

2024 / 2025

BINGEN

Nahe + Rhine



UPSTREAM

A life on the river

BINGEN SWINGT

The International Jazz
Festival is back

BINGEN FOREST

The realm of forest spirits
and dormice

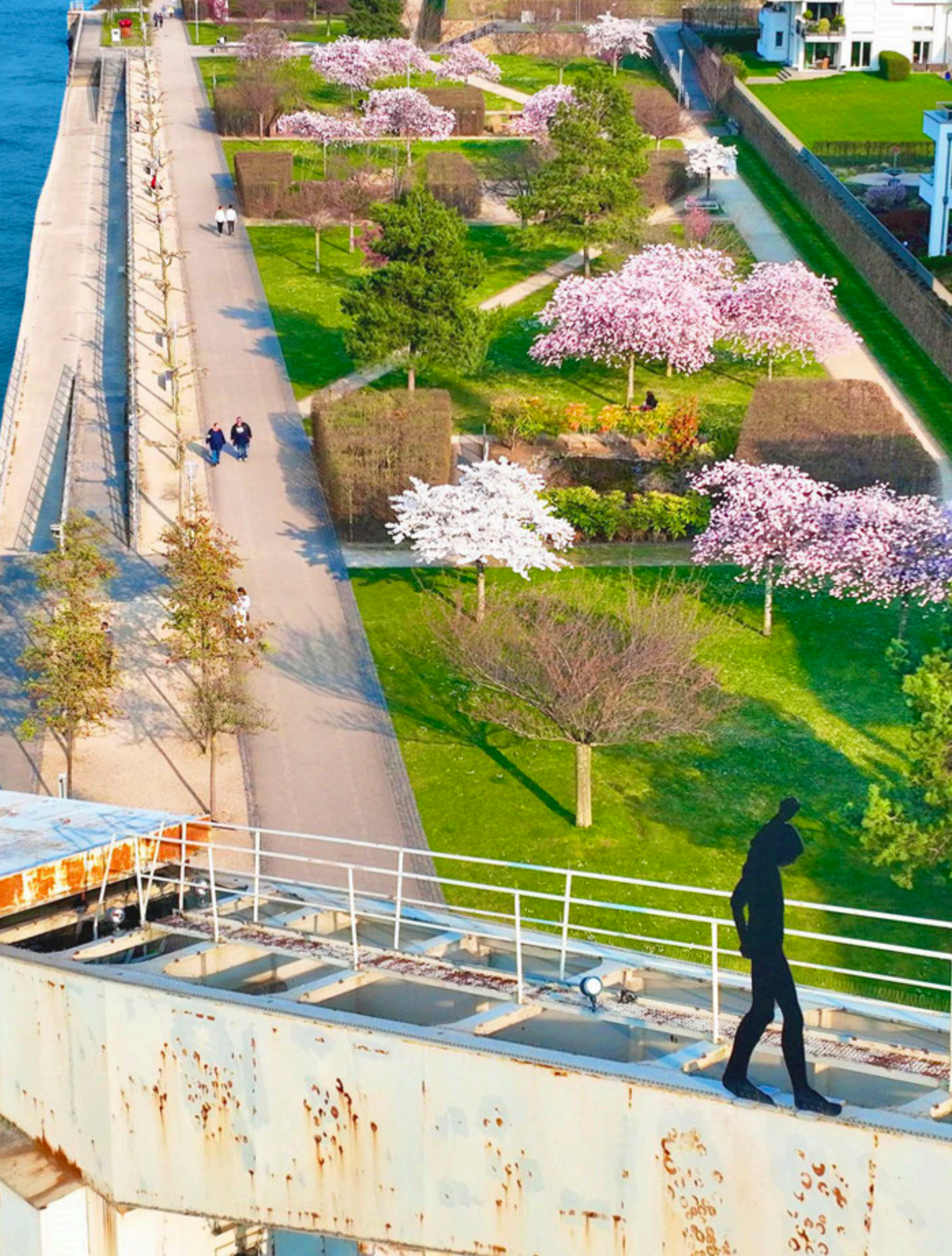
BEAUTIFUL. BREATHTAKING. BINGEN.

An aerial photograph of a river, likely the Rhine, with several tall industrial cranes or towers extending from the right bank into the water. The water is a deep blue-green color. In the bottom right corner, a portion of a building with a corrugated metal roof is visible.

Bingen is nestled in the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, idyllically situated on the banks of the Nahe and Rhine. **Welcome to the wonderful world of wine, well-being and walks.** Bingen offers a unique blend of **nature and culture**. Picturesque places are surrounded by breathtaking landscapes. Art and cuisine are housed in **historical buildings**. And the mighty Rhine brings people together for lavish festivals. This magazine presents the diverse town of Bingen. From the **Mouse Tower** to the Chapel of St. Roch. From cultural activities along the **Kulturufer** to wine trails near the **Weintor**.

Come and enjoy our wonderful nature – on **fantastic hiking trails** through the Upper Middle Rhine Valley. Learn about our **local wine heritage** – from Bingen to the world. Immerse yourself in the most captivating **cultural festivals and events** – whether romantic, musical or passionate. Come and discover Bingen. With all its facets. Take your time. There's so much to explore.

INDUSTRIAL CRANE
16 MARCH, 12:47 PM





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BINGEN FOREST
13 JUNE, 9:42 AM



THE REALM OF FOREST SPIRITS AND DORMICE

»The north side of the town is draped in a green cape: Bingen Forest. Children teeter along a suspension bridge. Adults take in the fresh and tranquil air. It's a place for enjoyment and adventure, but also for responsibility and sustainability«.

Marie bravely holds on to the rope. The wooden planks of the 40-metre-long suspension bridge shake gently in the wind. And so they should – it wouldn't be an adventure otherwise! The suspension bridge is one of 46 stops along the **“Bingen Forest Adventure Trail”** – a literal highlight on the 4.5-kilometre circular route.

“Things like this used to be called an educational trail”, says Claudia Budinger, an environmental engineer who works for the local environmental department that designed the Bingen Forest Adventure Trail. “But we soon realised that it shouldn't strictly be about teaching. We wanted to create more meaningful experiences”. Opened in 1998, the circular route is lovingly and authentically developed to this day.

Hardi the dog is wagging his tail in excitement. He knows this place like the back of his paw. His owner, Maximilian Roffhack, is a forest ranger: “Bingen Forest is doing relatively well. We've been practising natural forestry here for over 20 years”. Roffhack's predecessor was ahead of his time, using native trees for natural regeneration. His team is also trialling new tree species that cope well with drought, such as hazel and cedar.

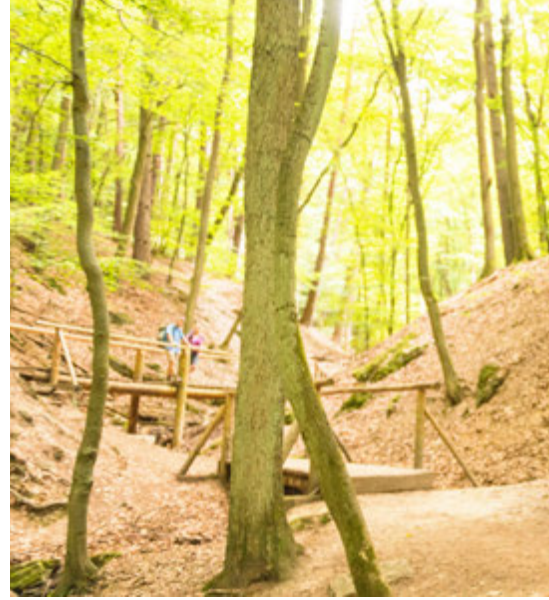
After all, Bingen Forest is not immune to drought and pests. But not all plants and animals are suffering the effects of climate change. In fact, some are even flourishing. Beetles and fungi thrive on dead

wood. Some holes in dying trees are even used three times: First a woodpecker lives in the cavity, then a dormouse snuggles up inside, and Bechstein's bat might even hang there at some point.

The “Steckeschlääferklamm” (local dialect for a hiker who drags his stick behind him) is a strange gorge inhabited by around 70 forest spirits. There are no signs pointing to them. They want to be found by chance. “Hey, you...”, a forest spirit with googly eyes seems to whisper. After the first creatures were carved out by hiking enthusiast Franz Kellermeister in the 1970s, the tradition is now kept alive by two artists. *“As paved roads make our souls go numb; Oh, dear hikers, please don't be dumb; Don't make a fuss or make a sound; Steckeschlääfer Klamm is all round”.*



Enjoyment is a curious thing. "It's a skill that you can forget – and learn all over again". Simone Henke leads a **forest bathing** course. She teaches children, adults and teams to slow down and sharpen their senses. "Trees give off aromatic compounds known as 'terpenes', which have a great healing power for humans". Patricia Niklaus studied forestry before training as a forest educator: "Every season has its own magic. Sometimes it's the colossal trees that fill you with awe. Other times it's the little things that make you stop and wonder, like a spiderweb covered in hoarfrost".



*VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR
THE FULL REPORT AND MORE
INFORMATION ABOUT:*

1

Bingen Forest – everything at a glance,
from adventure stations to highlights

2

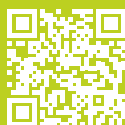
The hottest tips for **Bingen Forest** in
every season

3

Shops selling **products from Bingen
Forest** (e.g. venison, game)

4

Tree sponsorships – the perfect gift
idea





TIP FROM MAYOR THOMAS FESER

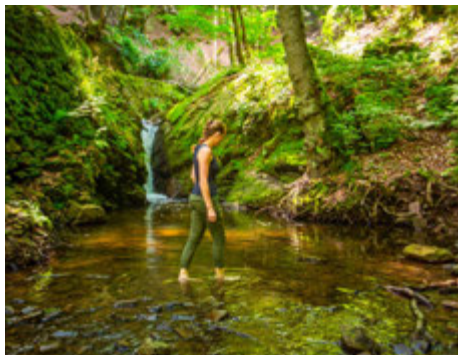
Paradise on our doorstep – Bingen Forest is our “green jewel”

The great thing about our town is that it's just a stone's throw away from a **variety of attractions** that let you explore our beautiful region. Do you feel like fastening up your hiking boots, diving into nature and traversing exciting trails? Then it's well worth a trip to Bingen Forest. Mysterious gorges are waiting to be discovered, the climbing forest is a rewarding challenge for adventurers, and the **RheinBurgenWeg** is full of astonishing views. Who can find all the friendly tree spirits? Who is brave enough to cross the hanging bridge? What was life like on a Roman farm? You can find answers to all these questions and more. And after a hard day's hike, you can stop off at one of our **forest lodges**. Bingen Forest offers lots of fun for people of all ages. The fact that the forest is also a **precious ecosystem**, a source of water, oxygen and wood, as well as a biotope and habitat for many species of plants and animals, shows just how important this local natural area is for locals and visitors.



DIVE INTO NATURE

The best way to explore Bingen's natural surroundings and sights is on a hike. There's a whole world of romantic valleys, enchanting river landscapes, historical buildings, impressive gorges and lots more to discover right outside our town. And how can we forget our magnificent views of the Rhine? With a range of well-marked trails, there's something for everyone!



BAUMGEISTER-TOUR (FOREST SPIRIT TRAIL)

This trail gets its name from the tree carvings in the *Steckeschlääferklamm*. Other highlights include a **villa rustica**, a **suspension bridge** and awesome views of the Rhine. The **Morgenbachtal** nature reserve, **Schweizer Haus** and **Rheinstein Castle** are also worth exploring along the way.



RHEIN-NAHE-SCHLEIFE (RHINE NAHE LOOP)

The **RHEIN-NAHE-SCHLEIFE (RHINE-NAHE LOOP)** are the perfect vantage point for amazing views of the Rhine. As the Nahe flows into the larger river, the valley becomes wider, offering a clear view of the **Rhinegau vineyards**. The 20-kilometre trail starts and ends in Weiler, a place steeped in history. It may be **challenging**, but it's full of fantastic stretches.



ERLEBNISPFAD BINGER WALD (BINGEN FOREST ADVENTURE TRAIL)

Join the "**Bingen Forest Mouse**" on a 4.5 km circular trail through one of the **largest urban forests** in Germany. Our very own cartoon character knows all the best spots for hikers of all ages.



HIWWELTOUREN - IDYLIC VINEYARD HIKING TRAILS

Have you ever heard of the Rhenish-Hessian Hills? They're home to the largest wine-growing region in Germany. These vineyards have no fewer than nine hiking trails that have been classified as "premium" by the German Hiking Institute, offering lots of enjoyable walks around Rhenish Hesse. A few examples are Heideblick, Stadecker Warte and Neuborn. The circular routes don't just lead through vineyards, but also through heathland, creek valleys and pretty town centres. There are also wonderful viewing points – often with a lookout tower – along the way. And if you're lucky, you'll even stumble upon an Italian-style trullo. How about rounding off your wine and walking experience with a delicious souvenir? You'll find wine vending machines along some of the routes. So grab a nicely chilled bottle and enjoy a spectacular view of the vineyards.

LONG-DISTANCE HIKING TRAILS



PILGERWANDERWEG HILDEGARD VON BINGEN (HILDEGARD OF BINGEN PILGRIMAGE TRAIL)

This 137 km **pilgrimage trail** from Idar-Oberstein to Niederhosenbach ultimately leads to the Hildegardweg in Bingen. There are 60 information boards offering insights into the **life and times of St. Hildegard**. There are also several stations where hikers can purchase a **pilgrim passport** or have it stamped.



SOONWALDSTEIG (SOONWALD TRAIL)

This 85 km route is a challenging hiking trail through the Soonwald Nature Park, leading all the way from Kirn to Bingen. Bold adventurers are rewarded with **green valleys, romantic vineyards and wooded quartzite ridges**.



WAYS OF ST. JAMES

Bingen is the start or end point for four Ways of St. James: The **VIA AUSONIA** or **HUNSRÜCK WAY OF ST. JAMES** follows the old Roman road from Bingen to Trier. The **RHINELAND WAY OF ST. JAMES** meanders along the left bank of the Rhine from Cologne to Bingen. And in Rhenish Hesse, you can follow Ways of St. James to Mainz or even further to Worms.





RHEINBURGENWEG (RHINE CASTLES TRAIL)

Even the first stage of this hiking trail around Bingen leads to a round of “castle hopping” fit for a fairytale king. The 200 km route covers exciting landmarks such as **Klopp Castle**, **Rheinstein Castle** and **Reichenstein Castle**.



WEINWANDERUNG RHEIN-NAHE (RHINE-NAHE WINE TRAIL)

This is the perfect route for wine and hiking lovers, leading through the **vineyards** along the Nahe to the Rhine. It starts in Kirn and ends in Bingen. It's definitely worth visiting the local **wine taverns** and **wineries** along the way.



More about
hiking in Bingen:



SPECIAL PLACES

MAIN ATTRACTIONS

These places are an absolute must for any visit – whether it's a short stop during a bike ride, a city trip or a family holiday.

BINGEN'S LANDMARK.



MOUSE TOWER

OLD WATCHTOWER IN BINGEN LOCH

The Mouse Tower, a historical building situated on a small island in the Rhine, is the stuff of legends. It once served as a **watchtower**. But it's mainly associated with the legend of Archbishop Hatto II, who is said to have been eaten alive by mice here as punishment for his cruelty. You can ask the tourist information office about river crossings.

FORTIFIED LANDMARK WITH PANORAMIC VIEWS

Klopp Castle is one of the most imposing and beautiful landmarks in Bingen and a popular tourist attraction. The platform in the tower offers **panoramic views** of the town, the Rhine and the UNESCO World Heritage Site. The fortress kept Bingen's residents safe in Roman times.



KLOPP CASTLE



**KAISER FRIEDRICH
TOWER**

*360° VIEW OF UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE
SITE AND FOUR WINE-GROWING REGIONS*

If you dare to climb all 116 steps to the top of the 242-metre tower, you'll be rewarded with a magnificent view of the famous Mouse Tower and the Ehrenfeld Castle ruins, the spectacular Upper Middle Rhine Valley, the Nahe estuary, the Rheingau vineyards, the Rhenish-Hessian Hills, and the Hunsrück and Taunus mountain ranges. And, of course, Bingen has its own sights such as Klopp Castle, the Basilica of St. Martin and the cultural shore. Take a selfie and enjoy a glass of wine with a view of four wine-growing regions – you won't find that anywhere else in the world.



CHAPEL OF ST. ROCH

RELICS OF ST. HILDEGARD

This three-aisled late Gothic church was built in **1677** after the last great plague. Its visitors include illustrious names such as Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. The chapel houses a remarkable **altar dedicated to St. Hildegard and St. Rupert**. You can look inside the church from 2 pm to 5 pm on Saturdays and Sundays, provided there are no weddings or baptisms taking place. The foyer is also open outside of these times.

MONASTERY ARCADES AND AN ELEVATOR BACK IN TIME

St. Hildegard of Bingen's monastery was destroyed 400 years ago. The ruins have been closed to the public for over 200 years. But not for much longer... The five original church arcades have now been reconstructed using optical illusions at the Villa am Rupertsberg. You almost feel like you're standing in the church. So let's step into the elevator and take a virtual tour of the monastery to see what it looked like in the 12th or 13th century.



**VILLA AM
RUPERTSBERG**

MY DAY IN BINGEN TOWN CENTRE

>>A PERFECT DAY DOWNTOWN<<

Why just stroll along the cultural shore when there are so many lovely places to discover in Bingen town centre?! Join me on a walk downtown and let me tell you all about our charming cafés, cute boutiques, amazing restaurants and wonderful views. Feel free to retrace my steps!

What's the best way to start an action-packed day? With a cup of aromatic coffee and a delicious breakfast! **Kaffeerösterei Klingler** uses only the highest quality of fairly traded coffee beans from the world's most renowned growing regions. When the weather is nice, you can sit outside the café overlooking the town square with a majestic view of **Klopp Castle**. If you love pretty little cafés furnished with great attention to detail, you'll find yourself in breakfast heaven at **HEIMAT N°5** on Salzstraße. Their home-made cakes are a real treat.

All that delicious food has put me in the mood for some serious shopping! A whole range of natural products related to Hildegard of Bingen can be found at **Neumann am Salztor**. Another beautiful shop, **Rosenhauer & Kunz**, is right across the street. I step inside and find one gift idea after another, from vintage classics to new products. By the way, the shop owner also has a small workshop offering a range of different restoration courses.

