





## BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE.

Rhineland-Palatinate has much to offer and the Directorate General for Cultural Heritage will present it all to you! Monumental Roman buildings, medieval castles, historic fortresses and prestigious state museums. Experience the state at the heart of German culture and history.



Major epochs of European culture have passed through the Rhineland-Palatinate. The region offers magnificent castles, churches and monasteries, picturesque buildings from the Romantic period and late-nineteenth-century villas. This checkered history adds to Rhineland-Palatinate's beauty and enhances its profile. Not for nothing can four UNESCO World Heritage Sites be found here: Upper Middle Rhine Valley, Roman Monuments, Cathedral and Church of Our Lady in Trier, Upper Germanic-Rhaetian Limes and the Speyer Cathedral.



The Directorate General for Cultural Heritage manages the state's properties. Among them are the Roman buildings in Trier, the centre of the ancient world; castles on the Middle Rhine and in the Palatinate as well as the Prussian Ehrenbreitstein Fortress in Koblenz. The state museums in Mainz, Koblenz and Trier have outstanding exhibits on display. Our prime task is to protect and maintain the cultural heritage entrusted to us and to preserve it for future generations. We also present the sites and monuments for the enjoyment of cultural tourism.



With this brochure, we would like to invite you to discover the rich cultural heritage of the Rhineland-Palatinate.

We extend a warm welcome to you.





## Event Highlights

### History Re-enactments

Living-History  
Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, Koblenz

### Country Outing

Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, Koblenz

### Festival Stolzenfels Palace

Stolzenfels Palace, Koblenz

### Family Festival Matthias Chapel

Matthias Chapel, Koblenz-Gondorf

### Castle Festival Villa Ludwigshöhe

Villa Ludwigshöhe, Edenkoben

### Castle Festival Hardenburg

Hardenburg Castle and Fortress ruins, Bad Dürkheim

### Dramatised guided tours / Living History

*Regular tours during the season as well as individual group tours:*

**Der ewige Soldat** – Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, Koblenz  
**Der Festungskanonier** – Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, Koblenz  
**Büchsenmacherwerkstatt** – Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, Koblenz  
**Führungen im Waffenrock** – Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, Koblenz  
**Die Muse von Stolzenfels** – Stolzenfels Castle, Koblenz  
**Der kunstsinnige König** – Villa Ludwigshöhe, Edenkoben  
**Die Befreiung des Richard Löwenherz** – Trifels Castle, Annweiler  
As well as **dramatised tours in the Roman buildings** – Trier

### Cultural educational programme for children and young adults on the castles and palaces

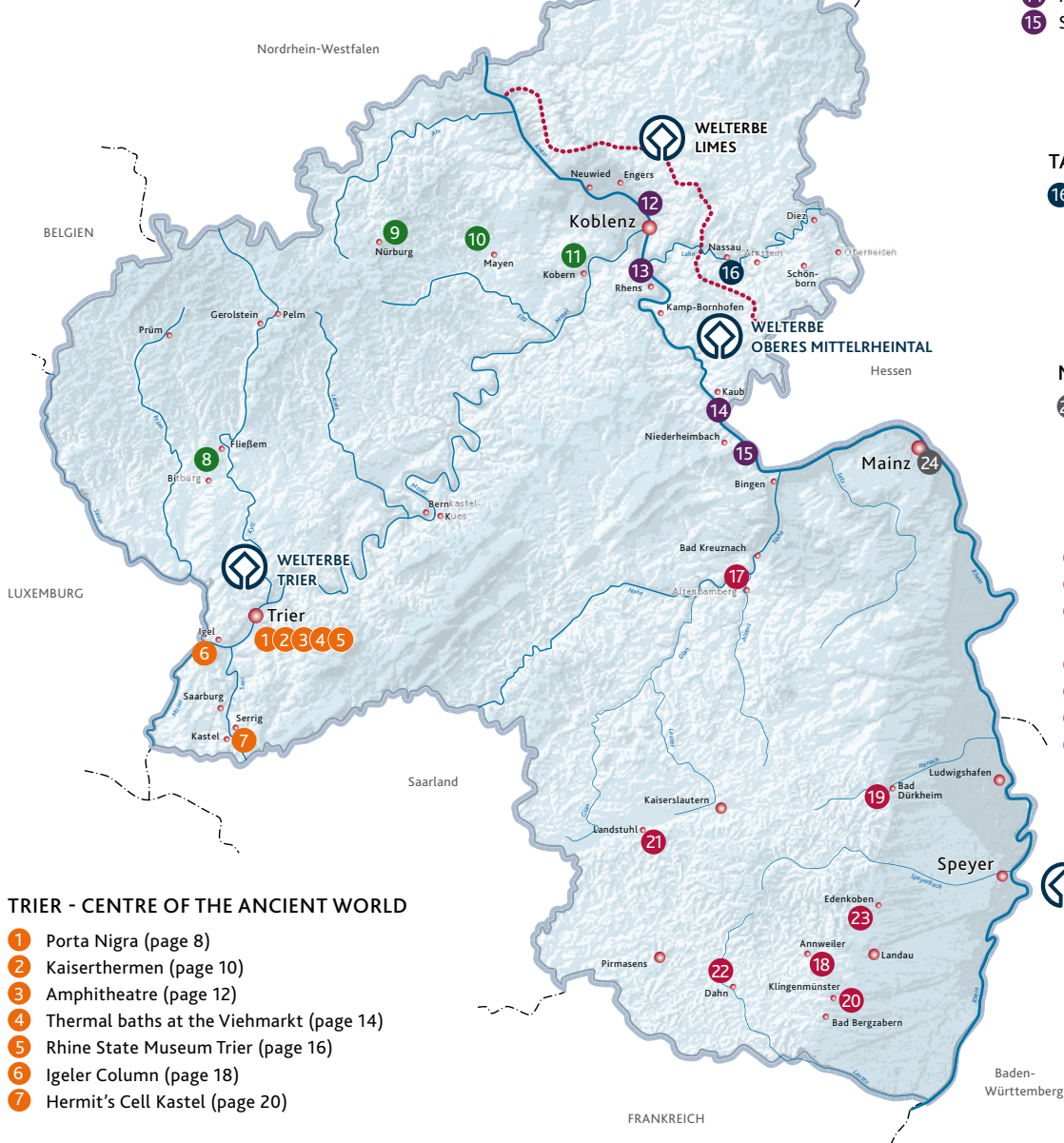
Ehrenbreitstein Fortress (Koblenz), Stolzenfels Palace (Koblenz), Sooneck Castle (Niederheimbach), Bürrsheim Castle (Mayen), Trifels Castle (Annweiler), Hardenburg Castle and Fortress ruins (Bad Dürkheim)

