



# International Study Tour 2023 **Germany & Sri Lanka**

An International Study Tour, intended to expose students of architecture and interiors, to heritage, contemporary and revolutionary architecture, was organized by L.S.Raheja School of Architecture from **30<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 to 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2023** for students of **B.Arch, B.Voc & IDD** with the help of Pintail Worldwide. **46 Students** participated in this tour along with **6 Faculty and the Principal of the institute.**

The 11 day tour was divided into two countries. The first 7 days was a trip to **Germany** and the last 4 days in **Sri Lanka**. The important cities of **Frankfurt, Berlin and Munich** along with other important locations were part of the Germany tour. The Sri Lanka Itinerary was primarily planned to visit multiple structures designed by the eminent architect **Geoffrey Bawa** along with traditional and modern architecture in Colombo.

The following is the gist of the conducted tour:

**Day 1 | 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2023 :**

Arrival to Frankfurt. Visit to Heidelberg, Iron Bridge & MyZeil Mall

**Day 2 | 1<sup>st</sup> Nov 2023 :**

Frankfurt City Tour along with prominent structures. Departure for Brunswick

**Day 3 | 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 2023 :**

Arrival to Berlin. Autostadt & Phaeno Science Center

**Day 4 | 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov 2023 :**

Berlin City Tour. Visit to Jewish Museum & Berlin Tower.

**Day 5 | 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023 :**

Visit to various museums in Berlin & Reichstag Dome.

**Day 6 | 5<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023 :**

Travel to Munich via Dresden. Military History Museum

**Day 7 | 6<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023 :**

Munich. Dachau Concentration Camp, BMW Welt, Olympic Stadium, Allianz Arena.

**Day 8 | 7<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023 :**

Departure for Colombo from Frankfurt.

**Day 9 | 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023 :**

Visit to Heritage Kandalama

**Day 10 | 9<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023 :**

Visit to Jetwig Lighthouse & Galle Fort

**Day 11 | 10<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023 :**

Visit to Lunuganga and Hotels designed by Ar. Geoffrey Bawa

**Day 12 | 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023 :**

Temple Visits in Colombo, Altair Residential tower, Departure for Mumbai Airport.