If you're looking for some downtown fashion, you should check out two of our finest boutiques: **Schönes von Lotte** and **Heimatliebe**. While we're on the lookout for accessories, it's worth mentioning that Bingen is home to **Leder Hagemann**, one of the oldest owner-run leather businesses in Germany. And with a bit of luck, you might just find your new favourite local wine at **Rainers Weinkontor**. Even more shops can be found in the CityCenter shopping mall.

Before I head off for an exciting dose of afternoon culture, my nose and taste buds are drawn to the symphony of aromas, cultures and culinary sensations emanating from **Palais M. Oguz** at lunchtime. The restaurant is housed within the walls of the late baroque Puricelli Palace in the historic Speisemarkt food area.



Did you know that the foundations of the **Basilica of St. Martin** are thought to originate from a Roman temple, and that the church crypt dates back to the 11th century? Speaking of remarkable places of worship in Bingen, the Capuchin Church of St. Lawrence features an extraordinary altarpiece entitled “Jesus on the Subway”. As I stroll away from the church grounds, I soon find myself in the **quaint Badergasse alleyway** near the Freidhof square, right next to the Basilica of St. Martin.

As an eventful day draws to a close, it's time to enjoy the wonderful views that captivate anyone who visits Bingen town centre. I lose count of all the steps as I climb up Klopp Hill and then continue all the way up to the tower atop **Klopp Castle**, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The magnificent panoramic views – with the whole of Bingen at your feet and the Rhine meandering gracefully through the valley – are unforgettable!

On the way down, it's worth taking a quick look at the “**visitors' room**”, where you can see some illustrious names who climbed to the top of the tower during the Rhine Romanticism period. The views of Bingen from Klopp Hill are just as impressive – especially when you help yourself to a few fresh berries from the small garden at the “**Riedel Ruh**” viewing point!



BRIDGE CHAPEL

All seven arches of the Drusus Bridge stand proudly across the River Nahe. It was commissioned by Archbishop Willigis of Mainz around 1000 AD. This makes it the oldest stone bridge in Germany! And here's a little secret... An early Romanesque chapel is hidden in the first pillar, where medieval travellers would pray for divine intervention. The gruelling winters they had to endure are reflected in the sharp icebreakers on the bridge pillars.

→ **Free admission. The tourist information office can provide the key in exchange for a deposit.**



DIVINE



HISTORIC

HINDENBURG BRIDGE

For only 30 years, you could take the train from Bingen to Rüdesheim and back, and at some point you could even go in the car or walk there. The former bridge was over 1,000 m long, built between 1913 and 1915, and dedicated to Reich President von Hindenburg. It survived numerous air raids during the war but was ultimately destroyed by the German Army in 1945. All that remains are bare chunks of concrete sticking out of the water. Seagulls nest on them. The old bridge pillar is now inhabited by bats.

→ **Viewing possible. Nature reserve.**

VILLA RUSTICA IN BINGEN FOREST

Bingen Forest has underfloor heating! It warmed Roman families from around 150 to 420 AD. The four-hectare property was surrounded by a wall, with a manor house in the middle. The wall foundations have been preserved – and meticulously excavated in places. The archaeologically valuable area is enlivened by a small garden with crops and typical Roman topiaries.

→ **Freely accessible. Part of the Bingen Forest Adventure Trail / seasonal events.**



STATELY

MYSTICAL STONE PLACES

Wood rots. Stone endures. Here are five places that have stood the test of time. They're particularly worth a visit at sunrise or when it's foggy.



MOVING

JEWISH CEMETERY

The old graves are covered in ivy and bushes, resting in the shade of the trees. The site on the slopes of the Rochusberg was bought by the Jewish community in 1570. "Hirz Bing" was buried here in 1602. His grave bears the oldest sandstone that can still be read in Hebrew. The magnificent gravestones and monuments in the new, structured section are adorned with symbols. Moss covers a Star of David carved into granite. With around 1,000 gravestones, this is one of the largest and most important Jewish cemeteries in Rhineland-Palatinate.

→ **Keys can be borrowed from the cemetery managers.**

OLD TOWN CEMETERY

As a woman walks her dog through the park between Rochusallee and Holzhauserstraße, she stops to greet a friend. The large disused cemetery has become a popular meeting place. It's worth taking a look at around 140 gravestones from the 19th and early 20th centuries. One of them reveals a widow's last words to his companion: "My dearly beloved wife". A fascinating chapel with a starry ceiling is tucked away in the cemetery. It's a place of rest for the dead and joy for the living.

→ **Freely accessible. Virtual walk at the Museum am Strom. The museum and VHS will also be offering cemetery tours and workshops in 2024.**



PROFOUND



TEXT: STEFAN NINK

SHIPPING HERITAGE

Shipping has played an important role in Bingen for two thousand years. The Romans were the first to negotiate the treacherous stretches of the Rhine when they turned the local settlement into a transshipment point for goods. A small museum housed in the pilot station at the KD pier commemorates all the men who ensured safe passage for ships in the centuries that followed.

A thick fog sometimes descends over the Rhine in the morning. It lingers in the bend behind the Mouse Tower and looms over the water, concealing

the banks across the river. The world disappears for a few minutes... But then the sun rises out of the fog, tearing holes in the wall of mist and glistening on the water. And at some point, the ruins of Ehrenfels Castle **emerge on the other side of the river.** There aren't many places where the Rhine looks as romantic as it does in Bingen. And there aren't many places where the river used to be as dangerous.

A long, long time ago, when the Rhine made its way through the low mountain ranges that we now know as the Hunsrück and Taunus, it didn't completely erode the rock everywhere. A stretch of

ST. GOAR PILOTS
ON THE WAY HOME
1951



THICK ICE ON THE RHINE
1956



ICEBREAKER NEAR NIEDERHEIMBACH
1956



THE LAST RAFT OFF BINGEN
1968



dangerous cliffs remained in the riverbed at the Bingen Gate, forming a steep slope that caused the water to rush downwards like a waterfall. Navigating the roaring waters around the “**Bingen Loch**” was like balancing on a knife edge. If you made a mistake, your ship would sink with all hands.

to replace them there, they would continue all the way to St. Goar or St. Goarshausen. Then they would wait by the roadside until someone took them back to Bingen.

It was the pilots from Bingen, Kaub and St. Goar who made it possible for skippers to move up and down the river. These specialists in their dark jackets and blue peaked caps often came from families in which the men had been doing the same job for generations. They knew the river at high and low tide, in snow and ice and, of course, in fog. They probably knew it better than their own home. Once the Bingen pilots had guided a ship safely to Kaub, they would get off there. But if there was no pilot



CA. 1840

Anyone who visits the **renovated pilot station** can learn all about Bingen's shipping heritage and its pilots. How well they had to know the river with all its moods, whirlpools and cliffs. How they sometimes piloted five ships in a row. How they had their fair share of near misses. How the advent of steamships threatened their livelihoods. And how their profession finally disappeared when the fairway was expanded in the 1970s.

The museum in the pilot station, known as the "**Lotsenmuseum**", is tiny. But you can still spend lots of time there. A former pilot is almost always on hand during opening hours (on weekends from April to early October) to answer any questions and share a few anecdotes from the good old days. And they do it so well that you almost feel like you're navigating the river yourself, with the water roaring around you and the thick fog completely obscuring your vision.

Binger Schifferverein 1895 e.V.

MUSEUM AM STROM

At first glance, the **most famous exhibit in the "Museum am Strom"** doesn't seem related to the history of navigation on the Rhine. The "**Bingen doctor's utensils**" date back to the 2nd century AD – and probably belonged to a **Roman surgeon** who would have used the precision instruments to operate on wounded dock workers. "They were absolute high-end devices", says Dr Matthias Schmandt, Head of the Cultural Office. "Nothing comparable has been found anywhere else in the world".

In the centuries that followed, the Rhine became a "European mill of nations" (Carl Zuckmayer). Shipmasters and sailors from foreign countries were so enraptured by its beauty that everyone else soon followed: natural scientists, writers, painters, poets and, finally, the first tourists. Bingen soon became a hub for anyone who longed to experience the romantic Rhine. The museum features lithographs, prints and historical maps that helped travellers identify the castles. And even in those days, there was a large selection of souvenirs. With Rhine motifs, of course.



VIEW OF THE RHINE
23 SEPTEMBER, 3:13 PM



THE CULTURAL SHORE...

... has something for everyone. You'll find a wide variety of attractions – museums and gardens, fun and games, restaurants and bars, jetties and boats, art and history – on a 3-kilometre stretch along the Rhine. Welcome to our *Kulturufer*!

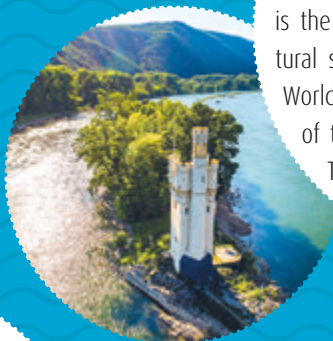


1

ACTIVE IN THE PARK

SPORT AND SKATE PARK

The **900 m²** skate park is the best place for skateboarders, rollerbladers and BMXers to practise their tricks. The sports complex also includes beach volleyball courts, basketball courts and football pitches.



