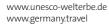


UNESCO World Heritage in Germany

Where history comes to life







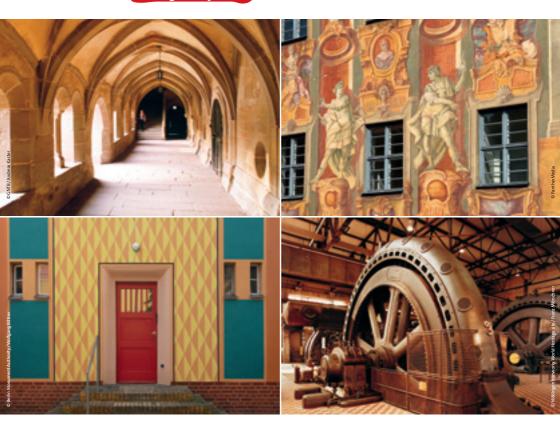




360°-panoramas and video clips.

World Heritage on the World Wide Web

Never before have World Heritage sites been so easy to access. For a tantalising taste of what Germany has to offer, go to www.germany.travel. Countless videos and 360° panoramas enable you to easily explore our fascinating sights and attractions before you visit Germany and see them for yourself! www.germany.travel





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German Commission for UNESCO

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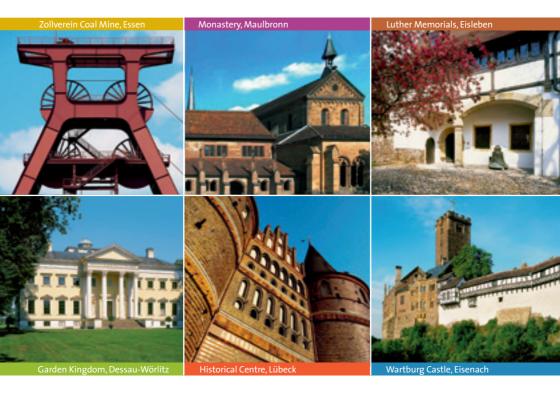




Contact

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UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN GERMANY

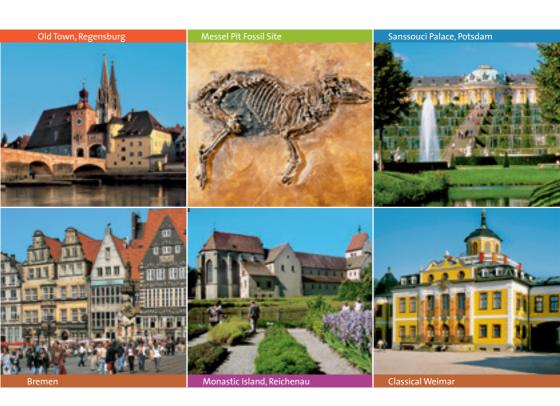


Where history comes to life

UNESCO World Heritage sites are outstanding testimonies to the history of mankind and nature: silent yet eloquent witnesses to magnificent cultural achievements and natural phenomena.

Only the most exceptional examples are inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list and enjoy the special international protection associated with that status. Sites range from individual architectural monuments to entire towns, and from industrial heritage to extraordinary natural landscapes. Travelling to UNESCO World Heritage sites is a remarkable journey back into history – a unique experience. Discover history

through its most fascinating examples. Examine the earliest traces of world history at the Messel Pit Fossil Site in Hessen. Combine a visit to Berlin with a stroll through 6,000 years of cultural history, or let yourself be inspired by the clarity of Bauhaus architecture in Dessau and Weimar. All the World Heritage sites in Germany are well worth a visit. Succumb to the magic of these historical locations. Explore different stages of the history of mankind. UNESCO World Heritage is always truly remarkable. As are journeys to the German World Heritage sites. This brochure provides information and suggestions on how to experience history while enjoying the beauty of each region.



The UNESCO World Heritage Convention

The 'Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage' was adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in 1972. It charges all of mankind with the protection of cultural and natural heritage of 'outstanding universal value'. By signing the convention, each country pledges to protect the monuments located within its borders and to preserve them for future generations. In return, UNESCO member states receive specialist advice on preserving their monuments. Countries with limited resources may also receive financial

assistance. The convention aims to promote and intensify both cooperation between all people and nations and the protection of natural and cultural heritage. Sustainable travel can be a way of contributing to the protection of World Heritage sites. The German UNESCO World Heritage Sites Association seeks to increase the popularity of German World Heritage sites and to promote low-impact and specialised tourism to the sites on a sustainable scale. This is seen as an opportunity not only to provide information about and access to the World Heritage sites, but also to ensure their continued preservation from the funding provided by tourism income.

Cathedral UNESCO World Heritage since 1978



The Church of St. Mary, originally built as the chapel of Charlemagne's imperial palace in Aachen in 786 AD, was part of the emperor's dream of creating a 'new Rome'.

With this building he laid the foundations of one of the most important architectural monuments in Europe. The cathedral's appearance reflects more than 1,000 years of history. Charlemagne's palatine chapel forms the core of the cathedral. The single-nave chancel was consecrated on the 600th anniversary of his death and the bold architecture of the 'glass house', as it is known, is as impressive today as it was then. During the 600 years from 936 to 1531, 30 German kings were crowned in Aachen Cathedral. Today, the cathedral has lost nothing of the splendour of centuries past. The first ensemble of historical and architectural importance in Germany to be

inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list (in 1978), this is a building of outstanding significance.

→ Our tip:

Discover Aachen and its cathedral as part of the inclusive package 'Fascinating World Cultural Heritage: Aachen Cathedral'.

For more information, see www.aachen-pauschalen.de

Information & booking

Aachen Tourist Service e. V. Friedrich-Wilhelm-Platz 52062 Aachen Tel.: +49(0)241/18 029-60 or -61

Fax: +49(o)241/18 o29-30 Email: info@aachen-tourist.de Website: www.aachen-tourist.de

Old Town

UNESCO World Heritage since 1993

A centre of imperial and episcopal power for almost 1,000 years, Bamberg stands on seven hills, surrounded by the beautiful landscapes of Franconia.

The town was founded by Emperor Heinrich II (died 1024), who made Bamberg the centre of the Holy Roman Empire and the capital of his reign. It boasts many outstanding buildings, such as the cathedral, the old town hall, the new palace and St. Michael's Abbey. Adding to the romantic atmosphere evident at every turn is the river Regnitz with its many pretty bridges. Bamberg is now essentially a baroque town, but has retained its medieval structures. Virtually unscathed by wars, Bamberg is today the largest old town ensemble in Germany. It is also a vibrant cultural centre, appealing to visitors on many levels. The mixture of authentic architectural heritage, the surviving medieval town structure and the way that town, river and

surrounding countryside blend into a harmonious whole make Bamberg a worthy World Heritage site



🔷 Our tip:

Learn about Bamberg's history in an entertaining way with the 'Theatre of Shadows', or get to know Bamberg's fascinating beer heritage on the BierSchmecker®Tour (beer tasting tour). You can enjoy highlights of classical music at concerts by the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra. In 2012 the town celebrates the 1,000-year anniversary of the cathedral and hosts the Regional Garden Show.

Information & booking

BAMBERG Tourismus & Kongress Service

Geyerswörthstrasse 5 96047 Bamberg

Tel.: +49(0)951/29 76-200 Fax: +49(0)951/29 76-222 Email: info@bamberg.info Website: www.bamberg.info



Museum Island UNESCO World Heritage since 1999

Berlin's Museumsinsel (Museum Island) in the river Spree contains precious artefacts spanning 6,000 years of the history of mankind.

Less than one square kilometre in size, over the course of 100 years - between 1830 and 1930 – the island became home to a remarkable architectural ensemble that was declared a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1999. It began in 1830 with the completion of the Altes Museum, designed by Karl Friedrich Schinkel. The first overall plan for an island of museums was drawn up in 1841 by Friedrich August Stüler, a pupil of Schinkel. He designed the Neues Museum, completed in 1859, and the Alte Nationalgalerie (1876). The Kaiser Friedrich Museum, now the Bode Museum, followed in 1904. The opening of the Pergamon Museum in 1930 marked the end of work on the Museumsinsel. Up to 70 per cent of the museum buildings were destroyed during the Second World War. As part of the Masterplan Museumsinsel project, the historical buildings are being renovated and modern extensions added, while closer thematic links between the contents of the collections are being established, creating a wide-ranging overview of western cultural history. The opening of the magnificently restored Neues Museum in October 2009 marked the first time since the Second World War that all five museums on the island have been open. The Alte Nationalgalerie had already opened to the public in 2001, the Bode Museum in 2006 and the Colonnades followed in 2010.

Our tip:

The cultural mecca of Berlin offers an unrivalled 170plus museums and 1,500 events on a daily basis, with everything from high culture and entertainment to avant garde and the latest trends.

Museums Night at the end of January and the end of August, featuring concerts, plays and special performances until the early hours, is a firm fixture in the calendar of Berlin's cultural events and never fails to open up new spaces and perspectives.

