

## GERMANY ~ GAF WITTMUND PHANTOM 'SPOTTER'S DAY' & GAF JEVEER: PHANTOM & TORNADO MAINTENANCE & DISPOSAL UNIT

Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> – Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> June



We have now received confirmation from the Luftwaffe that a special Spotter's Day will be held on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June on GAF Wittmund, home of Germany's last operational F-4 Phantom unit, the famous Jagdgeschwader (JG) 71 "Richthofen".

Invitations to attend this event have also been sent out to other Luftwaffe and NATO squadrons (maybe including Greek and Turkish Phantom units? – not confirmed). Assuming they fly in the day before and return home the day after the Spotters Day, we are there for 'Arrivals' and 'Departures' Days!

We have been told that there are currently 21 Phantoms on JG71. However, as the months go by this number will gradually be reduced. By the time they finally retire the aircraft next year it is expected that there will only be 4 or 5 aircraft still flying.

Any further worsening of the Euro and economic crises could well result in the bringing forward of the retirement date of this classic fighter as Germany makes savings to its military spending.

In addition to attending the Spotter's Day we also spend 1½ - 2 full days outside the airbase to get landing and/or take-off shots from various locations around the perimeter: see Days 2 and 4.

We await confirmation of our request for a tour of nearby Jever airbase which undertakes F-4 maintenance and the dismantling of Phantoms and Tornados.

Please note that due to a German public holiday on the 7<sup>th</sup> June we are not now including a visit to GAF Schleswig to see the Tornado IDS's.

We fly on the scheduled services of British Airways from London's Heathrow Airport to/from Hamburg; travel in-country by air-conditioned coach; and stay 4 nights at Dorf Wangerland Hotel and Leisure Complex on an **"All Inclusive" basis: breakfast, packed lunch, buffet dinner and drinks (tea, coffee, soft drinks, beer and wine). Also, all fully furnished rooms include one double bed, therefore, everyone on the tour has their own room – there is no twin-share option except for 'couples'.**

This tour takes place over the Queen's Diamond Jubilee public holiday in the UK, and the Corpus Christi holiday in Germany. Demand for flights will be high. We therefore strongly recommend that you book as soon as possible – although we have not set a maximum number, over 60 enthusiasts have already registered their interest in this tour!

Enthusiasts who are booked, or looking to book, on our trip to the NATO Tiger Meet in Norway, 30<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June, and also wish to go on this tour should contact us to discuss your flight arrangements.

### **PROVISIONAL ITINERARY (all times local)**

#### **DAY 1: SUNDAY, 3<sup>rd</sup> JUNE**

Between 08:00hrs. and 08:50hrs. please check-in with British Airways in Terminal 5 at London's Heathrow Airport. Then meet Glenn Stanley (your Ian Allan Tour Manager), and fellow enthusiasts, who will be standing by Column G which is located in the Departures Hall immediately before the check-in area. We recommend you check in no later than 08:50.

✈ Heathrow Airport, Terminal 5  
✈ Hamburg

Flight: BA 962

Departs: 10:50  
Arrives: 13:25

Meeting our local driver we board our chartered coach and transfer to Wangerland-Hohenkirchen, near Wittmund, to the Dorf Wangerland Hotel and Leisure Complex; we stay 4 nights on an "All Inclusive" basis. Website: <http://www.booking.com/hotel/de/dorf-wangerland.en.html?dcid=1;dva=0>



### DAY 2: MONDAY, 4<sup>th</sup> JUNE

We spend today on the perimeter of Wittmund airbase - 'Arrivals Day' for those flying in to attend the Spotters Day, and photographing Phantoms taking off and/or landing, from the various off-base locations:  
<http://www.scramble.nl/airports/publish/etnt.htm>

### DAY 3: TUESDAY, 5<sup>th</sup> JUNE

Today we attend the official Spotter's Day on-base. We await details of timings, admission charge (if any) etc.

Photo courtesy of: Steve Comber

### DAY 4: WEDNESDAY, 6<sup>th</sup> JUNE

We await confirmation of our request to visit GAF Jever (hopefully in the afternoon) which currently maintains and dismantles both Phantoms and Tornados! Today is also 'Departures Day' - time to photograph the visiting aircraft as they return home.

### DAY 5: THURSDAY, 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE

At 08:30hrs. we set off for Hamburg Airport, arriving around 11:15 hrs., and check in with British Airways for our early afternoon flight back to Heathrow; latest 'group' check-in time is 12:25 hrs..