**Special exhibitions, interactive programmes and museum education** in the state museums Koblenz, Mainz, Trier

Events and further information available at [www.gdke.rlp.de](http://www.gdke.rlp.de) or via phone on +49 2 61 / 66 75 - 4000

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## TRIER - THE CENTRE OF THE ANCIENT WORLD

**The AntikenCard** – Trier and its surroundings on one ticket

The Antiken Card provides great value discovery and exploration of the Centre of the Ancient World. **The Basic Card** allows entry to two of Trier's Roman Buildings and the Rhine State Museum Trier. **The Premium Card** includes entry to four of Trier's Roman buildings (Porta Nigra, Amphitheatre, Kaiserthermen and the thermal baths at the Viehmarkt), the Rhine State Museum Trier as well as admission to the Roman Villa Otrang near Bitburg and the Hermit's Cell near Kastel-Staadt. The Antiken Card and further information is available at the entrances of the Roman buildings, in the Rhine State Museum Trier and at the Tourist Information Offices in Trier.



## From city gate to collegiate church

Prominent among Trier's Roman buildings is the UNESCO World Heritage Porta Nigra, the best preserved Roman city gate north of the Alps. The double gate was built as part of the fortification of the Colonia Augusta Treverorum in 180 AD. The stones were mounted without any mortar and to this day, iron clips continue to hold the weight of the next layer respectively. Known as 'Porta Martis', 'Koblenzer Tor' or 'Mainzer Tor', its original name is not clearly documented.

Only in the 11<sup>th</sup> century was the weather beaten gate given the name it still has today. After the Romans left, the 'Black Gate' didn't have any purpose for over 600 years until 1030, when the Greek monk Simeon had himself locked up as a hermit in the East Tower. After his death, the Porta Nigra was turned into a Parish church and it was only by the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century that the Roman building was rediscovered in its original form.

📍 Tourist Information Trier  
An der Porta Nigra • 54290 Trier  
Phone +49 6 51 / 9 78 08-0  
info@trier-info.de  
www.trier-info.de

📍 Simeonstraße 60  
54290 Trier  
Phone +49 6 51 / 4 60 89 65  
bsa@gdke.rlp.de  
www.burgen-rlp.de

🕒 Jan. / Feb. + Nov. / Dec.: 9 - 4  
March + Oct.: 9 - 5  
April - Sep.: 9 - 6  
Last entry 30 minutes before closing

🎭 **Dramatised Tour**  
'Das Geheimnis der Porta Nigra'  
www.erlebnisfuehrungen.de





## Roman bath culture at its best

As one of the four capitals of the Roman Empire, Trier was shaped by Roman culture like no other city in Germany. Roman culture also meant Roman bathing culture. Its significance is underlined by the remains of the enormous Kaiserthermen, originally built in 300 AD. Here, the noble Romans would have been able to relax in the baths, sauna and massage rooms or wander through the halls. A well

designed bathing and heating system ensured their complete comfort. However, the public baths were never completed as the political priorities of the city shifted and the premises went through several conversions: first barracks, then city gate and eventually a building site for a church, castle and monastery.

📍 Weberbachstr. 49 • 54290 Trier

Phone +49 6 51 / 4 36 25 50

kaiserthermen@gdke.rlp.de

www.burgen-rlp.de

🕒 Jan. / Feb. + Nov. / Dec.: 9 - 4

March + Oct.: 9 - 5

April - Sep.: 9 - 6

Last entry 30 minutes before closing

🗨️ **Event Highlight**

numerous open air shows

**Dramatised Tour**

'Verrat in den Kaiserthermen

– Der Tribun Mallobaudes'

www.erlebnisfuehrungen.de





## Pleasure and amusement in an emerging metropolis

As in any large metropolis, in Roman times, the people sought pleasure and amusement. During the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries AD, Trier - the centre of the ancient world - developed at a rapid pace and soon needed to replace the timber built amphitheatre which had become too small. The new theatre was integrated into the city wall and its doors served as an entrance to the city and as

the city gate. Embedded in the hill, the amphitheatre at Petrisberg Square offered room for approx. 18,000 spectators. The stands of the 2,710 sqm large oval arena rose to a height of 22 m. The arena is surrounded by a 4 m wall with a total of 15 doors, which used to lead to the animal cages and other cellar-like rooms which can still be visited today.

📍 Olewiger Straße  
54295 Trier  
Phone +49 6 51 / 7 30 10  
amphitheater@gdke.rlp.de  
www.burgen-rlp.de

🕒 Jan. / Feb. + Nov. / Dec.: 9 - 4  
March + Oct.: 9 - 5  
April - Sept.: 9 - 6  
Last entry 30 minutes before closing  
🎪 **Events:** numerous open air events  
*Dramatised Tour 'Gladiator Valerius'*  
www.erlebnisfuehrungen.de



## Popular bath culture

Like no other ancient place, the remains of the thermal baths at the Viehmarkt open a window into the urban history of Trier and particularly into the history of Viehmarkt square. Construction of an underground car park in 1987 revealed structures of a third public bath for Trier, which had been built on the remains of a Roman residential area from the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. It was an extensive area and included public baths, built at the beginning of

the 4<sup>th</sup> century on the foundations of the residential area. It offered the average citizen bathing and healthcare facilities at affordable prices. In contrast to the other public baths, the 'people's bath' didn't have a warm bath hall or a warm water bath. In the course of the excavations, traces of post-Roman uses were also found: in the 17<sup>th</sup> century a Capuchin monastery was located there.



