



Distances in kilometres are measured from Kaufbeuren

## 1 Großkemnat (4 km)

Direction of Kleinkemnat; Follow signs to Großkemnat

### "Römerturm" castle site and keep

Despite its name, the "Römerturm" does not date from Roman times, but is the keep of Kemnat Castle, built in 1185. Konradin, the last king of the Staufer dynasty, stayed here in 1264. Parts of the structure were demolished in the 19th century. Of the original castle, the keep, the administration building and the 24-metre-deep well, 20 metres east of the keep, are still intact.

The tower is open during the daytime and offers spectacular views over the surrounding countryside and the Alps. A panorama map provides the information on the mountain peaks between the Karwendel and Allgäu Alps.

Open all day  
Beim Römerturm 15, 87600 Kaufbeuren-Kemnat



Römerturm

## 7 Köngetried (24 km)

Leave Kaufbeuren via Oberbeuren and proceed to Friesenried. Turn right to Eggenthal, then left in the direction of Markt Rettenbach via Untereggen.

### Katzbrui-Mühle

Katzbrui, set in beautiful natural surroundings, is the only remaining example of a 17<sup>th</sup>-century German flour mill and a real insider tip. The little museum gives visitors a fascinating insight into the way the millers once lived and worked. At the "Müllerstube" inn, guests can enjoy fresh local trout and home-brewed beer in a cosy rustic setting.

Museum and restaurant open daily from 11.00  
Katzbrui 7, 87742 Köngetried  
For information, phone 08269/575  
www.katzbruumuehle.de



Katzbrui



Romanesque basilica Altenstadt

## 8 Altenstadt (27 km)

Direction of Schongau via Mauerstetten, Stöttwang and Osterzell

### Romanesque basilica

Altenstadt's location on the River Lech established its position as an important strategic site in Roman times and the early Middle Ages and was the reason for the building of an impressive basilica at the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The basilica, built of local tuff stone, ranks as one of the most important late-Romanesque churches in southern Bavaria. Its outstanding feature is the huge Romanesque crucifix, revered as the "Great God of Altenstadt". The crucifix is flanked on either side with figures of Our Lady and St. John, exact copies of the originals, which can be seen in the Bavarian National Museum in Munich.

Open daily from 10.00 to 18.00  
Sankt-Michael-Straße 2, 86972 Altenstadt  
For information, phone 08861/7315  
www.schongau.de

## 2 Irsee (7 km)

Take the B 16 in the direction of Bad Wörishofen, and after approx. 2 km take the Irsee exit at the roundabout.



Swabian Education Centre

Brewery Museum

Memorial to the victims of euthanasia

### Swabian Education Centre

Until its dissolution in 1803 this was a Benedictine monastery. The magnificent staircase and state rooms are well preserved. Between 1849 and 1972 the building served as a mental hospital. Since its restoration, the former monastery has been home to the Swabian conference, education and cultural centre. The courses and seminars run by the Schwabenakademie and the Bavarian Bezirkstag attract participants from far and near.

The foyer, which offers a view of the staircase, is open to the public at all times. The historical rooms may be viewed only by prior arrangement and guided tour.

Klosterring 4, 87660 Irsee, for information, phone 08341/90600  
www.kloster-irsee.de

### Klosterkirche (Abbey Church)

Until 1803, the Baroque abbey church, dedicated to the Assumption of Our Lady and Saints Peter and Paul, was the collegiate church of the Benedictine monastery of Irsee. The most striking feature of the church is its ship pulpit, dating from ca. 1725 and created by the sculptor Ignaz Hillenbrand from nearby Türkheim.

Open during the daytime  
Katholisches Pfarramt Irsee, for information, phone 08341/2880  
www.irsee.de

### Brewery Museum

The "Klosterbrauerei" houses a brewery museum, open daily from 9.00 to 19.00.

Advance booking required for guided tours.

Klosterbräu Irsee  
Klosterring 1, 87660 Irsee, for information, phone 08341/432200  
www.irsee.com

### Memorial to the victims of Nazi euthanasia

A cemetery for inmates of the former mental hospital, situated behind the Abbey church, featuring a monument and the "Prosektur" memorial, as well as "stumbling blocks" in front of the church, are sombre reminders of the darkest chapter in the institution's history.

## 3 Stöttwang (8 km)

In the direction of Schongau via Mauerstetten

### Parish Church of St. Gordian and Epimach

This gem of south German Baroque architecture, often compared with the world-renowned Wieskirche, was built in 1744/45. The stucco work and pulpit are works of the celebrated stucco artist Franz Xaver Feichtmayr, the paintings are by Franz Xaver Hermann from Kempten. The magnificent high altar was created by artists from Augsburg: the crucifix by Ägidius Verhelst, the altar and all the other figures by his son Placidus.

