A WWII MUSEUM SIGNATURE JOURNEY

THE NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM TRAVEL

The Rise and Fall of Hitler’s Germany

SEPTEMBER 28 – OCTOBER 9, 2018

Featuring award-winning author
Alexandra Richie, DPhil

SAVE $1,000 PER COUPLE
WHEN BOOKED BY MARCH 30, 2018
Dear Friend,

To fully comprehend World War II, one needs to understand its origins.

In Europe, the journey to war began in the private meeting rooms and raucous public stadiums of Germany where the Nazis concocted and then promoted their designs for a new world order, one founded on conquest and racial-purity ideals. As they launched the war on September 1, 1939, by invading Poland, Hitler and his followers unleashed a hell that would return to its birthplace in Berlin fewer than six years later.

I invite you to join one of the Museum’s newest travel programs, The Rise and Fall of Hitler’s Germany. This exciting trip will be led by WWII scholar Dr. Alexandra Richie, one of the Museum’s closest friends and advisers.

Our guests will travel through Germany and Poland, exploring historical sites and reflecting on how the Nazis rose to power and then brought destruction and misery to Europe. Visiting battlefields, museums and memorials, interacting with locals—and immersed in the expert storytelling of Dr. Richie—tour participants will experience one of the top offerings in the Museum’s travel catalog.

Please review the following brochure to learn about the day-by-day itinerary and some of the exceptional sites and individuals you will encounter on The Rise and Fall of Hitler’s Germany tour. For WWII history enthusiasts, this is one not to miss!

Sincerely,

Stephen J. Watson
President & CEO, The National WWII Museum
BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE

The National WWII Museum provides vivid insight into the war that changed the world—but nothing can tell the story of that war more dramatically than a visit to the actual places where victory was fought for and won. Our Travel Program allows you to experience these journeys in first-class comfort as you go behind the scenes to the beaches, bridges, cities, and villages where crucial battles took place and history-making decisions were made. Guided by esteemed experts in WWII history, you’ll hear the personal stories and walk in the footsteps of the brave individuals who fought for the freedom we enjoy today.

Decorated historian Alexandra Richie, DPhil, leads this tour of the area she has researched and written so much about. Her most recent work, Warsaw 1944, became the #1 best-selling book in Poland and won the Newsweek Teresa Torariska Prize for Best Nonfiction 2014, as well as the Kazimierz Moczarski Prize for Best History Book in Poland 2015. Her first book, Faust’s Metropolis: A History of Berlin, was named one of the top ten books of the year by Publisher’s Weekly. Richie wrote her doctorate at St. Antony’s College, Oxford, and after graduating she worked for the Boston Consulting Group in London restructuring former communist industries across Central and Eastern Europe. She later returned to Oxford as a Fellow of Wolfson College, where she taught history and international relations.

She is currently Professor of History at the Collegium Civitas in Warsaw and is Director of the Department of International Relations specializing in defense and security studies. Richie has contributed to many articles, documentaries, radio and television programs, and is passionate about educating students on the rich history of the region. She lives in Warsaw with her husband Władysław Bartoszewski, and their two daughters. Richie is also a Presidential Counselor at The National WWII Museum.

“[Dr. Richie is] an outstanding person. She is very, very knowledgeable of the topics of this tour. She is outgoing and willing to answer questions from everyone on the tour. A great person and historian.”

–Tom P., Kennedyville, MD
The Rise and Fall of Hitler’s Germany

11 DAYS | FROM $6,995* (WHEN BOOKED BY MARCH 30, 2018)

- Exclusive itinerary designed by The National WWII Museum and Dr. Alexandra Richie
- Presentations from the Museum’s digital collections, including video and oral histories
- Special access to sites not offered on other tours, including a special farewell dinner at a historic, private home
- VIP events with the opportunity to meet people who were eyewitnesses to historic events in Germany and Poland
- Full-time logistical Tour Manager
- Expert local guides

