

Germany - Day 3 - Wednesday 25th September 2013

Today is the day we visit Dresden.

Picked up from hotel at 7.30am for 8.15 bus from school.

Trip on coach into Dresden took about 1 hour and three quarters. The morning will be a guided tour around the city and then our own time.

River Elber



Our tour guide Martina to show us around the city. Actually a member of the Saxony Parliament.



History of Dresden.

6th century people migrated and settled.

15th century became capital city of Saxony.

First documentary evidence 1206.

Most buildings constructed in 16th century.

Lot of city reconstructed after WW2 after much destruction from air raids.

This is the area Dresden Zwinger area, where 2 forts joined together. Augustus the Strong built this as a place to relax and party. This is the Festive Ground.

Theatre Square

All buildings here have been reconstructed.

Opera House and Theatre Platz



Galleries



Dresden Castle.



Former Cathedral. Augustus built church when he changed from Protestant to Catholic.



Statue of King Johann - 18th Century king who was famous for being a reader and learner.



Next place visited was Schosse Plast. Castle Square. Castle Cathedral



The House of George, contains personal rooms of royal family.



Parliamentary Buildings until 1933 when Hitler took over. Local parliaments dissolved and dictatorship began. Re-built after WW2.



Bruhl Terrace area built in the fortifications by Count Bruhl a wealthy minister. Palaces and houses built for his family. Views also out on River Elber.



Ministry of Finance



Church of the Three Kings



Augustus Bridge



Monuments and bridges named after King Augustus and his wives. River is a UNESCO site so there were many issues with building a modern bridge.

2002 there was a great flood which rose river over 9 metres so inner city centre destroyed.

Prime Minister of Augustus.



Our Lady's Church and the City Square

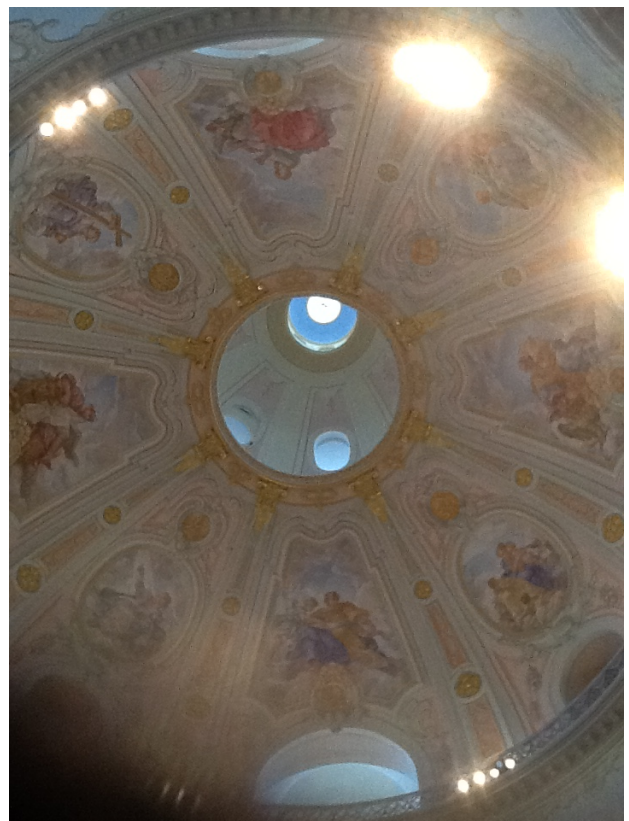
Built in 18th Century, first time to have stone tower so high. Structure became a symbol and most important Protestant church in Germany. This church was destroyed during WW2. It lay in ruin until 1990s as responsible people said this was to remain as a reminder of the destruction of the war. This square was only built, plaza and buildings in **1990s**.

Locals requested help from all over the world as a sign of reconciliation. Matched funding from all over to rebuild square and church. Total cost in excess of £250,000,000.

Rebuild of church used new and the original stones and it was rebuilt by 2005. Church used today for many services and events. Cross on top of church people from Coventry as part of reconciliation.



Inside the Church of Our Lady





**Views inside and from the top of the Tower
Stunning**





Outside the Church in the Square



Procession of the Princes - all the Princes of Saxony

Names all princes and what their characteristic was. For example Konradd the Great or Otto the Rich. There are 25,000 porcelain pieces and it covers 957 metres squared.



This mural runs the length of the Royal Mews street and was constructed in 1904-1905. This was produced by Wilhelm Walther.

There was then free time to explore the city before travelling back to school and evening meal in Doburger Kirchhain. The Mayor joined us and gave everyone gifts to remember our time in Germany. But we will never forget the Mayor.

