



# What to see in Weinheim

## The Tour



# What to see in Weinheim

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# Map of Weinheim







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## Weinheim - a charming place to visit

Weinheim is a lively, bustling town, with so much to see and do. A town of two castles, an historic and quaint town centre and a mild and balmy climate – Weinheim is a most attractive place for the thousands of tourists who visit the Bergstraße year after year. But Weinheim has much more to offer. Standing proudly at the gateway to the Odenwald, where nearby the rivers Rhine and Neckar meet, the county town of Weinheim also has a reputation for industry and commerce and for its modern educational facilities. All of this, together with the fact that it is simply a great place to live, makes Weinheim one of the most popular towns in the region.

The historic and picturesque town centre, the many parks and gardens, the excellent shops – come and take a look at Weinheim.





### So much to offer -

Take a wander through the quaint tanners` quarter with its impressive timber frame houses, dive into Weinheim`s green oasis of parks and gardens, linger a while at the market square, one of the most beautiful places along the Bergstraße. Discover the world that is waiting for you under the Japanese pergola trees surrounded by picturesque houses – which give Weinheim a truly romantic touch.

Or marvel at the view stretching out over Weinheim, the Rhine valley and beyond to the Rhineland Palatinate from the Wachenburg and Windeck castles perched high on the hill.

Let`s head off and discover what makes Weinheim  
such a special place ...





# The Market Square

## 1 The Market Square

The Old Town Hall – The Fountain –  
The Former Pharmacy “Löwenapotheke”

The starting point of the tour is the market square and the old Town Hall. The ground floor of the building, which was built in 1557 and used as a place to trade goods and wares, was originally an open hall. Above it is the “Bürgersaal” where official ceremonies take place and which is decorated with a wealth of paintings from the renaissance era.

The building served as a Town Hall from 1752 right up until after the First World War. The stone gables and the wooden balcony were carefully restored between 1861 and 1862. The entire building was extensively renovated in 1968 and again between 1997 and 2002.

A plaque on the second floor at the front of the building shows the coat of arms of Weinheim with the lion of the Rhineland, the white and blue diamond of Wittelsbach and the ladder used for tending the vineyards.

The fountain, dating back to 1928, is close by with the Statue of Justitia and the magnificent timber frame building housing the “Löwenapotheke” (the pharmacy) which dates from the beginning of the 17th century.







## The Protestant Town Church

2

Hauptstraße 125

The protestant Town Church stands amidst a row of houses in the High Street. The foundation stone was laid in 1731, although the Church was not consecrated until 1736. Some of the old Church pews can still be seen today in the simple, baroque interior.



## The Church of St Laurentius

3

Obertorstraße 2

The Church of St Laurentius, built in the years 1911 to 1913, contains countless gravestones from the 13th to the 18th centuries salvaged from the Church that originally

stood here.

The high altar and the altars to the sides date back to around 1730. The tower was built 1850 by Heinrich Hübsch who was born in Weinheim.





## 4 “Royal Chamber” Dwelling Place of Grimm and “Royal Chamber”

Obertorstraße 1

Albert Ludwig Grimm (1786 – 1872), the educationalist, writer and politician, lived in the house on the corner of Obertorstraße / Mittelgasse from 1818 to 1838. Grimm, not related to the brothers Grimm, was the first to publish the fairy tale “Snow-White” in German.

original and intricate stucco decor dating from the end of the 18th century.

It was here in 1795 that Prince Friedrich zu Schwarzenberg died. His marble epitaph can be found in the Church of St Laurentius opposite.

In the Royal Chamber on the first floor, you can still see the





# The Town Hall, formerly the Palace

5

Obertorstraße 4 and 9

This former palace, which today houses the Town Hall and Town Council, is built of stone from different eras. The oldest part of the building, the archway that forms the upper gate, dates back to around the year 1400. Following a reconstruction in the 17th century, the upper gate lost its significance as a defence structure.

The renaissance building of the Electoral Palatinate Palace of 1537 is adjoined on the right (entrance C).

Several members of the electoral family, among them Ottheinrich, Johann Wilhelm and his wife Anna Maria Luisa

Medici as well as Elisabeth Auguste, spent a number of years here.

The neo-gothic tower was added by the von Berckheim family in the second half of the 19th century (entrance D).

The baroque part of the palace, which lies south of the main gate, was built in 1725 by the Ulner von Dieburg family.

The entire site has been in the possession of the town of Weinheim since 1938.