# A. Germany

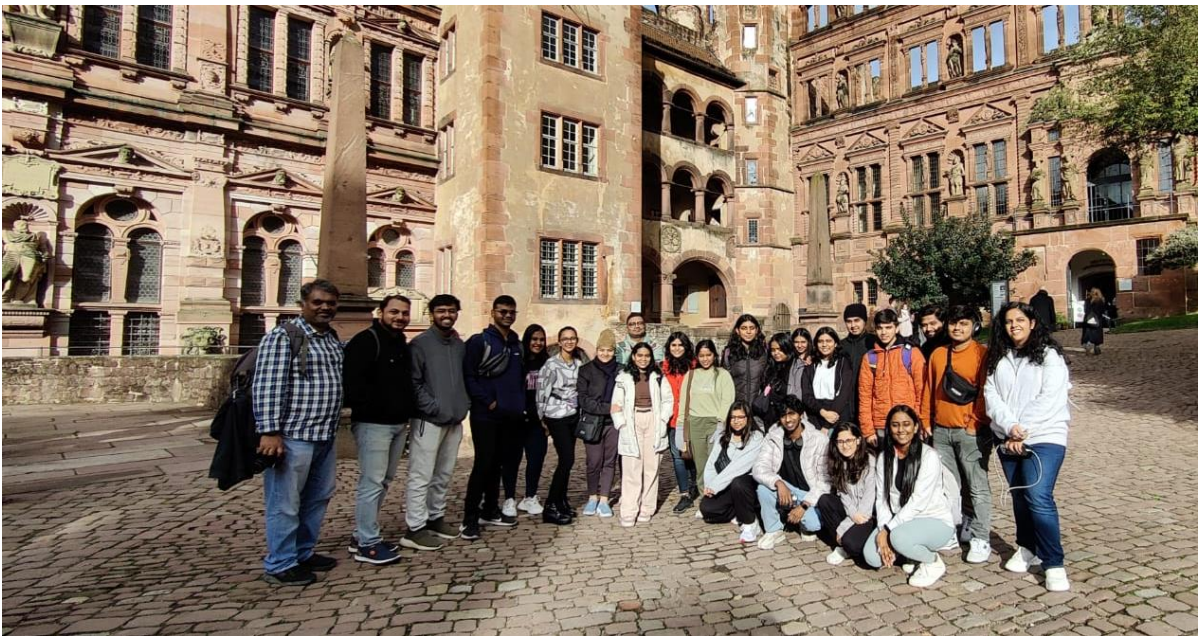
## DAY 1 | 31st October 2023 | Tuesday

- On Arrival, students were taken to Heidelberg from Frankfurt Airport (90 km).
- A Walking Guided tour of the **old town** of **Heidelberg Altstadt** was conducted where the history and significance of many city elements and structures were narrated.
- Few Significant attractions are as below:
  - a. **Kornmarkt square**
  - b. **HeiliggeistKirche (Church)**
  - c. **Old University Heidelberg,**
  - d. **Heidelberg Marktplatz**
- The group used the **Uphill Funicular ride** to reach **Heidelberg Castle**, where the worlds largest Beer Barrel is situated.
- Late afternoon, the group travelled back to Frankfurt.
- On arrival, the group was taken to the **Iron Bridge over the River Main** and later visited the **MyZeil Mall** design by Studio Funksas architects.
- By 9:00 pm the group checked in Dorint Hotels and Resorts Frankfurt.



*Introduction at Heidelberg*





At Heidelberg Castle





Heidelberg City Tour



## DAY 2 | 1st November 2023 | Wednesday

- Frankfurt Guided walking City tour of Heritage and Modern Frankfurt was conducted in the morning at 9:00am.
- During the tour, the following structures were visited:
  - a. **St. Paulskirche,**
  - b. **Assembly hall or parliament House,**
  - c. **Alte opera or Old Opera House**
  - d. **Goethe Haus,**
  - e. **Museum of Modern Kunst,**
  - f. **Romerberg,**
  - g. **Frankfurt Cathedral,**
  - h. **Gotunberg Monument square,**
  - i. **Historische Museum Frankfurt.**
  - j. **Kaisersaal Emperor's Hall – Romer**
- Post the tour, the students visited the **Museum Angewandte Kunst (MAK)** designed by Architect Richard Mier.
- Around 4:00 pm the group departed Frankfurt for Brunswick.



Frankfurt City Tour



Frankfurt City Tour





*River Main*



*Museum Applied Art Frankfurt by Ar. Richard Meier*

## DAY 3 | 2nd November 2023 | Thursday

- On leaving Best western hotels at 9.00 am, the group visited **Wolfsburg**, the location of **Volkswagen AG's headquarters** and the world's biggest car plant, on the way to Berlin.
- **Autostadt in Wolfsburg**, features a museum, feature pavilions for the principal automobile brands in the Volkswagen Group, a customer centre where customers can pick up new cars, and take a tour through the enormous factory, a guide to the evolution of roads, and cinema in a large sphere. and has pavilions designed by prominent architects like Ar. Santiago Calatrava and Ar. Zaha Hadid.
- On crossing the river, students were taken to the **Phaeno science center** designed by Ar. Zaha Hadid, on a guided tour of the structure and then they explored the science exhibits and interactive displays.
- Around 3.45 pm the group started their journey to Berlin.



