## Try out the art of card-making

See Altenburg Castle's exquisite collection of historical playing cards, a testament to a craft dating back all the way to the 16th century. As well as admiring the exhibits, in the Playing Card Workshop visitors can engage hands-on in the traditional art of making playing cards, creating their own pieces to take home with them and cherish.



## Skyward adventures and theatrical magic

The Transall transport plane and the Atlantic anti-submarine aircraft are just two of the colossal original exhibits at the World of Aviation Museum at Altenburg-Nobitz Airport. Visitors can examine these awe-inspiring giants of the skies and even have a look inside the cockpit. Young visitors are enchanted by Dombrowsky's Puppet Theatre, now in its seventh generation. After more than a century of moving from place to place, this time-honoured travelling puppet show finally moved into a permanent venue in Engertsdorf in 1999. Alternatively, for a twist of excitement, try navigating your way through the intriguing Labyrinth House located inside converted barracks in central Altenburg. Don't worry, no one's ever got lost there - at least, not yet!



# In the footsteps of knights

The Altenburg Region is steeped in medieval allure. boasting castles, knights and legends. A visit to Posterstein Castle is a journey into history, standing majestically above its namesake village. The castle, along with its museum, hosts intriguing exhibits that bring to life the tales of knights, damsels, and the rich tapestry of medieval history.







#### Tourismusverband Altenburger Land e.V. **Altenburg Region Tourist Information**

Markt 10, 04600 Altenburg Tel: +49 (0)3447 896689 Fax: +49 (0)3447 896688 Email: info@altenburg.travel www.altenburg.travel



- Accommodation
- Tastings
- Guided tours
- Souvenirs Vouchers Event tickets
- Experience days
- Excursions

# We look forward to welcoming you!

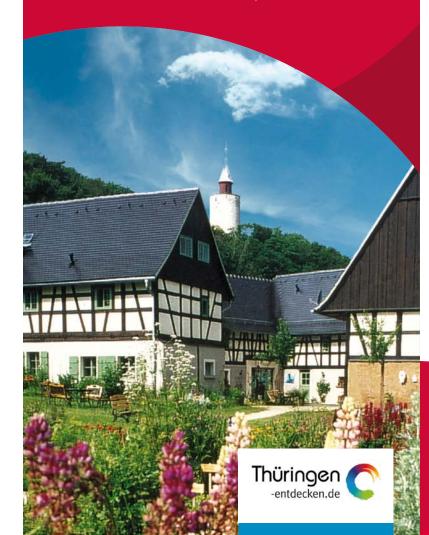
Photos: Posterstein Art and Herb Centre: Museum Burg Posterstein; Altenburg-Nobitz World of Aviation Museum, raying said violoship), Golf railway, feestier fund ar roselstein Castle, summer die deep versien der der stelle des versiens (Sprotte discovery trait, Mauritanum Natural History Museum, Altenburg Island Zoo: IVDG, Simon Büttner; Komödiantenhof Engertsdorf: Evelyn Dombrowsky, Altenburg Brewery, Altenburger Bruerer, GmbH; Schmölin Mutzbrater Heimatgenuss, Christine Klauder; Altenburg akts: Schloss- und Kulturbertieb Altenburg, Marcus Glahn; museum at Posterstein Castle: Museum Burg Posterstein; Red Spires of St Mary's Church: Carsten Schenker: Thuringian Chain of Towns cycle trail: contextagentur, Marcel Hofmann: Pahna Park: Erholungspark Pahna Written by Tourismusverband Altenburger Land e.V. (subject to change without notice)





# The Altenburg Region

A Mosaic of Enchantment and Diversity



# Welcome to The Altenburg Region!

In our region, a rich tapestry of history, culture and natural beauty makes it a challenge to decide your next activity! Altenburg, with its grand ducal palace and one of Germany's largest inner-city market squares, is captivating. Meanwhile, the surrounding countryside offers its own unique appeal, ideal for those who love hiking or cycling through scenic landscapes.

As the day winds down, treat yourself to the culinary specialities of our local restaurants, each offering a taste of regional charm.

We look forward to welcoming you!



#### A taste of Thuringia

A culinary journey through the Altenburg Region is an exploration of taste and tradition. Discover the unique flavours of Mutzbraten, a dish hailing from the town of Schmölln, comprising a piece of pork the size of a fist. Cooked over a birch wood fire, it's traditionally served with bread, sauerkraut and mustard. Complement it with a digestif from the local distillery as well as a beer from Altenburg Brewery. Don't miss Altenburg goat's cheese and the famed mustards, which can be sampled in the local mustard shop. Thuringian hospitality shines through in our cosy inns, restaurants and beer gardens, where the legendary Thuringian bratwurst is always a highlight!



