Edition: 1.5.07-2020/2 Cover photo: Dieter Ruf

Translation: Lesley Weirich

Printed by: Allgäu Druck & Medien GbR, Germaringen Photographs: Kaufbeuren Tourismus- und Stadtmarketing e.V., Die Fotografin Melanie Gotschke, Füssen Tourismus und Marketing/www.guenterstandl.de, Füssen Tourismus und Marketing/Stefan Stein, Stadt Kempten, Touristlnfo Landsberg, Fink Verlag Lindenberg, Stadt Memmingen, Touristlnfo Landsberg, Fink Verlag Lindenberg, Stadt Memmingen, Itseer Kloststerbräu, Katzbrui-Mühle, Manfred Huber, Bernhard Kuisle, Itseer Kloststerbräu, Katzbrui-Mühle, Manfred Huber, Bernhard Kuisle, Georg Petrich, Dieter Ruf, Herbert Wittmann, Wittelsbacher Ausgleichsfands, MdbK. Foto: Jörg Sattelberger

Published by: Kaulbeuren Tourismus- und Stadtmarketing e.V. Design: Irmgard Kuisle, Kaulbeuren Design city map: © OpenStreetMap contributors ∕ Bernhard Kuisle Text: Charlotte Brendel, cities, institutions and locations

:tuindml

Other brochures available on request:
- Walking Tour of Kaufbeuren's Old Townand Museums
- Tours and Museums in Neugablonz
- Accommodation in and around Kaufbeuren

Opening times
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 09.30 to 17.00
Wednesdays from 09.30 to 14.00
May - October also Saturdays from 09.30 to 12.00



Kaiser-Max-Stralse 3a
D-87600 Kaufbeuren / Allgäu
Telefon: +49 8341 437-190
Telefax: +49 8341 437-197
tourist-info@kaufbeuren.de

Kautbeuren Tourismus- und Stadtmarketing e.V. Jourist Information

Ţ

Pfronten (41 km)

Take the B 16 to Marktoberdorf and carry on via Seeg and Eisenberg in the direction of Pfronten; the Falkenstein car park is signposted just before you enter Pfronten

Falkenstein castle ruins

At an altitude of 1277 metres, Germany's highest castle ruins are situated on top of the steep flanks of Falkenstein. From the summit there is an impressive view over Pfronten, the Füssen lakes and the Vils valley in Tyrol. Castle historians interpret the unusual, exposed position of the small, originally Tyrolean castle as a symbol of seigneurial power and an intimidating gesture towards the Duchy of Bavaria. Towards the end of the Thirty Years' War, the castle suffered the same fate as its neighbours Hohenfreyberg and Eisenberg and was burned down by the Government of Tyrol to prevent it from falling into the hands of the advancing Protestant Swedish forces.

In 1883, King Ludwig II acquired the ruins, intending to build a neo-Romanesque castle as a counterpart to Neuschwanstein. However, the architectural constraints imposed by the narrow rocky ridge resulted in the construction of a kind of "robber Baron" castle. The road leading up to the ruins and the piped water supply date from 1885. The King's untimely demise in 1886 meant that Falkenstein Castle was to remain a distant dream. A model is on show in the castle museum.

The castle museum is open all year round, admission free For information, phone 8363/914540

Castle ruins freely accessible Auf dem Falkenstein 1, 87459 Pfronten For information, phone 08363/69888 www.pfronten.de

Falkenstein



3 Füssen (41 km)

Take the B 16 via Biessenhofen, Marktoberdorf, Roßhaupten and Rieden to Füssen

Hohes Schloss (Castle)

High above the town of Füssen sits the Hohes Schloss. The former summer residence of the Prince Bishops of Augsburg with its picturesque courtyard and unique façade paintings is one of the most important late-Gothic castles in Germany. Today, this secular medieval complex houses a branch of the Bavarian State Art Gallery, with the focus on late-Gothic art, as well as the Füssen Art Gallery.

Guided tours: Saturdays, 14.00 (April to October) or by prior arrangement Opening times: Tuesday-Sunday, 11.00-17.00 (April to October)

Friday-Sunday, 13.00-16.00 (November to April) Magnusplatz 10, 87629 Füssen For information, phone 08362/903146



www.stadt-fuessen.de



Forggensee Lak

Museum of Füssen

Füssen's town museum in the splendid Baroque setting of the former Benedictine monastery of St. Mang is well worth a visit. Visitors find themselves immersed in the world of Bavarian Baroque with its elaborate ornamentation and exuberant celebration of colour. Another major highlight of the museum is its collection of precious historical lutes and violins, which illustrate Füssen's role as the cradle of European lute making.

