

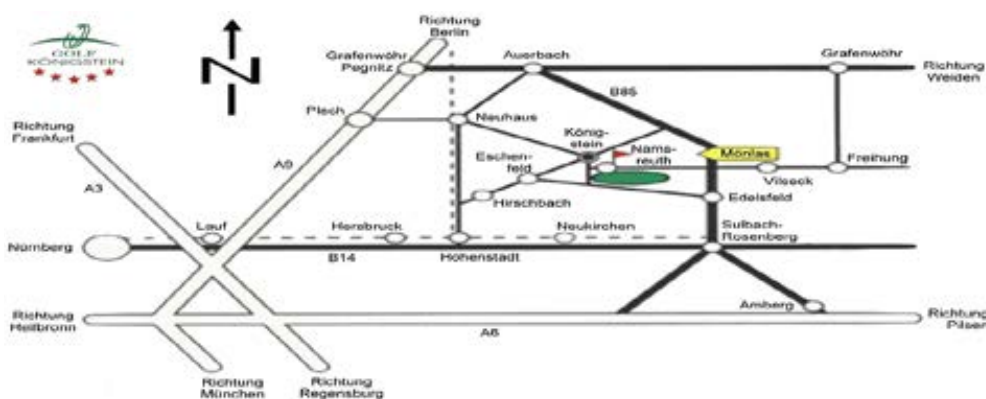
BAVARIA – the Garrison



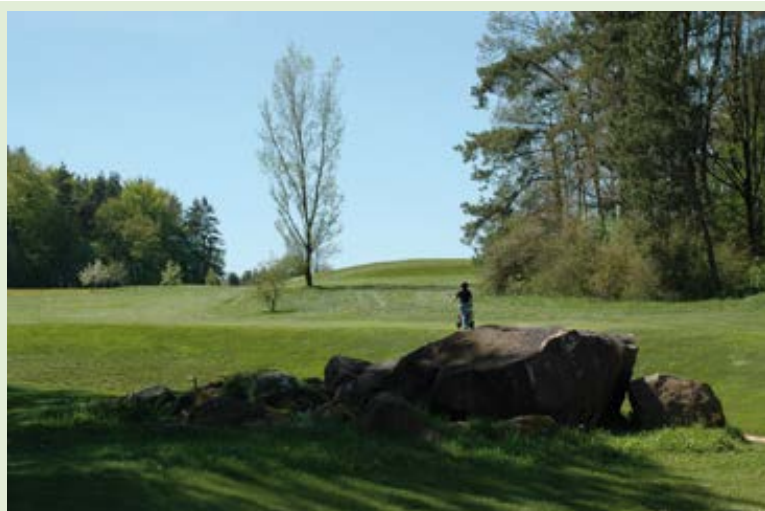
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On behalf of the entire U.S. Army Garrison Bavaria, we wish you, your family and friends a great stay in our area.

U.S. Army Garrison Bavaria



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History of the Grafenwoehr Training Area

1910

Grafenwoehr's first Commander, General Oskar Menzel arrives at the new training area. General Menzel begins the first of many internal improvements and lays-out ranges and fields of fire for testing artillery, and areas for infantry maneuvers.

Establishment of the Bavarian Military Forest Office at Grafenwoehr.

The iconic Grafenwoehr water tower is completed.

On June 30th the first artillery shell is fired at the GTA from a 150 mm Field Howitzer.

1911

By January 1911, more than 10,000 Bavarian soldiers are training at the GTA. The typical Bavarian Infantry Soldier was 18 years old, literate, and from a long tradition of military service.

He wore a heavy grey jacket, and wool pants, utility and ammo belt and leather boots. Around his neck, he wore a signal flashlight, which was considered "modern" addition to his kit.

His pointed helmet is an allied propaganda icon by the end of World War I.

1912

Bavarian Army Headquarters, based in Munich authorizes training with a new and modern weapon, the machine gun.

Other "modern" weapons introduced at the training area, during this time are Balloons and C-type biplanes to assist with observation and fire-direction.

1913

By 1913, the Grafenwoehr airfield, named "Airfield Hammergmuend" is a fully operational facility for the new science of military aeronautics.

April -
Grafenwoehr hosts one of the largest military exercises prior to World War I, with more than 12,000 soldiers, 540 officers, 1,000 horses, 60 machine guns and 16 aircraft taking part.

1914

June -
Archduke Ferdinand of Austria is murdered by an assassin in Sarajevo. Within weeks, all European powers begin mobilization.

July -
World War I begins. Grafenwoehr becomes a major Prisoner of War (POW) camp.

The prisoners create an enduring legacy. They establish a military cemetery for soldiers of all nations at Grafenwoehr.

1915

In early 1915 a second general officer, General Ferdinand Hocheder is assigned to the training area as Commander of POWs. The POW population at Grafenwoehr, by the end of 1915, is more than 15,000 men. Hocheder is a conscientious and honourable warden.

The prisoners at Grafenwoehr were healthy, active and productive. The POWs built places of worship, created sculptures and drawings, staged theatricals, formed concert bands and even established their own bakery.

1916

January -
Trench warfare leads to stalemate and carnage as the Allies – Great Britain, France, Russia – and the Central Powers – Germany, the Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman Empires incur huge casualties everyday with no advantage for the attacker.

1917

April -
The U.S. Declares war on Germany.

June -
General John J. Pershing and the first troops of the American expeditionary Force (AEF) arrive in France. In September AEF soldiers are assigned to the trenches; the tide turns in favor of the Allies as AEF troops attack along the western front. It would take 28 years and another world war before U.S. forces would finally arrive at the gates of Grafenwoehr.

1918

April -
The POW camp at the training area is closed. During the war the training area detained soldiers of all Allied nations, but larger numbers of French, Russians and Romanians.

May thru October -
WWI brought uncertainty, civil unrest, and revolution in Germany.

The Kaiser abdicates.

In November a Republic is proclaimed in Berlin. On November 11 an Armistice is signed in Compiègne, France, and a ceasefire is declared, effectively ending the war.

The Grafenwoehr Training Area is converted into a demobilization point.

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History of the Grafenwoehr Training Area

1919

June -

The Treaty of Versailles limits the German army to 100,000 men and officers. Because of drastic military cuts in spending the existence and future of the Grafenwoehr Training Area falls into speculation.

The total Allied casualties by the end of the war top 22 million, or 52 percent of all soldiers mobilized.

The Central Powers – Germany and Austria – fighting on two fronts east and west, sustained more than 37 million casualties, about 66 percent of all forces mobilized. Later, all combatant soldiers of the war would come to be known cumulatively thereafter and forever, as "The Lost Generation."

1920

January -

Following the German defeat in World War I, and the harsh terms imposed by the Allies, the Grafenwoehr Training Area almost closes for good in 1919.

In fact, so many soldiers left Grafenwoehr, the local city government used empty barracks to house 74 homeless families.

In spring, a dynamic new officer takes command of the German National Army, General Hans von Seeckt. He introduces a new sense of camaraderie in the German ranks, and begins to train the army on the lessons-learned from World War I and promotes new thinking and new tactics. He sees Grafenwoehr as vital to rebuilding the German army.

1922

May -

Seeckt replaces the political GTA commandant who had been elected two years earlier, with the WWI veteran Oberst Fritz Krummel.

1923

August -

Due to inflation and currency devaluation a Soldier's pay reaches 2 million Reichsmarks, as the currency loses it's value daily.

By **October**, Grafenwoehr citizens burn the worthless paper money in their stoves to warm their homes.

November -

Less than 200 miles south of the GTA an attempted coup d'etat, the Munich Beer Hall Putsch by the fledgling Nazi Party, led by General Erich Ludendorff and Adolf Hitler, is put-down, after days of brutal street-fighting.

1924

An early advocate of armored mechanized warfare, and fastmoving mobile armored units, Captain Heinz Guderian explores the use of tanks in an offensive role at the Grafenwoehr Training Area.

Guderain becomes a familiar figure at the training area, during the next 20 years. His concept of tank warfare, is later published in 1936 under the title "**Achtung! Panzer!**", a seminal work in modern offensive tank warfare.

May -

Training activities at the GTA accelerate. Seeckt appoints Oberst Hoffman as the new GTA commander.

1925

April -

Wooden Tanks! Following WWI, the German Army was prohibited from building or training with armored or tracked vehicles, but as early as 1923 the rebuilt German Army began experiments with "simulated" tanks... made of bailing wire and pressboard!

1926

In the spring of 1926 General Hans von Seeckt observes an exercise with one-tenth of the entire German Army, with more than 600 officers and 8,300 troops at the GTA. Seeckt retires shortly thereafter.

His legacy, keeping the most elite soldiers in the ranks when the allied terms of the Versailles Treaty forced the Reichswehr to purge some 20,000 of it's officers in the 1920s.

In 1926, of the 100,000 men permitted to serve in the army 40,000 were NCOs, and each of these were regarded as potential officer material.

The Artillery Observation tower at Schwartzenberg Hill, known today as the Bleidorn Tower is complete.





History of the Grafenwoehr Training Area

1927

The GTA hosted many young soldiers through-out the decade, Captain Walther von Reichenau, Majors Heinz Guderian and Erich von Manstein, Lieutenant Colonel Franz Halder and Colonel Gerd von Rundstedt, amongst others - all of whom would invent, or go on to perfect, the strategies and tactics of Blitzkrieg, in great part on the ranges of the GTA.

In 1927 Lieutenant Claus von Stauffenberg, a key leader of the German resistance to Hitler, is training on the ranges of Grafenwoehr.



1928

In the parliamentary elections of 1928 less than three-percent of Germans vote for the National Socialist "Nazi" Party.

U.S. War Department officials request Congress fund a Regular Army with an enlisted strength of 150,000 Soldiers.

1929

January -
The world economic crisis at the end of the decade critically destabilizes the government of the Weimar Republic. Various extreme political parties emerge from the civil unrest. A world-wide Great Depression begins which will last more than a decade.

1930/31

The U.S. Armed Forces was limited in the 1920s and 1930s, following the Great Depression. By 1939, in response to the rise of Nazism and Japanese expansion, the U.S. Army grew considerably, but was not well-equipped or trained for war.

The U.S. Army Air Corps was reorganized in June 1941, as the U.S. Army Air Forces (USAAF), but remained subordinate to ground commanders. By June 1941, shortly before the United States was drawn into WWII, the Army had grown to nearly 1.5 million.

1932

January -
The German government announces it will no longer adhere to the limitations set forth by the Versailles Treaty.

In the summer of 1932, General Heinz Guderian tests his theories of mobility and maneuverability, and the possibilities of coordinated tank maneuvers with infantry and air power.

1933

January -
Hitler is elected Chancellor. The German National Socialist Party is on the rise.

1934

August -
German President Hindenberg dies. Hitler, as Reich Chancellor, transfers the president's powers to himself and appropriates authority of the German states.

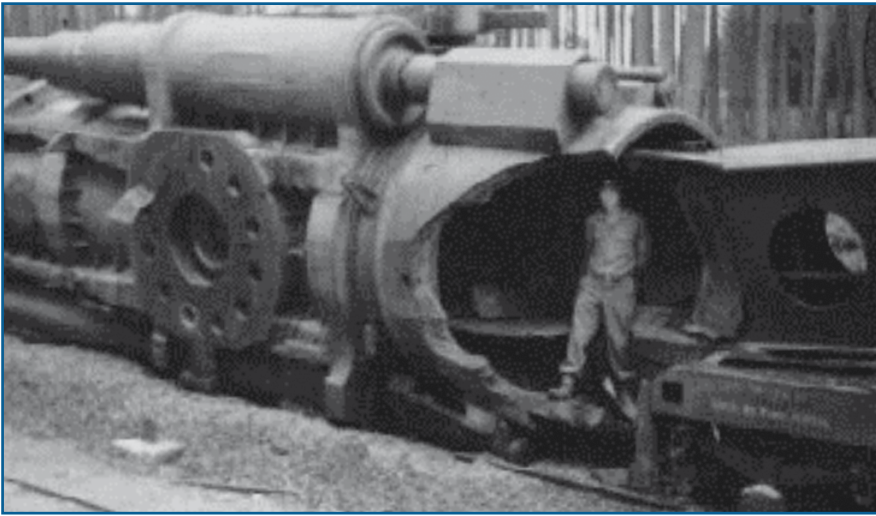
Bavaria, and all of its military posts, including the Grafenwoehr Training Area, are now directly under his authority.

1935

February -
Heavy Artillery firing at the Training Area commences.

March -
Hitler reintroduces mandatory military service in the German Reich and the army is increased from 100,000 to 550,00 troops, and its name is changed from "Reichswehr" to "Wehrmacht." The scope and tempo of training at the GTA grows exponentially.

History of the Grafenwoehr Training Area



a obstacle breaching exercise. By this time the GTA is second to none in rifle and machine-gun ranges, combat infantry and armor ranges, and possesses an authentic bunker/pillbox system for training overcoming defensive obstacles.

September -
Hitler occupies the Czech Sudetenland.

November -
Hitler orders Kristallnacht, an anti-Semitic program of hate and violence against Jews all across Germany.

1936

January -

The second great expansion of Grafenwoehr takes place by order of the War Ministry in Berlin.

The GTA doubles by 35,000 acres to the west of the existing camp to accommodate the stupendous growth of the resurgent Wehrmacht, more than 3,500 civilians are relocated outside the training area.

March -

30,000 German soldiers march into the demilitarized Rhineland border region.

The French back-down in the face of well-trained German troops.

1937

June -

The German Ju 87, better known as the Stuka, a ground attack aircraft and form of aerial artillery, is regularly participating in tank and infantry maneuvers at the GTA. The Stuka is a key element in the early success of the German Wehrmacht attacks across Europe, beginning in 1939.

1938

March -

Hitler occupies Austria.

June -

Hitler visits Grafenwoehr and observes

1939

September -

Hitler attacks Poland, while the Soviet Union closes in to occupy large areas of eastern Poland. Britain and France declare war on Germany. World War II begins.

1940

May -

Blitzkrieg tactics, in part developed and tested at the Grafenwoehr Training Area, enable the German Army to defeat and occupy Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, the Netherlands, Norway and Poland. The French Army, considered the best in Europe is swept aside and the British Expeditionary

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History of the Grafenwoehr Training Area

Force is routed, narrowly escaping capture at Dunkirk, less than one month after Wehrmacht combat operations begin.

July -
The Battle of Britain begins. In September, sustained Luftwaffe bombing attacks are launched against UK cities.

1941

June -
Hitler invades Russia. More than 4.5 million Axis troops drive east surrounding and capturing large numbers of Soviet troops on four active fronts. Initial break-throughs prove deceptive as Soviet forces regroup later in the year, and slow or stop Wehrmacht advances into the Russian interior.