2

RHEIN- NAHE-ECK

VIEWS OF THE MOUSE TOWER

The confluence of the Rhine and Nahe is the **best viewing point** along the cultural shore. The gateway to the UNESCO World Heritage Site offers amazing views of the Bingen Loch with the Mouse Tower and the ruins of Ehrenfels Castle.

3

MUSEUM AM STROM

*2,000 YEARS OF HISTORY AND
CULTURE*

This museum is dedicated to three areas: **Hildegard of Bingen, Rhine Romanticism** and Bingen's local heritage. It holds the world's only 70-piece set of Roman surgical instruments.



MOUSE TOWER PARK

Bingerbrück

Nahe cycle path

Town centre
Klopp Castle

4

OLD CRANE

*OLDEST CRANE FROM MAINZ
TO COLOGNE*

Built in **1487**, and with a hefty fee for loading and unloading ships, the Old Crane was an important source of income for the town for centuries. It remained in operation until **1890**.



INDUSTRIAL CRANE

INDUSTRIAL MONUMENT ON THE SHORE

The modern counterpart to the Old Crane is the Industrial Crane of **1964**. When the harbour park was built, it was preserved as an **industrial monument**. The upper end of the crane features a sculpture by the artist Hubertus von der Goltz. The crane is illuminated at night.

6

GREEN JOY

PARTNERSHIP GARDENS

The six gardens are extraordinary symbols for Bingen's **friendships with other towns and cities**. Their design highlights the character and peculiarities of each partner community.



HINDENBURG PARK

HARBOUR PARK

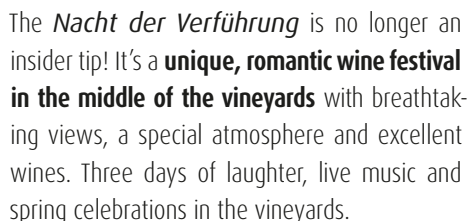
[KULTURUFER]
BINGEN



Enjoy one of the most versatile, up-and-coming string quartets in the stunning surroundings of Villa Sachsen. The **multi-award-winning Mal-ion Quartet** will interpret the works of *Mendelssohn*, *Szymanowski* and *Debussy* on violin, viola and cello at the **Binger Meisterkonzerte**.



Three days of **live music, sparkling wine and culinary delights** in the heart of Bingen. Excellent wines from local producers make for the perfect start to Bingen's spring events.



25th anniversary of Bingen Swingt – the International Jazz Festival is set to make a comeback on four stages throughout the town centre. Enjoy three days of the finest jazz, funk, soul and swing with top-class acts and aspiring young stars!

All details and tickets are available here:
<https://www.dein-bingen.de/en/events/>



RHEIN IN FLAMMEN (RHINE IN FLAMES)

6 July 2024

5 July 2025

Come and experience the **brightest** night of the year at the gateway to the Upper Middle Rhine Valley **UNESCO World Heritage Site!** Breathtaking fireworks, glowing shores and burning castles await. Make **unforgettable memories** with a range of events **on board or on shore**, starting Friday on the *Kulturufer*.



KULTURUFERFEST (KULTURUFER FESTIVAL)

7 July 2024

6 July 2025

The **free street theatre festival** for the whole family! You'll find acrobats, jugglers, musicians and magicians around every corner. The **3 km cultural shore** becomes a grand, colourful cabaret for young and old.



ROCHUSFEST (ST. ROCH FESTIVAL)

18 to 25 August 2024

17 to 24 August 2025

The **largest pilgrimage of St. Roch in Europe** invites you to a week-long festival in an impressive setting. Enjoy a full week of diverse events accompanied by numerous unique church services.



RHEINVOKAL FESTIVAL

Saturday, 24 August 2024

This **celebrated classical music festival** brings baroque sounds to Bingen. Music from the 17th and 18th centuries will be presented by the acclaimed Brazilian soprano **Bruno de Sá** and the internationally award-winning recorder player and ensemble leader **Dorothee Oberlinger**. Look forward to a summer evening for the ages!



BINGER WINZERFEST (BINGEN WINE FESTIVAL)

30 August to 9 September 2024

29 August to 8 September 2025

Enjoy excellent wines, regional delicacies and a wide range of events at the **longest wine festival on the Rhine!** Bingen's friendly winemakers and hosts aren't the only ones looking forward to welcoming you when the whole town is dedicated to wine and the Rhine **for 11 days.**

25 YEARS OF BINGEN SWINGT

>>THE INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL IS BACK<<

Jazz lovers will flock to Bingen from 14 to 16 June 2024, as *Bingen Swingt* is set to make a come-back! The 25th edition of the renowned International Jazz Festival will present an eclectic mix of jazz, funk, soul and swing across four stages.

Join us on a three-day musical journey to the world of rhythm, passion and creative improvisation. **Top-class acts meet newcomers, locals meet global icons, and music meets indulgence!** Bask in thrilling concerts and the breathtaking scenery of the UNESCO World Heritage Site. Make unforgettable memories on the water, on land and on the dance floor. Enjoy outstanding music, excellent local wines and regional delicacies. ***Bingen Swingt* is a real treat for all the senses!**

We asked jazz expert and artistic director of Bingen Swingt, Christiane Böhnke-Geisse, what makes the International Jazz Festival so special:

Christiane, how long have you been involved in *Bingen Swingt*?

I first went to Bingen's jazz festival in 2015, and I've been on board since 2016.

What do you think *Bingen Swingt* is all about?

The **joy of music** comes first. Those attending for the first time are instantly captivated by the charm of a "town festival with jazz". And regular guests always feel at home.

Christiane Böhnke-Geisse has been involved in jazz for over 35 years. From 1989 to 2014, she was the artistic director of the renowned *Unterfahrt* jazz club in Munich, establishing it as an international venue. Since 2019, she has been responsible for contemporary new music at the *schwere reiter* theatre in Munich, where she organises an average of 60 concerts each year. As a freelancer, she supports *Bingen Swingt* and many other projects, including the *Initiative Musik* and the Cultural Department in Munich.

Tickets and info:
<https://www.dein-bingen.de/en/events/>



What makes *Bingen Swingt* different from other jazz festivals?

The location, the incomparable setting and the **combination of music and food**. Many jazz festivals are held indoors in autumn or winter, but *Bingen Swingt* in the middle of June has its very own character and atmosphere.

What do you personally associate with the festival and Bingen?

An **exciting, colourful and diverse musical experience**. A stroll through the town, delicious food and good wine. Three very good ice cream parlours. And lots of nice people with a good sense of humour.

What is the absolute highlight of *Bingen Swingt*?

A boat trip on the Rhine and a walk to the Chapel of St. Roch – the views are worth the climb.

And, well, a glass of local Riesling at the Rhein-Nahe-Eck



What memories of *Bingen Swingt* will you cherish forever?

The *Klaus Doldinger & Passport* concert in 2017 is definitely one of my personal highlights. And I'll never forget the *Jazzrausch Big Band* concerts and many others. The small "Freidhof" stage has also had some very special festival moments. *Emil Mangelsdorff* played there year after year. He really loved Bingen. And Bingen loved him!

I thought the "*Guitar Vibes*" theme in 2018 was a runaway success. We showed off the versatile instrument in all its glory – with rock, jazz, fusion, world music and gypsy jazz. The multi-faceted nature of jazz and other related genres will also be reflected in the line-up for our 2024 anniversary edition.

And another completely different moment will always stay with me: There was such a bad storm during one edition of *Bingen Swingt* that the music stands and microphones were blown off the stage. We had to close the Rhein-Nahe-Eck stage. Luckily, we were able to move to the Congress Centre Rhine Valley and continue swinging there.

2010



2018



2022



2024

INTERNATIONALES
BINGEN JAZZ
FESTIVAL
SWINGT



AS A BINGEN GIRL, THIS IS “THE FESTIVAL FOR ME”

We spoke to the Wine Queen of Rhenish Hesse, Annalena Baum, about her most memorable highlights from *Bingen Wine Festival*, her favourite wine and how she's looking forward to the longest wine festival on the Rhine.

As “*Princess Schwätzerchen*”, she represented Bingen in all things wine from 2020 to 2023. Annalena Baum has now been crowned the “Wine Queen of Rhenish Hesse”, representing the largest wine-growing region in Germany. Let's talk to a connoisseur about Bingen Wine Festival!

Hello, Annalena. When was your first wine festival? Can you remember it?

I think my first *wine festival* was actually the year after I was born, so in 1999. My parents walked around the festival with me in a pram. But my first real memories of the *wine festivals* are from when I was about 14 years old. I went on the Breakdance rides at the fair.

What do you personally associate with the wine festival and Bingen?

Bingen gives me a **feeling of belonging**. I was born and raised here. It just makes me feel good. Places like the Rochusberg and the Rhine promenade always make me feel at home. I love meeting people at the *wine festival* and chatting over a good glass of wine.

What makes Bingen Wine Festival so special?

I think the *wine festival* is one of Bingen's highlights. Lots of people flock to the town to end their day with a glass of fine wine and regional food. And there's also lots of good music. What makes the *wine festival* so special is that it radiates a **great sense of community and camaraderie**. Everyone feels this as soon as they arrive.

