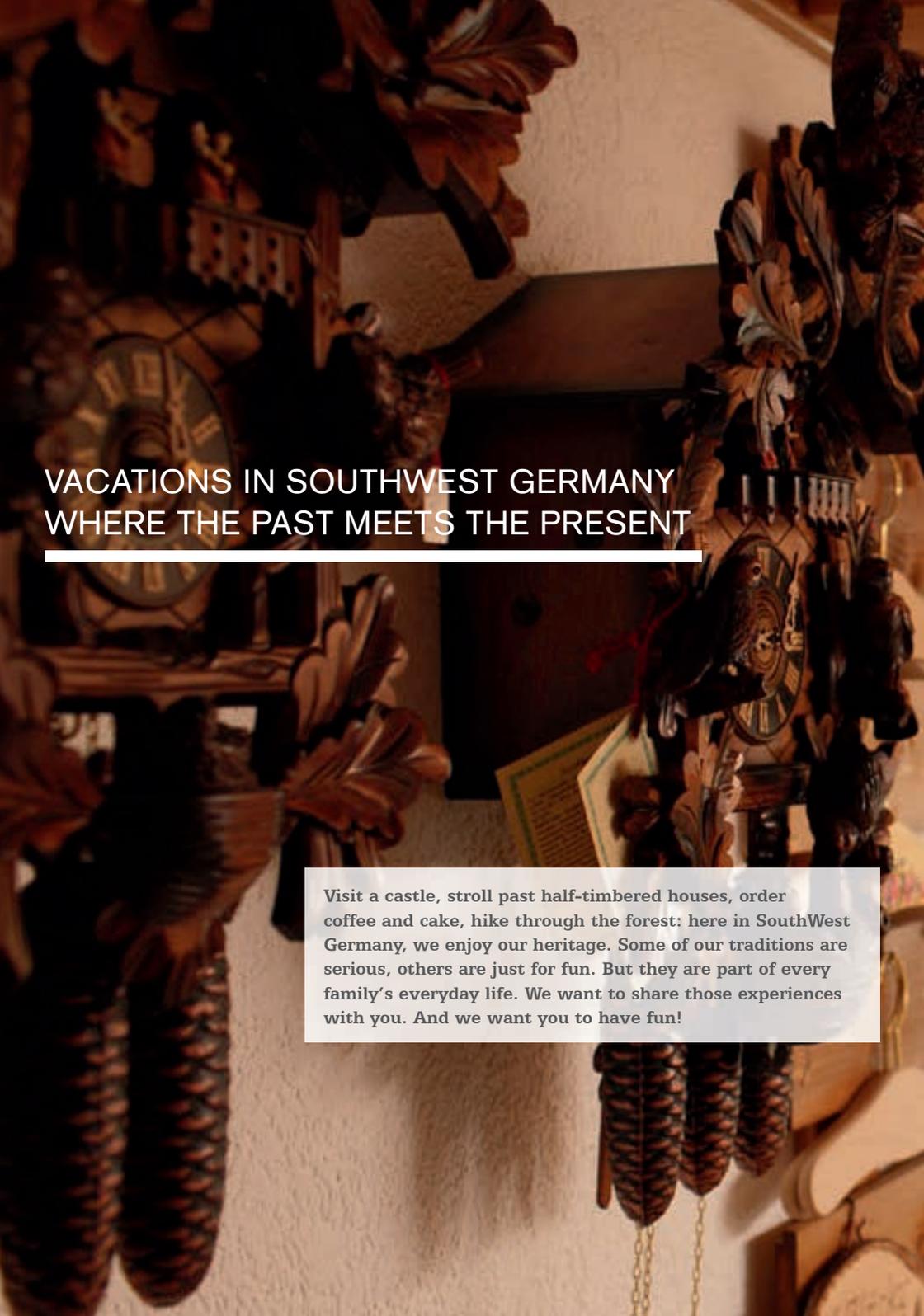




TRADITIONS & MODERN FUN

INSIDERS' TIPS FOR
BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG



VACATIONS IN SOUTHWEST GERMANY WHERE THE PAST MEETS THE PRESENT

Visit a castle, stroll past half-timbered houses, order coffee and cake, hike through the forest: here in SouthWest Germany, we enjoy our heritage. Some of our traditions are serious, others are just for fun. But they are part of every family's everyday life. We want to share those experiences with you. And we want you to have fun!

MAP



WELCOME

...to SouthWest Germany! Or, to use our German name, Baden-Württemberg. Thanks to standing at one of Europe's major crossroads, we have a heritage that includes mighty fortresses, elegant palaces and charming cottages. Our museums display world-class art, as well as classic cars: after all, the automobile was invented here, back in 1886!

Here in Germany's sunniest region, we love the great outdoors. Explore our unspoiled countryside: cruise on our lakes and rivers; cycle through our vineyards. Stay in grand hotels or centuries-old inns. Savor fine cuisine and tavern favorites; partner them with award-winning wines or traditional beer. There is so much to discover!

But travel is all about people. You'll find that most of us speak English and we look forward to welcoming you to SouthWest Germany!



Andreas Braun
 Managing Director
 State Tourist Board SouthWest Germany

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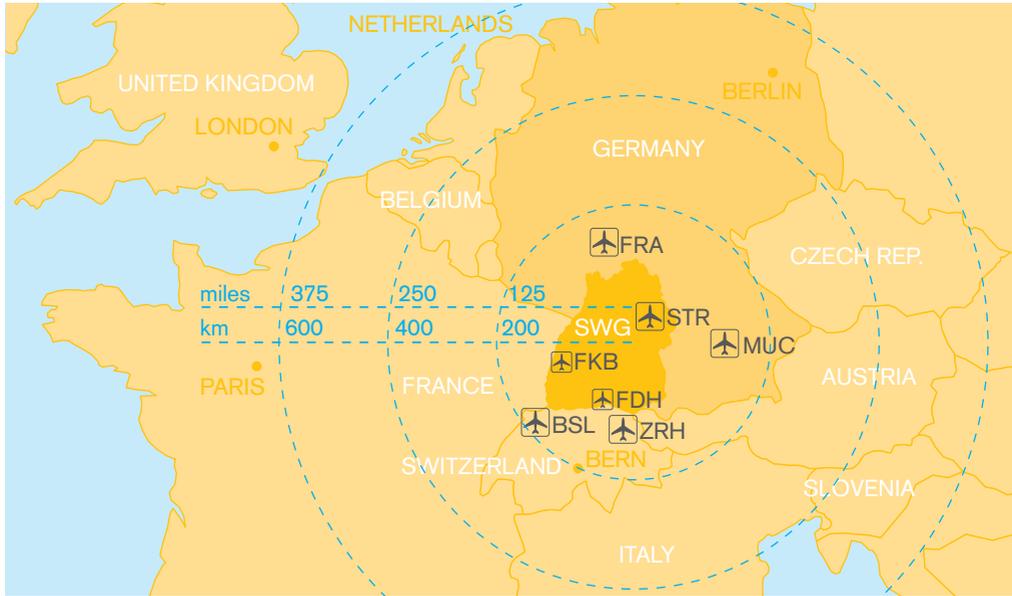
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Information

T +49 711 238580
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 → www.tourismus-bw.com

TRAVEL TIPS



HOW TO GET HERE

In the heart of Europe, SouthWest Germany is easy to get to by air, road and rail.