December -
The United States enters WWII after being attacked by Japanese forces at Pearl Harbor on December 7th. Four days later Hitler, declares war on the United States.

1942

The Spanish "Blue Legion," more than 18,000 Spanish soldiers, many of who are combat veterans of the Spanish Civil War, swear an oath to fight for Germany. They arrive at the GTA for their uniforms, equipment and training prior to leaving for the Russia. Like many foreign troops trained at the GTA, The Blue Legion will see action at the Siege of Leningrad and elsewhere all along the Russian Front.

April -
Regiment "Nordland," three foreign SS Scandinavian units arrive in Grafenwoehr to form the core of a new SS volunteer Panzer-grenadier division. Volunteers are chiefly from Northern Europe but more than 1,200 Romanians are added to their strength.

1943

February -
The Battle of Stalingrad, which began in July 1942, ends with the surrender of the German 6th Army. It is a major turning point in the war. At the same time, Minister of Armaments Albert Speer visits the GTA to observe testing of Germany's heaviest and most powerful tank built to date.

May -
General Heinz Guderian, as Chief Inspector for Panzer Corps, visits Grafenwoehr to evaluate 250 Panther tanks before their deployment to the eastern fronts.

June -
The 12,000-man Italian San Marco Division begins training at the GTA.

1944

May -
Mussolini visits the GTA to and observe its training.

June -
The Longest Day: The largest invasion in history commences on the Normandy beaches of France. American, British and Canadian forces establish a beachhead after breaching Hitler's "Fortress Europe." After fierce fighting they drive east to take Paris.

June -
Reichsführer-SS Himmler, overseer of the extermination camps and commander of the Gestapo visits SS units in Grafenwoehr. His speech, delivered in the local theater promotes loyalty to the regime.

1945

January -
The Battle of the Bulge: Hitler sends a quarter of a million troops into the Allied western front, in deadly winter weather.

More than 76,000 U.S. Soldiers are casualties of the onslaught, but win the battle, counterattack and drive on.

April -
Two allied bombing raids take place on the town and post. U.S. 3rd Army Soldiers fighting their way through Bavaria arrive to accept the surrender of the GTA 10 days later.

April/May -
Hitler commits suicide. The Red Army takes Berlin. Germany surrenders.

1946

January -
Americans start training at Grafenwoehr. Tankers attend courses at the 7th Army Tank Training Center near Vilseck, Germany, while artillery and infantry units train at both the GTA and at Wildflecken training areas.

In the aftermath of the war, and in the ruins of the main camp, a Prisoner of War collection point is established, while some 8,000 members of the German SS are sent to prison in Bernreuth.

1947

June -
U.S. General George Marshall as Secretary of State announces a comprehensive program of American assistance to help rebuild Europe.

Germany defeated is divided by the Allies into four zones. The American zone consists of Bavaria and Hessen, Southern Germany, and the northern portions of the present day state of Baden-Wuerttemberg.

The U.S. Constabulary establishes a training area for the newly activated 370th and 371st Infantry Battalions. The area between Grafenwoehr and Vilseck will be used.

History of the Grafenwoehr Training Area



Military Display at the German-American Volksfest

In 1948, the U.S. Tank Training Center HQ is established at Rose Barracks, until war damage at Grafenwoehr is repaired.

1948

February -
Soviet coup d'état in Czechoslovakia.

June -
The Cold War Begins. The Soviet Union cuts-off land routes to the Allied zones of Berlin, prompting the Berlin Airlift – U.S. and British forces provide a lifeline of food and fuel to the beleaguered city, until the Soviets yield, and lift the blockade a year later.

The U.S. Army officially re-opens Grafenwoehr for unit training.

1949

April -
NATO is established with a headquarters in Brussels. The organization constitutes a system of collective defense whereby its member states agree to mutual defense.

May -
Formed from the three western zones of occupation and West Berlin, The Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) divides from the Soviet sphere of occupation and establishes its capital in Bonn.

August -
The Soviet Union explodes its first atom bomb.

October -
The East German Democratic Republic (GDR) is formed and claims as its capital Berlin.

1950

May -
General Dwight D. Eisenhower visits the GTA in his final weeks as NATO Commander. One month later, he returns to the U.S. to campaign for President.

June -
The Korean War begins as Communist forces invade South Korea.

November -
The U.S. Seventh Army, deactivated in 1947, is reactivated.

1951

June -
V and VII Corps arrive in Europe and are assigned to Seventh Army. From 1950 to 1953 large construction projects change the face of the Training

History of the Grafenwoehr Training Area

Area. The Barracks "Tunisia," "Cheb," "Kasserine," and Camps Aachen, Algiers and Normandy are added. These facilities combined are capable of housing more than 42,000 troops.

Developed in the early 1950s, the Honest John Rocket, the first U.S. battlefield, close support nuclear weapon was fired with weighted dummy warheads.

1953

March -
Soviet General Secretary and Premier Joseph Stalin dies.

1954

January -
U.S. Soldiers at the GTA are regularly shown government training films at the local movie theater throughout the Cold War years.

1955

May -
The Soviet Union creates The Warsaw Pact, a military-treaty organization of eight nations initiated and sponsored by the Soviets. It is the Communist Bloc counter to NATO.

November -

The German Bundeswehr is officially established. West Germany joins NATO.

1956

July -

West Germany introduces conscription, and activates the Bundeswehr (German Armed forces).

One month later, the first German Bundeswehr soldiers arrive and are billeted at Camp Normandy at GTA.

Although early plans for the Bundeswehr called for separate bases, the U.S. establishes a co-use agreement for Camps Algier and Normandy for joint training and maneuvers.

October -

The Soviet Union invades Hungary occupying the capital, Budapest, following Hungary's decision to withdraw from the Warsaw Pact. Hungarian resistance is crushed by Soviet troops and tanks.

1957

January -

U.S. Forces across central Europe, including those stationed in France, are using the Grafenwoehr Training Area by this time.

August -

Bundeswehr tanks and soldiers take to the Grafenwoehr Ranges.

1958

November -

Pvt. Elvis Presley, the King of Rock & Roll, visits Grafenwoehr for six weeks of winter training with his unit.

1958 through 1959 -

A newly remodelled Grafenwoehr Post becomes the headquarters of the Seventh Army Training Center. In addition to the Grafenwoehr Training Area, the Hohenfels Training Area is consolidated under the command.

The Seventh Army Training Center becomes the largest training complex in Germany.

Rose Barracks becomes the home of the Seventh Army Combined Arms School.

1960

February -

Elvis Presley returns to Grafenwoehr to train and participate in the NATO exercise "Winter Shield."

Maneuvers involve 60,000 men of the U.S. Army and German Bundeswehr.

Elvis, now a sergeant, shuns exceptional treatment and duty.

In his free time Elvis occasionally visits local taverns in the city of Grafenwoehr, just past the front gate, where he signs countless autographs and patiently sits for photos with his German fans.

1961

August -

At midnight, August 12, units of the East German army install barbed-wire fences along the 124 miles of Allied sectors in Berlin.

October -

High Noon: Soviet and American tanks face-off at Allied Checkpoint Charlie in Berlin.

Third Armored Division's General Creighton Abrams photographed in Grafenwoehr for the cover of TIME magazine.



History of the Grafenwoehr Training Area

1962

June -
U.S. Army Europe reaches its peak strength of 277,342 personnel.

October -
President John F. Kennedy speaks to the world in a televised speech from the Oval Office at the height of the Cuban missile crisis.

U.S. and NATO military forces in Europe go to the highest state of alert.

1963

July -
The stone and barbed-wire barricades that dividing Berlin since 1961 are replaced by a permanent, 18 foot high wall around Allied sectors that make-up West Berlin.

1964

October -
Communist Party First Secretary Nikita Khrushchev is deposed by the Russian government as leader of the Soviet Union.

Leonid Brezhnev and Alexi Kosygin assume power over the state.

1965

Beginning in the mid-1960s, U.S. Army Europe contributes to the war in Vietnam, by providing personnel.

The GTA offers jungle and counter guerilla training for personnel deploying to Vietnam.

1966

January -
Charles de Gaulle, leader of the French government, says he will withdraw military forces from NATO.

The United States must vacate its bases in France by the end of the year.

Consequently, U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army Headquarters merge at Heidelberg in 1967.

December -
Allies then, Allies now: Bundeswehr Forces welcome United States Army units restationed from France into Germany.

1967

March -
President Johnson announces plans to withdraw two divisions from Europe.

1968

August -
Approximately 200,000 Warsaw Pact soldiers, led by the Soviet Union invade Czechoslovakia, for the second time. The soldiers were sent to stop political reforms and freedoms and set-up a new government more closely aligned with the Kremlin.

1969

January -
The largest NATO Exercise to take place in Europe, the first Exercise REFORGER [from RETURN of FORces to GERMANY] begins. About 12,000 Soldiers come from the U.S. to join the 220,000-man, U.S. Seventh Army in West Germany.

In addition, 96 F-4 fighterbombers attend from Stateside to participate.

The Soviet news agency, Izvestia, describes REFORGER as, "a new western plot directed at increasing tension in Europe." The exercise is hosted in Bavaria at Grafenwoehr, 50 miles from the Czechoslovak border.

1970

President Nixon's Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird visits Grafenwoehr, where he meets Helmut Schmidt. Schmidt will later become Chancellor of West Germany.

Historical note:

Every Cold War West German Chancellor with the exception of one, Konrad Adenauer visits the Grafenwoehr Training Area in one capacity or another from 1947 to 1991.

May -

The M-16A1 rifle, the TOW anti-tank weapon, the AH-1G Cobra and the OH-58A observation helicopter are added to U.S. Army Europe's arsenal.



History of the Grafenwoehr Training Area

1971

November -

A Pentagon reorganization study proposes adding more combat units to USAREUR.

1972

April -

V Corps Headquarters and the Terrace Club in Frankfurt are bombed by terrorist group Red Army Faction (RAF). The RAF would bomb USA-EUR headquarters in Heidelberg one month later.

1972 to 1973:

The Seventh Army Training Center's responsibilities dramatically expand. It is now responsible for all U.S. Army training activities in Europe.

Combat support courses from the Combat Support Training Center in Oberammergau are moved to Rose Barracks.

1975

January -

The 3rd Battalion, 509th Infantry is activated at Lee Barracks in Mainz, and moves to Vicenza, Italy. At the same time, the 8th Infantry Division's 1st and 2nd Battalions, 509th Infantry were discontinued and replaced by two mechanized battalions, making the division fully mechanized.

The year 1975 marked the end the Army's largest logistical organization, the U.S. Theater Army Support Command. The Command has more than 69,000 U.S. and local national civilians, supporting over 400,000 U.S. Soldiers in Europe and the Middle East.

1976

July -

The Seventh Army Training Center becomes the 7th Army Training Command (7th ATC) Established on July 1, 1976, the command is responsible for the Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels Training Areas, the Combined Arms Training Center at Rose Barracks, near Vilseck, and the Training Support Activity, Europe. The 7th ATC facilitates and manages training, including the development of concepts, requirements, and the evaluation of training readiness.

Transmission Control Protocol (TCP), which is critical to moving data on the modern Internet, is introduced in 1976.

1977

January -

RAF terrorists bomb U.S. Army barracks of the 42nd Artillery Brigade at Giessen. Several RAF members are killed in the ensuing firefight.

August -

The first A-10 attack aircraft arrive in Europe and are put through their paces at the Grafenwoehr Training Area for the international press. The A-10, affectionately known as "the Warthog" is a deadly tank killer that supports the infantry.



1979

December -

The Soviet Army invades Afghanistan.

1980

November -

Operation "Real Train" begins at the Hohenfels Training Area. Participating M603A Tanks are the most advanced of the M60 series, but are later replaced by the M1 Abrams in 1984.

1981

From 1981 to 1993, the U.S. Army extends and enlarges Rose Barracks, the southern tip of the Grafenwoehr Training Area. The total cost of renovations and enlargement exceeds one billion U.S. dollars.

September -

The Red Army Faction (RAF) carry out an unsuccessful rocket propelled grenade attack against the car carrying the U.S. Army's West German Commander Frederick J. Kroesen in Heidelberg.

1982

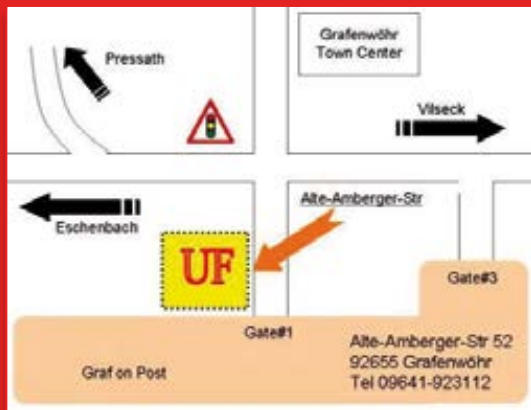
From the July 1982 Spearhead magazine: "An eight-inch howitzer from the 1st Bn., 40th Field Artillery fires from underneath its camo at the Grafenwoehr Training Area before rumbling down the range road to another firing point."

1983

First M2/3 and M270 Multiple Launch Rocket System is fired at Grafenwoehr. The M270 is a mobile unit, well-suited for the shoot-and-scoot tactic. It can fire its rockets rapidly, and quickly move-away to avoid returning counter-battery fire.

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History of the Grafenwoehr Training Area

1984/85

The first M1A1 Tanks arrive for trials at Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels.

1985

August -

Major upgrades are completed at Grafenwoehr facilities, and the ranges are renumbered.

SIMNET, a wide area network with vehicle simulators and displays for real-time distributed combat simulation is released for testing in 1985, by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

SIMNET is subsequently fielded in 1987, and was used for training until successor programs came online in the 1990s.

1986

April -

The nuclear reactor at Chernobyl in the Soviet Union melts-down and explodes releasing a cloud of radioactivity into the atmosphere over eastern Europe and Scandinavia.

1987

July -

Soviet Forces withdraw from Afghanistan. Civil war erupts among tribesmen and multiple rival factions seeking control of the country.

1988

The Combat Maneuver Training Center (CMTC) is activated at Hohenfels. The CMTC mission is to provide realistic combined arms training for U.S. Army Europe, and Seventh Army's maneuver battalion task forces in force-on-force exercises.

1989

November -

Freedom Prevails: After weeks of civil unrest the East German government announces its citizens will be allowed to visit West Berlin, causing a flood of East Germans to the west, and bringing about the fall of the Berlin Wall, more than a quarter century after it was erected.

1990

January -

Communist governments fall in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, and Romania, signalling the end of the Soviet empire in Europe.

Latvia and Estonia declare independence five months later.