Autostadt



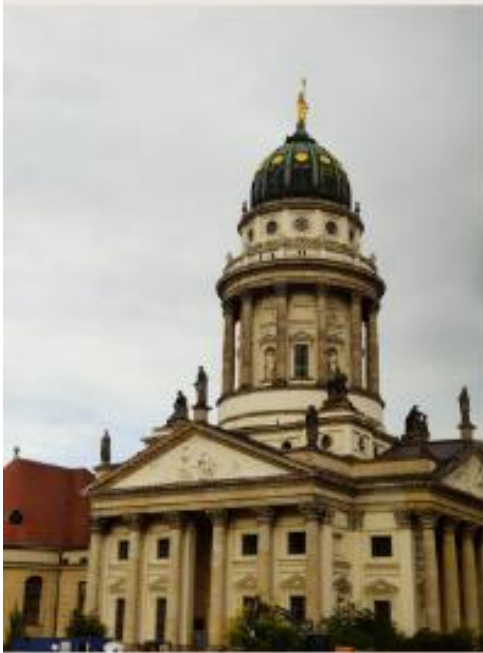


Phaeno Center designed by Ar. Zaha Hadid

## DAY 4 | 3rd November 2023 | Friday

- The day began with a guided tour of Berlin city through the coach.
- This followed by a short visit to the Historic **Berlin Wall**, and the **Brandenburg Gate**, the Berlin's signature attraction built in 1791.
- The outside view of Frank Gehry work in **DZ bank** was also shown to the students.
- The group visited the **Gendarmenmarkt squares** housing the Concert House designed by Schinkel .
- The group also visited the German and French Cathedrals - **the Deutscher Dom and the Französischer Dom**.
- Other visits included the following:
  - a. **Berlin Cathedral**
  - b. **Humboldt University square**
  - c. **The subterranean empty library installation.**
- Later the students visited the **Berlin Memorial of the Jews** by Ar. Peter Eisenmenn and the **Jewish Museum** by Ar. Daniel Libskind., both of which were significant in terms of architecture and history.
- The ended by a visit to the 360 view at **203 mts. gallery in the Berlin Tower** where they were able to view the city from an altitude.





Berlin City Tour



Berlin City Tour



## DAY 5 | 4th November 2023 | Saturday

- In the morning, the group visited the **Neues museum** - built from 1843 to 1855 by order of King Frederick William IV of Prussia in Neoclassical and Renaissance Revival styles, it is considered as the major work of Friedrich August Stüler. After suffering damage in World War II and decay in East Germany, it was restored from 1999 to 2009 by Architect David Chipperfield.
- The students also visited the **modern exhibition area at the German Historical Museum**, designed by the American-Chinese architect **Leoh Ming Pei** which was recently opened to the public.
- The group visited the famous **Reichstag Dome** - a glass dome constructed on top of the rebuilt Reichstag Building. It is a masterpiece work designed by architect **Norman Foster**.
- Later the student group was given time for shopping in Berlin.



*Group at Reichtag*



Neus Museum & Reichtag Dome



## DAY 6 | 5th November 2023 | Sunday

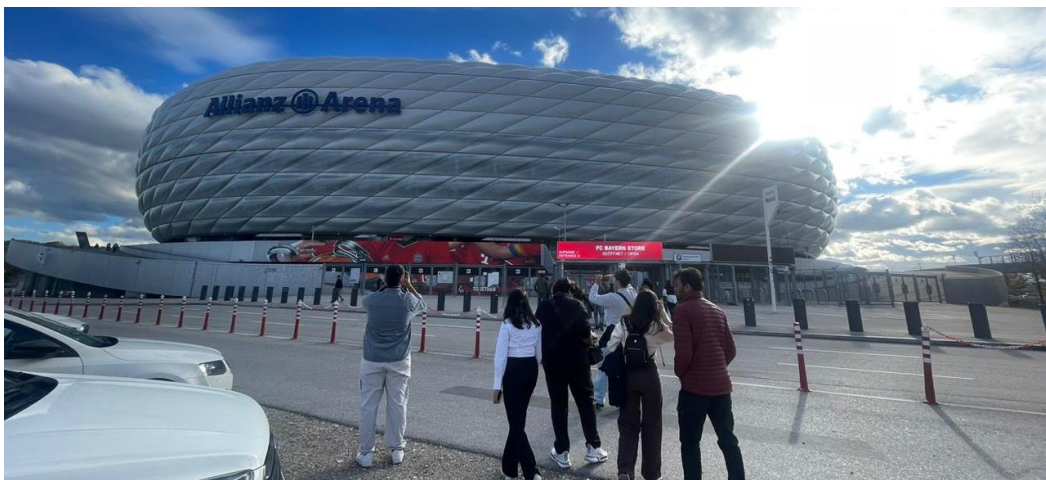
- The journey from Berlin to Munich, was planned through Dresden.
- The students Visited the **Military History Museum**, at Dresden. The extension building of this Museum was designed by **Architect Daniel Libskind studio in 2011**. The bold design extension, is a massive, five-story 14,500-ton wedge of glass, concrete, and steel, cuts into and through the former arsenal's classical order existing building changes the identity of the museum.
- The group reached Munich at the day's end.