Guided tours by prior arrangement only Opening times: Tuesday to Sunday, 11.00–17.00 (April to October) Friday to Sunday, 13.00–16.00 (November to April) Lechhalde 3, 87629 Füssen

For information, phone 08362/903146 www.stadt-fuessen.de

Neuschwanstein Castle Take the B 16 via Biessenhofe

Schwangau (46 km)

Take the B 16 via Biessenhofen, Marktoberdorf, Roßhaupten and Rieden to Füssen. In the town centre take a left turn and follow the B 16 to Schwangau, signposted "Königsschlösser".



awanstoin Cartle

King Ludwig II of Bavaria's fairy-tale castle of Neuschwanstein is a fantasy come true. Every year it attracts more than a million visitors from all over the world. Inspired by Richard Wagner's operas "Tannhäuser" and "Lohengrin", Ludwig had the castle built between 1869 and 1886. The King's apartments are richly decorated with paintings and tapestries depicting scenes from the legends and sagas of the Middle Ages. Don't miss the breathtaking view over the "Castle of the Holy Grail" from the Marienbrücke bridge high above the Pöllat gorge.

Open daily, 9.00–17.00 (1 April to 15 October) and 10.00–16.00 (16 October to 31 March), closed on 24, 25 and 31 December and 1 January

Neuschwansteinstraße 20, 87645 Schwangau For information, phone 08362/81980 www.schwangau.de

Hohenschwangau Castle

Built in the 12th century as a meeting place for Minnesänger (medieval minstrels), the castle later fell into disrepair. Between 1832 and 1836, the ruins, splendidly situated within sight of Neuschwanstein, were restored by Crown Prince Maximilian II, who was later to become King Maximilian II and father of Ludwig II. King Ludwig II spent a happy childhood in the castle, which remains in the possession of the Wittelsbach dynasty to this day.

Both castles are only accessible by guided tour.

Tickets for both castles available online or at the Ticket Center on the day of the visit (Tel. 08362/930830)

For opening times, see Schloss Neuschwanstein

Alpseestraße 30, 87645 Schwangau For information, phone 08362/81980 www.schwangau.de

14 Schwangau (46 km)

Museum of the Bavarian Kings

In 2011, the Museum of the Bavarian Kings, idyllically situated at the foot of the world-famous castles of Neuschwanstein and Hohenschwangau and on the edge of Alpsee lake, opened its doors to the public. Here visitors are taken on a journey through the turbulent history of the Wittelsbach dynasty. A combination of modern museum technology and original exhibits gives guests a fascinating insight into the lives and times of the kings.

Open daily from 9.00 – 17.00 Closed on 24, 25 December and 1 January Alpseestraße 27, 87645 Schwangau For information, phone 08362/887250 www.hohenschwangau.de





Centrepiece in the Museum of the Bavarian Kings

15 Steingaden (47 km)

Take the B 16 via Biessenhofen to Altdorf; turn left towards Bertoldshofen and the B 472 in the direction of Schongau. After 11 km turn right via Lechbruck to Steingaden.

Wieskirche

The world-famous Wieskirche, also known as the "Pilgrimage church of the Scourged Saviour", was designed and built between 1745 and 1754 by Dominikus Zimmermann. It is an exquisite example of Bavarian Rococo, exhibiting a perfect harmony of style and ornamentation. Its elaborate stucco work and colourful frescoes earned it its name of a "Jewel fallen from Heaven". The Wieskirche was added to the UNESCO World Heritage list in 1983.

Guided tours by prior arrangement only.

Open daily 8.00-20.00 (summer) and 8.00-17.00 (winter)

Wies 12, 86989 Steingaden For information, phone 08862/932930 www.wieskirche.de





www.kaufbeuren-tourismus.de

Mindelheim (25 km)

Take the B 16 in the direction of Bad Wörishofen, turn left at Pforzen and proceed via Ingenried and Lauchdorf to Mindelheim.

Encircled by town gates and fortified towers, Mindelheim is a gem among the historic towns in the Allgäu. Six sections of the town walls are waiting to be explored and a 20-minute walk takes the visitor to Mindelburg castle, which offers a panoramic view of the pre-alpine region. From May to October there are guided walking tours every second Saturday of the month.

For information, phone 08261/9551520 www.mindelheim.de





Mindelheim: Marienplatz

Landsberg (34 km)

Take the B 12 in the direction of Augsburg/Munich and at Buchloe join the A 96 to Landsberg.

