

CENTRAL GERMANY

Welcome to Central Germany, where you'll find an abundance of famous places full of history, cultural highlights and natural beauty spots. Merseburg, the cathedral and university town, is the gate to the Saale-Unstrut wine region, an area virtually littered with castles. Imposing buildings along the 'Romanesque road' ('Straße der Romanik') will cast their spell on you, rivers and lakes of the 'blue ribbon' ('Blaues Band') will lead you onto new routes, 'Garden Dreams' ('Gartenträume') will call on you to stay and relax, and, 'sky paths' ('Himmelswege') make you curious.

The cities of Halle and Leipzig, packed to the brim with culture, will stay with you long after you've left them. Visiting them is an absolute must for every visitor of the region.

If you want to make your own way to the places and through the region, why not explore them on foot or by bicycle on the extensive network of bicycle paths and walking trails.

Enjoy your trip to the region with its fascinating history, culture and art! And for the hungry traveller: Exploring the culinary flavour is another highlight.

There are plenty of welcoming places offering superb food and drinks.



Querfurt

Was first recorded in the 9th-century Hersfeld tithe-survey. The town's castle is known as one of the oldest, largest and best-preserved fortifications of its kind in Central Europe. The castle area is almost seven times the size of that of the famous Wartburg.

Sights:

- Castle with Romanesque-style castle chapel
- Agricultural museum
- St. Lambert's parish church
- Town Hall
- Baroque-style cemetery

Stadtinformation Querfurt

Markt 14, 06268 Querfurt
ph: +49 (0)3 47 71 6 01 40 www.querfurt.de

from Merseburg: 25 km
by car: following road B 91, direction Querfurt, road L 172
by train: Burgenlandbahn Merseburg-Querfurt
by bus: on route Merseburg - Querfurt



Bad Kösen

Is a spa town with a local climate beneficial to health and located in one of the most stunning parts of the Saale valley, close to the cathedral town of Naumburg.

Sights:

- Thorn graduation works with saline works
- Spa park
- Romanesque-style house, and close by: castles Rudelsburg, Burg Saaleck
- State vineyard Kloster Pforta and Cistercian monastery Pforta

Tourist-Information Bad Kösen

Naumburger Straße 13b, 06628 Bad Kösen
ph: +49 (0)3 44 63 2 82 89 www.badkoesen.de

from Merseburg: 36 km
by car: direction Naumburg, following roads B 91, B 87 or B 180
by train: stop on railway line Halle - Eisenach
by bicycle: Saale cycle path (Saale Radwanderweg)
by boat: river Saale



Mücheln/Braunsbedra (Geiseltalsee)

Now that the former open cast mine has been flooded, Geiseltalsee is Germany's largest artificial lake with 18.4 km². The Marina Mücheln is the hub and harbour for water and leisure activities on Geiseltalsee. The entire area surrounding the lake is used as local nature and recreation area.

Sights/destinations:

- St. Ulrich moated castle, St. Ulrich castle church
- St. Ulrich terraced garden, St. Ulrich Parks and Gardens
- Lookout Klobikauer Halde and Stöbnitz

Stadtinformation Mücheln

Markt 20, 06249 Mücheln
ph: +49 (0)3 46 32 4 01 11
www.muecheln.de

Marina Mücheln GmbH Hafeninformation

Hafenplatz 8, 06249 Mücheln
ph: +49 (0) 34632 99 59 10
www.marina-muecheln.de

Sights of Braunsbedra:

- Parish church of Braunsdorf
- Parish church St. Henry, Neumarkt
- Machinery hall "Plännerhall" Braunsdorf

Stadtverwaltung Braunsbedra

Markt 1, 06242 Braunsbedra
ph: +49 (0)3 46 33 400 www.braunsbedra.de, www.geiseltalsee.de

from Merseburg: 20 km / 12 km

by car: on road L 178

by bus: on bus route Merseburg - Mücheln



Nebra

The Nebra Sky Disc (Himmelscheibe von Nebra) is one of the most interesting archaeological finds of the past century. It is a bronze disc and embossed in gold onto it is the oldest known concrete depiction of the heavens. 3600 years ago, during the Bronze Age, the disc was buried along with bronze goods, including axes and daggers, at the top of a mountain, the Mittelberg. The multimedia visitor's centre Arche Nebra opened its gates in 2007 at the foot of Mittelberg. The original disc is on display in the State Museum of Prehistory in Halle (Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte).

