

UPPER LUSATIAN SIX CITY LEAGUE



Culture and history in
the Upper Lusatian Six
City League: Kamenz,
Zittau, Bautzen, Gör-
litz, Löbau and Lubań
Upper left to lower
right

Thou shalt be six cities ...

Europe's heart beats in the region where three countries meet: Germany, the Czech Republic and Poland. The six cities situated between the heath and lake district with Saxony's only biosphere reservation, Upper Lusatia's hill region and the Zittau mountains have had a special relationship since the Middle Ages. The Upper Lusatian Six City League existed from 1346 until 1815 with the aim of protecting public peace. Bautzen, Görlitz, Kamenz, Lauban (now Lubań, in Poland), Löbau and Zittau joined forces and created a strong and influential organisation to counterbalance the gentry. Today you can still experience the six cities' wealth of history and stories from a thousand years of Upper Lusatia. The towns have been lovingly restored and present the visitor with a multitude of cultural and tourist offers: Bautzen as the medieval town of towers and bastions and the unique Sorbian culture, Görlitz

as the untouched picture book of 500 years of European architecture. Kamenz as Gotthold Ephraim Lessing's birthplace, with its classical facades and the precious carved altars in St. Annen Monastery Church, Lubań (Lauban), at the foot of the legendary Iser mountains, the town with the Tower of Brothers and a magnificent town hall, Zittau known as the "City of Lenten Cloths," which are unique in Germany.

The "Great Zittau Lenten Cloth of 1472", a huge picture bible on linen, is exceptionally precious. It is displayed in the world's largest museum glass cabinet. Löbau is the place where the league was founded but today it also stands for the influence of the modern age on Lusatia. Here you can visit architectural gems such as Haus Schminke, built by the famous Bauhaus architect Hans Scharoun, and Europe's only cast-iron observation tower.

www.oberlausitzer-sechsstaedtebund.de

TIP

Fabulous guided tours of the cities of the Upper Lusatian Six City League.

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