Which wine do we absolutely have to try at the wine festival?

Our local winemakers have something for everyone. We have a wide range of grape varieties and flavours. We don't just have the traditional Riesling from Rhenish Hesse, but also new grape varieties that are popular at the moment, including fungus-resistant varieties that are very important for the future of our wine-growing region. All of Bingen's winemakers have a large portfolio and can't wait for you to taste their wines.



From **30 August to 9 September**

2024, tens of thousands of people will flock to the largest wine festival on the Rhine to enjoy excellent wine, live music, culinary delights and 11 days of events throughout the town centre. You can find all the details here: dein-bingen.de/events.



“
THERE'S SUCH
A NICE ATMOSPHERE
”

And can you tell us your favourite wine?

“I Sell Riesling” from the Hemmes estate in the Bingen-Kempton district.

What other unmissable highlights are there away from the hustle and bustle of the festival?

I would always advise anyone coming to Bingen to take a walk around the Rochusberg and explore our wonderful surroundings. The **panoramic view of the vineyards** is beyond words.

What are your most unforgettable wine festival moments?

My fondest memory is when I was crowned *Princess Schwätzerchen* in 2020, albeit during the pandemic. The event was so nice. And my most unforgettable moment came after I'd been crowned the Wine Queen of Rhenish Hesse in 2023. I walked around the festival with my family – and we celebrated all night long with my new crown.

Are there any other festivals in Bingen that you can recommend to our readers?

I love the **Nacht der Verführung**. The best way to start the festival season is on the Rochusberg with good wine. There's such a nice atmosphere – I look forward to that festival every year.

Will we be seeing you again at this year's Bingen Wine Festival?

Of course! I'm already looking forward to the *wine festival*! You can find me on Neffplatz and generally throughout the town centre. I'm looking forward to raising a glass to our beautiful town of Bingen with fellow wine enthusiasts! 😊



Annalena Baum, 25, comes from Bingen and now lives in Mainz. From 2020 to 2023, she represented Bingen as **Princess Schwätzerchen**. In September 2023, she was crowned the **Wine Queen of Rhenish Hesse**. After studying Viticulture and Oenology in Geisenheim, she now works as a production coordinator for a large sparkling wine producer.



EXPERIENCE TOWN, COUNTRYSIDE AND RIVERS

BIKE TAXI

The bike taxi makes it easy to explore more of Bingen by bike. Why not get a lift to your starting point or get picked up at the end?

www.fahrradtaxi24.de

RENTALS

City bikes, touring bikes, e-MTBs and trailers:

www.bike-service-bingen.de

CHARGING STATIONS

There are e-bike **charging stations** at the wine shop on the banks of the Rhine and on the market square outside the church in Gaulsheim. The tourist information office at Rheinkai offers a **self-service station** and a **charging service** during opening hours. The Hildegard information office offers **luggage storage and charging facilities** in peak season.

Six **Bike & Ride boxes** with electronic locking systems can be rented at the Starkenburger Hof railway crossing on the Rhine side.

MORE INFORMATION

You can find more exciting cycling routes, great tips, charging stations, e-bike rentals, luggage lockers and bike racks here:

www.dein-bingen.de/aktiv/radfahren



Self-service stations: Tourist Information Office, Mouse Tower Park and corner of Schmittstr. / Paradiesgässchen



Blitz through the Hunsrück and Nahe low mountain ranges. Bingen is the perfect location for e-bike trips in the region. **Here are two special tips:**



SOONWALD-TOUR (SOONWALD TRAIL)

This is a delightful e-bike route through the Soonwald-Nahe Natural Park from Kirn an der Nahe to Bingen am Rhein.

Starting in the small town of Kirn, it takes you from the sunny slopes of the Nahe Valley over the quartzite ridges of the legendary Soonwald, up into the beautiful southern Hunsrück and into the spectacular Rhine Valley in Bingen. This route is known and loved for its variety of different habitats such as flowery forest meadows, juniper heaths, orchards, natural streams and river floodplains. The breathtaking landscape is the main focus of this bike ride, but you can also discover old walls hidden deep in the forest and numerous castles and palaces along the way.



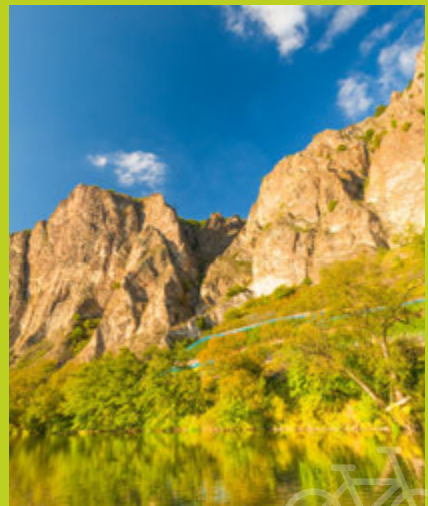
RUGGED ROCKS AND MYSTICAL WALLS

This 40 km cycling route takes you from Bad Münster am Stein-Ebernburg past the ruins of Montfort Castle, connecting the Nahe cycle path with the Nahe-Glan themed route.

It starts below the imposing Rotenfels mountain and runs along the Nahe cycle path – with great panoramic views of the former wine-growing domain of Gut Hermannsberg. It then continues to the ruins of Montfort Castle via Odernheim am Glan before heading back to Bad Münster am Stein-Ebernburg.

You can travel from Bingen by train.

Please note: There is no elevator in Bad Münster am Stein-Ebernburg.



MONTFORT RUINS, HALLGARTEN
4 JULY, 3:13 PM



NAHELAND CYCLING TRAIL

After a day of cycling past vineyards, rivers and historic walls, you can enjoy a relaxing evening with a glass of local wine or a trip to the spa.

Several cycling routes are combined into a **3-stage** trail from Kirn to Bingen am Rhein via Meisenheim and Bad Kreuznach. The route is packed with **highlights** such as the old town of Meisenheim, the Salinental in Bad Kreuznach, the borough of Bad Münster am Stein-Ebernburg with a view of the Rotenfels mountain, the Rheingrafenstein landmark and Ebernburg Castle. The **grand finale comes at the Rhein-Nahe-Eck in Bingen**, where the Nahe flows into the Rhine.

You can find the individual stages, detailed directions and all highlights here:



You can find more cycling tips here: www.bike-region-hunsrueck-nahe.de





THE SLEEPY FOREST

Hikers can get a good night's sleep in the Deer Suite, Hiking Lounge and Goblin Cabin at the **Jägerhaus** forest inn.



Strength, endurance and fun.
The board safely under your feet.
Paddleboarding on the Rhine.



KEEP YOUR BALANCE



MINI ADVENTURES

Set sail with captain's training from **Rheintastisch** and Bingen Sailing School.

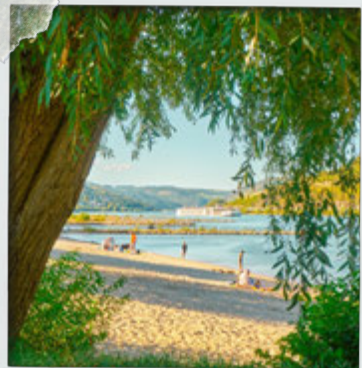


CAST OFF



Feel the sand and water at your feet, collect shells, have a picnic, wave at boats, watch the waves and spot jumping fish - on the Rhine beach in Trechtinghausen.

Please note: You are strongly advised not to swim in the Rhine.



FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND



ON DADDY'S SHOULDERS

Is it a hotel entrance?
Is it a climbing wall?
The Papa Rhein Hotel has a 65 m via ferrata!



CAMPING PERMITTED

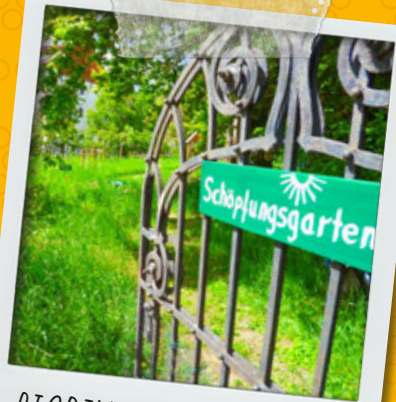
Camp between castle walls or ancient trees. Four extraordinary campsites in the Soonwald-Nahe Natural Park: the Soonwaldsteig trekking camps.



Sleep beneath the stars in a treetop cocoon, six metres high, at the *Lauschhütte*.



SWINGING FREE



BIODIVERSITY IN TOWN

Relax and explore the dreamy garden of creation at the basilica. Look at the little creatures, listen to the buzzing insects and smell the ripening fruits. Pack a tasty picnic – seating is available. You can get the garden key from the vicarage.