- Roundtrip Airport Transfers (when arriving and departing on scheduled group tour dates)
- Inter-European flight from Kraków to Gdańsk
- Luxury five-star and deluxe four-star accommodations throughout the journey
- Private, first-class, air conditioned motor coach transportation
- Personal listening devices on all included touring
- Included gratuities to guides, drivers, porters and servers
- 11 Breakfasts, 6 Lunches, 5 Dinners, and 4 Receptions
- Free flow beer, house wine, and soft drinks with included lunches and dinner
- Document wallet, personalized luggage tags, and customized name badge
- Personal journal and pen to document your journey

*$169 Taxes and fees are additional
“Travel on a journey that takes you from Żagań to Auschwitz to Warsaw, focused on the devastating legacy of the Holocaust, the bombing raids, and the last battles.” - Alex Richie

1939
Sep 1–Westerplatte, Poland
Nazi Germany invades Poland and the Germans fire the first shots of World War II.

1940
May 20–Oswiecim, Poland
Auschwitz is established by the SS and initially populated with Polish political prisoners and then becomes the site of mass extermination of European Jewry.

1940
Jan 15–Krakow, Poland
Oskar Schindler, a German businessman, opens his factory where he will save hundreds of Jews.

1940
Jul 20–East Prussia, Germany
An assassination attempt on Hitler fails at the fortified command post known as “Wolf’s Lair.”

1944
Aug 1–Warsaw, Poland
As Soviet forces near Warsaw, Polish freedom fighters take up arms, thus beginning the Warsaw Uprising.

1944
Aug 1–Radzymin, Poland
One of the last great tank battles on the Eastern Front begins.

1944
Mar 24–Żagań, Poland
Seventy-six prisoners of war escape Stalag Luft III, in what later becomes known as “The Great Escape.”

1944
Apr 16–Berlin, Germany
The Battle of Berlin begins, resulting in Germany’s capital city being reduced to rubble.

1945
May 6–Breslau, Germany
Breslau surrenders, becoming the last major city in Germany to fall.

1945
Jul 17–Potsdam, Germany
Churchill, Truman, and Stalin meet at Cecilienhof Palace for the Potsdam Conference.
Museums and Galleries

Germany and Poland are home to some of the world’s most inspiring museums and will give you a chance to learn about the turbulent history, culture, visual arts and stories that impacted generations.

The Topography of Terror Museum
Berlin, Germany

Acting as the headquarters of the Secret State Police with its own “House Penitentiary” during World War II, this museum is one of the most visited memorial sites in Berlin.

The Allied Museum
Berlin, Germany

This museum tells the story of what took place after the Allies defeated the Germans in World War II, and focuses on the conflict between Russian communist society and the democratic principles of the US, Great Britain, and France while trying to rebuild the country.

POW Camps Museum
Żagań, Poland

Founded in 1971, this museum commemorates the history of prisoner of war camps existing in Żagań and its immediate vicinity during World War II. There were four camps under the command of VIII Wehrmacht Military District with headquarters in Wrocław and three camps under the command of the Luftwaffe in Żagań. On the night of March 24, 1944, 76 prisoners from Stalag Luft III, escaped via a specially constructed tunnel. This event has gone down in history as the so-called “Great Escape”. All but three were captured and, on Hitler’s special order, fifty of the escapees were executed by firing squad. The museum features a replica of a prisoner’s barrack with restored equipment, a replica of the escape tunnel “Harry,” and a reconstructed watchtower.

Museum of the Second World War
Gdańsk, Poland

Located where World War II began on September 1, 1939, it is the only WWII Museum in the world dedicated to putting the war into an international context, commemorating the losses of all nations that suffered under German occupation.
The Martyrdom Museum
Auschwitz-Birkenau

Housed in the former Nazi concentration and extermination camp, the preservation of the original buildings and relics has long evoked controversy. Through international support, this museum takes collective and individual memories into account, along with the accompanying reflections and emotions of its many visitors.

The Warsaw Uprising Museum
Warsaw, Poland

This museum opened to the public on the 60th anniversary of the 1944 Warsaw Uprising, and is one of the most visited places in Warsaw. It is a tribute to all those who fought and died to free Poland and depicts the struggle of everyday life during the horror of occupation. The exhibits feature photographs, recordings, and videos from before, during, and after the uprising; a replica of a Liberator B-24J bomber used by the Allies during air drops; a 3-D movie of the destruction of Warsaw during the uprising; and a recreation of sewer tunnels used by the Resistance to move around the city.

