Lifestyle, culture and leisure

Vibrant Towns & Cities!

88 towns and cities, over 200 sights, and a wealth of event tips to be found at www.germany.travel/cities
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Welcome to Destination Germany!

Germany has established itself as the number one travel destination in Europe, with its towns and cities enjoying particular popularity. The three German cities of Berlin, Munich and Frankfurt are already counted among Europe’s Top 20 city destinations.

**Vibrant towns and cities in the heart of Europe**
Regardless of whether you are travelling by plane, train, coach or in your own car, Germany’s cities and regions are exceptionally well connected and can be reached easily using different modes of transport. Options for an overnight stay range from simple accommodation to luxury hotels, and the country’s diverse gastronomy shines with starred chefs, as well as hearty traditional regional dishes. When compared internationally, Germany’s tourism scene provides outstanding value for money.

**Cultural highlights with a history and a future**
Germany’s cities offer a wide range of experiences for cultural travellers, from medieval towns, preserved in their entirety, to carefully restored art nouveau ensembles and impressive brick Gothic and highly modern architecture. Many have been recognised as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Performance art lovers are attracted by Germany’s world-renowned theatres, orchestras, ballet ensembles, musicals, shows and festivals, while connoisseurs of fine art can discover major exhibitions of classic and avant garde works in museums and exhibitions.

**German cities – sustainable travel destinations**
Germany is recommended as a sustainable travel destination. According to the German Green City Index, German cities are already very well-positioned in comparison to other European cities. In particular, Germany’s carbon footprint, energy efficiency, building restoration levels and traffic are considered to be of above average standard.

The “Vibrant Towns and Cities” magazine will give you a taste of what’s in store during your trip to Germany. You can find reliable information and tips on more than 50 cities on the following pages. You can find out more about your dream city at www.germany.travel, available in 30 languages.

We wish you a pleasant journey!
The German National Tourist Board

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[www.germany.travel](http://www.germany.travel)

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Holiday Fever

Luggage packed? Then the journey can really begin: Destination Germany is waiting to welcome you with open arms. The extent of the welcome will become clear when you realise that everything you need for an unforgettable trip has been prepared for you. The online tools available at www.germany.travel mean that the planning has already been done.

Your most important planning tool is the interactive map of Germany. This gives you the perfect overview of cities and culture, leisure and relaxation opportunities, feasts and festivals, UNESCO world heritage sites, information for business travellers and more.

With the Travel Planner you can put together your very own personalised itinerary, which caters to your exact interests and needs. It includes indications of distance in kilometres and other useful tips. Whether printed out or transferred to a smartphone or tablet, this is your guide that you can share with friends too. Of course, the portal is optimised for mobile applications so that everything is only a tap away, even while you are on the road.

And which is the fairest in the land? The constantly updated “TOP 100” app will tell you: here travellers from around the world vote for their favourite sights in Germany. A little tip: the current Top 3 are Neuschwanstein Castle, Europa-Park and Cologne Cathedral.

Insider tips: whether you need tips about a favourite café, popular party location or impressive exhibition, contributions from travel bloggers are always close at hand. Be inspired to discover sights that are outside the ordinary, and then share them with the world at www.germany.travel/hotspots so that others can see Germany through your eyes.

At www.germany.travel you are well on your way. Under Special Offers you will find travel information and offers from chosen partner companies such as hotels, hire cars, tickets and more. Many of these offers are at prices that will not put a dent in your wallet. Just one of the many pleasant surprises that await you in Destination Germany.

www.germany.travel
Full of imperial splendour, yet thoroughly European: in Aachen this is not a contradiction. Since the time of Charlemagne, this city in Germany’s tri-border region owes its spiritual roots, values and ideals to the continent. As well as being home to many students, the city is also buzzing, colourful, full of joie de vivre and characterised by a cosmopolitan, relaxed atmosphere. Aachen’s high culture and trendy districts are truly an inspiration. And in the case of Aachen, this is no contradiction.

www.germany.travel/aachen

Since 1924 horses and riders have congregated at CHIO Aachen, the World Festival of Equestrian Sports, to amaze hundreds of thousands of visitors. The festival is an annual event in which jockeys reach new heights of fame. www.germany.travel/aachen/chio

TOP 100 A monument to the greatness of Europe’s past: the Aachen Cathedral. This was the first cathedral in northern Europe and the church in which almost all the German kings had their coronation. The treasury containing Charlemagne’s bust is an absolute must-see. www.germany.travel/unesco/aachen-cathedral
The Epitome of Beauty

Those who visit Augsburg are amazed by the beauty and splendour of the city, as well as that of its Renaissance town hall, cathedral or guild hall. Today, just as it was then, Augsburg is considered one of the most beautiful cities in Germany and is a city of commerce and the arts. Of course, it was also the home of the Fugger family, the dynasty of bankers and merchants to whom Augsburg is indebted for its fabulous wealth. Just like the guests of today who become a little richer after each visit. www.germany.travel/augsburg
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s father, Leopold Mozart, was born in Augsburg in 1719 in what is today the Mozarthaus. Since 1952, the Mozart Festival has been held to commemorate this famous family of musicians through exquisite performances, concerts and symposiums. www.germany.travel/augsburg/mozartfestival

Watch the Augsburg video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.
Please also try the following search terms on our website

- Hackesche Höfe
- Friedrichstadt-Palast
- Checkpoint Charlie
- Berlinale
Cosmopolitan

**Berlin is anything but boring.** It is a cosmopolitan city in the heart of Europe; an on-trend city of creativity, fashion, design, music and sport, and is of course Germany’s capital. Berlin has experienced a lot, and is in itself an experience in every sense of the word. A magnet for millions, this city belongs to an open and welcoming country, and is the epitome of urban living, formed by a merging of East and West. It is, in a sense, typically German, and yet a world in itself. www.germany.travel/berlin

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**TOP 100** A veritable treasure to mankind. The UNESCO World Heritage Museum Island in the middle of Berlin takes the visitor on a journey through thousands of years of art and culture: from the cradle of civilisation through to the Middle Ages and the 19th century. www.germany.travel/unesco/museum-island
TOP 100 Symbol of Reunification: the Brandenburg Gate. For 28 years after its construction, the Berlin Wall was impassable. It has since been reopened and is now an attraction for the whole world to see. www.germany.travel/berlin/brandenburg-gate

TOP 100 The Berlin Wall: today, that which once divided the city is now a memorial and also a cool symbol of the unity that was won back. Can be viewed on the “Berlin Wall Trail”, the “Berlin Wall History Mile”, at the “East Side Gallery” and on Bernauer Street. www.germany.travel/berlin/berlin-wall

The Berlinale, Germany’s film festival. Stars and starlets, art and commerce, glitz and glamour all converge at this extravagant event: when Berlin calls each year, filmmakers across the world, as well as 400,000 film fans, answer. www.germany.travel/berlin/berlinale

TOP 100 Berlin’s largest church: Berlin Cathedral is the centre of the Evangelical Church in Germany. Built in the centre of the pleasure garden between 1894 and 1905, it is more beautiful today than ever before. www.germany.travel/berlin/cathedral

TOP 100 Berlin’s Jewish Museum depicts two thousand years of Jewish life in Germany. It also stands as a symbol of what the horrors of the Nazi era could not extinguish: the inseparability of German history and Jewish culture. An absolute must-see. www.germany.travel/berlin/jewish-museum

TOP 100 A modest power: the government quarter. Kings, dictators and chancellors came and went but the government district remained. Today the Reichstag, Federal Chancellery and Wilhelmstraße are just as accessible to visitors as the rest of Berlin. www.germany.travel/berlin/governmentquarter