ALL DETAILS HERE: •

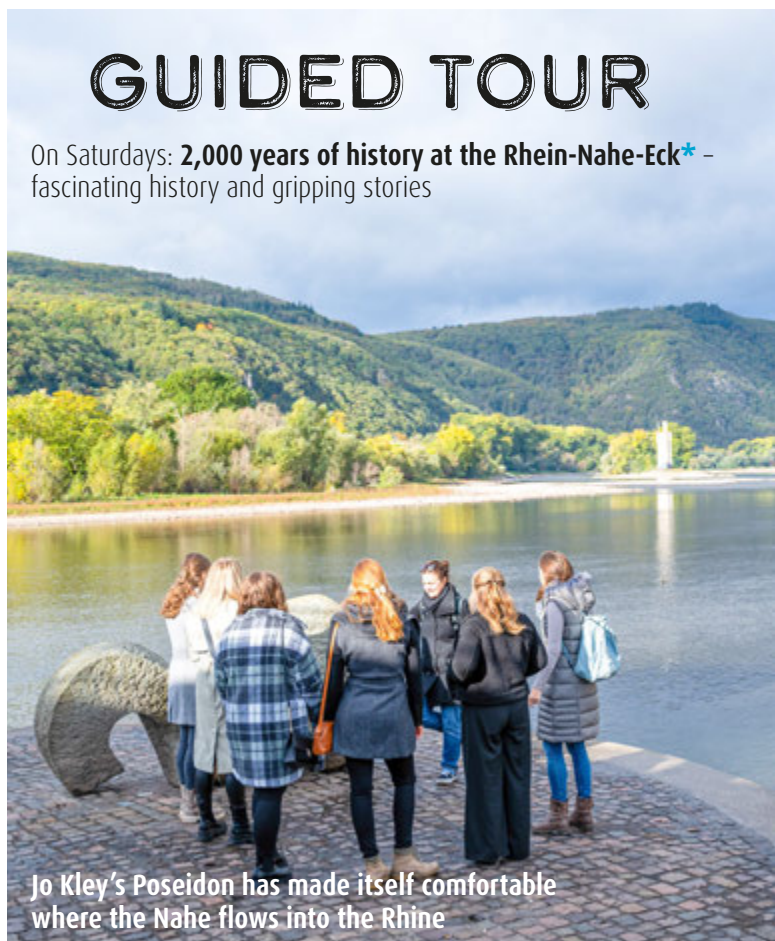




Art at the castle:
Ein Dalbensitzer by Hannes Helmke



The town's "living room" sits in the shadows
of the castle on Bürgermeister-Neff-Platz



GUIDED TOUR

On Saturdays: **2,000 years of history at the Rhein-Nahe-Eck*** –
fascinating history and gripping stories

Jo Kley's Poseidon has made itself comfortable
where the Nahe flows into the Rhine



Quite the "model town" at the Löhrturm



* A public tour is offered on Saturdays from Easter to October. You can also book a group tour.

Speisemarkt: a traditional marketplace and popular meeting place



Fountains are great storytellers – come and learn about Bingen's history



Bingen has a whole line of famous sons and daughters – the museum in the "Haferkasten" baroque half-timbered house is dedicated to Stefan George



Baroque beauty in the Basilica of St. Martin

EXPERIENCE BINGEN UP CLOSE

There are so many different ways to discover Bingen – on the water, on land, by boat, by bike or on foot! Here is a **selection** of guided tours, walking tours, boat trips and other activities that you can book at the tourist information office. You can find more guided tours here: <https://www.dein-bingen.de/en/bingen/stadtuehrungen/>

GUIDED TOURS



TOUR OF THE TOWN

2,000 YEARS OF HISTORY AT THE RHEIN-NAHE-ECK

Take a walking tour through the town centre and visit Klopp Castle, the Basilica of St. Martin, the Speisemarkt and other fascinating places. Some of the highlights include the many interesting and important squares and alleys in Bingen.

Duration: 1.5 hours



KRANKNECHT STEFAN

COSTUME TOUR

Go on tour with our old nurse and embark on a journey through 2,000 years of history from the perspective of a man who also knows all about the unromantic side of the wonderful scenery at the Bingen Loch. Unusual, entertaining and in historical costume.

Duration: 1.5 hours

BOAT TRIP



RINGTICKET

SOAR – HIKE – SAIL

The **Ringticket** lets you experience the Rhine wine-growing landscape with all your senses. After taking the boat to the famous red wine district of Assmannshausen, a chairlift will take you to the **Jagdschloss Niederwald**. There's so much to experience on the 3 km hike to the Niederwald Monument – there's even a magic cave. The monument – with its iconic **Germania** figure – is located in Rüdesheim, where you can enjoy a wonderful view of Bingen and the surrounding area. You can round off your day in style with a cable car ride over the vineyards down to Rüdesheim. Of course, you can also take the tour in the opposite direction. Then you'll be rewarded with a perfect view of Rheinstein Castle from the chairlift.

GUIDED TOURS + WALKING TOURS



RHEINMAINCARD

DISCOVERIES IN RHINE-MAIN

The **RheinMainCard** gives you fantastic discounts at over 60 recreational and cultural facilities – and lets you travel for free all over the **Rhein-Main-Verkehrsverbund** network. You can easily get there by ferry. All details here: frankfurt-rhein-main.de/services/RheinMainCard

SOUVENIRS GALORE

The tourist information office has a wonderful selection of souvenirs for anyone who wants to take a piece of our town home with them. Our products are even a hit with the locals!



A snuggly hat for colder days

Make a statement and show your love for Bingen by purchasing our hometown hat.



From Bingen with love

Send your loved ones a stylish greeting from Bingen. The tourist information office has a wide variety of beautiful postcards and high-class pens.



For a shopping trip or a walk along the cultural shore

Everyone will know you're in love with our town when you walk around with our Bingen bag.



Raise a glass with our Princess Schwätzerchen

Whether you prefer Riesling, Scheurebe or a rosé, you can't go wrong with the favourite wines of Bingen's wine majesties. The wine is best enjoyed in a glass with the Bingen silhouette and is beautifully presented in a wooden wine holder.



Shoulder style

If you're planning to tackle the Rhine Castles Trail, the Bingen Forest Adventure Trail or the Rhenish-Hessian Hills, you should check out the rucksacks at the tourist information office. There are three colours to choose from.



Freedom, love, death and the devil

Do you know the legend of the Mouse Tower or the Lorelei? The Upper Middle Rhine Valley is brimming with folklore. The stories are all recounted here. You can get this book as well as travel guides, painting books and hiking or cycling maps from the tourist information office.

A WORLD OF EXCITEMENT IN EVERY DISTRICT



HERBAL CHURCH
IN BINGEN-GAULSHEIM

Where herbs grow to the heavens


Mullein, chamomile, yarrow, corn poppy, lovage, snapdragon, valerian, St. John's wort, centaury and many other plants bloom in the vault of the **Church of St. Pankratius & Bonifatius** in the district of Bingen-Gaulsheim. Some of them are picked for the *Würzwisch*, a bouquet of medicinal herbs that is arranged and blessed for the Assumption of Mary. It's supposed to protect against diseases and storms all year round.

→ You can visit the church every day from 10 am to 4 pm.

Like a mountain lake

The outdoor pool at the **Naturerlebnisbad** doesn't need any chlorine. It's cleaned purely by biological filters. The **2,000 m²** swimming pond is surrounded by **aquatic plants, wooden walkways** and a **pebble beach**. Floating high above the town, swimmers are rewarded with a fantastic view of the Upper Middle Rhine Valley and the vineyards of the Rheingau and Rhenish Hesse. Please note: There are daily admission restrictions – the current status is indicated by a traffic light on the website. The toddler bathing area is chlorinated for hygiene reasons.

→ Open from mid-May to mid-September.



NATURERLEBNISBAD
BINGERBRÜCK



ICE WINE FROM
BINGEN-DROMERSHEIM

Ice-cold grapes from Bingen

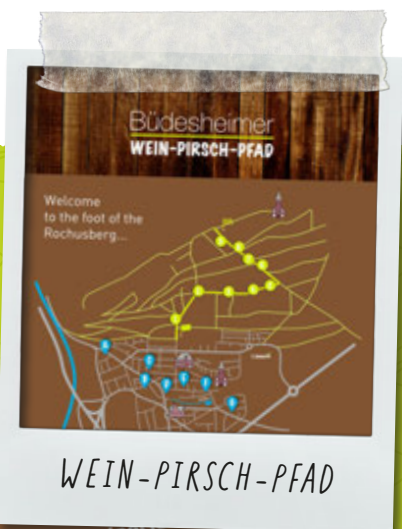
It feels like every other house in Dromersheim is a winery. In fact, there are 16 of them and only 1,500 residents. And that's not all... A very special wine is produced here: ice wine. It was invented here by chance in the **winter of 1829/30**. Unharvested grapes were supposed to be used as animal feed in February, but the berries were found to be wonderfully sweet. They were cellared and... voilà! Ice wine was invented. You can discover our ice wine on the **Ice Wine Hiking Trail** – and tasting sessions are offered at the local wineries. If you're looking for a very special experience, take a seat on the **Wingertsschaukel** with a glass of ice wine and enjoy the perfect view – just like our **ice wine majesties** Sheila and Charlotte.

→ You can find the Ice Wine Hiking Trail here:
ich-geh-wandern.de/eisweinwanderweg

On the trail of the best wine

Come and discover the finest of wines on a hike around the **Wein-Pirsch-Pfad** on the Rochusberg in spring. The trail leads through the wine estates of Büdesheim and features magnificent views of the vineyards. Find out what Hildegard of Bingen thought about wine, what the **"Binger Schloßberg Schwätzerchen"** is, why the **Scharlachberg** is world famous and lots more interesting facts.