The POLIN Museum of the History of the Polish Jews
Warsaw, Poland

The POLIN museum is located in the area the Nazis turned into the Jewish ghetto during World War II. Beyond the main exhibition that presents the history of Polish Jews, this museum also functions as an educational center with rich cultural programs working closely with the community at large.
-1-  
**THE EXPERIENCE**
**Arrival in Berlin**

*September 28:* Arrive in Berlin and transfer to the Regent Berlin Hotel. Historian Alexandra Richie will be on hand to greet guests on arrival. Enjoy free time this afternoon before this evening’s welcome dinner and tour preview with Dr. Richie.

**Accommodations:** Regent Berlin (R, D)

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-2-  
**THE EXPERIENCE**
**Berlin**

*September 29:* After breakfast, a tour of Berlin begins at the reimagined and refurbished Reichstag building, historic home of the Bundestag (the national parliament) from 1894 to 1933. The massive 19th century building was used during the German Empire, the Weimar Republic, Nazi Germany, and now by a united, democratic Germany. Visit the Berlin Wall Memorial at Bernauer Strasse, where the only preserved section of the notorious wall can be seen, and walk the “no-man’s-land” along the remaining segment. The tour continues to the Topography of Terror Museum which has housed a permanent exhibition since 1987, when the cellar of a Gestapo headquarters was discovered and excavated. An open-air memorial was erected in memory of those who were imprisoned, tortured, and killed by the Nazis, and the site developed into a prize-winning documentation center. After lunch, visit the Olympic Stadium on the outskirts of Berlin. Built to host the 11th Olympic Summer games in 1936, the stadium was a prime example of Nazi architecture and design, and could hold 110,000 spectators. This evening is free for dinner and independent exploration of Berlin.

**Accommodations:** Regent Berlin (B, L)
The International Olympic Committee awarded the Games of the XI Olympiad to Berlin in 1931, two years before the Nazis came to power. Designed as a way to welcome Germany back to the international community after the Great War, the Games eventually became a propaganda tool for Adolf Hitler to display his “new Germany” to the world. The Games became the spectacle that Josef Goebbels and Hitler had hoped. Many of the conventions of the modern Olympic Games have their roots in 1936. Hitler wanted to promote the Nazi cause by invoking the symbolism of ancient Greece and the glory of the Olympics for his own ends. A torch was lit in Athens and carried by a succession of runners to the Olympic Stadium—the first ever Olympic Torch Relay. The Olympic Village on the outskirts of Berlin included more amenities than had ever been available to athletes: each house offered a multilingual steward, beds manufactured to the customary level of comfort of each country, and menus tailored to each participating nation. These were also the first televised Games, with a closed-circuit feed available both in the Olympic Village and on large screens throughout Berlin. Leni Riefenstahl’s film *Olympia* documented athletes with groundbreaking film techniques.

Careful to avoid international incidents in the early years of Nazi rule, Germany removed anti-Semitic materials, newspapers, and signs from all areas near the Games.

To encounter evidence of the harsh reality of Nazi policies, visitors would not have had to travel far from Berlin. In fact, it was forbidden to include racial descriptions in any official German press reports from the Games. A few journalists such as William Shirer continued to warn the world about the effects of Nazi propaganda, but the prevailing attitude was that these peaceful and lavish Games would help soften the rough edges of the Third Reich.

The 1936 Games have become famous for Jesse Owens’ four gold medals, the participation of *Unbroken* protagonist Louis Zamperini, and Germany’s sole Jewish representative Helene Mayer. Hitler himself was ecstatic about the success of the Games, declaring that the 1940 Games may be in Tokyo, but “thereafter they will take place in Germany for all time to come.”
**THE EXPERIENCE**

**Berlin**

*September 30:* Start the day at the House of the Wannsee Conference, a lakeside mansion used by the Nazi Party in 1942 as they formulated the “Final Solution” of the planned extermination of European Jewry. Stop for lunch on the way to Potsdam, the capital of the Brandenburg state, which is only 15 miles from Berlin. Pay a visit to Cecilienhof Palace, the location of the Potsdam Conference of 1945, where Stalin, Churchill, and Truman met to discuss how to establish a post-war order. Return to Berlin for a guided tour of the Allied Museum located in the American sector of postwar Berlin. The remainder of the evening is free for exploration and an independent dinner.