January -

"Centurion Shield," the last REFORGER is hosted 60 miles west of Grafenwoehr.

August -

Saddam Hussein invades Kuwait. The U.S. responds with Operation Desert Shield. Seventh Army Training Command begins training units for deployment. VII Corps deploys to the region in Nov. where it plays a key role in the "100 Hour War" that liberates Kuwait in February 1991.

1991

February -

Operation Desert Storm begins. In one week, the U.S. led coalition pushes Iraqi forces out of Kuwait and across the border into Iraq, where the coalition halts 150 miles south of Baghdad.

June -

Yugoslavia begins to break apart. The Dayton Accords end the ethnic war, five years later, in December 1995.

August -

The Seventh U.S. Army Noncommissioned Officer Academy relocates and becomes a tenant unit of the GTA.

December -

Soviet Premier Gorbachev announces the break-up of the Soviet Union.

1992

U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR) begins reducing forces in Germany, closing facilities and communities.

Area Support Teams in Amberg and Bindlach are closed as part of the USAREUR-wide draw down.

The USAREUR Soldier in the mid 1980s was many things. More than any other institution, the Army had become America's great melting pot. As a member of an all-volunteer Army the Soldiers assigned to U.S. Army Europe experienced cohesion, teamwork and esprit de corps in picturesque Europe, and by 1987 the Army's recruitment slogan, "Be All You Can Be" was an open invitation to talent from every part of the country, and to individuals from every social or ethnic background.

History of the Grafenwoehr Training Area

1993

NATO's Allied Land Forces Central Europe becomes operational at U.S. Army Europe's headquarters in Heidelberg with a staff of seven nations: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States. The troops of these armies become regular fixtures on the on GTA ranges in years to come.

September -

In an unusual statistical milestone, for the first time in U.S. history, Army retirees outnumber active-duty personnel because of radical downsizing of the U.S. Army.

1994

April -

The 283rd Base Support Battalion inactivates and the Wildflecken Training Area is returned to the German government.

October -

7th Army Training Center hosts the largest, most technologically complex, joint and combined computer-assisted training exercise in the U.S. Army to date, ATLANTIC RESOLVE 94, which replaces the annual REFORGER exercises.

1995

October -

The Nuremberg AST at Merrill Barracks is closed and returned to the German government.

December -

To enforce a peaceful resolution to the ongoing conflict in the Balkans, 20,000 U.S. Soldiers deploy to Bosnia for Operation Joint Endeavor.

In the first three months, the U.S. Air Force flies 3,000 missions, more than 15,600 troops, and delivers more than 30,100 tons of cargo. Many of the combat and support elements are trained, then airlifted from the GTA directly to the Balkans.

1996

January -

7th ATC participates in Task Force Eagle peace support certification operations prior to their departure for Operation Joint Endeavor. The JMTC maintains an active role in training units deploying to the Balkans as part of Operation Joint Guard, and deployments to Albania, Macedonia, and Kosovo for Operation Joint Guardian.

June -

NATO deploys Kosovo Force (KFOR) to promote stability in the Balkans. USAREUR's Task Force Falcon deploys as the main element of the Multinational Brigade.

September -

After years of civil war Kabul and Afghanistan fall to the Taliban.

1997

1997–2000:

The draw-down forces the closure of many USAREUR bases in Germany. With few exceptions the bases are turned over to the German government.

Planning begins for the construction of a Multi-Purpose Range Complex at the Grafenwoehr Training Area.

1999

March -

Operation Allied Force, NATO combat operations against Serbia, commence. USAREUR deploys Task Force Hawk to Albania in support of the operation.

May -

The GTA Range 117 modernization and expansion project is completed to meet the new gunnery requirements of the M1A2 Tank.

Likewise, Range 204 is completed to meet the standards of the Operation Desert Storm Bradley Fighting Vehicle.

Fielding of the new M109A6 Paladin Howitzer and German Howitzer 2000 results in new procedures and firing areas to allow realistic training with new artillery systems.

NATO turns 50.



2000

September -

The Grafenwoehr Training Area is being assessed for possible closure. Its strategic significance and importance to U.S. Army Europe are discussed at the highest levels of the Pentagon.

History of the Grafenwoehr Training Area

2001

September -

On September 11th, a series of coordinated suicide attacks by Al-Qaeda against the United States by 19 terrorists who crash four airliners into the World Trade Center, The Pentagon and a field in Pennsylvania.

October -

In response to the attacks, the United States launches Operation Enduring Freedom, (OEF) in Afghanistan. U.S. Army Europe units deploy in support of OEF including SETAF's 173rd Airborne Brigade.

2003

March through April -

Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) begins as the U.S. Army and Marines attack Iraq from bases in Kuwait. The 173rd Airborne Brigade jumps into Iraq in the largest combat air-drop since WWII. Baghdad is captured only 16 days after OIF begins. The 1st Armored Division deploys to Iraq for a 15-month combat tour.

September -

USAREUR introduces Efficient Basing Grafenwoehr (EBG). The EBG initiative enhances training readiness, improves force protection, and provides new or renovated facilities for Soldiers and families.

2004

May -

The first Counter-Improvised Explosive Device training begins at Grafenwoehr.

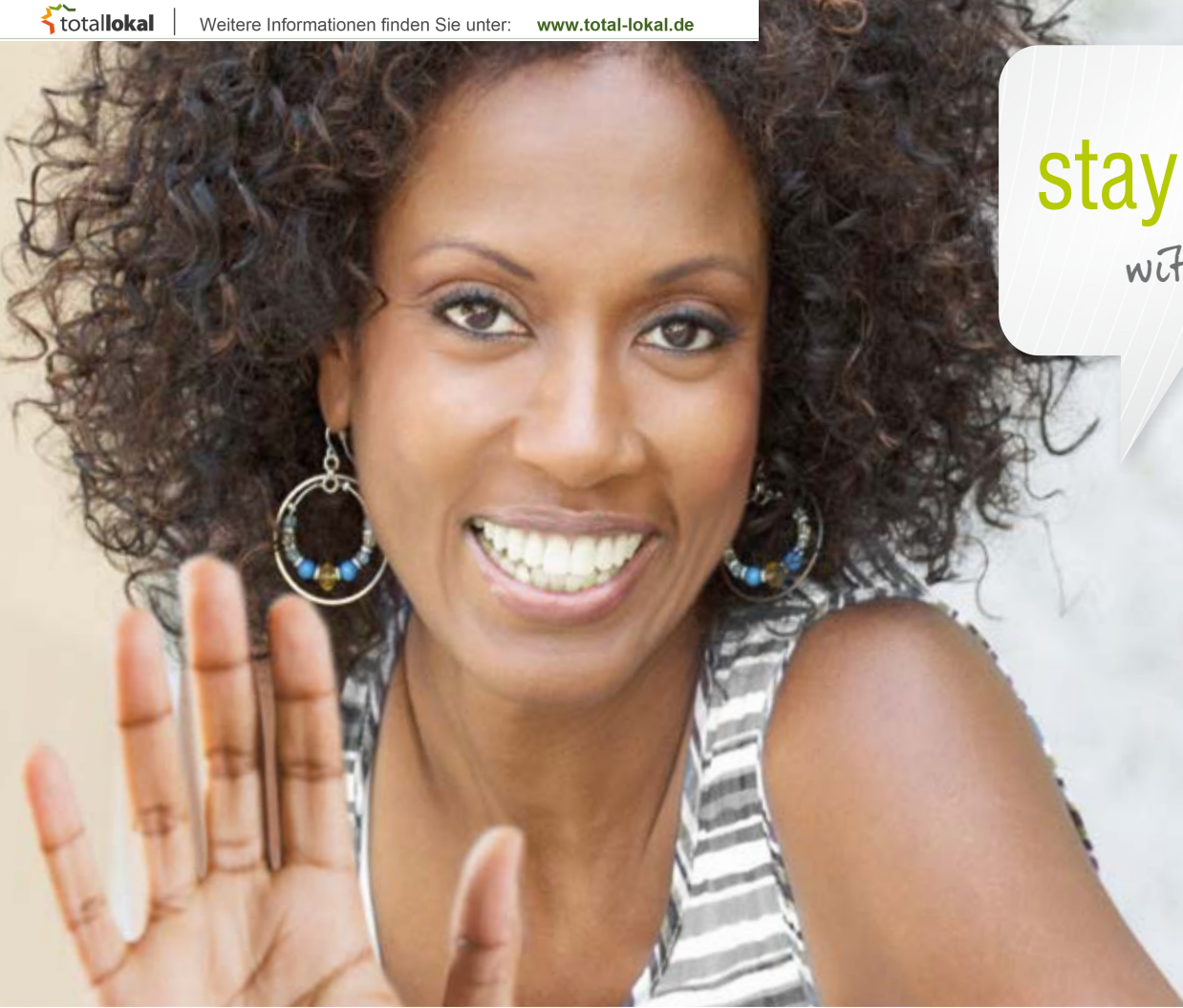
November -

Plans are announced to transform The Combat Maneuver Training Center (CMTCC) at Hohenfels, into the Joint Multinational Readiness Center.

The transformation will be complete in 2005. After years of study, the U.S. Army unveils a new uniform, dubbed the Army Combat Uniform (ACU). It becomes standard-issue for all deployed troops in the fall of 2005.



sxc.hu/profile/LilGoldWmn



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Grafenwoehr – Your home away from home

Through its 650-year history the city of Grafenwoehr has provided its residents and visitors with a plethora of entertainment and activities. This tradition continues today.

Visitors can explore historical documents in the Altstadt (historical town center), starting with the late Gothic Rathaus (town hall), which was constructed in 1462, and is therefore older than Columbus' famous voyage to the Americas. Currently, the city's administration conducts business in the Rathaus. The City Council meets there and residents hold wedding ceremonies in the building's historical rooms. In the past, the building also functioned as a school, a bank, fire department, police station, night-watchman quarters and as a prison.



The Rathaus is a single building in the center of the market square, which is typical for a 14th century town. In front of the Rathaus is the Mariensaeule (Saint Mary column), which was

constructed in 1922 in memory of the Grafenwoehr residents who died in World War I. It also honors the victims of World War II and the allied bombings on April 5 and April 8, 1945. The plague column located at the lower market square dates back to 1496. It is assumed that it was constructed in appreciation by the survivors of the plague.

History buffs will be interested in the 1. Oberpfälzer Kultur- und Militaer-museum (1st Cultural and Military Museum), which is located next to the city pond and city park. The exhibition details the influence of the military training area on the development of the town. It delves into the everyday lives of soldiers, but also warns about the consequences of military activities.

Grafenwoehr's churches and small chapels provide another opportunity for exploration. For example, the 15th century "Alte Pfarrkirche" with its rich Baroque interior, provides a sharp contrast to the modern Friedenskirche (Peace Church) which boasts a 114-square meter altarpiece.

Shoppers will find a variety of restaurants and specialty stores along the Neue and Alte Amberger Strasse.

The city's proximity to the Natural Park Noerdlicher Oberpfaelzer Wald offers a variety of activities for outdoor enthusiasts. Several bicycle and walking paths provide great views of the surrounding mountainous and forested areas, including the Fichtelgebirge, the Steinwald and the Oberpfaelzer Wald region. In addition, the city's public places offer entertainment for the entire family, including the Waldbad (outdoor pool), Stadthalle, child development services, kindergartens, schools, a library, the Megaplay (Indoor-playground), Sportpark and senior citizens homes.

Grafenwoehr is socially committed with the More Generations House, the Buergerladen and a Buerger-flohmarket (citizens' flea market).



Grafenwoehr citizens have established and maintained strong ties with American soldiers and civilians over the years. The joint celebration at the annual German-American Volksfest offers many opportunities for the two cultures to get to know each other. Also, the German-American KONTAKT Club and the German-American Community Council (DAGA) support the cultural and social exchange.





Community Hall

The Grafenwoehr Community Hall offers a variety of possible uses. Built as a multi-purpose facility, it can be used for sports, cultural events, information meetings and community events. It can be rented from the city in three sizes: The total size of the hall is 1.076 square feet and can be partitioned (1/3 or 2/3). The maximum amount of visitors is 1.200.

For more information, call the City office at 09641 92200.

Food and drink at the community hall will be provided through the local tenant, Gabriele Pöhl (☎ 09641 463). Family Pöhl will be happy to cater your event.



The restaurant in the town hall is a well-known Mexican restaurant "Tortuga".

Sportpark of the SV TuS/DJK

In 2004, the SV TuS/DJK sports club built a modern Sportpark near the local outdoor swimming pool. A sports center with a restaurant, a fully-automated 4-lane kegel alley, a sauna, meeting and training rooms as well as three regular sports fields and one small sports field are located on a 473 616 square meter-area.

For more information, go to www.sv-grafenwoehr.de.



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A visit in Vilseck is worth it

Vilseck is a historical charmed town, with tower armored fortifications, a one-thousand-year-old mighty fortress, centuries old stately homes, glorious churches, pretty chapels, dreamy corners: Vilseck holds the tranquillity of a small town, grown in the Middle Ages, but is continuing its impressive old town image until today, and the experts in terms of cultural history and cultural assets certify an extraordinary quality.

Vilseck also stands for rural idyllic scenes in dozens of villages, hamlets and solitudes; this is also "Oberpfälzer" (Upper Palatinate) charming hilly landscape with many ponds, extensive forests, pristine nature with living space for many rare animals and plants.

A wide network of well marked hiking trails encourages the visitor to challenge also the surrounding areas of the historical center. The trails run through most of the 35 villages which belong to the city. But primarily they offer a walker a piece of earth with peculiar charm. From the gentle mountain ranges with its, in parts sloping valley borders, a gorgeous view, far into the country, is offered.

The landmark of the city of Vilseck is the "Vogelturm". The building is a part

of the medieval city fortification and was the accommodation of the tower keeper. Nowadays it is used as the "Erste Deutsche Türmermuseum", the First German Tower Museum, whose arrangements and equipments give a live impression about the meager life of a tower keeper in the Oberpfalz (Upper Palatinate). The museum is open from Fridays – Sundays, and on legal holidays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The oldest and most important historical building in the city of Vilseck is the Castle Dagestein. The origin can be dated back to the year 930. The oldest, still preserved part is the ground floor of the Bergfried (Donjon), built around 1200. In the gate hall with its sandstone groined vault from the late Romanic time-frame, civilian marriages can be arranged. Whoever wants to say "Yes" up high over the roofs of the Old Town, can do so at the look-out of the castle tower. (Bergfried). Room for a wedding with historical ambient is available at the Zehentkasten (Tithe place), right next to the Castle Tower. The Donjon is open on Sundays and legal holidays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The historical ambient of the castle's inner ward is suited for all kinds of events; like concerts, markets, Kirchweih

(festivity, usually related to the patron of the church) etc. The highlight of course is the "Ritterlager auf der Burg", a knights camp at the castle, with numerous marketers, chandlers, craftsmen, jugglers, knights high on horses and maids who change the place to a medieval market.