📍 Viehmarktplatz • 54290 Trier  
 Phone +49 6 51 / 994 10 57  
 viehmarktthermen@gdke.rlp.de  
 www.burgen-rlp.de

🕒 Open all year round 9 - 5 • Closed on the first working day of the week • Last entry 30 minutes before closing

🅐 **Multi-storey car park Viehmarkt**  
 www.parken-in-trier.de

🗨️ **Events:** regular exhibitions on different topics • The premises can also be rented for events.

🍽️ Numerous restaurants at the Viehmarktplatz

♿ Disabled access





## Forum for discoveries

A forum for archaeological finds: The greatest Roman gold treasure, splendid Roman mosaics, an ancient silver jug with Christian motifs or the famous Cage Cup – the Rhine State Museum Trier exhibits truly world class archaeological finds throughout its 3,500 square metres of available space. On a special tour through the 19 museum halls, the history of Trier and the entire region can be

experienced from the Stone Age through to the end of its time as an independent principality, via the Roman and Franconian eras. The unusual quantity and quality of artefacts from Roman times is both unique and unmistakable and bears witness to the epoch when Trier had reached the most significant status in its entire history. New archaeological monuments are constantly being added to the collection.

📍 Weimarer Allee 1 • 54290 Trier  
 Phone +49 6 51 / 97 74-0  
[landesmuseum-trier@gdke.rlp.de](mailto:landesmuseum-trier@gdke.rlp.de)  
[www.landesmuseum-trier.de](http://www.landesmuseum-trier.de)

🕒 Open all year round from Tue. - Sun.: 10 - 5 • Mondays closed • Lastly entry 4.30 • Special opening times during holidays

☎ Museumscafé • +49 6 51 / 9 94 58 20  
[www.zeitsprung-cafe.de](http://www.zeitsprung-cafe.de)

🎬 **Highlight:** Media Theatre 'Im Reich der Schatten' • a 45-minute cinematic 360° experience • Open: Tue. - Sun. 11.30 + 2.30 • Additional times for groups and schools  
[www.im-reich-der-schatten.de](http://www.im-reich-der-schatten.de)





### Monumental memorial plaque

The Igeler Column in the centre of the village of Igel, survived only because the people in the Middle Ages often mistook it for a monument honouring Saint Helena, the mother of Emperor Constantine the Great. The unique work of art is among the best preserved death monuments of Roman times. The 23m high sandstone column was probably built around 250 AD by members of a wealthy textile merchant

family, who used to live on the Roman road between Trier and Reims. The four cornices depict scenes of daily work, individual family members and mythological scenes of life and death. Severely weathered reliefs on the curved stone roof show the ascension of Ganymed with Jupiter's eagle: a symbol of hope for eternal life by the side of the Gods.

📍 Trierer Straße  
54298 Igel  
bsa@gdke.rlp.de  
www.burgen-rlp.de

👉 *Tip:* Link the visit to Igeler Column with a trip to the Rhine State Museum Trier and experience the column's former colours in the inner court.

🏠 Hotel-Restaurant  
'Igeler Säule'





## Royal tomb

It nestles against a rock sitting remote on a plateau above the Saar: the Hermit's Cell near Kastel. In the early Middle Ages, settlers dug caves and chambers into the soft sandstone at the pre-Christian cult site. In the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, a Franciscan monk expanded the rock chapel of the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> century to a two-storey hermit's cell in post-gothic style. The cell was used for prayer until the French Revolution, after which it passed into decay. In 1833,

Frederick William IV of Prussia commissioned Karl Friedrich Schinkel to rebuild the long abandoned ruins with a breathtaking view over the Saar valley as a burial place for the remains of the blind King John of Bohemia. Schinkel integrated Roman form elements into the building, but left the inside of the sanctuary, with its Gothic arched vaults, untouched.

📍 König-Johann-Straße  
54441 Kastel-Stadt  
Phone +49 65 82 / 5 35  
klause-kastel@gdke.rlp.de  
www.burgen-rlp.de

🕒 Feb. + November: 10 - 4  
March + October.: 9 - 1 + 2 - 5  
April - September: 9 - 1 + 2 - 6  
Dec./Jan. closed

Closed on the first working day of the week • Last entry 30 minutes before closing

**Tip:** reduced entry with AntikenCard Trier (see page 9)

🚶 **Walking Tip:**  
Visit the 'Widdertshäuschen', a Roman tomb on the Saartalwiesen below the cell





### Wealth and culture of the Treveri

Heated floors, an elaborate bath and approximately 66 rooms offering space for several families – the dimensions and interior of Villa Otrang are impressive. By the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD, Roman settlers were already living on the estate, which included a centre of worship with two temples and a graveyard. The villa was inhabited until the end of the century and was then destroyed by the Franconians. It is one of the largest and best

preserved Roman villa structures in the Rhine region: marvelous mosaic floors, which were accidentally discovered by field workers, can be admired in four rooms of the almost square manor house. From 1838, the site was redeveloped under the auspices of Frederick William IV of Prussia. Valuable finds such as the Torso of the goddess Isis Fortuna are now on display at the Rhine State Museum in Trier.

