

# A stroll through the Old Town

Our starting point is the **Rathaus** (City hall) on Dr.-Külz-Ring, which was built between 1904 and 1910. A model of the city in the atrium shows the projects intended to make Dresden once again one of the most beautiful cities in Germany.

The **Kreuzkirche** (Church of the Holy Cross, 1), only a few steps away, now takes the place of the Nikolaikirche (Church of St. Nicholas), which was built in the thirteenth century. The present church was built in the late Baroque and early Classicist style between 1764 and 1800. It is the home of the Kreuzchor boys' choir, whose tradition reaches back more than 700 years. Another reminder of the great part Dresden played in music history is the sandstone relief in the Wedding Chapel bearing a portrait of Heinrich Schütz. Called the »Father of German Music«, he was Hofkapellmeister (Court Music Director) in Dresden for 55 years. From the tower you can look out over the roofs of the Old Town and far across the Elbe Valley.

If you now leave the front entrance, the Altmarkt (Old Market) will appear before you, the oldest and largest of the city's squares. This square is host to lively markets several times a year, first and foremost the Striezelmarkt (Striezel – yeast dough baked in the shape of a plait), the oldest Christmas Market in all of Germany. After being destroyed in 1945, this large square was rebuilt between 1953 and 1956 with imposing houses to the east and west reminiscent of the Dresden Baroque style. New office and commercial buildings were built on the south side. Completing the ensemble in the north is the **Kulturpalast** (Cultural Centre, 31), opened in 1969. This festival hall, with seating for 2,400, is not only the scene of regular concerts with the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra, but also hosts a great number of other concerts and events.

Now go to the right along Wilsdruffer Strasse, which was devised as an extra-wide street during the socialist reconstruction in order to accommodate large parades, and you will reach the **Landhaus** (2). Built between 1770 and 1775 in the Baroque style to serve as a meeting place for the provincial legislature of Saxony, it now houses the City Museum and the City Gallery.

Our route now leads past the massive police headquarters, built in the early 1870's, and through Landhausstrasse to the **Frauenkirche** (3) on Neumarkt. Instead of a medieval St. Mary's church, Germany's

most important Protestant church was erected here, following the designs of George Bähr, between 1726 and 1743. Its characteristic dome, called the "stone bell" owing to its shape, collapsed on February 15, 1945 after the bomb raids. A moving anti-war monument until the early 1990's, the church has since regained its original appearance, largely through donations received from all over the world (reconsecration in October 2005). Around the church, too, the histo-

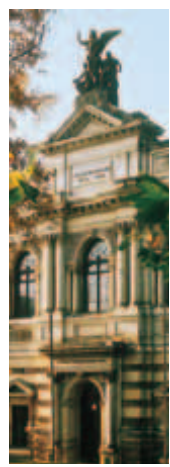


rical square is being reconstructed with its once famous buildings. The two neighboring yellow gatehouses are part of the Coselpalais. Directly next to the Academy of Art, on Georg-Treu-Platz, you can climb the steps to the **Brühlsche Terrasse** (4). Beforehand, however, it is well worth taking a side trip through Dresden's "underworld", the casemates of the medieval fortifications. The **Albertinum** (5) on the right is home to the New Masters' Gallery and the Sculpture Collection (closed during the renovation until June 2010).

A new synagogue has been built between the Albertinum and Carola Bridge to replace the old one destroyed by the Nazis in the night of pogroms of 1938.