Open daily  
Pfarrer-Klein-Straße, 87677 Stöttwang  
For information, phone 08345/329  
www.stoetwang.de



Parish Church, Stöttwang

## 10 Ottobeuren (34 km)

Take the B 16 in the direction of Bad Wörishofen; after 2 km turn left towards Irsee and proceed via Eggenthal and Markt Rettenbach to Ottobeuren

The Ottobeuren monastery was founded in 764 by Count Silach and populated by monks from the Lake Constance area. In 1268, the Benedictine abbey became self-governing under the Emperor. 1711 saw the start of the construction of a new abbey, resulting in one of the largest Baroque monasteries in Europe. Only a few of the 200 rooms and 20 halls of the vast monastery complex are open to the public. The museum, the impressive library and splendid Kaisersaal are well worth a visit. The theatre bears witness to Ottobeuren's flourishing cultural life in the Baroque era.



Ottobeuren Abbey



Ottobeuren Abbey library

### Benedictine Abbey

The abbey was built by Johann Michael Fischer and completed in 1766. Its ornate interior features lavish stucco work by Johann Michael Feichtmayer and frescoes and altar paintings by Johann Jakob and Franz Anton Zeiller. The two Baroque choir organs, built by Karl Joseph Riepp, are of particular interest. Both the four-manual "Dreifaltigkeitsorgel" with 47 stops and the two-manual "Heiliggeistorgel" with 27 stops possess French tonal characteristics.

In 1926, the church was elevated to the status of a Basilica by the Pope.

The church is open all year round.  
Monastery and abbey museum open April to October,  
10.00 – 12.00 and 14.00 – 17.00  
Limited opening hours during off-peak season  
Monastery café open daily 10.00 – 18.00

Monastery and abbey museum, incorporating a branch of the Bavarian State Art Gallery.  
Sebastian-Kneipp-Straße 1, 97742 Ottobeuren  
For information, phone 08332/7980  
www.abtei-ottobeuren.de

## 4 Untergermaringen (9 km)

At the B 12 roundabout, take the Germaringen exit and continue to Untergermaringen.

### St. George's Church

A 15-minute walk from the centre of the village takes you past six 17<sup>th</sup>-century stone stations of the cross up to St. George's Church, perched atop the Georgiberg hill and visible for miles around.

The Romanesque church, dating from ca. 1180, contains an almost perfectly preserved 12<sup>th</sup>-century fresco in the apse – the only one of its kind in Swabia. The simple altar shrine is also Romanesque in origin. The fresco of St. Christopher dates from ca. 1420.

Viewing by appointment only  
Georgibergstraße, 87656 Germaringen  
For information, phone (verger) 08344/1059  
www.germaringen.de



St. George's Church



Chancel St. Otilia's Church



Pilgrimage church of St. Otilia

## 5 Hörmanshofen (8 km)

Take the B 16 southwards as far as Biessenhofen, then turn left to Hörmanshofen.

### Pilgrimage church of St. Otilia

The chapel, built ca. 1350, was originally part of a small castle. Among its owners were the knights of the Benzenau family. The castle was demolished in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

The chapel is dedicated to St. Otilia, patron saint of the blind. There are accounts of "ancient pilgrimages to the Otilienberg" as early as 1440.

In 1986, following a succession of extensions and restorations, the pilgrimage church with its remarkable interior was added to the international register of cultural property under special protection of the Hague Convention.

Open daily from 9.00 to 18.00  
Otilienberg, 87640 Biessenhofen  
For information, phone 08341/82605

## 11 Eisenberg (35 km)

Take the B 16 to Marktberdorf and carry on via Seeg to Eisenberg/Zell. Car parking available at the castle museum.

### Castle ruins of Eisenberg and Hohenfreyberg

#### Eisenberg

Eisenberg Castle was the family seat of the noble house of Eisenberg, a prominent aristocratic family from the Allgäu. It's first mention in a written document dates from 1340. In 1382, it was acquired by Archduke Leopold of Bavaria. Perched 1055 metres above sea level, Eisenberg, the older of the two castles, stands slightly higher than Hohenfreyberg. Of the original shell keep castle, the towering crenellated wall, the foundations and cellar vaults are still preserved.

In 1980, the local municipality of Eisenberg purchased the ruins from the family of Freyberg-Eisenberg and stabilized and conserved them with the aid of the Castle Association.



Eisenberg



Hohenfreyberg

#### Hohenfreyberg

In the 15<sup>th</sup> century, Friedrich von Freyberg built Hohenfreyberg Castle on the opposite hill in the typical style of the hilltop castles of the Staufer dynasty. It was one of the last major castles to be built in the Middle Ages. Because of dwindling fortunes, his descendants were forced to sell it to Austria. During the Thirty Years' War the castles of Falkenstein, Eisenberg and Hohenfreyberg were all razed to the ground. Today, the aristocratic family of Freyberg once again owns the castle, the restoration of which has received international acclaim and is held up as a model for similar projects all over Europe.