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Count Hermann of Ravensberg, who founded Bielefeld in 1214, must have been a wise man: not only did he identify a convenient location for the city on the crossing of old trade routes, but the city’s liberal atmosphere also attracted merchants from near and far. And with them came the things that make Bielefeld so well-known today: the large market square, beautiful timbered buildings and outstanding museums. And that’s not forgetting the artists, students and other people who were drawn to the city. www.germany.travel/bielefeld

A Merchant’s Honour

Watch the Bielefeld video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.
Bonn: the city after which the entire Republic was at one time named. And for good reason! Up to this day, the “Bonn Republic” stands for democracy, understanding and reconciliation with its neighbours. Nevertheless, the contemporary nature of Beethoven’s birthplace can also be seen from the modern architecture, prevalence of art in public spaces, and of course the grandiose “Rhine in Flames” spectacle.

www.germany.travel/bonn

In unique depth: the August-Macke Collection at the Bonn Museum of Art concentrates on less well-known artists and represents trends in German art with unique depth. www.germany.travel/bonn/museum-of-art

Watch the Bonn video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.
A Historical Painting

Duke Henry, named “the Lion”, designated Braunschweig as his residential city in the 12th century, thereby laying the foundations for its long golden age. This golden age still continues today as the once mighty centre of trade shines with charm and artistic sensibility. The city is also proud to have been referred to as the “City of Science” since 2007, a sure sign that bright minds feel at home here.

www.germany.travel/braunschweig

Watch the Braunschweig video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.

Please also try the following search terms on our website

Happy Rizzi House · Herzog August Library
In Bremen and Bremerhaven, life has always revolved around distant lands. As harbours and trade cities, they fostered contact with the whole world, and have known since time immemorial how to enjoy the best things in life. Another tradition is the “Bremen Town Musicians”, the world-famous fairytale characters of the Brothers Grimm. By the way, touching the legs of the donkey is also supposed to bring good luck – but only if you use both hands!

www.germany.travel/bremen   www.germany.travel/bremerhaven
The fact that Chemnitz was once called Karl-Marx-Stadt, or Karl-Marx City, has been gradually forgotten over time. The Karl-Marx Monument in the centre of the city is about the only reminder. Chemnitz has long been a city of modernity, innovation and transformation, with the future always in view. Despite this, the bells still ring from the High Tower of the Old Town Hall, as they have done for more than 500 years.

The Petrified Forest: 290 million years old; older than the dinosaurs. Discovered almost 300 years ago, to this day the petrified forest is a natural scientific and geological sensation. You can marvel at it from the courtyard of the Kulturkaufhaus DAStietz department store. www.germany.travel/chemnitz/petrified-forest

City of Contrasts

Please also try the following search terms on our website

Puppet Theatre · Petrified Forest · Gunzenhauser Museum
Germany’s first UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site: the Messel Pit Fossil Site gives a fascinating look back to the time when the Earth was still young, and with over 40,000 finds it is the most abundant prehistoric fossil excavation site in the world. www.germany.travel/unesco/messel-fossil-pit

The Artists’ Colony of Mathildenhöhe: completed around 1908 in its current form, this is an art nouveau building of unique harmony and purity. Darmstadt’s distinctive landmark. www.germany.travel/darmstadt/mathildenhoehe

You do not necessarily have to be a philosopher, poet, artist or scientist to visit Darmstadt, although it certainly doesn’t hurt to be one! This is because, unlike in any other city, the ambiance and daily life here are characterised in letter and spirit by remarkable architecture, beautiful places and well-maintained parks. In fact, some visitors are rendered speechless with joy! www.germany.travel/darmstadt

Watch the Darmstadt video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.
Definitely different.

Highlights of the year

Dresden International Dixieland Festival
May

Dresden Music Festival
May – June

OSTRALE
Exhibition of Contemporary Art
July – September

Dresden CANALETTO Festival
August

Striezelmarkt
Germany’s oldest Christmas market,
dating back to 1434
November – December 2015
Treasury

Please also try the following search terms on our website:
- Semper Opera
- Church of Our Lady
- Augustus the Strong
- Hellerauer Garden City
- Yenidze
Dresden’s beauty and its appellation “the Florence of the Elbe” are as well-known as its perfect location in the midst of wonderful river scenery. Likewise, visitors are amazed and left in awe by world-famous buildings such as the Semper Opera House, the Church of Our Lady or the Zwinger Castle, as well as the twelve museums belonging to the Dresden State Art Collections. All that is left to say is: it’s high-time you went there yourself! www.germany.travel/dresden
For the eyes and ears: despite their name, the Film Nights on the Bank of the Elbe are among the biggest open-air concert events in Europe. Since 1991, approximately 150,000 guests attend to enjoy pop and rock concerts and films of exceptional quality. And they know exactly why! www.germany.travel/dresden/filmnights

Albrechtsberg Castle, Lingner Castle and Eckberg Castle, also referred to as the three Elbe castles, are situated to the east of the city centre among vast English-style parks. A trinity of beauty and elegance. www.germany.travel/dresden/elbe-palaces

TOP 100 A masterpiece of European Baroque: the Church of Our Lady. Built between 1726 and 1743, destroyed in 1945 and consecrated again in 2005, this church is a symbol of German history, war and peace. It is also a place for encounters, reflection and atonement. www.germany.travel/dresden/churchofourlady

TOP 100 Pomp and Circumstance: the Semper Opera House is one of the most beautiful opera houses in the world. Built between 1838 and 1841 in the style of the Italian High Renaissance period, the beauty and unique acoustics of the building make an undeniable impression. www.germany.travel/dresden/semper-opera-house
It is difficult not to be attracted by the charm of this city, so it is best not to try to resist and instead just allow yourself to be enchanted by Düsseldorf, Germany’s city of fashion and the country’s most tempting shopping street. It is here that the next season’s fashion trends, and even art and cultural trends, are decided. Crowds from all over the world bustle between the city’s smart galleries and the “longest counter in the world”, and also like to pay visits to the neighbouring cities of Neuss and Ratingen.

Please also try the following search terms on our website:

- Tonhalle concert hall
- IGEDO
- K20/K21
- Kunstpalast Museum
- Medienhafen
- Königsallee

www.germany.travel/duesseldorf  www.germany.travel/neuss
www.germany.travel/ratingen
Japan Day in Düsseldorf: approximately 7,000 Japanese people live in the city and transform it into a Little Tokyo once a year. Together with hundreds of thousands of guests, they celebrate themselves and the culture, art and cuisine of their country. The crowning event of Japan Day is a huge fireworks display on the Rhine. www.germany.travel/duesseldorf/japan-day

A city within the city: the MedienHafen, which was actually planned as a business quarter, has become the meeting point for the young and beautiful. Steel and glass characterise the extravagant architecture created by Frank Gehry, Helmut Jahn and others. www.germany.travel/duesseldorf/media-harbour

Watch the Düsseldorf video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.
Visitors to Düsseldorf’s old quarter find themselves inspired not only by the area’s bars and restaurants but also by its architecture, excellent shops and beautiful places to relax on the banks of the Rhine. www.germany.travel/duesseldorf/old-quarter

A magnificent boulevard: Königsallee, affectionately referred to as “Kö”, is Düsseldorf’s hallmark. It is also synonymous with luxury and elegance, and is at the same time a promenade, catwalk and shopping paradise. www.germany.travel/duesseldorf/koenigsallee
The Middle Ages come to life: experience Erfurt the whole year round. Masterpieces of Gothic art, such as St. Mary’s Cathedral and the Merchants’ Bridge, one of 142 bridges in the city, and a wonderful old quarter all enthrall visitors from around the world. Similarly enticing are the traditional festivals that even Martin Luther enjoyed. By the time they get to the city’s cosy taverns, visitors to the city also realise that history does not have to be boring! www.germany.travel/erfurt
The impressive heritage of Jewish life in Erfurt: the Old Synagogue is the oldest of its kind in central Europe, and also the best preserved. The synagogue is a treasure of priceless value and a symbol of profound religious belief and culture. [www.germany.travel/erfurt/old-synagogue](http://www.germany.travel/erfurt/old-synagogue)

The Augustinian Monastery was a focal point for the Reformation and Luther’s residence from 1505 to 1511. In addition to a permanent exhibition on the Reformation and the work and life of Luther, visitors can also pay a visit to Luther’s living chambers. [www.germany.travel/erfurt/augustinian-monastery](http://www.germany.travel/erfurt/augustinian-monastery)

The Merchants’ Bridge is a small city district in itself: on both sides of the bridge, small taverns, restaurants and beautiful little shops are huddled together in 62 half-timbered houses. This is how it has been since 1325. [www.germany.travel/erfurt/merchantsbridge](http://www.germany.travel/erfurt/merchantsbridge)

Discover Erfurt on the [germany.travel YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/c/GermanyTravel).