Vilseck has one of the best located outdoor pools in the Oberpfalz! It is equipped with a 50 meter pool, as well as a 3 meter and a 1 meter diving platforms. In the non-swimmers area guests can enjoy underwater massage jets, a water fountain, bubbles and a giant 42 meters long waterslide with a separate final sliding basin. The wading pool for the little ones was just renewed and is embedded in ranking green. This is perfect for toddlers and their families not to be disturbed from other things going on and to relax. Besides swimming, there is a beach volleyball field, a sand soccer field and also a ping-pong table to be active. A well sorted kiosk offers food and drinks, which can be enjoyed at a big sun terrace. The season starts depending on the weather on or around May, 1st and ends usually in the middle of September. The pool is open daily from 9.00 a.m. until 8.00 p.m.



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Eschenbach i.d. Opf – a livable and loveable town

This is our motto and we would like to present our town to you, our American fellow citizens, and to show you what Eschenbach offers to you and your families. With this welcome-brochure we want to invite you to a brief ramble through the Rußweiher town.

History

Local historians assume that Eschenbach was founded in the 8th or 9th century. The village of Eschenbach surrounded the parish church which is still located at the same place. This church was the center of the village Eschenbach, later the market and then the town. In 1285 the village was listed as market town for the first time and on January 11th 1358 Charles IV granted town privileges to Eschenbach. The following centuries were marked by several destructions, pillages and lootings as well as devastating town fires that laid big parts in ashes but the inhabitants always kept their chins up. After World War II the town persons responsible had to cope with the enormous task of accommodating and integrating numerous refugees. This also included creating new jobs and improving education offers and health services.



New building areas were designated and this led to a steadily increasing population. Nowadays, more than 7,500 people – including the American families – live in the town.

The core of the town

In 1990 Eschenbach started to redevelop the town center, a process that is almost finished. The town hall can be seen as the central building, built in 1570. The town core is an attractive residential area but also the perfect location for several retail shops, banks, gastronomy and many health services. In addition to the characteristic churches at the East and West end of the old town, also the art works of the town hall and rotary fountains and the glass art at Marienplatz show the beauty of this area. Strolling through the alleys pays off as well.

Nature and relaxation

The Eschenbach "Erholungswald" (forest for relaxation) is just the second forest in Bavaria that received this title. This is a sign for extraordinary relaxation. The forest contains of the natural reserve "Vogelfreistätte Großer Rußweiher" (the lake area of Rußweiher) and the forest nature trail "Holzweg" which we would like to inform you briefly about:

Natural reserve "Vogelfreistätte Großer Rußweiher"

The natural reserve includes a range of fish ponds and is at the same time breeding habit for many bird species, especially mire crows. Designated trails with different watching towers and observation platforms allow the visitors to get an insight in the special flora and fauna of the region.

Forest nature trail "Holzweg"

A cooperation between Eschenbach, the nature park Nördlicher Oberpfälzer Wald, Waldjugend Eschenbach and the local forest authority fostered the creation of a natural adventure park next to highway B470 (direction Presath) in 2002 that offers quality time in unspoiled countryside for everyone. English brochures about both sights can be found in the registration office in Eschenbach.

Leisure time

Circular walk around "kleiner Rußweiher"

Walking, bicycling or inline skating, alone or with the family – there are offers for everyone in Eschenbach. Our asphalted circular way invites the visitors to relax when walking the 5.3 kilometers around the bathing lake Rußweiher and to enjoy the gastronomy offers of "Hexenhäusel", the camping and leisure facility, the hotel and restaurant "Glutschaufel" or the "Hotel am See".



Eschenbach i.d. Opf – a livable and loveable town

Lake "Rußweiher"

The outdoor facilities of the Rußweiher lake which were built in 2007 and recreated in 2011 with a special fun area for the young children offers fun and relaxation for all sun worshippers and bathers. It is the only bathing lake in the region with the opportunity to explore Rußweiher lake with a paddleboat. Refreshments will be served by the kiosk.



Family and children

Many playgrounds can be found in Eschenbach. Additionally, the local kindergarten offers 4 childcare groups for children between 3 and 6 years and two groups for the youngest aged 1-3, that are also used by our American families.

Netzaberg/Partnership

In 2006 the laying of the foundation stone for Netzaberg, a new part of the town, took place. The name

belongs to a group of houses that was mentioned in a document of 1844. On an area of 60 hectares 830 houses were built for the families of our American friends, which shall be a "temporary home" during their deployment in Grafenwöhr and Vilseck. Due to a fully developed bikeway all Netzaberg inhabitants can reach Eschenbach easily by foot or bike.

The city of Eschenbach enjoys a great and very intensive partnership with the soldiers and families of at Grafenwoehr stationed 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment.

Warmly welcome to Eschenbach.

Peter Lehr, 1st Mayor

Welcome to Eschenbach

Stadt Eschenbach i.d.OPf.
Marienplatz 42, 92676 Eschenbach i.d.OPf.
Tel.: 0 96 45/92 00-0
Fax: 0 96 45/80 95
E-Mail: poststelle@eschenbach-opf.de
www.eschenbach-opf.de

A cordial welcome to the county of Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab in Upper



County and County Commissioner

The administrative center of the county is in Neustadt. The county has a population of 98,000 in 38 communities on an area of 1,430 square kilometers. It's a modern business location in the center of Europe with good travel connections. County Commissioner: Simon Wittmann



Hiking country

Goldsteig, Nurtschweg (European hiking trail E6), Glass Grinder Trail, Sculpture Trail, Upper Palatinate Trail, geo tours, lanes to Bohemia, nature trails, friendly hiking guides...



Biking country

Bockl-Cycle-track (Bavaria's longest railway cycle track), Iron Curtain Trail (EuroVelo R13), Amity cycle track, pan-European bike way, Zoigl cycle track, Haidenaab cycle track...



Country of castles

Festival castle Leuchtenberg, castle and museum Neuhaus, Hohenstaufen castle ruin Flossenbürg, palaces Friedrichsburg and Burgtreswitz, Lobkowitz Palaces Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab...



Never-ending holidays...

The rural county of Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab is located in the heart of the Upper Palatinate Forest, a densely wooded, romantic low mountain range, which runs parallel to the Bohemian border as a harmonic chain of mountains.

Located at the intersection of three lovely holiday routes - Porcelain, Glass and Golden Road („Goldene Straße“) – the county is a perfect starting point for day trips to the Bavarian charismatic cities of Ratisbon and Nuremberg, as well as to the neighbouring Bohemia, the City of Beer Pilsen or the Golden City of Prague.

The county of Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab – a holiday region to experience!

You are very welcome...

A beautifully wooded range of hills, wild romantic river valleys, enchanting towns and locations – the Upper Palatinate Forest is a natural Bavarian landscape with flair and culture.



OberpfälzerWald
in Bayern

Palatinate forest /



Oberpfälzer Wald



Country of culture

Speinshart, built around its famous monastery, baroque churches, festivals, theaters, summer concerts, concentration camp memorial, museums for the young and the young at heart...



Country of treat

Restaurants, brewery events, zoigl inns, beer gardens, traditional taverns, festival weeks, farmers' markets...



Vacation country

Camping, fishing, boat riding, swimming in lakes and enjoying the fresh air, ropes courses, first-class golf courses, winter sports...



Country of experiences

Geo-Center KTB, basalt mountain and volcano museum Parkstein, natural preserves, glass factory outlet, farm holidays, traditional events, festivals everywhere...



i **Tourismuszentrum Oberpfälzer Wald**
Landkreis Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab
 Stadtplatz 34 · D-92660 Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab
 Fon 09602/791050 · Fax 09602/79971066
www.oberpfaelzerwald.de · tourismus@neustadt.de

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 exploring biking
 experiencing nature learning
 ...visit us

Welcome at Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab

Dear friends from the United States!

I am glad to welcome you to your new duty location in Grafenwöhr. Your duty here protects the democracy, peace and freedom of the whole Western civilization. I hope you enjoy living in the Upper Palatinate. I invite you and your family to take part in our many cultural and social events in the rural county of Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab, and to visit our interesting historical sites and buildings.

I would like to make you especially aware of the historical village of Speinshart which was built around the Speinshart monastery with its wonderful baroque abbey. But you can also find impressive churches in Pressath, in Eschenbach and in Grafenwöhr. Another awesome sight is the moated castle in Dießfurt.

There are many restaurants in the county of Neustadt, where local specialties are served, which you will surely enjoy.

We have plenty of hiking trails and a huge network of bike tracks with signs guiding your way and a lot of other leisure facilities.

You are now in one of Germany's most beautiful regions, where nature is still undisturbed and whose diversity is a special experience.

You are very welcome guests. I hope you will enjoy our region and it will become your second home.



Yours sincerely

Simon Wittmann
County Commissioner of
Neustadt a. d. Waldnaab



Speinshart monastery



Town of Pleystein – Rose quartz rock with church

A cordial welcome to our county of Neustadt a. d. Waldnaab

County Commissioner's Greeting

Fellow citizens, new inhabitants, dear guests

A cordial welcome to our county of Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab

We would like to introduce our county in a few words. In short, it is a wonderful home for locals, an exciting experience for guests and a modern business location close to the new economic markets in the East.

At the same time we would like to present our holiday and recreation area in the heart of Europe. Our county is located in the center of the Oberpfälzer Wald (the Upper Palatinate Forest) and perfectly fits any needs of a family vacation. Friendly hosts in various hotels, neat restaurants, comfortable bed & breakfasts and modern vacation apartments will take care of your needs. Especially, farm holidays are liked by all. Fans of camping will find idyllic and comfortable camping grounds and lots for motor caravans across the county's territory. For hikers, a widespread net of approximately 130 well-marked hiking and circular trails exists, offering 1000 km of hiking fun right through the beautiful landscape of lovely valleys, large forests and hilly terrain. The newest trail crossing our county is the "Goldsteig", which is one of Germany's top trails. Large parts of the county's territory are also nature reserves. We would like to especially recommend visiting the nature-sanctuary Waldnaab Valley close to Windischeschenbach, the 'Vogelfreistätte' at the Upper Rußweiher close to Eschenbach, the deer-park in Eslarn and the geological nature trail at Tännenberg.

Very scenic are the inactive volcanos Rough and Little Kulm, the basalt mountain of Parkstein and the rose quartz rock in Pleystein's historic district. There you will have an exciting view. The same applies to Kohlhubel at Market Kohlberg. When the skies are clear you can see as far as the Jura Mountains, the Fichtelgebirge and parts of Bohemia.



Basalt mountain of Parkstein

The open border crossing points for hikers and bikers allow for tours to the neighboring Czech Republic. But our county is also well known for its many castles. The biggest and most famous castle of the Upper Palatinate is Leuchtenberg, but the castle ruins of Flossenbürg and Schellenberg are also always worth a visit. Additional sights are amongst others the baroque Prämonstrat abbey in the village of Speinshart, the Friedrichsburg in Vohenstrauß and the Old and New Lobkowitz Palace in the county seat Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab. The continental drilling at Windischeschenbach is world-famous. There, the Geo Center and the 83 m sized drill tower are waiting for visitors. It is the only site in our region which was approved as a remote location as part of EXPO 2000. And close to new fantastic Volcano-Museum at Parkstein you can find the headquarters of the Geopark Bavaria-Bohemia. If you are into water sports, you will find plenty of outdoor pools, indoor swimming pools, ponds and lakes where you are able to either swim, sail, surf or fish. Bikers will find marked cycle tracks across the entire county territory. The family Bockl-Cycle-track built on top of the former local railway line between Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab, Vohenstrauß and Eslarn is Bavaria's longest railway cycle track with a length of 52 km. The track is currently temporarily part of the pan-European bike way Paris-Nurem-

berg-Prague. "Schwanhof", Germany's most attractive 18-hole golf course near Luhe-Wildenau is awaiting golfers.

And fans of winter sports can enjoy the landscape of our low mountain range. Cross-country skiers are offered several ski-tracks which they can count on being covered with snow in the winter. Ski lifts at Wurmstein in Flossenbürg and the ski slope at Fahrenberg, located between Waldthurn and Pleystein and reliably covered with snow in the winter time because it is equipped with snow cannons, provide exciting slopes for skiers and snowboarders. Our inexpensive resorts offer a large entertainment program. This includes events featuring folklore, local music and dance, wine, festivals, as well as film presentations and slide shows.

Cultural highlights are the Burgfestspiele (castle festival) in Leuchtenberg and Vohenstrauß which take place annually from May to August, the open air festivals at the Neuhaus Castle, inside Burgtreswitz Castle and in Parkstein, the summer concerts in Wurzh and the St. Jodok-Ride in Tännenberg. As "Europe's lead crystal centre", our region offers affordable glass wares right off the production line. As popular holiday tracks, the glass and porcelain road, as well as the 'Goldene Straße' (Golden Road) are crossing the county. You will find a lot of local specialties on our restaurant's

A cordial welcome to our county of Neustadt a. d. Waldnaab

menus, including luscious roasted pork and venison with home-made dumplings, but also native fish and mushroom dishes. A special delicacy is the traditionally brewed Zoigl beer from Windischeschenbach, Neuhaus and Eslarn, which is served with solid home-made bavarian Brotzeit.

Our county's tourist information centers and the public tourism agencies are looking forward to giving further advice or sending brochures to you upon request. Additional up to date information about the county, its structure and administration can be found online at www.neustadt.de or www.oberpfaelzerwald.de. You are very welcome to visit us there.

Economic region in the heart of Europe

The county of Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab lies in Europe's geographical center, bordered in the east for 38 km by the Czech Republic. Two border crossings make for close connections with this neighboring country. Thanks to the building of the new interstate A-6 a whole new axis of development opens up to the economic region. Interesting development possibilities on the markets of the new EU members in Eastern Europe can be accessed via this route. By creating new commercial areas along the interstate, the local communities have prepared their territory for new industrial settlements. Germany's biggest border crossing located at Waidhaus is also in our region.

Lowest population density of Bavaria

With a total area of 1430 square kilometers, Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab county is the eighth largest county in Bavaria with a population of 98,000 in 2013. This results in a population density of 70 citizens per square kilometer, which is the lowest in Bavaria.

The municipality of Weiden is located in the center of the county. The NATO-Training Area at Grafenwoehr, 230 square kilometers in size and administrated by

the US Army, is also part of Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab county.

