

European Bus Traveler Q&A

Q: How long is the bus ride from Ramstein Air Base to Lourdes?

A: The ride is approximately 16 hours from the time we depart the base until the time we pull up in front of the hotel.

Q: Will the bus stop at any other sites between Ramstein and Lourdes?

A: No. The bus will only be stopping for the mandatory driver breaks. Those breaks will occur approximately every 4 hours and last anywhere from 20-60 minutes.

Q: What accommodations are there on the bus to make the ride more comfortable?

A: The transport to Lourdes will be a 48-passenger tour bus. There will be air conditioning, a toilet, an entertainment system and some light refreshments on board. The seats will recline slightly, like an airplane seat, and have a small tray attached to the back of the seat ahead of you.

Q: If I am traveling to Ramstein via Space A, is there any assistance to help me get from the Passenger Terminal to the bus departure point?

A: Yes. If you need assistance, please contact your trip leader and they will arrange for your local transportation needs.

Q: Who is my trip leader/point of contact if I'm traveling on the KofC-issued Bus from Germany?

A: Your trip leader is Col. Paul Zepernick USA/Ret. You will receive contact information if and when you are accepted to join the WTL pilgrimage.

Q: Do we need passports if traveling on the bus?

A: It is always a smart idea when traveling outside of Germany to have a tourist passport with you. French and German border checkpoints are random. While you may have status as a military member and are not required to carry a passport, having one with you will make a border-crossing checkpoint operate efficiently. Additionally, if you need to use a local hospital, or have any interaction with the police, your passport information will be necessary to process you into their facilities.

Q: Can I wear my military uniform on the bus?

A: No.

Q: Are there luggage restrictions when traveling on the bus?

A: All travellers are limited to ONE suitcase and ONE carry on. Please keep your larger suitcase to a **32 kg / 70.5 lb max weight**. The space under the bus is finite, and we are bringing additional supplies and gear to support the pilgrimage under the bus. Please also keep in mind that you will be staying in a typical European hotel room. This means that you will have very little space to store large luggage. Finally, after the bus drops us off at the hotel, it will be parked outside of town and we will not have access to it until we depart Lourdes. What you bring on the bus must come with you to your room.

Q: Where do we park our vehicles if we are going to leave them at Ramstein?

A: Park your vehicles on the Southeast corner of the North Chapel parking lot (closest to the traffic circle). If you park them anywhere else, especially in the numbered spots in the lemon lot, you run the risk of being ticketed and towed by Security Forces.