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TAILOR MADE RAIL

## Black Forest to Saxony: A Continental Railway Journey

From £1,099 per person // 9 days



Follow in the footsteps of Michael Portillo as you travel from southern Germany's enchanting Black Forest, via the romantic city of Heidelberg, the financial powerhouse of Frankfurt, through to the university city of Göttingen, in the northern region of Saxony.

### The Essentials

- Black Forest: Freiburg im Breisgau and the surrounding area
- Heidelberg: Romantic city with castle and beautiful old town
- Frankfurt: Europe and Germany's financial powerhouse
- Göttingen: Lively and pretty university town in Lower Saxony
- Finish your epic journey with a trip along the spectacular Rhine Gorge route between Frankfurt and Cologne.

### What's included

- Standard Class rail travel with seat reservations
- Baden-Wurtemberg Ticket to explore the Black Forest
- 8 nights' handpicked hotel accommodation with breakfast
- City maps and comprehensive hotel directions
- Clearly-presented wallets for your rail tickets and hotel vouchers
- All credit card surcharges and delivery of your travel documents

### Tailor make your holiday

- Decide when you would like to travel
- Adapt the route to suit your plans
- Upgrade your hotels
- Add extra nights, destinations and/or tours

## - Suggested Itinerary -



### Day 1 - London To The Black Forest

Take a Eurostar from London across to Brussels today and connect with the excellent German InterCity Express (ICE) train network. With an easy platform change you will be in Freiburg im Breisgau, the gateway to the Black Forest, in time for an evening meal. Your accommodation for the next 3 nights is at the Novotel am Konzerthaus (or similar).



### Days 2 & 3 - Freiburg And The Black Forest

Wake up in Germany's sunniest city (Freiburg gets 2000 hours of annual sunshine) and take a stroll through the medieval Old Town with its impressive Gothic architecture, charming plazas and cobbled streets. With your appetite whetted, strike out to the wooded southern slopes of the legendary Black Forest, Germany's most treasured region. Providing the setting for many Grimm fairytale, its dense forests, glacial lakes and romantic valleys are both magical and mysterious.



### Days 4 & 5 - Heidelberg

Travel north on the train this morning to the beautiful city of Heidelberg alongside the Neckar River. Check in for a 2-night stay at the Hollaender Hof Hotel (or similar). The main attraction for all visitors is, of course, Heidelberg Castle, perched on the slopes of Mt Königstuhl, some 220 feet above the Neckar River. It's easy to see why, too. Together with the Old Bridge, the castle and its surrounding buildings are arguably amongst the most impressive sights in all of Germany. A famous seat of learning, you too can feel like a student in the welcoming and time-honoured student bars, no matter how old you are!



### Day 6 - Frankfurt

A direct train today takes you from the fairytale scenery of southern Germany to the polished cityscape of Frankfurt. Here, you have an overnight stay at the Steigenberger Metropolitan (or similar). Get your bearings 650 feet above street level at the Main Tower, one of the city's most distinctive high rises, then follow in Michael Portillo's footsteps to the Frankfurt Stock Exchange to see the city's bankers hard at work on the trading floor (free tours are available – advance booking necessary). Meander your way around the city via the network of riverfront promenades, stopping off at the city's historical highlights including the Opera House and the Kaiserdom, an impressive red sandstone cathedral crowned by a 300-ft high Gothic tower.



### Days 7 & 8 - Göttingen

Take an InterCity Train for around 90 minutes today to the university city of Göttingen, famous for nurturing more than 40 Nobel Prize winners. Göttingen is best navigated by foot as the city's charm lies in its peaceful streets, historic half-timbered houses, and pretty Market. While away a leisurely afternoon in one of the many cafes, or join the students for a night on the town, for Göttingen is known for its nightlife as much as its cafe culture. You will be staying for 2 nights at the Romantik Hotel Gebhards (or similar). **TMR RECOMMENDS:** While in northern Germany at Göttingen, it is very easy to extend your trip with a short stay in the German capital Berlin. With its fascinating history, breathtaking sights and lively atmosphere, Berlin truly is a world-class year-round destination waiting to be explored. Ask one of the team for details.



### Day 9 - Return To The Uk Via The Scenic Rhine Gorge

Today your German adventure comes to an end as you commence your journey back to London. However, there is one last treat in store, as you travel through the dramatic and spectacular Rhine Gorge route, past the Loreley Rock and numerous other castles as the railway twists and turns in time with the mighty river, which has long been a lifeblood of the region. Connect in the cathedral-city of Cologne with an InterCity Express train back to the Eurostar terminal in Brussels for your last train back to the UK.

## Pricing

From £1,099 per person

These prices are based on two people sharing a twin or double room. Single supplements will apply for sole occupancy. It is based on Standard Class rail travel and includes seat reservations as necessary. It is based on the best fares on the trains. If you travel during a peak period, particularly at short notice, then supplements may apply.