📍 Otrang 1  
54636 Fließem  
Phone +49 65 69 / 96 32 45  
villa-otrang@gdke.rlp.de  
www.burgen-rlp.de  
🕒 Feb. / March + Oct. / Nov.: 9 - 5 •  
April - Sep.: 9 - 6 • Dec. / Jan. closed •  
Closed on the first working day of the week • Last entry 30 min. before closing

🍽️ Restaurant with large terrace  
Tue. - Thu. 9 - 5  
Fr. - Sun. 9 - 10  
Dec. / Jan. closed  
Phone +49 65 69 / 807  
www.villa-otrang.de  
*Tip:* Reduced entry with  
AntikenCard Trier (see page 9)





### Century rings

Visible from afar, it dominates the landscape: the Nürburg is situated south of Adenau on Mons Nore, the 'Black Mountain' overlooking the Volcanic Eifel region. Characteristic cone-shaped slate roofs form the silhouette of the strategically positioned castle, built by the Count of Are in the 12<sup>th</sup> century.

Today, the vast ruins are found in several so called 'growth

rings'. In the centre, the rectangular core of the castle is from the 12<sup>th</sup> century and defined by the massive round keep. The remains of the second ring from the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries are the kennel walls, round towers and a double gate, surrounded by the third ring from the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. With its military past behind it, the view from the keep over the vast Eifel woodland is pure pleasure.

📍 Burgplatz  
53520 Nürburg  
Phone +49 26 91 / 27 04  
bsa@gdke.rlp.de  
www.burgen-rlp.de

🕒 Jan. - March + Oct. / Nov.: 9 - 5  
April - September: 9 - 6  
Dec. closed  
Closed on the first working day of the week  
Last entry 45 minutes before closing

📌 **Tip:** The Nürburgring is only 1.5 km away from the Nürburg. The Nürburg offers a fantastic view over the Volcanic Eifel.





## State of the art living

At first sight it seems repellent, despite the playful towers and bay windows on the upper floors: The treasures of Bürresheim Castle appear only after having passed through the gate. Surrounded by buildings of five epochs, the courtyard charms visitors with multi-coloured slate fronts, various roof forms and polygonal spires. On the inside, precious porcelain, elaborate paintings, historical rugs and tapestries as well as

bright multi-coloured window-panes from the 13<sup>th</sup> century can be admired. Bürresheim Castle was never captured or destroyed and had been continuously inhabited until 1921. The transformation of the medieval fortress with its two castles into the magnificent residence, replete with the standard of living of the time, is clearly visible - a unique example of Rhine nobility and home decor.

📍 56727 St. Johann (Mayen)  
Phone +49 26 51 / 7 64 40  
buerresheim@gdke.rlp.de  
www.burgen-rlp.de

🕒 Jan. - March + Oct. / Nov.: 9 - 5  
April - Sep.: 9 - 6 • Dec. closed •  
Last entry 45 min before closing •  
Guided Tours

👣 **Walking tip:** The surroundings of Bürresheim castle are ideal for walking and hiking tours.  
**Further tips:** Bürresheim castle can be used for civil or church weddings • Children's programmes such as project weeks or birthday parties (+49 261 / 66 75-4155)





### Architectural gem of a historical ensemble

According to legend, the Matthias Chapel in Koblenz on the Moselle was built in the 13<sup>th</sup> century to host the relic of the Apostle Matthias. It is certain that its construction began after 1220, starting with the small round choir, then the nave with the six-arch dome, which rests on masterly early Gothic columns with bud capitals. Together with Oberburg Castle, its Roman keep and the Niederburg ruins, the Matthias Chapel

is part of a historical ensemble. Thanks to Frederick William IV of Prussia, it is the only one of its kind that is entirely preserved. He commissioned Johann Claudius von Lassaulx to restore the sacred structure and during the restoration, around 1844, when its precious floor with multi-coloured tiles was also built.

📍 56330 Koblenz-Gondorf  
bsa@gdke.rlp.de  
www.burgen-rlp.de

🕒 31 March - 1 Nov. on Sun- and Holidays 11 - 5 • **Guided Tours:** May - Oct., last Sunday of the month, 3pm • Further dates available upon request • Phone +49 2 61 / 66 75-4000

🏠 The Oberburg restaurant is located directly next to the Matthias Chapel, partly integrated in the keep of the upper castle. Phone +49 26 07 / 86 47  
👉 **Tip:** Visit the lower and the upper castle as well • the Matthias Chapel offers a fantastic setting for weddings



### Enjoying culture in a historic setting

The location is highly strategic: two sides of the Ehrenbreitstein fortress are protected by steep rocky slopes, an attack is only possible from the north and the view extends over the Rhine, 'Deutsches Eck' and the Moselle, to the Eifel and Hunsrueck and as far as to the 'Neuwieder Becken'. For over 3,000 years, the mountain had been used as a refuge. In the Middle Ages, the 118 m high rocky outcrop was topped with a castle and, from 1500 on, was gradually devel-

oped into the fortress of today; first by the Archbishops of Trier, then by the Prussians in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It was among Europe's largest fortresses and the metre thick walls, ditches, tunnels, bridges and gates still dominate the enormous building complex. The redevelopment for the BUGA 2011 (National Garden Show) created a unique cultural ensemble for the UNESCO World Heritage Upper Middle Rhine Valley, where history, culture and pleasure merge.

56077 Koblenz  
Fone +49 2 61 / 66 75-4000  
info@gdke.rlp.de • www.gdke.rlp.de  
www.diefestungehrenbreitstein.de



**Opening hours**  
Ehrenbreitstein Fortress  
**March - Oct. daily 10am - 6pm •**  
6pm - midnight free admission to  
the premises and the restaurant  
**Nov. - Feb. daily from 10am - 5pm •**  
5pm - midnight free admission to  
the premises and the restaurant

Restaurant on the fortress  
with a unique view  
Phone +49 2 61 / 66 75 - 20 00  
**Youth hostel Koblenz**  
on the premises of the fortress  
Guesthouse for families and  
young people  
Phone +49 2 61 / 972 87-0  
koblenz@diejugendherbergen.de





Experience the cultural ensemble Ehrenbreitstein Fortress embedded in an extensive landscape park with the exhibition facilities of the State Museum Koblenz (see page 34-35).