It is impossible to imagine stage scenery more beautiful than the Cathedral Steps Festival Plays. Every year, one of the most significant theatre events in Germany is celebrated in Erfurt’s historical centre and offers the very highest level of cultural entertainment. [www.germany.travel/erfurt/cathedralsteps-festivalplays](http://www.germany.travel/erfurt/cathedralsteps-festivalplays)
Frankfurt is synonymous with banking and big business and is also home to Germany’s most exciting skyline. This is a city that has always reached for the sky. When it comes to quality of life, it is also the city that outshines almost all others. Frankfurt offers visitors the opportunity to relax and stroll, as well as fine shopping and a quiet lifestyle. The city is busy yet relaxed and is home to the fantastic Museum Embankment, an area containing a large number of museums along the river bank, as well as major events and cosy corners. Of course, visitors can also be entranced by Frankfurt’s smaller neighbouring city of Offenbach, which has its own very individual charm.

www.germany.travel/frankfurt
www.germany.travel/offenbach

Please also try the following search terms on our website

Schirn · Museum Embankment · Goethe’s House · Römerberg Square · Städel Art Institute · Sachsenhausen · St. Paul’s Church · Senckenberg Museum · Apfelwein
The Schirn Art Gallery in Frankfurt am Main
The Art Mile and Culture Festival: the 13 exciting museums located along the museum embankment make it a top location in both the German and European museum landscape. This area is a magnet for millions, especially when the Museum Embankment Festival, a three-day celebration of art, culture and fine food, takes place during the last weekend in August. www.germany.travel/frankfurt/museumbankmentfestival

Europe’s highest city: the skyline, with architecture that reaches for the heavens, is the symbol of the city. A recent addition to this skyline is the exciting European Central Bank building, which is best appreciated from a riverboat ride on the Main. www.germany.travel/frankfurt/financial-district

The Römer and Römerberg square: Frankfurt’s parlour. It features one of Germany’s most beautiful town halls and is a place full of romance. The hub of the old quarter – and of German history. www.germany.travel/frankfurt/roemerberg-square

Ear candy: the Alte Oper concert hall is famous for its acoustics and is the perfect atmosphere to enjoy all types of music, from classical to jazz and rock, and of course, the annual opera ball. www.germany.travel/frankfurt/alte-oper

Long nights and Apfelwein: in Frankfurt’s Sachsenhausen district, the whole of the city meets to drink Apfelwein, a kind of cider, as they sit in the area’s comfortable bars. www.germany.travel/frankfurt/sachsenhausen

Discover Frankfurt on the germany.travel YouTube Channel.
Freiburg is Germany’s most southern large city and is fortunate enough to have the most hours of sunlight. It is little wonder then that so much of life here takes place outdoors; whether in the old quarter’s incredibly beautiful squares, Freiburg is an experience that is especially enjoyable when accompanied by delicious traditional Baden food and a fine glass of wine, either at one of the city’s countless festivals or in the idyllic countryside of the Black Forest. So it is no wonder that the people of Freiburg have sunshine in their hearts too!
TOP 100 Outstanding: the Freiburg Minster of Our Dear Lady with its stunning sandstone tower dominates the townscape. A masterpiece of Gothic style, the monumental beauty of the Minster’s interior is just as breathtaking as the exterior. www.germany.travel/freiburg/minster

TOP 100 Joie de vivre on Freiburg’s narrow runnels: the old quarter is intersected by a unique network of Bächlein or small narrow runnels that are several kilometres long. The old quarter is also characterised by the wonderful architectural ensembles found on Münsterplatz, Augustinerplatz or the romantic Adelhauser Platz. www.germany.travel/freiburg/old-quarter

The Augustiner Museum in the venerable Augustinian Monastery: since 1923 this has been the setting for the municipal art collections, which contain significant artworks from the Middle Ages, Baroque period and 19th century. www.germany.travel/freiburg/augustinermuseum
The fact that the university here is situated in the middle of the city is already a clue: great minds and scholars of all subjects have always been particularly drawn to Göttingen. A continuous stream of Nobel Prize winners came and went from the city, many of whom had in the past also enjoyed the city’s eventful student life. To this day, young people from around the world follow in their footsteps.

www.germany.travel/goettingen
The Magic of the Sea

It has long been known that this is a place that easily gives people the travel bug! It’s just a shame that this would mean having to leave the proud and beautiful city of Hamburg – and who would want to do that anyway? There is so much to discover and experience here: around the huge harbour; in the old quarter with its pleasant retailers and wonderful restaurants; in the city along the Jungfernstieg and the Inner Alster; or in the city’s colourful trendy quarters where things really get lively! These are all reason enough to want to stay here, or at least to return. www.germany.travel/hamburg
Hamburg is situated by the sea and on the Inner Alster and Outer Alster. The former is a lake, a popular meeting place with many street cafés and businesses in the middle of the city. The latter is a popular recreation area for sailors, rowers and joggers.

**TOP 100** The Speicherstadt, or Warehouse District, is proof of Hamburg’s long tradition as a trade city. This is the largest complex of interconnected warehouses in the world and is built in classical brick architecture on thousands of oak posts. [www.germany.travel/hamburg/warehouse-district](www.germany.travel/hamburg/warehouse-district)

**TOP 100** The Hamburg Fish Market is a Sunday meeting point for all late-night revellers and early risers. Here you can find fish from 6.00 a.m., as well as a hearty hangover breakfast, jazz and rock music, and any number of quirky characters. [www.germany.travel/hamburg/fishmarket](www.germany.travel/hamburg/fishmarket)

**TOP 100** The Miniatur Wunderland at Hamburg Speicherstadt is truly a wonder: comprising 4,000 square metres, 13 kilometres of tracks, 15,000 carriages, 250,000 trees, 250,000 figures, half a million lights and 60 computers. A dream for children of all ages. [www.germany.travel/hamburg/miniatur-wunderland](www.germany.travel/hamburg/miniatur-wunderland)

**TOP 100** The Bürgerpalast: the pride of the city. The hall is richly decorated and delicate in composition. It measures 112 metres in width and height and is comprised of 650 rooms. It is a monument that the citizens built themselves. [www.germany.travel/hamburg/townhall](www.germany.travel/hamburg/townhall)
Discover the Stars
www.magic-cities.com
In the city of Hannover there is an abundance of life. This abundance of life is certainly not restricted to places like the Maschsee Lake, the Innenstadtsee, recreation park and Hannover Festival Grounds. It can also be found at the world’s largest exhibition centre and its countless conventions and symposiums, or even on the Sculpture Mile with its famous Nana figure by Niki de Saint Phalle, or at the city’s large museums and theatres. And of course, it is also evident in the city’s many romantic parks and gardens. These make Hannover an especially good place to live. www.germany.travel/hannover