There are tourist information centres at the main train station, Brandenburg Gate, Neues Kranzler Eck (Kurfürstendamm) and in the Alexa shopping centre (Alexanderplatz). For opening times and addresses see www.visitBerlin.de

Information & booking

Berlin Tourismus Marketing GmbH

Am Karlsbad 11 10785 Berlin

Tel.: +49(0)30/25 00 25 Website: www.visitBerlin.de





Modernism Housing Estates

UNESCO World Heritage since 2008

The Berlin Modernism Housing Estates represent the artistic and social visions of a new type of urban and housing development.

The efficiently laid-out, affordable flats with modern facilities, including kitchens, bathrooms and balconies, in buildings without courtyards or side wings, were designed to alleviate the housing shortage of the early 20th century and provide a healthier environment for poorer people.

- Falkenberg garden city (Treptow), 1913-15
- Schillerpark estate (Wedding), 1924–30
- Britz estate 'horseshoe estate'
 (Neukölln), 1925–31
- Carl Legien residential estate (Prenzlauer Berg), 1928–30
- Weisse Stadt estate (Reinickendorf), 1929-31
- Siemensstadt estate (Charlottenburg and Spandau), 1929–31

The foundation 'Gartenstadt Falkenberg und Schillerpark-Siedlung der Berliner Moderne' pro-

motes the heritage and preservation of two estates, Falkenberg garden city and Schillerpark estate. The foundation is a member of the German UNESCO World Heritage Sites Association, through which it keeps in touch with Germany's other UNESCO sites (www.welterbe-berlin.de).

Our tip:

Why not combine a guided tour of the estates with a visit to the Bauhaus archive in Berlin?

There are **tourist information centres** at the main train station, Brandenburg Gate, Neues Kranzler Eck (Kurfürstendamm) and in the Alexa shopping centre (Alexanderplatz). For addresses and opening times see www.visitBerlin.de

Information & booking

Berlin Tourismus Marketing GmbH Am Karlsbad 11 10785 Berlin

Tel.: +49(0)30/25 00 25 Website: www.visitBerlin.de

Town Hall and Roland statue in the market square UNESCO World Heritage since 2004

In the justification for its inscription in the World Heritage list, Bremen's town hall is acknowledged as 'an outstanding example of late Renaissance architecture in Northern Germany, the so-called Weser Renaissance'.

The building has remained almost unchanged for 600 years. Its two magnificent large Gothic halls, one above the other, represent Bremen's political importance as a free Hanseatic city. The UNESCO experts describe the Roland statue as 'the most representative and one of the oldest of Roland statues erected as a symbol of market rights and freedom'. Bremen's Roland statue does indeed embody the ideal of liberty. 'I manifest your freedom' says the inscription on the shield of the stone statue, erected in 1404. According to the locals, as long as that inscription remains, Bremen will stay free. Bremen's town hall and Roland statue are remarkable examples of civic autonomy and sovereignty, as these developed within the Holy Roman Empire.



Bremen's atmospheric Christmas market is considered one of the most attractive in Germany, with the town hall and the Roland statue as its backdrop and over 170 festively decorated stalls. In September the city shows its musical side during the Bremen Music Festival. Opening with 'Eine große Nachtmusik', the festival features concerts in various venues around the market square, which is transformed into a vibrant piazza with atmospheric illuminations and culinary treats.

Information & booking

Bremer Touristik-Zentrale

Findorffstrasse 105 28215 Bremen

Information hotline: +49(0)1805/10 10 30 (€0.14 per min. from German landlines, mobile charges vary)

or +49(0)421/30 80 010

Email: btz@bremen-tourism.de

Website: www.bremen-tourismus.de

Bremen tourist information offices:

Obernstrasse/Liebfrauenkirchhof and Bremen train station





Castles of Augustusburg and Falkenlust

UNESCO World Heritage since 1984

Augustusburg palace and Falkenlust hunting lodge, along with their gardens, have been inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage list as a fine example of an ensemble of German rococo architecture. These days, they are open to the public.

Work on Augustusburg Palace, the favourite residence of Clemens August of Bavaria, Elector and Archbishop of Cologne (1700–1761), began in 1725 under the Westphalian architect Johann Conrad Schlaun. From 1728 until 1768 it was transformed into a stunning residential palace by the Bavarian court architect Francois de Cuvilliés. The famous grand staircase of the palace, used for official receptions by the German President until 1996, was designed by Balthasar Neumann. The baroque gardens were created by Dominique Girard, modelled on French designs. Falkenlust, a small summer residence and hunting lodge, was also built by Cuvilliés, in a relatively short time (1729–37). It is one of the most intimate and exquisite creations of the German rococo era

→ Our tip:

There is plenty to do at Augustusburg Palace and Falkenlust, including a range of themed guided tours of both buildings and their gardens that illustrate many aspects of life at an 18th century court. The Brühl Palace Concerts are international performances of classical music set against the famous grand staircase from May to September.

Information & booking

Telephone hotline: +49(0)2232-44 000

Brühl Info

Uhlstrasse 1 50321 Brühl

Fax: +49(0)2232-79 345 Fax: +49(0)2232-79 346 Email: tourismus@bruehl.de Website: www.schlossbruehl.de, www.bruehl.de



Bauhaus Sites UNESCO World Heritage since 1996

The Bauhaus, led by Walter Gropius, was founded in the rather sedate town of Weimar in 1919. This was the start of the design revolution ...

Henry van de Velde, designer, architect and a great influence on the Bauhaus movement, created the perfect environment in which it could flourish. His buildings in Weimar – the former art college and the school of arts and crafts – were the original home of the Bauhaus and now enjoy UNESCO World Heritage status. The model house Am Horn, built by Georg Muche in 1923 for the great Bauhaus exhibition, bears eloquent testimony to the artists' revolutionary ideas and is also part of Weimar's UNESCO World Heritage. In 1925 the Bauhaus school moved to Dessau. The Bauhaus building, designed by Walter Gropius and opened in 1926, is regarded as a groundbreaking example of modern architecture of the early 20th century. The master houses for Gropius, László Moholy-Nagy, Lyonel Feininger, Georg Muche, Oskar Schlemmer, Wassily Kandinsky, Paul Klee and their families were also built during that period. Both the Bauhaus building, now home to the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation, and the master houses are open to the public.

Our tip:

The Bauhaus Museum and a guided walk led by students of the Bauhaus University. Trace the history of the early Bauhaus at these authentic locations and discover the past and present of the Bauhaus artists in Weimar, www.weimar.de

The Kurt Weill Festival in Dessau is held every year at the beginning of March. Famous international singers, musicians and actors perform in around 40 events at various venues around the town.

Following in the tradition of the Dessau Bauhaus festivals of the 1920s, the Colour Festival at the start of September features a parade to the Bauhaus in the evening that culminates in celebrations lasting until the early hours. Every year a different colour is chosen as the theme for activities and guests. www.bauhaus-dessau.de

Information & booking

Weimar Tourist Information

Markt 10, 99423 Weimar

Tel.: +49(0)3643/74 50

Fax: +49(0)3643/74 54 20

Email: tourist-info@weimar.de

Website: www.weimar.de

Dessau-Rosslau Tourist Information

Zerbster Strasse 4, 06844 Dessau-Rosslau

Tel.: +49(0)340/20 41 442

Fax: +49(0)340/22 03 003

Email: touristinfo@dessau-rosslau.de

Website: www.dessau-rosslau-tourismus.de

Garden Kingdom

UNESCO World Heritage since 2000

The Garden Kingdom was created by Prince Leopold III Friedrich Franz von Anhalt-Dessau (1740–1817), whose many reforms were aimed at fostering a harmonious interaction of man and nature.

His Garden Kingdom lies at the heart of a land-scape characterised by rivers, woodland and expansive meadows. Its palaces, gardens, tree-lined avenues and smaller buildings blend in with the nature that surrounds them, giving the whole area the feel of infinite parklands. On the outskirts of Dessau are the neo-classical Luisium Palace with its English gardens, the roccoo ensemble of Mosigkau Palace, Großkühnau Country Park and Georgium Palace, home to the House of Anhalt's picture gallery. Together with the baroque ensemble of the town, palace and park of Oranienbaum and Wörlitz Park, the most important part of the Garden Kingdom, these form a remarkable World Heritage.

→ Our tip:

On Garden Kingdom Day at the start of August, the parks and palace gardens of the Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz stage a wide range of events that encourage visitors to move between them and experience the Garden Kingdom in its entirety. The Garden Kingdom Summer Festival held at Wörlitz park and in the gardens of the Luisium, Mosigkau, Georgium and Oranienbaum palaces offers both high culture and entertainment.

The lakeside concerts in Wörlitz Park from May until August are a particularly enchanting tradition.

Tel. +49 (o) 3 40/2041442

Information & booking

Dessau-Rosslau Tourist Information

Zerbster Strasse 4, 06844 Dessau-Rosslau

Tel.: +49(0)340/20 41 442 Fax: +49(0)340/22 03 003

Email: touristinfo@dessau-rosslau.de

Website: www.dessau-rosslau-tourismus.de,

www.gartenreich.com



Wartburg Castle UNESCO World Heritage since 1999

Wartburg Castle is one of the best-preserved medieval castles in Germany. First built in 1067, it developed into an extensive fortress complex over the course of the centuries.