#### »Milestones in the History of the Fortress«

The way to the fortress history invites visitors on a journey through time along museum presentations. It leads through the site's 5,000-year history, across the entire area of the fortress, deep down into the multi-medially presented excavation under the flag tower. Thanks to the new circuit, the roof areas of the fortress are now accessible for the first time. From up

there, where Prussian soldiers once patrolled, visitors have an exciting view into the fortress and beyond its walls.

True to original scenarios of the former life on the fortress show casements and gun emplacements. Detention cells, forgotten for a long time, convey impressions of everyday life in a Prussian military fortress above the Rhine.

#### In the Park of the Fortress:

An incomparable landscape park, with a so-called 'clear field of fire' and mysterious covered passageways along the periphery of sloping grassed areas.

- **Observation deck** – the platform stretches 10 metres above the edge of the Rhine Valley. Fantastic view guaranteed.
- **Practice area for climbers and playground 'Fort Bleidenberg'** – great attraction for all ages. Climbing and adventure park with climbing walls, tree houses, trampolines, all integrated with nature.

#### Events in the Fortress

Look forward to these and numerous other event highlights: Fortress Spring, Country Outing, History Re-enactments, Children's Festival, Horizonte Music Festival, Prussia Days as well as numerous concerts – from Jazz-Festival to the RheinPuls concerts.

For detailed event Information see:  
[www.diefestungehrenbreitstein.de](http://www.diefestungehrenbreitstein.de)



📍 A spectacular cable car trip with panorama cars connects the 'Deutsche Eck' with the Ehrenbreitstein Fortress • Price Advantage: Combi-ticket cable car + fortress admission • [www.seilbahn-koblenz.de](http://www.seilbahn-koblenz.de) or with the inclined elevator to the fortress via local public transport • [www.schraegaufzug-ehrenbreitstein.de](http://www.schraegaufzug-ehrenbreitstein.de)

📍 **Guided Tours:** Audioguide for children and adults, also in English + French  
**Living History:** 'Der Festungskanonier', 'Büchsenmacherwerkstatt', 'Führungen im Waffenrock' • **Dramatised Tour** 'Der ewige Soldat' Information + Reservation: [www.diefestungehrenbreitstein.de](http://www.diefestungehrenbreitstein.de)

or phone +49 2 61 / 6675-4000  
**Group tours:** Information + Reservation with the Koblenz tourist office via phone +49 2 61 / 3 03 88-53 or [www.koblenz-touristik.de](http://www.koblenz-touristik.de)  
**Highlight:** History Re-enactments ([www.historienspiele.com](http://www.historienspiele.com)) • Country Outing ([www.landpartiefestung-ehrenbreitstein.de](http://www.landpartiefestung-ehrenbreitstein.de))



## Cultural History of Technology in Rhineland-Palatinate

The headquarters of the State Museum Koblenz are currently being renovated. The exhibition "So machen wir's! Marken aus Rheinland-Pfalz", focusing on inventors, innovations and brands from Rhineland-Palatinate, will be shown beginning in the summer months of 2013. This special exhibition on technical and economic developments made in Rhineland-Palatinate leads the way for the permanent exhibition of the museum currently in preparation. Another successful

exhibition: *Peter Joseph Lenné – eine Gartenreise im Rheinland* was prolonged for another year and thus continuous presenting the work of the best-known landscape architect of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In addition to that, the following exhibitions present themselves in various sections of the Ehrenbreitstein Fortress: In the **Haus der Archäologie**, archaeological findings covering almost a million years of human settlements of the Middle Rhine and the Mosel regions can be

traced. The *Historische Zeitgärten* on the roof of the archaeological exhibition show gardens of the Stone Age and Roman times as well as a medieval peasant garden. The **Haus des Genusses** focuses on the development of viticulture in Rhineland-Palatinate and, until December 2013, hosts the Slow Food Deutschland e.V.'s exhibition *Der Mensch ist, wie er isst!* The **Haus der Fotografie** houses the national collection on the history of photography.



📍 State Museum Koblenz  
Ehrenbreitstein Fortress  
56077 Koblenz  
Phone +49 261 / 6675-0  
and 6675-4000  
landesmuseum-koblenz@gdke.rlp.de  
www.landesmuseum-koblenz.de

🕒 **Opening Hours:** State Museum Koblenz and Ehrenbreitstein Fortress  
**March–October, daily 10am - 6pm** • 6pm - midnight free admission to the premises and restaurant  
**November–February daily from 10am - 5pm** • 5pm - midnight free admission to the premises and restaurant

👤 **Museum Education** at the State Museum Koblenz: Hands-on discovery area, event days at the State Museum, guided group tours for adults and schools, workshops, 'Biblical Wine Tasting', birthday parties for children in the museum, children's university  
Information and reservation:  
joerg.hahn@gdke.rlp.de





### Pure romance

Having passed through the gate to the UNESCO World Heritage Upper Middle Rhine Valley at the Deutsche Eck, travellers face probably the most beautiful building of the Prussian Rhine Romance era: Stolzenfels Palace. The summer residence of Frederick William IV of Prussia rises elegantly from the Rhine Valley's forested slopes with views across the Rhine to the Lahn. In 1823, the future King of Prussia was given the ruins of a medieval castle as

a present. In 1836, his master builders constructed the neo-gothic castle based on the plans of Berlin's famous architect Karl Friedrich Schinkel. Significant murals of the Rhine High Romanticism can be found in the Chapel and the Small Knight's Hall. The gardens of the castle, including the charming Pergola Gardens and the surrounding landscaped park, designed by Peter Josef Lenné, complete the romantic synthesis of arts.

