

# The Woodson Vocal Ensemble

## 2012 American Celebrations of Music in Germany & France

Custom Tour #11 (13 nights / 15 days)

### July 4 (Wednesday)

Depart from Washington, Dulles via scheduled air service to Berlin, Germany.

### July 5 (Thursday)

**Berlin**

**(D)**

Arrive in Berlin. Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach for a transfer to the hotel via panoramic tour of Berlin, including Brandenburg Gate, Unter den Linden, Gendarmenmarkt, etc. Also enjoy a Spree River Cruise. Explore Berlin's architectural treasures and experience the city's amazing transformation by boat on this 1-hour cruise on the River Spree. Mid-afternoon hotel check-in. Welcome Dinner and overnight.

*Berlin is a vibrant, multi-faceted city steeped in culture and history. Since the fall of the Wall and the reunification of the city, Berlin has been continuously reinventing itself as a political, business and cultural center. Superb museums, sophisticated architecture, and famous landmarks offer the Berlin visitor plenty to see and do.*

### July 6 (Friday)

**Berlin**

**(B,D)**

Half-day guided tour of the highlights of both East and West Germany, including Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, the Berlin Dom (Cathedral), Alexanderplatz, St. Nicholas Quarter, Kurfurstendamm Quarter, Reichstag, Museum Quarter and entrance to the Allied War Museum. *Evening concert as part of the American Celebration of Music in Germany.*

### July 7 (Saturday)

**Berlin / Leipzig / Dresden**

**(B,D)**

Transfer to Dresden via Leipzig. A guided tour includes the Former Town Hall, St. Nicholas Church, St. Thomas Church (famous because Bach was the organist and choirmaster here), the Bach Museum (entrance included), Augustusplatz, and the Battle of the Nations Monument. *Possible recital in Thomaskirche as part of the American Celebration of Music in Germany.* Transfer to Dresden for overnight.

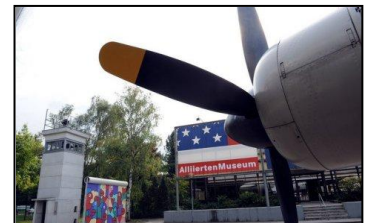
*Dresden (nicknamed the "Florence of the Elbe") has become one of the most popular and important tourist centers in Germany thanks to an exceptional artistic and architectural heritage. It was originally a Slav town, but Germanized in the 12th Century. Today, Dresden's museums, opera (Semperoper), the Staatskapelle and the Staatsoper orchestras enjoy a worldwide reputation.*

### July 8 (Sunday)

**Dresden**

**(B,D)**

A guided tour of this "Florence on the Elbe" includes the world-famous Zwinger Palace including the Old Masters Gallery, the Semperoper, the Cathedral, and the Neustadt Quarter. *Evening concert as part of the American Celebration of Music in Germany.*



**Music Celebrations International**  
*Concert Tours With Integrity*

**July 9 (Monday) Dresden / Regensburg / Salzburg (B,D)**

Transfer to Salzburg via the beautiful medieval city of Regensburg. Sightseeing in Regensburg includes a visit to Porta Praetoria and the Cathedral. Built in the 1300s on the site of earlier cathedrals, Regensburg Cathedral (Dom St. Peter) is the finest Gothic building in Bavaria. Its harmonious exterior is alive with interesting medieval sculptures. Inside are even more sculptures along with an extensive collection of medieval stained glass. Continue to Salzburg for overnight.



*Salzburg, Mozart's birthplace, is a delight from the first sight of the outline of the Hohensalzburg Fortress, the symbol of the power of the prince-archbishops. The city's picturesque streets with their wrought-iron signs, its spacious squares with sculptured fountains and the noble architecture of its buildings inspired by bishops with a passion for construction, leave memories which linger for years.*



**July 10 (Tuesday) Salzburg (B,D)**

Enjoy a morning guided tour of Salzburg, including Mirabel Palace and Gardens, Mozart Square, the Dom Cathedral, University Church, the Mozarthaus (Mozart's birthplace) and a cable car ride up to the Fortress (for an unparalleled view of the city below). *Evening concert as part of the American Celebration of Music in Austria.*



**July 11 (Wednesday) Salzburg / Lucerne (B,D)**

Transfer to Lucerne.

*Lucerne is the capital of its canton and considered one of the most beautiful cities in Switzerland. The lake resort city sprawls at the foot of Lake Lucerne in the cradle of historic Switzerland. The city's medieval heritage is evident in the fortifying walls and towers, the old churches and houses and the unusual covered bridges that span the Reuss.*



**July 12 (Thursday) Lucerne (B,D)**

A walking tour of this picture book-like town includes the Covered Wooden Bridge, Mussegge Towers, the Lion Monument and the old town. There is also time available for shopping for bargains including Swiss watches, lace, wood carvings and chocolate. *Evening concert.*



**July 13 (Friday) Lucerne / Paris (B,D)**

Transfer to Paris.

*With all its moods, Paris is a city that can exhilarate you, exasperate you and leave you speechless with wonder. Millions of tourists each year come to Paris, motivated by the desire to see the most beautiful city in the world. But Paris is more than a city. It is a place that breathes history and legend, a combination of the modern and the ancient.*



**July 14 (Saturday) Paris (B,D)**

Half-day guided tour of *Paris historique*, including Notre-Dame Cathedral, Arc de Triomphe, Eiffel Tower, Champs Elysees, Place de la Concorde, Luxembourg Palace and Gardens, Latin Quarter, Place de la Bastille, Invalides Hospital and other highlights. *Possibly sing Vigil Mass.* Enjoy an evening bateau mouche (boat) cruise up and down the River Seine to view Paris's beautifully illuminated buildings, monuments, and bridges.



**July 15 (Sunday) Paris (B,D)**

Enjoy a morning tour of *Paris artistique*, including entrance to the Louvre, the world's largest and greatest art museum. *Afternoon concert as part of the American Celebration of Music in France.*



**July 16 (Monday) Paris / Caen (B,D)**

Transfer to Caen via Coleville to *perform a short memorial recital*, and participate in a wreath laying ceremony at the American Cemetery, site of the June 6th Normandy Invasion. *Evening concert as part of the American Celebration of Music in France.*

*Caen is the capitol of Lower Normandy. Known as "The City of the Normans", the architectural heritage reveals the affection for the city felt by William the Conqueror and his Queen Mathilda. Many of the city's medieval buildings are constructed of "Caen stone," a light creamy-yellow limestone also used extensively in England. Caen was the center of some of the fiercest fighting in the Liberation of 1944. The peace memorial is unquestionably the greatest museum of World War II, a "must-see" for anyone who visits the city.*



**July 17 (Tuesday) Caen / Paris (B,D)**

Mid morning departure to return to Paris. Balance of the day will be spent in Montmartre for time at leisure. Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight.



**July 18 (Wednesday) Depart for home (B)**

Transfer to one of Paris's International Airport for return flight to Washington, Dulles. Arrive home in the evening of the same day.