Wartburg Castle is one of the best-preserved medieval castles in Germany. First built in 1067. it developed into an extensive fortress complex over the course of the centuries, with Romanesque, Gothic and 19th century architectural features. The Romanesque main castle captures 900 years of history within its walls: courtly art from the Middle Ages, St. Elisabeth's life and work. Martin Luther's translation of the New Testament and the castle's role as a symbol of German unity dating back to the nationalist struggles of the 19th century. Today, the art treasures, medieval tapestries, the 'Dürer cupboard', paintings by Lucas Cranach the Elder, a remarkable collection of cutlery and European arts and crafts from the 11th to the 19th century

attract large numbers of visitors to Wartburg Castle. It is a popular destination at any time of year, surrounded by stunning scenery and offering lots to see and do.

→ Our tip:

The romantic atmosphere of the castle really comes into its own during concerts in the ceremonial hall from May to October and at the 'Summer Nights' events.

A popular historical Christmas market is held on the weekends before Christmas.

Information & booking

Wartburg-Stiftung

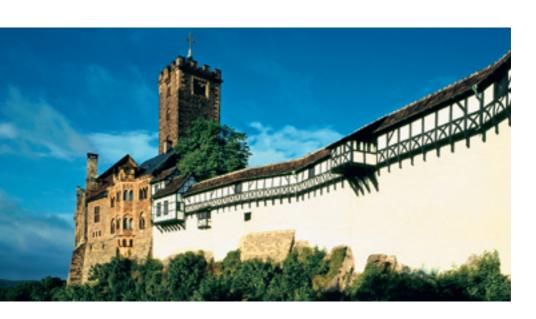
Auf der Wartburg 1 99817 Eisenach

Tel.: +49(0)3691-25 00

Fax: +49(0)3691-20 33 42

Email: info@wartburg.de

Website: www.wartburg.de, www.eisenach.de



FISI FBFN AND WITTENBERG





Luther Memorials UNESCO World Heritage since 1996

Eisleben and Wittenberg still offer visitors many reminders of both the Reformation and the Renaissance.

Martin Luther was born in Eisleben and he also died there. There is plenty to see in the town's old quarter, for example the historical market square with its splendid town houses, the Luther statue and the historical town hall. Specific Luther sites include the house in which he was born, the church of St. Peter and Paul where he was baptised, St. Andrew's Church with its original Luther pulpit, St. Anne's Church with the only stone-carved biblical scenes in Europe and the Luther Museum in the house where he died on 18 February 1546. A stroll through Wittenberg should take in the Castle Church with its worldfamous 'Theses door', the graves of Luther and Melanchthon, the Cranach courtyards, the Town Church with its striking Cranach altar and the houses where Luther and Melanchthon used to live. From the end of the 15th century Wittenberg was the electoral seat of Frederick the Wise. His astute politics, the university founded in 1502 and the influence of Luther and other Reformers combined to make Wittenberg a leading centre of religious and cultural life in Europe. From 1511 Martin Luther lived and

worked in the town's Augustinian Monastery as a monk and a scholar. After he got married in 1525 he received the building as a gift. His living room remains as it was during his lifetime.



Our tip:

Eisleben: Great medieval festival around St. Andrew's Church in August; Luther Trail walk, last Sunday in August; 'Eisleber Wiese', the largest traditional funfair in central Germany, 3rd weekend of September; Reformation Day with town hall debate, Martin Luther's birthday in November; Advent in Luther's courtyards

Wittenberg: Luther's Wedding - held on the 2nd weekend of June, this is one of the most beautiful town festivals in Germany and takes place at authentic historical sites associated with the Reformation. Based on the wedding of Martin Luther and Katharina von Bora. www.lutherhochzeit.de

Information & booking

Lutherstadt Eisleben Tourist Information

Hallesche Strasse 4, 06295 Lutherstadt Eisleben

Tel.: +49(0)3475/60 21 24 Fax: +49(o)3475/60 26 34 Email: info@eisleben-tourist.de

Website: www.eisleben-tourist.de

Lutherstadt Wittenberg Tourist Information

Schlossplatz 2, o6886 Lutherstadt Wittenberg

Tel.: +49(o)3491/498610 Fax: +49(o)3491/498611

Email: info@lutherstadt-wittenberg.de Website: www.lutherstadt-wittenberg.de

Zollverein Coal Mine Industrial Complex

UNESCO World Heritage since 2001



In its heyday, the Zollverein Coal Mine Industrial Complex in Essen was one of the largest and most modern collieries and coking plants in the world.

The outstanding features of Shaft 12 set new standards in industrial design, based on the principles of the New Objectivity. Its two architects, Fritz Schupp and Martin Kremmer, created a harmonious blend of geometric shapes and symmetrical features arranged around two axes. Today, the colliery and the functionally integrated Zollverein coking plant built by Fritz Schupp together form a remarkable industrial landscape of international importance. At the same time, they are also a vibrant cultural venue. Regarded as 'the most beautiful colliery in the world', the complex is a testament to the modern architectural movement of the 1920s and 1930s and the rise of heavy industry. The Denkmalpfad Zollverein® discovery trail runs through an open-cast mine left in its original condition, where expert guides help visitors to understand the different stages involved in coal production.

The tour uses models, video clips and interactive museum technology to illustrate the process – along with a soundtrack of authentic noises.

🔶 Our tip:

June: ExtraSchicht - a night of industrial heritage Last weekend in September: 'Colliery Festival' – featuring theatre and folklore performances, live acts, children's programme and fireworks display

All year round: Denkmalpfad Zollverein® discovery trail, Ruhr Museum - nature, culture and history of the Ruhr region

red dot Design Museum:

Exhibition of contemporary design

Industrial Heritage Portal:

Panoramic overview of the industrial heritage of the Ruhr region

Information & booking

Besucherzentrum Zollverein

Halle 14, Schacht XII [A14]

Gelsenkirchener Strasse 181, 45309 Essen

Tel.: +49(0)201/246810

Fax: +49(0)201/8543-100

Email: besucherzentrum@zollverein.de

Website: www.zollverein.de

Rammelsberg Mines, Historic Town of Goslar and Upper Harz Water Management System

UNESCO World Heritage since 1992, extended 2010

Rammelsberg Mines near Goslar were once the world's largest interconnected copper, lead and zinc ore repositories.

The ensemble of mining structures and manmade landscape have been preserved. After mining stopped in 1988, the ore mines became one of Germany's largest, most unusual museums. It provides insights into 850 years of mining and includes a visitor mine. Goslar's historical town centre is also part of the World Heritage, featuring architectural monuments such as the Town Hall and Hall of Homage, numerous churches and town houses. The Upper Harz Water Management System, the world's largest and most important system of lakes and streams, gained UNESCO World Heritage status in 2010. Built in the Middle Ages, it was the major source of energy for mining for over 800 years. Today, 107 ponds, 310km of water courses and 31km of underground channels remain - many still containing water. With walking trails, mines and the Cistercian Museum at Walkenried Abbey, this

special World Heritage offers visitors nature and culture in perfect harmony.



Adventure tour of the Rammelsberg mines, in the Rathstiefste tunnel dating from 1150: darkness and splendid colours, includes lunch underground Advance booking required; open daily

Information & booking

Weltkulturerbe Rammelsberg

Museum & Besucherbergwerk Bergtal 19, 38640 Goslar Tel.: +49(0)5321/750-0 Fax: +49(0)5321/750-130 Email: info@rammelsberg.de Website: www.rammelsberg.de www.goslar.de/tourismus.htm

Oberharzer Bergwerksmuseum

Museum für Technik und Kulturgeschichte Bornhardtstrasse 16, 38678 Clausthal-Zellerfeld Tel: +49(0)5323/9895-0 Fax: +49(0)5323/9895-69 Email: info@oberharzerbergwerksmuseum.de Website: www.bergwerksmuseum.de www.harzinfo.de www.oberharz.de









St. Mary's Cathedral and St. Michael's Church

UNESCO World Heritage since 1985

St. Mary's Cathedral and St. Michael's Church are outstanding examples of early-Romanesque architecture.

Both World Heritage churches exemplify the skill of Bishop Bernward (993 to 1022) and contain exceptional artworks. The main attraction in St. Michael's Church is the painted 13th century wooden ceiling depicting the Tree of Jesse. Germany's only flat church ceiling, it is a fascinating example of monumental Romanesque painting. The spectacular cathedral treasure, Column of Christ and Bernward doors are characteristic of the Bernwardian period.

The cathedral is being renovated for the anniversary of the diocese in 2015 and is closed until August 2014. Many of its treasures, including the huge bronze castings, can instead be seen at different places around Hildesheim until 2014. The Column of Christ featuring scenes from the Old and New Testaments is on loan to St. Michael's Church. The pair of two 5m-high Bernward doors were cast in one piece – an achievement never mastered before - and are

currently displayed at the Roemer and Pelizaeus Museum.



Our tip:

The UNESCO World Heritage package includes two nights in a four-star hotel with buffet breakfast, a guided tour of the UNESCO World Heritage churches and a small gift from Hildesheim. Guides tours on the subject of UNESCO World Heritage and a themed tour 'On the trail of Bishop Bernward' are also available. Organ recitals that fill the churches with glorious music are a very special experience.