By air

International airports

Stuttgart Airport (STR)

www.stuttgart-airport.com

Frankfurt Airport (FRA)

www.frankfurt-airport.com

Munich Airport (MUC)

www.munich-airport.com

Zurich Airport (ZRH)

www.zurich-airport.com

Regional airports

EuroAirport Basel/Mulhouse/Freiburg (BSL)

www.euroairport.com

Baden Airpark (FKB)

www.baden-airpark.de

Friedrichshafen Airport (FDH)

www.fly-away.de

By rail

Rail is a convenient alternative to flying and can be the quickest way of getting around Europe and SouthWest Germany.

Long distance and local trains are coordinated to ensure quick, easy connections. The ICE-Intercity Express high speed service offers at least one train every hour between Germany's major cities and neighboring countries. For timetables, tickets: www.bahn.de

By car

SouthWest Germany has an excellent network of roads and highways (Autobahn). There are no tolls for passenger cars. Rental cars are available in larger towns and cities, at airports, train stations and hotels.

A FOUR SEASON DESTINATION



With its friendly climate and varied landscape, SouthWest Germany is a genuine "four season" destination. In spring, parks and gardens are full of flowers; summer brings temperatures in the 70s (21°C), just right for cycling and hiking. The blue skies and warm sunshine of fall/autumn are ideal for touring, not forgetting the grape harvest. And winter? Traditional Christmas markets add bustle to cities, towns and picture postcard villages.

SPRING



Spring arrives in dozens of ways. In the south, around Lake Constance, apple orchards turn into a mass of blossom; in the Black Forest, wildflowers are in full glory. As for festivals, some are religious; others are just an excuse for an end-of-winter party.

STUTT GART | Spring Festival

From mid-April to early May, SouthWest Germany's capital celebrates at the Cannstatter Wasen fair grounds. The city's mayor kicks off the festivities by tapping (opening) a barrel of locally-brewed beer; the fun includes amusement park rides and fireworks.

→ www.stuttgart-tourist.com

SPECIAL

Asparagus | We love white asparagus! This spring delicacy may be served with butter, ham or hollandaise sauce. Follow the Asparagus Route, where Bruchsal hosts Europe's largest Asparagus Festival in May. www.bruchsal-erleben.de

D5



MANNHEIM | Easter Egg Fair

Artists from all over Europe display their ornate hand-decorated eggs in Mannheim's Luisenpark. Chicken and duck eggs, goose and even ostrich eggs are transformed with filigree, lacquer-work and oil painting. Daffodils and tulips add to the color.

→ www.tourist-mannheim.de

SPECIAL

G7

EASTER | For Easter, brightly decorated eggs turn the fountains of Schechingen (an hour east of Stuttgart) into kaleidoscopes of color. www.schechingen.de

SUMMER



Music is in the DNA of SouthWest Germany and summer is a time for concerts, indoors and out. But we have many more special events, often in spectacular settings.

LUDWIGSBURG | International Music Festival

For more than 80 years, this charming town just outside Stuttgart has offered music from around the world. Over four months, Germany's largest and best-preserved Baroque palace is the backdrop for performances of classical, opera, folk, avant-garde and African rhythms.

→ www.schlossfestspiele.de

HEIDELBERG | Castle Illuminations with Fireworks

Silhouetted against the night sky, one of Europe's most romantic castles is the stage for spectacular lights and fireworks. Below is the medieval heart of this delightful university city. The show is on three evenings in June, July, and September.

→ www.heidelberg-marketing.com

STUTT GART | Wine Village

Who knew that red wine has been produced in and around Stuttgart for 1,000 years? For 12 days in late August and early September, wine makers show off some 500 wines. Taste and sip; join locals in Weinlauben, simple, open-air restaurants, right in the heart of Stuttgart.

→ www.stuttgarter-weindorf.de

SPECIAL

G13

Konstanz Seenachtfest | In August, one of Europe's largest fireworks displays light the skies of this city on Lake Constance. The Seenachtfest also has music, street entertainment and more. www.bodensee.eu

SPECIAL

I10

Ride the Öchsle Steam Train! | For 11 miles, the train chuffs through unspoiled countryside between the olde worlde towns of Ochsenhausen and Biberach. www.bodensee.eu

AUTUMN



With children back at school and leaves changing to vibrant colors, September and October are perfect for touring. Join us at dozens of festivals that provide an easy introduction to the award-winning wines of SouthWest Germany.

HEILBRONN | Wine Village

In Germany's leading red wine region, an hour from Stuttgart, Heilbronn is surrounded by vineyards dating back to Roman times. In the middle of September, some 30 co-operatives show off 300 wines, including outstanding sparkling wines.

→ www.heilbronn-tourist.de

SPECIAL

I11

Bad Schussenried Waggoner's Day | Known for its brewery, beer mug museum and love of horses, this town celebrates all three on October 3. Watch the parade; enjoy a pint!

www.schussenrieder.de

STUTTGART | Cannstatt Beer Festival

For authenticity, nowhere beats this 170-year-old jamboree that lasts from late September into early October. One of the world's biggest beer festivals, it includes a fair with rides, parades, huge tents and live music. And wearing Dirndls and Lederhosen are part of the fun!

→ www.stuttgart-tourist.de



SPECIAL

G13

Konstanz Rock around the Lake | Bid summer goodbye at this early-September, international rock fest on the shores of Lake Constance.

www.rock-am-see.de

WINTER



Winters are crisp and sunny, great for exploring outdoors – and for warming up with a piping hot Glühwein (mulled wine). From late November to late December, every city, town and village has its own Christmas market. We all go to listen to carols, eat special cookies and meet our friends. This centuries-old tradition remains an important part of SouthWest Germany's present.

SPECIAL

E10

Fasnet | Our Mardi Gras | The week before Lent begins is dedicated to parades, masks and scary costumes. Medieval Rottweil is particularly atmospheric. www.rottweil.de

ESSLINGEN AM NECKAR | Medieval Christmas Market

Half-timbered houses give authentic atmosphere to this special market. From stall holders' costumes to games, food and drink, it's back to the Middle Ages!

→ www.esslingen-tourist.de

GENGENBACH | The world's biggest Advent Calendar

Nowhere is the countdown to Christmas more graphic than here. Each year, the 24 windows of the ancient town hall are decorated by a different artist. Then, at 6 p.m. every evening, a child opens a new window in this living Advent calendar. Magical!

→ www.stadt-gengenbach.de

TÜBINGEN | chocolART International Chocolate Festival

In the first week of December, the ancient university town of Tübingen is the place to be for chocaholics. Chocolate tastings, chocolate making, chocolate-themed menus: the very best cocoa flavors from around the world.

→ www.chocolart.de

SPECIAL

C12

The Feldberg | Our highest mountain | Learn to ski and board in winter; hike the trails in summer. Enjoy our beautiful Black Forest!

www.blackforest-tourism.com



EUROPE'S MOST POPULAR THEME PARK

Fun and tradition in Europe's best theme park!

- Over 100 unique attractions and spectacular shows
- 17 different themed areas, 13 of which are European
- 11 racy rollercoasters and 5 cooling water attractions
- Dreamlike overnight stays at the five 4-star themed hotels, the adventurous Camp Resort with real wild west feeling or in your own caravan



High-speed thrill-rides



Regional (Baden) Wine Festival



Ammolite – The Lighthouse Restaurant



Wonderful overnight stays

SIX DIVERSE REGIONS

What surprises first-time visitors most about SouthWest Germany? Its variety! Stretching 200 miles (320 km) from north to south, and 150 miles (240 km) from east to west, our state is as diverse as it is beautiful. Lake Constance is one of Europe's most photogenic stretches of water; the Black Forest is world-famous for unspoiled scenery. Then there are the mountains and meadows, the source of the Danube and the valley of the Rhine. Read on for highlights of the six regions of SouthWest Germany.