Please also try the following search terms on our website:

- Maschsee Lake
- Sprengel Museum
- Schützenfest
When compared with Hannover Adventure Zoo, all other zoos seem only half as wild: seven worlds including the Canadian Ancient Woodland, Australian Outback and Indian Jungle are waiting to be discovered. Children can run riot in the “Mullewapp” or Mollywoop children’s area. www.germany.travel/hannover/zoo

Horticulture of the most opulent kind: the Herrenhausen Gardens with their beautiful, princely houses and fascinating vistas are among the best-preserved Baroque parks in Europe. Grand, majestic and dreamy at the same time. www.germany.travel/hannover/herrenhausen

Stunning neo-Gothic style: the New Town Hall is built on thousands of beechwood poles and crowned with a huge dome. It is also worth visiting for the four large city models located inside the hall and the view from the very top. www.germany.travel/hannover/new-town-hall

A meeting of the world’s greatest entertainers: the Schützenfest fair in Hannover is the largest in the world. For ten days, Hannover is transformed into a funfair featuring more than 10,000 marksmen, hundreds of fairground rides, pubs, restaurants and stages. www.germany.travel/hannover/schuetzenfestfair
A Love Affair

A dream destination for all romantics: Heidelberg is Germany's dream city for approximately three million day trippers every year. With its wonderful location, world-famous fairytale castle, picturesque old quarter and fine food and drink, the town truly fulfils every wish. Heidelberg combines beauty and charm with flair and not least of all, spirit, as many have discovered while strolling on the Philosopher’s Walk.

Please also try the following search terms on our website:
- German Pharmacy Museum
- Palatinate Museum
- KissCake
- Heidelberg Castle

The Karl Theodor Bridge
The German Pharmacy Museum in the castle itself is situated in one of the most beautiful and meaningful Renaissance structures in Germany. Visitors there will find their health improves very quickly, especially when they first see the often strange healing methods of the past.

www.germany.travel/heidelberg/pharmacymuseum

Watch the Heidelberg video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.

The Symbol of Germany: the Heidelberg Castle has shaped the image of the entire country like scarcely any other structure. It rises above the old quarter and is full of rich history and stories, and contains the largest wine barrel in the world.

www.germany.travel/heidelberg/heidelberg-castle

TOP 100 Fall in love: the Heidelberg old quarter at the foot of the castle enchants with its narrow alleys and wonderful Renaissance houses surrounding the market place. Here and there you will find street cafés, restaurants and bars, where the students spend a great deal of their time.

www.germany.travel/heidelberg/old-quarter
A multi-faceted city that is both traditional and modern: a university city, shopping city, cultural city and a city for car enthusiasts, with the Ingolstadt Audi Forum and the Museum Mobile automobile museum. The city’s old quarter once hosted the Illuminati and Mary Shelley, creator of Frankenstein. The city has yet another achievement to its name: the German Beer Purity Law of 1516 comes from Ingolstadt and to this day, all beer in Germany has to be brewed in accordance with its regulations.

www.germany.travel/ingolstadt
In Jena you can visit the oldest planetarium in the world, which is where innovations in glass and optics were made. Even the highest tower block in the city is reminiscent of a telescope. Precise observation is therefore part of Jena’s DNA, something that stands in wonderful harmony with the literary and intellectual tradition of this beautiful city, which has always been characterised by its student population.

www.germany.travel/jena
Rights and democracy have always had their place in Karlsruhe, whether during the time of the modern Baden Constitution of 1818, in 1822 when the first German parliament building came into existence here, during the Civic Revolution of 1847, or today as the seat of the highest German courts of law. The fact that Karlsruhe is also regarded as the capital of new media in Germany is confirmed by the impression it leaves: an impression of a thoroughly progressive city.

www.germany.travel/karlsruhe
Kassel is both the city of the Brothers Grimm and the centre of the contemporary art world. Fairytales meet the avant garde: the flair of one of the most multifaceted cultural cities in Germany is characterised by both. In addition to the city’s consistently novel theatre landscape, visitors can also enjoy splendid classical architecture, outstanding museums ranging from the classic to the modern and natural science collections of the very best quality.

Please also try the following search terms on our website
- German Fairytale Route
- Museum Fridericianum
- Hercules-Wartburg Cycle Route

www.germany.travel/kassel

More than just storytellers: the Brothers Grimm Museum is devoted to two of the most important personalities of German cultural history, individuals that also made significant contributions as linguists, legal scholars and historians.

www.germany.travel/kassel/brothers-grimm-museum

A Work of Art

The documenta is the most important exhibition series in the world for contemporary art; an exceptional event that stands between protest and amazement, provocation and triumph. Open for 100 days every five years.

www.germany.travel/kassel/documenta

TOP 100 The Wilhelmshöhe Mountain Park is one of the most beautiful parks in Europe: a perfect synthesis of nature and garden architecture with aqueducts, cascades, fountains, waterfalls and the formidable Hercules.

www.germany.travel/unesco/wilhelmshoehe-park

Watch the Kassel video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.
When it comes to water, Kiel is completely in its element. From the long Kiel Fjord that faces the Baltic to the harbour, huge wharfs, elegant cruiser liners, sailing regattas and major maritime museum, the maritime atmosphere can be felt everywhere. The city’s relaxed yet sociable lifestyle also highlights the most beautiful aspects of the typically northern sense of tranquillity. www.germany.travel/kiel

Watch the Kiel video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.

Underwater world: in the Baltic Info Centre visitors can virtually dive into this inland sea neighboured by nine countries. Visitors can also find out why this natural wonder is endangered and how it can be protected. www.germany.travel/kiel/baltic-infocentre

Kiel Week is the ultimate sailing event: every year in June, the best sailors from around the world meet here. A huge city festival and funfair also takes place, to which landlubbers are also welcome of course. www.germany.travel/kiel/kiel-week-regatta

Water Worlds

Please also try the following search terms on our website:

- Baltic Info Centre
- Kiel Canal
- Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival
- Kiel Week
The Upper Middle Rhine Valley — a paragon of the German Rhine and romantic castles. The much-lauded destination that people have aspired to visit for generations: if there is such a thing as a “perfect” landscape, then this location between the cities of Koblenz, Bingen and Rudesheim is it.

www.germany.travel/unesco/middle-rhine

In fact Koblenz itself is also situated in an unimaginably beautiful natural landscape. However, this was apparently not enough for the people of Koblenz and so they started the Federal Garden Show in 2011, which still today typifies the face of the city as its leisure and recreation park. This is a face that has lost none of its beauty for approximately 2,000 years and has instead continued to attract more and more admirers.

www.germany.travel/koblenz

Garden Architecture

Please also try the following search terms on our website:

- Stolzenfels Castle · Middle Rhine Museum · Ehrenbreitstein Fortress · Romanticum

www.germany.travel
The Deutsches Eck, or German Corner, at the confluence of the Rhine and the Mosel, reflects German history like no other place in terms of reminders of the founding, destruction and division of Germany, and is a magnet for millions of visitors. 

www.germany.travel/koblenz/deutsches-eck
Rhine City
The Rhine is long, but no other city is so clearly the “City on the Rhine” as Cologne: this is why the city is also the epitome of Rhenish joie de vivre. And certainly no other city is influenced so completely by a single building: Cologne Cathedral is so much more than just a famous landmark. Although Cologne is a city with over a million inhabitants, it is less a city and more a feeling. This is something that visitors are bound to discover somewhere in the old quarter, upon enjoying their second glass of Kölsch beer. www.germany.travel/cologne

Please also try the following search terms on our website

Art Cologne · Eau de Cologne · Musical Dome · Cologne Cathedral · Romano-Germanic Museum · Christopher Street Day
**Completely set free: when it’s carnival time in Cologne, that is from 11 November at 11.11 a.m. to Ash Wednesday, glee reigns in the city. And it really gets started with the Women’s Carnival, when jesters take over the city – much to the joy of all the locals and visitors.** www.germany.travel/cologne/carnival

