

SAXONY-ANHALT TRULY INSPIRING

HEARTLAND OF GERMAN HISTORY



Quedlinburg

EXPERIENCE SAXONY-ANHALT



SACHSEN-ANHALT

#moderndenken

saxony-anhalt-tourism.com



Getting here:
 Saxony-Anhalt is easy to access by car, train, bus and by air. It is situated in the heart of Germany and borders Lower Saxony, Thuringia, Saxony and Brandenburg. The state capital Magdeburg is 150 km from Berlin, 280 km from Hamburg, 420 km from Frankfurt/Main and 225 km from Frankfurt/Oder. All the tourist sites in Saxony-Anhalt can be reached quickly and easily via five freeways, excellent highways and one of Europe's most extensive rail networks, as well as a very efficient local public transportation system.

HELLO, SAXONY- ANHALT!

Discover nature in all its glory in the magical Harz region, arrange a date at Naumburg Cathedral with Uta, the most beautiful woman of the Middle Ages, or soak up the twilight in the incomparably beautiful Garden Kingdom Dessau Wörlitz from a gondola. In Saxony-Anhalt, your holiday dreams can come true.

Garden landscapes dating from the Age of Enlightenment, medieval towns and landmarks in architectural history – ideas that changed the world originated in what is now Saxony-Anhalt. Nearly 7,000 years of fascinating history and a cultural heritage of European and global significance place Saxony-Anhalt at the very heart of German history. This is where Martin Luther lived and worked. This is the homeland of the Nebra Sky Disc, the world's most famous depiction of the cosmos. And here, at the Bauhaus, this is where design history was written.

Saxony-Anhalt is home to so many UNESCO World Heritage Sites, and there

are very few regions which have enchanting palaces and castles, impressive churches and historic parks and gardens situated so close to one another. The many places that bear witness to Germany's unique cultural heritage make Saxony-Anhalt the perfect destination for a tour of discovery that will appeal to all your senses.

Stroll through the narrow alleyways of the picturesque medieval towns of the Harz Mountains or make your way through the bustling streets of the big cities of Halle (Saale) and Magdeburg – for many visitors these contrasts create an extraordinary experience.

In Saxony-Anhalt, culture and nature are united in a unique harmony. Whatever your passion – hiking, cycling, horse riding or water sports – in Saxony-Anhalt you can pursue it to the fullest. And after your active and adventurous day, you can enjoy the region's culinary specialities.

TRAVEL
COMPASS
SAXONY-ANHALT

Create your
individual experience



compass-saxony-anhalt.de



Magdeburg –
state capital on
the Elbe River

The many attractions of this metropolis on the Elbe reflect Magdeburg’s eventful past and present. Visitors to the state capital can immerse themselves in the over 1,200-year-old city and go on a fascinating journey of discovery.

Magdeburg’s best-known attractions include the St. Maurice and St. Catherine Cathedral and the art museum at the Monastery of Our Lady. Magdeburg Cathedral is in fact Germany’s first Gothic cathedral and is the final resting place of Emperor Otto the Great and his wife Edith. As well as historical sites, Magdeburg also has modern attractions to offer visitors, such as Magdeburg’s Waterway Junction – the world’s longest aqueduct. The last structure designed and created by architect Friedensreich Hundertwasser, known as the Green Citadel, can also be found in Magdeburg. Since its completion in 2005, it has dominated the cityscape with its golden globes. Next to the cathedral, it is the city’s biggest tourist magnets.

The 60-meter-high wooden Jahrtausendturm (Millennium Tower) contains five stories exhibiting 6,000 years of human history in the fields of science and technology.

magdeburg-tourist.de

1
Magdeburg Cathedral
by the Elbe river

2
The Millennium Tower

3
The Green Citadel
of Magdeburg



**GEORG PHILIPP
TELEMANN
IN MAGDEBURG**

The Magdeburg Telemann Festival alternates yearly with the International Telemann Competition, both in remembrance of the brilliant composer Georg Philipp Telemann here, in his birthplace. At these events, you are invited to take a musical journey through time at the cathedral, the Johanniskirche (St. John’s Church), the Monastery of Our Lady, and the Gesellschaftshaus (Community House) in the Klosterberge Garden. There, you can enjoy Telemann’s greatest works performed by international stars.
telemann.org



LOCAL CHOCOLATE

Halloren is the oldest chocolate maker in Germany and is based in Halle (Saale). Now well over 200 years old, the company is best known for its Halloren Kugel, a chocolate ball that comes in a variety of flavors: strawberry, cherry, blackcurrant, and more.



1

1
Market square
with its five towers

2

2
Above the rooftops

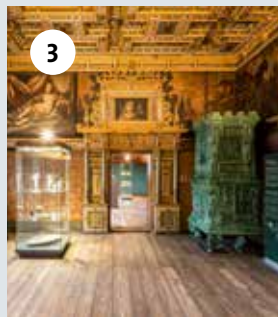
3

3
Moritzburg
Art Museum

Halle (Saale) –
it's all about
culture



2



3

Halle is a city brimming with charm, art and design. In its picturesque setting on the River Saale, its historical Old Town, some of Europe's finest museums, and its parks and colourful pub districts warmly welcome visitors.