Other highlights: Jazz Time (Whitsun), Magdalene Festival (Jun), Marienrode Abbey Concert (Jul), Market Square Music Festival (Jun-Aug), farmers market (Sep), Christmas market (Nov/Dec)

Information & booking

Hildesheim Tourist Information

Rathausstrasse 20 (Tempelhaus), 31134 Hildesheim

Tel.: +49(0)5121/17 98-0 Fax: +49(0)5121/17 98-88

Email: tourist-info@hildesheim.com

Website: www.hildesheim.de/tourismus,

www.domsanierung.de

The cathedral UNESCO World Heritage since 1996

Building first began in 1248 on what eventually became one of the finest ecclesiastical edifices in the world and the epitome of high-Gothic cathedral architecture in its purest possible form.

The scale of Cologne Cathedral is evident from its two mighty towers. Completed in 1880, they dominate both the city and the surrounding region. At the time of its completion in the 19th century, the cathedral was the biggest building in the world. The design of the west side was truly groundbreaking. It has the largest exterior surface of any church in the world, said to be around 7,000 square metres, and is flanked by two huge towers, each rising to a height of 157 metres. The cathedral houses a wealth of important art treasures, including colourful stained glass windows that bathe the church interior in a mysterious light; the Ottonian Gero Cross (around 980 AD), the oldest large-scale sculpture in the western world; the shrine housing

the relics of the Three Kings (1190-1225), an outstanding example of Rhenish goldwork; the altar of the patron saints of Cologne by Stefan Lochner (around 1450), a masterpiece of the Cologne school.

→ Our tip:

Once a month, from September to June, wellknown guest choirs or the cathedral's own choir perform in the chancel in front of the shrine of the Three Kings.

During the summer months there is an organ recital at the cathedral every Tuesday

Information & booking

KölnTourismus GmbH

Kardinal-Höffner-Platz 1 50667 Cologne

Tel.: +49(0)221/2213 04 00 Fax: +49(0)221/2213 04 10 Email: info@koeIntourismus.de Website: www.koeIntourismus.de



Upper Germanic-Rhaetian Limes – Frontiers of the Roman Empire

UNESCO World Heritage since 2005

The Limes, an ancient fortified border line. is one of the most exceptional archaeological monuments in Central Europe, as well as a reminder of Roman civilisation and culture around 2,000 years ago.

The Limes runs from Bad Hönningen / Rheinbrohl on the River Rhine to the Regensburg area on the River Danube. Along its 550 kilometres there are preserved Roman remains, reconstructions, excavations and reproductions. In some places it is still possible to make out the course of the border wall as it stretches in long, straight lines across fields and forests. Today, all major places of interest are linked by the German Limes Road, creating a varied and interesting tourist route. More than 80 towns, villages and districts have joined together to form the Limes Route in an effort to preserve this remarkable heritage. Visitors enjoying the beautiful and

diverse countryside of the former Roman border region will encounter dramatic views and fascinating insights into the area's Roman past.



Our tip:

Roman festivals, guided Roman tours and guided hikes, special exhibitions, activity days and family days. Extensive programme of events in the towns and villages along the Limes

For more information see www.limesstrasse.de/Termine

Information

Verein Deutsche Limes-Strasse

St. Johann Strasse 5 73430 Aalen

Tel.: +49(0)7361/52 82 87 23 Fax: +49(0)7361/52 82 87 10 Email: limesstrasse@aalen.de Website: www.limesstrasse.de





Benedictine Abbey and Altenmünster

UNESCO World Heritage since 1991

The famous Carolingian gate hall or 'king's hall' in Lorsch is one of Germany's most important pre-Romanesque architectural relics.

The original function of the building is unknown, as is the exact time of its construction, but the magnificent decorations on its walls and on the upper floor give an idea of what other magnificent buildings have been lost at Lorsch Abbey, one of the largest and most important abbeys in central Europe. Founded around 764, the abbey survived until the Reformation (1557) and has been almost completely destroyed since the Thirty Years' War. At one time, it owned estates from the North Sea coast in what is now Holland all the way to Switzerland. Lorsch once housed a formidable library and was one of the Middle Ages' leading centres of learning and teaching. One of its best-known manuscripts is the Lorsch *pharmacopoeia*, which can be seen as marking the beginnings of modern medicine in post-antiquity Europe.



Our tip:

Close encounters with the Middle Ages: Lorsch offers educational activities for schools and families throughout the year.

Guided tours & information

Verwaltung der Staatlichen Schlösser und Gärten Hessen

Nibelungenstrase 32 64653 Lorsch Tel.: +49(0)6251/103 820 Fax: +49(0)6251/587 140 Email: info@kloster-lorsch.de Website: www.kloster-lorsch.de

Tourist information

Touristinfo Nibelungenland

Altes Rathaus, Marktplatz 1 64653 Lorsch

Tel.: +49(0)6251/17 52 60 Fax: +49(0)6251/17 52 626 Email: info@nibelungenland.info

Website: www.lorsch.de, www.kloster-lorsch.de



Historical Centre UNESCO World Heritage since 1987

Lübeck, the Queen of the Hanseatic League, was founded in 1143 as 'the first western city on the Baltic coast'.

Today, its appearance is characterised by a medieval ambience and by cultural and historical attractions harking back to Lübeck's glorious past as a free imperial and Hanseatic city. The historical centre, surrounded by water on all sides, is one of the foremost examples of brick Gothic architecture. The towers of seven churches have dominated the skyline since medieval times. Lübeck's most famous landmark is Holsten Gate. The Buddenbrooks House. one of Lübeck's many splendid merchant's houses, is a memorial to Nobel laureate Thomas Mann, who was born in Lübeck. The Günter Grass House and the Willy Brandt House commemorate two other Nobel laureates associated with the city. A stroll through the narrow lanes of the old quarter may reveal over 80 secluded medieval passageways and a number of courtyards. The perfect way to round off a visit is with a piece of delicious marzipan cake at Café Niederegger.



Our tip:

In December, when the old quarter is filled with the smells of Christmas, a visit to the enchanting arts and crafts market at the 14th century Hospital of the Holy Ghost makes for an unforgettable experience.

Information & booking

Welcome Center, Lübeck and Travemünde Marketing GmbH

Holstentorplatz 1 23552 Lübeck

Tel.: +49(0)451/88 99 700 Fax: +49(0)451/40 91-992

Email: info@luebeck-tourismus.de Website: www.luebeck-tourismus.de

Monastery Complex

UNESCO World Heritage since 1993

The former Cistercian abbey of Maulbronn is not only the most complete and best-preserved monastic complex north of the Alps, it is also a particularly representative example of medieval architecture.

Construction of the monastery began in 1147, and its triple-naved Romanesque basilica was dedicated to the Virgin Mary in 1178. The monks' chancel is made from oak and furnished with richly decorated choir stalls. At the start of the 13th century, the church acquired a triple-naved portico, also known as 'Paradise'. Built in a style characteristic of the transition from the Romanesque to the Gothic period, its wide double arches open onto the courtyard. To this day, the abbey courtyard is surrounded by a fortified wall, which incorporates a number of towers, living quarters and outbuildings. In 1556 the abbey was converted into a Protestant monastery school, attended by such historic figures as Johannes Kepler, Hermann Hesse and Friedrich Hölderlin.

→ Our tip:

When the delicious aroma of cookies and mulled wine fills the abbey courtyard it must be Christmas market time in Maulbronn.

Three weekends before Christmas, 120 seasonally decorated stalls are set up against the magnificent backdrop of the Maulbronn Monastery, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site. Every year, thousands of visitors enjoy the market's very special atmosphere and its high-quality programme of yuletide entertainment.

Information and booking

Stadtverwaltung Maulbronn

Klosterhof 31

75433 Maulbronn

Tel.: +49(0)7043/103-0 Fax: +49(0)7043/103-45

Email: info@maulbronn.de

Website: www.maulbronn.de



Messel Pit Fossil Site

UNESCO World Heritage since 1995

The Messel Pit Fossil Site, a UNESCO World Natural Heritage site since 1995, holds some of the richest deposits of mammal fossils in the world.

To date, geoscientists have unearthed approx. 50,000 individual finds from the former volcanic crater lake, formed around 47 million years ago. These include ancestors of today's mammals (e.g. prehistoric horses), fish, insects, reptiles, amphibians and plants. The preservation of fully articulated skeletons, skin and hair, unborn foetuses and stomach contents that reveal the animal's last meal is truly remarkable. Museums in Darmstadt, Frankfurt and Messel display fascinating exhibits from the Messel pit and preserve them for future generations. From 2010, visitors can also discover more about 'Time and the Worlds of Messel' at the visitor centre. This window on the past is situated approx. 10km east of Darmstadt in the forests of the Messel hills and is easily accessible from Frankfurt.

Our tip:

'Time and the Worlds of Messel' at the visitor centre is open all year round, from 10am to 5pm daily, last admission at 4pm, admission to the visitor centre is also possible without a guided tour.

The Messel Pit Fossil Site can only be visited as part of a guided tour. There are one-hour tours of the pit from April to October on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays at 10.30am, 12 noon, 1.30pm and 3pm. Sturdy footwear must be worn. Additional tours available by arrangement.

Information

Welterbe Grube Messel gGmbH

Rossdörfer Strasse 108 64409 Messel

Tel.: +49(0)6159-71759-0 Fax: +49(0)6159-71759-222

Email: service@welterbe-grube-messel.de

Website: www.grube-messel.de





Muskauer Park

UNESCO World Heritage since 2004

Muskauer Park is an exceptional example of a landscape park.