Stadtinformation Nebra

Breite Straße 12, 06642 Nebra/Unstrut
ph: +49 (0)3 44 61 2 22 16
www.stadt-nebra.de

Arche Nebra

An der Steinklöbe 16, 06642 Nebra OT Kleinwangen
ph: +49 (0)3 44 61 2 55 20
www.himmelscheibe-erleben.de www.himmelswege.de

Merseburg: 45 km
by car: Querfurt, road L 172, direction Nebra road B 96
by train: train to Naumburg, there train to Nebra



Jahn-, Wein- und Sektstadt Freyburg

Town of wine-growers located in the enchanting Unstrut valley, at the foot of the stunning Neuenburg castle; home of the sparkling wine Rotkäppchen Sekt - famous well beyond the region.

Sights:

- Neuenburg castle with late-Romanesque-style two-storey double chapel
- Romanesque-style keep 'Dicker Wilhelm'
- St. Mary's church
- Museum of F.L. Jahn, known as 'father of gymnastics' ('Turnvater')
- Historic wine cellars of the Rotkäppchen-sparkling wine production plant

Freyburger Fremdenverkehrsverein e.V./ Stadtinformation

Markt 2, 06632 Freyburg
ph: +49 (0)3 44 64 2 72 60 www.freyburg-tourismus.de

from Merseburg: 21 km
by car: direction Braunsbedra, on road B 176
by train/bus: train to Naumburg, then bus to Freyburg
by bicycle: Saale cycle path (Saale Radwanderweg), Unstrut cycle path (Unstrut-Radwanderweg)



Goethestadt Bad Lauchstädt

Was first recorded in the 9th-century Hersfeld tithe-survey. Formerly known as the 'Saxon Pyrmont', the spa town was fashionable with the 18th-century upper classes of Saxony and Thuringia. The poets Goethe, Schiller and Eichendorff and the composer Wagner lived and worked here.

Sights:

- Historical spa grounds, created by the Merseburg-based master builder Johann Wilhelm Chrysellius from 1776 to 1787
- Goethe Theatre - built in 1802 following the plans of Goethe himself; preserving the original structure and layout, including the reconstructed and fully-functional wooden stage machinery
- Various town houses (Goethe, Schiller, Wagner)
- Castle with moat
- Parish church with Baroque-style carved altar

Historische Kuranlagen und Goethe-Theater Bad Lauchstädt GmbH

Visitor centre
Parkstraße 18, 06246 Bad Lauchstädt
ph: +49 (0) 34635 90 54 72, +49 (0) 34635 7 82 16
+49 (0) 34635 7 82 13

www.goethestadt-bad-lauchstaedt.de, www.goethe-theater.com

from Merseburg: 8 km

by car: following roads B 91, L 172

by bus: on bus route Merseburg - Querfurt



Naumburg

The Burgenlandkreis-district town is set right in the heart of the Central German castle and wine-growing region Saale-Unstrut. The town sports a rich past and heritage, e.g. cathedral of St. Peter and Paul with its famous founder statues, parish church, with Hildebrandt organ and lookout town gate ('Marienort') and local history museum 'Hohe Lilie', 'Nietzsche'-museum

- 'Max-Klinger'-museum at the local recreation area Naumburger Blütengrund

Tourist-Information Naumburg

Markt 6, 06618 Naumburg
Phone: +49 (0)3445 27 31 25 www.naumburg.de

from Merseburg: 30 km
on roads B 91, B 87 and B 180
by car: on railway line Halle-Eisenach
by train: Saale cycle path (Saale-Radwanderweg)
by bicycle: river Saale



Halle (Saale)

Saxony-Anhalt's most populous city and one of the oldest in Central Germany. Halle's former wealth was based on boiling and producing salt. Since the foundation of the 17th-century orphanage and school-complex Franckesche Stiftungen and the local university, it has the reputation of being a city of schools and learning. Halle is an internationally-renowned city of music due to the work of famous composers, such as Georg Friedrich Händel.

Sights:

- Market square and 'Church of our Lady' (Marktkirche)
- Händelhaus-museum and Red Tower (Roter Turm)
- Cathedral and St. Paul's parish church
- Castles Giebichenstein and Moritzburg
- Saltworks and guild museum (Techn. Halloren- und Salinemuseum)

Tourist-Information

Marktplatz 13, 06108 Halle/Saale
ph: +49 (0)3 45 1 22 99 84 www.halle.de

from Merseburg: 16 km
by car: following road B 91
by train: on railway line Eisenach - Halle
by tram: line 5
by bicycle: Saale cycle path (Saale Radwanderweg)
by boat: river Saale



Roßbach

Roßbach - the place to be in summer: A charming lake with sandy beaches, ideal for swimming (also naturist), extensive grounds for sun bathing, lake water of highest quality, 90 m-long slide and camping site.