Today Moritzburg Castle, once the residence of archbishops, is one of Germany's most important museums of modern 20th-century art. The building is home to a collection of around 250,000 works of art, from the classical to the contemporary. Visitors can currently view more than 500 works over a surface area of 3,000 square meters on three stories. With its new collection, "Paths to the Modern Age", the Art Museum of Saxony-Anhalt presents its unique treasures against a fascinating architectural backdrop and in a modern, ground-breaking setting.

The Francke Foundations, Pietist educational establishments founded by August Hermann Francke in 1698, still house numerous social and educational facilities today. In just a few years, this school complex evolved into Europe's most impressive educational center.

verliebtinhalle.de/en



GEORG FRIEDRICH HANDEL IN HALLE

Here, in the birthplace of this great Baroque composer, the Handel Festival has been delighting music lovers from around the world with operas, oratorios and concerts since 1922. Year after year, around 50,000 visitors flock to Halle to enjoy over 100 world-class events, international stars of the Baroque music scene, and a unique ambience at charmingly atmospheric venues.

haendelhaus.de/en



Quedlinburg –
A picture book
of half-timbered
architecture in
Germany

1
Collegiate Church
of St. Servatius and Old
Town in Quedlinburg

2
In the UNESCO-
World Heritage City
Quedlinburg

3
Half-timbered
architecture in
Quedlinburg



Visitors to the World Heritage City of Quedlinburg can take a fascinating trip through time as they stroll around the Old Town, taking in winding alleyways, ancient cobblestones and, presiding over it all, the castle hill.

The Romanesque Collegiate Church of St. Servatius and its neighboring collegiate buildings are visible from afar and constitute one of Germany’s most important collegiate complexes. The castle hill is among the most significant of authentic medieval history sites and, under the Ottonian kings and emperors, was also the center of European political power.

Here, more than 1,100 years ago, the Saxon duke Henry was crowned king. As King Henry I, he was one of the most important historical figures in the history of Saxony-Anhalt. In the Collegiate Church of St. Servatius, visitors can see the royal tombs of

Henry I and his wife Matilda, and also the famous cathedral treasury, with precious objects that reflect the glory of the royal household.

But the greatest attraction is the city itself. In an area covering a good 80 hectares, visitors can marvel at more than 2,000 picturesque half-timbered houses. Buildings from eight centuries, adorned with intricate carvings, provide examples of all styles and recount tales from the Renaissance, the Baroque, the Rococo, and Classicism. This unique variety makes Quedlinburg the epitome of a European medieval town and one of Germany’s largest heritage areas. The Old Town, Collegiate Church and castle have been UNESCO World Heritage Sites since 1994.

quedlinburg-info.de/en



Dessau – the Bauhaus City



Dessau was at the heart of a brand-new design and architectural movement that still affects the way we live today.

Founded in Weimar, the Bauhaus (it translates as “Building School”) took root in Dessau. Between 1925 and 1932, this school of design brought together architects, artists, and designers – and its legacy continues in the 21st century! No wonder it is yet another of Saxony-Anhalt’s UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

The Bauhaus philosophy addressed several aspects and problems of modern life. One of the primary themes was: How to maintain the human element in an age of increasing industrialization.

The founder and first director was Walter Gropius (1883–1969), who later moved to the U.S. He was followed by two more significant architects, Hannes Meyer (1889–1954) and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe (1886–1969). By bringing together art, craft, and technology, the Bauhaus aimed to create new designs

for new ways of living. Bauhaus professors and students valued simplicity; they rejected the elaborate detail of the popular late-19th- and early-20th-century Art Art Nouveau style. Typical Bauhaus buildings were cubic in shape, with flat roofs and plain façades.

Open-plan rooms and offices were the norm; chairs, tables, and other furniture were functional and quite simplistic. The modern materials and modern manufacturing techniques that were used could be produced on an industrial scale and relatively cheaply. So, good design did not have to be the prerogative of the wealthy; it could be afforded by ordinary people.

The Bauhaus movement included every facet of the fine and the applied arts. From architecture and interior, graphic and industrial design to painting and sculpture, all of these disciplines showed the influence of this innovative school. For example, tubular steel furniture in what is now referred to as the “Bauhaus style” has become a timeless classic, the great-grandfather of designs that are produced

today and appreciated the world over. Saxony-Anhalt continues to be a cultural treasure chest for architects and designers. Not only does Dessau boast the world’s largest concentration of original Bauhaus architecture, but the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation continues to be a center of research, teaching, and experimental design.

