwitz and Birkenau death camps as a result of Hitler's "Final Solution" to rid Europe of Jews and other ethnic minorities. A chilling reminder of man's inhumanity, the camp has since been turned into a memorial museum. Observe a moment of remembrance for the 6 million victims of the Holocaust, and view a film about the horror of Auschwitz and the Third Reich.

### Continue on to Krakow

Travel to Krakow, Poland's former capital and second largest city. Krakow is one of the oldest cities in Poland dating back to the 7th century.

### Pierogi-Making Class & Dinner

Pierogis are the staple of Polish cuisine. During a 2 hour workshop you will make both a main dish and a dessert style pierogi. You will then enjoy your pierogis as dinner!

Overnight in Krakow

## Day 10: Depart for home

### Transfer to the airport for your return flight

Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you will check in for your return flight home.

*Itinerary is subject to change.*

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at [www.eftours.ca/bc](http://www.eftours.ca/bc).

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*My daughter has gained such an amazing view of the world and history from this experience. She has not stopped talking since I picked her up at the airport. Thank you for all the organization, helpful hints, flexible payment plan and knowledgeable tour guides.*

—CHARLOTTE, DAUGHTER TRAVELLED JUNE 2014



Tour review

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