**Accommodations:** Regent Berlin (B, L, R)

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**THE EXPERIENCE**

**Arrival in Żagań to Wroclaw**

*October 1:* After an early farewell to Berlin, the group heads to Żagań, a small city in Poland near the German border. During World War II, Żagań was the site of Stalag Luft III. It was from this camp that one of the most daring prisoner escapes took place, providing the inspiration for the 1963 film, *The Great Escape*. Around eighty prisoners escaped through tunnels underneath the complex. All but three were recaptured, and fifty were executed. A museum at the site of the former camp is dedicated to the martyrdom of Allied prisoners of war. After lunch in Żagań, continue to Wroclaw for the evening.

**Accommodations:** Hotel Monopol Wroclaw (B, L, D)
The area around Żagań, now in Poland, was selected as the site of Stalag Luft III due to several security considerations. The sandy soil would compromise the integrity of any underground tunnel and the underground soil contrasted sharply with the surface sand, making any soil dumped from tunneling operations instantly noticeable. Additionally, the Germans placed seismographs around the camp to detect any sounds of digging, and the barracks were raised off of the ground allowing for easy visual inspections.

These obstacles did not deter Royal Air Force Squadron Leader Roger Bushell from launching an ambitious escape plan involving three tunnels code-named Tom, Dick, and Harry. Bushell started by consolidating all escape plans. No tunnels or escapes would be attempted outside of his plan. In the event of detection of one of the tunnels, work could continue on the other two as the guards focused on the first.

Work on the three tunnels began in spring of 1943. More than 600 prisoners worked on the tunnels in various roles such as digging, soil disposal, and scavenging for supplies—especially wood for bracing the sandy soil in the tunnels. The tunnels were thirty feet deep, but only two square feet wide so that they could be easily concealed. Work on Tunnel Dick was stopped to allow it to be used for storage and soil disposal. Tom was discovered by the Germans in the winter, so work stopped on Harry until the German’s heightened security was reduced.

In March 1944, nearly one year after Bushell first called a meeting about the escape plans, Harry was complete. The original plans called for a summer escape, but the date was moved forward to the first moonless night. The March weather did not cooperate with temperatures below freezing at night, but the escapees continued with the plan. On the night of the planned escape, the entrance to the hatch was frozen delaying the opening by over an hour, and an air raid alert cut the electricity and the lighting in the tunnel. Finally, the first men made their way outside the camp in the evening hours of March 24, 1944. The tunnel exit was too close to a guard tower, so the flow of escapees had to be slowed to 6 per hour. Seventy-six men made it out of the camp, but only three evaded capture. To set an example, Hitler ordered all escapees to be executed, but the number was reduced to 50 who were sent to a firing squad.

Dutch aviator Bram van der Stok managed to evade capture, and was the only one of the three permanent escapees to rejoin the fight. With the Royal Air Force, Van der Stok flew missions over the coast of Northern Europe, was awarded the Order of Orange Nassau from the Netherlands, and was inducted as a Member of the Order of the British Empire. He later settled in the United States, worked as a General Practitioner, and later joined NASA’s space lab research team.
- 5 -
THE EXPERIENCE
Wroclaw to Kraków

October 2: Tour the city of Wroclaw, which was part of Germany until 1945, and was known by its German name, Breslau. Out of range of Allied bombers for most of the war, Breslau remained intact until the closing months of World War II. In August 1944 Hitler declared the city a fortress to be defended at all costs. The siege by the Red Army began on February 13, 1945. Soviet artillery and German defenses reduced the city to rubble. The Germans fought to hold the city for 82 days, but surrendered to the Red Army on May 6, 1945, making Breslau the last major German city to surrender. The city is now majority Polish and was a 2016 European Capital of Culture. In the afternoon, the group continues to Kraków after lunch.
Accommodations: Radisson Blu Kraków (B, L, D)