56075 Koblenz • Phone +49 2 61 / 5 16 56  
[stolzenfels@gdke.rlp.de](mailto:stolzenfels@gdke.rlp.de)  
[www.schloss-stolzenfels.de](http://www.schloss-stolzenfels.de)  
 Reservation group tours  
 Palace and Castle Park:  
 Phone +49 2 61 / 3 03 88-53  
 Jan. - March + Oct. / Nov.: 9 - 5 •  
 April - Sept.: 9 - 6 • Dec. closed •  
 Closed on the first working day of the

week • Last entry 45 min. before closing • Guided tours available • Grounds open to the public  
 Footpath to the castle: 20 min.  
**Dramatised Tour:** 'Die Muse von Stolzenfels' Information + Reservation: Phone +49 2 61 / 5 16 56 • Book facilities for your **wedding** • In summer: concerts + lectures



### Like a ship of stone

The Pfalzgrafenstein Castle sits imposingly in the middle of the river near Kaub. However, conditions in and around the castle have never been idyllic. To this day, floods and ice still affect the brickwork and castle foundations. Even today, it doesn't offer electricity or toilets. The interior thus still reflects the meagre life of the men, who served here. In 1327, a massive military tower rose from the middle of the Rhine and not a single ship was able to pass

unnoticed at the Baracher close. Some years later, a wall was built with a single gate providing access at the northern side. The military tower had become Pfalzgrafenstein Castle. As an effective lookout, it secured the income of its various owners, which is probably why it was never destroyed and, along with the Marksburg, is the only fully preserved castle in the UNESCO World Heritage Upper Middle Rhine Valley.

📍 Pfalzgrafenstein Castle • 56349 Kaub •  
Phone + 49 172 / 2 62 28 00 •  
bsa@gdke.rlp.de • www.burgen-rlp.de  
Passenger ferry to the island:  
+49 171 / 3 31 03 75

🕒 Jan. / Feb. + Nov.: Sat. + Sun. 10 - 5 •  
March: daily 10 - 5, except first working  
day of the week • April - Oct.: daily  
10 - 6, except first working day of the

week • Dec. closed • Last entry  
60 min. before closing • Tours  
upon request

🎭 **Dramatised Tour** (can be booked  
by groups): 'Des Kaisers Bom-  
bardier – Soldat und Waffen-  
handwerk im Dreißigjährigen  
Krieg'





### Cut from the rock

In the 13<sup>th</sup> century, the Lords of Hohenfels used to live high above the narrow valley between Bingen and Koblenz, in Sooneck Castle which took its name from the nearby Soonwald. Built on the back of a hill, their castle seems to have been cut straight from the rock. Roses grow on the former military site, which today is an idealised image of a medieval castle. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Frederick William IV of

Prussia had it rebuilt as a hunting lodge. The master builders did not lose sight of its origins and preserved the charm of the fairy-tale castle. Breath-taking views can be enjoyed from the castle in the UNESCO World Heritage Upper Middle Rhine Valley on the Rhine, the castles of Reichenstein and Rheinstein and from the Clemens Chapel below Reichenstein.

- 📍 55413 Niederheimbach  
Phone +49 67 43 / 60 64  
sooneck@burgen-rlp.de
- 🍽️ Cosy castle restaurant with a wonderful view  
Phone +49 67 21 / 68 50 50
- 🕒 Jan. - March + Oct. / Nov.: 9 - 5 •  
April - Sept.: 9 - 6 • Dec. closed •  
Closed on the first working day of

the week • Last entry 45 min. before closing • Guided tours  
👉 **Tip:** Discover the network of paths through the Soonwald • Sooneck Castle offers facilities for civil weddings • Cultural-educational programme for school children • **Dramatised Tour** (can be booked by groups): 'Des Kaisers Bombardier'





## Home to one of the oldest German aristocratic dynasties

The road from Wiesbaden to Koblenz already existed in Franconian times, a key reason being the protection of Nassau Castle which rises high above the Lahn valley and was named after the city at its border. From 1160, the lords of the castle called themselves 'Counts of Nassau', expanded their power and in the Middle Ages even became German kings. The structure was never destroyed, but was eventually abandoned and after more than 300 years,

the castle of the oldest German aristocratic families rapidly deteriorated. Today, the ruins of Nassau Castle are still worth the climb, mainly for the keep with the distinctive towers, the Palas and the ruins of the gatehouse, all of which were preserved thanks to restorations and reconstructions which have been carried out since the 1970s. Another reward for the climb is the view over the Lahn valley which is simply stunning.

📍 Burg Nassau  
56377 Nassau  
bsa@gdke.rlp.de  
www.burgen-rlp.de

🍽️ Restaurant at Nassau Castle:  
temporarily closed





## From castle to quarry

Had they not died... the Altenbaumburg Castle would surely have been able to defend its strategic position at the exit of the Alsenzthal much longer. But by the 14<sup>th</sup> century the line of its lords, the Raugrafen, had died out completely. From 1482, the castle was thus used as a quarry. To this very day, the three intertwined defence structures are recognisable as the upper, central and lower castles. The

upper castle dates back to the 12<sup>th</sup> or early 13<sup>th</sup> century, the Gothic lower castle follows at the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, when work on the central castle had begun. Today, the impressive remains of the wall still allow identification of the castle's structure. Only a few fragments of the upper and the central castles are still visible, but the great hall of the lower castle was rebuilt.

📍 Altenbaumburg 1  
55585 Altenbamberg  
bsa@gdke.rlp.de  
www.burgen-rlp.de

🍴 Castle Restaurant Altenbaumburg  
Phone +49 67 08 / 35 51  
www.altenbaumburg.de  
Mon. - Sun. starting from 11,  
Wed. closed  
'Knight's dinner' upon request



## Who holds Trifels, holds the power

Trifels Castle is strategically located high above a cliff. At its base are the Queichtal and Annweiler, to the east extends the Rhine plain, to the west the valleys and peaks of the Pfälzer forest. It used to be one of the most important regions in the high Middle Ages, both politically and economically. Trifels was one of the most powerful castles of the Salier and Staufer and between 1088 and 1330 the centre of political events. It was home to the crown jewels,

imperial sceptre and orb and used as prison. Its most famous prisoner was King Richard the Lionheart. The castle dates back to the 11<sup>th</sup> century and its current form is a result of changing phases of development, decline and reconstruction over almost a thousand years: a true testament of history.