*Group at Military History Museum, Dresden*

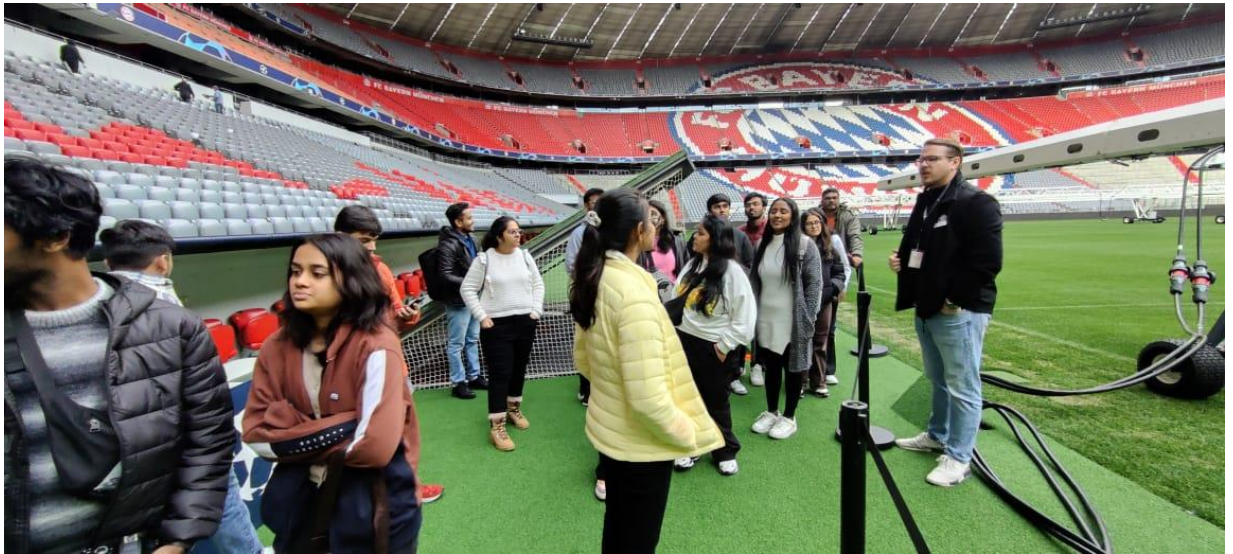
## DAY 7 | 6th November 2023 | Monday

- The first site in Munich was the **Dachau Concentration Camp** – one of the first concentration camps built by Nazi Germany in 1933. The history of the camp is displayed in the exhibition along with chapels near the camp area.
- Post the Camp, the students were take to visit **The BMW Welt** – designed by Vienna-based architects COOP HIMMELB(L)AU. It is a combined exhibition, delivery, adventure museum, and event venue.
- The **1972 Olympic Game stadium** designed by architects Günther Behnisch and Frei Otto, is situated in proximity to the BMW Welt and the students were able to experience the canopies, the public park and the arenas from outside.
- One of the highlights of the tour was the **Allianz Arena** where the group did a **Guided Arena Tour and the Museum tour**. The Allianz Arena is the home ground for the MC Bayern Football Association club. The stadium is designed by Alpine Bau Deutschland GmbH and the Swiss architects Herzog and de Meuron.
- The evening was left free for the students to be at **Mareinplatz** to look at old Munich Heritage building along with shopping experience.