## 6 The Castle Palace Park

The Castle Palace Park, landscaped in an English garden style, is for some a wonderfully peaceful place to relax and unwind and for others an island of extraordinary beauty with rare and ancient cypresses.

Rhododendron and yew trees as well as box, holly and chestnut trees, set amidst extensive lawns, complete the picture.

Highlights are:

- The largest cedar tree in Germany which stands in the small Castle Palace Park
- The herbal garden at the Blue Hat
- The von Berckheim`s mausoleum built between 1908 and 1913 in the south-eastern corner
- Historic and modern sculptures







## The Exotic Forest

7

Within walking distance of the town is a magnificent woodland park, the Exotic Forest. Here you can just while away the time, or take a stroll along easily-accessible and well-mapped out paths and marvel at the impressive deciduous and coniferous trees from distant lands that have stood here since 1872.

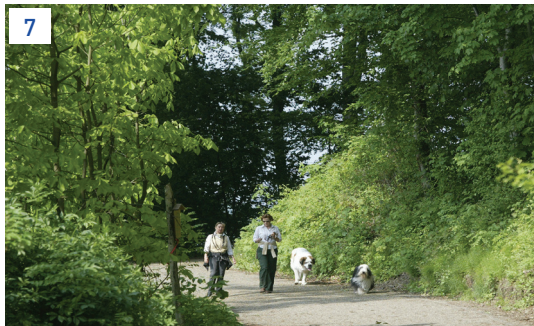
Today there are around 140 different types of tree to be seen. What is remarkable about the Forest is that it is a cultivated forest with a large number of trees planted collectively, rather than individually. At over 55 metres high, the 130 year-old giant redwoods are some of the tallest trees in Europe.

## The Blue Hat

8

The Blue Hat can be found at the edge of the Castle Park. It stands at the most south-westerly point and is probably the oldest part of the town's fortifications dating back to around 1250 to 1300. The Blue Hat takes its name from the original colour of

its slate roof. The tower, which is only accessible from the ramparts, was used in former times as a prison with an 8 metre deep dungeon. Here you can still see part of the town wall as well as the original dungeon.





## The Müllheim Gate

### 9 The Müllheim Gate

A sandstone archway is all that is left of the Müllheim Gate, the most eastern of the three town gates of Weinheim. Built in 1608, the gate was demolished in 1882. The

arch and its inscription have remained intact and the gate has formed the entrance to the Castle Palace Park since 1954.

## The Witches` Tower

### 10 The Witches` Tower

Grundelbachstraße

The ruins of the Witches` Tower, built in the 13th century, can be found on the outskirts of the tanners`s quarter where the Grundelbach stream flows underground. The remains of a wall halfway up the tower lead us to believe that there were originally

two towers on this site. The name "Witches` Tower" originates from the 19th century; although there is no mention of any witches` trials in the town`s records.





## Courtyard

11

Stadmühlgasse 3

Behind the wide entrance gate to the house is a hidden courtyard from the 16th century with opulent timber framing.

The facade is unusually embellished with a circular disc, vortex, double eagle and a head with an aerola.

## The Tanner's Quarter

12

The tanner's quarter with its twisty, narrow streets and old timber frame houses paints a picture-postcard. Here dotted along the stream, you can still see what were once tanners' houses and tanneries, for example, at Gerbergasse 14, Lohgasse 5, Gerbergasse 3, Quergasse 1 and Münzgasse 8.





## 13 The “Kerwehaus” - Home of the Carnival

Münzgasse 13

Built in 1559, this timber frame house has been in the possession of the Weinheim Carnival Committee since 1970.

The house is the focal point

of one of the biggest funfairs along the Bergstraße, the Weinheim Carnival (known locally as Kerwe), which takes place annually at the beginning of August.

## 14 The Chapel of Ulner

Stadtmühlgasse 2

The Choir and the Nave of the Chapel, built in 1350 thanks to a donation and foundation by Hildegunds von Weinheim, are only visible from the tanners' quarter. The main door to the Chapel, which now has a house and shop built above it facing out over

the market square, shows the Ulner family coat of arms in wrought iron – the future owners of the Chapel.

The former hospital for the poor and elderly, belonging to the Foundation and adjoining the chapel, was rebuilt on a number of occasions.







## “Rabenhauptscher Hof”

15

Münzgasse 1-5

This former farm estate which belonged to aristocracy can be found on the corner of Münzgasse 1-5 and Judengasse 2/1. The core of the estate dates back to the early 15th century; however, the property was extensively

rebuilt in the 17th century. The coat of arms of the von Rabenhaupt and the von Meerfeld (Münzgasse) as well as the von Rabenhaupt and Recke von der Horst (Judengasse) families can be seen over the main gate.

