



IN PURSUIT OF CHOPIN

Poland and the Czech Republic with
Peter and Kathleen van de Graaff

September 22 – October 3, 2018



Join Peter and Kathleen van de Graaff and fellow classical music lovers and celebrate the life of Frederic Chopin! On this eleven day pursuit you'll walk in Chopin's footsteps and relive his extraordinary life. Visit the very places where Frederic lived, loved and worked: the family home where Frederic was born, the village church where he was baptized and the Frederic Chopin University of Music in Warsaw. Discover Poland's stunning cultural capital, Krakow. Visit the

cathedral where the kings of this ancient land are buried, stroll the campus of the University of Copernicus and marvel at one of Europe's largest medieval squares. Our musical quest culminates in the Czech Republic where we'll relive the lives and times of Smetana, Mozart and Dvořák.

TRIP AT A GLANCE

3 Nights Warsaw, Poland

3 Nights Krakow, Poland

1 Night Olomouc, Czech Republic

3 Nights Prague, Czech Republic



Earthbound Expeditions Inc.

POB 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 USA

T. 800 723 8454 / T. 206 842 9775 / F. 206 238 8480

www.EarthboundExpeditions.com

JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS

Hosted by Peter and Kathleen van de Graaff ♦ Classical concerts highlighting the works of Chopin, Dvorak, Smetana & Mozart ♦ The Olomouc Moravian Village ♦ A tour of the Warsaw ghetto Three magical nights each in Warsaw, Krakow, Prague ♦ Walks led by local experts in the historic city centers ♦ A traditional Klezmer dinner concert in Krakow's Jewish quarter ♦ A thought-provoking walk through Auschwitz

IT'S INCLUDED!

- ♪ With hosts Peter and Kathleen van de Graaff
- ♪ Fully guided by an expert Earthbound Expeditions program manager
- ♪ All breakfasts and ten additional multi-course meals
- ♪ Ten nights of accommodation in charming, centrally located hotels and inns
- ♪ Fascinating city walking tours with expert local guides
- ♪ All entrances to museums, castles, cathedrals and palaces as listed in itinerary
- ♪ An evening dinner concert in Krakow featuring traditional Klezmer music
- ♪ Four additional classical concerts highlighting the works of Chopin, Mozart, Dvořák, Smetana and Beethoven
- ♪ All transportation on an air-conditioned motor coach
- ♪ Gratuities for your driver, local guides and Earthbound Expeditions program manager
- ♪ Regional and city maps
- ♪ Fun introductory language lessons given en route by your guide

TRIP FACTS

11 Days/10 Nights (land)
\$4,495 per person double occupancy
\$795 Single Supplement (waived if a roommate is found)
Trip departs the USA on September 22, 2018
Trip begins in Warsaw: September 23
Trip ends in Prague on the morning of October 3



OPTIONAL GROUP AIR: Delta Airlines \$1,100 per person R/T

*Taxes, fees and airport transfers in Europe included.

WAYS TO SAVE \$300

Travel alumni save \$100 per person * Pay the final balance by check and save \$100 per person * Reserve before March 1, 2018 and save \$100



Earthbound Expeditions Inc.

POB 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 USA

T. 800 723 8454 / T. 206 842 9775 / F. 206 238 8480

www.EarthboundExpeditions.com



YOUR CLASSICAL ADVENTURE BEGINS!

Saturday, September 22, 2018

Day 1: Group Air Flight Departs the USA for Warsaw, Poland

Day 2: Sunday, September 23 - Arrive in Poland

Dzien dobry! (Good day!) Your musical journey through central Europe begins appropriately as you land at Frederic Chopin International Airport in Warsaw, Poland. You'll be met and transferred to your centrally located hotel. Depending upon flight times, you'll enjoy a casual introductory walking tour of the old city center before meeting your hosts and Earthbound Expeditions guide for an orientation and welcome dinner. *Sleep in Warsaw (B, D)*

Day 3: Monday, September 24 - Discover Warsaw

Warsaw is a fascinating city steeped in history, culture and of course, memories of Chopin. In order to get an overall impression of Poland's bustling capital city, we'll start by indulging ourselves in a morning tour which will highlight the city's most famous landmarks. See the Royal Route with its aristocratic residences, historic churches and famous statues. In addition, we'll visit the Ghetto Memorial, the Monument of the Warsaw Uprising, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Grand Theatre, Chopin's monument, the Belvedere Palace and the Old Town.

After a delicious lunch we are off to the Chopin Parlor. The parlor was part of the apartment where Chopin spent some years before leaving Poland. Today it contains furniture and instruments from his time there. A 19th century Buchholtz piano is one of the exhibits. The exhibition is complemented by portraits including those of Frederic Chopin's parents and their children, as well as graphics depicting Warsaw in the early 19th century. *Sleep in Warsaw (B, L)*



Earthbound Expeditions Inc.