THE BLACK FOREST



American author Mark Twain wrote that the Black Forest instilled a “deep sense of contentment ... boyish gladness...and a sense of remoteness”. What was true in the 19th century is true today. Between Karlsruhe and the Swiss border, are rolling hills, woods, farms and vineyards.

This region is home to the Black Forest Cake (the real thing is a delicious revelation!), the cuckoo clock and the Bollenhut, the traditional hat with red pom-poms.

In 2014, part of the Black Forest became Germany’s fifteenth National Park! Thousands come to walk all or part of the Westweg, the world’s first signposted recreational hiking trail. But the Black Forest now has 15,000 miles (24,000 km) of marked paths, so there is room for everyone.



At the end of the day, soothe tired muscles in spa resorts, such as Baden-Baden, Bad Wildbad and Badenweiler.

Eat in cheerful taverns or sample gourmet cuisine in elegant restaurants. In the village of Baiersbronn alone, three of Europe’s top chefs share a total of 8 Michelin stars.

INFORMATION

www.blackforest-tourism.com

LAKE CONSTANCE



We call it the Bodensee in German; you say Lake Constance in English. Whatever the name, this 40-mile-long lake is beautiful, with deep blue water, ringed by protective mountains, often capped with snow.

At the lake’s western end, the university city of Konstanz has an imposing cathedral, medieval walls, cafés and a promenade. The two “must-see” islands are Mainau, with its formal botanical gardens, and Reichenau, with its UNESCO World Heritage monastery. Both benefit from the almost-Mediterranean climate of this, the southernmost part of SouthWest Germany.

Wherever you go, the past is part of the present. Stroll the medieval streets of towns like Meersburg, with its forbidding castle; delve into the history of aviation in Friedrichshafen, the birthplace of the Zeppelin airship.

Cycle along broad, traffic-free cycle paths; hop on and off the ferries that regularly crisscross the lake. Terrific views are guaranteed!

HIGHLIGHTS

Unteruhldingen

The Pfahlbau Lake Dwelling Museum, in a UNESCO World Heritage area, has recreated the homes on stilts, as used by locals 6,000 years ago.
www.pfahlbauten.com

Friedrichshafen

Tour the Zeppelin Museum; for a treat, fly over Lake Constance in a modern airship!
en.friedrichshafen.info

Mainau

Famous for dazzling displays outdoors, this “flower island” also has a palm house and butterfly house.
www.mainau.de

INFORMATION

www.bodensee.eu

UPPER SWABIA



Many parts of Europe claim to be 'unspoiled', but we think Upper Swabia really does deserve this description. Between the River Danube and Lake Constance, this peaceful landscape is dotted with charming villages that are full of history.

A great way to explore is by following one of the themed driving routes that winds its way through the area. Take photos of Hansel and Gretel-style houses on the German Half-Timbered Buildings Route from Bad Urach to Lake Constance.

See 17th- and 18th-century architectural gems along the Upper Swabian Baroque Route that links churches and abbeys from Lake Constance to Ulm.



But this part of SouthWest Germany is also famous for its spas, and the Swabian Spa Route includes popular destinations with natural hot springs. A few examples are Bad Boll, Bad Buchau, Bad Waldsee, and Bad Wurzach. Just remember that, in German, Bad means 'bath' or 'spa'!

INFORMATION

www.oberschwaben-tourismus.de

THE SWABIAN MOUNTAINS



The rolling ridges of the Swabian Mountains are thickly wooded and often topped with fortresses. Perhaps the most dramatic is Hohenzollern Castle, perched high on a crag. But Sigmaringen also has its fans. Built 150 years ago, this Gothic-style castle stands above a lake. As for Schloss Lichtenstein, it looks like Rapunzel's home. All have spectacular views, as does the observation tower on the Lemberg. At 3,360 feet (1,020 m) this is the highest mountain in the region and on a clear day, you can see the Alps, far to the south.

Don't forget the cities! In Ulm, the cathedral has the world's tallest spire, all of 530 feet (160 m) high. Tübingen is home to one of Europe's oldest universities, founded in 1477. As well as its spa, Bad Urach impresses with its fountains, half-timbered town hall and large market square.

But what is below ground is equally fascinating. The Swabian Mountains Geopark includes 1,000 caves. Tour one of the 25 that are open to the public, to see stalagmites and stalactites, and hear how archaeologists discovered important fossils and dinosaur remains in these limestone caverns.

HIGHLIGHTS

Punting in Tübingen

Go for a traditional boat ride on the Neckar River; weekends from April to October; sign up at the Tourist Office.
www.tuebingen.de

Outlet City Metzingen

Some 70 designer-name stores offer even bigger discounts and tax-free shopping for non-European Union customers.
www.outletcity.com

Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Steinhausen

Is this Germany's prettiest village church? And is it the first truly Rococo building? Decide for yourself.
www.kg-steinhausen.de

INFORMATION

www.schwaebische-alb.de

THE STUTTART REGION



Plan on spending plenty of time in and around Stuttgart, the capital of SouthWest Germany. As well as art both old and new, its world-class museums feature automobiles. At the Mercedes-Benz and Porsche Museums, cars are the stars! Then, there's the world-renowned opera, symphony orchestra and ballet. In the city's pedestrianized heart, stroll through spacious parks and along cobbled lanes. Check out the shops on Königstrasse (fashion), around the Stiftskirche (designer labels), the Gerberviertel (local designers) and the Bohnenviertel (one-of-a-kind stores and antiques shops). And don't miss the elegant Art Nouveau Market Hall.

Make Stuttgart your base and take day trips to nearby attractions, using the excellent public transport system. On the city's outskirts is Solitude Palace, a 250-year-old hunting lodge, with a Rococo-style, gold-and-cream interior. Even more lavish is the early 18th-century palace in the pretty Baroque town of Ludwigsburg. Take a tour to see just some of the 450 rooms! Then, go back to the Middle Ages in Esslingen, with its castle and looming watch tower.

HIGHLIGHTS

StuttCard PLUS | Special visitor pass

This card gives free admission to most museums, discounts in shops, free local public transport in the region (72 hours; 45 Euro).
www.stuttgart-tourist.com

Neckar-Käpt'n Cruises

On the pretty Neckar River, cruise upstream from Stuttgart to Plochingen, or downstream to Heilbronn.
www.neckar-kaeptn.de

V8 Hotel

Part of MOTORWORLD Stuttgart, this unique car-themed hotel is the perfect place for gear heads!
www.v8hotel.de

INFORMATION

www.stuttgart-tourist.com

THE NORTHERN REGION



Not far from Stuttgart, Northern Baden-Württemberg is a delightful patchwork of towns and countryside, with history, art and activities galore.

Start with the Odenwald, whose hills, valleys, farms and villages contrast with bustling Heidelberg. This atmospheric university city has a romantic castle, an ancient bridge, cobbled streets and old houses.

As for the Tauber Valley, this attracts wine lovers, who come for the tastings, as well as cyclists, who pedal some of Germany's prettiest trails. Spa aficionados come for the natural mineral springs in medieval towns, such as Bad Mergentheim.

Of course, we like nothing better than doing all three!



Another popular destination for wine lovers is Heilbronn, surrounded by vineyards mainly growing grapes for red wine. Most photographed, however, is Heilbronn's 435-year-old astronomical clock, displaying the time, day and month.