## “Büdingen Hof”

16

Judengasse 15/17

“Büdingen Hof” served at times as a meeting place for the tanners` guild. The initials of the builder Thomas Büdingen and the tanners` scraping knife can still be seen on the wall of the staircase built in 1582.

It is possible that a synagogue, belonging to Weinheim`s Jewish community which was first mentioned in 1298, stood on the site of the neighbouring building in the Middle Ages.





## 17 The former Jewish Tower

Judengasse 9

The foundations of the mighty, rectangular tower built in the 14th century can still be seen in the courtyard of the house

at Judengasse 9. It stood in the north-eastern corner of the fortified town.

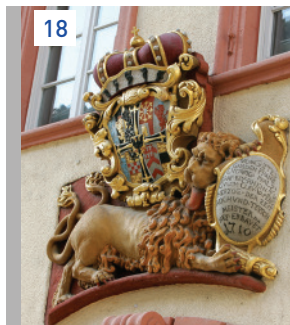
## 18 The Museum of Weinheim - The former Home of the Teutonic Order

Amtsgasse 2

The House of the Teutonic Order was built in 1710 by the master craftsman Franz Ludwig von der Pfalz. His coat of arms decorates the imposing entrance to the building. In the inner courtyard there is a copy of the Merian engraving of Weinheim, made in 1949, the original of which is from the year 1618. Amongst others, the Museum contains findings from pre-historic and ancient times, the

bronze finding of Nächstenbach, frescos from the 13th and 14th centuries from the Church of St Peter, views of Weinheim and the surrounding area, Biedermeier and historism furniture from Weinheim`s castle. The Museum also offers information about the history of the town.

(Opening times: Tuesday to Saturday, 2pm to 5pm, Sunday 10am to 5pm)





## The Molitor House

19

Marktplatz 18 / Institutstraße

This former stately home was owned by the Ulner von Dieburg family. The foundations and the octagonal staircase were built between 1557 and 1558.

The rest of the timber frame

building and the gables were constructed at the beginning of the 14th century and as such it is the oldest timber frame building between the Rhine, Main and Neckar rivers.

## The Roman Catholic Rectory - The former Carmelite Monastery

20

Rote Turmstraße 1

The monastery, whose foundation stone was laid in 1720 on the site of a previous building, has been a Roman Catholic Rectory, since the year 1802.

It was here in 1832 that the "Festival of the Free Press" took place with over 200 participants.



19



20



## 21 The Red Tower

Rote Turmstraße

The tower, dating back to the 14th century, formed part of the town's fortifications and was used as a prison until the middle of the 19th centu-

ry. The tower itself takes its name from the red tiled roof which once crowned the pyramid-shaped cone above the battlements.

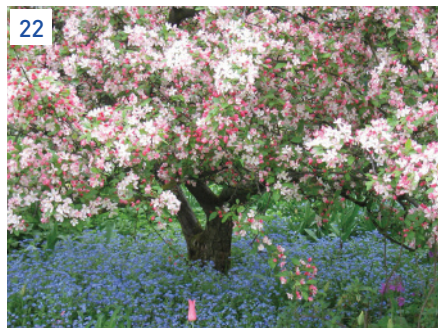
## 22 The Botanical Gardens of Hermannshof

Babostraße 5

As a research and educational establishment, the gardens of Hermannshof conduct scientific work into the ecological and aesthetic aspects of herbaceous plants.

There are over 2500 different herbaceous plants to see here. The gardens are also

characterised by very old and often extremely rare trees and bushes, and are a haven of ideas for creative and workable garden design, for both garden-lovers and specialists alike.







## The Town Gardens

23

There are three important monuments in the park. The first, built in 1999, is a memorial made of red sandstone, to the victims of violence, war and persecution. The second is the Babo memorial and lastly, the Krause d`Avis grave, which reminds us that the

gardens were originally a cemetery.

The historic well, known as the Geißenbrunnen, is also of interest.