→ The trail starts at the information board on Osterbergstraße.



WEIN-PIRSCH-PFAD



A WORLD OF EXCITEMENT IN EVERY DISTRICT

Riverside memories

This is the perfect place to stay after a bike ride or a walk in the Rhine floodplains. It's also a wonderful setting for a meal in the midday sun, for a **legendary cheesecake** or for a sundowner. You won't get much closer to the Rhine than this. Small yachts bob happily in the water, and seagulls and swans stop to say hello. The restaurant on the **Hindenburgbrücke Campsite** is open to everyone, whether you come in a tent, a caravan, a camper van or just on foot.

→ www.bauer-schorsch.de



NABU CENTRE RHEINAUEN
IN BINGEN-GAULSHEIM

European Nature Reserve

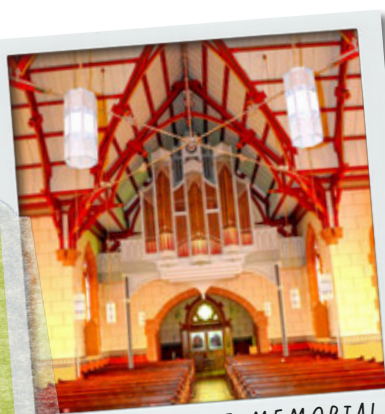
In the Rheinauen European Nature Reserve in Bingen-Gaulsheim, you can learn lots of interesting facts in the **"Island RhineNatural Heritage"** exhibition, discover a variety of amphibians, butterflies, wild plants, terrapins, sheep and goats in the **"AuenLand"** outdoor area, and hear storks clattering in the Rhine floodplains. If you're lucky, you might even see a **kingfisher** diving into the water. You can learn even more in the **Naturerbe Inselrhein app** and at various information and nature education events. It's also worth trying the **homemade cakes** at Café AuenBlick.

→ www.nabu-rheinauen.de

A little piece of Sweden in Bingen

As soon as you step inside the Protestant Church in Bingerbrück, you feel like you've been taken to the far north. It's no coincidence that the roof structure is reminiscent of **Scandinavian stave churches**, as the church is dedicated to **Gustav II Adolf, King of Sweden**. The original oak benches have been preserved in the church, which was built in 1894/95. The wooden pulpit and high altar were replaced by stone models in the 1960s. It's also worth seeing the lovingly maintained rose garden behind the church.

→ You can view the church outside of service times by contacting the parish office.



GUSTAV ADOLF MEMORIAL
CHURCH IN BINGERBRÜCK



GENUSSGARTEN



BINGEN-KEMPTEN

A world of fruit trees, vegetable patches and butterflies

Maike and Steffen Bischof grow their own produce according to the **market gardening** method. You can get all their crops – fresh from the source – in a vegetable box, either as a subscription or an individual order. They also host **numerous events**, including Saturday breakfasts with cinnamon swirls and homemade jams, wood stove pizza nights, pop-up menus with wine tasting, and even seasonal markets. You can sit or stroll in the **greenhouse** or among the vines, fruit trees and raised beds.

→ www.genussgarten-bingen.de

TEXT: PETRA TABARELLI

HOW FOOTBALL CAME TO BINGEN

This year Germany will be hosting the Euros. Bingen am Rhein isn't one of the venues, but it has a **rich football heritage** and quite a few local teams. But the oldest football club in Bingen isn't "BFV Hassia Bingen" or even "Cheruskia", "Teutonia" or "International".

The British brought football to Bingen.

It was during a time of mass tourism in the Rhine Romanticism period, triggered by steamships and railways. Everything natural and old was seen as beautiful and sublime. The main attractions were the Rhine castles, which were still in ruins at the time, and the Bingen Loch, which had yet to be tamed. It's no wonder that some people lived here with their families for a while and took the opportunity to have their sons educated locally.

In 1885, an educational institution was built for young Brits on Mainzer Straße in Bingen. It was named **Victoria College** in honour of the reigning Queen Victoria, whose husband descended from the House of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha and whose second-born daughter was married to Louis IV, Grand Duke of Hesse.

Victoria College was run by a German named Alfred Meß, who had already directed a similar institution for British boys in his hometown of Neuwied. Very little is known about the college, but we do know one thing for certain: A game between the Victoria College football team and a team from Wiesbaden in **1893 is the oldest known reference** of a football match featuring a team from Bingen.

Victoria College only existed until 1904. It was then sold to the **Binger Technikum** (which later became Bingen University of Applied Sciences). The building was demolished around 1960 to make room for the new vocational college (BBS Bingen).

WHAT DID THE BRITISH BRING TO BINGEN? THREE THINGS AT ONCE!

1

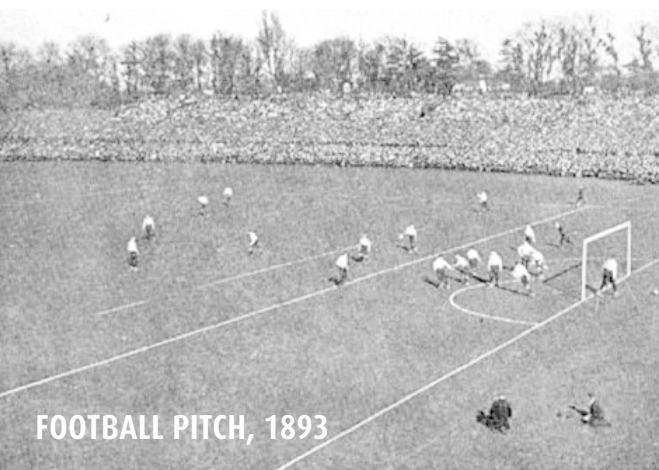
The **view**: the beauty of nature with lookout points from the **Scharlachkopf** and the immediate vicinity to the eerily beautiful Bingen Loch

2

Good **transport links**: trade routes to Frankfurt via Mainz and to Cologne via Koblenz

3

"The hock": **wine trade**, including the "hock" wine that is still popular in England to this day (originally referring to white wine from Hochheim am Main, "hock" has become generally synonymous with German white wine from the Rhine)



FOOTBALL PITCH, 1893

BINGEN'S WINE MAJESTIES



My name is **Leonie Müller**. I'm 23 years old and come from Bingen-Büdesheim. After leaving high school in 2020, I did an internship at the Michael Grünewald und Söhne winery, where I discovered my passion for wine. Since October 2020, I've been studying International Wine Management in Geisenheim. I'm currently writing my dissertation on fungus-resistant grape varieties. Alongside my studies, I work at the Lorenz & Söhne winery in the Nahe region, where I'm responsible for marketing and events. I'm really looking forward to sharing some amazing moments with Isabelle and Emily – and representing the town of Bingen and its wine!

My name is **Isabelle Ruhl**. I've been actively involved in the Bingen Wine Festivals since I was 16, so I was drawn to the university in Geisenheim after leaving high school in 2017. I graduated with a degree in "International Wine Management" in 2021. While I was still studying, I started working at the Korrell winery in the Nahe region. After graduating from university, I stayed there and am currently in charge of online marketing and e-commerce. As we want to get young adults interested in our local wine, I'm responsible for youth affairs and wine tastings in the Bingen Wine Senate. It's such a privilege to be representing the town of Bingen – and our local wine and culture – together with Leonie and Emily.



My name is **Emily Peters**. I'm 20 years old and come from Bingen-Dietersheim. After leaving high school in 2022, I moved to Mainz to study History and Political Science at the Johannes Gutenberg University. I was selected for an Erasmus scholarship in January 2023. This allowed me to study for two semesters in Vienna, where I had the opportunity to focus on European aristocratic history. Even as a little girl, I'd always dreamed of representing my hometown as one of Bingen's wine majesties. So now I feel all the more honoured to be representing the town of Bingen, our excellent local wine and our winemakers for the next two years alongside Leonie and Isabelle.

WINE EXPERIENCES



WILD WEST IN RHENISH HESSE

Join your family and friends on a **wagon ride** through the Rhenish-Hessian Hills. Our winemakers will tell you lots of exciting things about wine, viticulture and Bingen. Is there a better way to spend the summer?!

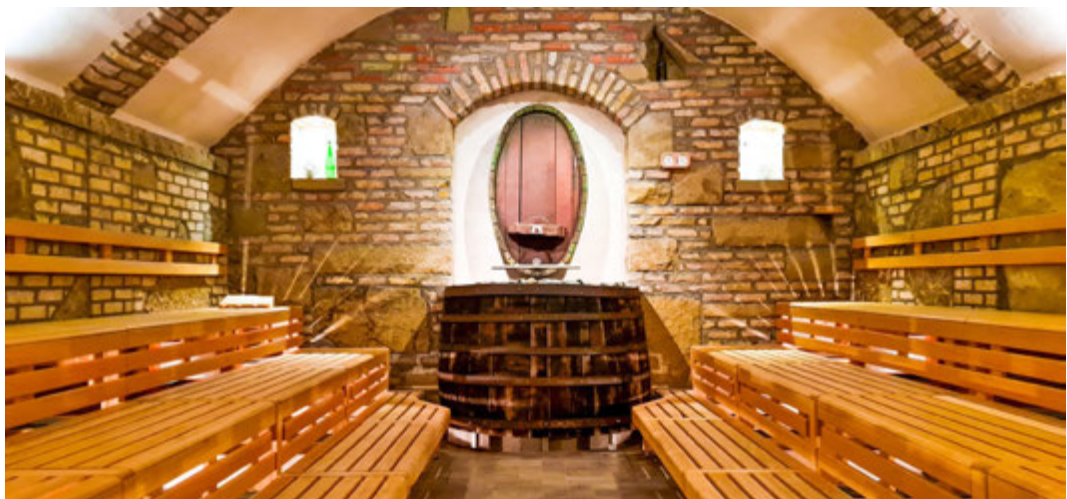
WINE AND WALKS

Come and **“experience wine, winemakers and nature”** on a hike through the vineyards and taste our wine where it grows. A night-time hike by torchlight has its own special flair. If you want to delve deeper into the topic, our special terroir tours are the right choice for you. You’ll be amazed at how many different terroirs are found in such a small space in Bingen. During the **WeinWalk**, you can sample bottles in the winery and see the winemaker via video.



