

Meißen



Information · Tips
City Map



Experience
and
be surprised!



The Historian's *Meißen*

With a history dating back more than a thousand years, Meißen has long been known as the "cradle" of Saxony. That the town is worthy of such a name is clearly seen in its buildings – records of stone which bear witness to the different epochs of not only Saxon history but also the history of the Holy Roman Empire with Germany at its centre. This is manifest, for example, in the mighty ensemble of Albrechtsburg Castle and Meißen Cathedral on the hill above the town. With the romantic silhouette of the roofs of the Old Town below it, the hill offers a magnificent panorama and has become a favourite subject for photographers from the banks of the Elbe.

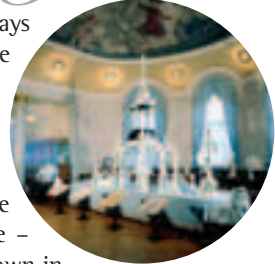


Long ago, in the Middle Ages, the Wettin Princes became margraves of Meißen, thus marking the beginning of Saxon history. Albrechtsburg Castle is regarded as being the first castle designed as a royal residence in the German-speaking world; built between 1472 and 1525, it is a fine example of late Gothic style. Today the castle is a museum which is just as popular with visitors as the cathedral, whose architecture is pure Gothic and whose magnificent Princes' Chapel is one of the burial places of the Wettin family. Equally imposing is the view from the 57-metre high tower of the Frauenkirche (Church of Our Lady), situated at the old market-place. From here, the visitor will be tempted to take a leisurely stroll through the narrow medieval streets, with their quiet squares and steep flights of steps, past century-old patrician houses which today accommodate small shops, cafés and wine cellars.

1000 years
of
history alive

The Artist's *Meißen*

The beautiful location of Meißen has always been a great attraction for painters. The German Romantic landscape painter Adrian Ludwig Richter spent quite a few years of his life here. But Meißen's claim to art fame derives chiefly from the first European porcelain factory founded here in 1710 and based in Meißen ever since – even if its products have come to be known in different parts of the world as "Dresden china"! The production of ornamental as well as functional porcelain – all hand-made, of course, and bearing the mark of the famous Crossed Swords – has continued up to this very day. More than 400,000 visitors a year come to watch the highly artistic and masterly production of porcelain in the exhibition workshop of the Staatliche Porzellan-Manufaktur. Consisting of about 3,000 porcelain pieces, the probably most comprehensive collection of the world is presented in the Exhibition Hall. Forms and styles from almost three centuries offer a splendid survey of all the different periods of art. Signs of Meißen's dedication to porcelain are to be found everywhere – in the shops of the Old Town, in the tower of the Frauenkirche (Church of Our Lady), which since 1929 has housed the first porcelain bells of the world, and in the Nikolaikirche (Church of St. Nicholas), where the largest porcelain figures in the world – two and a half metres high – can be admired.



Omnipresent:
the famous
Crossed Swords

The Gourmet's *Meißen*

Sitting in one of Meißen's old taverns, which are mostly steeped in history and which radiate that brand of congeniality which the Germans call Gemütlichkeit, the guests can do no better than give in to the delightful sensations which alone the palate is able to arouse. This they can do by sampling one of the many tasty dishes which Saxony's cuisine has to offer and by savouring a genuine Meißen wine. Saxony's vineyards are the most north-easterly in Europe and, thanks to the mild climate of the Elbe Valley, they produce an excellent dry wine which is not only highly esteemed by visitors but positively venerated by the locals – not only because it is the product of a great number of small winegrowers, who along with a few larger producers cultivate an area of no more than 450 hectares of mostly steep hill slopes. Many different types of grape are grown, including Müller-Thurgau, Weißburgunder and Goldriesling. While in Meißen, visitors must not forget to sample the artistry of Saxon bakers. Among all the delicious types of cake on display in the shops, the visitor is sure to find the „Meißner Fummel“ – a very light and airy puff-like pastry which has amused and delighted visitors to Meißen.