POB 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 USA

T. 800 723 8454 / T. 206 842 9775 / F. 206 238 8480

www.EarthboundExpeditions.com



Day 4: Tuesday, September 25 - In Pursuit of Chopin – Warsaw

Frederic Chopin is undoubtedly the best known resident of Warsaw. He spent the first 20 years of his life in the city. Here he studied music, learned the manners of proper society and gave his first concerts. All the Warsaw newspapers wrote about the child prodigy. Walking the streets of Warsaw you will pass many buildings where he lived, loved and worked.

Our journey today begins at Ostrogski Castle which houses both the Frederic Chopin Museum and the Chopin Society. The museum contains the world's largest collection of Chopin memorabilia. It comprises various souvenirs, indirectly or directly connected with Chopin or his work as a composer. The manuscripts, commemorative prints, portraits, posters, books, magazines, notes and a recording library (analogue and digital disc and tapes) and visuals library (negatives, positives, microfilms) come from domestic and foreign purchases, gifts and donations.

Next we visit The Fryderyk Chopin University of Music which is among the oldest and largest schools of music in Europe. Between the years 1826 and 1829, Frederic Chopin studied at the Main School of Music.

In the afternoon we depart for Zelazowa Wola - a village situated 30 miles west of Warsaw—the birth place, in 1810 of Chopin. His house, once a thatched cottage, it now resembles a romantic manor surrounded by a picturesque park full of a wide variety of plants. In 1931 Chopin's house became the Chopin Birthplace Museum, complete with a rich collection of memorabilia associated with the great composer. Tonight you'll celebrate the genius of Chopin by attending a classical concert. *Sleep in Warsaw (B, L)*



Earthbound Expeditions Inc.

POB 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 USA

T. 800 723 8454 / T. 206 842 9775 / F. 206 238 8480

www.EarthboundExpeditions.com

"All the same it is being said everywhere that I played too softly, or rather, too delicately for people used to the piano-pounding of the artists here."
Chopin

Day 5: Wednesday, September 26 - South to Poland's Cultural Capital - Krakow via Ogrodzieniec Castle

After a hearty breakfast we drive south to one of Poland's most famous fortresses. The medieval castle of Ogrodzieniec was built in the 12th century to protect this region from the invading Tatars. After our visit we continue on to Krakow. A true survivor of war, Krakow is a colossus of art and architecture and is Poland's best-preserved city. Because the Kings of Poland resided here, the city became the cultural and scientific center of the entire territory. *Sleep in Krakow (B, D)*

Day 6: Thursday, September 27 - Imperial Krakow

This morning we will join an engaging local guide for a walk back in time. We'll visit Central Europe's largest medieval market place at Rynek Glowny and continue to Wawel Castle where generations of Polish kings were crowned and buried. The afternoon is yours to further explore this breathtaking city at your own pace. We meet again after dinner to attend a classical concert. *Sleep in Krakow (B, L)*

Day 7: Friday, September 28 - Historic district of Kazimierz, Krakow

Krakow itself had been a hub of Jewish civilization in Europe for several centuries, a situation that had been aided by the tolerant mindset of Poland's Renaissance elite. The relationship between Poles and Jews was not always harmonious, but the greatest storm was brought by outside invaders in 1939.

The historic district of Kazimierz had been the heart of Jewish Krakow until the war. Few Jewish families survived the conflict and the trickle of families that returned in 1945 was too small to be called a community. For several decades, crumbling graveyards, synagogues and houses were the only palpable remains of six centuries of Jewish history in Krakow - Kazimierz was a realm of ghosts. When democratic changes came to Poland in 1989, much of Krakow was falling apart. Kazimierz, the heart of the old Jewish city, was in especially bad shape. In recent years, the district has seen a revival with artists and musicians opening up shops in once abandoned buildings.



Earthbound Expeditions Inc.

POB 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 USA

T. 800 723 8454 / T. 206 842 9775 / F. 206 238 8480

www.EarthboundExpeditions.com

After lunch, the afternoon is free to further explore the medieval quarter of Krakow. Or enjoy an optional trip south and explore Poland's famous salt mines or charming Zakopane in the Tratra Mountains. Tonight we've planned an evening of traditional Jewish music and a festive kosher feast in the heart of Krakow's Jewish quarter, where we attend an entertaining Klezmer concert. *Sleep in Krakow (B, D)*

Day 8: Saturday, September 29 - West to Moravia, Czech Republic!

This morning we make a pilgrimage to the infamous concentration camp of Auschwitz in order to fully understand the origins of the suffering that took place at the hands of the Nazis.