You can reach the region via three train routes. The main railway line Regensburg – Weiden – Hof leads right through the rural district. Railway connections exist to Bayreuth and Nuremberg. Using the A 93 in north-south direction and the A 6 (east-west), the region is well connected in each direction by large highways to the metropolitan regions of Germany and the Czech Republic.

Companies with international reputation in the region

After the economic decline of the traditional glass and porcelain industry in the eighties and nineties, an established middle class with a brilliant sectoral mix developed. Various ancillary industries for the automobile industry need to be mentioned, specialized in metalworking and polymer processing. In Flossenbürg is the center of Eastern Bavaria's granite industry. But the region is also the home of leading international companies. In the logistics sector, Witron Corporation located in Parkstein, a family enterprise, was turned from a oneman company into a global player by Walter Winkler. Also plate glass processing (Pilkington Weiherhammer) and the glass manufacturer F.X. Nachtmann are important. They are two traditional glass companies, well known for being quality brands. The imprinting of various package materials is the specialty of Constantia Hueck Folien Co. in Pirk. With additional factories in Europe and the US, the family enterprise is an international company.

Also, high quality products like medical lasers or ceramic foils are manufactured. In Eschenbach, "Curamic Electronics" produces important semi-conductor products. BHS-Corrugated in Weiherhammer supplies mainly corrugated paper machines around the globe.

The U.S. Army in Grafenwoehr and Vilseck is still the largest and most important regional employer.



Leuchtenberg Castle

The upkeep and development of existing companies but also the support of new industrial settlements are goals, the rural district policy is trying to achieve. The best basis for that is, of course, the citizen. Well-trained, ambitious and loyal employees are at your service.

Administration and leadership of the rural county

The county administration is located in Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab with its offices in the Lobkowitz Palaces in the center of the newly restored town square.

Service and assistance to the citizens' needs are the trademark of the county's administration. Satellite offices in Eschenbach and Vohenstrauß exist to shorten the traveling distances for county's citizens needing administrative support in various areas such as car registration. A virtual guide on our webpage explains what type of services are available at the various locations.

All the information you need can be found on pp. 26/27 or online at www.neustadt.de.

We hope you will enjoy our county and feel at home here!

Yours sincerely,

Simon Wittmann
County Commissioner of
Neustadt a. d. Waldnaab

Spa world + Ice Stadium



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New in our Spa World is the "Wellness-Oase". Enjoy the massage-program: full body massages or even facial massages or many other offers. The range of our offer is very wide. Our staff will inform you willingly! In our bath tub can you relax and enjoy the flavoursome essential oils – alone or with your partner. Pure relaxation is guaranteed.

Do you like it hot?

Maybe a visit in our sauna world could be a variety in your personal recreational activities. Our different sauna cabins offer for everyone the right climate and temperature. After that jump into the icy pool to cool down.

A short visit in the Hot-Whirl-Pool relaxes your musculature. Then relax in our sauna garden, the winter garden or in the rest room.

Come in and be surprised!

Take time for yourself and relax in our wellness area. Do you want to make a gift?

You can buy various vouchers and present someone with relaxation and pure excitement! Our ice stadium has usually opened from September to April. You can only watch the ice cracks or go down yourself and try our ability on skates. The time of public runnings is published in the internet or the daily press.



Spa World + Ice Stadium



Off to the water!

A warm welcome to the Water Fun World!

Take a deep breath, simply feel at ease – and finally take the opportunity to truly relax: The Weidener Hot Springs World is the perfect place for this. Treat yourself to a little breather from the daily grind and visit the Hot Springs World. Fun, relaxation, action and sports: Here, you will find just the right thing!

The Adventure Area in the Weidener Hot Springs World

A bubbling, gushing experience, a fast ride in the giant water slide, or an exhilarating tour through the whitewater channel – action and relaxation go together at the Weidener Bathing/Swimming World.

The sports area

Relaxed swimming or daring dives from the 5-m board: The Hot Springs World is also just right for sports enthusiasts. In our sports area, numerous sports/fitness courses (such as Aqua-Jogging) also take place – you will find further information on the internet at www.freizeitzeitzentrum-weiden.de

The saltwater grotto and salina

Inhale, exhale and relax: Our warm saltwater grotto (45°C) aids the mind and invigorates the body. The salina is a refresher for the mind – and has a healing effect. Enjoy these oasis' of recreation.



The Children's World at the Freizeitzentrum Weiden

All the things that kids can do with and in water – experience it in the comfortably warm small children's pool (33°C) – with a water slide, funny water-spouting animals and funny pictures on the wall. The ideal place for little water rats!

Let your mind relax...

Sweating has never been nicer: We have renovated and completely redesigned our Sauna World for you. Enjoy yourself in the indoor and outdoor areas – or visit our Finnish Sauna, the Organic and Eucalyptus saunas plus the Tropical Sauna. For cooling off in a healthy way after and between taking a sauna, we have our diving pool (13°C) or the somewhat warmer outdoor cold pool (18°C).

Relax in the Wellness Oasis

Pure relaxation in a perfect atmosphere to feel at ease – this is the promise of the Wellness Oasis in the Hot Springs World. From aromatic oil massage and Moxa acupuncture treatment to relaxing wellness baths, the Oasis offers luxurious hours for body and mind alike – in any season.

Ice World

At the Weidener Ice World, you can enjoy the ice eight months a year: From September to mid-April, you can glide on blades at our indoor ice rink – then comes summer break. The times for public ice skating are published on the internet and the daily press.





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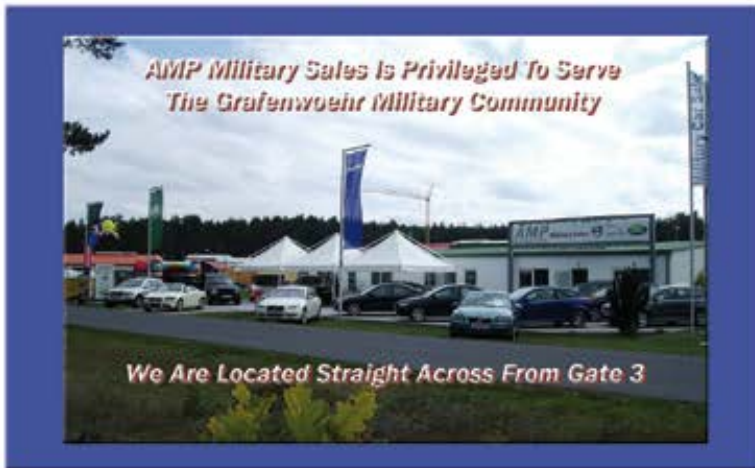
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Weiden – a town to fall in love

Modern and ancient, stylish and traditional – that's Weiden. History and dynamic enterprises complement one another perfectly. Traditional firms as Bauscher, Seltmann, Nachtmann and Witt guarantee quality and are representatives of the classic products of the region: china, glass and textiles. Be surprised by the dazzling variety of offers in all aspects, which fulfill all



your desires, by the charm of the ancient town with its magnificent Renaissance houses and the impressive old town-hall. Stroll across the marketplace full of atmosphere of German "Gemütlichkeit", especially at market days (Wednesdays and Saturdays) or indulge in local but also in international gastronomic specialties in the numerous taverns and restaurants. The many street-café invite you to stay. A town full of life Weiden is so diverse that each visitor will find a favorite place. Walking through the interesting and colorful

shopping areas or through the nice and historic little alleys – something new will always catch your eye! Weiden has a wide range of well assorted shops, you will find anything you need and also a lot of things, you didn't know you needed! You know: shopping is like taking home holidays! Well invigorated you then can recreate by sport – Weiden is a sport center for the whole area, for example have fun in the spa (Thermenwelt), which is unrivalled! You'll find sauna, whirlpool, thermal pool, huge indoor and outdoor pool, slide, a lot



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of wellness-offers await you. Next to the spa is also an impressive ice-rink, where you can skate or play ice hockey. Beside that there are unlimited possibilities throughout the year: swimming, skiing, biking, football, tennis, rowing, hiking, shooting. At Christmas time Weiden changes into a fairyland with the second oldest Christmas market in Bavaria. Listen to the Christmas carols on the stairs of the old town hall, which changes into a gigantic advent calendar each year and is paid regular visits by Santa Claus and the "Christkind".

FREIZEITZENTRUM WEIDEN



THERMENWELT | HANS-SCHRÖPF-ARENA

Raiffeisenstraße 5 - 7
Informationen unter:

92637 Weiden in der Oberpfalz
www.freizeitzentrum-weiden.de

The Weiden Clinic

Please allow me to introduce myself.

My name is Dr. Med. Thomas Egginger. I specialize in internist medicine, diabetes and nutritional medicine. In addition I graduated from a two year education in profit- and solution-oriented communications with extra-occupational major in Health Care Management.

Prior to my occupation as a full-time medical director and executive director of the Kliniken Nordoberpfalz AG, I worked as a chief physician of an acute-inpatient diabetology speciality department for several years as well as a chief physician of an inpatient diabetology specialty department in one of Germany's largest diabetes rehabilitation clinics.

The Weiden Clinic is part of Kliniken Nordoberpfalz AG. It has 575 beds and is the high-tech and supply centre. We have 12 main specialist departments and 4 external-physician departments. 150 physicians, around 500 nursing staff and 350 other employees are there to take care of you. We are a teaching hospital of the University of Regensburg. If you would like further information, please see our homepage which is available in English (www.kliniken-nordoberpfalz.ag). An information brochure for our clinic is available on request. It is also issued when patients are admitted to the clinic.

It contains detailed information on the conditions in and around the hospital.

If you come to us and would like to or need to be treated, the Senior Consultant himself or his deputy will take care of you. There are English-speaking secretaries in each secretarial office who will look after you. Our doctors on the wards also speak English.

In addition to optimum medical and care treatment, the catering too is of course an important factor. Our menus are available in English. You can take your time to put together your own menu from our extensive selection of dishes. We write doctors' letters in such a way that the significant findings and details of how to proceed further are given in English. As a result, the doctor who will be continuing your treatment can use this information directly.

Should you have any problems during your stay with us, please speak to the ward physician or the nurse who is looking after you. A continuity-of-care nurse, Ms Helen Wise, is also responsible for you at the Weiden Clinic.

Please see the information enclosed.



Dr. Thomas Egginger
Medical Director of Kliniken Nordoberpfalz AG



Helen Wise
Nurse Specialist/Case manager



The Eschenbach district hospital

Eschenbach District Hospital, which is part of the Kliniken Nordoberpfalz AG, also provides primary care services. It offers around 80 beds, shared between internal medicine and surgery. A number of beds are also available for gynaecological treatment which is provided by external physicians.

All areas in the hospital have information signs written in English.

As in the Weiden Clinic, your treatment will be provided by the head physician. Here too, doctors' letters are translated into English and passed on to allow direct treatment. Patient

brochures in English which provide further assistance in the individual specialist areas are also available.

We have made all necessary arrangements in order to ensure that our patients have a pleasant stay with us and receive effective help.

Yours sincerely
Dr. Thomas Egginger
Medical Director of Kliniken Nordoberpfalz AG



„We help sick people“

A guideline we always centre our work on.

The Weiden Clinic



Together with the seven locations in the region Oberpfalz Nord we are a strong healthcare group.

Our high medical and nursing service quality is supported by state-of-the-art apparatus medicine. We are thus able to offer an integral care for our patients.

Our specialist departments:

General, visceral and thorax surgery

Head physician Prof. Karl-Heinz Dietl, tel. 3 03-30 02

Vascular surgery

Head physician Dr. Eberhard Müller, tel. 3 03-30 22

Trauma and reconstructive surgery

Transit/BG procedure

Head physician Dr. Thomas Neubauer-Gartzke,
tel. 3 03-30 41

Medical clinic I

Head physician Prof. Dr. Frank Kullmann,
tel. 3 03-31 02

Medical clinic II

Head physician Prof. Dr. Robert Schwinger,
tel. 3 03-31 52

Gynaecological hospital

Head physician Dr. Albert Roßmann, tel. 3 03-32 52

Paediatric clinic/Perinatal centre

Head physician Dr. Fritz Schneble, tel. 3 03-33 52

Urological clinic, paediatric urology

Head physician Prof. Dr. Theodor Klotz, MPH,
tel. 3 03-33 02

Institute for anaesthesiology

Head physician Dr. Jürgen Altmeppen, tel. 3 03-32 02

Specialist hospital
with supraregional significance
575 beds, 10 dialysis locations
10 beds in the pain therapeutical day hospital

Neurological clinic

Head physician Dr. Michael Angerer, tel. 3 03-35 02

Interdisciplinary pain day hospital

Head physicians:

Dr. Jürgen Altmeppen, Dr. Michael Angerer,
tel. 3 03-32 42

Radiotherapy

Head physician PD Dr. Bernd Gagel, tel. 3 03-34 51

Nuclear medicine

Head physician PD Dr. Johann Schönberger, tel. 3 03-34 90

Radiological diagnostics

Head physician Prof. Dr. Christian Paetzel, tel. 3 03-34 01

Physical therapy

Management: Jens Hegebart, tel. 3 03-46 00

External-physician departments

ENT medicine, ophthalmology, oral and maxillofacial surgery, neurosurgery



The Weiden Clinic

Direction Josef Götz
Söllnerstraße 16, 92637 Weiden

tel. 0961 / 3 03-0, fax 0961 / 3 03-21 09

E-Mail: info@kliniken-nordoberpfalz.ag
Internet: www.kliniken-nordoberpfalz.ag

Welcome to Amberg-Sulzbach



Dear guests!

We have a lot to offer you – in particular the landscape of our region.

The Jura Mountains reveal their wealth of natural forms – hilltops, creeks, the dolina, limestone reefs, dripstone caves, colorful deciduous forests, slopes covered in wild flowers, picturesque streams and marshlands.

For walkers, climbers, Nordic walkers, water and sand skiers, sand boarders, pot-holers, canoeists, anglers and cyclists our region has always been a popular destination. Riders will find Europe's biggest equestrian centre in Kreuth, near Rieden.

Numerous castles, some only ruins, palaces and monasteries remind us of the historic significance of the region due to its dominant industry: iron-mining.

I warmly invite you to come and get to know for yourself the district of Amberg-Sulzbach!

Yours sincerely

Richard Reisinger
Head of the administrative district

The country-side around Amberg-Sulzbach – take a walk on the wild side!

The district of Amberg-Sulzbach, located between Nuremberg, Bayreuth and Regensburg, lies at the heart of Bavaria. Tranquillity and activity, innovation and tradition, ancient and modern – these are contrasts, which at first glance don't go together and yet in the district of Amberg-Sulzbach they are in direct contact.