Mannheim saw the birthplace of the car in 1886, but also has the 250-year-old Schloss Mannheim, one of Germany's largest Baroque palaces. In Schwäbisch Hall, summer brings open-air concerts in the old town, where half-timbered houses date back to the Middle Ages.

INFORMATION

www.tourism-bw.com

FOOD & DRINK

In SouthWest Germany, we adore our traditional Swabian dishes. Swabian cooking features local fish and beef, Swabian-style pasta, delicious breads and the original pretzels. Do order our Black Forest Cake. A rich concoction of cream, chocolate and cherries, the authentic version is a revelation!

Our menus follow the seasons. Spring means asparagus, with road side stands piled high with the white spears. Taverns feature asparagus on the menu for lunch and dinner; villages celebrate with asparagus festivals.

In summer, fresh produce abounds, from vegetables to orchard fruits. In fall, menus feature game and wild mushrooms, foraged from the forests. And, to drink, we produce award-winning wines and beers.

Less well-known is our total of 77 Michelin-starred restaurants, more than any other German state. In the village of Baiersbronn alone, three chefs have 8 stars between them! And, perhaps surprisingly, Europa-Park, the world's No 1 theme park, has a 2 Michelin star restaurant, called the Ammolite.



TRADITIONAL DISHES



Good food is part of our heritage in SouthWest Germany. We treasure recipes from yesteryear, but we also like to give them a modern twist. One of our favorite is Maultaschen, the Swabian version of ravioli. Often filled with minced meat, onions and spinach, they may be sautéed in butter or served in a clear broth. Contemporary fillings include smoked sausage or ham. On most menus, Spätzle appears as an accompaniment to sausage. These soft, moist egg noodles are also used for cheesy Kässpätzle, the German version of mac 'n' cheese.

SPECIAL

After a day's hiking, stop for a Vesper, a snack. Order freshly-baked bread, cheese and delicately-smoked Black Forest ham.

SPECIAL

At fall wine festivals, do as the locals do: order a slice of Zwiebelkuchen, a hearty onion, bacon and egg pie, the perfect match for wine tasting.

Lovers of beef should order Zwiebelrostbraten, a rib-eye steak garnished with crispy onions. Highly-prized around Lake Constance is Felchen, a freshwater fish, partnered by delicate sauces. Schupfnudeln, made, like gnocchi, from potato dough, often comes with ham and sauerkraut. Or, it can be a dessert, with an apple, cinnamon and sugar compote! Another sweet finish is Ofenschlupfer, SouthWest Germany's very own apple pie.



And at any time of day, coffee and cake is traditional; look for signs offering "Kaffee und Kuchen".

WHERE TO MEET THE LOCALS



We love to meet up with friends over a beer or glass of wine. So, on a warm day, join us in a Biergarten (outdoor beer garden) shaded by tall chestnut trees. Or at a Brauerei or Brauereiwirtshaus, a brewery that doubles as an inn. Or a Bierkeller (beer keeps nice and cool underground). If you have been out hiking or cycling, order a Radler, a thirst-quenching beer and lemonade mix.

SPECIAL

At beer festivals, expect to see locals drinking beer from a Mass. Beware! This tall glass mug holds a liter. That's a couple of pints!



To strike up a conversation, just ask which beer to choose: most of us speak English!

In and around vineyards, signs saying Weinstube, Weinhaus or Winzerstube identify the wine taverns. Or look for heraldic signs, such as the Goldener Adler (Golden Eagle).

Most traditional is a Besen, a simple tavern in the vineyards that serves only its own wine and food. As for the name, a Besen (broom) hung over the door shows that these family-run spots are open.

SPECIAL

Schnapps is fruit brandy, often offered at the end of a meal. It's powerful stuff, so comes in a very small glass. You are allowed to sip it slowly!

AWARD WINNING WINES



Do you prefer red or white wine? Sweet, medium or dry? Still or bubbly? We make them all, here in SouthWest Germany. And they win awards the world over. That's why wine lovers in the know enjoy our wines. So do we! Most are fruity, light, lively, ready to drink, and perfect as an aperitif or with meals. On SouthWest Germany's western border, the Baden vineyards are the sunniest and southernmost of Germany's 13 wine regions. The best wines come from the 100-mile stretch between Heidelberg and Freiburg, just across the Rhine from the renowned French vineyards in Alsace. Look out for winemakers from the Kaiserstuhl, Ortenau and Kraichgau districts, known for their Pinot Noir (red), Pinot Gris and Pinot Blanc (white).

SPECIAL

At Freiburg's Wine Festival in early July, some 400 different wines are offered on the cathedral square. Taste and talk to winemakers; munch an onion tart. www.freiburg.de

B11



SPECIAL

At wine festivals, you may be offered a large glass called a Viertel. This holds a quarter of a liter, a heady 8 ounces!

unusual Trollinger grape. But do try the very fine Rieslings. Most unexpected? That has to be Stuttgart, where ancient vineyards lie within the city boundaries. Find out more at the Viticulture Museum; walk the wine path through the vines.

Note the German varietal names: Spätburgunder is the same as Pinot Noir; Grauburgunder is Pinot Gris; Weissburgunder is Pinot Blanc.

To the east, mostly north of Stuttgart, Württemberg's small vineyards are perched on steep slopes along the Neckar River. Red is the dominant wine, often made from the

TRADITIONAL BEERS



In SouthWest Germany, we love our beer. With 185 individual breweries, our region really is the “Land of a 1,000 Beers.” Even better, many are traditional varieties. Each community has its own favorites, usually brewed close by.

For 500 years, quality has been the watchword. Germany’s “purity laws” ensure that beer has only four ingredients: water, hops, barley, and yeast. Nothing else.



There are beers for every occasion and every season. For summer, try a refreshing brew called Weizenbier. Half malted barley and half malted wheat, it has a natural fizz and comes in a tall glass. A great thirst quencher! To keep out the cold in fall or winter, ask for Bockbier, with its natural sweet caramel flavor.

SPECIAL

Real aficionados should try a cloudy, spicy Zwickel. Drawn straight from the barrel, this beer is unpasteurized and rich with vitamins and minerals.

SPECIAL

More and more fine-dining restaurants offer beer pairing, with a different brew for each dish.

The most popular beer is Pils. This straw-colored, lager style goes down well on its own or with most food. A stronger version is called Export, often referred to as a Helles.

CAR COUNTRY



When it comes to automobile heritage, nowhere matches SouthWest Germany. After all, Carl Benz patented the first car in Mannheim, back in 1886. And, two of the world’s finest car museums are in Stuttgart: Mercedes-Benz and Porsche. Both display dream machines from then and now. To have a truly special experience, visit the famous Hockenheim race circuit, where you can drive your own car around the track. Or enjoy high-speed thrills, sitting beside a professional driver.

THE MERCEDES-BENZ MUSEUM

With its unusual “double helix” interior, this striking, super-cool museum is home to some 1,500 exhibits that range from engine development to body design. For non-gearheads, the fascination is learning about the social history of the car, traced over the past 125 years or so.

Start on the top floor and work your way down through nine levels: the past, the present and the future. On your way, admire 160 significant vehicles: 80 passenger cars, 40 commercial vehicles, and 40 racing cars and record-breaking models. Some are super stars, such as the legendary Silver Arrow; others are workhorses, like the Millipede, the LP 333 pickup truck.