Exquisite wines
and
funny pastry

The Country Lover's *Meißen*

The medieval town of Meißen is majestically enthroned in the enchanting landscape of the Elbe Valley, with its riverside meadows, its wooded hills and the vineyards adorning the adjacent slopes. Walking in the countryside around the town (along the Sächsische Weinstraße, for example), cycling along the banks of the Elbe or cruising on the river in one of the old pleasure steamers which are still to be found plying the waters of the Elbe are just three of the many ways of adding to the enjoyment of a visit to Meißen. As far as culture is concerned, the town and its environs have much more to offer than castles and palaces: all kinds of cultural events are held during the year which provide a great variety of entertainment for the visitor. The best known is, of course, the Meißen wine festival, which takes place every year at the time of the grape harvest. Newly established hotels, boarding-houses and families offering bed and breakfast ensure that a stay in or around Meißen is a restful and



relaxing experience. And the fact that Dresden is only 25 km away and can easily and comfortably be reached with the suburban railway, means that a trip to Saxony's capital is just as simple as it is worthwhile. The winegrowing villages along the Elbe, the valleys cutting into the hills to the west of the river as well as Moritzburg hunting lodge – all popular spots for a day out in the country – round off the impressive panorama of the Meißen countryside.

The Elbe Valley –
between residence
and summer-resort

Meißen

Information

Staatliche Porzellan Manufaktur Meissen

Talstraße 9
Tel.: (0 35 21) 46 87 00; Fax: 46 88 04
Internet: www.meissen.com
e-mail: besucherbuero@meissen.com
Visitors' office:
Tel.: (0 35 21) 46 82 08; Fax: 46 88 04

Hours of Opening:

May - October: daily 9 am - 6 pm
November - April: daily 9 am - 5 pm

Admission for Exhibition Hall incl. special exhibition area:

€ 6.00 (adults)
€ 5.00 p.p. (for groups of at least 20 people)

admission for exhibition hall incl. special exhibition area and workshop

(tape guided tour):
€ 8.00 (adults)
€ 4.00 (reduced / children 6-18, students, disabled persons from 50% upwards)
€ 18.00 (family ticket)
€ 6.00 p.p. (for groups of at least 20 people)

admission for exhibition hall incl. special exhibition area and workshop

(personal guided tour):
€ 6.00 p.p. (for groups of at least 20 people)
+ € 45.00 guiding fee (German) per group *
+ € 60.00 guiding fee (foreign language) per group *

* guided tours for groups by prior arrangement; maximum 30 people per group

closed days:

24th, 25th, 26th and 31st December, 1st January (Friday after Whitsun the exhibition hall closes at 12 noon.)

Albrechtsburg Meissen (Albrechtsburg Castle)

Domplatz 1
Tel.: (0 35 21) 4 70 70; Fax: 47 07 11
Internet: www.albrechtsburg-meissen.de
e-mail: info@albrechtsburg-meissen.de

Hours of Opening:

March - October: daily 10 am - 6 pm (last admission: 5.30 pm)
November - February: daily 10 am - 5 pm (last admission: 4.30 pm)
1st January: 11 am - 4 pm

admission:

€ 3.50 (adults) € 2.50 (reduced) *
€ 2.00 (children up to 16) children until 6: free
family ticket: € 9.00
(2 adults + 2 children / further children free)

special exhibition:

€ 2.50 (adults) € 1.50 (reduced) *
No guarantee for the information given

guided tour:

€ 1.50 (in addition to admission charge)
special guided tours and guided tours for groups by prior arrangement
* trainees, students, severely disabled, persons receiving public assistance, unemployed people, persons in military service or alternative service

Cathedral

Domplatz 7
Tel.: (0 35 21) 45 24 90; Fax: 45 38 33
Internet: www.dom-zu-meissen.de
e-mail: info@dom-zu-meissen.de

Hours of opening:

April - October: daily 9 am - 6 pm
guided tours: starting at 10 am, every hour
last guided tour: 4.20 pm
November - March: daily 10 am - 4 pm
guided tours according to notice-board and by arrangement

closed days:

24th and 25th December
No admittance during church services!

admission: cathedral/cathedral museum:
€ 2.50 (adults) € 1.50 (reduced) *
€ 6.50 (family ticket)

guided tour:

€ 1.50 (in addition to admission charge)

organ recitals:

May - October Mo to Sat; from 12 to 12.20 pm
€ 0.50 (in addition to admission charge)

specialy arranged organ recitals:

€ 3.50 per person
minimum group price: € 70.00
(only by prior arrangement)

guided tour of the tower:

€ 1.50 (in addition to admission charge)
April - October: 1 pm, 2 pm, 3 pm, 4 pm
and by prior arrangement
special guided tours:
€ 5.00 (adults) € 4.00 (reduced) *
April - October each 1st Saturday 2 pm and by prior arrangement

combined ticket Cathedral - Albrechtsburg

€ 5.50 (adults) € 3.50 (reduced) *
€ 14,50 (family ticket)

* trainees, students, severely disabled, persons receiving public assistance, unemployed people, persons in military service or alternative service

Theater Meissen (Municipal Theatre)

Theaterplatz 15
Tel.: (0 35 21) 4 15 50; Fax: 41 55 50
sale of tickets: Tel. (03521) 41 55 11
Tues/Thur 9 am - 6 pm

Frauenkirche Meissen (Church of Our Lady)

An der Frauenkirche 11
Tel.: (0 35 21) 45 38 32; Fax: 45 38 31

hours of opening:

May - October according to notice-board at the church portal or telephone information, usually 10 am - 12 noon and 2 pm - 6 pm
church service: Sundays, 10 am

climbing of the church tower:

admission: € 1.00 (adults); € 0.50 (children until age of 14)

porcelain carillon at the following times:

6.30 am "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme"
8.30 am "Großer Gott, wir loben Dich"
11.30 am "Die Himmel rühmen des ewigen Ehr"
2.30 pm "Wir treten zum Beten"
5.30 pm "Eine feste Burg ist unser Gott"
8.30 pm "Lobet den Herren"

St. Afra Kirche (Church of St.Afra)

Freiheit 14
Tel./Fax: see Frauenkirche (Church of our Lady)
visits/guided tours by prior arrangement only

Nicolaikirche (Church of St. Nicholas)

Neumarkt 29 (near the Porzellan-Manufaktur)

hours of opening: May - September

Wed, Thur and Sun: 2 pm - 4 pm
admission: free

guided tours: by prior arrangement

service: 1st Sat. of the month at 5 pm

Municipal Museum

Franciscan Monastery Church

Heinrichsplatz 3
Tel.: (0 35 21) 45 88 57
administration office: Domplatz 4
Tel.: (0 35 21) 45 33 12

hours of opening: 11 am - 5 pm

admission: € 3.00 (adults); € 2.00 (reduced);
family ticket: € 8.00

guided tours:

€ 4.00 (adults); € 3.00 (reduced)
family ticket: € 10.00

Torhaus-Museum

Middle Castle Gate

Tel.: (0 35 21) 45 28 76

Exhibition: "Romanticism and Biedermeier in the days of Ludwig Richter"

hours of opening: daily, 11 am - 5 pm

admission: € 1.50 (adults);
€ 1.00 (reduced); family ticket: € 4.00

combined ticket for the Municipal Museum and the Torhaus-Museum:

€ 4.00 (adults); € 3.00 (reduced)
family ticket: € 10.00

No guarantee for the information given

Thürmer Pianoforte-Museum

Martinstraße 12
Tel.: (0 35 21) 40 14 55

hours of opening:

Mo-Fri: 9 am - 6 pm
Sat: 9 am - 12 pm

admission:

€ 2.00 (adults); € 1.00 (reduced)

Ruins of the monastery "To the Holy Cross"

Meissner Hahnemannzentrum e.V.
Leipziger Straße 94
Tel./Fax: (0 35 21) 40 02 34
info@hahnemannzentrum-meissen.de
www.hahnemannzentrum-meissen.de
guided tours: daily, by prior arrangement