**The Temple of Art at the Cathedral: the Ludwig Museum** is considered one of the most important galleries of modern and contemporary art. Not surprising, when the museum features works like Roy Lichtenstein’s “Maybe” or Andy Warhol’s “Brillo Boxes”. www.germany.travel/cologne/ludwig-museum

**TOP 100 The Cologne Cathedral: there is nothing that the people of Cologne miss more than the view of their beloved cathedral when they are away. The fact that it is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, one of the largest churches in the world and the shrine of the Three Kings, is reason enough to pay it a visit.** www.germany.travel/unesco/cologne-cathedral

**TOP 100 Soul-comforters: the Chocolate Museum** takes you through more than 3,000 years of cultural history of this seductive sweet. The chocolate fountain in the lounge is completely irresistible. Waffle dipping is expressly allowed! www.germany.travel/cologne/chocolatemuseum

Watch the Cologne video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.
Crafts

In the town of Krefeld, Germany’s textile hub, arts and crafts have always gone hand in hand. Velvet, silk and brocade have made the city famous, and to this day “Master Ponzelar”, the statue of a silk weaver with his roll of cloth, is a reminder of this. It is in the Linn district that the largest craft market in Germany can be found, and the art of beer brewing is a specialty in the beautiful old brewery restaurants.

Haus Lange and Haus Esters Museums

Artworks in themselves: the two art museums of Krefeld are situated in elegant villas designed by the great architect, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. Therefore, they are of course the natural setting for modern, post-modern and contemporary art.

Please also try the following search terms on our website:

Elfrather See lakeside recreation park · Lower Rhine Route
Please also try the following search terms on our website:
- Auerbachs Keller
- Bach Museum
- Museum of Fine Arts
- St. Thomas Church
- Bach Festival
- Baumwollspinnerei
- Mendelssohn House
The revolution of 1989 using Leipzig as its starting point was an historical stroke of genius. Under the baton of Kurt Masur, many revolutionary events occurred here, as was often the case in the past, such as when Johann Sebastian Bach acted as the cantor of St. Thomas’ Church or Robert Schumann and Clara Wieck enchanted the city with their music. The fact that Goethe was also here is therefore no surprise, even if he only visited to have coffee in the Café Zum Arabischen Coffe Baum, which was the meeting point for geniuses and others since 1711.

www.germany.travel/leipzig
Where wine meets the soul: Auerbach's Cellar has existed since 1525. Since then, not only has it been a pub beloved by local students and for its wine, but it is also still one of the most famous restaurants in the world. www.germany.travel/leipzig/auerbachs-keller

The city of Leipzig honours the great composers at the Bach Festival, which has characterised the cultural life of Leipzig for more than 20 years. World-famous artists and great orchestras all come to the city for Bach. www.germany.travel/leipzig/bachfestival

The Leipzig cotton spinning mill: previously the centre of the textile industry, today a place for modern art. The mill features studios, galleries, workshops and even another genius, Neo Rauch, the brain behind the Leipzig School. www.germany.travel/leipzig/baumwollspinnerei

The St. Thomas' Choir may not be the oldest choir in Germany, but it is certainly one of the most famous. First referred to in a document in 1254, the choir makes its home in St. Thomas' Church and is a heavenly experience on earth. www.germany.travel/leipzig/stthomaschoir

Watch the Leipzig video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.
Visitors to Leverkusen expect to find a city that was essentially a co-author in the history of the chemical industry. And this is precisely the case. Even before the city was founded in 1930, this was the location of the multinational corporation, Bayer AG. However, this is only one side of the city. The other is its culture and cultivated lifestyle featuring a major jazz festival and an exciting art scene, as well as one of the most beautiful Japanese gardens in existence.

www.germany.travel/leverkusen
Many cities belonged to the Hanseatic League, the powerful trade league of the Middle Ages. Only Lübeck, however, could be considered the undisputed queen. A shining city from the first age of globalisation, with its old quarter crowned by seven towers, it is the eternally youthful beauty of the North. It has enjoyed special protection as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1987. This does not, however, protect visitors from the temptation to delve into the city’s countless restaurants, pubs and bars. www.germany.travel/luebeck

Watch the Lübeck video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.

TOP 100 Lübeck’s proud landmark, the Holsten Gate, is one of the most famous buildings in Germany. Not only is the exterior worth a look, it is also worth going inside to visit the trade and maritime museum. www.germanytravel/unesco/holstengate

It’s good to be bad: those with a sweet tooth and gourmands from around the world are driven wild by Lübeck Marzipan, which is excusable as this delicacy, made from almonds and sugar, really is irresistible. www.germany.travel/luebeck/marzipan

The Literature Museum at Buddenbrookhaus: the Thomas Mann Centre of Lübeck gives visitors the opportunity to trace the events of Mann’s novel “Buddenbrooks” and of course follow in the footsteps of the Mann family itself, Germany’s most famous family of authors. www.germany.travel/luebeck/buddenbrookhouse
An Exercise in Relaxation

When a city's inner values are the deciding factor, Ludwigshafen, the permanent base of the chemical giant, BASF, is the undisputed choice. Ludwigshafen has long since developed into a friendly, art-loving city, and shopping in the Rhein-Galerie with its approximately 130 shops, the pubs and bars in the Hemshof district and the great art by Miró, Max Bill and others all give shape to its character. And character is what ultimately counts. www.germany.travel/ludwigshafen
Magdeburg can be regarded in one of two ways: either as a traditional centre of imperial power, a cathedral city, a trade city or as a fortress city that has experienced ups and downs as only a few others have. Alternatively it can be viewed as a city that has always believed in itself and the future, and as a city in which science and technology have been regarded as being of equal importance to art. The art here has in fact always been very contemporary, even if it is exhibited in the oldest monastery in the city. www.germany.travel/magdeburg
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The “Meenzer Fassenacht” (Mainz Carnival) is like a fifth season here. Short but intense: when the Rose Monday carnival procession moves through the inner city on the Monday before Lent, the floodgates open until it’s over again on Ash Wednesday—but fortunately only until the next time. [www.germany.travel/mainz/carnival](http://www.germany.travel/mainz/carnival)

Please also try the following search terms on our website:
- Mainz Art Gallery
- Natural History Museum
- Isis and Mater Magna Temple
- Mainz Carnival
The people of Mainz may not all be devout believers but they are all proud of this majestic religious monument, the cathedral. When it comes to the cathedral, people are just as united in their opinion as they are when it comes to wine or the Rhine Carnival. Life lacking such pleasures would be bearable but uninteresting for the people of Mainz. This is a life that is perfectly suited to the beautiful, winding old quarter and to the comfortable wine bars that can be found in every other building here.

www.germany.travel/mainz

The Gutenberg museum, a museum devoted to the Black Arts: the printing press was invented in Mainz a long time ago. Is it an art or a craft? Either way, the Gutenberg Bible is a work of perfection.

www.germany.travel/mainz/gutenberg-museum

The Central Romano-Germanic Museum: exhibits in this unique museum span from the Stone Age up to the Middle Ages, and include five antique ships and a Roman celestial globe. www.germany.travel/mainz/centralmuseum

The centre of the city: St. Martin’s Cathedral has been standing here for 1,000 years. Majestic and exalted, this is one of the most important church buildings in the whole country.

www.germany.travel/mainz/cathedral

Watch the Mainz video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.
The innovative nature of Mannheim can be seen in its developments such as the bicycle, automobile or rocket aircraft. Here there have always been keen intellects in other fields as well and Mannheim’s rich museum landscape bears testimony to this. The Reiss-Engelhorn Museums, the Technoseum and the art gallery are three of the most important. It is also worth visiting the smaller museums such as the Bassermannhaus Museum of Art and Music as well.

