



DREI AM MAIN

Miltenberg • Bürgstadt • Kleinheubach



Walking Tour of Miltenberg

Our warmest welcome!

This walking tour takes you on an intriguing journey of our medieval town of half-timbered houses.

Miltenberg not only delights with a historic city centre filled with half-timbered houses, romantic alleyways and hidden corners. It is also a place of vibrant urban culture and youthful Middle Ages.

The famous Schnatterloch as well as Germany's oldest royal inn nobility, the Gasthaus Zum Riesen embody both history and modern life.

Please feel free to contact us for all queries regarding your stay. We look forward to your visit!

Yours,
The team of DREI AM MAIN

Guided Tours

Fancy Stories and History?

Come along with our certified guides for a tour offering a brand new perspective of the historic city centre, alleys and squares. Look forward to unique stories and history, facts and anecdotes, oral tradition and evidence. Learn about our proud history. Join us for a variety of guided tours in different languages providing not only exciting facts for every interest, but also a perfect opportunity to discover Miltenberg and Bürgstadt.

We will be more than happy to make arrangements for you – please do not hesitate to contact us.



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The walking tour starts at the Engelplatz in front of the **town hall and the tourist information (no. 29)** facing the **Franciscan monastery (no. 30)** on the opposite side of the road. From here we turn left into the historic city centre.

29 Tourist Information in the Town Hall at the Engelplatz

The Engelplatz got its name from the earlier hotel Zum Engel which was the first utilization of our present town hall. Between then and now the building has also successively been used for different school types. We, the team of the Tourist Information, look forward to meeting you and will gladly be at your disposal.

Monument DenkOrt Deportationen 1941-1944

Miltenberg is part of the decentralized monument DenkOrt Deportationen 1941-1944. Suitcases, rucksacks or rolled-up blankets commemorate the few belongings the deportees were allowed to carry when they were hauled off via Würzburg to different concentration camps. This process is symbolized by one piece of luggage in Würzburg and its exact replica in the town from which our fellow Jewish citizens were deported. In Miltenberg, Georg Büttner created a suitcase made of red sandstone which was placed in front of the town hall.

30 Franciscan Monastery

The Franciscans, having already been present in town since 1630, initially lived in the hospital. Due to the Thirty Years War, the construction of their new home was delayed. Therefore, the building process of the monastery only started in 1660 and the church construction in 1667, realizing designs of the court architect of Mainz and Würzburg, Antonio Petrini. The main portal, donated by Archbishop Johann Philipp of Schönborn, and the Baroque interior design of the church are remarkable.

On the left-hand side one of the town's most famous sights will appear after about 200 m / 220 yd: The inn **Zum Riesen (no. 23)**, the oldest royal inn of Germany. Here you can choose between a longer and a shorter tour.

26 Town Park

At the end of the 19th century, the town park of Miltenberg was laid out by Gustav Jakob, one of the town's wealthy citizens, resembling an English garden and arboretum. Today the little park has almost 150 different species of trees and bushes and is not only a precious hideaway for relaxing but also for exploring.

Tip: Our 200 m / 220 yd long marble run with eight segments offers a fun experience not only for young explorers. The wooden marbles are available at a vending machine in the park (€ 2-coin required) or in the Tourist Information.

16 Mildenburg and Museum Burg Miltenberg

Around 1150 the Mildenburg Castle was built by order of the Staufer King Conrad III. Around 1200 the castle became property of the Archbishop of Mainz who used it as an office building for his bailiff. A varied, ever-changing history of destruction and reconstruction marked the following centuries. The administration of Miltenberg bought the building 1979. The castle has been used as the Museum Burg Miltenberg since the renovations were completed in 2011 and you can take a closer look at a fascinating interaction of ancient icons and contemporary art. It is also an atmospheric ambience for the "Summer of Culture" and the Christmas market.

Tip: 17 Blockfield and circular hiking trail 3 im Wald (natural barefoot path & art trail & educational tree trail)

15 Market Square with Market Fountain and Schnatterloch

The heart of town is, without doubt, the market square with its market fountain. It is famed as one of the most photographed views of Germany. The houses that are presumably the most beautiful were constructed in the 16th and early 17th centuries and still present themselves proudly today. The scene is completed by some half-timbered houses, which date back to the time after the Thirty Years War.

