



CENTER FOR
HOLY LANDS STUDIES

CHLS Reformation Tour

PROGRAM ITINERARY | March 13-23, 2027

Day 1 – Saturday, March 13

Depart from the U.S.

Day 2 – Sunday, March 14

Arrive in Geneva. Overnight in Geneva.

Day 3 – Monday, March 15

After breakfast at your hotel, you will start with exploring Geneva. One of the highlights will be the visit of the International Museum of the Reformation, which is very unique as it is the only secular museum de-voted to the history of both the Reformation and Protestantism. After-wards, a guided walking tour will lead you to the Reformation wall. Next stop will be the St. Peter Cathedral Geneva, which history is connected to the reformer John Calvin. After a visit inside the church, you will have time for a visit on your own. In the evening you will enjoy a Cheese fondue at a restaurant. Overnight in Geneva

Day 4 – Tuesday, March 16

After breakfast the bus will take you to the city of Bern, which played an important role for the development of Reformation in Switzerland. You will have a walk through the old city where you will see the Mun-ster of Bern where the main stations of Reformation took place. After-wards you will proceed to Lucerne, where the Reformation lasted only for one day. The reason for it you will find out when you are exploring the beautiful city by a walk. Dinner and overnight in Lucerne.

Day 5 – Wednesday, March 17

Today you will drive to Zurich, known by the reformer Huldrych Zwingli. A walking tour will lead you to several of the city's major churches including Wasserkirche, Fraumunster with Chagall window, and Grossmunster. Dinner and overnight in Zurich.

Day 6 – Thursday, March 18

After breakfast you will proceed to Strasbourg, another important station of Reformation. The first ideas of the Reform Movement spread in Strasbourg at the beginning of the 16th century. In 1532 Martin Bucer started courses on the exegesis of biblical books in German and in Latin. You will visit the historic quarter known as La Petite-France, the St. Thomas Church, the Cathedral of Strasbourg and the Statue of the Reformers at the University. Dinner and overnight in Strasbourg.

Day 7 – Friday, March 19

After breakfast, the bus will bring you to Heidelberg, a gorgeous town on the Neckar River where romanticism is both past and present. At a walking tour you will explore the Old Town, the famous Stone Bridge over the Neckar River and the Heidelberg Castle (where the Heidelberg Confession was written in 1653). You will visit the Castle Church, German Apothecary Museum, and the Church of the Holy Spirit. Then you continue to Worms, one of the oldest towns in Germany and you will visit the St. Peter's Cathedral there. In 1521, Martin Luther was summoned here by Emperor Charles V to recant his teachings before the Diet of Worms. You also see where Luther made his famous "Here I Stand" declaration and will visit the world's largest memorial to the Reformation. Another Reformer named William Tyndale, finished his printing of the English Bible in Worms, escaping persecution in England. After an amazing day of touring, we finish with dinner and conclude our day with check in at our hotel in the Frankfurt area.

Day 8 – Saturday, March 20

After breakfast your bus will take you to Eisenach to the UNESCO World Heritage site Wartburg Castle. Here Luther found refuge during his exile and translated the New Testament from Greek into German. Take a look at the spartan room he lived and worked in. You will proceed to Erfurt. Now it is time to visit Erfurt. A guided visit to the Augustinian Monastery awaits you where Luther became a monk and lived there for many years. After an individual visit of St. Mary's Cathedral you will explore the historic city. Dinner and overnight in Erfurt.

Day 9 – Sunday, March 21

After breakfast you will proceed to Eisleben, where Luther was born and died. Discover the houses, where he took his first and his last breaths. We will head to Halle and visit Franckesche Stiftungen. When it comes to Luther, there is almost no city more important than Wittenberg. The legend of the 95 theses nailed to the door of the Castle Church, though not accurate, still gets told across the world. Visit this famous door, as well as the Luther House, the town hall, the old city and the Town and Parish Church St. Marien, the oldest building in Wittenberg. Dinner and overnight in Wittenberg.

ADD Halle, Germany – Franckesche Stiftungen and other recommendations.

Day 10 – Monday, March 22

In the morning after breakfast the bus will take you to Berlin. Go on a sightseeing tour of all the highlights Berlin has to offer. Visit the grand Brandenburg Gate, a symbol of union and peace, as well as the magnificent "Reichstag", where most important decisions are being made by the German government. If available, explore this politically essential building with a guide and take a walk around the spacious glass-dome, enjoying a fantastic view of the city. Stroll down the lovely boulevard "Unter den Linden" and visit the picturesque Museum Island, which marks Berlin's historical center. Located here is one of the capital's most famous buildings, the Berlin cathedral. It took a while, but by now Protestantism is well and truly rooted in Berlin. The vivid church life of the cathedral's congregation and in the twin city Berlin-Cölln demonstrate this perfectly. Today's final stop is the city's most beautiful plaza, the Gendarmenmarkt, gorgeously framed by the German and French cathedrals. This evening enjoy a delicious farewell dinner at a lovely local restaurant. Overnight in Berlin.

Day 11 – Tuesday, March 23

Depart for US