RHEINWELLE WINE CELLAR SAUNA

The perfect winter wine experience: The Rheinwelle spa has its very own wine cellar sauna, a **barrel vault built with natural materials and original wine barrels**, to ensure an authentic experience. Of course, there are also other saunas such as a panoramic sauna with a view of the swimming pond, a Kelo sauna house and even a meditation sauna. When the weather is nice, you can make yourself comfortable on the lawn with a view of the wine-growing landscape and take a dip in the **swimming pond**.





BOTTLED JOY FOR SALE

There are so many ways to buy wine in Bingen – and they're all fun!

Bingen's winemakers welcome the opportunity to sell their products right on their premises – and some even have their own wine shops and taverns. **Hildegardishof** has recently opened an extraordinary wine shop – **Weinlager 64** – where you can taste and buy products surrounded by wine boxes and pallets. You can also attend various events there and watch a film to get in the mood for the wine and vineyard experience. Come down on a Saturday for a **weekend Piffche***. The wines have unusual names: *Joie de Vivre*, *Authentic* and *Background*. The local liqueur is called *PERFUME NO. 71*.

You can taste and buy wine from six local winemakers – and take in the wonderful view – at the **wine shop on the cultural shore**. The shop also stocks products from guest winemakers from time to time. The wine shop has developed its own line of wines from the four wine-growing regions of Rhenish Hesse, the Middle Rhine, Nahe and the Rheingau, which converge in Bingen. If you want even more regional selection, you should head to **Rainers Weinkontor**. There you can find wines from renowned wineries based in the four wine-growing regions. **Rainers Weinkontor** specialises in wines from the Nahe

region. It's also a wine bar and an art gallery. You can sit in the beautiful courtyard in summer.

If you love French wines, you should check out **Voilà – Weinentdeckungen** near Klopp Castle. This wine shop also stocks excellent wines from Italy, Spain and Germany, as well as exciting rarities from the Netherlands, Lebanon and Morocco. With over 350 different wines from 13 different countries, there's bound to be something for you.

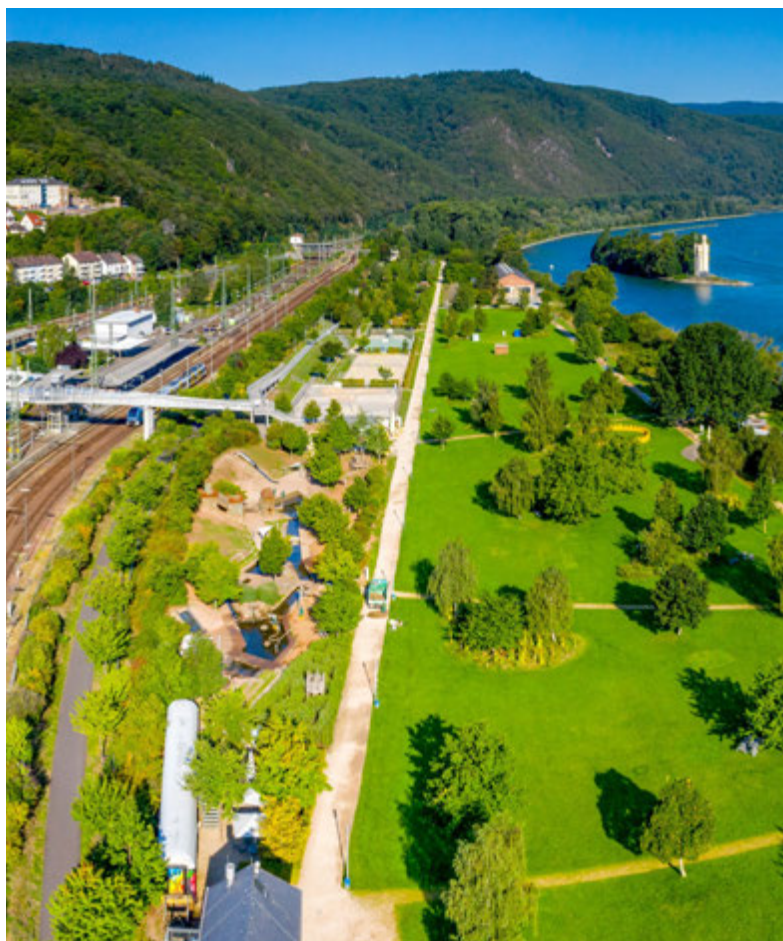
If you want to buy wine fresh from the wine-maker outside of business hours, you'll even find a wine vending machine: **VINOMAT 24/7 Weinverkauf at Dreikönigshof!** Here you can get our local wines at any time of day. They're the perfect accompaniment to an evening on your balcony or in your holiday home. Or you might like to take some wine with you on a hike around the Rochusberg – for a lovely break on a picnic bench or under a walnut tree. Enjoy a bit of bottled joy with magnificent views of Rhenish Hesse, the Middle Rhine and the Rheingau.

*Piffche

Serving size: 0.1 l of wine, the smallest possible amount. The term most probably comes from the fact that such a small quantity can be drunk in the time it takes to make a short whistling sound (*Pfiff*).

TIP

THE SIGNAL BOX (STELLWERK) OFFERS A FREE BROCHURE, "NATÜRLICH RÄTSELN", WITH THEMED PUZZLES FOR CHILDREN AGED 8 AND OVER TO SOLVE AT 13 DIFFERENT STATIONS IN THE PARK (E.G. "BROODING AND RESTING").



FROM LOCOMOTION TO CONSERVATION!

The former marshalling yard is now a habitat for highly specialised plants and rare animals, as well as a recreational and educational facility for locals and tourists. Come and visit the Mouse Tower Park...

About 1,000 railway workers used to break their backs across all 30 tracks of the **Prussian marshalling yard**, where 30,000 freight cars a year would be pulled along by steam engines as ships anchored on the Rhine waited for their cargo. That went on for 40 years!

Nowadays, you can hear frogs croaking, birds chirping and children laughing – and only the occasional train. The former port basin has been filled in and is now hardly recognisable. Small pools of water have formed, creating the perfect habitat for buzzing dragonflies and hunting kingfishers. Was this a planned initiative for nature conservation and environmental protection? Not at all! “This whole place was just lying here until the regional horticultural show in 2008”, recall Wiebke Fleischmann and Claudia Budinger from Bingen’s environmental department. Nature reclaimed the areas that people had left behind in 1988. And even more besides: “You can’t see this area as a contrast between humans and nature. It’s an interaction between **people, nature and technology**”.

Visitors are welcomed by a tall, narrow building. The former signal box is now known as “Stellwerk Mensch | Natur | Technik”, and it’s the best starting point to understand the entire park. For example, you can still press down an original railway switch... and off she goes! A model steam engine starts chugging around a track.

A set of glass touch screens and video clips let you discover the area’s history, geology, flora and fauna – **with all your senses!** “How did the continents shift 600 million years ago?” You can find out here. The aquarium is full of real Rhine fish. And there’s so much more to explore!

The climate, soil and sunlight dictate what lives or dies out – and this is constantly changing, influenced by people and animals. For example, the oak tree in the park is thriving. This is apparently where the animal transport washing facilities were located at the marshalling yard. The whole place is brimming with stories from the past. **Come and find out for yourself!**

Read the full report
online!



Mouse Tower Park

Open daily from 6 am (summer) and
8 am (winter) until dusk
Free admission

Stellwerk Mensch | Natur | Technik

Opening hours: Fri. to Sun. (11 am to 5 pm)
(from spring to autumn)
Free admission



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Rheinhessen



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TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE

We're your dedicated contact for all holidays and getaways, day trips and conference trips to Bingen. We have countless brochures and information materials about sights, attractions, events and lots more. We can recommend and arrange overnight stays, package deals, guided tours and wine tastings. We're also happy to offer other services in addition to ticket sales and souvenirs.

Bingen is easy to reach from all parts of the country – by car, train or boat. The tourist information office will provide you with reliable assistance – both before and after you arrive.

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OPENING HOURS

HIGH SEASON

Mon. to Fri. (9 am to 4 pm)
Sat. (10 am to 2 pm)

LOW SEASON

Mon. to Thu. (9 am to 4 pm)
Fri. (9 am to 1 pm)

Closed on Sundays and public holidays except:

9 May: Ascension Day

30 May: Corpus Christi

10 am to 1 pm





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