- 6 -
THE EXPERIENCE
Kraków

October 3: Start the day with a brief stop at Oskar Schindler’s factory, the site from which Schindler was able to save over 1,000 Jews from the Plaszow forced labor camp, and ultimately from death, as portrayed in the film Schindler’s List. Next, enjoy a walking tour of picturesque Kazimierz in Kraków’s Old Town, followed by lunch. A thirty-mile drive west of Kraków is the Polish town of Oswiecim, known to history by its German name, Auschwitz. The German occupiers took over this former army barracks in 1940 and populated it with Polish political prisoners. As the war continued, the Nazis expanded and refined the camp, imprisoning Jews from all over Europe or sending them on to their deaths at nearby Birkenau. The Martyrdom Museum at Auschwitz is a ghastly reminder of the inhumanity which humans are capable. An evening on your own allows reflection on today.
Accommodations: Radisson Blu Kraków (B, L)
Through Their Eyes

Władysław Bartoszewski was a remarkable figure. He witnessed some of the worst horrors of World War II, and yet he dedicated his life to the goals of reconciliation between former foes with humor, empathy, and compassion.

Władysław Bartoszewski was born in Warsaw, Poland, in 1922. The son of a Roman Catholic banker, he grew up next to the Jewish Quarter with both Catholic and Jewish visitors to the house.

On September 1, 1939, he awoke to the sound of bombs falling on Warsaw. Hitler had ordered the first mass terror bombing of the war in which 20,000 civilians died. Bartoszewski volunteered to work as a stretcher-bearer for the Red Cross.

Bartoszewski’s formal schooling ended with the German invasion. Nazi rule in Poland was highly oppressive: schools and universities were closed, along with newspapers, publishing houses, and virtually all other Polish institutions. Bartoszewski continued to work for the Red Cross as a clerk. In September 1940, the Germans began random roundups of men between the ages of 18 and 65. Bartoszewski was 18 years old when the Nazis arrived at his house. They stormed in, grabbed him, and put him on the second ever transport to a small town in southern Poland where a new camp, Auschwitz, was being built. There, he was photographed, put in striped prison uniform, and given the number 4427.

The Economist magazine called him “The Great Survivor,” others call him the “Polish Schindler.” He is one of the only people in the world to have been commemorated twice at Yad Vashem as a “Righteous Gentile.” Whatever the label, Władysław Bartoszewski was a remarkable figure. He witnessed some of the worst horrors of World War II, and yet he dedicated his life to the goals of reconciliation between former foes with humor, empathy, and compassion.

Władysław Bartoszewski was awarded the Medal for Outstanding Services to the State of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania in Unified Europe and the World.
Life in Auschwitz was intolerable. He watched as friends were beaten to death in front of him; he was forced into slave labor pulling a gigantic concrete roller; food was scarce. By the end of the first year he had become desperately ill. The Red Cross intervened and managed to have Bartoszewski and a number of other prisoners released—something which would have been impossible later in the war. He returned to Warsaw sick and too weak to function. His old friend Hanka Czaki, who worked for the Polish Underground, came to see him as he recovered, and over some weeks wrote down his testimony about Auschwitz. It was sent to London and published in April 1942 by the Home Army as *Memoir of a Prisoner*. It was the first-ever eyewitness testimony published about Auschwitz, and it was the first warning to the West about what was happening to the victims in the new concentration camps in German-occupied Poland.

In the spring of 1942 Bartoszewski was interviewed by Jan Karski, a later recipient of the American Presidential Medal of Freedom. As a result of this meeting, Bartoszewski was invited to join the Polish Home Army in August 1942. Disturbed by the increasing brutality directed against the Jews, he became a founding member of “Zegota.” The Council for Aid to Jews, Zegota was funded from London and helped approximately 50,000 Jews in occupied Poland. The exact number of those aided who survived the war is unknown, but is certain to be less than 20%. During the course of his work Bartoszewski and his Zegota organization supported well-known activists, including Irene Sendler, who saved 2,500 Jewish children, and the “Zookeeper” Jan Zabiński, who saved Jews by hiding them at the Warsaw Zoo. Aside from his work at Zegota, Bartoszewski personally saved dozens of Jews, and as a result was honored at Yad Vashem both for his work with Zegota and for his own individual contributions. He was also made an honorary citizen of the State of Israel.