Allianz Arena





Allianz Arena



BMW Welt



Olympic Stadium



*Dachau Concentration Camp*



## DAY 8 | 7th November 2023 | Tuesday

- The last day at Germany was a 5 hour road trip from **Munich to Frankfurt**. The students were savoring the final moments in Germany during this journey.
- The group **departed for Colombo**, Sri Lanka from Frankfurt Airport.



*Last Night in Munich*

# B. Sri Lanka



## DAY 9 | 8th November 2023 | Wednesday

- On arrival at Colombo, the group was greeted with a breakfast spread offering authentic Sri Lankan food.
- The tour of Sri Lanka began with **Heritage Kandalama**, a hotel designed by Geoffrey Bawa, built in 1992-95. One of the hotel's dominant design features is the large, cave-like porte-cochère abutting the western side of the cliff around which the hotel wraps. A large slanted canopy that angles down towards the entrance to a enclosed tunnel-like walkway, with a boulder-lined wall, with an expansive open-air lobby and panoramic view northward over the Kandalama Reservoir.
- The group checked in at Hotel Galadari in the evening in Colombo.



*At Heritage Kandalama*



## DAY 10 | 9th November 2023 | Thursday

- The first destination for the day was **Jetwig Lighthouse**, a five-star franchise hotel, operated by Jetwing Hotels, located in Galle, Sri Lanka. The Lighthouse hotel was one of **Geoffrey Bawa's last major projects**. The **post-modern minimalist hotel** reflects the 17th-century Dutch fort at Galle, in that it looks down on the ocean from atop a rocky promontory.
- Post the hotel, a guided tour was organized to the **Galle Dutch Fort**, where the students explored the fort area, influenced by Dutch and Portuguese architecture, the heritage sites and the light house at the edge of the fort.
- At the end of the day, students were left in Colombo city for Shopping and exploring the city.



At Jetwig Lighthouse & Galle Dutch Fort



## DAY 11 | 10th November 2023 | Friday

- The much awaited visit to **Lunuganga**, the country house of the renowned Sri Lankan architect Geoffrey Bawa was conducted in the morning. The group was taken across the estate where the guide explained each structure and the landscape details during the tour. Inspirational stories of the architect helped enhance the student's perspective towards Ar. Bawa and Sri Lankan architecture.
- Post Lunuganga, students were taken to visit the **Cinnamon Bentota, Avani Bentota & Thaala Bentota**, luxury 5-Star Hotels primarily designed by Ar. Geoffrey Bawa.
- A short visit to a **Sea Turtle Hatchery** was also conducted during the day.
- The day ended at a **beach** near Colombo where the group was able to enjoy the sunset and rejuvenate.



*Lunuganga, Cinnamon Bentota and Sea Turtle Hatchery*



## DAY 12 | 11th November 2023 | Saturday

- The last day of the tour was initiated with an early morning visit to **Gangaramaya Temple**, a mix of modern architecture and cultural essence, located near the Beira Lake.
- This was followed by visit to **Seema Malakaya temple**, a Buddhist temple in the Beira Lake.
- Post the temple visits, the students were taken to a guided tour at **Altair**, the tallest residential development in Sri Lanka with 68 floors and more than 400 condos, designed by **Moshe Safdie**. Various amenities and condos were showcased to the students and the structural system, services and overall design intent was explained to the students by the consultant on Site.
- The group departed for Mumbai Airport post lunch in Colombo.



*Temples in Colombo & Altair, Colombo*



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