After our tour we drive due east to the province of Moravia, Czech Republic. The wine-loving Moravians considered themselves somewhat separate from their beer-producing brothers in Bohemia. Our destination - Olomouc - is rich in history, architectural beauty, and is a prominent university town. It also contains several large and richly decorated squares, the chief of which is the Holy Trinity Column which stands 115 feet high and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Olomouc is also famous for its collection of colorful mosaics, the most unusual being the glockenspiel which is strangely decorated with 1950 style communist motifs and figures. Before dinner, we'll enjoy a walking tour and evening concert. Dinner tonight includes Moravian delicacies and regional wines. *Sleep in Olomouc (B, D)*

Day 9: Sunday, September 30 - In the Footsteps of Dvořák and Smetana: West to Prague!

After breakfast, we make our way west towards the soaring spires of Prague. We stop to explore the beautiful Vysehrad Cemetery. More than just a normal, quiet cemetery, this is the final resting place of the most honored Czech composers, artists, sculptors, writers, scientists and politicians. Here are the graves of Smetana, Dvořák and the 19th century Moravian-Czech artist, Mucha.

Prague is the birthplace of Franz Kafka and the city Mozart loved best. For our first evening in Prague, let's enjoy a Bohemian feast together. *Sleep in Prague (B, D)*

Day 10: Monday, October 1 - Prague's Historic Heart

From its mythological inception to the present, benefactors have placed Prague on the cusp of the divine. King of Bohemia and Holy Roman Emperor Karl IV refashioned Prague into a city of soaring cathedrals and lavish palaces. Our historic walking tour of Prague will start at its medieval center, the Old Town Square. We'll cover some of Prague's most interesting sights including the Estates You'll have a free afternoon before meeting this evening enjoy an included classical concert. *Sleep in Prague (B, L)*



Earthbound Expeditions Inc.

POB 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 USA

T. 800 723 8454 / T. 206 842 9775 / F. 206 238 8480

www.EarthboundExpeditions.com

Day 11: Tuesday, October 2 - Prague's Castle District



We start the day with a stroll to Prague's most famous landmark - Charles Bridge, after which we'll visit the historic castle district. Enjoy a farewell lunch with your hosts. The afternoon is yours to further explore this city's charming streets. Perhaps you'll want to take in a Bohemian market, a world class museum or simply wander the wondrously preserved historic old town. This evening we meet for our final concert. *Sleep in Prague (B, L)*

Day 12: Wednesday, October 3 - Return home with a lifetime of memories

A complimentary airport transfer will be offered to those on the group flight.

MEET YOUR HOSTS!



Peter van de Graaff is the new music director at KWAX-FM at the University of Oregon. Peter continues to host a daily show for WFMT and is the program director of the Beethoven Network which is broadcast on 150 radio stations nationwide. Peter is a professional opera singer and has performed with opera companies and orchestras throughout the world and also has a great interest in languages and speaks Dutch, German and French. He also enjoys resurrecting and performing early 18th-century chamber operas, called intermezzi, which he and his soprano wife Kathleen van de Graaff have performed with a number of orchestras and on live radio broadcasts.



Soprano **Kathleen van de Graaff** has proven herself versatile in both opera and oratorio and has given solo concerts and performances in thirty states, China, Japan and Costa Rica. She taught at Lake Forest College and has 7 published books and 9 CDs on music. Kathleen and her husband Peter van de Graaff have traveled throughout Europe obtaining scores of early 18th Century chamber operas called "intermezzi". They have subsequently gained notoriety as specialists in this area, performing them throughout the United States, Costa Rica and Asia.



Earthbound Expeditions Inc.

POB 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 USA

T. 800 723 8454 / T. 206 842 9775 / F. 206 238 8480

www.EarthboundExpeditions.com

BEFORE YOU GO

Concerts, Festivals and Events: If (for any reason) the organizers of a scheduled concert, festival or event cancel or postpone a planned activity with little or no notice, Earthbound Expeditions will do its utmost to secure a similar event or secure another concert(s). Strikes, unscheduled delays, lack of funds and acts of God are beyond the control of Earthbound Expeditions. Cancellation of an event, festival or concert is not cause for refund.

Hosted Journeys: If a host or special guest is unable to attend as planned, Earthbound Expeditions will do its utmost to find another host who has similar interests, talents expertise. The inability of a host to participate in a tour is not grounds for a full or partial refund.

Land Reservations and Deposits: Early reservations are essential to guarantee space on the date you wish to travel. A per person deposit of \$500 is needed to confirm your space on most journeys. An additional \$200 is requested if opting for the group flight. We prefer payment to be made by check, but we also accept Visa, MasterCard or American Express. You can make your secure credit card deposit online, by phone or by mail. Once the deposit is processed, a deposit packet is sent with pertinent journey details. Trips which include barges, boats and/or flights may require an additional deposit. **Call 800-723-8454**

~ Itinerary Details Subject to Change ~



Earthbound Expeditions Inc.

POB 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 USA

T. 800 723 8454 / T. 206 842 9775 / F. 206 238 8480

www.EarthboundExpeditions.com