## Further Places of Interest

### 24 The Ruins of the Castle of Windeck

Schlossberg

Built after 1100 to protect the monastery of Lorsch, Windeck castle was destroyed towards the end of the 17th century. Since 1978 its ruins have been in the possession of the town

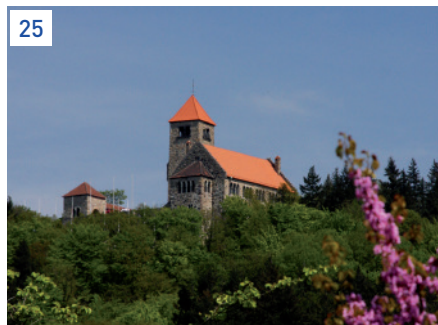
of Weinheim, which seeks to preserve and maintain the castle. The spiral staircase built into the wall of the keep is an architectural rarity.

### 25 The Wachenburg Castle

Wachenberg

Wachenburg castle, perched high on the top of the Wachenberg hill, was built in the years 1907 to 1928 as a meeting and commemoration place for the Weinheim Elders

Convent and its active student corps. The highlight of their social calendar is an annual meeting during Ascension week.





## Church of St Peter The Protestant Church of St Peter

26

Grundelbachstraße 114

The first mention of a Church in Weinheim dates back to the year 861. It is likely that this relates to an earlier building built long before the Church of St Peter in 1000. Over the centuries, the Church of St Peter has undergone numerous structural alterations. It was demolished in 1910 and re-

placed by the current neo-Romanesque building. The frescos dating back to the Middle Ages can be seen in the Museum of Weinheim. Since the start of the Reformation in the Electoral Palatinate in 1555 to 1556, the Church has served the reformed protestant community almost continuously.

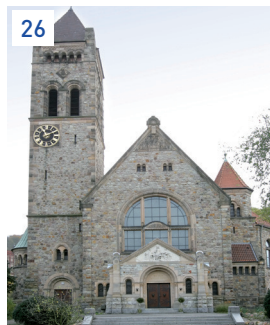
## The Old Post Office

27

Alte Postgasse 41-59

The Old Post Office, on the south bank of the river We-schnitz, took five years to build and was completed in 1582. An inn (known as "Zum Goldenen Bock") until the beginning of the

19th century, it boasted several famous visitors, among them Goethe, who passed through Weinheim in 1775. Between 1801 and 1840, the building was used as coaching inn.



## The surrounding districts

The surrounding villages of Hohensachsen, Lützelsachsen, Oberflockenbach, Ofling, Rippenweier, Ritschweier, Sulzbach and Waid were all incorporated into the town of Weinheim, between 1971 and 1973.

The wine industry is of special importance to the villages of Hohensachsen, Lützelsachsen

and Sulzbach, which are located along the Bergstraße.

Oberflockenbach, Rippenweier and Ritschweier in the Odenwald are beautiful little villages surrounded by wooded hills and grassy meadows – a delight for walkers.





## Sulzbach

### Sulzbach The Town Hall

28

Nördliche Bergstraße 37

This two-storey house with its three arcades at ground level was built in 1836 in a classical style. The building itself has housed the local council of

Sulzbach for over 150 years. The Sulzbach coat of arms, a five-pointed silver star with a blue background, is mounted above the middle arch.

## Lützelsachsen

### Lützelsachsen The Protestant Church

29

Weinheimer Straße 13

The reform church built in 1773 was the first religious building in the area. In 1908 a new baroque bell tower was added to

the three-axled building. The church was renovated and the interior redecorated between 2000 and 2001.







## Hohensachsen

### 30 Hohensachsen The Town Hall

Sachsenstraße 27

The year 1538 inscribed on the gable stone of the town hall indicates that a previous building stood here which

was razed to the ground by a fire in 1674. The town hall was rebuilt twelve years later and crowned with a turret.

## Hohensachsen

### 31 Hohensachsen The Roman Catholic Rectory

Talstraße 17

Built in 1772, the Church was designed by the bricklayer, Matthias Morath from Heidelberg. A turret was added by the builder Dyckerhoff in 1813.

The rectory dates back to

1787. The cross of the Teutonic Order embellished in the lintel of the main gate, indicates that the right of patronage of the Church of Jakobus was conferred on the Teutonic Order.





## Ritschweier Wayside Shrine “At the Cold Stone”

32

The wayside shrine that stands at the crossroads of Ritschweier to Oberkunzenbach and Weinheim to Oberflockenbach dates back to the 16th and 17th centuries, pos-

sibly even to the late Gothic period. It takes its name “At The Cold Stone” or “The Cold God” from the cold wind that blows over the plateau.

## Oberflockenbach Atzelhof

33

Bildstockweg 7

In the village of Oberflockenbach you can still see a row of beautiful old farm buildings, which mostly date back to the 18th and 19th centuries.