SPECIAL

G7

For a special treat, book ahead for a leisurely lunch in the stylish contemporary restaurant, serving traditional local dishes.

INFORMATION

www.mercedes-benz-classic.com

THE PORSCHE MUSEUM

In the Stuttgart suburb of Zuffenhausen, the futuristic Porsche Museum is a celebration of one of the world’s most coveted brands. The themes are inspired by Professor Ferdinand Porsche’s lifelong quest to find innovative solutions to technical challenges. Among the 80 vehicles on show are true icons, from the 911 road cars to the 917 sports racing car. Fans love to photograph the legendary 356 “No. 1” Roadster from 1948, and the 917/20 Coupé, nicknamed the Pink Pig. Peer through the windows of the Museum Workshop and watch master mechanics and specialists restoring and repairing classic models. With a gift shop full of Porsche memorabilia and an award-winning gourmet restaurant, this makes a great day out.



SPECIAL

G7

Car enthusiasts should combine a museum visit with a Porsche factory tour that leaves from the museum itself.

INFORMATION

www.porsche.com/museum

HOCKENHEIM MOTOR RACING CIRCUIT

This testing, twisting 2.85-mile (4.58-km) circuit is 90 minutes northwest of Stuttgart. For more than 80 years, Hockenheimring has been a major international destination for motor racing enthusiasts, including Formula 1 Grand Prix fans. There is also a quarter-mile track just for drag racing that hosts the NitrOlympX, one of Europe’s most popular drag racing events. But, between race days, the track is usually open for test driving, and for visitors. Also on site, with more than 300 vehicles, the Motor Sport Museum holds Europe’s largest collection of racing motorbikes, as well as Formula One cars from the Minardi, Benetton and Williams teams. Drive your own car round the circuit; then stand on the podium for the ultimate selfie!



SPECIAL

D4

For an adrenaline rush, sit alongside a professional driver for three high-speed laps of the Grand Prix circuit in a Porsche GT3, Mercedes SLK 350 or Audi R8.

INFORMATION

www.hockenheimring.de/en

AUTO & TECHNIK MUSEUM SINSHHEIM

It should be no surprise that car crazy SouthWest Germany has Europe’s largest privately-owned museum of transport. But, the range of attractions at the Auto & Technik Museum in Sinsheim is truly astonishing. Start with the Concorde and Tu-144, the Air France and Russian supersonic planes at the entrance. Climb aboard and compare the two. Then allow plenty of time to explore Europe’s largest permanent exhibition of Formula 1 cars: McLarens, Ferraris, BMWs, and Alfa Romeos. The museum also has the largest permanent collection of American Dream Cars outside of the United States, from a humble Model T Ford to a sexy pink Cadillac. In total, there are 300 classic cars, 200 motorcycles, 40 racing cars, 60 airplanes, and 20 railway engines!



SPECIAL

F4

Don’t miss the Blue Flame, the rocket-powered vehicle that broke the world land speed record by clocking 622.407 mph on Bonneville Salt Flats, Utah in 1970.

INFORMATION

www.technik-museum.de

SOUTHWEST GERMANY'S SCENIC DRIVES



We love to explore our own beautiful backyard. So, over the past 60 years or so, we have designed specially-themed driving routes that focus on everything from castles and wine to photogenic villages and even clocks!

Drive the whole length or only a part; each route has its own individual charm. All reflect the unspoiled beauty and rich heritage of SouthWest Germany. Here is a selection: find more great drives at www.tourism-bw.com.

Bertha Benz Memorial Route

Circular route from Mannheim, via Pforzheim 120 miles/194 km.

Bertha Benz was the world's first woman driver. Although Carl Benz invented the car in 1886, it was his wife, Bertha, who made the first long-distance drive. In 1888, she took her two sons to visit her mother. This historic route covers much of what she drove. On the way, see the world's first gas station in Wiesloch!

→ www.bertha-benz.de

The Black Forest High Road

Baden-Baden to Freudenstadt 40 miles/60 km.

This is all about the views. The B 500 road doubles as the Black Forest High Road (Schwarzwaldhochstrasse); as it goes through the low mountains at about 3,000 feet (900 m), views open up in all directions. See the Feldberg mountain and the circular Mummelsee, a glacial lake. Stop for picnics; stroll around Freudenstadt, a little town with Germany's biggest market square.

→ www.schwarzwaldhochstrasse.de

The Castle Road

Mannheim to Schwäbisch Hall 185 miles/300 km.

The Castle Road (Burgenstrasse) goes all the way to the Czech Republic. But in SouthWest Germany, the route wriggles along the Neckar River valley, past some of Europe's most dramatic castles and grand palaces. Some, such as Schwetzingen and Heidelberg, are famous. Others are less-known but could be ready-made film sets: Hirschhorn, Eberbach, Hornberg, Gundelsheim, and Castle Horneck. Watchmen have lived in the Blue Tower in Bad Wimpfen for 650 years.

→ www.burgenstrasse.de

The German Clock Road

Circular route in the Black Forest 200 miles/320 km.

Nothing makes a better souvenir from the Black Forest than a hand-carved cuckoo clock. The German Clock Road (Deutsche Uhrenstrasse) loops round the heart of the Southern Black Forest. As well as workshops that still make these timepieces, there are numerous "world's biggest cuckoo clock" attractions, such as in Schonach, and the Eble Uhren-Park. Great fun!

→ www.deutscheuhrenstrasse.de



The Fantastic Road

Circular route from Weinheim, via Konstanz 480 miles/775 km.

The Fantastic Road (Fantastische Strasse) is one of the newer routes. Linking some of SouthWest Germany's most beautiful towns, this makes for a week-long tour with plenty of variety. Start in Weinheim (charming square); head south for Heidelberg (Germany's Harvard). Next is Baden-Baden (Europe's finest spa destination), then the charming towns of Gengenbach and Breisach am Rhein. Lovely Konstanz is on Lake Constance and near the flowery island of Mainau. Loop back north via medieval Meersburg, Burg Hohenzollern (ancestral castle of German emperors) and Tübingen (ancient university).

→ www.fantastische-strasse.de

Wine routes

In SouthWest Germany, wine making dates back to Roman times, but nowadays, the vineyards are bang up-to-date. Take these two trails to enjoy the scenery, stop in villages, relax in traditional wine taverns and talk to wine makers. Perhaps you are an expert? Or just enjoy a glass of "something nice"? Everyone loves these routes.

Baden Wine Road

Baden-Baden to Weil am Rhein 125 miles/200 km.

In the five different wine-growing areas of the Ortenau, Kaiserstuhl, Tuniberg, Breisgau, and Markgräflerland, see vineyards and ruined castles, handsome cities and pretty towns. Baden-Baden is renowned for its elegant spas; Freiburg for its cathedral, and medieval Breisach, for wine, wine and more wine. Little Schliengen has only 5,300 inhabitants, but boasts 12 wineries!