It was laid out between 1815 and 1845 to plans drawn up by Hermann Fürst von Pückler-Muskau, a prince, landscape gardener and travel writer. Subsequent owners continued to develop and substantially extend the park in accordance with von Pückler's original designs. The grounds of the park lie either side of the River Neisse, straddling the German-Polish border. The park covers an area of approximately 830 hectares. Its defining features include the spacious layout, broad vistas, varying intensities of landscape design and artificial watercourses. On a stroll through the park, visitors experience constantly alternating, three-dimensional scenes created out of the natural landscape. Intensive concerted efforts by conservationists in Germany and Poland in recent years have resulted in a more holistic approach to the continuing restoration of the park.



Our tip:

Visit the German and Polish sections using the bridge at the centre of Muskauer Park. Horse-drawn carriage rides and cycle hire are also available.

Event highlights: Annual German-Polish Park Festival (late May), 'Open Air & Picnic' (early July) and the exhibition 'Pückler! Catch him if you can!' at the New Castle (April-October).

Information

Stiftung Fürst-Pückler-Park Bad Muskau

Tourismuszentrum Muskauer Park Neues Schloss 02953 Bad Muskau Tel.: +49(0)35771/63 100 Fax: +49(0)35771/63 109

Email: info@muskauer-park.de Website: www.muskauer-park.de



Upper Middle Rhine Valley

UNESCO World Heritage since 2002

In recognition of its status as one of the world's oldest and most magnificent cultural landscapes, UNESCO included the Upper Middle Rhine Valley in its list of World Cultural Heritage sites in 2002.

The romantic river valley is lined with castles and palaces. It extends from the old Roman town of Koblenz, via the myth-enshrouded Loreley rock, to Bingen and Rüdesheim, and includes the steep vineyards that are home to the famous Rhine wines. In the Romantic era, the Rhine began to be associated with Germany's fate. It carried not only goods and people from many different countries, but was also a channel for a wealth of cultural influences and ideas — the religious buildings along the river, in particular, bear eloquent testimony to this.



World Heritage hosts: an alliance of certified hosts who enjoy sharing their love and enthusiasm for the Middle Rhine Valley with their guests. They offer regional specialities and well-appointed accommodation, and are official ambassadors for the World Heritage Upper Middle Rhine Valley region. www.welterbe-gastgeber.de

Information & booking

Rhein-Touristik Tal der Loreley
Loreley Besucherzentrum
56346 St. Goarshausen
Tel.: +49(0)6771/59 90 93
Fax: +49(0)6771/59 90 94
Email: info@tal-der-loreley.de
Website: www.tal-der-loreley.de, www.526-593.de,
www.welterbe-mittelrheintal.de

Wieskirche Pilgrimage Church

UNESCO World Heritage since 1983

The Pilgrimage Church of the Scourged Saviour at the foot of the Alps is considered one of the most perfect examples of Bavarian rococo architecture.

It is one of the few 18th century churches to have been preserved in its original state, and its stunning interior is a celebrated icon of art history. The church was built by Dominikus Zimmermann between 1745 and 1754, who, together with the best artists of the age, created the undisputed pinnacle of rococo architecture in the Bavarian style. The Wieskirche very quickly became one of the 18th century's most important places of pilgrimage, as it contained a statue of the Flagellated Christ on which tears had been seen on 14 June 1738. The church is visible from quite some distance, situated on a small hill amid meadows. The theme of pilgrimage is reflected in the architecture and interior of the church: it is all about suffering, penance and salvation. Every

detail of the magnificent, yet never ostentatious, decoration serves to create an overall visual impression. The Wieskirche combines architecture, images and stucco to great effect, resulting in a work of art that provides an exquisite setting for the holy image of the Scourged Saviour.

Our tip:

Musical highlights – from May to September the Wieskirche hosts concerts of classical music from the Baroque to the late-Romantic period. These special events feature the new organ consecrated in 2010.

Information and booking

Tourismusverband Pfaffenwinkel

Bauerngasse 5 86956 Schongau Tel.: +49(0)8861/7773

Fax: +49(0)8861/20 06 78 Email: info@pfaffen-winkel.de Website: www.pfaffen-winkel.de



Prussian Palaces and Parks

UNESCO World Heritage since 1990

Sanssouci Palace – the Prussian arcadia: an outstanding example of architectural and landscape design

The parks and gardens, created over centuries under Prussian electors, kings and emperors, form an unparalleled ensemble. Great architects, distinguished artists and landscape designers have left their mark on this magnificent masterpiece, which encompasses grand gardens and numerous buildings interlinked through visual aspects or pathways.

The Potsdam and Berlin World Heritage includes Sanssouci Park, the New Garden, the parks and palaces of Babelsberg and Glienicke, Klein-Glienicke village, Glienicke hunting lodge, Peacock Island, Sacrow Palace and park with the Saviour's Church, and many other areas in Potsdam, such as Pfingstberg Hill, Lindstedt Palace, the Russian colony Alexandrowka and the Bornstedt Crown Estate.

Our tip:

April: Tulip Festival in the Dutch quarter
June: Potsdam Sanssouci Music Festival and the
Bohemian Weavers' Festival at Babelsberg
August: Potsdam Palaces Night with a special concert
the evening before the event

the evening before the event **September:** Pottery market in the Dutch quarter

Oktober: Sanssouci Illuminations

November and December: 'Festival of Blue Lights' (Potsdam Christmas market), Bohemian Christmas market in Babelsberg, 'Star market' (romantic Christmas market at Bornstedt Crown Estate) and *Sinterklaas Fest* (Festival of St. Nicholas) in the Dutch quarter

For more events, see www.events-in-potsdam.de

Information & booking

Potsdam tourist offices:

Brandenburger Strasse 3 and Potsdam central station

14467 Potsdam

Tel.: +49(0)331 27 55 88 99 Fax: +49(0)331/27 558-29

Email: tourismus-service@potsdam.de

Website: www.potsdamtourismus.de

www.potsdam-tourism.com



OUEDLINBURG



Old Town with Burgberg and Münzenberg hills and St. Wigbert's Church

UNESCO World Heritage since 1994

This former imperial palace on the Romanesque Route is one of the most important historical sites in Germany.

The main attraction in Quedlinburg is the town itself. With its historical layout and over 1,300 half-timbered buildings from eight centuries, it is an outstanding example of a beautifully preserved medieval town. One of Germany's oldest timber-framed houses (around 1340) contains the medieval architecture museum. The Collegiate Church of St. Servatius – with the burial site of the first German king, Henry I, and his wife Mathilde, and the famous cathedral treasury – is a masterpiece of Romanesque architecture. An imperial document from the 10th century refers to Quedlinburg as the 'capital of the empire'. Under Henry I and his Ottonian successors, the town became a centre of European pol-

itics, education and culture. The Lyonel Feininger Gallery, featuring the largest collection of works by the artist in Europe, is well worth a visit.



Our tip:

For the last 30 years, the Quedlinburg Summer of Music from Whitsun to September has featured leading classical musicians who give special performances in the collegiate church.

Information & booking

Quedlinburg-Tourismus-Marketing GmbH

Markt 2

06484 Quedlinburg Tel.: +49(0)3946/90 56 24

Fax: +49(0)3946/90 56 29

Email: qtm@quedlinburg.de

Website: www.quedlinburg.de www.adventsstadt.de



Old Town with Stadtamhof

UNESCO World Heritage since 2006

The 2,000-year old Roman town of Regensburg at the northern end of the Danube is known for the many Romanesque and Gothic buildings in its historical old quarter, which survived the Second World War largely unscathed.

No other town in Central Europe has architecture that so vibrantly reflects the major political, economic and religious developments of the High Middle Ages. A walk through the winding lanes of the old quarter – a restricted traffic zone – takes visitors to the most important architectural monuments, including the cathedral, the town hall, the courtyards and private chapels of the medieval patrician houses, the palace of the princes of Thurn and Taxis, and the Romanesque and Gothic churches. The centuries-old Stone Bridge is a masterpiece of medieval European bridge building and provides a picturesque backdrop for a stroll through the town. A number of towers that have survived from the Middle Ages, colourful buildings and numerous pavement cafés give the Old Town a mediterranean feel, and it is clear to see why Regensburg is also known as 'Italy's northernmost town'.

Our tip:

10am on Sundays and public holidays: Chapter mass at St. Peter's Cathedral with musical accompaniment by the Regensburger Domspatzen boys' choir

Whitsun: Festival of Early Music

June/July: Regensburg 'Spectaculum', a medieval market on Jahninsel island

July: Thurn and Taxis Festival – concerts and theatre in the palace courtyard

December: Christmas concerts by the Regensburger Domspatzen boys' choir at Regensburg University's Auditorium Maximum

Information & booking

Regensburg Tourismus GmbH Roter Herzfleck 2 / Rathausplatz 4 93047 Regensburg Tel::+49(0)941/507-4410

Fax: +49(0)941/507-4418 Email: tourismus@regensburg.de Website: www.regensburg.de

Monastic Island of Reichenau

UNESCO World Heritage since 2000

The island of Reichenau in Lake Constance is a man-made landscape that provides an excellent example of the religious and cultural role played by a large Benedictine abbey in the Middle Ages.