23 Gasthaus zum Riesen (Giant's Inn)

In 1411, the tavern Zum Riesen was first officially mentioned. The present building dates back to 1590. It takes pride in being Germany's oldest royal inn and is regarded as the country's oldest inn overall. Since the innkeeper was not able to survive on noble guests only, the inscription on the house also invites citizens and farmers to step in.

To follow **the longer tour (light blue line)** you will now turn left into the Riesengasse and then follow the third alley to the right. A gate through the **town wall (no. 24)** takes you to the **older Jewish cemetery (no. 25)**. Walking straight on you will reach the Burgweg with the **Lutheran church (no. 27)** to the left and the **town park (no. 26)** in front of you. From here you turn right, walk along the town wall, even take a few steps into the forest, past the stone gate to the **Mildenburg Castle (no. 16)**. Enjoy the view of the entire town and pay a brief visit to the **Museum Burg Miltenberg**. After a short descend downstairs you will reach the **market square (no. 15)** with the **Museum Stadt Miltenberg (no. 18)**.

24 Town Wall and Witch Huts

Along the outer eastern side of the old town wall, you can spot remnants of old witch huts where in former times alleged witches and sorcerers were imprisoned. Up to 1630, witchcraft trials were carried out.

25 Older Jewish Cemetery

You find the older Jewish cemetery between the historic town wall and the Burgweg, beyond the former moat. It commemorates the Jewish citizens who once developed a rich cultural and commercial life in town.

27 Lutheran Church

The Lutheran church John the Apostle was built in 1897 and, because of its architecture and choice of material, it is well worth a visit. Do not miss the colourful stained-glass windows with illustrations from the bible.

18 Museum Stadt Miltenberg

The main building was raised in 1541 by the Mainz Bailiff Bernhard von Hardheim on an older structure's footing. From 1625 on the house was used as the seat of the Mainz electorate's administration. It now houses the museum of the town of Miltenberg (Museum Stadt Miltenberg) with a sumptuous collection of transregional importance including many precious objects. The focus of the permanent exhibition is on the history of the town and its surroundings. A Renaissance style garden offering a delightful view of the town is also part of the museum.

To follow **the shorter tour (dark blue line)**, continue on the pedestrian area. After another 200 m / 220 yd you will come across the **Apothecary Museum (no. 22)** and the **Staffelbrunnen (no. 21)** on the right-hand side as well as the **historic town hall (no. 20)** on the left-hand side.

22 Apothecary Museum

The first pharmacy of the region was founded in Miltenberg in 1514. Even Aschaffenburg did not have a pharmacy at that time, which highlights the importance of Miltenberg. In the early 18th century the building was renewed and reconstructed in the Baroque style. Unfortunately, the pharmacy had to be closed in 2016. Since 2021 the building is hosting a private apothecary museum, presenting the history of pharmacy and medicine since the 16th century. In the Fischergasse behind the building the old garden with medicinal herbs is well worth a visit.

21 Staffelbrunnen

Up to 1897, numerous wells were the only water supply for the town. The Staffelbrunnen, which had been built around 1600, was excavated again in 1985 when the pedestrian area was established. Its name stems from the stairways leading to the well (Staffeln is a dialect word for Stufen = stairs / steps)

20 Historic Town Hall

The historic town hall was first mentioned in 1379 as the weighing house. It additionally served as a dance and council hall (hall on the upper level), warehouse and shopping mall (ground floor) where travelling merchants had to display their goods for sale. Between 1979-1983, the building was renovated. Markings on the outer façade give evidence of former flood levels.

After another short leg you will reach the **market square** (no. 15), commonly called Schnatterloch. A brief visit to the **Museum Stadt Miltenberg** (no. 18) or, over a short flight of stairs, to the Mildenburg with the **Museum Burg Miltenberg** (no. 16) is worth the while. From there you will return to the market square (no. 15).

The descriptions of the market square and the two museums can be found in the longer tour!

The town's **parish church** (no. 13), the Baroque house (birthplace of the composer Joseph Martin Kraus) and a **statue of Kraus** (no. 19) are located at the lower end of the market square.