A clearly-defined city: Mannheim is known as the “Quadratstadt”. The strict grid-shaped network of streets in the inner city was planned and constructed in the 17th century and letter-number combinations are assigned to the individual squares.
There are many good reasons for a visit to Mönchengladbach, the modern city in the far west of Germany that appreciates art. Without a doubt the city’s two castles are one such reason: Rheydt Palace, a true Renaissance beauty, and the Wickrath Moated Palace, which is located in the middle of a romantic park. Visitors can, however, also swoon at the exhibits found in the Hans Hollein Abteiberg Museum, and especially at works by Beuys, Serra, Warhol, Polke, Richter and other famous artists.

Please also try the following search terms on our website: Abteiberg Museum · Wickrath Palace
Charm Offensive
Munich, an idyllic city beneath Bavaria’s white and blue sky, inspires its guests with its typical joie de vivre and a lot of charm. This starts in the gorgeous city centre and continues in the city’s many beer gardens. Whether shopping in sophisticated shopping streets such as Ludwigstraße or Kaufinger Straße, or enjoying the scene in any of the city’s trendy quarters such as Glockenbachviertel or Müllerstraße, you will always feel completely at home. This also applies to the Allianz Arena, one of the most beautiful stadiums in existence, unless of course you don’t belong to the visiting team.

www.germany.travel/munich
Shopping paradise in the city: the food market is a true Eldorado for gourmets. Here you can find everything your taste buds desire. A cold beer in the neighbouring beer garden is of course a welcome treat too.

www.germany.travel/muenchen/viktualienmarkt

The Munich Beer Festival, the biggest festival of the year, has been growing every year since 1810. When the beer flows in streams and music plays from every tent, hundreds of fairground rides call to you and the excitement is overwhelming – it means it’s that time again! O’zapft is!

www.germany.travel/muenchen/oktoberfest

TOP 100 One house, four collections: the Pinakothek der Moderne is a first-class art museum. Paintings, architecture, graphics and design of the highest level in an exemplary museum complex.

www.germany.travel/muenchen/pinakothek

TOP 100 The city’s leisure oasis is the English Garden, rich in tradition and one of the largest inner-city parks in the world. The whole of Munich meets here for walks and strolls ... or for a beer at the Chinese Tower.

www.germany.travel/munich/english-garden

TOP 100 Marienplatz, right next to the Church of Our Lady, is the oldest and most beautiful square in the city. Every detail of the city’s lively centre is worth seeing. And thanks to the wonderful chimes from the town hall, it is also worth hearing.

www.germany.travel/muenchen/marienplatz
Take it from us, NRW is the ultimate destination for city (s)hopping. You will find designer names lined up on the popular shopping streets as well as tiny niche or traditional stores on those winding old town streets which are just begging to be explored. If you are a shopping aficionado and planning your next city break, you should look no further than the NRW region. With chic design hotels, exquisite cuisine and world-class culture, you will experience the very best that city life has to offer. To plan your perfect city break and find out what offers are available, see

WWW.NRW-TOURISM.COM/CITIES
Certainly, there are many cities that could be considered the most beautiful in Germany, and Münster is, without a doubt, one of them. But only Münster has been designated “the most liveable city in the world”. It is a young university city with a long, rich history, which is accessible, uncomplicated and casual. And, as you will definitely notice at the Prinzipalmarkt shopping arcade with its 48 gabled houses, it truly is beautiful.

Picasso’s home in Germany: the Pablo Picasso Art Museum is the only one of its kind in Germany. And it is also one of the most important: with more than 800 lithographies by the master himself, it has a collection that is admired the world over.
The Prinzipalmarkt shopping arcade

Watch the Münster video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.

Please also try the following search terms on our website:

- Kuhviertel quarter
- Kunstmuseum Pablo Picasso
- Prinzipalmarkt Shopping Arcades
- Friedenssaal
The Mirror of an Era
More than one era awaits visitors to Nuremberg. The age of the early Germans is brought back to life in the Germanic National Museum, whilst the authentic Middle Ages can be seen in all the city’s nooks and crannies. The Renaissance and modern era can be experienced in its wonderful architecture. The glory of the Baroque age is on full display in the neighbouring city of Erlangen, whilst Fürth is positively teeming with over 1,000 architectural monuments. Each of these attest to the fact that history was once written there – and will be again.

Please also try the following search terms on our website:

- Railway Museum
- Toy Museum
- Albrecht Dürer House
- Kaiserburg Castle
This is where childhood dreams come true: Nuremberg is the centre of German toy manufacturing. Many craftsmen and workshops have been dedicated to toy manufacturing since the Middle Ages and since 1950, the world’s most important toy fair has been held here.  

www.germany.travel/nuremberg/city-of-toys

TOP 100 Albrecht Dürer, the universal genius from Nuremberg, once lived in a beautiful urban villa here. Today Albrecht Durer’s House is one of the main attractions of the city. Life in the 16th century can be experienced here “live”, so to speak.  

www.germany.travel/nuremberg/albrecht-duerer-house

The documentation centre at the Reichsparteitagsgelände, the grounds where the Nazi party held its rallies between 1933 and 1938, provides an in-depth insight into the machinations of the Third Reich – and into Germany’s darkest time.  

www.germany.travel/nuremberg/documentation-centre

TOP 100 Nuremberg’s Kaiserburg Castle has its name for a reason: for centuries, since the time of Frederick Barbarossa, all the emperors of the Holy Roman Empire occasionally resided here. Its location, size, interior and style meant they knew exactly why this was the place to stay.  

www.germany.travel/nuremberg/kaiserburg-castle

Discover Nuremberg on the germany.travel YouTube Channel.
A Culture of Remembrance

The town of Osnabrück is a reminder of a number of significant events; for example, the famous Battle of Teutoburg Forest in 9 CE, the Thirty Years’ War, the Peace of Westphalia in 1648 and the catastrophe of the Second World War. But one thing above all can’t be forgotten: the fact that the multi-faceted, multi-layered, and most of all peaceful and endearing town of Osnabrück is definitely worth seeing.

www.germany.travel/osnabrueck

Please also try the following search terms on our website:

- Felix Nussbaum House
- Battle of Teutoburg Forest
A room of remembrance: Felix Nussbaum’s House belonging to the US architect, Daniel Libeskind, shows the life and work of the Jewish artist, Felix Nussbaum, who was murdered in Auschwitz in 1944. Moving and puzzling, it is a lasting memory. www.germany.travel/osnabrueck/felix-nussbaum-house

Salt art: the Projection Biennale held in nearby Bad Rothenfelde is a festival of light. The town’s historical saline waters then become the projection surface for a moving body of pictures eleven metres high and more than one kilometre long. www.germany.travel/osnabrueck/lichtsicht-biennale

Europe’s first Zero Hour: in the town hall of Osnabrück peace was established in 1648 after the Thirty Years’ War. In the Friedenssaal (Peace Hall) 42 portraits of the protagonists in this event of the century can be seen. www.germany.travel/osnabrueck/hall-of-peace
Somehow, the city of Potsdam has always been responsible for certain dreams. Prussia’s dream of Pomp and Circumstance, for example. Even if both have long since past, the accomplishments of the architects of the Prussian kings on display here are indeed like something from a dream. This is a historical legacy with a degree of splendour that only few cities can offer. Dreams of another kind were, on the other hand, produced on the stages of Babelsberg. Since images first learnt to move, important feature films have been made here.

www.germany.travel/potsdam
**TOUR 100** A UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1990: Sanssouci Palace, frequently referred to as the “Prussian Versailles”, is a marvel of architecture. Together with its parks, Sanssouci is an ensemble of truly awe-inspiring beauty. [www.germany.travel/unesco/sanssouci](http://www.germany.travel/unesco/sanssouci)