✈ Hamburg  
✈ Heathrow Airport, Terminal 5

Flight: BA 969

Departs: 14:25  
Arrives: 15:05

Awaiting our luggage in Baggage Reclaim, we bid each other farewell - until we meet again!

TOUR PRICE PER PERSON	TOUR: 227208
From £ 789.00	Package price based on a single room on an all inclusive basis (bed, breakfast, evening meal and all drinks)
From £588.00	Land-only (NO flights) <i>PLEASE SPEAK WITH ONE OF OUR CONSULTANTS BEFORE BOOKING</i>

### TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- Flights on the scheduled services of British Airways from London's Heathrow Airport, as stated
- UK & German airport taxes and UK Air Passenger Duty, currently £88.00 (subject to change)
- All coach transfers and transportation as stated
- 4-nights hotel accommodation in rooms with private facilities
- Meals on an All Inclusive Basis (breakfast, packed lunch & buffet dinner)
- Services of an Ian Allan Tour Manager throughout
- Gratuity for coach driver

### NOT INCLUDED

- Any charge to attend the Spotter's Day
- Travel insurance - see General Information
- Visa - see General Information
- Tips and gratuities (other than for coach drivers)

### Payment for Ian Allan Aviation Tours

A deposit of £250.00 per person should accompany your Booking Form, with the balance due 10 weeks prior to the tour's departure. Please see your Booking Confirmation/Invoice for the exact date. Please note that a reminder of the payment date will not be sent.

### Passports and Visas

Citizens of the UK are required to be in possession of a Full UK Passport, which must be valid for at least 6 months from the date of your return. You may also refer to the World Travel Guide website: [www.wtgonline.com](http://www.wtgonline.com) for general information on passports, visas and health requirements.

UK and EU passport holders do not require a visa to enter Germany.

### Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) Consular Advice

The FCO's consular service is a major operation. Every hour of every day consular staff around the world are advising and helping British nationals. For up-to-date passport, visa and security information on the destination you intend visiting, we suggest you visit: [www.fco.gov.uk/knowbeforeyougo](http://www.fco.gov.uk/knowbeforeyougo)

In addition, the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) provide an Information Line, telephone: 0901 201 505 (calls currently charged at 51p per minute).

### Baggage Regulations – British Airways – Heathrow Departures

**Hold baggage** – BA's baggage rules, for Economy Class, currently allow 1 piece in the aircraft's hold, up to a maximum weight of 23kgs (51lbs). Where it is clear that a passenger cannot manage one bag of 23kgs, they will be able to check-in an additional bag free of charge, as long as the sum weight of both bags when totalled does not exceed 23kgs. Any amount in excess of 23kgs and excess baggage charges are likely to be applied.

**Hand baggage** - Passengers departing from or transferring through Heathrow can take 2 standard-sized bags no bigger than 56cm x 45cm x 25cm (22" x 17.5" x 9.85") including wheels, pockets and handles. There is no weight limit for cabin bags, provided passengers can lift the bags, unaided, into the overhead lockers in the aircraft cabin.

Restrictions remain in place for the carriage of liquids, gels, and creams in hand baggage for all passengers departing from and transferring through all EU airports. Some other airports around the world operate their own restrictions. Customers are advised to check before they travel.

Limited quantities of liquids (individual containers must not exceed 100ml or 3.5 fl oz), are allowed as hand baggage but must be carried separately through security in a clear plastic, zip-top or re-sealable bag that does not exceed 20cm x 20cm (8 inches x 8 inches), or quart size. Items must fit in the bag comfortably and the bag must be completely closed.

The bag can only contain liquids such as shampoo, suntan lotions, creams, toothpaste, hair gel and hair spray, perfumes, cosmetics such as mascara and lip gloss, water and other drinks, soups and syrups and other items of a similar consistency.

Cigarette lighters are NOT permitted in hold baggage or through the security search. These may be purchased airside.

Hand baggage can also include electronic equipment such as mobile phones, digital cameras and MP3 players (such as i-Pods). Laptops must be removed from the bag for x-ray.

Prescription medicines in liquid form, e.g. diabetic kit can also be included.

At security all remaining items should be placed in the tray provided for screening, e.g. car keys and fobs, cash, solid food, books, newspapers, cigarettes and tobacco, belts and shoes. Pushchairs and walking aids are permitted but must be x-ray screened. All wheelchairs will be subject to search. Please note: you may be subject to a hand search by the security team and required to remove footwear to be x-ray screened.