Prälatenhaus (Prelate's House)

Rote Stufen 3
Tel.: 0179-1329696
hours of opening:
Mo - Fri: 10 am - 5 pm
admission: free

Museum Patrizierhaus (Patrician House)

Webergasse 1
17th c. middle-class style of living in Meissen
Tel.: (0 35 21) 40 90 90
hours of opening: Sat/Sun 10 am - 5 pm
admission: € 3.00 (adults)

"Wellenspiel" Sport- und Freizeitbad (public swimming-bath)

Berghausstraße 2
Tel.: (0 35 21) 70 11 30
wellenspiel@s-direkt.net.de
www.wellsenspiel.de
hours of opening: daily 10 am - 10 pm

Cine Star - Die Filmbühne (movie theatre)

Theaterplatz 14
Tel.: (0 35 21) 40 02 18
on cinema days, Mo - Thu: € 4,50
Fr - Sun: € 6,50

Verkehrsgesellschaft Meissen/VGM (transportation company / public transport)

Hafenstraße 51
Tel.: (0 35 21) 7 41 60; Fax: (0 35 21) 73 28 82

Tierpark Meissen (deer park)

Siebeneichener Str. 63
Tel.: (0 172) 35 35 232
hours of opening:

wintertime:
Mo-Fri: 9 am - 5 pm
Sat/Sun: 10 am - 5 pm

summertime:
Mo-Fri: 9 am - 6 pm
Sat/Sun: 10 am - 6 pm

admission:
€ 2.50 (adults); € 1.50 (reduced)
€ 1.00 (class/per child)
€ 0.50 (kindergarden/per child)



to train station Triebischtal

to castle Siebeneichen

Recommended tour of the town

- 1 Municipal museum, formerly a Franciscan Monastery Church Heinrichsbrunnen (Henry's Well)
- 2 Municipal Theatre
- 3 Old Market Place, Town Hall, Market Apothecary's, Hirschhaus, Bennohaus, Tourist Information
- 4 Frauenkirche, Church of Our Lady
- 5 Brewery, Dean's Steps, Clothmaker's Gate
- 6 Rectory of St. Afra's Church
- 7 Church of St. Afra
- 8 Castle Bridge, Middle Gate, Torhaus-Museum
- 9 Cathedral and Chapter House; View from the Bishops' Palace
- 10 Albrechtsburg
- 11 Nikolaikirche (Church of St. Nicholas)
- 12 Porzellan-Manufaktur, Museum, Böttger Monument
- 13 Catholic Church of St. Benno
- 14 piano-museum "Pianoforte"
- 15 Cinema - „CineStar"
- 16 Prelate's House
- 17 Patrician House

Extended Tour

Short Tour

Sächsische Weinstraße*

cycleway along the Elbe river

Museum

Taxi stand

WC Public Toilets

In the summer months modern city buses run every half-hour between Albrechtsburg Castle, the Cathedral, the Old Market Place and the Porzellan-Manufaktur.



Meißen Tourist Information (Tourismusverein Meissen e.V.)

Markt 3
01662 Meißen
Tel: 0 35 21 / 4 19 40
Fax: 0 35 21 / 41 94 19

assistance with accommodation

Tel: 0 35 21 / 41 94 18
Fax: 0 35 21 / 41 94 19

E-Mail
service@touristinfo-meissen.de
Internet
www.touristinfo-meissen.de

our services:

- information on Meissen and its environs
- sale of tickets; sale of publications and souvenirs
- assistance with booking accommodation (hotels, guest houses, holiday flats, apartments and B&B)
- package offers for individuals and groups

guided walking tours of the town

- for individual tourists (in German) from April to October, daily at 1 pm
- for groups by prior arrangement

hours of opening

April - October
Mon - Fri 10 am - 6 pm
Sat and Sun & public holidays 10 am - 4 pm
November - March
Mon - Fri 10 am - 5 pm
Sat 10 am - 3 pm
(except January)

(during summer season extended opening times)