**Noble greatness: the historical centre of Potsdam.** From the Old Market with its coaching stables and obelisk to the New Market, Church of St. Nicholas, pleasure garden, Old Town Hall, the old Luisenplatz Palace and the wonderful city gates: you have to see it to believe it. [www.germany.travel/potsdam/citycentre](http://www.germany.travel/potsdam/citycentre)

**The Filmpark Babelsberg provides a fascinating insight** into the history of German film. And behind the scenes, visitors are right there in the midst of the action when a show takes place on-stage or scenes for the next blockbuster made in Potsdam are being shot. [www.germany.travel/potsdam/filmpark-babelsberg](http://www.germany.travel/potsdam/filmpark-babelsberg)

Watch the Potsdam video in the Media Gallery at [germany.travel](http://germany.travel).
The words “world heritage” apply to Regensburg as to hardly any other city. This is where 2,000 years of history come to life. The number of monuments is unequalled and the alleys and small squares radiate with an unmatched charm. The fact that Regensburg has the highest number of bars of any German city is an additional attraction for some. However, of course you don’t have to drink anything to be enchanted by Regensburg. www.germany.travel/regensburg

No less than 984 buildings comprise the UNESCO World Heritage “Old Quarter with Stadtamhof”, which includes the Stone Bridge cathedral and Cathedral Treasury Museum and the Krauterermarkt with St. John’s Collegiate Church, along with more than 900 others. www.germany.travel/unesco/regensburg

Please also try the following search terms on our website:
- Regensburg Cathedral
- patrician towers
Red is the colour of the town of Rostock – more specifically, brick red. The town, once the centre of the Hanseatic League, still breathes the spirit of a time when seafarers and powerful trading houses made their fortunes. This is no longer entirely the case, but during the “Hanse Sail”, one of the biggest fairs in the Baltic area, the maritime tradition lives on. Even the dominating colour of the town has not really changed over the last few centuries. www.germany.travel/rostock

Watch the Rostock video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.

Ostseebad and harbour: Warnemünde is a maritime idyll with colourful fishermen’s houses, chugging fishing boats and cosy fish restaurants. But there is of course more than just fish here. www.germany.travel/rostock/harbour-ostseebad-warnemuende
It seems that there is nothing that the old quarter of the town of Rostock does not have: wonderful gabled houses, impressive churches, relics of the old town fortifications, the Gothic town hall, the neo-Gothic Ständehaus... and a lot of sea air. www.germany.travel/rostock/oldquarter
The blast furnaces, gasometers and shaft towers that characterised the Ruhr region for a century still stand. No coal has been mined here for a long time now – but theatre, music, art, dancing and performance more than make up for it. The most beautiful expression of this new character is the Ruhr Festival, one of the biggest and most acclaimed theatre festivals in Europe. During this festival, the district blossoms once more and the city’s reclaimed identity and eagerness for surprises and discoveries is palpable.

www.germany.travel/ruhrregion
Steel, coal and beer have made the city of Dortmund great. Today culture is the catalyst of the new Dortmund, a city with a casual lifestyle and creative flair. And a good beer can still be found on every corner. www.germany.travel/ruhrregion/dortmund

The route of industrial heritage begins - or ends – in Duisburg and takes visitors through 54 impressive witnesses to the past. The Duisburg-Nord Industrial Landscape Park offers an onsite diving centre and climbing garden among other attractions. www.germany.travel/ruhrregion/duisburg

With the largest mining museum in the world, the city of Bochum is perhaps the most typical of all the Ruhr region towns. Bochum is also a notable theatre town and the Bermuda Triangle is considered to be the district’s main bar and party area. www.germany.travel/ruhrregion/bochum

A breathtaking development: Oberhausen has changed from a wallflower to a city for shopping and leisure. The big attraction is the CentrO with over 200 shops, as well as the leisure park, water park, musical theatre and more. www.germany.travel/ruhrregion/oberhausen

The art of self-dramatisation: Essen has been considered the City of the Ruhr region since the Ruhr was named European Capital of Culture in 2010. The city is open to the new and the unconventional where the Zollverein Coal Mine Industrial Complex is regarded as the epicentre for a new identity. www.germany.travel/ruhrregion/essen

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Good eating and drinking: this is particularly easy to find in Saarbrücken. A likeable, sincere city where Baroque blossoms feel at home just as much as the “Blue Horses” of Franz Marc, one of the many outstanding works to be found in the Saarland Museum. The museum’s art collection is considered one of the most interesting in Germany. In the inner city, French-inspired joie de vivre and a range of relaxing diversions are clearly on display, just as they would be in a whole array of beautiful city quarters each with their own distinct characters. www.germany.travel/saarbruecken
Schwerin, the city of the seven lakes, is the smallest German regional capital. But it is very significant historically, culturally and in terms of lifestyle. This is a city entirely symbolised by its enchanting castle … and with its full-to-bursting calendar of events, exceptional museums and, above all, the grandiose Castle Festival – it could give any other capital a run for its money. Size isn’t always everything!

www.germany.travel/schwerin

The Schwerin Lake District: a natural wonder and water sports paradise at the same time. Lake Schwerin is one of the largest lakes in Germany, however, each of its smaller cousins also have their own unique and attractive characteristics. 

www.germany.travel/schwerin/lakeland-region
City of Contrasts

On the one hand there is the castle and on the other hand, there is the art museum with its classical and contemporary art: there is hardly a city that manages to merge tradition and innovation as easily as Stuttgart. Here, Swabian comfort harmonises perfectly with international avant garde theatre and ballet, charming shopping malls of international standing and disciplined engineering. But with a glass of wine, everything somehow fits together.

www.germany.travel/stuttgart

Please also try the following search terms on our website

Outletcity Metzingen · Cannstatter Folk Festival · Stuttgart State Gallery
The Cannstatter Volksfest, generally known as “Wasen”, is the largest beer festival in Swabia – and also the second largest in the world. The festival is famous for the great excitement that accompanies it, for its hospitality and wealth of tradition.  

www.germany.travel/stuttgart/cannstatter-folkfestival

Performing since 1609: this is how long the Stuttgart Ballet has been in existence. This is why Stuttgart is regarded as one of the European centres for dance and this will of course remain the case in centuries to come.  

www.germany.travel/stuttgart/ballett

In a place where grapes can be seen growing right next to the train station, it is worth acquainting yourself with Stuttgart’s great wine tradition on the city’s Wine Trail and to savour a drop or two along the way of course.  

www.germany.travel/stuttgart/winetrail

Sindelfingen, a town outside Stuttgart, is not just worth a trip because of the Mercedes factory. The trip is also worth it due to the beautiful half-timbered buildings, many clothes shops and one of the biggest street festivals in Europe.  

www.germany.travel/sindelfingen

TOP 100  Icons of automobile history: the Mercedes-Benz Museum allows visitors to experience the legend of the brand across nine different levels. 1,500 exhibitions which put you into the driver’s seat ... even if you don’t have a driver’s license.  

www.germany.travel/stuttgart/benz-museum
Embark on a voyage of discovery. Stroll through art & culture in our 6250 museums and experience a fascinating world with breath-taking exponents and exciting exhibits from every century. To put yourself in the picture, take a closer look at www.germany.travel/museums
The Time of the Romans

Please also try the following search terms on our website:

- Karl Marx House
- Porta Nigra
- Imperial Thermal Baths
The Roman Empire collapsed but in Trier it lives on. To come here means to go on a journey through the ages. Germany’s oldest city is the most significant Roman site in the country and is at the same time home to an impressive range of relics from the Middle Ages. It also has a lot to offer in the present such as fine food and drink, a French lifestyle and lively club and bar scene.

