

## 4-Days Dresden



### Day 1 – Dresden & Radebeul (Wine Country)

- **Morning**
  - Explore Dresden Old Town: Frauenkirche, Zwinger Palace, Semper Opera, and Brühl's Terrace.
  - Later, take a coffee break at a café near the Frauenkirche.
- **Afternoon**
  - Take a short tram ride to Radebeul.
  - Visit the Karl May Museum (famous for his Wild West novels).
  - Either walk through the vineyards above Radebeul (Spitzhaustreppen), and stop at a winery or tavern to sample Saxon wines.

- You can also take the tram to Wackerbarth Castle- the first European adventure winery, which is open daily for visitors. The castle and baroque garden are extremely beautiful during every season.
- **Evening**
  - Dinner in a vineyard restaurant with a glass of Saxon wine.
  - Return to Dresden for the night.

## Day 2 – Moritzburg & Meißen (Castles & Porcelain)

- **Morning**
  - Head to Moritzburg Castle (30 min from Dresden) – a fairytale lakeside hunting lodge of Augustus the Strong.
  - Stroll the castle grounds and visit the Little Pheasant Castle.
  - Take the historic narrow-gauge Löbnitzgrundbahn steam train to Radebeul East Station, where you can catch your train to Meißen.
- **Afternoon**
  - Continue to Meißen (~20 min by train).
  - Visit the Meissen Porcelain Manufactory – watch artisans at work and explore the museum. Perhaps take one the workshops to paint your own mug, which is a great unique souvenir to take home.
  - Explore Albrechtsburg Castle and Meissen Cathedral overlooking the town.
  - Wander the charming medieval old town with its pastel houses.
- **Evening**
  - Enjoy a glass of local Elbe Valley wine in a Weinstube (wine tavern).
  - Return to Dresden for overnight.

## Day 3 – Pirna & Saxon Switzerland

- **Morning**
  - Take the S-Bahn to Pirna, a gateway to Saxon Switzerland.
  - Explore Pirna’s picturesque old town with its Renaissance market square and Canaletto House (art museum).

- **Afternoon**
  - Continue by train or bus to Saxon Switzerland National Park.
  - Hike to the Bastei Bridge, with breathtaking sandstone cliffs and Elbe River views.
- **Evening**
  - Dinner in a rustic restaurant in Saxon Switzerland (try trout or game dishes).
  - Return to Dresden by train (~45–60 min depending on your location).

## Day 4 – Dresden & River Cruise

- **Morning**
  - Leisurely start in Dresden – visit the Green Vault (Royal Palace treasures) or Albertinum art museum.
  - Visit “Festungs Xperience” – a breathtaking 360-degree projections and atmospheric audio technology unleashing the secrets of Dresden Fortifications.
- **Afternoon**
  - Take a paddle steamer cruise on the Elbe River from Dresden to Pillnitz Palace & Gardens.
  - Explore the baroque gardens and riverside palace.
- **Evening**
  - Farewell dinner back in Dresden, perhaps at a restaurant overlooking the river.
  - Try local specialties like Saxon Sauerbraten or Dresdner Eierschecke (layered cake).

## Extra Tips

- **Transport:** Trains and S-Bahn make all towns easily reachable from Dresden. Consider a Saxon regional day ticket for unlimited travel.
- **Boats:** The boat cruises are best available during the spring and the autumn. Paddle steamers can be done during the summers, except in the winters as it is too cold.
- **Shoes:** Comfortable footwear is essential for walking old towns and hiking in Saxon Switzerland.
- **Wine Season:** If visiting in autumn, check for local wine festivals in Radebeul or Meißen.