



## NUREMBERG

Twilight mood  
at dusk over  
Nuremberg's  
Imperial Castle



**THE STRONGHOLD OF LIBERTY!** THE EMPEROR'S COAT OF ARMS SALUTES THE GUEST FROM THE WALLS OF THE IMPERIAL CITIES. IT GUARANTEES LIBERTY TO THE BIG TOWNS, ESPECIALLY THAT OF NUREMBERG. THIS CITY OF ALBRECHT DÜRER, OF VEIT STOSS, WILLIBALD PIRCKHEIMER AND MARTIN BEHAIM WAS ALSO THE EMPEROR'S FAVOURITE. THE IMPERIAL REGALIA WERE KEPT HERE FROM 1424 TO 1796. THE CITY WAS SUBJECT TO THE EMPEROR ONLY AND TO NOBODY ELSE. NUREMBERG, ONCE A EUROPEAN METROPOLIS IN THE MIDDLE AGES, IS NOW THE CENTRE OF A EUROPEAN METROPOLITAN REGION IN MEDIEVAL GARB.

left: Weinstadel  
right: Overlooking  
Nuremberg's roofs



## A unified whole

Nuremberg's imperial castle can hardly be overlooked. It is the town's landmark and is one of the most important imperial palaces of the Middle Ages. The whole complex consists of the imperial castle and the count's castle and is part of Nuremberg's Historical Mile. Along this mile you will be amazed at the Franconian will for survival. Bearing in mind that at the end of WW II in 1945 ninety percent of Nuremberg's historical old town has been reduced to rubble, today the town is once again a unified whole, not only with rows of houses built between 1350 and 1500, but also a modern metropolis with one of Europe's largest pedestrian precincts.

Nuremberg's rise can be dated way back in history: Emperor Friedrich II in his "Großer Freiheitsbrief" (Great Letter of Liberty) of 1219, made the town, which had been founded 200 years earlier, a free imperial city. On January 10<sup>th</sup>, 1356 the "Golden Bull", the basic law of the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation, was passed. It laid down



the procedures for the election of new kings by the electoral princes. It also stated that every newly elected king should hold his first court meeting in Nuremberg.

From 1424 to 1796 the imperial regalia were kept in Nuremberg's Church of the Holy Ghost (destroyed in 1945). Today replicas can be seen in the historical town hall. Artists like Albrecht Dürer, Veit Stoß and Peter Vischer created some of their famous works here, Peter Henlein invented the pocket watch, and the humanist Willibald Pirckheimer, the cobbler-poet Hans Sachs and the astronomer Johannes Regiomontanus left their mark on the town's history.

The town is situated at the crossroads of 12 important long distance trade routes. In the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century it was one of Europe's most important economic centres. Products from Nuremberg were exported all over Europe. Nuremberg was also one of the big medieval towns that converted to Protestantism. In a civilised way. Without iconoclasm!

### INFORMATION

#### Tourist Information in der NÜRNBERG INFO

(opposite the Main Railway Station)  
Königstraße 93  
D-90402 Nuremberg  
Tel. +49 (0) 911.2336-132

#### Tourist Information am Hauptmarkt

Hauptmarkt 18  
D-90403 Nuremberg  
Tel. +49 (0) 911.2336-135

#### Info- und Service-Zentrale

Tel. +49 (0) 911.2336-0  
Fax +49 (0) 911.2336-166  
tourismus@nuernberg.de  
[www.tourism.nuernberg.de](http://www.tourism.nuernberg.de)

### TIP

#### Christkindlesmarkt in Nuremberg

Every year on the Friday before 1<sup>st</sup> advent the Christkindlesmarkt at the foot of the Frauenkirche turns Nuremberg into Germany's Christmas City No. 1. The tradition of this market can be traced back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century. For our little visitors there is a "Children's Christmas Market" at Hans-Sachs-Platz and the "Star House" (Am Katharinenkloster 6). The "Christmas Market of the Sister Cities" invites the visitor to a pre-Christmas world tour.  
[www.christkindlesmarkt.de](http://www.christkindlesmarkt.de)