One of them, the “Atzelhof” is an outstanding example of an old, 17th century timber frame building.





## 34 Rippenweier / Heiligkreuz Hessenmühle (Mill)

Odenwaldstraße 2

The mill, first mentioned in 1545, was destroyed in the Thirty Years' War. The large timber frame courtyard build-

ding and mill date back to the 18th century and were used periodically as a paper mill and copper smelting works.

## 35 Rippenweier / Heiligkreuz The Protestant Church

Odenwaldstraße 4

The Chapel (named "zum Heiligen Kreuz") was first mentioned in 1242. The choir and the eastern wing of the nave date back to the first half of the 14th century. The tower with its spire were built in the

15th century. At the end of the 18th century, the nave was rebuilt and extended.

The Church was used by both denominations i.e. Protestant and Catholic simultaneously from 1699 to 1969.





## Opening Times and Guided Tours

### Guided Tour of the Town

- For individuals mid March to the end of October every Friday from 5pm, Meeting point is at the Market Square Fountain (charge applicable)
- For groups please enquire at Stadt- und Tourismusmarketing Weinheim e.V. Telephone 06201 874450

### Tour of the Exotic Forest

Please enquire at Stadt- und Tourismusmarketing Weinheim e.V. Telephone 06201 874450

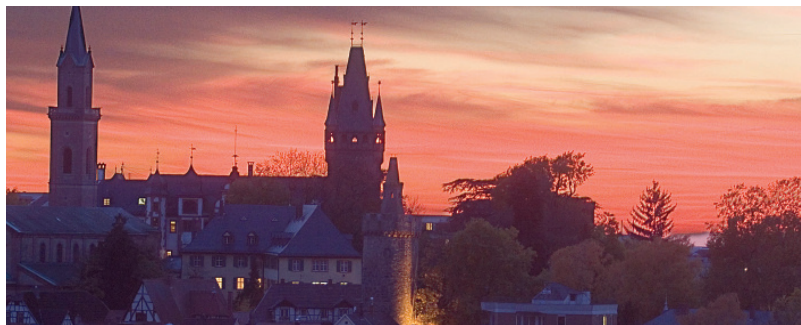
### The Botanical Gardens of Hermannshof

Opening Times:

Summer: daily  
March and October:  
10am to 6pm  
April to September  
10am to 7pm

Winter:  
Monday to Friday:  
10am to 4pm  
(not on bank holidays)

Tours where charges are applicable, by arrangement  
Telephone 06201 13652



# Opening Times and Guided Tours

## **The Museum of the Town and Information Centre Geo-Naturpark Bergstraße- Odenwald**

Amtsgasse 2,  
69469 Weinheim,  
Telephone 06201 82334  
Telefax 06201 962044,  
Museum\_weinheim@t-online.de

Opening Times:  
Tuesday to Saturday:  
2pm to 5pm  
Sunday: 10am to 5pm

Guided Tours where charges  
are applicable  
by arrangement  
Telephone 06201 82334

## **Stadt- und Tourismusmarketing Weinheim e.V.**

Hauptstraße 47,  
69469 Weinheim,  
Telephone 06201 874450  
Telefax 06201 874430,  
info@weinheim-marketing.de

Opening Times:  
Monday to Friday:  
9am to 1pm and 2pm to 6pm,  
Saturday: 10am to 1pm  
Experience the Town – Tours  
by arrangement,  
Telephone 06201 874450

## **Regular Events**

- Summer Day Procession
- Student Conference
- Flea markets
- Summer of Culture in  
July / August
- Old town carnival,  
2nd weekend in August
- Weinheim in Autumn with  
Provence Market
- Christmas Market







How to reach Weinheim:



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**Find out about Weinheim:**  
using an audio guide



If you would like to use an audio guide, just enter the telephone numbers below at each of the places mentioned. You will be able to listen to information in German about some sights listed in this brochure. The cost of this service is the price of a telephone call via landline.

- The Market Square  
06201 2492401
- The Castle  
06201 2492402
- The Castle Palace Park and the Exotic Forest  
06201 2492403
- The Tanners` Quarter  
06201 2492404
- The Museum of the Town of Weinheim  
06201 2492405
- The Botanical Gardens of Hermannshof  
06201 2492406
- Rodenstein Fountain  
06201 2492407
- The Ruins of the Castle Windeck  
06201 2492408
- The Wachenburg Castle  
06201 2492409

#### **Publishing Information**

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