The town of Landsberg am Lech, founded by King Henry the Lion, can look back on a history spanning more than 850 years. At the heart of the Old Town, which is situated between the river Lech and its steep banks, lies the wide main square, dominated by the Schmalzturm tower and lined with proud patrician houses, including the historic town hall with its ornate stucco façade created by Dominikus Zimmermann.

From May to October there are regular guided tours of Landsberg am Lech on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays at 14:30.

For information, phone 08191/28246 www.landsberg.de

Cover photo: Römerturm

Kempten (36 km)

Take the B 12 via Marktoberdorf to Kempten.

Kempten - 2000 years old and as lively as ever. The ancient Roman town can look back on a long, eventful history that is still in evidence in many parts of the town: in the Cambodunum Archaeological Park, the underground Erasmus chapel, the state rooms of the Residenz, or the town museum in Zumsteinhaus.

At the same time, Kempten is a vibrant metropolis and industrial centre of the Allgäu region and a popular destination for locals and tourists alike.

For information, phone 0831/9609550 www.kempten-tourismus.de





Kempten: Rathausplatz with the town hall

Memmingen: Siebendächerhaus

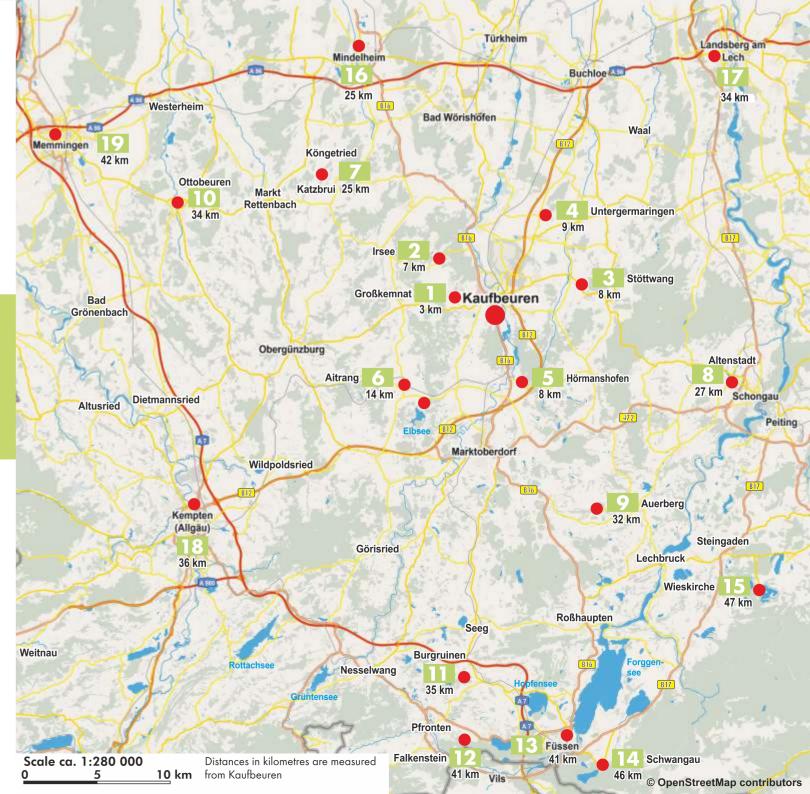
Memmingen (42 km)

Take the B 12 in the direction of Augsburg/Munich and at Buchloe join the A 96 to Memmingen.

Over the course of many centuries, Memmingen evolved from a Roman settlement to a free imperial town. In the 16th century, along with Zürich, Geneva and Wittenberg, it became a centre of the Protestant Reformation movement.

With its historic town gates and towers, Memmingen's townscape has retained its medieval character to this day. Of particular interest are the Kreuzherrenkirche (former church of the Brethren of the Holy Spirit and a gem of upper Swabian Baroque), the 'Antonierhaus' and the 'Siebendächerhaus':

For information, phone 08331/850172 www.memmingen.de

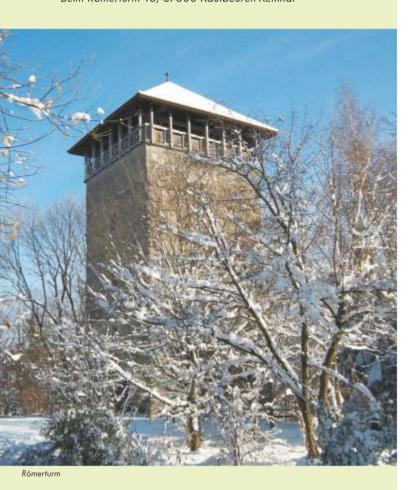


"Römerturm" castle site and keep

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-metredeep 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.