*If flying from any other airport on BA, i.e. on connecting services to/from Heathrow, the allowance differs depending on the airport and you are advised to check beforehand.*

## **Baggage Weight Restrictions – UK Airports**

Since 1<sup>st</sup> June 2004, any single piece of checked baggage weighing more than 70lbs (32kgs) has not been accepted at check-in by any airline operating from London's Heathrow Airport. The BAA may introduce this limit at their other airports in the UK (and so might non-BAA airports), in an attempt to reduce manual handling injuries amongst airport staff. Please bear this in mind when packing your suitcase.

## **Meals**

On this tour we stay on an All Inclusive basis which includes breakfast, packed lunch & evening buffet dinner.

## **Health Requirements**

There are no known mandatory or recommended precautions for visiting Germany; however, if you are in doubt we strongly recommend you consult your local doctor or health centre for the latest information.

## **Climate**

The weather should be warm and sunny, with temperatures in the low to mid 70°s F.

## **Dress**

For our proposed visit to GAF Jever you must be smartly dressed: clean (not ripped) jeans are acceptable – but no t-shirts! We plan further tours to the German Air Force in the future and we wish to make a good impression.

## **Travel Insurance**

For citizens of the United Kingdom, Ian Allan Travel Ltd are able to offer competitive and comprehensive insurance cover. However, if you do not wish to take out our insurance, you must ensure that comparable or greater cover is taken. The number of your Insurance Policy should be written, if known, on your Booking Form at the time of making the reservation, but no later than the date when final payment is due. A copy of the policy must be forwarded to Ian Allan Travel Ltd.

Individual insurance policies are arranged through CoverMore Insurance Services Limited; the premiums for which will vary according to your circumstances. Full details are available on request.

These policies also include cover for non-scheduled flights, i.e. pleasure flights, where the aircraft is licensed and insured to undertake such flights, and where a payment is made.

## **Flexible Itinerary**

We are very happy for enthusiasts to take time away from the printed itinerary to pursue their own interests so long as they inform the Tour Manager. It will be the individual's responsibility to ensure that they re-join the group in the hotel at the stated time on the day of departure.

## **Land Only Price**

For enthusiasts who would prefer to join the tour in Germany (instead of flying from the UK with the main group), we would be pleased to provide a land only price on request.

You are strongly advised to contact us before making your own flight arrangements in the event that there has been a change to the published itinerary.

Please note that the 'Land only' price is based on you meeting the tour either at the hotel or at Hamburg Airport; if the latter, your flight arrival and departure times should coincide with those of the main group from London. If you fail to travel on the group's coach, transfers are at your own expense.

## **Flight Timings & Connecting Travel Arrangements to Departure Airport**

All flight departure and arrival times are correct at the time of preparing each itinerary; however, airlines may change these times with little or no prior warning. In practice such changes are only a few minutes either way and the final itinerary will show the actual times. Clients making their own arrangements to get to the departure airport by air, rail, coach etc., should bear the above in mind if purchasing non-refundable or non-changeable tickets. Ian Allan Travel cannot be held responsible for any changes to flight times and any privately arranged travel tickets to the airport becoming invalid.

## **Pre-departure**

For connecting flights from UK regional airports - please call Ian Allan Travel on 01932 255627 for the latest special offers available.

Airport Hotel and/or Car Parking - we can offer special rates for the above at most UK airports, please ask for details.

**‘Meet & Greet’ Car Parking, London’s Heathrow Airport, Terminal 5:** from your home or overnight hotel, simply drive to the terminal, towards the “Pick-Up and Departure” point; as you go up the ramp you will see a sign for “Short Stay Car Park” on your right-hand side; follow the signs for this car park but keep in the left-hand lane marked “Fast Track Business Parking”; drive to the Barrier and take a ticket, and then park in Zone L-M; hand your car over to the waiting driver who will then take it to an off-airport, secure, car park. On your return, the driver and your car will be waiting for you in the same location. Simple and very convenient. Recommended by our Tour Managers. Please call for details.

**Pleasure Flights – Disclaimer**

Should you decide to undertake any pleasure/sightseeing flights which have not been offered or sanctioned by us, Ian Allan Travel Ltd will not be held liable for any injuries or death resulting thereon.

**Tours Affected by World Events or Unforeseen/Unplanned Circumstances**

In an ever-changing world, events may occur immediately before or during a tour that result in cancellations or changes to the tour itinerary. For example, an increase in security may result in an approved visit being cancelled by the host, etc.. Ian Allan Travel Ltd cannot be held responsible for any tour being cancelled, or itineraries affected, due to world events or circumstances beyond our control.

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