The appeal of the countryside lies in the gently undulating line of hills and touches both the senses and the soul. It is a countryside where you can let your dreams carry you away, romantic and full of idyllic spots for those seeking peace, relaxation and inspiration. To the east the foothills of the Upper Palatinate forest, to the south and west the Jura landscape, the remainder of an ocean long-disappeared, defines the appearance. Like blue ribbons the rivers Vils and Lauterach meander through the region, bypassing rugged Jura rocks, picturesque villages and fortresses and castles of former significance. Villages and

towns are marked by thousands of years of history, by prosperity, wealth, downfall and renewal. The long history of settlement in our homeland is confirmed by finds from the Stone Age, Celtic defenses and remains of a church from Carolingian times – a sensational find for archaeologists.

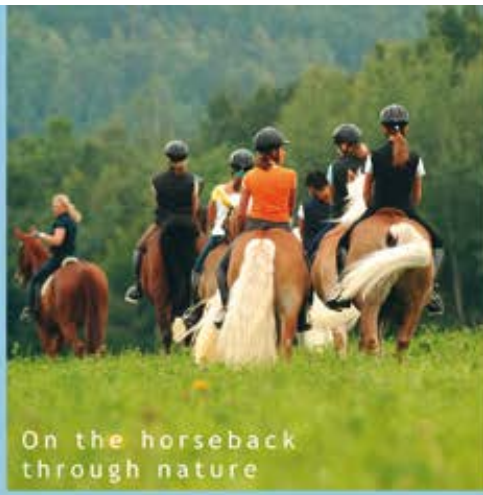
There are relics from millions of years. The Maximilian's grotto near Auerbach and the Easter cave near Neukirchen enable us to penetrate far underground. It may now only be history but the mining, smelting and trading with iron ore have not only resulted in the district being known as the "Black country" of the Middle Ages but also influenced the local culture and left traces everywhere. On the one hand it was the old hammer works with their manor houses for example in Theuern or Schmidmühlen, the old iron mineshafts of the Maffei mine near Auerbach or the Maxhütte iron works in Sulzbach-Rosenberg. It is completely different in the "land of

white earth" Germany's largest source of kaolin sand in and around Hirschau/Schnaittenbach. The mineral is highly desired on the world market as a raw material for the paper and porcelain industries – and here it is extracted in large mines. You can also learn and experience the evolutionary history of this district through a geo-route as well as the Monte Kaolino - the highest hill in Europe for sand skiing, where even world championships are held.

Everyone loves the beauty and the diversity of nature in our region. With its extensive forests filled with a mystic calm, Amberg-Sulzbach is one of the most intensively forested areas of Bavaria. The "Hirschwald" (forest of the deer) just outside the city gates of Amberg was the former hunting ground for the local ruler, and was recently declared a nature reserve. But there is good reason for calling it the "Hirschwald" – even nowadays the red deer, the king of the forest, is at home here.



The river Vils
at Theuern



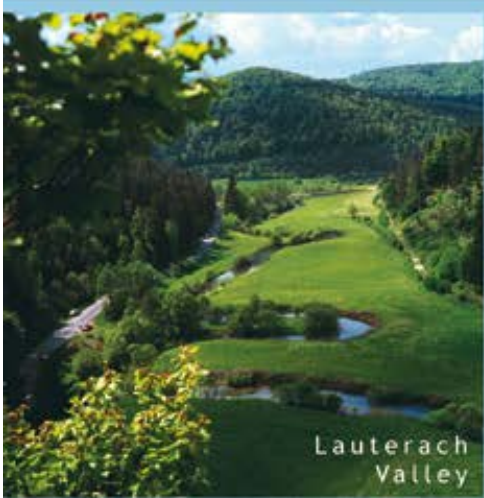
On the horseback
through nature



Trip on
the bike

Amberg-Sulzbacher Land

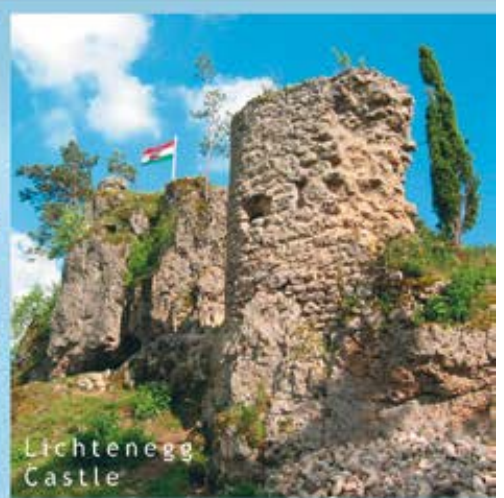
Take a walk on the wild side!



Lauterach
Valley



Monte Kaolino
in Hirschau



Lichtenegg
Castle

Kastl in the summertime



The country-side around Amberg-Sulzbach – take a walk on the wild side!

The high forest seems like a gigantic hall with pillars of fir, pine and beech trunks, which support a green canopy overhead. The bare juniper moorland of the Lauterach valley and the lower river Vils present a completely different picture. Not without reason is this stretch of land known as the "Bavarian Tuscany." The meager grassland offers grazing for herds of sheep, swallow-tail butterflies flutter from flower to flower and the sight of rare plants like wild orchids or silver thistle makes every botanist's heart beat faster.

In this treasury of nature there is something for everyone. The rambler can enjoy the solitude of the endless forest in which the mushroom gatherer is also out "hunting." The cyclist can explore the beautiful river valleys and the river Vils is a hot tip for canoeists. Anglers appreciate the famous trout to be found in the Lauterach. The area around Hirschbach with its Dolomite rocks offers climbers perhaps not the highest climbs, but certainly the most dangerous. Golfers can go to Königstein or Schmidmühlen, and for horse riders there is Kreuth near Rieden, the largest equestrian centre in Europe.

But the district can also offer many cultural attractions. Names like Wolfgang Dientzenhofer, Cosmas Damian Asam or Johann Baptist Zimmermann guarantee the high quality of the interiors of the Barock churches and monasteries, such as Ensdorf or Michelfeld.

Do you like Romanesque or Gothic architecture? The Romanesque fortified monastery majestically overlooks Kastl, a unique witness of the Benedictine architecture west of the Rhineland. And even from a distance you can see the towers of the Gothic hall church of St. Martin in Amberg, which for centuries was the burial place of the families who owned the hammer-mills.

Feel like taking part in a local celebration or festival? In Amberg-Sulzbach alone there are over 120 church festivals. Visitors come from far and near to visit the unique "hill" festivals. These begin at the end of June on the Marihilfberg (Hill of our Lady) in Amberg, the biggest Bavarian hill pilgrimage. Throughout the year our restaurants and hotels have something on offer for everyone – from the gourmet cuisine to the traditional restaurant with local specialities. The special "game" weeks are famous beyond the borders of our district; likewise the delicious Juradistel lamb, which is known to have a special local flavour. To accompany this we have a unique choice of beers: 14 breweries, of which one alone brews 13 different sorts of beer.

Friends of the theatre will appreciate the Stadttheater (town theatre) in Amberg. Yet, from year to year the outdoor theatres in Hirschau, Auerbach, Freudenberg and Sulzbach-Rosenberg are rapidly gaining popularity. Nowhere else in Germany is there such a density of fortresses, including ruins and these

are often used as another form of open-air stage. The Hollywood star, Nicolas Cage certainly knew what he was doing when he decided to buy a castle, Schloss Neidstein, in this district.

And no-one will forget the impressive view from the ruin of Burg Lichtenegg, looking far into the distance towards Franconia and the Bavarian forest.

Sulzbach-Rosenberg is the location of the largest castle in northern Bavaria and in Amberg, the former residence with the electoral castle, the town "spectacles" – the symbol of the town – bridges the river Vils. Nor should we forget the museums.

The mining tradition of the past is presented in the Maffei mine, near Amberg, in the town museum in Sulzbach-Rosenberg and in the mining and industry museum in Theuern.

In Vilseck there is the first German watchtower museum and in Sulzbach-Rosenberg there is the Bavarian School Museum and the Literary Archive, renowned beyond the borders of Bavaria.

Have we aroused your curiosity? We would be delighted to welcome you to our region. It doesn't take much to fill up with new energy here – all you need is to have enough time!



Hohenburg – Bavarian Tuscany



View into Hirschbach Valley



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Total recreation at the new arranged "White Giant" Monte Kaolino sand hill in Hirschau

The Monte Kaolino is definitely the most exceptional place for summer skiing in Germany. It offers unusual skiing slopes for sand skiing, sand boarding and Bigfoot lovers with its 120 meters high dune landscape, centered in the forest area of the Oberpfalz (Upper Palatinate).

This unique white sand hill developed to a new recreation park, opening in May 2007. A heated outdoor pool, equipped with a 50 m slide, a big play and 'mud' area for kids and many other possibilities avoid boredom.

"The Young and the Young at Heart", even beginners find excitement and a different point of view at the high ropes course.



A large camping area, a well assorted cuisine and several hiking trails turn the recreation park into an experience for all age groups.



About us
 Trans Global Logistics Europe GmbH located in Mainz-Kostheim was founded in May 2005 to support customers of Trans Global Auto Logistics Inc. located in Grand Prairie, TX, and provide them with better and additional services.
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Total recreation at the new arranged "White Giant" Monte Kaolino sand hill in Hirschau



Monte Kaolino




Sandboarding

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HIRSCHAU IN DER OBERPFALZ

Communally owned enterprise "Hospitals of the county Amberg-Sulzbach"



Hospitals with human touch and professional competence



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SULZBACH - ROSENBERG



ST. JOHANNES CLINIC
AUERBACH



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St. Anna Hospital

A modern and patient-friendly facility

In operation since 1995, with over 165 beds available

You will be accommodated in comfortable 2-bed rooms with washstand or shower with WC. You can opt for treatment by the chief physician, accommodation in a single-bed room, accommodation and/or food for one accompanying person. Reception of radio, internet and cable television programs are possible. Our Chef caters for your well-being with a choice of 3 menus. A kiosk is located in the hospital.

Two Clinics Combining the Human Touch with Professional Competence and Care.

On January 1st, 2005, the former St. Anna General Hospital in Sulzbach-Rosenberg and the former St. Johannes General Hospital in Auerbach were converted into the communally owned Amberg-Sulzbach County Clinics („Krankenhäuser des Landkreises Amberg-Sulzbach“). As the only emergency care provider to the Amberg-Sulzbach County, this communally owned organization provides medical care both to the county's approx. 100,000 residents and to the residents of the adjacent areas. We also provide inpatient and outpatient care to the U.S. Military Community located at Grafenwoehr and Vilseck Training Area.



In addition, the staff of St. Anna General Hospital provides general emergency care to the population.

St. Anna General Hospital in Sulzbach-Rosenberg

St. Anna General Hospital in Sulzbach-Rosenberg is a facility specialized in basic and regular care.

Range of medical services offered:

- Internal medicine department (69 hospital beds + 5 intensive care beds) offering treatment in gastroenterology, cardiology, pneumology, diabetology and metabolic diseases
- Obstetrics/gynecology department (18 hospital beds + 1 intensive care bed)
- ENT department (3 visiting consultants' beds) offering outpatient and inpatient ENT surgery
- Surgery department (66 hospital beds + 3 intensive care beds) offering, among else, trauma surgery, visceral surgery, minimally invasive surgery, hip joint replacement, knee surgery (arthroscopic)
- Intensive care unit (9 hospital beds)

The Amberg Association of Orthopedists (OGA) provides surgery services at St. Anna General Hospital Sulzbach-Rosenberg. In addition to the customary functional departments including laboratory diagnostics, physical therapy, electrocardiography, endoscopy and x-ray diagnostics (16-line CT diagnostics), the clinic also offers the services of a resident in-house x-ray diagnostics clinic. This clinic provides a full range of support for diagnostic radiology, including a state-of-the-art magnetic resonance tomograph.

Also Drs. med. Scherer/Pöllath is performing surgeries in our hospital.

Additional major investments by the Hospital St Anna at a glance:

- Computer tomograph, 16-line
- Changeover to digital radiology
- Mammomat for radiograms of the female breast
- Hospital information system
- Fully automatic hospital bed washing system
- Ultrasound equipment for all departments
- Motorized adjustable beds
- Patient intercom system
- Patient TV/phone system
- Central sterilization unit
- New parking deck
- New physician's specialist centre

St. Anna General Hospital, considers itself well equipped to meet the challenges of the present and the future.

How to get to Sulzbach-Rosenberg



Amberg, modern town center with an old tradition

A DELIGHTFUL EXPERIENCE!

“Opposites attract”. Amberg is a living example of this proverb. With its almost thousand years of history and before its impressive, historical backdrop, the town of Amberg has entered the new millennium as a modern shopping and service centre with a broad range of cultural events. Modern and traditional features are closely intertwined, forming a harmonious entity which provides excellent quality of life. No wonder that living and working in this place are as pleasant as taking a holiday here. Amberg is worth a visit – you’ll see!

LOOKING WITH AMAZEMENT

One of the most famous and beautiful landmarks of Amberg are the “town spectacles” – a water gate construction spanning the Vils river, which formerly served to fortify town and to connect the new castle to the armoury (“Zeughaus”). Next to it, the town wall encircling the ancient centre with a double fortification, its towers and gates, the Gothic town hall with its renaissance wing, mighty churches and many other historical buildings are characteristic for the unique image of the town. Visit the most impressive buildings: the “Alte Veste”, the new castle and the “Zeughaus” (today, both pro-one buildings accommodate the rural district grams council offices), the “Klösterl” and the “Regierungskanzlei” (seat of the office of the government’s chancellor, where today the Regional Court is located). As the term “Regierungskanzlei” suggests, Amberg was the seat of the government of the “Upper Palatinate” for many years. This era of town on the Vils river, who owed its prosperity to oremining and the salt trade, ended in 1810. You will learn a lot more from town guides who will be pleased to show you the old and the new Amberg.

EXPERIENCING AND ENJOYING CULTURE

One of the sights of Amberg is the town theatre (“Stadttheater”), which is accommodated in a former church. Its varied programme invites visitors to remarkable performances and concerts. Here, premieres take place at regular intervals; here, renowned casts and artists meet. But Amberg has even more to offer as regards culture: in July, when the “Summer Festival” offers its varied programme including cabaret shows and jazz, you can enjoy art events outdoors. A sophisticated choice of films also caters for the movie fan community. Plus, there are events in the Amberg Congress Centre, high-powered literature in the town library and excellent exhibitions in the town museum, pre-historic museum and the unique “air museum”.

SHOPPING AND FEASTING

Modern Culture in the evening, shopping during the day. You will be pleased by the personal shopping atmosphere of the small, but refined specialist shops and boutiques in the old town centre. This ample range is completed by big department stores both in and around the old part of the town. One of the biggest German glass manufactures is based in Amberg and has a factory shop. It is located on an industrial estate on the edge of the town, together with a number of other shops. A host of restaurants, cafés or bistros are the town waiting for you to rest and dine there during or after your shopping tour. And in the evening, many pubs and clubs await you.