bauhaus-dessau.de/en

1
The Bauhaus Building by Walter Gropius (1925-26)

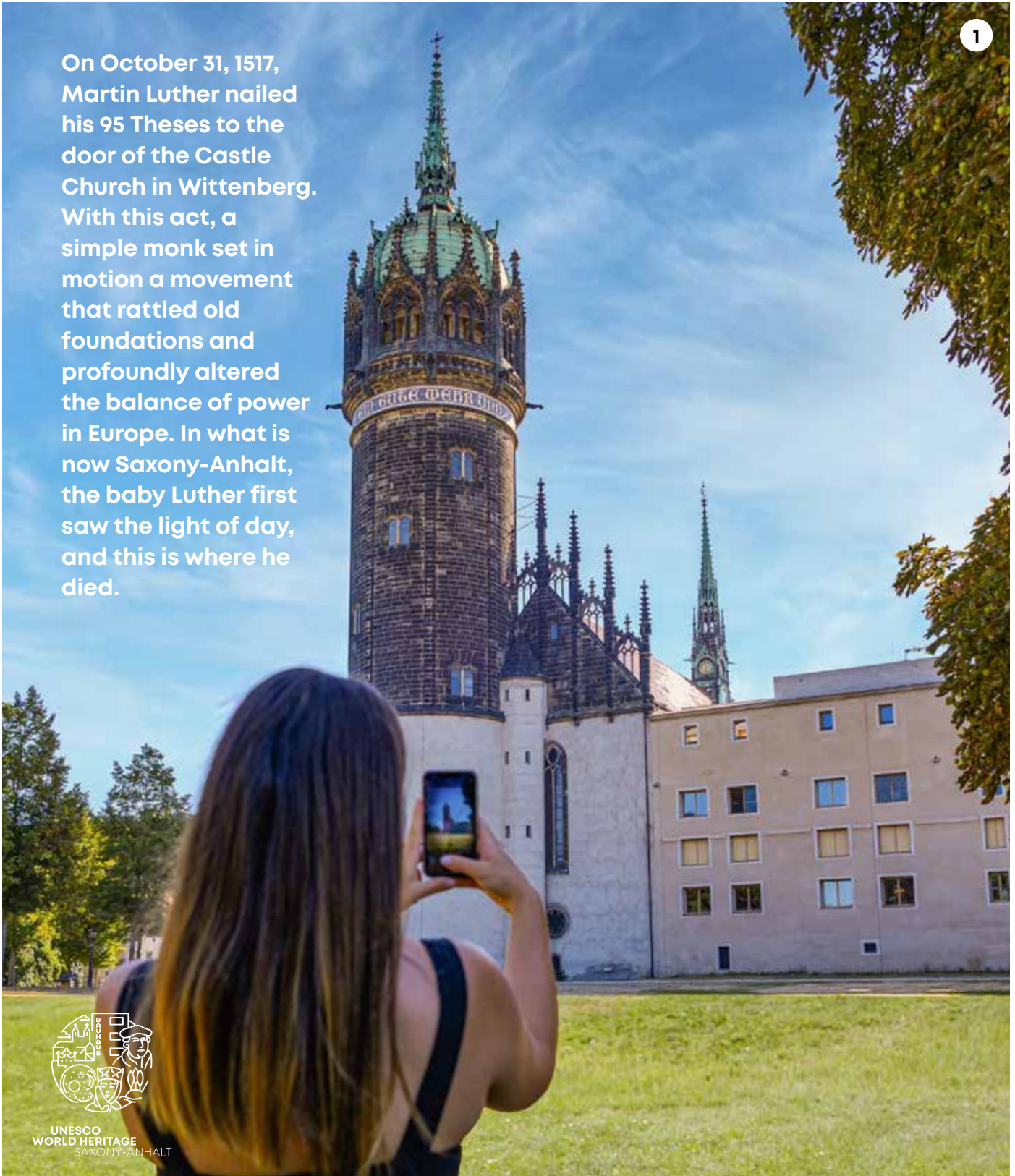
2
The masters’ houses of the Bauhaus



On the road in Lutherland

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. With this act, a simple monk set in motion a movement that rattled old foundations and profoundly altered the balance of power in Europe. In what is now Saxony-Anhalt, the baby Luther first saw the light of day, and this is where he died.

1





1
Castle Church in
Wittenberg

2
The 95 Theses at
the Castle Church

3
Martin Luther
(1483-1546)

4
Luther's
living room



Wittenberg is home to the world's largest museum of Reformation history, the Lutherhaus. The Reformer lived here, first as a monk and later as husband and father, and this is where he composed his writings and taught his students. The permanent exhibition in the Lutherhaus not only recalls the Reformer's life and work, it also delves into his everyday family life and

the rich history around the propagation of his ideas. Museum highlights include the original parish church pulpit from which Luther used to preach, a Lucas Cranach tablet-piece depicting the Ten Commandments, and an authentic monk's habit worn by Luther himself. The centerpiece of any tour of the house, however, is the Lutherstube (Luther Room), which has largely been preserved in its original form. An absolute must-see for any visitor to Wittenberg is the door of the castle church, to which Luther nailed his 95 Theses in 1517.

