



Herrenberg

die *mitmach*stadt





A Market square with its fountain

Since the town was founded and documented to have gone on as early as 1276, there was a hustle and bustle of market activity here. And until 1504, the open-air criminal court was conducted here as well. A market fountain is mentioned in 1347. Since this provided the essential water supply for the entire town, it remained in joint possession when the town was divided. The fountain you see today, like the buildings around the market square, was erected after the great fire of 1635. Every year there is a cultural festival held at the market square known as “The Colours of Summer” or “Sommerfarben” as well as Herrenberg’s City Festival (Stadt-fest) and the Christmas Market (Weihnachtsmarkt).



B Oberamt

The “Official’s House” or Amtshaus, previously the governor’s office, was built in 1655. The Administrator’s Office or Vogtei has been the town’s official seat of civil authority since 1759 and was the County Office between 1930 and 1938 before the County of Herrenberg was dissolved and assimilated into the County of Boeblingen.



C Rathaus (City Hall)

The classical City Hall was built in 1806. Its predecessors burned down completely in 1466 and again in 1635. Right next to the City Hall’s main portal, you find the Baroque-style “Wappenstein”, which is the official Herrenberg City Coat of Arms.



E Old Granary (Fruchtkasten)

The old granary belongs to the most distinctive of buildings in Herrenberg. It was erected in 1683/1684. Its half-timbering is richly decorated. In an observation bay, an inscription reminds one of the storming of Herrenberg in 1525 in the ‘peasant’s war’ known as the Bauernkrieg.

F Dekanat

The old Propstei, or office of the Dean of the Church, was erected in 1439/40. Originally a grand building, it accommodated the Brothers of Communal Life from 1481 to 1517 and up to the time of the Reformation in 1534 it housed secular male choir members. From 1534-1749 the landmark building served as the seat of the Württemberg senior administrator or steward (Obervögte) and continued to be used as the apartment and official office of the special superintendent or the current Dekan.

G Spitalkirche zum Heiligen Geist

The Spitalkirche (literally the Almshouse Church of the Holy Spirit) was erected in 1400 together with the neighbouring almshouse by a citizen's foundation. The church has been repeatedly renovated. Inside, one sees a wooden pulpit embellished with intarsia, which was installed during the rebuilding after the great city fire of 1635.

H Tuebinger Straße

The Tuebinger Straße belongs to the pedestrian precinct in the old town area. Exactly here and at the market square one can enjoy the half-timbered buildings, which are so characteristic of Herrenberg. The ancestral home of Heinrich Schickhardt (1558-1635), a building master of Wuerttemberg and one of the greatest sons of Herrenberg is located on this street.

I Auf dem Graben

The area known as 'Auf dem Graben' is impressive owing to its row of buildings, which lie on the old city wall. In earlier times, city fortifications were found here with protective gates, bridges, circular tower, compound and battlemented parapet. An illustrated chart shows the reconstruction of this fortification.

J Alte Turnhalle

The old gymnasium was the first gymnasium in Herrenberg and was built in 1886. Between 1989 and 1991 it was redesigned into a hall for events and can accommodate about 300 people.

K Stuttgarter Straße

The Stuttgarter Straße belongs to Herrenberg's pedestrian precinct and features a cozy narrowness. It is marked by the continuum of two and three story gabled houses. Here one finds Herrenberg's oldest 'Buerger' house, a home to one of the more well-to-do and respected citizens of the time. It is now the inn 'Gasthaus zum Deutschen Kaiser'. It was built in the 15th century.





L Schlossberg

From the Schlossberg (literally, the castle hill), one has a magnificent view over Herrenberg and the Gaeu as all the way to the mountains known as the Schwabische Alb. The observation tower was erected in 1957 on the ruins of the tower that had been used for storing gunpowder before.

As the only remaining gate of the city's fortifications, it still opens to the path to the Schlossberg today. Still in good condition, the two belt-like stretches of wall run from the city up to the former castle.



M Stadtmauer

The city's wall was built during the time the city was founded, around 1200. There are still 620 m of its original full length of 1126 m at various places in the old part of the town. From these remnants, there are 250 m of fully-intact parts with their parapets, battlements and shooting and observation slits. The city wall in the area of the Schlossberg can be seen very easily.

N Staffeln

Representative of the variety of long, steep stairways or 'Staffeln' in Herrenberg, you will see one here called 'Loewenstaffel' or the 'lion' of all the steep stairways. A significant number of these stairs have been renovated in the last few years. They are landmarks of Herrenberg. It is not a coincidence that Herrenberg earned the distinctive nickname in the local Swabian dialect as 'Staeffelesrutscher', which translates roughly to describing these stairways more as sliding ways than just 'stairs'.



O Schönbuchturm

The Schönbuch Tower offers visitors a spectacular lookout over the Schönbuch Nature Park. With its fascinating construction made of local larch wood and taut steel wires, the tower integrates perfectly into the natural surroundings. From the three platforms you can enjoy a fantastic view over the Schönbuch, into the Heckengäu and the Black Forest, all the way to the Swabian Alb.



Quick and easy - Directions to Herrenberg

...by train

Herrenberg is located on the Stuttgart-Singen (Gaeubahn) and Herrenberg-Tuebingen (Ammertalbahn) lines. Running hourly, the RE trains on the Gaeubahn offer direct connections to Stuttgart, the Bodensee (Lake Constance) and to the northern Black Forest. In only 37 minutes, the S-Bahn S1 line runs directly to the center of Stuttgart every 30 minutes.

Modern trains need only 24 minutes to cover the distance between Herrenberg and Tübingen. The trains operate from early in the morning to late at night at 30-minute intervals.

...by car

Herrenberg is located directly on the Stuttgart-Singen Autobahn A81. You can exit the Autobahn at the Gaertringen junction (travelling from the north) or at the exit for Herrenberg (travelling from the south) and reach Herrenberg easily within minutes.

...by plane

Stuttgart's airport (in Echterdingen) is about a half-hour away. You reach Herrenberg from the airport by taking the Autobahn A8 in direction Karlsruhe to the junction called Kreuz Stuttgart. Then take the autobahn A81 in direction Singen and continue to the Gaertringen exit where you can leave the autobahn or continue on to the Herrenberg exit. The drive to Herrenberg is about 35 kilometers. You can take the S-Bahn S2 from the airport to Rohr. At Rohr you wait for the S-Bahn S1 (direction Herrenberg). The train ride takes about 35 minutes.



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