There are four subterranean parking areas and two multi-floor car parks on the edge town centre as well as many short time parking lots in the “Amberger Ei” the inner town is called affectionately due to its oval – egglike – shape, shortening routes and rendering shopping even more attractive. Moreover, the Amberg City Bus provides a well-functioning means of public transport.



RECREATION AND ACTIVITY

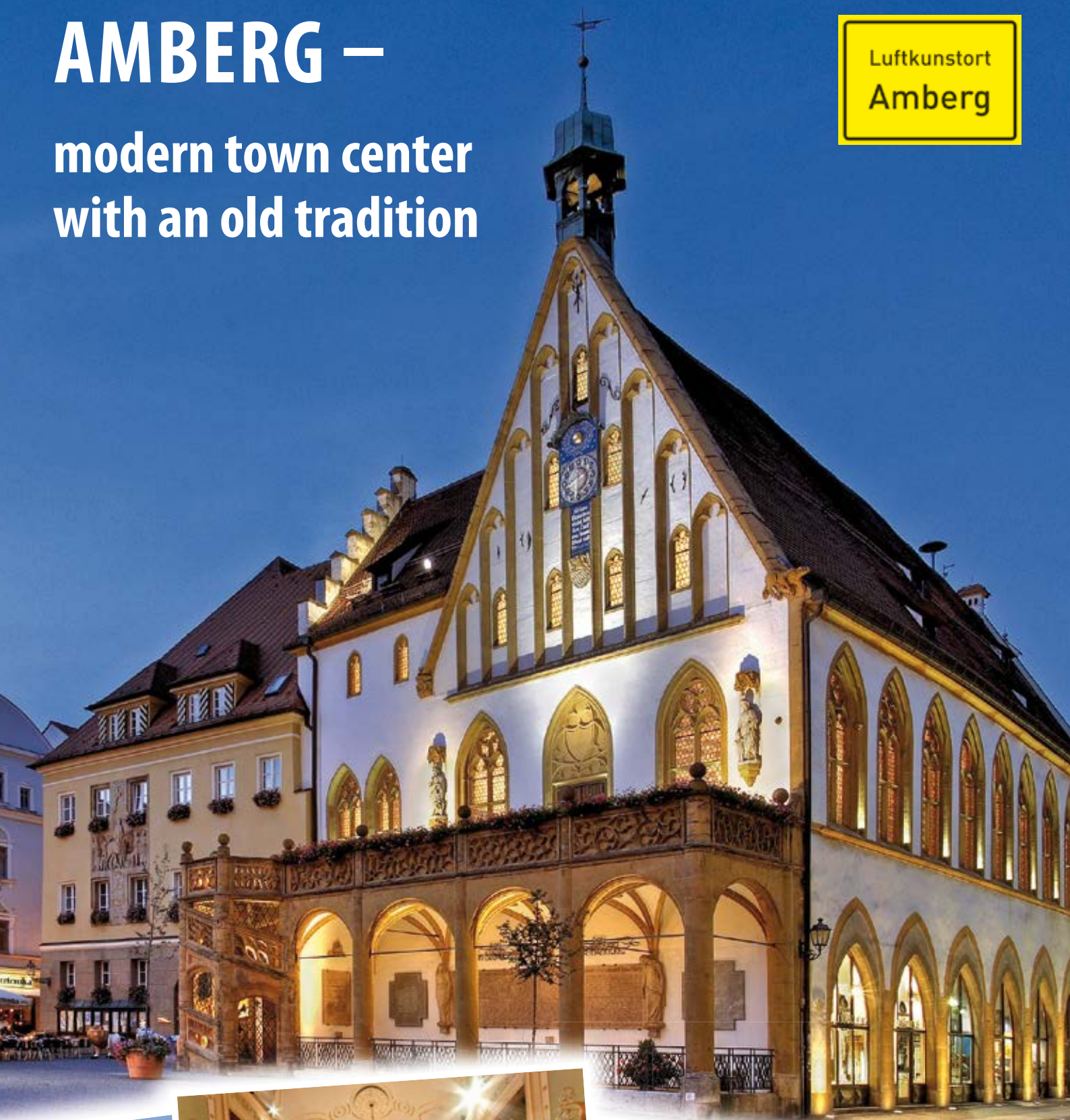
Just outside the town gates, paths and green areas are ideally suited for walking. Directly behind the “town spectacles”, there the enormous acreage of the Land garden exhibition of 1996 which has been retained largely as a recreational area within immediate reach of the town. Apart from this area south of the inner town, the so-called “herb meadow” north of it (near the almost continuous circular town moat) and the “Mariahilfberg” with its pilgrimage church and its large forest are available for recreation. This is the place where the legendary mountain festival takes place in late June, early July which, together with the town festival in June, the “Dult” – a big fair at Pentecost and in the autumn – prove that the Amberg people know how to celebrate. Join them! Many traditional festivals around Amberg also have their place in the calendar. Here you will come across a landscape ideal for rambling, between the Jura Mountains and the Upper Palatinate forest. And those who prefer biking to hiking will appreciate the well-developed network of cycle paths, including the Five-River Cycle-Path which connects Amberg to Nuremberg and Regensburg. Further leisure-time pursuits are provided by an indoor leisure pool and sauna, an open-air swimming pool, a crazy-golf course and – in the centre of a spacious sports centre – an ice sports area.



Stadt Amberg

AMBERG – modern town center with an old tradition

Luftkunstort
Amberg



Stadt Amberg

Kurfürstenbad – the pool for every generation

Unique in Bavaria, the water fitness equipment in the separate Aquafit area of the Kurfürstenbad ("KuFü") in Amberg has a strong appeal to all visitors of the Kurfürstenbad.

Here our body conscious guests can work out gently using underwater equipment like bikes, Nordic walking, weightlifting, rowing, muscle trainer or climber. But also a counter-current system and the adjustable floor, from 0–5.9 ft, combined with the aqua jogging and aqua gym courses we offer, strengthen your fitness.

"Leave the daily stress behind you, dip into wellness and fitness"

– according to this principle the guest, and that is new, can experience a carefree "Wellfit" day in the Kurfürstenbad. Skilled trainers ensure the equipment is used in the right way. For such a fitness day we have our "all inclusive" offer, which includes solarium and a lot more for only 36 euros.

That way our guests can go on a short break without any long ways, namely to the KuFü in Amberg. As a gift certificate, this package also makes an ideal birthday or Christmas surprise. In addition, the KuFü also offers a FamilyDay, the Aktivelltag (a day with massages, aqua fitness and a lot more), an Aktiv-Tagesstarter-Paket (if you like starting your day actively) for early morning exercisers, as well as weekly relaxation, every Sunday from 6.30 pm to 7.45 pm as a mental end of the weekend.

Special Fit and Vital 55+ mornings, suited to the relevant age groups, round off our offer. Dates, events and courses can be found in the biannual flyer of the Kurfürstenbad, which you can order by phone on 09621 / 603-830.

Besides bathing, tanning in a solarium or directly underneath the translucent sheeting becomes more and more popular.

Last but not least, the water temperatures also contribute to your well-being. In the warm water pool with massage jets, the non-swimmers' pool and the toddlers' pool with toy boat channel, they are at about 84 °F. The swimmers in the separate sports area will, however, find "normal" water temperatures.

Further offers

Of course, the saunas on the first floor of the KuFü are also available to the visitors. Whether it is the Finnish sauna or an herbal sauna, there is surely something for every taste. From varying weekly Aufguss sessions (the pouring of water on hot stones to increase humidity) up to the "Finnish Christmas" with bunches of birch twigs (to gently slap the skin and stimulate blood circulation), special scents from the Far North and a traditional Finnish culinary delight, we offer again a lot of new things to our guests.

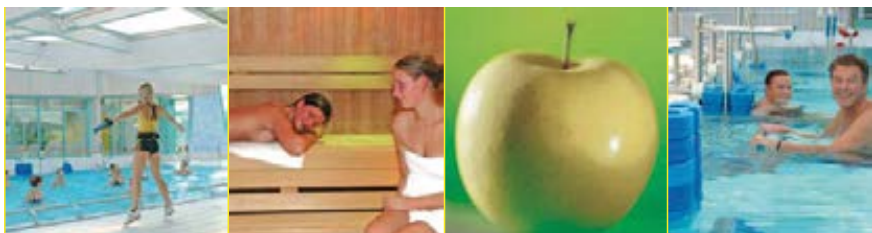


Kurfürstenbad – the pool for every generation

Between the sauna sessions you can let your eyes wander over the historic Old Town from our sauna open-air roof terrace. After so many positive impressions, some of our visitors may now

be motivated to get to know the wide range of leisure and cultural activities offered in Amberg or to explore the historic Old Town. Visiting Amberg with an all-round package for a fitness and health day

is always worthwhile. You can get more information on this, the current opening hours and courses offered as well as the entrance fees at www.kurfuerstenbad-amberg.de or you can inquire by phone on 09621 603-830.



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The „Kurfürstenbad Amberg“ - A world full of warmness and sense of well-being. Perfect for the balance between body and soul.

It doesn't matter if you want to do sports, e.g. using our Aqua-Jogging-Units, or if you favour our Wellness-Area. The „Kurfürstenbad-Amberg“ always is a great experience.



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Enjoy your time!



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Department of Internal Medicine I Cardiology / Chest Pain Unit
Director: Prof. Dr. Helmut Wollschlaeger
Phone 09621/38-1231 Fax: 09621/38-1691



KLINIKUM ST. MARIEN
AMBERG

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Health. Humanity. Hand in hand.

Klinikum St. Marien Amberg.

Klinikum St. Marien Amberg is a hospital ensuring medical care at highest level and offering specialized medical services in 13 departments (Internal Medicine I and II; General, Visceral, Thoracic as well as Vascular Surgery; Trauma Surgery and Orthopedics; Obstetrics and Gynecology; Pediatrics; Neurology; Neurosurgery; Urology; Anesthesia and Operative Intensive Care; Radiotherapy and Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology) and four in-patient divisions (Ophthalmology; Oral and Facial Surgery; ENT; Orthopedics). The hospital has 574 beds and covers with its broad medical spectrum all domains of a modern, differentiated tertiary care. We are providing top-notch medical support and it is very important for us to make you, our American patients, feel welcome and give you a feeling of comfort. We work very closely with the U.S.-Medical Clinics on the military installations in the region.

About 1,500 motivated employees take care of approximately 25,000 in-patients every year. All staff members are committed to give their best for you. A confiding cooperation of all occupational groups on all levels guarantees the best personal and humane treatment you can get.

Klinikum St. Marien Amberg offers several specialized cooperating Medical Centers (Oncology Center; Center for Intestinal Cancer; Lung Cancer Center; Trauma Center; Breast Cancer Center; Center for Gynecological Tumors; Perinatal Center North-East Bavaria; Prostate Cancer Center) where specialists of different disciplines are committed to the diagnostic investigation and therapy of special disease patterns (e.g. tumor- or vascular diseases), which means for you as a patient that all medical skills are concentrated to help you. Each of our Medical Centers is periodically certified.

In our Perinatal Center Northeast Bavaria Amberg-Weiden, for example, specialized obstetricians and pediatricians offer the best care and

thus maximum safety for mother and child. Should complications occur, our experts help you deliver your baby within only a couple of minutes and attendant specialized pediatricians take care of your baby. The Perinatal Center allows for effective, comprehensive, high-quality medical care for risk-pregnancies, premature infants and neonates. For the medical care of ill premature infants and newborn babies, there is also a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, which meets the highest technical and modern requirements.

In our specialized "Chest Pain Unit" and "Stroke Unit", patients benefit from prompt and high-quality emergency medical care rendered by an interdisciplinary team of medical specialists. An immediate medical care can be provided in critical situations like heart attacks or strokes. In both specialized units there is a high quality standard concerning the medical, organizational and human resources. Both units are certified at regular intervals.

The Central Emergency Room of Klinikum St. Marien Amberg is the contact point for all cases of emergency, seven days a week, 24 hours a day. In our Emergency Room the focus is on a rapid diagnosis and therapy of medical emergencies. An interdisciplinary team of physicians is on standby for you day and night. Depending on the indication, you will be medicated out-patient or in-patient in the appropriate department of the hospital.

In our Gesundheitszentrum St. Marien (Health Center St Marien), which is attached to the hospital, our patients can be medicated and counseled out-patient. The spectrum of our Health Center is differentiated and highly specialized. It is meant for patients who will have to be treated in-patient and for out-patients after an in-patient therapy as a follow-up care. The specialists of the Health Center St Marien cooperate with the departments of the hospital and with physicians in private practice.

Klinikum St. Marien Amberg is an academic teaching hospital of the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg and the University of Regensburg and thus highly committed to the medical education of junior staff.

Our motto "**health. humanity. hand in hand.**" is not only a mission statement – we want to give you the best personal and humane treatment you can get to contribute to your recovery with all the medical and nursing capabilities at our disposal and to make your stay at Klinikum St. Marien Amberg as pleasant as possible.

Selb Porcelain World



Selb, a Major County Town in High Franconia, has some 16,000 inhabitants and can offer a wide range of remarkable features which would not be suspected in places of a comparable size – lots of greenery in the town despite a relatively high industrial density, decorative elements by prestigious artists forming part of the town landscape, cultural facilities, sports venues and much more. World-famous companies develop world brands from here and manufacture top-quality products. But, thanks to their innovative ideas and products, many of the small-and medium-sized enterprises have also made their name far beyond the boundaries of town and state.



Porcelain from Selb can be found on all the tables of the world. But visitors to the "Porcelain Metropolis" of Selb can not only admire but also buy the products at favorable prices! On a shopping trip to the works outlets of Rosenthal, Hutschenreuther, Thomas, Versace, Schönwald, Tafelstern and Villeroy&Boch and above all to the new "Factory-In Outlet-Center," you can be sure of finding a bargain. What is more, Selb has cafés, restaurants and taverns to round off a day's shopping with tasty regional specialties. Neither should visitors fail to see the "Porzellanikon". Four special museums on the art, technology and design of porcelain show how the beautiful and practical porcelain products are made with great care from unprepossessing raw materials.

And, of course, Selb has plenty more to offer besides porcelain. It nestles in the delightful landscape of the Fichtelgebirge hills and nature lovers, in particular, will be able to relax on a walk along the numerous forest and hiking trails or a cycling trip to the romantic Weller and Eger Valley. Its high leisure and recreational value teamed with its forward-looking business structure make Selb a town where life can be enjoyed to the full.