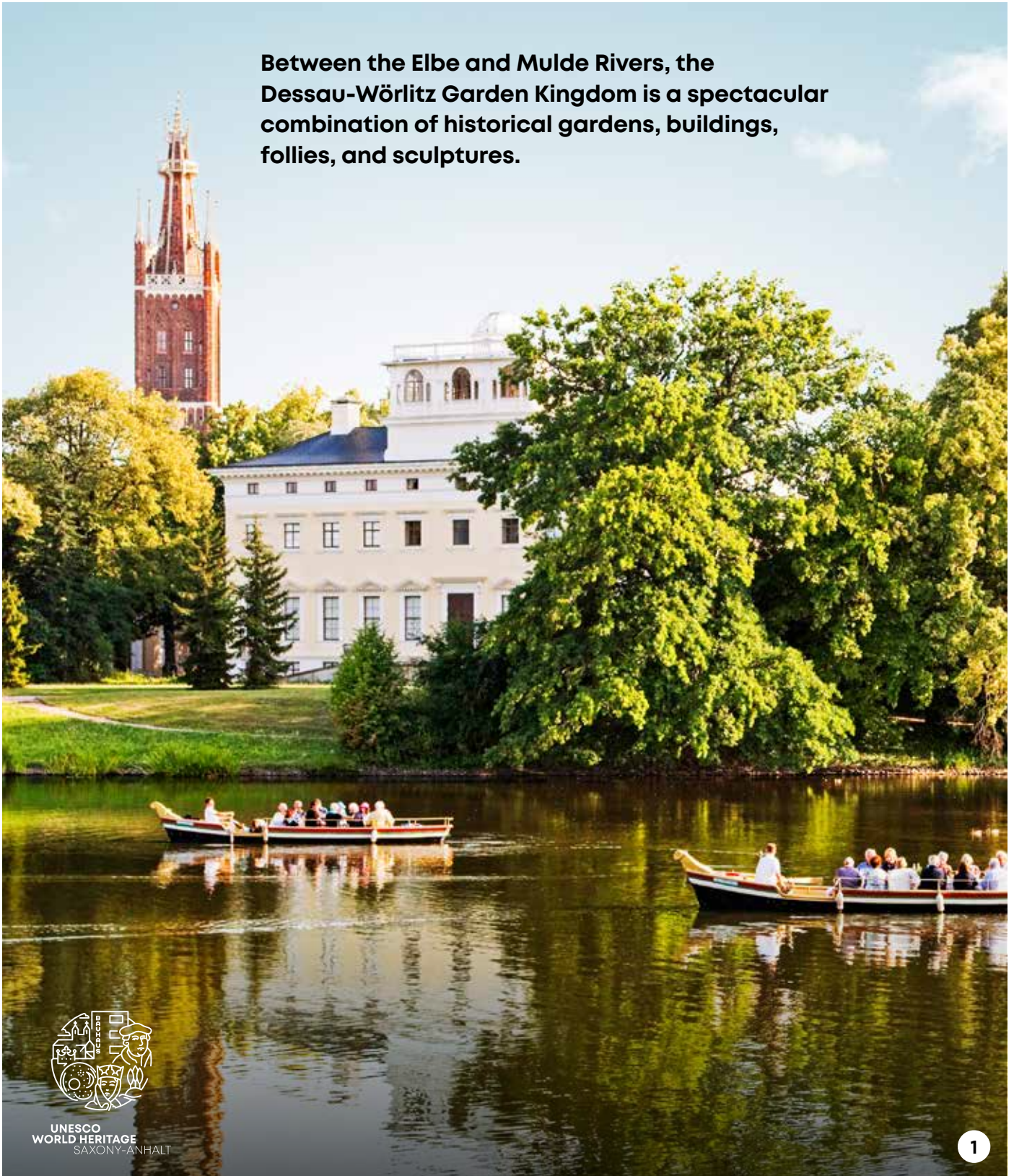
Martin Luther was born to parents Hans and Margarete on November 10 1483, in **Eisleben**, as the first of nine children. The world-renowned Reformer also died here in 1546. The exhibition, "I come from here – Martin Luther and Eisleben", in Luther's Birthplace recounts Luther's origins and depicts life in the Middle Ages. The Luther family home has been recreated with historical furniture. Martin Luther was baptized in the Gothic Church of St. Peter and Paul on November 11, 1483. Today, the baptistery offers themed tours, prayer meetings, and school projects about the sacrament of baptism.

In the house where Luther died, the exhibition, "Luther's final journey", recounts the Reformer's last trip to Eisleben and his final days there. A monument to Luther in Eisleben's market square commemorates the town's most famous son.

One of the most important landmarks for anyone who visits **Mansfeld** is the former home of Luther's parents, Hans and Margarethe Luder. The exhibition, "I am a child of Mansfeld", details the family's daily life, Luther's experiences at school, and his childhood in general. The exhibition displays significant archaeological artifacts, such as the marbles Luther once played with. Luther's parents' house was extensively renovated in 2014 and a modern museum building was added. Archaeological excavations took place during the renovation. Hundreds of the objects found – like a cooking pot and a spigot – can now be viewed as part of the exhibition. Only the foundations remain of what was once the first school Luther attended. Nevertheless, every year on the first Saturday after Easter, his enrollment is re-enacted and celebrated at the site.

The Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz

Between the Elbe and Mulde Rivers, the Dessau-Wörlitz Garden Kingdom is a spectacular combination of historical gardens, buildings, follies, and sculptures.



UNESCO
WORLD HERITAGE
SAXONY-ANHALT

GARDEN KINGDOM



1
The Garden Kingdom
of Dessau-Wörlitz

2
Wörlitz from
above

3
The Gothic House
in the Wörlitzer Park

4
Gondola ride in the
Garden Kingdom



GARDEN DREAMS IN SAXONY-ANHALT

With splendid Baroque gardens, world-famous landscaped parks, and idyllic grounds filled with botanical abundance: Saxony-Anhalt is an ideal destination for park lovers.

