

Martin Luther (der 10. November 1483—der 2. Februar 1546)

“Luther Country” in Germany marks the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation



Oct. 31, 2017, marks 500 years since Martin Luther famously rebelled against the Catholic Church with his 95 theses. Visitors to Germany can see where the Reformation began, and much more, in Luther Country.

For the world’s roughly 800 million Protestants, a small corner of eastern Germany is their spiritual home — a place that takes on added importance this year, the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation.

Covering an area roughly 150 miles long, so-called Luther Country is the birthplace and longtime home of religious rebel Martin Luther. Here it was that young Luther was allegedly frightened by a thunderstorm, interpreting a lightning strike as a sign to drop out of law school in favor of seminary. And here it was that the disillusioned theologian famously assailed the Catholic powers that be when he tacked his 95 theses on a church door Oct. 31, 1517, setting off the Reformation.

While commemorative concerts and museum exhibitions have been taking place all year long, momentum is building as the clock ticks closer to Oct. 31, 500 years to the day since Luther posted his grievances on Wittenberg’s Castle Church door.