13 Parish Church St. Jakobus (St. James)

Since its founding in the early days of Miltenberg in the 13th century, the church of St. James has undergone numerous expansions and reconstructions. Its last fundamental interior renovation with a redesign of the inside was concluded in 2004. The depiction of Mary in a side chapel was originally displayed in an adjacent pilgrimage chapel which was destroyed in 1825. The classicistic towers of 1830 crucially determine the town's image.

19 Composer Joseph Martin Kraus and the Baroque House at the Market Square

Builder Johann Martin Schmidt constructed this house at the Market Square in 1750 of red bunter sandstone as his private residence. In 1756, his grandson, the composer and later royal Swedish court music director Joseph

Martin Kraus was born in this house. Kraus died at the peak of his career in 1792, and was laid to rest in the north of Stockholm. The statue in front of the house was donated in 2006 by the Fremdenverkehrsverein Miltenberg as a monument for Kraus' 250th birthday.

Our walking tour takes us further down the street into the **Schwarzviertel** (no. 8), the oldest part of Miltenberg. Here it leads us past the **first synagogue** (no. 12) and the **mikvah** (ritual bath) (no. 9).

8 Schwarzviertel

The Schwarzviertel (black quarter) is the oldest part of Miltenberg with a lot of beautiful half-timbered houses, located between the Schwertfeger Gate and the market square. The Schwarzviertel takes its title from the shadow that the mountain Greinberg casts over it during the winter, when the sun barely reaches the ground.

12 First Synagogue

Around 1290 the first synagogue was built. It is one of the oldest sacred Jewish buildings of Europe that has retained its original stonework. Inside the Museum Stadt Miltenberg, you can look at the only salvaged piece of interior fitting: The pediment of the Torah. Sadly, the synagogue is not open to the public.

9 Mikvah

Until the early 20th century the Jewish citizens of Miltenberg took their ritual immersions in the mikvah in the alley called Löwengasse. In Judaism these immersions are required on a defined number of occasions. Today the four-storey-building is private property.

Once you have arrived at the family-owned brewery Faust, you can again choose between two different routes: You can either take a shortcut to the **waterfront promenade** by turning right into the Löwengasse or you continue straight on to the end of the Schwarzviertel. From there you follow the Main river in the opposite

direction. You can have a rest on the promenade before you reach the **Staffelbrunnen** (no. 14) installed to honour the nickname Staffelbrunser which has been bestowed on the people of Miltenberg.

14 Staffelbrunnen

A lot of towns and communities have nicknames which nowadays are used mainly during Carnival season. Citizens of Miltenberg are the Staffelbrunser (stair piddlers: brunsen being the local dialect word for peeing). The Staffelbrunnenbrunnen was made in reference of this mocking name. The well was created by Helmut Kunkel, an Aschaffenburg sculptor, by order of the Fremdenverkehrsverein Miltenberg. The statues represent different characters: the Tiny, the Tall and the Show-Off.

When you initially opted for the **longer tour**, you will now turn right at the Staffelbrunnenbrunnen to reach the market square, where you turn left into the pedestrian area and walk back to the Engelplatz (stops of the shorter tour in reverse order).

28 Bridge across the River Main

The passage across the Main near Miltenberg had already been very important in the Middle Ages. Initially, ferries crossed the river near the Schwertfeger Gate and later also near the Ankergasse. Between 1898-1900, the first bridge was built. It was blown up during the last days of the war in 1945; the reconstruction was inaugurated in 1950, with the imposing tower of the original bridge remaining until today.

Stolpersteine

Gunter Demnig laid 44 Stolpersteine (stumbling stones) altogether in Miltenberg by the instigation of the Initiative Miltenberger Stolpersteine – GEGEN DAS VERGESSEN (Stolpersteine in Miltenberg – FIGHT OBLIVION). These Stolpersteine commemorate 44 people who were either murdered by Nazis or driven to their deaths. Detailed information on the Stolpersteine in Miltenberg is provided on www.miltenberg.info/en/jewish-life/



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This walking tour shows you those sights we are particularly proud of. Information on additional sights, some of which are outside the historic city centre, can be found on our website.