Hasse Campingplatz und Strandbad GmbH

Gardinerstraße 33, 06242 Roßbach
ph: +49 (0)3 4633 / 2 22 69 www.hasse-see.de

from Merseburg: 15 km
by car/bicycle: following roads L 178, L 181 or B 91
by bus: on bus route Merseburg - Roßbach



Weißenfels - Residence town

Largest town between Merseburg and Naumburg. Weißenfels was founded in 1185 and protected by a castle on a white rock, hence the name. The early-Baroque-style castle Neu-Augustusburg was built on the site of the old medieval castle in the second half of the 17th century. Situated on the river Saale, Weißenfels is full of history and has seen many well-known master builders and artists within its walls.

Sights:

- Castle Neu-Augustusburg with castle church, crypt of the dukes, museum of the history of the duchy and shoe museum
- Heinrich-Schütz museum
- Novalis museum
- Town park with the Weißenfelser Original, the statue of a boy
- Goseck sun observatory

Fremdenverkehrsverein "Weißenfelser Land" e.V./ Tourist-Information

Markt 1, 06667 Weißenfels
ph: +49 (0)3443 30 30 70 www.weissenfelstourist.de

from Merseburg: 16 km
by car: following road B 91
by train: on railway line Halle - Eisenach
by bicycle: Saale cycle path (Saale-Radwanderweg)



Bad Dürrenberg

The town with the 'salty' air has seen a lot in its more than 1000 years. The Saale cycle path (Saale-Radwanderweg) runs through Bad Dürrenberg and its surrounding area. The cycle path intersection is to the south of the saline works.

Sights:

- One of Europe's longest uninterrupted graduation works
- 10 ha spa park with aviary and palm house, old trees, flower beds and Sole-Spa wellness centre
- Borlach tower and saline-works museum

Tourist-Information Bad Dürrenberg

Witzlebenweg 7a, 06231 Bad Dürrenberg
ph: +49 (0)34 62 8 39 91 or 1 94 33
www.stadt-bad-duerrenberg.de www.badduerrenberg.eu

from Merseburg: 8 km
by car: roads B 181, L 183, L 187
by train: on railway lines to Weißenfels an Leipzig
by tram: line 5
by bicycle: Saale cycle path (Saale-Radwanderweg)
by boat: river Saale



Lützen

In Lützen, only a few kilometres to the north of Weißenfels, a memorial is dedicated to the Swedish king Gustav II Adolphus, who died in the 17th-century Thirty Year's War.

Sights:

- Lützen castle
- Martzschpark with small zoo and rope course
- Meuchen memorial church
- Röcken memorial church
- Friedrich-Nietzsche Memorial Röcken
- Großgörschen village museum

Gustav-Adolf-Memorial

Gustav-Adolf-Straße 42, 06686 Lützen
ph: +49 (0)3 44 44 2 03 17 www.stadt-luetzen.de

from Merseburg: 25 km
by car: motorway A 38 or via Bad Dürrenberg
by bus: on bus route Merseburg - Markranstädt, then in direction Lützen



Zeitz - Residence town

From Zeitz, a cathedral and ducal residence town with more than 1000 years of history, you can easily access both Saxony and Thuringia. The town on the river Weiße Elster was originally founded as a bishop's see and developed into a home of important industries. Today, the focus is again on the town's tourist attractions.

