



22nd June 2024

Study Tour to Germany 11th to 17th November 2024 – Irish Farm Buildings Association

Dear Member,

The IFBA are organising a Study Tour to Germany from 11th to 17th November 2024. This follows the short Study Tour to Denmark in 2023, the first international event for a number of years as a result of the restrictions on travel which impacted on IFBA activities. The Danish Study Tour was well received by the delegates and interest was expressed on having a follow on event in 2024.

A highlight of the German Study Tour will be the opportunity for a two-day attendance at EuroTier (www.eurotier.com/en/) in Hannover. EuroTier (a biennial event) is the leading international trade fair for professional animal farming and livestock management systems. It is a foremost innovation platform for the global animal production industry. It showcases advances and solutions for current and future challenges in animal production.

The group will have an opportunity to view a number of German farms, including a farm owned by an Irish family business who have been farming in Germany for over 30 years. Also included is a visit to the LVAT Research Farm (Teaching and Research Institute for Animal Breeding and Animal Husbandry - www.lvatgrosskreutz.de/) at Groß Kreutz where Research & Development is undertaken on both dairy & suckler production systems while in addition projects on pig, sheep, goat and crop enterprises are also carried out. Together with ATB – the Leibniz Institute for Agricultural Engineering & Bioeconomy at Potsdam, LVAT undertake collaborative research with Teagasc and UCD on sustainable dairy production systems.

To complement the technical visit we are looking at arranging a visit the Volkswagen Visitors Centre in Wolfsburg (www.autostadt.de/en/). The global Headquarters of VW is located Wolfsburg and the car

manufacturing plant there produced 490,000 vehicles (Golf, Touran and Tiguan models) in 2023 with 70,000 employees.

A half-day sightseeing tour in Berlin will take place on the morning of Saturday 16th November while delegates will have free time in Berlin that afternoon.

The organising committee are endeavouring to keep costs as low as possible while maintaining the high standards associated with previous Study Tours. The total cost for the German Study Tour is €1,500 on a single room basis. This cost includes all transport, meals (except lunches at Eurotier) and accommodation for the duration of the event. In addition IFBA membership for 2024 is €50 if you have not already paid that. A limited number of shared rooms are available and the cost for these delegates is €1,300 (*Please note to avail of this option you must confirm the name of the sharing delegate on the booking form*).

The Association does not seek to profit from the organisation of such educational events so the final costs to delegates are kept as low as possible. Flights and accommodation for the event have had to be pre-booked and in order to facilitate the final planning of the itinerary we would be grateful if you could pay a non-refundable deposit of €500 (or preferably full payment) by Wednesday 31st July. Please complete the booking form (with payment by credit card or bank transfer) and return by email or post to the addresses indicated. Also, please provide details of the name on your passport and a copy of the relevant page of your passport with these details. Final payment is required by Friday 6th September.

We greatly appreciate your support on previous events and look forward to meeting you at the upcoming event. The Study Tour will be strictly limited to 50 people. Therefore, all bookings must be on a first come basis with the deposit guaranteeing a place on the trip for the first 50 respondents.

Yours sincerely,

Philip O'Dwyer,
Secretary/Treasurer

Draft Itinerary IFBA German Study Tour - 11th November to 17th November

Monday 11th November:

Arrive in Berlin at 18.50 on direct flight from Dublin departing 15.30 (Aer Lingus EI 336)
Dinner & overnight at the Holiday Inn Berlin Airport Conference Centre
(All transfers during the event by coach)

Tuesday 12th November:

1. Visit to Emerald Isle Dairy Farm
Kloster Lehnin

2. Visit to LVAT Research Farm www.lvatgrosskreutz.de/
Groß Kreutz

This facility hosts Research trials with ATB, Leibniz Institute for Agricultural Engineering & Bioeconomy, Potsdam
Teagasc and UCD have collaborative research projects with LVAT/ATB

3. Farm Visit TBC on route to Wolfsburg
Dinner & overnight at Melia Centrum Hotel, Wolfsburg

Wednesday 13th November:

Attend Eurotier in Hannover
Dinner at a Wolfsburg restaurant and overnight at Melia Centrum Hotel, Wolfsburg

Thursday 14th November:

Attend Eurotier in Hannover
Dinner at a Wolfsburg restaurant and overnight at Melia Centrum Hotel, Wolfsburg

Friday 15th November:

1. Visit to VW Autostadt – Visitor’s Centre & Museum (TBC), Wolfsburg www.autostadt.de/en/

2. Visit to Wallstawe Farm (500 cow Dairy & Tillage Farm), Wallstawe www.bauer-wallstawe.de/

3. Visit to Altmarksaaten Seed Processing Facility (TBC), Stendal www.altmarksaaten.de/

Dinner & overnight at Park Inn Hotel by Radisson, Alexanderplatz, Berlin

Saturday 16th November:

Morning sightseeing tour in Berlin with free time in Berlin in the afternoon

Dinner at a Berlin restaurant & overnight at Park Inn Radisson, Alexanderplatz, Berlin

Sunday 17th November:

Depart Berlin Airport at 10.20 on direct flight to Dublin arriving 11.45 (Aer Lingus EI 333)

I.F.B.A. 2024 German Study Tour Booking Form

Name:		
Company Name:		
Address:		
Email:		
Phone:		
<i>Membership for 2024 - €50</i>	€	
<i>Study Tour Deposit - €500</i>	€	
<i>Study Tour Full Cost - €1,500 (single room)</i>	€	
<i>Study Tour Full Cost - €1,300 (shared room)</i>	€	
<i>Name of sharing partner</i>		
Total	€	
Name on Passport: (please forward copy of passport)		
Payment Methods (Please indicate): Credit/Debit Card <input type="checkbox"/> Bank Transfer <input type="checkbox"/>		
To Make Payments: 1. For Credit/Debit Card Payment ring 066 7131952 2. For Electronic Funds Transfer Payments ¹ to: <i>Irish Farm Buildings Association, Bank of Ireland, Tullamore, Co.Offaly</i> IBANIE44 BOFI 9019 0969 3916 60 BIC BOFIE2D		

Please return by email to: info@ifba.ie

or by post to: Philip O'Dwyer, IFBA Secretary, Foxfort, Causeway, Co Kerry. V92F6T2

Telephone queries to: 087-2556511, 066-7131952

¹ When making an Electronic Payment please include a reference to "Your Name & IFBA" with the payment