In the year 2000, the state of Saxony-Anhalt launched a hitherto unique project: it chose the most beautiful and significant parks to represent the regions approx. 1,000 garden landscapes and brought them together in the Garden Dreams tourist network of historic parks in Saxony-Anhalt.

gartentraeume-sachsen-anhalt.de/en



ELBE CYCLE ROUTE

This cycle path follows the river through Saxony-Anhalt for around 206 miles. It winds its way past the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Bauhaus Dessau, the Dessau-Wörlitz Garden Kingdom, and the Luther sites in Wittenberg. It also traverses the UNESCO Middle Elbe Biosphere Reserve. A variety of cultural offerings and attractions invite cyclists to take some wonderful little detours along the way.

elbe-cycle-route.com

It's impossible to resist falling under the spell of Wörlitz Park's beauty and splendor. The Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz – a unique, self-contained landscape of gardens and castles – still enchants countless visitors today. Prince Leopold III, Duke of Anhalt-Dessau, was a devoted enthusiast of the Enlightenment and humanism, and a lover of England. It was he who first ordered the creation of the Wörlitz cultural landscape in 1764. His idea was to combine beauty with usefulness, and create a harmonious alliance between humankind and nature. In the years that followed, Wörlitz Park was born: Central Europe's first landscaped park based on the English model.

Here, the gardens, avenues and castles of the Garden Kingdom spring so naturally out of the meadows

that the entire park landscape seems to stretch into infinity. Amongst it all is Wörlitz Castle, considered the founding building of German Classicism. The UNESCO World Heritage Committee declared the Dessau-Wörlitz Garden Kingdom a World Heritage Site in 2000. Meadows in bloom, whispering forests, fragrant flowers, glistening lakes and canals all entice visitors to walk, hike, cycle, horse-ride, or take a trip in a gondola or cruise boat.

welterbe-gartenreich.de/en

Naumburg Cathedral – Experience Uta’s world

Germany’s answer to the Mona Lisa is Uta of Naumburg. Her statue in Naumburg Cathedral is one of 12 that are carved in the 13th-century by an anonymous stonemason, dubbed the Naumburg Master. Legend has it that Uta was the inspiration for the evil queen in Walt Disney’s 1937 film, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*.



1
Ekkehard II
of Meissen (left) and
his wife Uta of
Ballenstedt (right)

2
Naumburg
Cathedral of St. Peter
and St. Paul

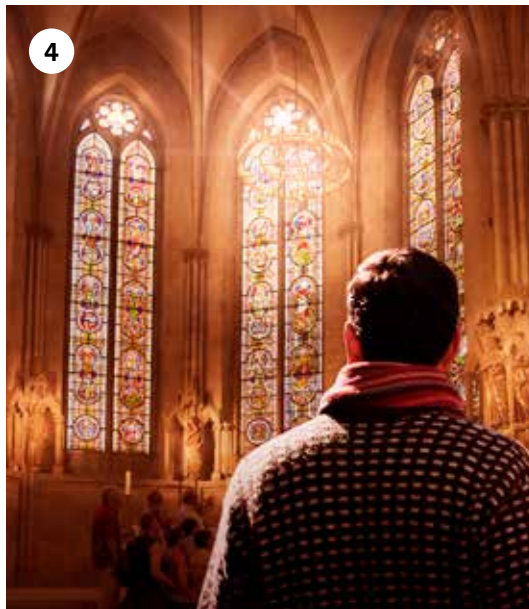


When naming the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul a World Heritage Site in 2018, the UNESCO World Heritage Committee declared it a “masterpiece of human creative genius”. The late-Romanesque/early-Gothic cathedral is one of the most significant monuments of the High Middle Ages and a real tourist magnet. Its architecture, stained glass and sculptural art are totally unique. It features two impressive rood screens that separate the choir from the nave. But its greatest attraction are the twelve figures of benefactors. These are so lifelike and expressive that no visitor



3
The Cathedral's Nave

4
The West Choir binds together architecture, sculpture and glasswork



NEBRA SKY DISC – REACHING FOR THE STARS

The Nebrasky Ark is an impressive building at the foot of the Mittelberg hill, where the Nebrasky Disc was once discovered by unlicensed treasure hunters. The bronze disc inlaid with gold symbols features nothing less than the world's oldest concrete depiction of the cosmos.

Unlike a traditional museum, the Nebrasky Ark Visitor Center has a Planetarium where visitors can watch a show about the Sky Disc, which was a key find for archaeology, astronomy, and religious history. The symbols on the Sky Disc represent the full moon or sun, the lunar crescent, and the Pleiades in a stylized depiction of the night sky. Two arcs along the sides marking the angle between the winter and summer solstices, and also a solar boat, were added later.

Like the full moon or sun and the lunar crescent, the cluster of stars known as the Pleiades was an important feature of the rural calendar for Bronze Age farmers for timing their sowing and harvesting. The Visitor Center uses a sophisticated and entertaining multimedia presentation to portray the meaning of the Sky Disc and inform visitors in a playful way. Virtual, ghost-like figures wander through the showcases giving scientific information to visitors with wit and charm.