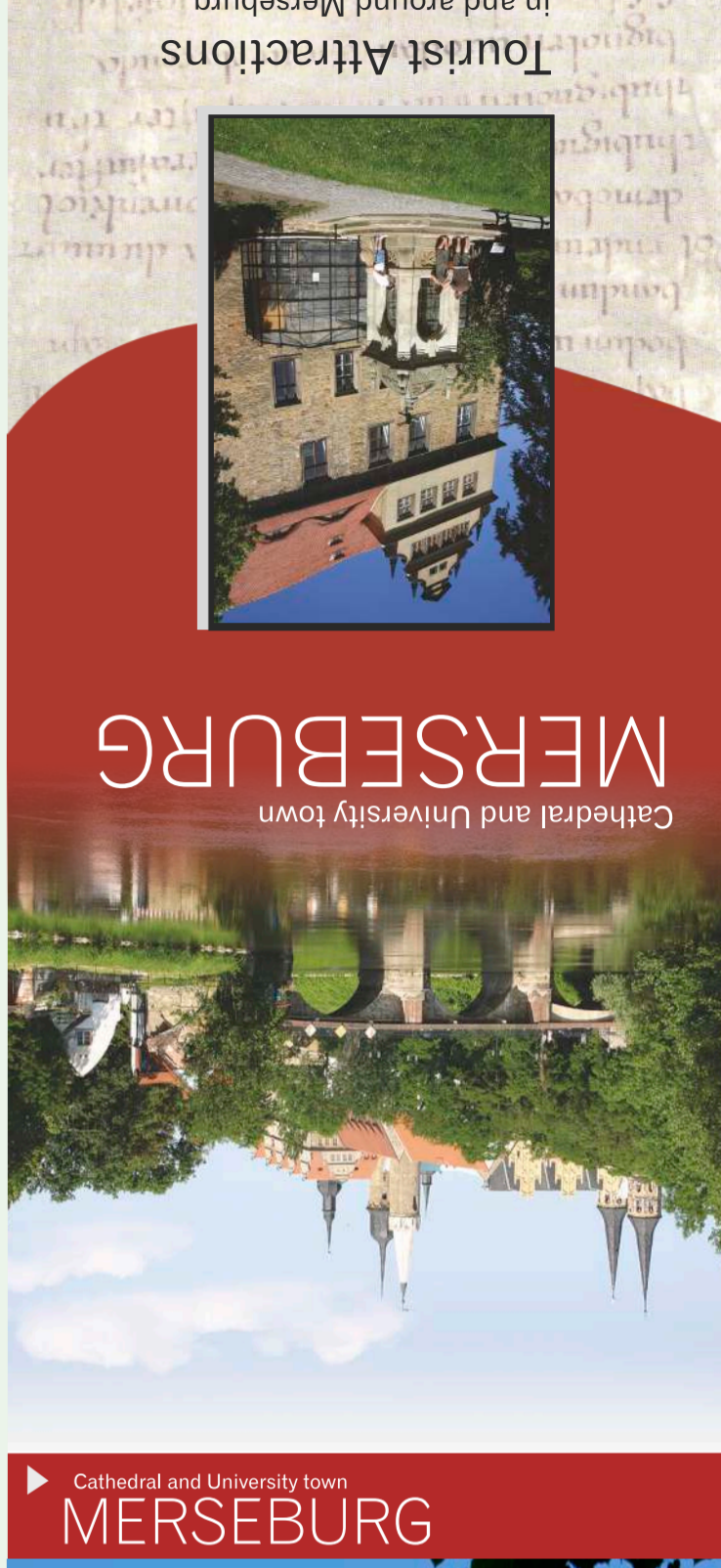
Sights:

- Moritzburg castle/cathedral/park
- Industrial museum, coal-briquette factory Hermannschacht
- Historic town centre 'Subterranean Zeitz'
- St. Michael's church with original 1517-print of Luther's theses
- Kloster Posa, former Benedictine monastery

Tourist-Information

Altmarkt 16, 06712 Zeitz
ph: +49 (0)34 41 8 32 91 or 8 32 92 www.zeitz.de

from Merseburg: 43 km
by car: following road B 91
by train: on railway line Halle - Eisenach, Burgenlandbahn
by bicycle: Saale cycle path (Saale-Radwanderweg), Radacht, Elsterradweg



Merseburg

Burgstraße 5, 06217 Merseburg
ph.: +49(0) 34 61 - 21 41 70/ 1 94 33, Fax: +49(0) 34 61 - 21 41 77

E-Mail: info@merseburg-tourist.de

Opening hours:

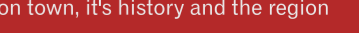
Mon - Fr 9 a. m. - 6 p. m.
Sat 9 a. m. - 1 p. m. (Nov.-Oct.)
Sat 9 a. m. - 2:30 p. m. (Apr. - Oct.)

- information on town, it's history and the region
- guided tours
- accommodation
- ticket service
- souvenirs and gifts
- package tours

www.merseburg.de



To its visitor, Saxony-Anhalt, your holiday destination, offers a wealth of architectural sights on the 'Straße der Romanik'-route, idyllic parks and gardens of the 'Gartenträume'-network, active holiday events in places along the water-tourism route 'Blaues Band' and sensational archaeological finds on the 'Himmelswege'-route.



Thanks to all town and city councils for their support.