The world of porcelain Selb



Selb[™]

...so attractive

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- ...Outlet Stores
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www.selb.de

Tourist information: phone +49 9287 883 118/ e-mail info@selb.de



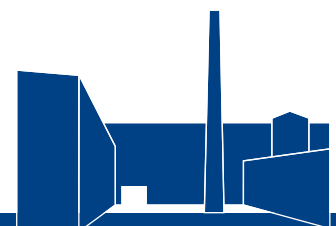
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Waldsassen



Welcome to a historical monastery city – come and enjoy!

Waldsassen is located in a tranquil basin along the Wondreb river. Here you can capture its romantic, natural habitat flaired with one's participation in its culture and festivals.

The Monastery was founded in 1133 by Earl Diepold III. He gave land and property to the newly founded Monastery and invited monks of the Cistercian Order to leave Volkenrode for Waldsassen.

On the skyline of Waldsassen are the steeples of the basilica, one of the most important buildings in our old city center. Artists from all parts of Europe took part in this work of art, which is one of the most beautiful churches in Europe.



Come and visit

Waldsassen – A historical monastery city

and all its special sights



- Baroque Basilica and Monastery Crypt
- Cistercian Abbey and its famous Library Hall
- Abbey's Nature & Garden Trail
- Trinity Church "Kappl"
- Regional Museum with over 50 departments

Tourist-Info, 95652 Waldsassen
Tel. 09632/88-160
www.waldsassen.de



Waldsassen



Concerts of classical music regularly take place in the breathtaking atmosphere of the Basilika, which has an exceptional length of 82 meters. Its interior is decorated with a large number of stucco figures, paintings, wooden carvings and frescoes. The frescoes depict the legendary founding of Waldsassen convent.

Next to the church, is the richly, wood carved library hall of the Cistercian abbey. The interior is richly decorated with ceiling paintings, stuccos, wooden figures, and frescoes. Especially the wooden figures, all of which were created by sculptor Karl Stilp from Waldsassen, are worth seeing.

On the Glasberg near Waldsassen you can find one of the most curiously shaped churches of Germany. The shape symbolizes the Divine Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Because of its exceptional beauty the Kappl attracts tourists from all parts of the world.

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#1
IN EUROPE

The Upper Palatinate Open Air Museum



Experience every day history

The open-air museum of the Upper Palatinate Administrative District in Neusath-Perschen near Nabburg offers an insight into country and farming life of earlier days. There are now 50 re-erected buildings, showing the various ways people lived, worked and

built, according to region and social standing. The houses were originally occupied by farmers, smallholders, peasants, day labourers, weavers, herdsman, millers, huntsmen and nobles. The buildings, which could no longer be kept on their original sites, have been transferred to the museum

as cultural and historical evidence. They are furnished in the authentic way. Qualified museum workers cultivate the fields and woods with horses, oxen, cows and old agricultural machines. Orchards and herb gardens have been laid out round the houses.





The Upper Palatinate Open Air Museum



Loosely arranged meadow orchards show the way in which fruit trees have typically been cultivated in the area.

Activity Days

As the "central museum for country life and agricultural history in the Upper Palatinate", the open-air museum organises several activity days a year. On these, old artisan technology and traditional ways of working in the house and on the farm are demonstrated.

Special exhibitions and talks on folklorist subjects complete the programme. Every Sunday during the museum's season you can buy the famous museum bread, traditional Upper Palatinate style, which is baked in the old oven at the "Schallerhof".

Come and meet our animals on the farms and surrounding fields: sheep, goats, horses, cows, oxen, chickens, geese, peacocks and pigs. Lambing time is usually around mid April onwards.

Catering

The Tavern Inn of the Museum and the "Brotzeitstüberl" at the Farmer's museum in Perschen, both with charming beer gardens, offer traditional meals and drinks.



Experience everyday history!



Neusath-Perschen
(close to Nabburg)

Upper Palatinate Open Air Museum

- Upper Palatinate Open Air Museum Neusath-Perschen Neusath 200 · 92507 Nabburg
- Motorway Nürnberg – Prag
- Motorway Regensburg – Weiden exit Nabburg

Phone 0 94 33/24 42-0
Fax 0 94 33/24 42-2 22

www.freilandmuseum.org

Opening Times:
Tuesday – Sunday: 9.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.
Season: March – November



Bezirk Oberpfalz

The Perfect Alpine Holiday

"Discover your true nature" – 365 days a year

Absolutely unique: Garmisch-Partenkirchen, located amidst breathtaking mountain scenery at the foot of Germany's highest mountain, the Zugspitze (2962 m), is the epitome of vast and pristine alpine nature. It is a unique place in an awesome setting where outdoor activities are extraordinary experiences – between mountain and valley, in the water or in the air. It is a region that has shaped human beings and their culture. Here, you still find typical Bavarian traditions in their original form. A place where you get closer to nature and discover something about yourself.

Discover Unique Alpine Nature

Stimulating, exciting or calming – in the Garmisch-Partenkirchen region, you experience the rough beauty of breathtaking mountain scenery. You are surrounded by more than 400 mountain peaks. Mountains, almost 3000 metres high, are fissured by deep canyons with meadows up high in the mountains, and mountain peaks such as the Alpspitze or the Zugspitze, towering above everything. Highlights that are hardly measurable and unlimited possibilities allow you to find your very own way and rediscover yourself. Adventure, inspiration or relaxation – Garmisch-Partenkirchen inspires everyone with its sheer energy. Everyday life is left far behind; your mind becomes as fresh as the clear air up high in the mountains. Garmisch-Partenkirchen is very proud of the "Heilklimatischer Kurort" seal of quality, which certifies the healing climate of the health resort.

Outdoor Paradise All Year Round

The variety of alpine nature around Garmisch-Partenkirchen can hardly be surpassed. Active holiday-makers make the most of this unique outdoor centre: No matter



which season, Garmisch-Partenkirchen is always an attraction: Alpine skiing, Nordic skiing or ice hockey in winter, canoeing, paragliding, mountain biking or hiking in summer. Garmisch-Partenkirchen stands for activity and sports – "both in and with nature".

Unique experiences for the whole family: a hike through the breathtaking and geologically interesting Partnach Gorge: next to roaring waterfalls and cataracts, this expedition is one of the most impressive wonders of the Alps, in summer as in winter. A number of trails through the surrounding area start at the Partnach Gorge. Trails along pathways steeped in history lead to the King's House on the Schachen, which used to be King Ludwig II's mountain refuge.

Garmisch-Partenkirchen is also Germany's first choice for winter sports: for holiday-makers – and for top athletes. As an internationally renowned winter sports

resort with world-class events, the town has a fixed place on the yearly winter sports agenda, having established an excellent reputation around the world. The very best alpine skiing athletes compete in the ski world cup races every year. The world's elite of ski jumping fly to new lengths during the famous New Year's Ski Jumping from the new jump – the futuristic landmark of modern Garmisch-Partenkirchen.

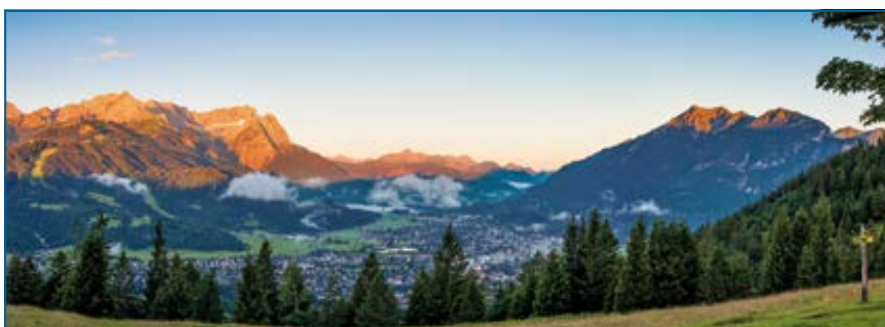
Proverbial Naturalness and Openness

A stroll through streets like Frühlingsstraße in Garmisch or the historical Ludwigsstraße in Partenkirchen makes tradition come alive. The so-called Lüftmalereien, magnificent facade paintings, tell you stories about the houses' inhabitants, the region and its customs, that even non-German speaking visitors understand without a guide. The local people themselves greet the visitor with openness, lust for life and their Bavarian charm.



One part of their unmistakable way of life is reflected by the excellent cuisine. From delicacies like the famous Bavarian Schmankerl to modern, wholesome and regionally produced organic food up to exquisite meals in classy gourmet restaurants, every taste is catered for. The same is true for the choice of accommodation, ranging from rural inns to cosy apartments or first-class luxury hotels.

World-famous Bavarian history can also be experienced at places and cultural monuments nearby, like Oberammergau, Linderhof Palace or the abbey of Ettal. The Bavarian capital München (Munich) can be reached by car in only 40 minutes.





Garmisch-Partenkirchen

Discover your true nature.

Enjoy and experience the rhythm of nature:

Garmisch-Partenkirchen amazes also families with Alpine adventures all year round.

Full of joy, happiness and excitement: Going on a family holiday in Garmisch-Partenkirchen is to experience fantastic days, stimulating all your senses. Climb a fixed rope route together or take your first steps on snow shoes. Take a home-made magnifying glass to explore life's little secrets and experience the power of herbs. The renowned holiday destination at the foot of Mount Zugspitze offers parents and children never ending opportunities to explore Alpine nature, the most exciting playground of all. Cared for and pampered by honest and friendly hosts, families will find a valuable opportunity to relax and the chance to reach new heights together – all in line with Garmisch-Partenkirchen's motto "Discover your true nature".

Experience real freedom between the forests, meadows, mountains and streams. Get your breath back in the crisp fresh air. Enjoy sports at its best in one of the Alps' most famous outdoor destinations. Experience the magic of the Alpine wilderness – at any age, in any weather: Garmisch-Partenkirchen helps children to discover their strengths and parents to re-discover their curiosity. The abundance of experiences on offer will inspire adventure stories written by nature. Donkey-trekking on lonely Alpine paths, crossing borders in the panoramic climbing resort, swimming between mountain peaks or taking excursions into the world of Daubenton's bats and Alpine salamanders. Garmisch-Partenkirchen means original instead of virtual – we want you to touch things, get wet, smell, taste and feel things – escape from the restrictions and stresses of everyday life.

We love to assist you with your stay here:

Garmisch-Partenkirchen Tourism

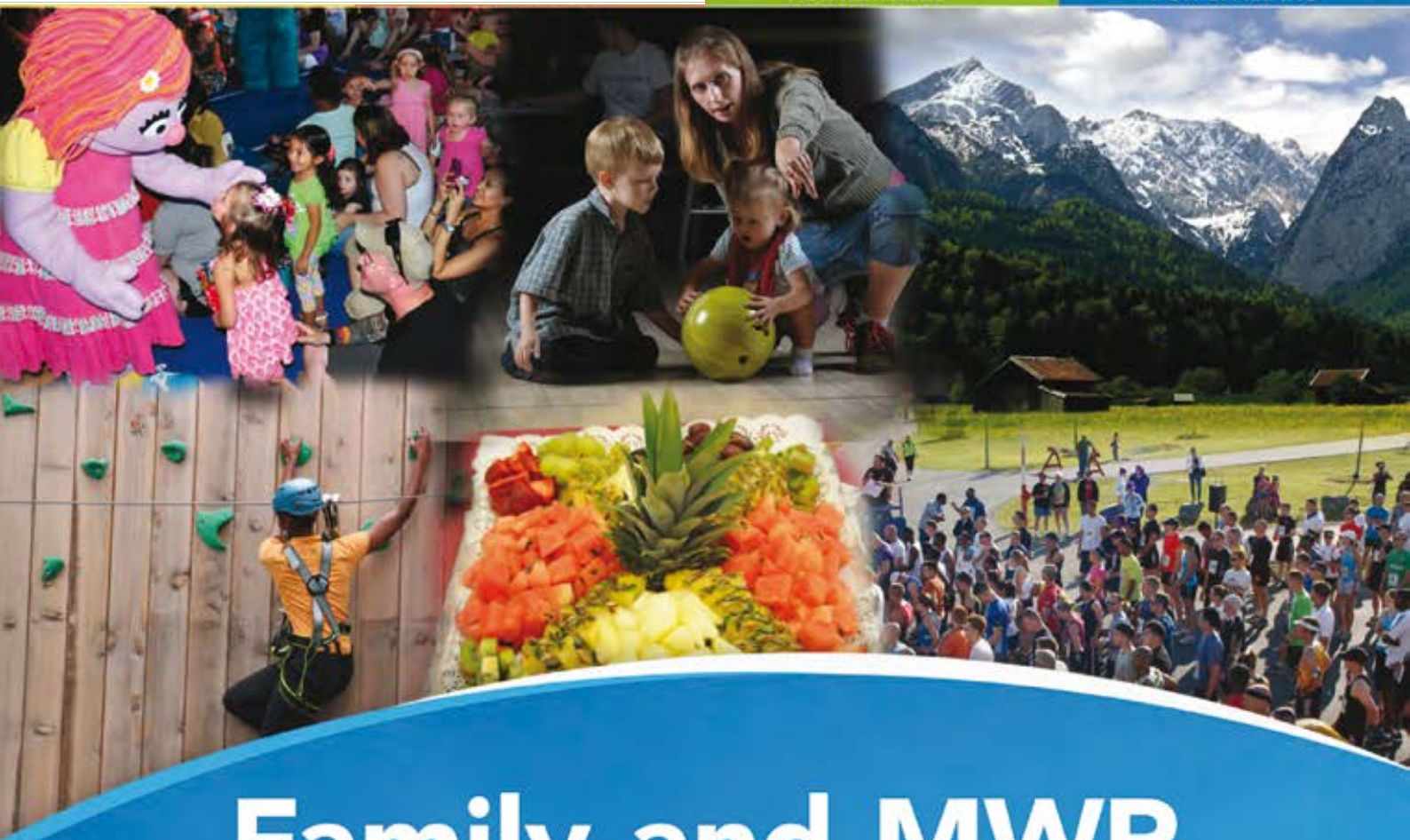
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*Garmisch
Partenkirchen*





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Family and MWR services also help the Army attract and retain talented people.

Family and MWR is proof of the Army's commitment to caring for the people who serve and stand ready to defend the nation.



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Military Fire Department Vilseck	09662 83-117	Health Clinic Vilseck	09662 83-2936 / 2804 / 3322
Military Police Vilseck	09641 83-114	Dental Clinic Grafenwoehr	09641 83-1720
Military Police Desk Vilseck	09641 83-2490	Dental Clinic Vilseck	09662 83-1720
German Emergency Service	(99) 19 222	American Red Cross Grafenwoehr	09641 83-1760
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