📍 76855 Annweiler  
 Phone +49 63 46 / 84 70  
 trifels@gdke.rlp.de  
 www.burgen-rlp.de  
 🕒 Jan. - March + Oct. / Nov.: 9 - 5 •  
 April - Sep. 9 - 6 • Dec. closed •  
 Last entry 30 min. before closing

👤 **Public tours:** Mon. - Fri. 2  
 Sat., Sun. + Holidays 11 + 1.30  
**Group tours** upon request  
**Play** 'Die Befreiung des Richard  
 Löwenherz' - Enter the world of the  
 Middle Ages  
**Exhibition** 'Macht und Mythos' with  
 presentation of the imperial insignia





## From a modest hilltop castle to a fortified residence

Considering the size and fortified structure of their family estate, the Counts of Leiningen were not just powerful, but combative as well. With the Hardenburg they have passed on one of the largest and most impressive castles and fortifications of the Palatinate. Modest beginnings as a hilltop castle in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, were followed by the development to a fortified Renaissance residence in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, which stretched over four terraces above the Isenachtal near Bad

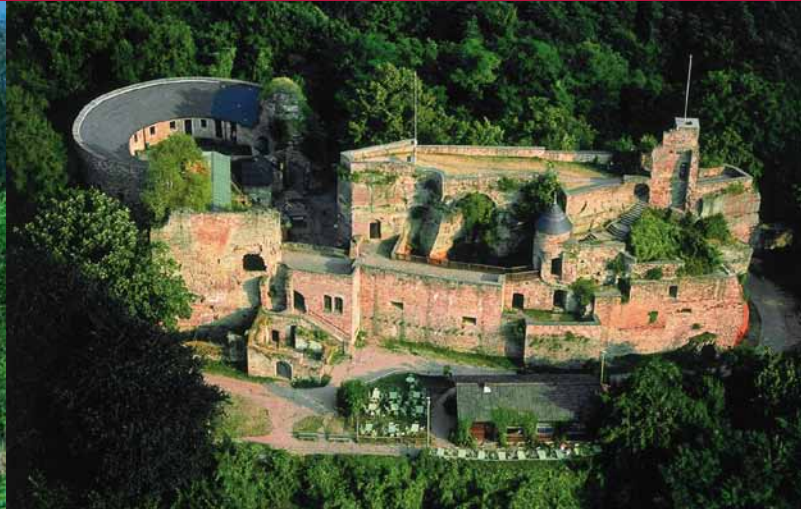
Dürkheim. Today, the remains of the generous residential wings, magnificent halls, the impressive western fort, enormous cellars with rib-vaulted arches and the Renaissance gardens can still be admired. As a 'fortified castle', the Hardenburg survived the Thirty Years War without suffering any damage. However, the Palatinate Succession War of 1690 took its toll and the occupation by French Revolution troops in 1794 finally sealed its fate.

📍 67098 Bad Dürkheim  
Phone +49 63 22 / 75 30  
bsa@gdke.rlp.de  
www.schloss-hardenburg.de

🕒 Jan. - March + Oct. / Nov.: 9 - 4.30 • April - Sept.: 9 - 6 • Dec. closed • Closed on the first working day of the week • Last entry 30 min. before closing

📱 **New:** GPS-controlled multi-media guide and information centre with exhibition and film. Facilities can be rented.

**Highlight:** Medieval Castle Festival on the last weekend in September  
**Tours:** Tourist information Bad Dürkheim • Phone +49 63 22 / 93 51 40



## Protecting the monastery

Landeck Castle is the youngest of three castles around Klingenstein Abbey at the Southern Weinstrasse which all shared a common goal: the protection of the town's thriving Benedictine Abbey. The angular keep of the castle, built around 1200, is preserved in its original form and is the highest of its kind in the Palatinate. From its 25 metre high platform, visitors have a view over the Palatinate plain up to the Odenwald and the hills of the Black Forest.

Rather than just being perched on a rock, its unique feature was its massive wall cladding which surrounds the core like a 'High Coat'. Only the roof of the keep and the wooden parapet of the curtain wall are missing today. After Landeck Castle was destroyed by French troops during the Palatinate War in 1689, it was doomed to decay. Extensive repair work in the 1960s secured its existence though.

## If at first you don't succeed, try and try again.

Besieged, destroyed, rebuilt, plundered, destroyed – Nanstein's history is a tale of the struggle for power, of successes and failures, but also of the courage to start again. Protected against invaders by the 'Large Rontunda' – one the strongest gun turrets of its time, the massive ruins lie high on a sandstone cliff. From the rocky plateau of the Kahlenberg, the estate of the Counts of Nanstein offers an impressive view over the city of Landstuhl and the Palatinate forest. In

the 12<sup>th</sup> century, the castle was built to protect the trade route from Metz via Kaiserslautern to the Rhine and later developed into one of the largest fortified structures of the Staufer dynasty. Additions in the 16<sup>th</sup> century transformed the castle into a considerable Renaissance castle, which was eventually destroyed by the French in 1689. Repair work on the ruins commenced in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

✉ 76889 Klingenstein  
bsa@gdke.rlp.de  
www.burgen-rlp.de

Daily, starting from 10 (in winter, from 11)

🏠 Burgschänke Landeck  
Weinstraße  
Phone +49 63 49 / 87 44  
info@burglandeck-pfalz.de  
www.burglandeck-pfalz.de

🕒 **Tip:** Oldest Medieval Castle  
Festival of the Palatinate - The  
Landeck Festival (last weekend  
in June)  
**Tours:** Landeckverein  
www.landeck-burg.de

✉ 66849 Landstuhl  
bsa@gdke.rlp.de  
www.burgen-rlp.de

🕒 Jan. - March + Oct. / Nov.: 10 - 4 •  
April - Sep.: 9 - 6 • Closed in Dec. + on  
the first working day of the week