After the war, Bartoszewski was arrested and spent seven years in a Stalinist prison. Between 1963 and 1989, he worked in secret for Radio Free Europe. Given his links with the Solidarity movement activists, he was arrested again on December 13, 1981, when the Polish Communist Government declared martial law. Poland finally threw off the communist yoke in 1989, Bartoszewski became Polish Ambassador to Austria, and then was twice made Polish Foreign Minister. He served as Secretary of State in the Polish Prime Minister’s Office until his death on April 24, 2015.

Władysław Bartoszewski suffered through the horrors of Nazism and Stalinism, and as a result was determined to be a witness to history. He wrote hundreds of books and articles, gave countless interviews, and supported initiatives to remember the war. He was Chairman of the International Auschwitz Committee, and worked tirelessly to promote ties between Poland and Israel, and between Poland and Germany. He was truly a “great survivor.”
THE EXPERIENCE
Kraków

October 4: Explore Kraków, which was included on UNESCO’s first World Heritage list in 1978. Since the Tatar raids in the 13th century, the Old Town has remained mostly intact, making it the only large Polish city to escape the destruction of World War II. The tour day begins at St. Mary’s Basilica before breaking for an independent lunch in the Old Town Square. Rynek Główny in Polish, the square is known for its quaint cafés and excellent shopping. The afternoon includes a visit to the Wawel Castle, the seat of Polish kings for hundreds of years, and the gothic Wawel Cathedral, where Polish kings were crowned and buried for centuries. During the war Hans Frank, Governor General of the occupied Polish territories, installed himself in the Wawel Castle. Calling himself the “King of Poland,” he surrounded himself with stolen art including Leonardo Da Vinci’s Lady with an Ermine, and wielded his terrifying power over the population. Continue on a walking tour to Jagiellonian University, founded in 1364 by Casimir III the Great. Over the centuries, the university has educated some of Europe’s most respected figures, including Nicolaus Copernicus, Pope John Paul II, and Nobel Prize-winning poet Wisława Szymborska. Take a stroll through the university’s lovely botanical garden, which is more than 200 years old. Return to Old Town to visit Cloth Hall, which historically functioned as the main marketplace of the town. Board a short flight for Gdańsk this evening.

Accommodations: Sofitel Grand Sopot (B)

THE EXPERIENCE
Gdańsk

October 5: Poland’s maritime city on the Baltic Sea, Gdańsk was first mentioned in historical documents in 997. In its thousands of years of existence, this venerable port city has changed hands six times – the prize in a long game of tug-of-war between Germany and Poland. This morning, visit Westerplatte, the place where the Germans fired the first shots of what became World War II. On September 1, 1939, a German battleship paying a “courtesy call” on Danzig began firing shells at the Polish garrison here. After lunch on your own and the option to take a walking tour of Gdansk, visit the Museum of the Second World War. After ample time to explore the museum, your evening is free in the quaint seaside town of Sopot to enjoy dinner independently.

Accommodations: Sofitel Grand Sopot (B)
October 6: Today, drive onward to Wolf’s Lair, the English name for Hitler’s secret, fortified Eastern Front command post Wolfschanze. The failed 1944 assassination attempt on Hitler, portrayed in the 2008 movie Valkyrie (starring Tom Cruise) took place within the concrete complex. After lunch, visit the German command-and-control center at Mamerki. Virtually untouched since the war, this huge bunker complex is where many of the major decisions affecting the conduct of the war on the Eastern Front were made. Spend the evening in the resort town of Mikolajki.

Accommodations: Hotel Mikolajki (B, L, D)

October 7: Depart Mikolajki bound for Poland’s capital city of Warsaw. On arrival, enjoy time for exploration and an independent lunch in Old Town Square. Set out on a walking tour this afternoon, beginning at the 1944 Warsaw Uprising Monument. Unveiled in 1989, the monument commemorates the valiant and tragic attempt of the Polish Resistance to take back the city of Warsaw from Nazi troops before the Soviet Army entered the city. Visit the Mausoleum of Struggle and Martyrdom, located in a former Gestapo headquarters. Gather this evening for a reception at the Warsaw Uprising Museum. Opened in 2004 on the 60th anniversary of the beginning of the Warsaw Uprising, this museum includes a collection of almost 1,000 photographs taken by photographer and Olympian athlete Eugeniusz Lokajski, who documented the uprising before he was killed in an artillery attack. While at the museum, Dr. Richie lectures on the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and the Polish Resistance.

