

# Thuringia Beginners

## Eisenach – Erfurt – Weimar



Eisenach, Erfurt and Weimar are located along autobahn A4. Eisenach and Erfurt are ICE stops.

Travel times:

Erfurt > Eisenach, 30 – 45 min

Erfurt > Weimar, 15 – 25 min

[Visit Thuringia at Youtube](#)

## EISENACH

eisenach.info

Eisenach is the town, where in 1685 Johann Sebastian Bach was born, where Martin Luther attended the Latin school and where Germany's best-known castle can be found: Wartburg Castle. Wartburg has been a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site since 1999. It is closely connected with many important events in German history. As a residence of the Thuringian landgraves it saw medieval singers' contests, which later served as inspiration for Richard Wagner's opera "Tannhäuser". St. Elisabeth lived here, and in 1521/22 Martin Luther stayed at the castle in hiding and began his Bible translation.



# ERFURT

erfurt-tourismus.de

Thuringia's capital city Erfurt is also the largest in the region with about 215,000 inhabitants. It is known for its well-preserved historical city centre, which reflects a documented history of almost 1,300 years and is one of the largest in Germany. Among the major sights are Krämerbrücke, a bridge covered with inhabited houses, the ensemble of St. Mary's Cathedral and St. Severus' Church as well as the Augustinian Monastery and the medieval Jewish heritage of the city.



# WEIMAR

weimar.de

Thuringia's internationally best-known city boast two UNESCO complex entries with all in all 16 objects. Among these are the places of "Classical Weimar" with the residences of poets Goethe and Schiller and the collections, palaces and parks of the Weimar dukes as well as the Duchess Anna Amalia Library. The places of early Bauhaus history are also part of the world cultural heritage. And Weimar also provides the chance to explore the oeuvre of the Belgian designer and architect Henry van de Velde.





## Sample itinerary

# Historical cities and cultural heritage: Eisenach – Erfurt – Weimar

### Day 1

Arrival in Eisenach.

City walk including Bach House and St. George's Church (where J. S. Bach was baptised); alternatively including Luther House.

Dinner in the oldtown and accommodation in Eisenach

### Day 2

Visit of Wartburg Castle, with audio guide; including the historical rooms and Wartburg Museum (art collection)

Lunch at the castle grounds.

After this continue journey to Erfurt

Walk through Erfurt's oldtown (guided or individually)

Dinner in the oldtown and accommodation in Erfurt

### Day 3

programme in Erfurt depending on interests, including

- Visit of the Old Synagogue with the Erfurt Treasure and / or
- Augustinian Monastery (Martin Luther),
- Stasi prison at the Andreasstrasse Memorial (East German history),
- egapark garden exhibition, or other

Plus shopping on Krämerbrücke bridge and accommodation in Erfurt

### Day 4

Day excursion to Weimar. Travelling time from Erfurt ca. 25 min, by rail ca. 15 min.

programme depending on interests, including

- oldtown walk, guided or individually with e-guides
- Programme "Classical Weimar", maybe with visit of Duchess Anna Amalia Library, Park at the Ilm river with Goethe's garden cottage, Belvedere Palace and Garden
- Or programme "Bauhaus Weimar", maybe with guided tour of the places of early Bauhaus history, visit of Bauhaus Museum and Haus Hohe Pappeln (van de Velde)
- In the evening return to Erfurt and accommodation in Erfurt

### Day 5

Departure

*NB: You can also plan with a stay only in Erfurt or Weimar. Both cities are close to each other, a good base for further activities and only at a short travel distance to Wartburg Castle.*