The three Romanesque churches on the island illustrate monastic architecture from the 9th to the 11th century. Their wall paintings show Reichenau to be an artistic centre of great importance in European art history during the 10th and 11th centuries. In 724 AD, the itinerant bishop Pirmin founded a Benedictine abbey on the island

From the 8th to the 11th century, this imperial abbey became one of the spiritual centres of the western world. Eminent scholars taught at the renowned abbey school, which produced outstanding theologians, politicians, scientists, poets and musicians. The abbey library, the

Reichenau school of art (manuscript illumination and murals) and the goldsmith's art were also highly acclaimed.

Our tip:

Three traditional public festivals with processions commemorate the island's fascinating history:

25 April: St. Mark's Day,

Monday after Trinity Sunday: Festival of the Holy Blood 15 August: Assumption of Our Lady

Information & booking

Reichenau Tourist Information

Pirminstrasse 145 78479 Reichenau

Tel.: +49(o)7534/92 07-0

Fax: +49(0)7534/92 07-77 Email: info@reichenau-tourismus.de

Website: www.reichenau.de



Cathedral

UNESCO World Heritage since 1981

The magnificent Romanesque imperial cathedral in Speyer is the town's best-known and most prominent landmark.

Built by emperors, the cathedral was a symbol of their power and served as their final resting place. Construction began around 1030 under the Salian Emperor Conrad II and the church was consecrated in 1061. Speyer's imperial cathedral, laid out in the form of a Latin cross, is one of Germany's largest and most important Romanesque buildings. The Salian emperors chose it to be their burial site. Its huge triple-naved vaulted basilica is the central element of a design that greatly influenced Romanesque architecture in the 11th and 12th centuries. The hallmarks of the cathedral are the balanced distribution of its dimensions to the east and the west and the

symmetrical layout of the structure, consisting of a nave and transept with four towers on the corners

→

Our tip:

In **September and October**, the International Music Festival, featuring concerts by choirs and orchestras as well as organ recitals, is held at Speyer Cathedral.

Information & booking

Speyer Tourist Information

Maximilianstrasse 13

67346 Speyer

Tel.: +49(0)6232/14 23 92 Fax: +49(0)6232/14 23 32

Email: touristinformation@stadt-speyer.de

Website: www.speyer.de



STRAISUND AND WISMAR



Historical Centres UNESCO World Heritage since 2002

The old quarters of Stralsund and Wismar exemplify established Hanseatic towns during the trading alliance's 14th century heyday.

The medieval layouts of both town centres have remained largely unchanged and illustrate how maritime trading towns were set up under Lübeck law. The architectural heritage, consisting of many outstanding individual buildings, documents the political importance and extraordinary wealth of these Baltic trading ports in the Middle Ages. Wismar is the only Hanseatic town of this size on the southern Baltic to have been preserved virtually intact. Stralsund's unique island location, between the Strela Sound and a number of lakes dammed up in the 13th century, emphasises the medieval character of its town centre. The ensemble of six monumental brick-built churches provides a remarkable cross-section of the famous ecclesiastical architecture of both Hanseatic towns.



Our tip:

In June, tall ships such the schooner Atalanta and the replica of the Poeler Kogge venture out into the Bay of Wismar as part of the Harbour Festival. In August, Wismar recalls its history under Swedish rule with the annual Sweden Festival. In Stralsund on the 1st Saturday in September every year: European Heritage Night

Information & booking

Tourismuszentrale der Hansestadt Stralsund

Alter Markt 9 18439 Stralsund Tel.: +49(o)3831/24 690 Fax: +49(o)3831/24 69 22 Email: info@stralsundtourismus.de

Website: www.stralsundtourismus.de

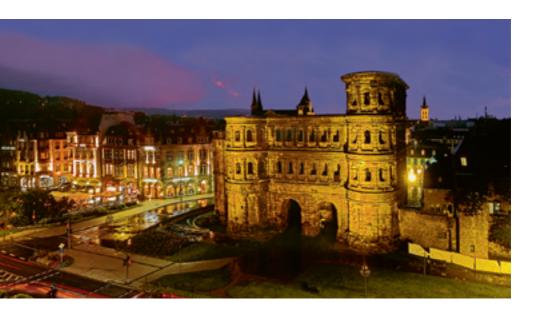
Wismar Tourist Information

Am Markt 11 23952 Wismar Tel.: +49(o)3841/19 433 Fax: +49(0)3841/251-30 91 Email: touristinfo@wismar.de

Website: www.wismar.de

Roman Monuments, Cathedral of St. Peter and Church of Our Lady

UNESCO World Heritage since 1986



ANTE ROMAM TREVERIS STETIT ANNIS MILLE TRECENTIS – 'Trier stood one thousand and three hundred years before Rome' claims the inscription on the Red House on Hauptmarkt square.

Although this is an invention of the Middle Ages, it does have some historical background. There were indeed already settlements in the Trier valley in the 3rd century BC, and Trier was the first one north of the Alps that could justifiably be called a 'town'. Trier was founded around 16 BC by the Romans under Emperor Augustus as 'Augusta Treverorum' near to a holy site of the Celtic Treveri tribe. World-renowned architectural monuments and art treasures are a reminder of the town's fascinating history,

which spans more than 2,000 years. Trier is not only a place of antiquities, however, and it is precisely this harmonious coexistence of old and new that gives the town its special charm.

→ Our tip:

The great Roman festival *Brot und Spiele* (Bread and Circuses) features spectacular performances and gladiator fights in the amphitheatre, and a large Roman camp at the Imperial Thermal Baths. For further information and dates, visit www.brotundspiele-trier.de

Information & booking

Trier Tourist Information

An der Porta Nigra, 54290 Trier Tel.: +49(0)651/97 808-0 Fax: +49(0)651/97 808-88 Email:info@trier-info.de Website: www.trier.de/tourismus, www.welterbe-trier.de

Völklingen Ironworks UNESCO World Heritage since 1994

The Völklingen Ironworks are the world's only surviving smelting works from the Golden Age of the iron and steel industry.

In 1994, these gigantic ironworks – a legacy of the industrial age that covers an area of 60 hectares – became the first industrial monument to be inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage list. Closed in 1986 and placed under preservation order, the former pig iron production facility is now an exceptional monument and visitor attraction that hosts prestigious cultural exhibitions and other exciting projects. The colossal machines in the 6,000m² blasting hall, the six blast furnaces and a remarkable sloping ore lift from the beginning of the 20th century are outstanding feats of engineering. The 240m long charging platform, just under 30 metres high, where the coke and ore were poured into the blast furnaces, is surpassed in height only by the viewing platform on the hot-blast stoves that towers to a staggering 45 metres. The tour of the site comprises over 6,000 metres of fascinating and well-signposted paths that also take visitors to 'The Paradise'. Here, in the former

coking plant, a unique dialogue between industrial culture and nature has been created – the first of its kind in the world.



Our tip:

March/April to late October: The Science Center Ferrodrom® brings to life the production and transportation of raw materials and iron, the history of the ironworks, and the day-to-day lives of the workers. Over 100 interactive exhibits and experimentation stations add to the experience.

Information & booking

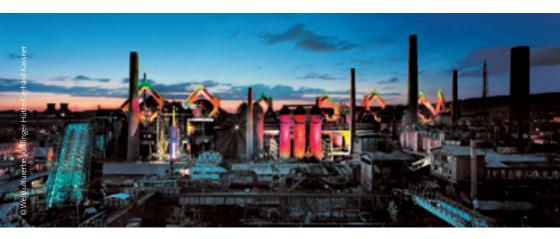
Völklingen Ironworks World Cultural Heritage – current exhibitions, events and projects: www.voelklinger-huette.org
Group bookings: tel. +49 (o) 6898 / 9 100 100 or email visit@voelklinger-huette.org

For more information on holidays in the Saarland & bookings

Tourismus Zentrale Saarland Franz-Josef-Röder-Strasse 17, 66119 Saarbrücken

Tel.: +49(0)681/92 720-0 Fax: +49(0)681/92 720-40 Email: info@tz-s.de

Website: www.tourismus.saarland.de





The Wadden Sea UNESCO World Heritage since 2009

The Wadden Sea World Natural Heritage is located on the North Sea coast. Covering an area of about 10,000 square kilometres, it includes the two Wadden Sea National Parks of Schleswig-Holstein and Lower Saxony. and the Wadden Sea conservation area in the Netherlands.

The diversity of the Wadden Sea landscape makes it a unique habitat for more than 10,000 species of plants and wildlife. Mussel beds, dense sea grass meadows and soft mudflats provide food for many animals. Flowering salt marshes in the transitional zone along the dykes and on the islands give way to white sandy beaches and dunes. For millions of migratory birds, the Wadden Sea is an essential stopover or resting place. Geologically, it is a very young area, only 10,000 years old, and constantly being re-shaped by the winds and tides. High and low tide alternate every six hours, transforming the landscape as if by magic.

Niederlande



Our tip:

A walk through the mudflats with an experienced National Park guide - feel the interaction of wind, water and waves, watch huge flocks of birds demonstrating their aerial prowess and discover the fascinating flora and fauna of the coastal wetlands.