🗺 **Tours:**  
Information and reservation:  
Sickingen tourism Landstuhl,  
Phone: +49 63 71 / 49 53 11  
tourismus@landstuhl.de  
**Tip:** Visit the annual Summer  
Theatre at Nanstein Castle – a  
unique experience guaranteed





## Family disputes and lineage

Tanstein Castle, Alt-Dahn, Grafendahn - known as Dahner Castles - and the somewhat secluded Neu-Dahn Castle owe their existence to the main and collateral lines of one family: the Knights of Dahn. The three structures rest on one sandstone cliff, but the stone is their only connection really. The castles, built in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries, could be defended individually, as testified by the mighty gates and turrets of Alt-Dahn and the remains of the

Grafendahn ramparts. Tanstein had already fallen into ruin by 1571, the other castles lasted to the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Today, one of the oldest turrets of the Rhine's defence structures can be climbed at the castle ruins of Neu-Dahn. With a view of the mighty battery bulwark, visitors can imagine the sheer size of the original and complete rock structure.

📍 66994 Dahn  
Phone +49 63 91 / 99 35 43  
dahner-burgen@gdke.rlp.de  
www.burgen-rlp.de

🕒 Dahner Castles: Good Friday - 31 Oct.  
9 - 6 • Nov. - Holy Thursday 9 - 5  
(closed when roads have ice)

🍽️ Castle restaurant Alt-Dahn  
April - Oct.: 10 am - 6 pm daily,

closed Wednesday,  
closed Nov. - March

👉 Don't miss the fantastic view from the platform of the keep of the Alt-Dahn ruins • The Dahner Castles also host various open-air events, such as a castle festival and theatre performances



## Large gardens stretching as far as the eye can see

Situated high above Edenkoben on the Weinstrasse, Villa Ludwigshöhe is simply eye-catching. It appears like a Tuscan villa sitting at odds in the Palatinate - but far from it: Ludwig I of Bavaria had expressly ordered an 'Italian-style Villa' as a summer residence. The four-winged main building with gable roofs encloses a shady courtyard. The column-supported loggia provides a view stretching far

across the Palatinate and the Rhine plain. The style is maintained in the interior: fine and precious hardwood floors, frescos and murals and a rich collection of arts and crafts. Today, the villa built in 1846, is home to the Max-Slevogt-Galerie, of the State Museum Mainz and the Hinder/Reimers collection of 20<sup>th</sup> century ceramic arts of the State Rhineland-Palatinate.

📍 Villastraße 64 • 67480 Edenkoben  
 Phone +49 63 23 / 9 30 16  
 villa-ludwigshoehe@gdke.rlp.de  
 www.burgen-rlp.de

🕒 Jan. - March + Oct. / Nov.: 9 - 5  
 April - Sep.: 9 - 6 • Dec. closed •  
 Closed on the first working day  
 of the week • Last entry 45 min.  
 before closing • Guided tours

🗣️ **Dramatised Tour:** 'Der kunstsinnige König' • **Highlight:** Special Exhibition 'Die Könige zu Besuch – Kunstsin und Kulturpflege der Wittelsbacher in der Pfalz' on occasion of the Wittelsbacher Year starting from summer 2013 • **Events:** Concerts, exhibitions, castle festival

📺 As of summer 2013: Museum cafeteria





## Collecting, preserving, researching and communicating

An impressive collection of baroque buildings houses the State Museum of Mainz in the heart of the city. The 'Golden-Ross-Kaserne' with a modern glass and steel extension in the courtyard as well as the electoral 'Marstall', the stables, and the 'Riding Hall' make up the attractive home of the renovated and modernised State Museum. The buildings are home to an art and cultural-historical collection which spans over 200,000 years from the Stone Age to

the present: archaeological finds from pre- and early history, exhibits from the Roman empire, artworks and cultural artefacts from the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Baroque and the 19<sup>th</sup> century, precious Art Nouveau objects as well as modern works from the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. The entire collection is arranged chronologically over three floors and there is full access for the disabled.

📍 Große Bleiche 49 - 51  
55116 Mainz  
Phone +49 61 31 / 28 57-0  
Info line +49 61 31 / 28 57 - 225  
landesmuseum-mainz@gdke.rlp.de  
www.landesmuseum-mainz.de  
🕒 Tue. 10 - 8 • Wed. - Sun. 10 - 5 •  
Mondays closed • Special opening times during holidays

🛍 Museum shop • Tours, events, special exhibitions  
📺 **Bistrodays** • www.bistrodays.de  
🗣 Audio and Video guides (for the hearing impaired in German sign language) • Haptic books • Full access for the disabled



Please contact us if you have any questions about disabled access. Some of our ancient sites have restricted access for wheelchair users.

Further information is available by phoning the individual sites directly (see contacts) or on the central phone number +49 2 61 / 66 75 - 4000. Or write an email to: [bsa@gdke.rlp.de](mailto:bsa@gdke.rlp.de)

## PHOTOS

Ulrich Pfeuffer, GDKE  
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 Ursula Rudischer, State Museum Mainz  
 P!EL media  
 Klaus Hecke, netcondition  
 Tourist Information Bad Dürkheim  
 Tourist Information Trier  
 Fam. Häuser (Altenbaumburg, above)  
 LHA KO/H.P. Merten Fotodesign (Igeler Column)  
 LHA KO/Petra Camnitzer (Nassau Castle, below)  
 LHA KO/Petra Camnitzer (Nanstein Castle)  
 LHA KO/Gustav Rittstieg (Altenbaumburg, below)  
 LHA KO/H.P. Merten Fotodesign (Dahner Castles, above)  
 LHA KO/Petra Camnitzer (Altdahn Castle, below)



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# Rheinland-Pfalz

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[www.gdke.rlp.de](http://www.gdke.rlp.de)

The current admission fees are available at  
[www.burgen-rlp.de](http://www.burgen-rlp.de)  
or via the internet sites of the museums.

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