→ www.badische-weinstrasse.de

Württemberg Wine Road

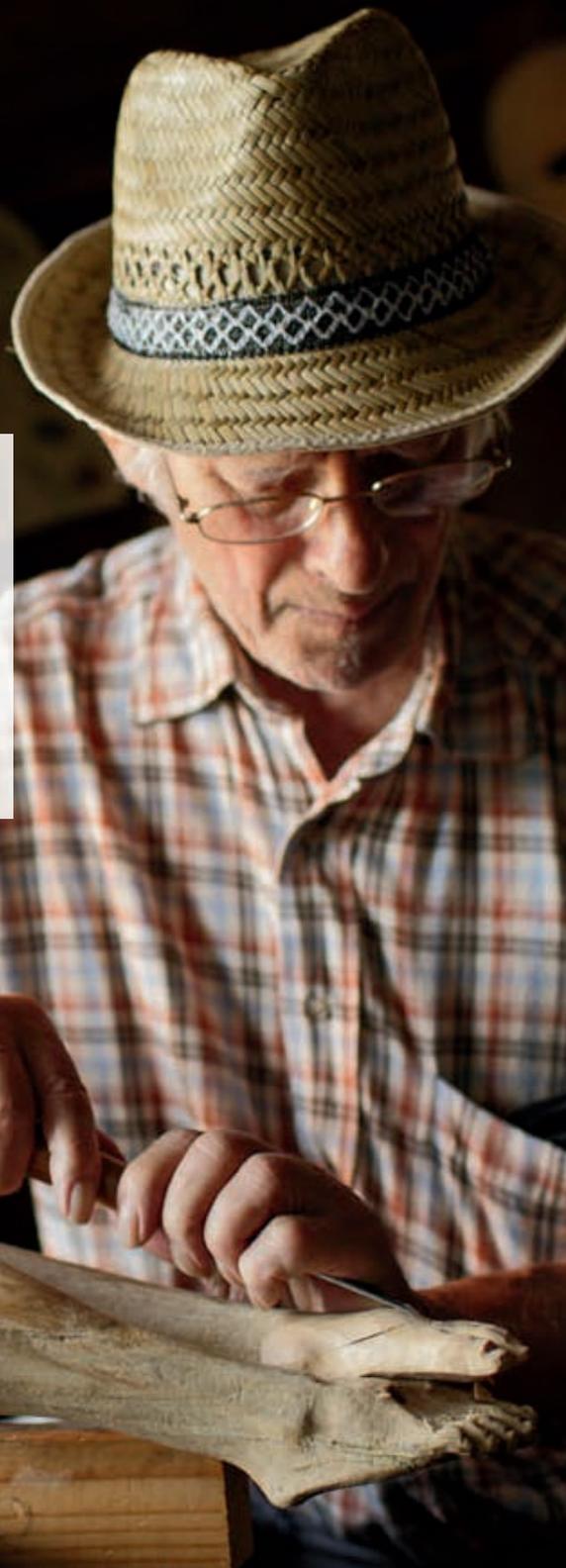
Weikersheim to Metzingen 318 miles/511 km.

The Württemberg Wine Road (Württembergische Weinstrasse) winds its way through pretty valleys to Heilbronn, onward to Stuttgart and the upper Neckar Valley, before finishing in Metzingen. Wine fans enjoy discovering the different varieties of grapes that are grown along the route. Some names, such as Riesling, are familiar; others are from a different vocabulary: Trollinger, Schiller, Müller-Thurgau, and Lemberger.

→ www.weinbauverband-wuerttemberg.de

MADE IN SOUTHWEST GERMANY

For that perfect souvenir or special gift for a friend back home, nothing is better than something made locally. And in SouthWest Germany, that's easy! Skilled craftsmanship is in our blood. There are Steiff teddy bears and cuckoo clocks from the Black Forest; gold jewelry and Märklin model railroads; hand-carved wooden toys and delicate Christmas ornaments. And, of course, schnapps and liqueurs made with fruit from our orchards.



CUCKOO CLOCKS

Universally-recognized as "Made in SouthWest Germany" is the cuckoo clock, with its wooden chalet and little bird announcing the time. Forget what Orson Welles said in *The Third Man*: the cuckoo clock was born in the Black Forest between 1730 and 1750. And the tradition is still going strong, especially in Triberg, considered the center of this industry. In fact, at Hubert Herr, the family's fifth generation is now in charge.



But, many villages still have workshops, where these treasures are made by hand. Good clocks have doors that open and close easily, with a cuckoo that moves its wings and beak simultaneously. To be sure of a genuine version, look for the Black Forest Clock Association's seal of approval.

SPECIAL

C11

The German Clock Museum | In Furtwangen, you can see 1,000 historic timepieces.

INFORMATION

www.black-forest.org

STEIFF TEDDY BEARS

It was back in 1880 that Margarete Steiff founded a company making toys. But the big breakthrough came in 1902, with the Teddy bear. Named for U.S. President Teddy Roosevelt, this plush toy was an instant hit.

Now, 135 years later, each Steiff toy animal is still hand-sewn and hand-finished, using only the finest materials, such as mohair, alpaca, cotton velvet, and woven fur. Discover more on the interactive tour of the Steiff Museum in Giengen an der Brenz. (The building is designed to look like the bear's trademark Button in the Ear.) Some 2,000 Steiff toys are on display. Nearby is the world's biggest Steiff store and the world's biggest walk-through Steiff petting zoo – with stuffed animals, of course!



SPECIAL

K7

The Steiff Factory Outlet | With a wide range of cuddly toys (not just bears), this is a great place to find Christmas and birthday presents.

INFORMATION

www.steiff.com

PFORZHEIM & JEWELRY

On the edge of the Northern Black Forest, Pforzheim has been an international center for watch-making and jewelry for more than 250 years. No surprise, then, that this modern-looking city has been nicknamed the City of Gold.

The best way to appreciate this heritage is at Pforzheim's World of Jewelry (Schmuckwelten). All under one roof, you can learn about precious and semi-precious stones, see gold, pearls and precious stones, watch designers at work, and then buy their hand-crafted jewelry and watches! There is a massive wall of gold bars, a gold-plated Porsche, designer boutiques, but also small shops with more affordable jewelry made by local artisans.



SPECIAL

E6

Jewelry Museum | In the Schmuckmuseum Pforzheim, see stunning treasures in a collection of some 2,000 pieces of historic, modern and ethnic jewelry, dating back 5,000 years.

www.schmuckmuseum-pforzheim.de

INFORMATION

www.schmuckwelten.de

MÄRKLIN MODEL TRAINS

For 150 years, the world's most famous model railway maker has been Märklin Trains, based in Göppingen, east of Stuttgart. What started as a small factory making tin toys developed into the producer of the high-quality, metal toys that are now prized around the world. Today, the century-old Märklin World of Adventure Museum in Göppingen offers young and old a fun way to explore the company's history and its close links with model making over the years.

You can explore the collection of model railroads, collector's pieces, and historic toys. Rarities include the first real live steam locomotive and the rare Brunsvik ship model. There are several operating layouts on display; many are available to try out.



SPECIAL

H7

Museum Shop | Don't miss the shop, with exclusive, one-off series are only available here. These unique Märklin Museum Cars are highly-prized by collectors.

INFORMATION

www.maerklin.com

FAMILY FUN

In SouthWest Germany, we take family vacations seriously. We want parents as well as children to relax and have fun! Along with the great weather and great attractions, we make sure that accommodations and restaurants are family-friendly. And we do this with our mascot, Leo Luschtig, Happy Leo. He only gives his "seal of approval" to the best of the best: family vacation destinations recognized by the TMBW (SouthWest Germany Tourist Board) and the region's Hotel and Restaurant Association. Choose from farmhouses, campsites, and old inns, modern apartments and resort hotels.

Some of Leo the Lion's favorite places include Europa-Park, voted the world's best theme park. With 13 areas, each dedicated to a European country, this is like a giant geography lesson. Leo also loves Ravensburg. Only 20 miles (32 km) from Friedrichshafen, this is home to Ravensburger, the popular toy and puzzle makers. Since 1998, families have flocked to their Ravensburger Museum and Ravensburger Spieliland theme park, where children stay free in the on-site hotels.