Information

www.waddensea-worldheritage.org

National Park Office

Lower Saxony Wadden Sea National Park

Tel.: +49 (0)4421 911 - 0 **National Park Office**

Schleswig-Holstein Wadden Sea National Park

Tel.: +49 (o)4861 616 - o

Website: www.wattenmeer-nationalparke.de

Travel information & booking

Schleswig-Holstein:

Nordsee-Tourismus-Service GmbH

Tel.: +49 (o)48418975-o

Website: www.nordseetourismus.de

Lower Saxony:

Die Nordsee GmbH

Tel.: +49 (0)4421 956099-0 Website: www.die-nordsee.de

Classical Weimar

UNESCO World Heritage since 1998

Weimar is unusual. Despite being comparatively small in size, it has achieved great stature.

The cornerstone of its cultural significance was laid more than 200 years ago, when Weimar became the intellectual centre of Germany. The sites associated with the poets and their patrons are remarkably well preserved, as are the beautiful, extensive parks of Classical Weimar – a period encouraged by the support of an enlightened royal house and brought to worldwide attention through Johann Wolfgang Goethe and Friedrich Schiller, Germany's most famous poets. UNESCO honoured the legacy of Classical Weimar in 1998 by awarding it World Heritage status. The ensemble includes the celebrated Duchess Anna Amalia library, Goethe's House, Schiller's House, Weimar Palace, the three palaces and parks of Belvedere, Ettersburg and Tiefurt, Anna Amalia's Wittums Palace and sites associated with Johann Gottfried Herder – the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul (the Herderkirche) with its three-panelled altarpiece by Lucas Cranach, Herder's house and the former grammar school. The historical cemetery with its royal crypt is also part of the World Heritage site. All of these magnificent treasures have been lovingly restored and are presented to the highest standard, allowing visitors to experience a fascinating chapter in Germany's cultural history at close hand.

Our tip:

Weimar Arts Festival: August / September Weimar Onion Market: 2nd weekend in October Christmas in Weimar: from the end of November

Information & booking

Weimar Tourist Information

Markt 10, 99423 Weimar Tel.: +49(o)3643/7450

Fax: +49(0)3643/74 54 20

Fmail: tourist-info@weimar.de Website: www.weimar.de





Residence with Court Gardens and Residence Square UNESCO World Heritage since 1982

The former residence of the prince bishops of Würzburg, built between 1720 and 1744, is one of Europe's foremost baroque ensembles, and its unity of style makes it one of the finest south German baroque palaces.

Commissioned by Prince Bishop Johann Philipp Franz von Schönborn, this 'palace of palaces' was designed and built by the architect Balthasar Neumann. Neumann's famous staircase with its unsupported vaulted ceiling features the largest ceiling fresco in the world, created in 1752-53 by the Venetian painter Giovanni Battista Tiepolo. A magnificent sequence of rooms starts in the vestibule and the Garden Hall, continues to the staircase and the White Hall, and through to the Imperial Hall, which also features frescos by Tiepolo. Other outstanding rooms are the reconstructed mirrored hall and the court chapel with its exquisite marble features, a highlight of religious art in Würzburg. A walk through the palace gardens offers a chance to enjoy art and nature at its best.

Our tip:

May: Baroque Festival – a festival for all the senses with Franconian wine and regional delicacies

Information: www.frankenwein-aktuell.de

May/June: Mozart Festival with symphony concerts and chamber music by famous ensembles and orchestras

Information: www.mozartfest-wuerzburg.de

July: Italian Night with music from the world of Italian opera at the staircase, Imperial Hall and palace garden

Information: www.theaterwuerzburg.de

Late June/early July: Hofgarten Wine Festival by the Staatlicher Hofkeller wine estate in the picturesque garden of the Residenz Palace Information: www.hofkeller.de

Information & booking

Congress - Tourismus - Wirtschaft Am Congress Centrum 97070 Würzburg Tel.: +49(0)9 31/37 23 35

Fax: +49(0)9 31/37 36 52 Email: tourismus@wuerzburg.de Website: www.wuerzburg.de

From the Wadden Sea to Stralsund via Bremen, Lübeck and Wismar



Length: approx. 507 km
We recommend four overnight stays.

This fabulous route takes in the **Wadden Sea** World Natural Heritage site on Germany's North Sea coast, the cultural legacy of the Hanseatic League and the neo-classical Baltic Sea resorts. The Wadden Sea is a unique habitat for more than 10,000 species of plants and animals. Horse-drawn carriage rides, walks across the coastal mudflats and boat trips are some of the ways to appreciate its natural beauty. From the Lower Saxony Wadden Sea it's not far to the Hanseatic city of **Bremen**, whose town hall and Roland statue are just a stone's throw

North Sea: coastal mudflats at low tide



from the famous Bremen Town
Musicians monument.

The next stop is
Hanseatic Lübeck.
Attractions here include
the Holsten Gate, the
town hall, the seven
spires and, in the old
quarter, more than 80
medieval passageways
and a number of courtyards.

Lübeck's renowned marzipan tastes so delicious that the locals think it should be part of the World Heritage too!
The journey continues to another former member of the Hanseatic League – **Wismar**, with its typical northern German red-brick architecture. The towering, late-Gothic churches of St. Nicholas, St. Mary and St. George dominate the skyline of this Hanseatic city.

Stralsund

approx. 140 km

The landscape along the Baltic Sea coast is characterised by pretty little towns and villages, manor houses, shady tree-lined avenues and

fabulous beaches boasting crystal-clear water. It's then on through the West-Pomeranian Boddenlandschaft National Park to the end of the route in Stralsund Another Hanseatic power in times long past, the town has three magnificent red-brick churches that can be seen from far and wide. On Stralsund's harbour island. which faces out towards the Strela Sound, the Ozeaneum aquarium offers a glimpse of what lies beneath the waves of the Baltic. North Sea and Atlantic Ocean and even the waters of the Polar seas.

Stralsund



Lübeck



From Berlin to Eisleben via Wittenberg and Dessau-Rosslau



Berlin, Germany's capital and centre of culture, has many cultural attractions just waiting to be discovered. A real highlight is the world-famous **museum island** in the river Spree, with its archaeological collections and 19th century artworks.

Berlin's **Modernism Housing Estates** are the legacy of one of Germany's first social housing projects. Great architects of the period contributed to their design, most notably Bruno Taut, who was responsible for Falkenberg garden city and the Schillerpark estate.

Via historical Potsdam, which is surrounded by the Havel river and countless lakes, you continue







Berlin: Modernism Housing Estates



Wittenberg: market square

through the Brandenburg heathland – often on picturesque tree-lined avenues – to Lutherstadt Wittenberg. This is where Luther nailed his 99 theses to the door of the castle church, and the town features many other places associated with the life and work of the great reformer. Your journey then takes you across the river Elbe to Dessau-Rosslau and one of the homes of the Bauhaus. Aside from the Bauhaus building itself, many of the Bauhaus masters' houses have been restored to their former glory. The surrounding region is ideal for cycling, particularly on the Elbe Cycle Route. Along the German Avenues Route the path takes you to historical Köthen with its Bach associations and on to Lutherstadt **Eisleben** the town where Martin Luther was born and in which he also died.

From Hildesheim to Wartburg Castle via Goslar and Quedlinburg



Length: approx. 289 km
We recommend two overnight stays.

Hildesheim is a cultural centre between the Harz mountains and Hannover. It lies tucked away in the Leinebergland region, which is great for walking and sightseeing.

In the heart of the picturesque Harz countryside are the towns of **Goslar** and **Quedlinburg**, whose old quarters blend in harmoniously with the surrounding countryside.

The historical **Rammelsberg** mines date back more than 1,000 years and are complemented







Hildesheim: St. Michael's Church

by the **Upper Harz Water Management System**, whose ingenuity belies its age. The route from Goslar to **Quedlinburg** takes you past Wernigerode, which serves as a starting point for walks in the Harz National Park and on Mount Brocken. Michaelstein Cistercian Abbey, just outside Blankenburg, makes a great place to stop for a contemplative break.

The old quarter in **Quedlinburg** boasts an incredible 1,300 half-timbered buildings spanning eight centuries. Towering above them is the Romanesque collegiate church, which houses a famous Ottonian treasure and the graves of King Henry and his wife Mathilde. From here, the route continues through the Thuringian countryside, past a number of fortresses and historical houses to Eisenach and the mighty **Wartburg** Castle, which has seen over 900 years of German history and culture – and where Luther laid the foundations of the modern German language with his translation of the Bible.

Eisenach: Wartburg Castle



Through the Upper Middle Rhine Valley to Brühl, Cologne, Aachen and Essen



Length: approx. 370 km We recommend three or four overnight stays.

