

# The Wasatch Chorale

## *2006 American Celebration of Music in Germany with a visit and performance in the Czech Republic*

### Sample Itinerary #1 (8 nights / 10 days)

#### **Day 1**

Departure from Salt Lake City via scheduled airline service to Berlin, Germany. Enjoy full meal/beverage service and in-flight entertainment during this trans-Atlantic flight.

#### **Day 2 Berlin**

Berlin airport arrival assistance. After clearing customs and passport control, collect luggage and meet MCI European staff who assist group to awaiting chartered motorcoaches. Enjoy a panoramic tour of the highlights of Berlin en route to the hotel for dinner and overnight accommodations.



*Berlin, for so long a symbol of the world's division into two opposing camps, owes its economic and cultural dynamism today to the fact that both the Federal Republic and what used to be called East Germany have for thirty years been determined to use the city as a shop window for their respective ways of life. Berlin became truly important under the reign of Friedrich-Wilhelm of Brandenburg who welcomed the French Huguenots who transformed the city, strengthening its influence on its neighbors through the increased number of craftsmen, theologians, doctors, scholars and others now living there.*



#### **Day 3 Berlin**

Half-day guided tour of Berlin, including Unter den Linden, Kurfürstendamm, Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, new Parliament, Dom (Cathedral), and entrance to the Reichstag, the Imperial Parliament, a huge and elegantly proportioned Neo-Renaissance palace, and the Checkpoint Charlie Museum. Checkpoint Charlie was the crossing point for foreigners, diplomats and the military in the heart of Berlin on the border between the American and Soviet sectors. *Evening concert in Berlin as part of the 2006 American Celebration of Music in Germany.*

#### **Day 4 Leipzig**

Morning sightseeing includes a visit to Charlottenburg Palace. With the Berlin Municipal Palace destroyed, Charlottenburg Palace is now Berlin's best example of the architectural passions and skills of the Prussian kings. The Palace and park are open to the public. In addition to the Historical Apartments, the Palace houses the Museum of Prehistory and the Gallery of Romanticism from the New National Gallery. See also the Egyptian Museum and Papyrus Collection, including the world-famous Bust of Queen Nefertiti. Other features of interest in the park are the Schinkel Pavilion, the Belvedere and the Mausoleum. Afternoon transfer to Leipzig.



*Leipzig was located at the confluence of several important trade routes and became a chartered city in 1165. It became one of the most important market and fair towns in all of Germany. More than 35 established publishers are based in Leipzig today. The supreme court and center of Germany's current judicial system are newly located in Leipzig. The city enjoys a fine reputation in the musical world, thanks to the Choir of St. Thomas, the Gewandhaus Orchestra, and the Mendelssohn-Bartholdy National College of Music. Leipzig also has musical associations with some of the greatest of all composers: Bach worked and lived here a big part of his life; Mendelssohn was born and lived here; Wagner was born here (but never lived here), and nearby Halle is the birthplace of Georg Frederick Händel.*



### **Day 5 Leipzig**

An afternoon guided tour of Leipzig includes the Former Town Hall, St. Nicholas Church, St. Thomas Church (famous because Bach was the organist and choirmaster here – also the St. Thomas Boys Choir is one of the most famous in the world), the Bach Museum, Augustusplatz, Battle of the Nations Monument, and the Mendelssohn House. ***Evening concert in Leipzig as part of the 2006 American Celebration of Music in Germany.***



### **Day 6 Dresden**

Morning transfer to Dresden via Meissen. With a history going back more than 1,000 years, Meissen has many fine old buildings but is chiefly famed for its porcelain manufactory, the first to be established in Europe. Entrance is included to the porcelain factory. Continue to Dresden for a guided tour including the world-famous Zwinger with its Old Masters Gallery, the Semper Opera, Cathedral, and the Neustadt Quarter.

*Thanks to an exceptional artistic and architectural heritage (Dresden has been nicknamed the "Florence of the Elbe"), Dresden has become one of the most popular and important tourist centers in Germany. It was originally a Slav town, but Germanized in the 12th Century. The major development of the city took place during the first half of the 18th Century in the reigns of the Electors Augustus II and III. They built the magnificent Baroque Zwinger, the Japanese Palace, Hofkirche and assembled outstanding collections of paintings and objets d'art. Today, Dresden's museums, its opera (Semper-Oper), the Staatskapelle and the Staatsoper orchestras enjoy a worldwide reputation.*

### **Day 7 Prague, Czech Republic**

Full-day transfer to Prague. Stop en route at Terezin for a guided tour of the former fortress and Nazi Concentration Camp for children, including entrance to the fortress and Museum of the Ghetto. Continue to Prague for dinner and overnight accommodations.

*Prague is one of the most enchanting cities in Europe. It was under Charles IV during the 14th century that Prague briefly became the seat of the Holy Roman Empire (virtually the capital of Western Europe) and acquired its distinctive Gothic imprint. Prague escaped serious wartime damage and is considered one of the most beautiful cities in Europe today. Mozart claimed that no one understood him better than the citizens of Prague, and he was only one of several great masters who lived or lingered here.*





### **Day 8 Prague**

A morning guided tour of Prague includes the Charles Bridge, St. Nicholas Church, Old Town Square, Municipal House, St. Agnes Convent, the Jewish Quarter and Hradcany Castle, including St. Vitus Cathedral and the Royal Palace. *Afternoon/evening concert in Prague.*

### **Day 9 Prague**

Morning sightseeing includes a visit to Lobkovicz Castle of Nelahozeves, built in the 1500's. See Beethoven's manuscripts, old instruments and the "Six Centuries of European Art Patronage" exhibit. The permanent exhibit called Monuments of the Nation's Past traces Czech history from the first settlement of the Czech lands to the revolution of 1848 by means of documents, paintings, engravings, jewelry, glass, sculpture and weapons. Copies of the Czech Coronation Jewels, kept in St. Vitus's Cathedral, are also on display. Evening farewell dinner.



### **Day 10 Depart for the USA**

Transfer to Prague's International Airport for the return flight to Salt Lake City. Return home in the evening of the same day.



Chinese Tea House at the Sans-Souci Palace in Potsdam