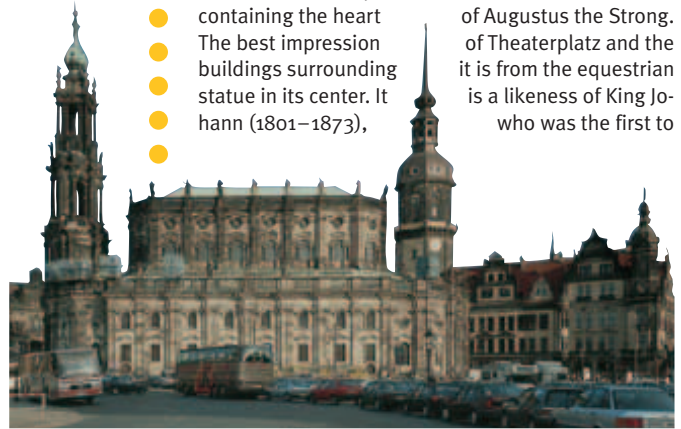
Originally designed to be a private garden for Saxon Prime Minister Count Brühl and later opened to the public, this famous terrace known as "Europe's Balcony" soon became the most popular promenade in Dresden. Start your stroll at the Belvedere Garden across from the Albertinum and continue down the Elbe toward Theaterplatz.

Along the way, you will encounter many monuments: for Johann Friedrich Böttger, the inventor of European porcelain, for the painter Caspar David Friedrich, the master builder Gottfried Semper and the



sculptor Ernst Rietschel. However, all else pales next to the unrivaled view of the Elbe with its period paddle-wheel steamers and the Neustadt on the far shore.

Now let us turn our attention once again to the immediate vicinity. The yellow, Neobaroque building was once the palace of the second-born princes ("secundogeniture"). The Saxon parliament used to convene in the Ständehaus next door. The large flight of outdoor stairs is bounded by four groups of figures, each of which represents a time of day. Descending the steps will bring you to Schlossplatz. The former **Catholic Hofkirche** (6), christened the Cathedral Sanctissimae Trinitatis and elevated to the status of bishop's residence of the diocese of Dresden-Meissen in 1980, was built between 1738 and 1755 by Gaetano Chiaveri and Johann Christoph Knöffel and is a unique combination of Roman and German Baroque architecture. The altarpiece is the work of Anton Raffael Mengs (1751), the Rococo pulpit was made by Balthasar Permoser (1722), the organ by Gottfried Silbermann (1755) and the Pietà of Dresden china by Friedrich Press (1973). In the crypt you will find the sarcophagus of the Wettins and a case containing the heart of Augustus the Strong. The best impression of Theaterplatz and the buildings surrounding it is from the equestrian statue in its center. It is a likeness of King Johann (1801–1873), who was the first to



translate Dante's Divine Comedy into German tercets. Toward the Elbe, you can see the Italianisches Dörfchen. This faithfully restored historical restaurant owes its name to the Italian workers who built the cathedral. Directly adjacent to the Hofkirche is the **Residenzschloss** (Royal Palace, 7) boasting a Neorenaissance facade and lots of towers. Standing 100 meters high, Hausmannsturm tower is the oldest. While the lower sections of the castle date back to the 14th century, the inner court, with sgraffito painting inspired by Italian models, is a reflection of its condition in the 16th century. Reconstruction as a museum complex for the State Art Collections began in 1985. The first museums to move into their

new rooms were the Green Vault and the Cabinet of Prints and Drawings. Across the street, the Old Town Guard House, also known as the **Schinkelwache** (8) after its architect, is reminiscent of a Greek temple. Inside the building is the ticket office of the Saxon State Opera. Behind it, Taschenbergpalais, which opened as a five-star hotel in 1995, has been restored to its Baroque pastel splendor.



Look farther on and your gaze will fall directly upon the Semper Gallery in the Zwinger. This is the home of the Old Masters' Art Gallery and the Rüstkammer (Armory). Finally, on the west side of the square, we have the impressive Semper Opera House, built between 1871 and 1878 according to the plans of Gottfried Semper. The house was completely destroyed in 1945 and reopened in 1985 after extensive reconstruction. It is the only theater in Germany that bears the name of its architect. The sumptuous interior of



the **Semper Opera House** (9) is best appreciated as part of a guided tour. Now go past the memorial to Carl Maria von Weber, who was Hofkapellmeister in Dresden from 1816 to 1826, between the opera house and the gallery up to the former city wall. Look back once more at the lovely view afforded by Theaterplatz and Residenzschloss, before turning to Dresden's most famous architectural structure, the **Zwinger** (10). It owes its name – Zwinger means outer balcony – to its location on the