→ www.tourism-bw.com



FAMILY FUN



STUTTGART | Where cars are the stars!

Stuttgart is the home of Mercedes-Benz and Porsche, two of the world's most famous brands. As well as the factories and workshops, each manufacturer has its own fascinating museum. Kids love the Mercedes-Benz and the Porsche Museum; they also love to stay at the V8 hotel, near the city, where 10 rooms are themed on cars, from Route 66 and a 50s gas station to a carwash. Some beds are actually made from cars!

→ www.v8hotel.de

BLACK FOREST & LAKE CONSTANCE | Water sports galore

Lake Constance, Schluchsee and Titisee are amongst the cleanest lakes in Germany, so swimming and boating are a real pleasure. But action-packed thrills are also on offer, especially canopy walks in SouthWest Germany's endless forests. A good example is at Titisee, where the elevated rope walks in the Forest Action climbing park provide (safe!) excitement. At the Steinwasenpark in Oberried, test your head for heights on the world's longest adventure rope bridge, a nerve-jangling 715 feet / 218 m long! If you keep your eyes open, you get a good overview of the park and the beautiful mountain scenery of the Schauinsland.

→ www.tourism-bw.com

TRIPSDRILL ADVENTURE PARK

Germany's oldest amusement park, just north of Stuttgart, has totally up-to-date thrill rides. Scariest is Mammut, a wooden coaster that hurtles through a saw mill at 50 mph / 80 kmph! Among the 100 other adrenaline-raising rides and attractions are Europe's tallest log-flume, and river rafting in a giant washtub! Little ones are not forgotten: the duck boat tour and water slide are favorites, as is the Wildlife Park, with its white polar wolves and brown bears. See them at feeding time (daily at 2:30 p.m. except Fridays); watch falconers with red kites and golden eagles.

→ www.tripsdrill.de



EUROPA-PARK | RUST

Spending time in this theme park is like taking a tour around Europe. But this is a Europe with thrill rides! Each of the 13 different areas is dedicated to a country, its history and traditions. In the Germany area, examples of German architecture are recreated, such as Brandenburg brick Gothic and Franconian half-timbered buildings. But the piece of the Berlin Wall really is from the old Cold War border, and the moated Balthasar Castle really does date from 1517. Whether real or reproduction, it's all educational and fun. On site are five 4-star themed hotels, from the Hotel Colosseo, with the splendor of Ancient Rome, to the Hotel El Andaluz, with its authentic Spanish atmosphere. And did we mention thrill rides? There are plenty in this park, just half an hour from Freiburg. NEW: Europa-Park was rated the No 1 theme park in Europe on TripAdvisor's Travellers' Choice Awards in 2015!



SPECIAL

A10

Children's World | For younger ones, Children's World includes a beach with a fishing boat, and the Viking Village, with climbing walls and a Viking ship.

INFORMATION

www.europapark.de

THE WILHELMA ZOO & BOTANICAL GARDEN | STUTTGART

Think of this oasis of green in Stuttgart as part zoo, part botanic garden. The combination is a delight for all ages. What was created as a Moorish garden in 1842 for King Wilhelm I of Württemberg, is no longer private but open to all. Nicknamed the Alhambra on the River Neckar, the Wilhelma has more than 1,000 species of animals. That's more than any other zoo in Germany, and more than most zoos anywhere in the world. Families love the specially-designed compounds for the bears and mountain animals, the South America compound, and the elephant and rhino houses. In addition, there are some 7,000 species and varieties of plants in Wilhelma's exotic botanical gardens.



SPECIAL

G7

Free guided tours | To find out more about the Wilhelma, take advantage of the "in front of" and "behind" the scenes tours offered by volunteers and staff.

INFORMATION

www.wilhelma.de

MAINAU ISLAND | FLOWERS AND FUN

The setting is one of a kind: Lake Constance in the foreground, snow-capped mountains in the distance, and flowers everywhere. On Mainau Island, the so-called Island of Flowers, the mild, Mediterranean-like climate suits plants ranging from tropical species to 1,200 different types of roses. Children love the open spaces, particularly the arboretum, with some 500 kinds of conifers and deciduous trees, from giant sequoias to cedars. The herb beds inspire budding cooks and gardeners, while the Butterfly and Scent Garden is always popular. Of course, youngsters are intrigued by the caterpillars and butterflies, perfumed blossoms and leaves! And, they clamor to see the farm, with sheep for petting and Shetland ponies for riding in the arena.



SPECIAL

G13

Smaller children | For little ones, the free children's playground has slides, swings, a climbing course, sand-pits, diggers, tricycles and lots more.

INFORMATION

www.mainau.de

MUSEUM RITTER | BE THERE, BE SQUARE

The square Ritter Sport bar has to be the world's most distinctive chocolate bar. And, it was invented in SouthWest Germany! Find out more at the Museum Ritter, with its interactive chocolate exhibition: how cocoa beans are grown, how chocolate is made. Then tour the RITTER MUSEUM, specifically designed to exhibit the art collected by Marli Hoppe-Ritter, the co-owner of the world-famous RITTER SPORT chocolate company. The theme of this modern and contemporary collection is "the square" – just like their chocolate bars. In the striking building, exhibits change regularly, featuring both geometrical and abstract art works, from the collection and on loan. A varied program of events for adults and children accompanies the shows.



SPECIAL

F7

Choc till you drop | As well as finding new flavors of Ritter bars in the shop, there is a hugely popular factory outlet piled high with great deals!

INFORMATION

www.museum-ritter.de

CULTURE & FESTIVALS



Music and art, poetry and plays, ballet and opera: SouthWest Germany really does have a vibrant cultural heritage. But as well as classics from the past, we love contemporary music and art, modern dance and Broadway-style shows. And, performances are often in beautiful settings. What could be more memorable than concerts and opera, shows and rockfests staged in medieval abbeys? Or, in summer, against a backdrop of romantic castles? Come and see what we mean!

MUSIC FESTIVALS



Wherever you are in SouthWest Germany, you are never far from live music. In the late 18th century, the Mannheim School pioneered orchestral techniques that influenced the world. Today, performers play in world-famous concert halls, ancient monasteries, even city parks. For audiences, dress is rarely formal; think “smart” or “smart casual”, even in the opera house. After all, we prefer to focus on the musicians, the dancers and the singers. Here is a small selection of our favorite festivals. Find plenty more at:

→ www.tourism-bw.com

BADEN-BADEN

The 2,500-seat Festspielhaus Baden-Baden is Europe’s second-largest opera house, with outstanding acoustics. The 140 or so annual performances range from opera and ballet to symphony concerts, chamber music and jazz. Highlights include the Easter Festival, curated by the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, the Whitsun Festival, and the July Summer Festival, in partnership with the Mariinsky Theatre St. Petersburg.

→ www.festspielhaus.de

SCHWETZINGEN

The 50-year-old Schwetzingen Festival takes place in the 250-year-old Schwetzingen

Palace, near Heidelberg. In May and June, the program is known for its mix: revivals of long-forgotten works balanced by brand-new operas.

→ www.swr.de

MAULBRONN MONASTERY

Maulbronn’s medieval walls and towers provide the perfect setting for the summer concert series at this UNESCO World Heritage Site. Between May and September, some 25 concerts of classical music are put on in the church, the refectory and the cloister garden.