Accommodations: Hotel Bristol (B, R)
October 8: Spend the day exploring Warsaw, starting at the Genscher Cemetery, Warsaw’s largest Jewish cemetery with over 250,000 people buried on site. Many prominent leaders of Warsaw’s Jewish community are buried here, including Marek Edelman, a leader of the uprising in the Warsaw Ghetto. Continue on to the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews for a guided tour of the exhibits. The afternoon is free for lunch and individual pursuits. Drive a short distance outside of Warsaw this evening to Radzymin, the site of one of the last great tank battles of World War II, in August 1944. Explore the terrain with Dr. Richie who will explain the events of the battle and their consequences for both the Germans and the Soviets. The tour concludes at the private residence of Dr. Alexandra Richie, which was used as the headquarters for German General Herbert Otto Gille, commander of the 5th SS Panzergrenadier Division Wiking during the battle. Here, Dr. Richie hosts the group to a farewell reception and dinner.

Accommodations: Hotel Bristol (B, R, D)

October 9: Bid farewell to Poland this morning and transfer to Warsaw Chopin Airport for individual flights back to the United States. (B)
SOFITEL GRAND SOPOT - SOPOT, POLAND -

The Sopot is a famous spa and health resort located in the Tri-city complex of Gdańsk, Sopot, and Gdynia. The area boasts historic architecture alongside cutting-edge, modern infrastructure with convenient access to enjoy the enchanting scenery. The hotel offers two restaurants, a lounge, and the Grand Spa. Services include a concierge, 24-hour room service, limousine service, library, and air-conditioned rooms combined with the worldwide standards of the prestigious Sofitel brand.

REGENT BERLIN - BERLIN, GERMANY -

Set against the backdrop of the historic and iconic sites of Berlin, this five-star luxury property offers an indulgent dining experience at its Michelin-Starred restaurant Fischers Fritz, as well as a traditional British afternoon tea each day. Accommodations feature modern technology, marble bathrooms, walk-in showers, deep soaking tubs, and private French balconies.

HOTEL BRISTOL - WARSAW, POLAND -

This distinctive hotel is located just steps from the Presidential Palace, the Royal Castle, Old Town Square, Praga, and many other attractions in the capital. With art-deco inspired interiors, guests enjoy two onsite restaurants and bars, Bristol Spa and Fitness, and impeccable service.
HOTEL MIKOLAJKI
-BIRD ISLAND, MIKOLAJKI, POLAND-
Inspired by its picturesque, natural surroundings on Bird Island, rooms are designed with comfort and convenience in mind, and include air-conditioning, wireless internet, minibar, coffee maker, and spa-quality bathroom amenities. The spa facilities include a relaxation area and a signature Sauna World with incredible views of Mikolajskie Lake.

HOTEL MONOPOL
-WROCLAW, POLAND-
A 5-star hotel in the heart of Wroclaw, Hotel Monopol is the place where art meets business and modern interior design blends with the oldest building in the city. Marble interiors, fresh flowers, a relaxing spa, a delightful restaurant, and professional, friendly staff combine to make your stay unforgettable.

RADISSON BLU KRAKOW
-KRAKÓW, POLAND-
Within walking distance of Market Square and St. Mary’s Basilica, the Radisson Blu Hotel, Kraków, welcomes you with stylish interiors and conveniences like 24-hour room service and free high-speed, wireless internet. The hotel offers two on-site restaurants, a bar, a fitness center with sauna, and a beauty studio.

HOTEL MIKOLAJKI
-BIRD ISLAND, MIKOLAJKI, POLAND-
Inspired by its picturesque, natural surroundings on Bird Island, rooms are designed with comfort and convenience in mind, and include air-conditioning, wireless internet, minibar, coffee maker, and spa-quality bathroom amenities. The spa facilities include a relaxation area and a signature Sauna World with incredible views of Mikolajskie Lake.
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The Rise and Fall of Hitler’s Germany
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