



THE BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG & BASEL TOUR

(A SIX-DAY TOUR BY LARGE EURO-COACH)

Friday 18th to Wednesday 23rd October 2019

Another outstanding STARS German Tour at an incredibly low

All Inclusive Fare of Only £533.05

(Note - Rail Travel on the Free Day is not included in your fare)

**A Minimum Deposit of £135.00 will secure your seat on this Tour, and
the balance must be paid by 6th September**

This tour last ran in 2017 as the Lower Rhein & Basel tour. When it was pointed out to us that the title was geographically incorrect, the current name was adopted! Despite the name it was a successful tour enjoyed by all on board. There is one main change to the last running and that is our choice of the first overnight. Whilst Mannheim was an ideal location for passing traffic and trams, it presented untold problems for our coach both when arriving and departing. On this tour we are giving Mainz a try. It's also on a main arterial route and very close to Frankfurt.

We have also retained the two days in Freiburg where we will be closer to Basel - time to visit Woolf Depot and Muttenz Yard again. It also means we can do justice to Freiburg depot, and those so inclined can ride around the lines close to the Swiss border. The tram enthusiasts will also find much diversion.

Whilst we concentrate mainly on Germany, this is a truly multinational tour. In addition, we cross borders for visits in Switzerland, Luxembourg, and Belgium. There will also be sightings of French stock in Basel and Luxembourg, as well as in France on the outward and return journeys.

ITINERARY

Day One / Two – Friday 18th / Saturday 19th October

We travel cross channel via the shuttle and travel overnight to Koblenz. Apart from a refreshment stop at Aachener Land Services, you will have plenty of time to catch some sleep unless the banter keeps you awake. We will spend two hours at **Koblenz Hbf** to observe the morning traffic and stabled locos. We then continue to a visit at **Bw Bischofsheim**. Afterwards we go directly to our Hotel in Mainz. After checking in the remainder of the day is free for you to follow your own agenda.

Overnight - InterCity Hotel Mainz

Day Three – Sunday 20th October

It will be a longer run south on the autobahn today to our first visit at **Bw Mannheim**. It's a Sunday too! Think of just how many will be on shed! A weekend should see a high loco count (how many of your 185s will be on?) We continue to another mainly unit depot, **Bw Kaiserslautern**. Afterwards we take a view of **Karlsruhe Gbf** followed by a visit to **Bw Offenburg** as we continue our journey South

Overnight (Sunday 20th/Monday 21st) – InterCity Hotel Freiburg Hbf

Day Four - Monday 21st October

FREE DAY

Whilst our drivers and coach take a well-deserved rest, we are at liberty to 'do our own thing'.

Our main offering will be a sortie into Basel where we will arrange a visit to **Basel Wolf Depot** followed by time observing the comings and goings at **Muttenz Yard**. You may also like to add visits to **Bw.Haltingen** and **Basel Bad Bf**. However, none of this is compulsory and you may have your own agenda to pursue. *It is for this reason we have not included rail travel in your tour fare.* However, if you will be 'going with the flow' we can arrange group tickets in order to keep costs down.

Day Five - Tuesday 22nd October

After a visit to **Bw Freiburg**, reluctantly, we must turn for home but do not despair as we take you through Saarland, which is always full of interest. After a long run we begin with **Bw Saarbrücken** followed by a brief visit to **Saarbrücken Hbf**. At **Dillingen** we visit the Station Stabling point where the special 'Steel Traffic' locos are parked. The final act of the day will be a view of **Bw Trier** before we take ourselves off to Luxembourg and our hotel.

Overnight – Hotel Ibis Esch Belval

Day Six - Wednesday 23rd October

The final day of the Tour is non-German, but there should be no disappointment. What do you still need in the Grande Duchy? Belval station which is only a two-minute walk from the hotel could prove very interesting for those who still need Class 300 shunters. No fewer than 5 serve Belval Steelworks and usually all appear during the course of our stay. To begin with we visit the now transformed **CFL Luxembourg Depot**. All the new Class 2300 Kiss 3 car Double Deck EMUs are in service. From CFL to SNCB, we progress to the new **Arlon Depot** followed by **Arlon Station SP**, and then **Stockem Yard** represents our final call before we go directly to Calais and home.

We remind you that the *Preferred Seat Scheme* applies to all tours such as this, operated in a Large Euro Coach.