The "whodunnit" around the discovery of the Sky Disc is presented in a Punch and Judy show. Large sculptures reveal deeper dimensions of the find. The Planetarium Show takes viewers back to the universe of the Bronze Age. The original Sky Disc can be seen in the State Museum of Prehistory in Halle (Saale)

himmelswege.de/en/

can fail to be entranced, particularly by the figure of Uta, said to symbolize the "most beautiful woman of the Middle Ages". The figures were created by the Naumburg Master, who also contributed his craft to the cathedrals of Amiens and Reims in France. A tour of the cathedral to view the vault with its sacred treasures, is highly recommended. Here, you can marvel at around 30 works, such as Lucas Cranach the Elder's graceful Mary Magdalene, the Naumburg Pietà, and the Johanneschale (head of John the Baptist). Those seeking a bit of fresh air, peace and quiet

afterwards can retire to the Naumburg Cathedral Gardens.

A special program of activities for children and teenagers immerses them in a world of 13th-century workshops at the Cathedral Masons' Hut. Here, the youngsters can slip into the role of a stonemason, glazier or master builder and embark on an exciting UNESCO World Heritage journey.

naumburger-dom.de/en

Enjoy the “Tuscany of the North”

A visit to the region of Saale-Unstrut offers a diverse range of experiences – for hikers and cyclists as well as for fans of culture and wine. The sunny wine-growing area between the Saale and Unstrut rivers is blessed with lovely landscapes, a wealth of history, and a lively cultural scene.



1
Picturesque
landscape in Saale-
Unstrut region

2
Wine tasting in
Saale-Unstrut.

Lush vineyards grace the Saale-Unstrut countryside – the northernmost region in Germany to produce quality wine. The area is also frequently referred to as the “Tuscany of the North”. The roads and rivers winding through the landscape encourage you to go on a walk or get on your bike while magical palaces and ancient churches along the Route of the Romanesque invite you on journeys of discovery.

Wine has been grown in Saale-Unstrut for over 1,000 years. Low rainfall and many hours of sunshine enable over 60 grape varieties to grow and thrive on the steep slopes of this wine region.



3
Saale cycle path
through the vineyards

4
Active canoe tour
on the Unstrut river



LOCAL WINE

The culinary ambassadors of the Saale-Unstrut region are its wines and sparkling wines. The most prominent among these is the Rotkäppchen sparkling wine with the red cap on the top of the bottle. At the sparkling wine cellar in Freyburg/Unstrut, guests are provided with an explanation of the traditional bottle fermentation process and can sample a glass.



3



4

Today, the region has over 50 flourishing vineyards. A long, ambling walk or cycle ride past the vineyards, including wine-tasting in one of the cellars, is highly recommended.

For those wanting to combine an active holiday with pleasure, the Saale-Unstrut Wine Road, about 40 miles long, is ideal. Starting in Memleben, it leads you past towns such as Nebra, Laucha, Freyburg, and Naumburg until finally ending in Bad Sulza.

The rivers are another popular feature of this charming area. You could take a leisurely boat ride along

the Saale or go kayaking on the Unstrut – numerous docks, launching sites and picnic spots on the banks were designed with water sport fans in mind. These are perfect conditions for experiencing the south of Saxony-Anhalt from the water.

The second-largest tributary to the Elbe, the 258-mile-long Saale, is perfect for a river cruise. Board a boat with the whole family, sit back and relax, and let the vineyards, medieval palaces and castles glide past.

saale-unstrut-tourismus.de/en

The joy of nature – Harz National Park

The Harz Mountains are one of Germany's most popular hiking regions. From a leisurely stroll on a Sunday afternoon to a sporty hike along the Harzer-Hexen-Stieg (Harz Witches' Trail) – in the Harz Mountains you can enjoy your vacation, experience pure nature, and reconnect with your senses.





A well-signposted network of over 5,000 miles of hiking trails makes the Harz Mountains a hiker's paradise. Short or long distances, narrow footpaths or well-maintained hiking trails, challenging or easy routes – here you're sure to find the right route for you. And there's no need to worry about board and lodging. Numerous hotels in the immediate vicinity of the most beautiful hiking trails are especially geared to Harz hikers.

At 1,141 meters, the Brocken is the highest peak in the Harz, and from the summit you can enjoy magnificent panoramic views across the whole region. A trip up the Brocken is one of the highlights of any stay in the Harz. Well-known travelers like Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and Heinrich Heine drew their inspirations from this very summit. The "most German of all the mountains", as Heine called the Brocken's summit, has some special features: it is geographically located on the former East-West German border and, as a military exclusion zone from 1961 to 1989, was not open to the public. Its position and altitude in northern Germany bring harsh winds and cold temperatures at times, comparable to the mountains of Iceland.