The **Upper Middle Rhine Valley** World Heritage is already a fine route in itself, thanks to its magnificent river scenery and extraordinary wealth of cultural attractions. Beginning in the historical wine-making towns of Bingen and Rüdesheim, your route takes you along the Rhine to Koblenz and then to **Brühl**. Here you'll find Augustusburg Palace and Falkenlust hunting lodge with their wonderful gardens. These two rococo gems bear witness to the architecture and opulence of the 18th century as

Cologne Cathedral and the Ludwig Museum



fully preserved ensembles that are remarkable in their completeness. After around 15 kilometres, you reach Cologne, the focal point of the region, which has many fine museums of international standing and a vibrant cultural scene to go along with its world-famous cathedral. Another cathedral – and one that's over 1,200 years old – awaits in your next stop of Aachen, near the



Bingen - 'Mouse Tower' and Ehrenfels castle ruins

border with Holland and Belgium. Through the heart of the Ruhr region, Germany's former coalmining heartland, the route brings you to the your final stop, **Essen**, where a visit to the monumental Zollverein coal mine provides a fascinating insight into a chapter of industrial heritage.

Route 5

From Weimar to Bad Muskau via Dessau-Wörlitz and Potsdam



Among the many places to visit in **Weimar** are the sites associated with Goethe und Schiller and the huge parks and gardens from the World Heritage period of 'Classical Weimar'. The Bauhaus buildings beside the park on the river Ilm are part of another UNESCO World Heritage site. The inspiration for this park, which Goethe helped to design, was the Garden Kingdom of

RECOMMENDED ROUTES

Dessau-Wörlitz – the next stop along the route. A long walk or a gondola trip are ideal ways to admire the palaces, parks and gardens as well as the sculptures, follies and tree-lined avenues. It's then on to Potsdam with its magnificent palaces, of which Sanssouci – the summer residence of Frederick the Great – is the main attraction. Both palace and park belong to the Potsdam UNESCO World Heritage, together with the Russian Alexandrowka colony, the New Garden, the parks and palaces of Babelsberg and Glienicke, Peacock Island and Sacrow Palace and park with the Saviour's Church. The final leg of your tour brings you to Bad Muskau. En route it's well worth making a small detour to visit the Spree Forest, which became a UNESCO biosphere reserve in 1991. In Bad Muskau, you can walk in the footsteps of the landscape architect Prince Pückler, whose legacy can be discovered at many sites of his former estate. His masterwork Muskau Park occupies 830 hectares and today extends across the Polish border





Wörlitz Park





Bamberg: 'Little Venice'

Route 6

From fossils and the Roman Limes to Würzburg, Bamberg and Regensburg



- Length: approx. 376 km
- We recommend two overnight stays.

The route from Messel to Regensburg begins south of Frankfurt and east of Darmstadt, on the eastern shoulder of the Rhine valley.

Messel Pit Fossil Site is one of two UNESCO World Natural Heritage sites in Germany. Its beautifully preserved mammal fossils in bituminous shale date back some 47 million years. On the way from Messel to Würzburg it's well worth visiting Europe's longest archaeological monument in central Europe – the Roman Limes. This ancient border wall runs for an impressive 550 kilometres. In Stockstadt,

RECOMMENDED ROUTES



Würzburg: Fortress Marienberg



Roman Limes

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Aschaffenburg and a number of other sites, sections of the Upper-Germanic Roman Limes have been reconstructed to scale and are on display in archaeological parks.

After this brief interlude, you come to the former royal seat of Würzburg. The Prince Bishop's residence in its gilded baroque splendour provides the main attraction in the town, but that is by no means the extent of Würzburg's charms. Also popular are the many wine taverns that follow a long viticultural tradition and provide a fitting environment for the Franconian cuisine. The route then continues through the Steigerwald Forest nature reserve to Bamberg. The town's splendid old quarter is so perfectly preserved that it's like stepping back into medieval times and the Golden Age of the baroque. The final leg brings you to the 2,000-year-old city of Regensburg, which has more than a touch of mediterranean flair.

Route 7

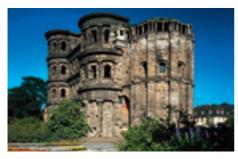
From Trier to Maulbronn via Völklingen, Lorsch and Speyer



Length: approx. 383 km We recommend two overnight stays.

The town of **Trier** was once known as *Roma* secunda or the 'second Rome'. From here, the route leads south through the Hunsrück nature park into the Saarland. This former industrial region of iron and steel production is now one of Germany's greenest federal states. Discover its past at the cathedral-like **Völklingen Ironworks**. Your journey to the next stopping point of **Lorsch**

RECOMMENDED ROUTES



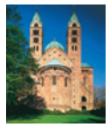
Trier: Porta Nigra

runs through the Palatinate Forest to the south. At this juncture, the route continues along the

Maulbronn Monastery Complex



Speyer Cathedral



Rhine towards its upper reaches and the cathedral town of Speyer with its imperial heritage. The final stop, Maulbronn Monastery, lies in the heart of the Swabian wine region. A haven of tranquillity, it is tucked away amid the beautiful Kraichgau-Stromberg countryside, which is blessed with vineyards, meadows and leafy forests as well as many places of interest

Pfaffenwinkel: Wieskirche Pilgrimage Church

Route 8

From Wieskirche Pilgrimage Church to Reichenau Island



- Length: approx. 212 km
- We recommend at least one overnight stay.

This route in southern Bavaria begins at Wieskirche church, whose name means 'meadow church' This refers to its location on a small rise in open ground, allowing pilgrims to see it from afar. The route to Lake Constance following the German Alpine Road could not be any more beautiful. Along the way, it's worth stopping off at Füssen to visit Neuschwanstein Castle. Through the Allgau and the Allgau Alps you continue on to Lindau on the shores of Lake Constance and along the lakeside panorama trail to Meersburg. From here, you cross over to Constance on one of the ferries that depart every 15 minutes. Further ahead is Lake Constance's **Reichenau Island** with its churches from the 9th to the 11th centuries. The journey to the island, which takes you down an avenue of poplars, is an attraction in itself



Reichenau Island



UNESCO tips

Germany has 33 sites that are inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list. All are outstanding historical monuments, from a range of categories.

Castles and palaces

The German castles and palaces on the UNESCO list of World

Cultural Heritage embody magnificent royal splendour and elegance as well as impenetrable strength and fortitude: the Prussian Palaces and Gardens of Berlin and Potsdam, the imposing Wartburg Castle in Eisenach, the episcopal Residenz Palace in Würzburg and the Castles of Augustusburg and Falkenlust in Brühl. Both Würzburg and Brühl are examples of the work of the great baroque architect Balthasar Neumann.

Nature, gardens and landscapes

Natural heritage such as the Messel Pit Fossil Site and

the Wadden Sea, man-made landscapes like the magnificent gardens of Dessau-Wörlitz, Bad Muskau and Potsdam-Sanssouci, and the cultural landscapes of the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, developed over time in a symbiosis between man and nature, settlements and scenery. All of these sites, subject to varying degrees of both human and natural influences, are deemed to be part of mankind's world heritage.

Industrial heritage Mining and the industrial revolution have left an indelible stamp

on German history. The echoes of this industrial past and its striking architecture are just as much part of mankind's heritage as other cultural achievements. The industrial World Heritage sites in Germany are the Rammelsberg mines in Goslar, which were mined over a period of 1,020 years and feature a unique water management system, Völklingen Ironworks, the largest ironworks in the Saarland, and the Zollverein Coal Mine Industrial Complex in Essen.

Churches and abbeys

Sacred buildings have long been viewed as cultural monuments

and placed under special protection. Outstanding ecclesiastical buildings such as the Wies-

kirche Pilgrimage Church, the cathedrals of Aachen, Cologne, Speyer, Trier and Hildesheim, as well as unique abbey complexes such as the Cistercian Abbey of Maulbronn, the Benedictine Abbey of Lorsch and the Monastic Island of Reichenau, bear grand testimony to the cultural achievements of earlier periods. The towns of Wittenberg, Eisleben and Eisenach are closely associated with the memory of Martin Luther.

Historical town centres

Monuments are only inscribed in the World Heritage list if

they meet the criteria of 'uniqueness' and 'authenticity' laid down in the UNESCO convention. The historical town centres and building ensembles on the list of German World Heritage sites – Lübeck, Wismar, Stralsund, Quedlinburg, Goslar, Bamberg and Regensburg – are all remarkable in some respect and now enjoy UNESCO World Heritage status.

Other World Heritage sites

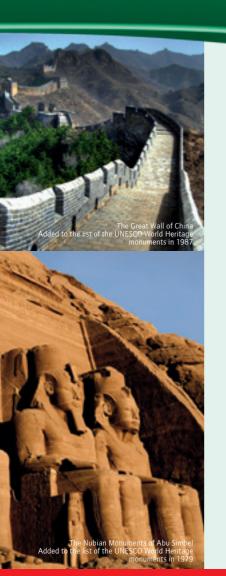
The Berlin Modernism Housing Estates are not only exam-

ples of early 20th century architecture; they also had a profound impact on the development of social housing. They were the work of renowned architects, as were the Bauhaus building and its associated sites – first in Weimar and later in Dessau – where the new, free spirit of the Bauhaus masters is still evident. Bremen Town Hall represents north German Renaissance architecture, and together with the impressive Roland statue also stands for autonomy and market rights. Another unique ensemble is Classical Weimar, which includes famous buildings from the time of Goethe, Schiller and Herder. The Upper-Germanic Roman Limes, once the frontier of the Roman Empire, is around 550 kilometres long and runs from Bad Hönnigen to the area near Regensburg on the Danube. Today, visitors can not only see relics from Roman times but also replicas and reconstructions.



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