former city fortifications. Below the balustrade you will see the Nymphenbad fountain, surrounded by female sandstone figures. The fountain is modeled on Roman and Tuscan originals. The splendid Baroque architecture of the group, constructed by Matthäus Daniel Pöppelmann between 1710 and 1738 as a festival square, blends uniquely with the sculptures from the workshop of Balthasar Permoser. The crown, eagle and coat of arms are the regal embodiment of Augustus the Strong, while the nymphs, satyrs and putti stand for this Saxon ruler's joie de vivre. He had him-

self pictured on the wall pavilion in the guise of Hercules carrying the globe of the world. The city pavilion opposite (also called the Glockenspielpavillon on account of the bells made of Meissen china which were added in 1936) houses the porcelain collection, the most important of its kind in the world. The tour now leads us through the pavilion into Sophienstrasse and on through the small lane between the castle and the cathedral to Schlossplatz. Georgentor Gate serves as an entrance both to the castle exhibition and to the Hausmannsturm tower, from where you can enjoy perhaps the very best view of the historic Old Town and the Elbe. Be sure to take a look at the **Stallhof** (Royal Mews, 11) with its sgraffito-style frescoes and its medieval tilting yard, which has been kept in its original form. The



Kanzleihaus with its magnificent Renaissance gable, was fully restored in 1998. Walking along Augustusstrasse is like traveling through the history of Saxony: along the 102-meter **Fürstenzug** (Procession of Princes, 12), all the rulers of Saxony from 1123 to 1904 are on display. At the end of the large mural made of 24,000 tiles of Meissen china, we come to the **Johanneum** (13). Built as royal stables in 1586–91 and later converted into an art gallery, it is now home to the Transport Museum. From this point, it is only a few steps past the Kulturpalast back to the Altmarkt, where our tour of the Old Town comes to an end.



- 1 Kreuzkirche
- 2 Landhaus
- 3 city museum, City Gallery Dresden
- 4 Frauenkirche
- 5 Beuhl Terrace »fortress Dresden
- 6 Albertinum – closed until June 2010
- 7 New Masters' Gallery
- 8 Sculpture Collection
- 9 Cathedral
- 10 Royal Castle
- 11 Green Vault
- 12 Collections of Prints and Drawings
- 13 Turkish Room (from December 2009)
- 14 Schinkelwache
- 15 Semper Opera House
- 16 Zwinger
- 17 Old Masters' Art Gallery
- 18 Armory
- 19 Porcelain Collection
- 20 Sculpture collection (until May 2010)
- 21 Stallhof Royal Mews
- 22 Fürstenzug Procession of Princes
- 23 Johanneum • Transport Museum
- 24 Blockhaus
- 25 Japanese Palace
- 26 Museum of Ethnology
- 27 Königstrasse
- 28 Dreikönigskirche
- 29 Kügelgenhaus
- 30 Museum of Dresden Romanticism
- 31 Jägerhof • Museum of Saxon Folk Art
- 32 Puppet Theatre Collection
- 33 Market Hall
- 34 Jewish Cemetery
- 35 Pfund's Dairy
- 36 German Hygiene Museum
- 37 Palace in the Grosser Garten
- 38 Yenidze (former tobacco bureau)
- 39 Volkswagen "Glass Manufactory"
- 40 Erich Kästner museum
- 41 New Synagogue
- 42 Kunsthof Passage
- 43 Craft-art passages
- 44 Kunsthaus Dresden
- 45 Theaters, Cultural Centers
- 46 Semper Opera House
- 47 Theatre barge
- 48 Schauspielhaus Theatre
- 49 "Herculeskeule" satire theatre
- 50 Dresden Comedy Theatre
- 51 Kulturpalast
- 52 Societätstheater
- 53 Puppentheater
- 54 "Breschke & Schuch" Cabaret
- 55 Jazz Club Neue Tonne
- 56 wechselbad Theatre
- 57 Theatre Kleines Haus
- 58 Tourist Information
- 59 Starting points of city tours
- 60 Service centers of Dresden Verkehrsbetriebe AG

# A stroll through the New Town



The New Town gives us an idea of how the city looked prior to 1945. Here we find preserved a bit of Baroque and turn-of-the-century Dresden.