→ www.kloster-maulbronn.de

ROTTWEIL

All summer, this walled town buzzes. May brings the Jazz Festival; in June, it’s the Sommersprossen classical series; August’s Holiday Magic is all about variety shows and cabaret.

→ www.rottw Weil.de

HEIDENHEIM

During the summer, operas, such as Tosca and Fidelio are performed by leading international soloists at the Heidenheim Opera Festival. And Hellenstein Castle becomes part of the set!

→ www.heidenheim.de

HEIDELBERG

Heidelberg is sooooo romantic! The ruined castle has 17th-century gardens, a medieval apothecary and superb views. In the old city are medieval lanes, centuries-old houses and Heidelberg University. Founded in 1386, it has an impressive Great Hall and a quirky Student Jail, covered in 200-year-old graffiti! For more views, take the funicular up the 2,000-ft/600 m high Königstuhl hill. Or, cross the 200-year-old bridge over the Neckar River and walk the Philosopher’s Path.

Heidelberg Bach Week celebrates the great composer in the week before the anniversary of his death. The finale is a late-night organ recital in the Church of the Holy Ghost; the last note fades away just after midnight on July 28 (www.studentenkantorei.de). Another classical highlight with international stars is Heidelberg Piano Week (January; www.daiheidelberg.de).



SPECIAL

E3

During the Heidelberg Castle Festival, the ruined castle is the atmospheric backdrop for Shakespeare plays, My Fair Lady and more (late June to early Aug).

INFORMATION

www.heidelberg-marketing.com

HOHENZOLLERN CASTLE

In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, during the German Romantic movement, many of SouthWest Germany’s fortresses were revamped in the Neo-Gothic style. The idea was to make them look even older! Set on a rocky outcrop, Hohenzollern Castle could be the setting for a Disney film, with its turrets and towers. But, there’s plenty of real history within. Tour the Library, the Royal Bedroom, the ornate Blue Salon, and the Treasury, where the highlight is the dazzling Prussian Royal crown. The Hohenzollern family ruled from here for 500 years. The current owners are Georg Friedrich, Prince of Prussia, and Karl Friedrich, Prince of Hohenzollern, direct descendants of Wilhelm II, the last German Emperor.



SPECIAL

F9

Prince Georg opens the annual Royal Christmas Market, held in the castle on the two weekends before Christmas. But throughout the year, if the royal flag is flying, the prince is at home!

INFORMATION

www.burg-hohenzollern.com

MEERSBURG'S CASTLES

Meersburg has not one, but two castles! The elegant Neues Schloss, or New Palace, was once the seat of the bishop. The interior is still impressive, with a monumental staircase, antique furniture, paintings and porcelain. Outside, this pink Baroque palace is equally striking, set on a steep hillside high above the shores of Lake Constance. From the terrace, there is a wide-ranging view over the deep blue water to the snow-capped Alps.



SPECIAL

G13

In the Old Castle, the Carlina-Leut perform medieval and Renaissance music by candlelight, with historical instruments and in traditional dress (July to September).

INFORMATION

www.meersburg.com | www.meersburg.de

LICHTENSTEIN CASTLE

When it comes to "Wow factors" and photogenic castles, Lichtenstein Castle is high on most people's bucket lists. Perched on a steep cliff, it once provided the perfect setting for a movie version of Sleeping Beauty. And it is the creation of the Count of Württemberg.



SPECIAL

G9

After your visit, relax over a meal or a beer in the Old Forester's Lodge next door. The view of the Echaz Valley is magnificent | www.altesforsthauslichtenstein.de

INFORMATION

www.schloss-lichtenstein.de

In 1842, at the height of the Romantic Movement, he decided to transform a 14th-century knight's fortress. Take a tour to see his vision. There are weapons and suits of armor; a grand painted ceiling, wood paneling, and ornate furniture in the knight's hall and the opulent bedchamber of the count himself. The grandeur continues with paintings and elaborate wallpaper, the garden and the courtyard. Put simply, it was the best that money could buy, 175 years ago.

PFAHLBAU LIVING HISTORY MUSEUM

Lake Constance, with its near-Mediterranean micro-climate, was a natural place for Neolithic hunter-gatherers to establish the first permanent human settlements. For safety, they built their huts on wooden piles over the water. Now the archaeological traces from 6,000 years ago are protected as UNESCO World Heritage sites. But, near Unteruhldingen on Lake Constance, day-to-day life in Stone Age and Bronze Age times has been recreated with a living history museum. Start in the Pfahlbau Museum, then go next door to see the village, a reconstructed community of wooden huts, with roofs made of twigs, reeds, bark and grass.

These are linked by walkways, and all stand above the water, supported by wooden stilts set into the bed of Lake Constance.



SPECIAL

G12

Meet Uhldi, the Stone Age Man, who shows visitors the Stone Age techniques for making tools, arrows, pots, even fire, with flints and tinder.

INFORMATION

www.pfahlbauten.com

LIMES | AALEN

Two thousand years ago, SouthWest Germany was the Wild West Frontier...of the Roman Empire. Learn more about the Roman occupation, both militarily and sociologically, at the Limes Museum. Located in what was once the largest Roman cavalry fort north of the Alps, this is also the largest Roman museum in Germany. Limes (pronounced Lee-mez) means "border fortification" in Latin.

At this UNESCO World Heritage Site, you see walls and watchtowers, forts and Roman baths from the outside. Indoors, the emphasis is on bringing Roman times to life. One display features carefully-restored Roman Army equipment, such as spears, swords, chain mail armor, and even sandals. Gold and silver jewelry reflect prosperity; a 20-ft/6 m high stone column honors Jupiter.



SPECIAL

J6

"Having Fun with Roman History" is the motto. Children love to dress up as Romans and watch the reconstructed, full-size catapult hurl arrows at the enemy.

INFORMATION

www.limesmuseum.de

REICHENAU MONASTIC ISLAND

Only 3 miles / 5 km long, this island on Lake Constance is famous for its Benedictine monastery, founded in 724. Now on UNESCO's World Heritage list, the monastery was one of Europe's great intellectual and cultural centers. Also on the island are three medieval village churches.

The oldest is the 9th-century St. George's Church in Oberzell, with rare murals.

In Mittelzell, the Romanesque Abbey Church of St. Mary and St. Mark has a fine chancel and an altar with relics of St. Mark. In Niederzell, the Church of Saints Peter and Paul dates from the 11th century, but was "modernized" in the 18th century, with a Rococo interior.

Get there by boat or drive from the mainland on the picturesque causeway. Be prepared to step back in time.



SPECIAL

F13

The island is known for its top-quality fresh vegetables, its wines, and the fish from the lake, such as whitefish, pike, and perch.

INFORMATION

www.reichenau-tourismus.de

MAULBRONN MONASTERY

On the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage list, Maulbronn is Europe's best-preserved medieval monastery. A visit here is like flicking through a book about architecture. Founded in 1147, this former Cistercian monastery sits in the rolling Stromberg hills. On this historic site, you can see the remarkable changes in designs, from the Romanesque through to Late Gothic.

The entrance hall of the monastery church is known as the Paradies, taking its name from the tradition of painting walls with scenes from the Fall of Man. The last painting was completed in 1522. Don't miss the main portal and the south portal in the church; these are the oldest doors in Germany. Made from pine, they date back to 1178 and feature decorative wrought-iron armatures.



SPECIAL

D5

In summer, music lovers come for the 25 or so concerts that take place in the monastic church, the lay refectory and the garden.

INFORMATION

www.kloster-maulbronn.de



Baden-Württemberg

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