As the Brocken is within the Harz National Park, the summit cannot be accessed by car. You can take a ride up with coachmen who offer carriage rides to the summit from Schierke. Or you can take the Brocken steam train, which is part of the Harz Narrow-Gauge Railroad, to the summit. Alternatively, you can



- 1
**Titan RT suspension
bridge Harzdrenalin
at the Rappbode-
talsperre dam**

- 2
**Bodetal and
Hexentanzplatz in the
Harz Mountains**

- 3
**Rübeland
dripline caves**

- 4
**Brocken Mountain
(1,141 meters high)**

follow in Goethe's footsteps and hike from Torfhaus to the Brocken. Follow the path that Goethe took on December 10th, 1777, on his first visit to the Brocken. The rough terrain and untouched nature that created bizarre shapes left a lasting impression on him and manifested themselves years later in one of the greatest works of German literature: Faust.

en.harzinfo.de



THE HARZ MOUNTAINS BY STEAM

The Harz mountains are very popular among hikers and winter sport enthusiasts.

Here, in Germany's northernmost mountain range, you'll find not only lots of untouched natural landscapes and medieval towns full of half-timbered houses, but also the Harz Narrow-Gauge Railroad. The rail company's steam engines travel Europe's longest historical rail network, which is just over 80 miles long.

Ascending the Brocken mountain, visitors can retrace the steps of Goethe and visit the original settings for his play, "Faust". On April 30 each year, you can encounter witches and devils in the Harz mountains on Walpurgis Night, or Night of the Witches, and immerse yourself in this mythical celebration.

hsb-wr.de

WALPURGIS NIGHT AND THE WITCHES' DANCE FLOOR

Every year, during the night from April 30 to May 1, the witches of Walpurgis gather from all four cardinal directions on the Witches' Dance Floor ("Hexentanzplatz") near Thale in the Harz region. Walpurgis Night celebrates spring and the coming of summer in the Nordic countries. According to legend, witches would first meet at the Witches' Dance Floor to then fly together to the Blocksberg mountain, better known as the Brocken, where Lord Urian, the devil, awaits them for a jamboree. Locals, meanwhile, ward off evil by lighting bonfires!. Every year, Walpurgis Night is celebrated in over 20 towns in the Harz region.



Wernigerode Castle

Hidden gems

Wernigerode

The romantic half-timbered houses of the old town with one of the most beautiful town halls in Germany, the fairytale castle overlooking the town and the fabulous location in the middle of the Harz National Park give Wernigerode a unique charm. At Wernigerode Castle, guests learn interesting facts about the 800-year history of the town and visit the former living quarters of the high nobility. There is a terraced garden and pleasance at the castle, which are part of the “Gartenträume” project (Garden Dreams project), in Saxony-Anhalt.

A visit to Wernigerode’s Bürgerpark (citizen park) with the “Kleiner Harz” miniature park, a lakeside promenade, a viewing tower and the mineral gorge is perfect for all the family. The town is also the ideal starting point for hikes in the Mittelgebirge (low mountain range). The Harz Witches’ Trail, which runs for almost 100 kilometers, and the Harz Border Trail along the former inner-German border are both popular.

Winter sports enthusiasts will love the ski lift and the numerous cross-country ski trails in the colder months. If you don’t want to climb the Brocken on foot, the highest mountain in the Harz Mountains at 1,142 meters, you can reach the summit from Wernigerode by steam locomotive on the Harz narrow-gauge railroad.

wernigerode-tourismus.de



BAUMKUCHEN & ASPARAGUS

The traditional Baumkuchen has been baked in Salzwedel for over 200 years and has even been supplied to the English royal family. Baumkuchen, which literally translates as “tree cake”, is a cake baked in layers reminiscent of the annual growth rings on a tree.

The Altmark is also famous for its asparagus – not to be missed from any dish enjoyed during a visit in early summer.

LOCAL BEER

The Hasseröder brewery in Wernigerode, one of the best-selling beer brands in East Germany, is well known. But the Altmark also offers ample opportunity for discovering many smaller traditional breweries.

Altmark

The region in the north of Saxony-Anhalt is characterized by historic Hanseatic towns set amid a flat, unspoilt landscape. From medieval brick churches to half-timbered architecture – towns such as Stendal, Salzwedel, Tangermünde and Havelberg reveal their important medieval history to visitors.

Picturesque little towns and villages with their stork nests and quaint farmsteads reflect the agricultural tradition of the region and define the culture of the Altmark. Nature reserves such as the Elbe floodplains, the Havel lowlands, the Drömling or the Colbitz-Letzlinger Heide can be explored on numerous nature trails. The Altmark also has an extensive network of cycle paths with connections to the Havel and Elbe cycle paths.

altmark.de/en



The Hanseatic city of Tangermünde

Event highlights

Our top tips:



Festival of Light
in Magdeburg

Kurt Weill Festival

Dessau

Late February/early March

Each year brings a different theme and a new line-up of top artists to the festival honoring local hero Kurt Weill.

kurt-weill-fest.de

Walpurgis

Harz

Every year on April 30

The traditional Walpurgisfest is celebrated in more than 30 places throughout the Harz region, including Wernigerode, Blankenburg, Schierke and the legendary Hexentanzplatz (witches' dance floor) in Thale.

en.harzinfo.de

Summer in the Garden Kingdom

Wörlitz

May – September

Gardens and castles are a unique setting for concerts, theater performances and musical and literary events. The concerts on Wörlitz Lake include a gondola ride through the lakes and canals in the park with delicious canapés and, of course, music.

gartenreich.de/en

Handel Festival

Halle (Saale)

