

# **BECKER'S TRAVEL** GMBH **GERMANY**

## **2017 - 500th Anniversary of the Reformation**

In 1517, exactly on October 31, Martin Luther nailed his famous Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, initiating this way the reformation.

**The town of LUTHERSTADT WITTENBERG** is situated about 110 km South of Berlin, only 1 1/2 hours driveway.

The carefully restored town permits to discover a lot about Martin Luther's life and work. In a walking tour you can visit all the interesting points which are to be found close to each other.

If you wish to, your local guide wears a historical costume, for instance of Katharina von Bora.

The main points of interest are the following:

Luther House, living house of Martin Luther and Katharina von Bora for many years, nowadays the world's largest museum about the history of reformation.

The "Augusteum", adjoining building to the Luther House, will show a temporary exhibition named "Luther! 95 People - 95 Treasures" It describes Luther's way until he became the reformator and his influence to several famous people during 500 years. (May to November 2017)

St. Mary's Church, the preaching church of the reformators, with the famous altar by Lucas Cranach the Elder.

Here, for the first time the holy mess was celebrated in German language, thus this church can be considered the mother church of reformation.

(UNESCO World Heritage Site)



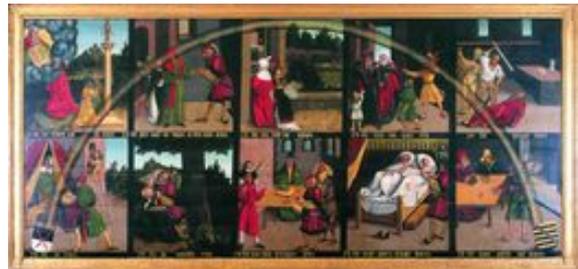
The Castle Church (Schlosskirche) with the sepulchres of Martin Luther and Philipp Melanchton, (UNESCO World Heritage Site)



### Lucas Cranach Houses and Courtyards



Lucas Cranach the Elder was painter and designer, he created famous altars and allegoric paintings as well as numerous portraits of Luther and Melanchton. His son, Lucas Cranach the Younger continued with his work.



Melanchton House: Philipp Melanchton was a philosopher, humanist, theologian, one of the most impulsive forces for the reformation in the German and European church. He was called the „Praeceptor Germaniae“ ("teacher of Germany").

For the traveller who wants to get deeper into the topic, we can recommend more interesting destinations nearby:

- the town of HALLE (Saale) (80 km from Wittenberg) with the Church of Our Lady, where Luther's death mask is exhibited, the cathedral, Händel House (birth place and museum of the famous composer) and much more.
- LUTHER TOWN EISLEBEN (40 km from Halle) where Luther's birth and dying houses can be visited, the Baptism Centre as well as St. Andrew's Church where Luther gave his final sermons.
- the town of MANSFELD (20 km from Eisleben) with his parents' house where Luther spent his childhood and youth which are documented in the exhibition "I am a child of Mansfeld" and St Georg Church.

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