www.germany.travel/trier

A spa from antiquity: the Imperial Thermal Baths are among the largest bath constructions of the Roman Empire. The baths can be viewed from above, as well as from below the ground and are always the setting for themed guided tours such as “Betrayal in the Thermal Baths”.
www.germany.travel/trier/imperial-thermal-baths

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www.germany.travel/trier

Even if he was sometimes wrong, Karl Marx was one of the most important thinkers of the 19th century – and of history. This is why Karl Marx House is also one of the most important historical museums in Germany.
www.germany.travel/trier/karl-marx-house

TOP 100 The world-famous landmark of Trier, the Porta Nigra, is only one of many preserved Roman monuments. Together with the amphitheatre, thermal baths, Roman Bridge and many others, it has been awarded UNESCO World Heritage Site status. www.germany.travel/unesco/porta-nigra-gate
The Minster of Ulm, with the highest church tower in the world, is referred to as the “Finger of God”. It must also have been inspiration from above that led city planners and architects, such as the great Richard Meier, to create Ulm’s new centre located between Münsterplatz and the town hall. The ensemble which displays a formidable tension between the past and the modern is perhaps not to everyone’s taste but is still a revelation. And perhaps a cue? www.germany.travel/ulm
Only briefly, around the turn of the 18th century, did the rich era of the Weimar Classicism last. To this day, the city’s UNESCO-protected private houses, palaces and parks can continue to be enjoyed where this history was written.

www.germany.travel/unesco/classical-weimar

Associated with a tremendous time: Weimar, the city of Goethe and Schiller, Herder and Wieland, stands for one of the richest eras in European intellectual history. And not just that: Weimar is intrinsically linked with many other great minds such as Nietzsche, Liszt, Bach, Gropius, Feininger, Klee and Itten. They have all left their mark on this small city, a city that has done so much for Germany and Europe. www.germany.travel/weimar

Please also try the following search terms on our website

- Goethe National Museum
- Buchenwald Memorial Site
- Zwiebelmarkt
- Franz Liszt

Watch the Weimar video in the Media Gallery at germany.travel.

Epitome of Classic

Bauhaus Museum

TOP 100  The dawn of the modern era: the founding of the Bauhaus movement marked the beginning of the current era of design in 1919. Bauhaus revolutionised design, art and architecture and can be marvelled at in the Bauhaus Museum.

www.germany.travel/unesco/bauhaus
No limits: the Rheingau Music Festival is an international concert event extraordinaire that showcases sophisticated music from various genres and eras. The grounds are situated in and around the city of Wiesbaden – one more beautiful than the other. www.germany.travel/wiesbaden/rheingau-music-festival
Wiesbaden: this is where visitors strive to experience the special, the extraordinary and the sublime. This is probably because the clientele, having been attracted to the city since Roman times by the health benefits of its 26 springs, has always been more exclusive here than elsewhere. The cultural events are also sublime, as are the collections in the art museums, the quality of the restaurants, the elegance of the boulevards... in short: everything is perfect.

www.germany.travel/wiesbaden

A Sense of Entitlement

Wiesbaden’s garden is the Rheingau, a gentle country landscape with a mild climate. Castles, palaces, churches, abbeys, vineyard guesthouses and beautiful wine villages such as Eltville or Rüdesheim make this a highly popular place.

www.germany.travel/wiesbaden/rheingau

Wellness oasis with style: the elegant Kurhaus is the core of Wiesbaden’s health and cultural district. It is situated in a beautiful park, right next to the Kurhauskolonnade which, at 129 metres, is the longest portico in Europe.

www.germany.travel/wiesbaden/kurhaus

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www.germany.travel/wiesbaden
If you were expecting to see an old quarter here, you have come to the wrong place: Wolfsburg was only founded in 1938. But you will be more than compensated for this: the city has been a veritable laboratory of urban planning developments since the 20th century and impresses visitors with its architecture that has always been somewhat ahead of its time. Names such as Hans Sharoun, Alvar Aalto or Zaha Hadid – just to name a few – have left their marks here, and these marks have been acknowledged far beyond the limits of the city of Wolfsburg.

TOP 100  From the very beginning Wolfsburg has been an automobile city: This is where Volkswagen comes from. It is also home to VW’s Autostadt automotive exhibition complex and visitor centre, which is situated in the middle of a vast park landscape with restaurants and many other leisure facilities. www.germany.travel/wolfsburg/autostadt

Over 350 natural history and technological phenomena enthral in the phæno, also known as Germany’s largest walkable sculpture. A first-class structure that is full of surprises and amazing experiment stations.

www.germany.travel/wolfsburg/phaeno
A theatre of world renown: the Wuppertal Pina Bausch Dance Theatre, founded in 1973, is where dance was both reinvented as a new form of expression for people, art, movement and troupes and reinterpreted at the same time. www.germany.travel/wuppertal/tanztheater

You probably shouldn’t tell the people of Wuppertal: that their magnetic monorail is in fact an overhead railway. Nonetheless taking a ride on it is a definite must – then you can see that Wuppertal really has a lot to offer. For example, with approximately 4,500 architectural monuments, it is the second largest historical site in North Rhine-Westphalia. In addition, it has pleasant bar districts, great shopping and a lot of greenery. www.germany.travel/wuppertal

TOP 100 Guaranteed congestion-free: the magnetic monorail was opened in 1901, is 13.3 kilometres long, 12 metres high and has since been used by an estimated 1.5 billion people. But all this is not so important: the monorail is just simply the in thing. www.germany.travel/wuppertal/suspension-monorail

Please also try the following search terms on our website

Suspended monorail · Art in Elberfeld
Baroque Beauty

TOP 100 Glamorous: the Würzburg Residenz Palace is Baroque in its purest and most beautiful form. The masterpiece of Balthasar Neumann, together with the beautiful Hofgarten palace garden, is a UNESCO-World Heritage Site of majestic beauty. www.germany.travel/unesco/residenz-palace

Please also try the following search terms on our website:
Marienberg Citadel · Main-Franconian Museum · Franconia
Würzburg has many famous landmarks, for example, the towers of the Cathedral of St. Kilian that are visible even from far away, the world-famous Residenz Palace Marienberg Citadel or the Old Main Bridge with its ancient holy figures. And yet the most famous symbol of the city is the Franconian way of living that is just as visible in the surrounding vineyards as it is in the wonderful Baroque old quarter.

www.germany.travel/wuerzburg

First a palace and then a castle: the Marienberg Citadel is one of the oldest seats of power in Germany and today is home to the largest collection of artworks by the sculptor Tilman Riemenschneider. www.germany.travel/wuerzburg/marienberg-citadel

A charitable facility and a famous vineyard guesthouse: the Bürgerspital brings the useful and pleasant together. It is also home to the Bocksbeutel, a type of wine bottle unique to Franconia, and of typical Franconian wine in an equally typical bottle. www.germany.travel/wuerzburg/vineyard-buergerspital
Mineral Spring

A world-renowned spa town, Europe’s summer capital during the Belle Époque, a meeting point for the rich and the beautiful, the stage for the annual Whitsun Festival in honour of Herbert of Karajans, an equestrian sports Mecca with the famous racecourse of Iffezheim – or simply Baden-Baden. With its gleaming festivals and unmatched elegance, it is the embodiment of exclusivity, nobility and sophisticated lifestyle. Cult and culture: Baden-Baden still offers the best of everything. And this has also been proven to benefit health. www.germany.travel/baden-baden
Treat yourself to an unforgettable shopping-spree. The flagship store of that fabulous designer label? Just a stroll away. Cool designer shop with dreamy accessories? Just around the corner. And the next bargain? It’s awaiting you right here www.germnay.travel/shopping
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