Late May/early June

Most of the concerts take place in venues that have a connection with Handel, such as the cathedral, the marketplace church and the Handel House.

haendelhaus.de/en

Luther's Wedding Festival

Lutherstadt Wittenberg

Early June

Locals dress in medieval costume to celebrate the wedding vows of Martin Luther and Katharina von

Bora. Lasting for three days, this is one of the most spectacular festivals in Germany.

lutherstadt-wittenberg.de/en

Dessau Bauhaus Festival

Every year in September

Celebrate like the members of the Bauhaus! With experimental installations, performances, readings and plenty of live music, the Bauhaus Dessau is continuing the tradition of the legendary festivals.

bauhaus-dessau.de/en/events

Reformation Festival

Lutherstadt Wittenberg

Every year on October 31

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses opposing the sale of indulgences to the door of the castle church in Wittenberg. Every year a wide variety of events is held around this special day.

lutherstadt-wittenberg.de/en

Magdeburg Festival of Light

Every year from the end of November to January

Millions of lights on houses, lamp posts and fountains and around 60 life-size light sculptures transform Magdeburg into a sparkling wonderland.

lichterwelt-magdeburg.de

Christmas/Advent Markets

Late November to Christmas

During Advent, cities and towns across Saxony-Anhalt are decorated in festive finery. Against a backdrop of half-timbered houses, the Yuletide spirit reigns in the Christmas markets, where stalls sell traditional crafts and decorations.

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Publisher: Investment and Marketing Corporation Saxony-Anhalt, Am Alten Theater 6, 39104 Magdeburg, Tel. +49 (0)391 56899 - 0, Fax +49 (0)391 56899 - 51, www.sachsen-anhalt-tourismus.de, tourismus@img-sachsen-anhalt.de, www.investieren-in-sachsen-anhalt.de, welc@img-sachsen-anhalt.de

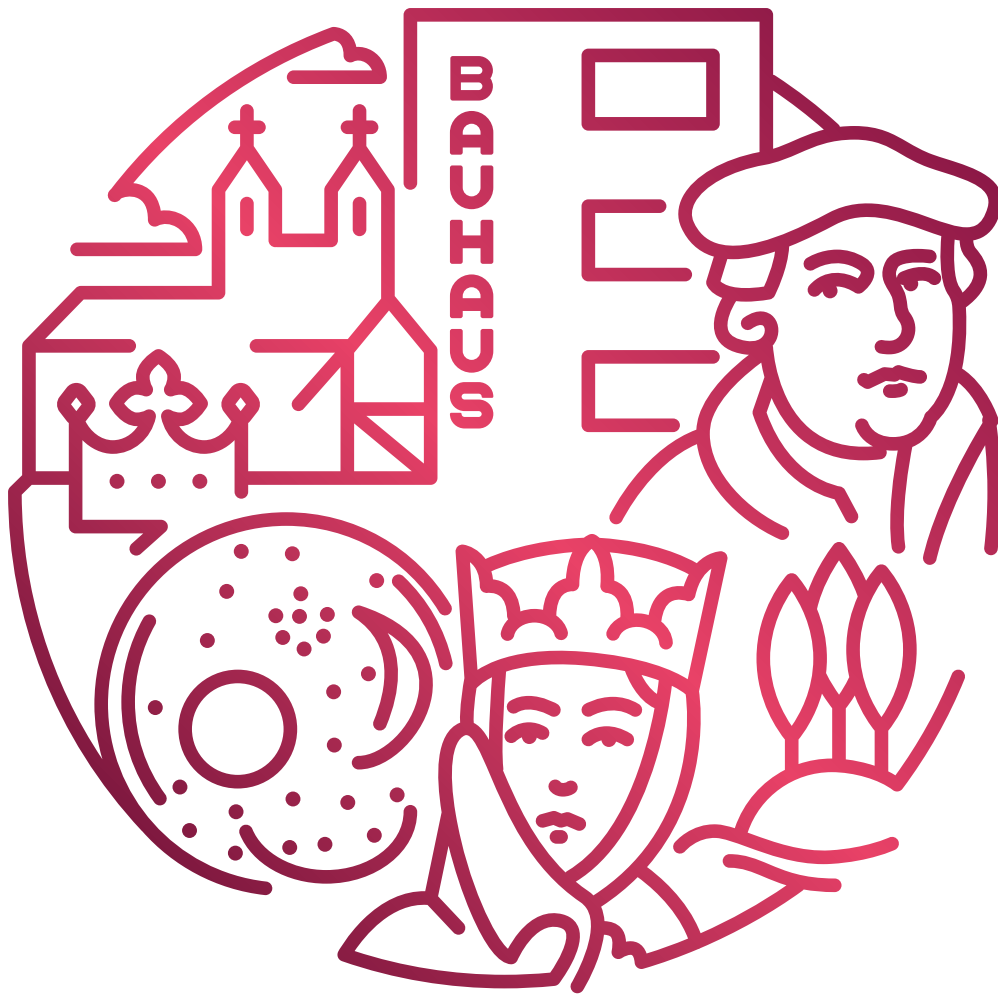
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Editorial deadline: December 2024; subject to change without notice.

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in Eisleben and
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