#### Art and culture

Fondly known as the Little Semper Opera House, the theatre, designed in neo-Renaissance style by Semper's student Otto Brückwald, is a hub for art and culture. It's the only five-genre theatre in Thuringia. Although currently closed for refurbishment, its spirit lives on in the temporary theatre tent. Lindenau Museum, renowned among art-lovers for its impressive collection of plaster casts, is undergoing extensive renovation. Even so, a select display can still be enjoyed in the interim gallery at Kunstgasse 1.



INSPIRING CULTURE

# Get on your bikes and ride

Altenburg Region is interlaced with an extensive network of cycle paths, making its numerous attractions easily accessible by bike. Altenburg is the starting point for the Thuringian Chain of Towns cycle trail, offering active holidaymakers a picturesque route to explore Thuringia's natural beauty.



#### A cultural gem in the heart of the town

Altenburg Castle, an architectural marvel, reigns over the town with its majestic presence. Here, visitors intimately encounter ducal living culture, cartography, and the town's history within its storied walls. Alongside the castle's captivating banquet halls, the diverse architectural styles present throughout the castle's structure are equally mesmerizing. The adjacent castle park, home to the quaint tea house and orangery, along with Lindenau Museum and the Mauritianum Natural History Museum, offers a serene retreat. Exploring the trio of local churches - Friars' Church, St Bartholomew's, and St Agnes's - is a must for admirers of sacred architecture.



#### Living tradition

The Altenburg Region is a testament to a vibrant agricultural heritage, still alive and celebrated. Malcher and Marche are the names of the splendid costumes of the farming community, which are still worn in many places on special occasions. The ladies in particular – the Marchen - with their elaborate headdresses are a sight to behold on special occasions. In 2013, Altenburg peasant attire was honoured as Germany's traditional costume of the year. This living heritage is evident in the regions opulent four-sided farms and is celebrated at various annual events like the Garbisdorf Popinjay, Rositz Fair, and the Hartha Mill Festival, as well as at farmers' markets.



#### The world of nature for the whole family

The greenery of Altenburg is just the beginning; the surrounding region beckons visitors with its unique natural attractions. In Nöbdenitz, witness the grandeur of a 1,000-year-old oak, one of the oldest trees in the area. Pure relaxation is guaranteed on the Sprotte discovery trail. If you prefer something a little livelier, you can make friends with the alpacas in Altmörbitz. The Mauritianum Natural History Museum on Parkstrasse in Altenburg is a treasure trove for the curious, showcasing the world's largest 'rat king' – 32 rats knotted together by their tails – and offering children in particular an opportunity to actively discover regional flora and fauna.



## Aquatic adventures indoors and out

The Tatami leisure pool in Schmölln and the indoor swimming baths in Altenburg, along with five outdoor pools in the region, are perfect for a day-long retreat. Nearby lakes like Haselbach near Wintersdorf, Hainberg near Meuselwitz, and Prössdorf near Lucka, as well as Pahna Park, provide excellent facilities for swimming, sailing, rowing, and even cycling, making them ideal spots for an active and enjoyable day out.



The myth of the Red Spires being inspired by Emperor Frederick Barbarossa's beard adds charm to the town's history. These iconic red brick towers, built during his reign, are a notable landmark. However, the Altenburg Region has a lot more to offer. Posterstein Castle, Treben Manor and Schmölln's large market square are all gems just waiting to be discovered.





# Green Altenburg – an urban oasis

Altenburg isn't just about rich history and playing cards; it's also a haven of green spaces. The sprawling castle park, with its ancient trees, lies at the town's heart, and is as old as the castle itself. Known as the unofficial capital of allotment gardeners, Altenburg is encircled by over 70 allotment gardens, providing a lush green belt through and around the town. The historic area around the Great Pond is perfect for leisurely strolls or boat rides. The botanical gardens, a showcase of rare flora, are another highlight, while the town forest is ideal for long, serene walks amid unspoilt nature.



#### Altenburg's animal kingdom

Nestled on an island in the Great Pond, Altenburg's Island Zoo is a unique attraction in central Germany, focusing on native species. The zoo not only features a petting enclosure but also offers numerous play activities. This makes it a memorable destination for families, where kids can engage with animals and enjoy various fun-filled adventures

