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Finally we sail on the Elbe!

Friday, October 09, 2015

This is our ship stuck in Wittenburg, Germany by low water levels.



We didn't miss anything since they put us in a Berlin hotel for 3 days. It was the 25th anniversary of reunification as well as Oktoberfest. Several of our cruisemates really got into the spirit of celebration.



Me too, although I don't dress the part, I do sample whatever the local culture offers. This lunch is Berlin style "currywurst"

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No way to track that, nor the goodies available in from the booths



Of course we saw the famous sites but also unique locations that were of interest to us.

More about this as time allows.

At Potsdam where Truman, Churchill, & Stalin met in 1945 to discuss the future of Europe there is a poster containing this photo but without the explanatory sticker



This picture is from my Dad's WWII album. He was a sailor on the USS Philadelphia accompanying Truman to Potsdam and documented the trip in his diary.

www.brigs.us/Phil/a/Escorting-Truman.htm

Whenever we travel I try to follow Dad's footsteps & now I've made it to Potsdam.

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WALLAHALLA

too cool
2069 days ago



LYNDALOVES2HIKE

Very interesting blog - my father was a pilot in WWII who was shot down somewhere Leer and spent the next couple of years in a POW camp in Sagan - in 2013, my husband and I visited that camp and traced the approx route they followed when they were 'evacuated' as the Russian army approached. We also visited the 2nd POW camp he was moved to, which was Moosberg, outside of Munich.

This trip, we visited Leer and the countryside around it and discovered something new about my dad's story - he had always said he was held in a concentration camp but he couldn't remember which one and my research had not turned up any CCs that held captured soldiers or POWs until this trip. Turns out we found the camp he was in, which is near a village called Esterwegen, and visited it - a very amazing turn of events and I will post a blog about that visit within the next few days.

2070 days ago



WATERMELLEN

Your dad's heart would be warmed!

And I think you need a pair of lederhosen!!!!

2071 days ago



NUMD97

Very nice, B. B. That trip, following in a parent's footsteps, is still on my "someday" to do list. I was hoping to do it with my mother, to see it through her eyes, but the timing was never quite there.

I am certain that this trip will be very meaningful to you. I know that as ever, you will be enjoying it every step of the way.

Best,

Nu

2071 days ago



ALEXSGIRL1

awesome enjoy your trip

2071 days ago



DOVESEYES

THANK YOU!

2071 days ago



MARYJEANSL

What does it mean - Philadelphia leads 23 kts.? I feel kind of dumb, but I do think that it's wonderful that your father provided all the information he did. I am assuming you understand all his abbreviations. My dad fought in WWII (and Korea and Vietnam), but, to my knowledge, he never took any pictures, let alone label them for future generations. We do have a some pictures, but I think they are all posed Army photographs. One thing that is neat, my mother has a picture of Dad with then General Eisenhower reviewing troops from Kansas (where both were from) and also one of him shaking hands with then President Johnson. But no pictures he took himself. What you have are treasures!

2071 days ago



KRISZTA11

Have a great trip on the ship!

We have wonderful autumn weather here, so I'm sure you will see a lot of beauty on the cruise.



2071 days ago



PHEBESS

Sounds like a wonderful experience! Enjoy it all!

And we also couldn't do some of the river trips we had planned on in SE Asia, because the river levels were too low. Worldwide, I guess.

2071 days ago





PHOENIX1949



2071 days ago



LIVEDAILY



That really is neat how you are visiting the same places that your Dad was at!! So glad you got to experience Oktoberfest in Germany! That's on my bucket list!!



2071 days ago



JAMIRBLAZE



Looks like fun!
2071 days ago



NANCY-



How wonderful that you are able to take advantage of low water. Wishing you water so you may travel on.
2071 days ago



MISCHAKEO



Great trip and nice to be in a historical celebration. Too exciting.
2071 days ago



WILSONWR



It sounds like a great trip! I especially like how you're retracing your father's footsteps from the past. That is a great historical picture!
2071 days ago



GINIEMIE



Love the references to your dad and his diary. Wish daddy would have kept a diary in Belgium, Germany and Russia. So glad that you were able to see Potsdam and that it meant something to you.

It's hard to track foreign fare 🗺️ Enjoy sampling.

Hope you have a good rest of the "cruise".



2072 days ago



1BOOMBALATTY



Ah, Wittenberg
2072 days ago



PICKIE98



How wonderful that is to be able to do that!! Happy footsteps!!
2072 days ago



ANNIEONLI



How fun!!! So cool to follow in your dad's footsteps too!
2072 days ago



SWEDE_SU



thanks for sharing - i love the way you follow in your dad's footsteps, how fascinating!
2072 days ago

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