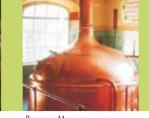
Open all day Beim Römerturm 15, 87600 Kaufbeuren-Kemnat



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

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 Bezirketag 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

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

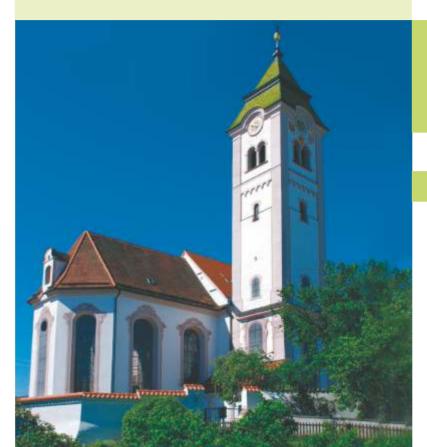
Stöttwang (8 km)

In the direction of Schonaau 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.stoettwang.de



Parish Church, Stöttwang

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 17th-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 12th-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

Viewing by appointment only Georgibergstraße, 87656 Germaringer For information, phone (verger) 08344/1059







Hörmanshofen (8 km)

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

Pilgrimage church of St. Ottilia

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 18th century.

The chapel is dedicated to St. Ottilia, patron saint of the blind. There are accounts of "ancient pilgrimages to the Ottilienberg" as

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 Ottilienberg, 87640 Biessenhofen For information, phone 08341/82605

Aitrang (15km)

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

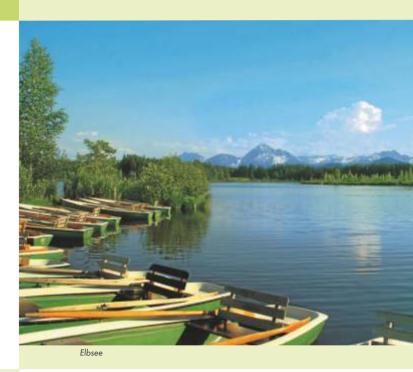
Lake Elbsee

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



Köngetried (24 km)

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

Katzbrui-Mühle

Katzbrui, set in beautiful natural surroundings, is the only remaining example of a 17th-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 homebrewed beer in a cosy rustic setting.

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





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 12th century. The basilica, built of local tuff stone, ranks as one of the most important late-Romanesque churches in southern Bayaria. 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

Auerberg (32 km)

Take the B 16 via Biessenhofen to Altdorf and proceed to Bertoldshofen (B 472 in the direction of Schongau). Turn off towards Rettenbach and Bernbeuren, where Auerberg is signposted.

The summit of Auerberg (1056 metres above sea level) is divided into two peaks, "Kirchberg" and "Schlossberg", both of which are enclosed within a 1700-metre-long circular earthwork.

Archaeological excavations have uncovered a range of Roman military artefacts, indicating that this was once a Roman

The museum in Kiebelehaus showcases the history of the Auerberg settlement in a wealth of fascinating displays spread

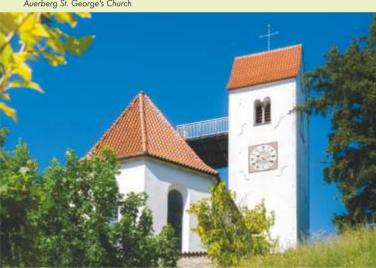
Open Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays from 14.00 to 16.00 (April-October), guided tours available on request. For information, phone 08860/210 www.bernbeuren.de

St. George's Church

The platform atop the church tower affords a breathtaking view of the Alps and their rolling footbills. The panelled ceiling is thought to date from shortly after the Thirty Years' War. Above the entrance to the vestry there is a late-Gothic Madonna on a crescent moon, a work by the Kaufbeuren sculptor Jörg Lederer, dating from ca. 1520.

Auerberg 4, 86975 Bernbeuren For information, phone 08860/278 www.bernbeuren.de

Auerberg St. George's Church



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 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 Feuchtmayer 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 twomanual "Heiliggeistorgel" with 27 stops possess French tonal characteristics.

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

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

Eisenberg (35 km)

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

Castle ruins of Eisenberg and Hohenfreyberg

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.







Hohenfreyberg

In the 15th 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

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 picturebook 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 worldrenowned 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

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