

## Bulletin 8: Adventure city tours

### What can we offer in our regions?

This week, we will present you the concept of adventure city tours.

### Adventure city tours – what is it?



Source: <http://www.hotel-deutscher-hof.de/img/image/Arrangements/InVinoVeritasHintergrund.JPG>

Adventure and performance tours have become very popular in recent years and therefore they have been established as part of the cultural touristic activities in many cities and regions. They are used to stage a touristic destination in that way that it is incorporated as an experience setting in the visitors' eyes. Furthermore, these offers often combine characteristic aspects concerning a region's history or reputation, etc. Thus, the regions try to develop and implement guided tours that are oriented in a certain target group.

The Roman city tours in Trier/Germany represent one part of these performance tours. Guides that are disguised as Roman soldiers, gladiators or slaves conduct visitors through the city. They function as story tellers and take tourists back in the age of the Roman Empire to demonstrate what life in that time period was about. Thus, the guides will show tourists one main part of the general touristic sites in Trier (Emperor thermals, Porta Nigra, etc.) but in a quite different way and perspective than a general guided tour.

Ghost walks represent a different type of adventure tours. These walks offer visitors an unusual view on the city and region. So far, many cities have already implemented ghost walks as part of their touristic offers, especially if the city's history relates to myths and legends. The guides take tourists on a walking tour through the city. During the tour, they stop at historic significant locations to tell stories, anecdotes, myths and legends that rely to historical mysterious facts of the region.

Beside the ghost walks, there are other adventure tours like criminal tours or witches' tours. Taking part at a criminal tour tourists have e.g. to play a criminal game by solving enigmas and mysteries or by identifying the murderer. The witches' tours also refer to the historical background of a city or region and intend to demonstrate visitors recent circumstances in an authentic and involving manner.

### Adaption to CULTrips



Source: <http://www.vivacity-peterborough.com/files/images/pageimage/1032.a0a549b2/800x600.fitdwn.jpg>

The adventure city tours correspond with the philosophy of CULTrips concerning the aspect of story telling. These tours attempt to allow tourists a different view of the city and its history by involving them in a spectacle. Through this, on the one hand the adventure tours do present a way to embrace visitors in a story of living history. On the other hand, also children will be much more addressed by those story telling tours.

The following link show you more details about the Roman performance tours in Trier:

<http://www.erlebnisfuehrungen.de/en/>

Here you can get an impression on youtube how a Roman performance tour in Trier looks like (in German): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tiq3wCIZSE0&feature=related>

Please refer to the following link to get more information on ghost walks in Liverpool and London (Great Britain), Antwerp (Belgium) and Canada:

<http://www.ghostwalks.org/>

<http://www.london-ghost-walk.co.uk/walk.htm>

<http://www.ghostwalk.be/ghost/index.html>

<http://www.hauntedhamilton.com/ghostwalks/index.html>

Here you find some examples of different ghost walks on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/shiverpooluk>

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Newcastle-Ghost-Walks/140496282655270>

Refer to the following movie to get an impression how a ghost walk in London is proceeding:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9SZlCWQeNo>