



EISENACH

St. George's Church



CAROL SINGERS AND BACH TARTLETS. “YES, I WAS ONE OF THOSE CAROL SINGERS AND RECEIVED BREAD FROM THE HOUSES, IN EISENACH, MY BELOVED TOWN.” THAT’S HOW LUTHER DESCRIBES HIS TIME AS A STUDENT IN EISENACH. AT NIGHT THEY USED TO SING OUTSIDE THE CITIZENS’ HOMES FOR FOOD AND DRINK. HERE THE REFORMER LEARNED HOW TO PLAY THE FLUTE. HE CALLED THOSE THREE YEARS AT SCHOOL ONE OF THE HAPPIEST TIMES OF HIS LIFE. ANOTHER STUDENT AT THAT SAME LOCAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL WAS A CERTAIN JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH. SMALL WORLD!

Left to right:
Nikolai Gate and
Nikolai Church,
Luther House
with Bible Café



City of World Culture

The area is more than beautiful,” Goethe wrote enthusiastically to Charlotte von Stein. In 1777 he visited the Wartburg Castle for the first time. You will find traces of famous people in this castle and in town: Elisabeth, the 14-year-old daughter of the Hungarian king – canonised after her death – married Landgrave Ludwig IV in St. George’s Church. After her canonisation the Preacher Church was consecrated in her honour.

Luther did not only stay at the Wartburg Castle as “Junker Jörg”. Three of the most formative of his student years were spent here in Eisenach. The modern exhibition in the Luther House is dedicated to the memory of the great reformer.



In Eisenach you may follow the traces of European musical history: Johann Sebastian Bach was born here, and four organists of the Bach family played in St. George’s Church. Pachelbel played the organ in that same church in 1677. Georg Philipp Telemann – already well known as the court chapel’s Director of Music – performed his ecclesiastical works here. The Bach House was the first museum worldwide dedicated to Johann Sebastian Bach. Enjoy live music played on historical instruments. The recently attached new building provides an extraordinary experience: a “walk-in piece of music”.

The second largest Wagner collection can be found in the Reuter Villa. “Eisenach’s World of the Automobile” (AWE) in the former factory building O2 of 1935 documents Eisenach’s long tradition of more than 100 years of motor car production.

The 168 km long “Rennsteig” welcomes both hikers and cyclists. The Werra River is a canoeist’s paradise. In a word: “The area is more than beautiful”, for ramblers, hikers and nature-lovers alike.

Bach House
and museum

INFORMATION

Eisenach-Wartburgregion Touristik GmbH

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EVENT TIPS

March/April: **“Thüringer Bachwochen”** The leading festival of Baroque music in Thuringia – Concerts at authentic Bach locations
www.thueringer-bachwochen.de
Three weeks before Easter: **“Sommergewinn”** – Spring Festival with a big parade July-Sept. Mon-Sat 11.00 a.m.: **“Eisenacher Marktkonzert”** – Organ recitals at St. George’s Church.
August: **“Luther-Das-Fest.”** Medieval market, parade, theatrical play.
www.luther-das-fest.de