Coming from Theaterplatz cross over Augustus Bridge. The **Blockhaus** (14) left of the New Town end of the bridge was built between 1732 and 1755 after a design by Zacharias Longuelune and was to serve as the New Town guard house. Taking the stairway in front of the building will bring you down to the Elbe Meadows, and a few meters farther to Hotel Bellevue. This hotel complex, which opened in 1985, features a Baroque mansion which was converted into a royal chancellery.



Our route now takes us past the Glockenspiel to the **Japanese Palace** (15). Started in 1714, and enlarged in 1723–33 in the late Baroque-Classical style, this four-winged building was originally intended to accommodate the porcelain collection of Augustus the Strong. This intent is still visible in the curved roofs, the relief on the gable above the portal and the Chinese herms in the inner courtyard. Today it houses the Museum of Ethnology.

From the small hill near the building, which is a remnant of the city's fortifications, you have a very lovely view of the opera and the cathedral, similar to that which Canaletto painted in the mid-18th century. The well-known city views done by this court painter now hang in the Old Masters' Art Gallery.

Past the palace and the statue of Friedrich August I, the first king of Saxony, you will come to Grosse



Meissner Strasse. On the opposite side, you will see the surviving gatehouse of the Weisses Tor (White Gate, 1827–29) at some distance to the left, and behind it a large Art Nouveau office building.

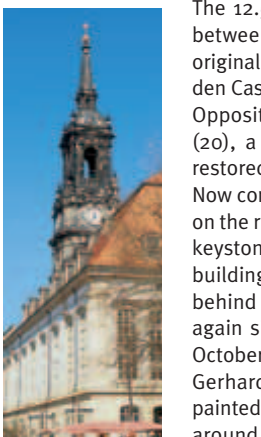
Now cross the four-lane road at the tram stop and go on across Palaisplatz with the fountain in the middle to **Königstrasse** (16). A great fire destroyed Alten-Dresden on the right bank of the Elbe in 1685. By rebuilding the neighborhood as the "New King's Town", Augustus the Strong made his dream of a Baroque residence come true. Oriented toward the central axis of the Japanese Palace, Königstrasse was built in 1731 according to Pöppelmann's design. The unbroken rows of patrician houses, restored at great expense, provide a good impression of how Dresden used to look. The many inner courtyards are also worth a glance. Some accommodate tucked-away restaurants, while others invite you to spend some time shopping in their elegant boutiques and passageways full of stores.



At the back of the Dreikönigskirche, the street widens to a square, adorned by the Rebekka-Brunnen (Rebecca Fountain), built in 1864. Then the Baroque Cultural City Hall follows on the left. You should turn right, however, and take the few steps to Hauptstrasse (Main Street).

The **Dreikönigskirche** (17) was built between 1732 and 1739 by George Bähr and Matthäus Daniel Pöppelmann. Its Neobaroque tower, which offers a splendid vista, was added approximately 100 years later. It has now been reconstructed and is used as a center for church meetings. One part of the building is also used for church services. Inside the church, a torso of the Baroque altar by Benjamin Thomae recalls the night in 1945 when Dresden was destroyed by bombs. Below the organ loft you will see one of Dresden's most significant surviving Renaissance monuments. The 12.5-meter »Dresden Danse Macabre«, created between 1534 and 1536 by Christoph Walter, was originally located at the old Georgentor Gate of Dresden Castle.