Guided tours available on request.  
Pre-booking only, Tel. 08363/94430  
Castle museum open weekends and public holidays, 14.00 – 17.00  
Guided tours available on request.  
Pre-booking only, Tel. 08364/1512

The castle ruins are freely accessible.  
Burgweg 50, 87637 Eisenberg  
Tel. 08364/1237  
www.burgenmuseum-allgaeu.de,  
www.burgenmuseum-eisenberg.de

## 6 Aitrang (15km)

Leave Kaufbeuren in the direction of Apfeltrang and Ruderatshofen and carry on towards Aitrang, where you take a left turn.

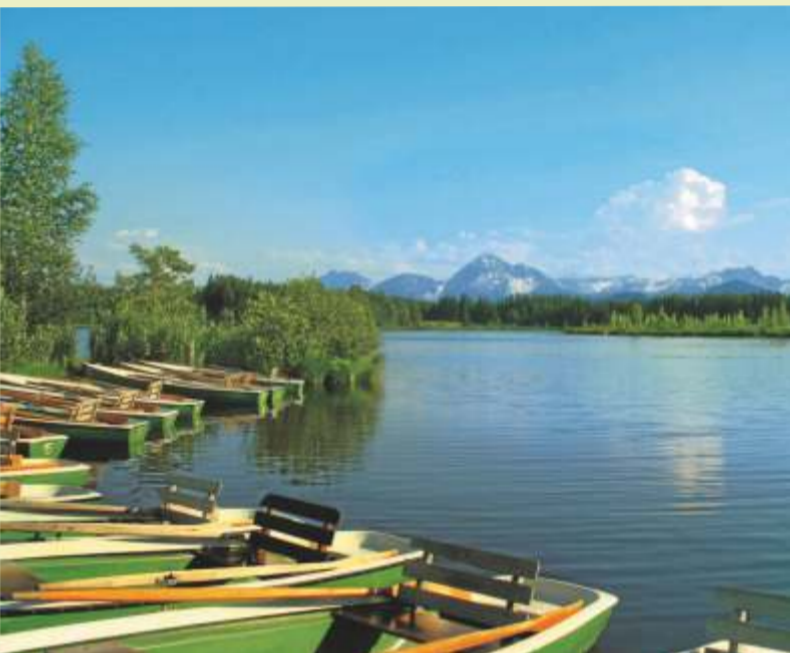
### Lake Elbsee

This fenland lake with its dark brown water (formerly known as the "Elchsee" or "Elk Lake") is situated south of Aitrang and is one of the most beautiful natural areas in the Allgäu. The surrounding peatland acts as a filter and is responsible for the good quality of the lake water. The lake also provides a natural habitat for a wide range of flora and fauna. A large grassy beach area for sunbathing and swimming and a boat hire make it a favourite spot for leisure-seeking visitors.

Further attractions include a 5-star all-year campsite, situated at the lake's edge, and a large restaurant with a garden terrace.

Restaurant Elbsee  
Am Elbsee 1, 87648 Elbsee  
Tel. 08343/330

Camp site Elbsee  
Am Elbsee 3, 87648 Elbsee  
Tel. 08343/248  
www.elbsee.eu



Elbsee

### Dear guests,

### Welcome to the Allgäu!

Strolling along the town walls past St. Blasius you can feel the history of Kaufbeuren at every turn. Walking through the steep garden of the Crescentia convent, you can discover the "spiritual" heart of the northern Allgäu. In the midst of the picture-book landscape of the Allgäu, the historic town of Kaufbeuren is the ideal starting point for unforgettable excursions to local places of cultural and historical interest.

Neuschwanstein castle, visible from afar, is the crowning glory of the region, nestling amidst the magnificent peaks of the Ammergau and Allgäu Alps. This is where the story of the Schlosspark, a vast Allgäu adventure park, begins. Wherever you go, at every step and turn, you can sense the spirit of King Ludwig. The countryside and the villages dotted about it abound with tales. Enjoy the rural charm of the region with its grazing cows and cosy mountain huts, frequented by the King himself, in search of solitude, breathing freedom on the mountain tops.

The cultivated Allgäu landscape is set amidst glorious natural scenery. Here, where the Swabian Baroque Road, the end of the Romantic Road and the German Alpine Road meet, visitors cannot fail to be enchanted by the charm of the region's churches, castles and monasteries. Each year, its world-renowned art treasures attract a multitude of visitors, but the region is also full of hidden gems just waiting to be discovered.

The Allgäu is an Eldorado for hiking and cycling fans: The Allgäu Hiking Trilogy comprises three routes measuring a total of 876 kilometres: the "Wiesengänger" (meadow walkers), the "Wasserläufer" (water runners) and the "Himmelsstürmer" (heaven hotspur) routes. The 450 kilometres of the Allgäu Cycle Loop touch many of the places of interest mentioned in this brochure. Please visit the Tourist Information Kaufbeuren for maps.

**We at Kaufbeuren Tourismus- und Stadtmarketing e.V. hope you have lots of fun discovering the area.**