Opposite the church is the **Neustädter Markthalle** (20), a covered market which has been faithfully restored to serve as an attractive shopping venue. Now continue along Hauptstrasse and you will notice on the right three houses of late Baroque design. The keystone over the entrance portal of the red-painted building refers to the former **Societätstheater** (35) behind it, which has been holding performances again since extensive renovation was concluded in October 1998. Next door, in no. 13, lived the painter Gerhard von Kügelgen and his son Wilhelm, who painted a picture of Dresden in his autobiographies around the year 1800. In the **Kügelgenhaus** (18),

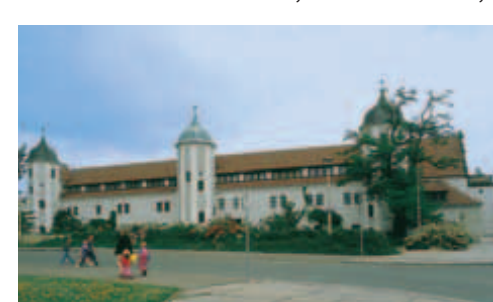


painters and poets of the early romantic movement were also welcome guests. The Museum of Dresden Romanticism documents this important period. At the end of Hauptstrasse we find the Neustädter Markt (Neustadt Market), dominated by the **Goldener Reiter** ("Golden Rider" monument) the well-known, larger-than-life equestrian statue of Augustus the Strong. Ceremoniously unveiled in 1736, it was taken to



safety before the end of the war and set up at its original location on the occasion of Dresden's 750-year anniversary in 1956. The Museum of Saxon Folk Art in the west wing of the **Jägerhof** (19), the city's oldest preserved Renaissance building, is well worth a brief detour. Across the street, two large ministry buildings are home to the Saxon State Government (left with crown, built 1900–04) and the Ministry of Finance (1890–94).

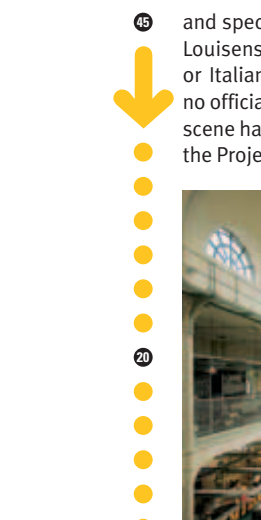
Now we stroll along Hauptstrasse back to Albertplatz. Here, two monumental fountains immediately catch the eye, designed by Robert Diez in 1894. On the left, an interactive micromuseum is devoted to author and poet Erich Kästner. On its south-easternmost edge, at the corner of Georgenstrasse, the Neobaroque sandstone facade of Villa Eschbach once again shines forth in new splendor. It's well worth taking a glance inside to see the just renovated Art-Nouveau steel structure of the old Palmehaus, which is now the customer lobby of a bank. The house facades on the north side are dwarfed by Dresden's first sky-



scraper, built in 1929 on the corner of Antonstrasse and Königsbrücker Strasse right next door, the small, pyramid-like building marks the site of an artesian well. The water gets to the actual well on the other side of the street through an underground pipeline. It was designed in the form of a round temple by Hans Erlwein. A few steps farther on stands a monument to the writer Erich Kästner, born in 1899 in the immediate vicinity. This is where **Äussere Neustadt** (Outer New Town) begins. You will hardly find a place that exudes more of the atmosphere of Old Dresden. Established outside



the former fortifications in the nineteenth century, it has preserved its originality down through the ages, an attractive mixture of posh streets and narrow lanes, patrician houses and back courts full of nooks and crannies. This large quarter built in the period promoterism is located between Bautzner Strasse and Priensnitzstrasse, Birschowsweg and Königsbrücker Strasse, and is brought alive by the contrast between buildings that have already been carefully restored and old, run-down houses, from fancy cocktail bars and traditional taverns, from trendy pubs

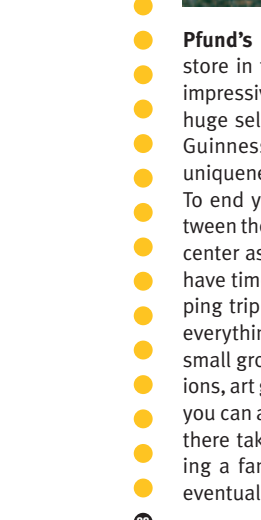


and specially restaurants around Alaustrasse and Louisenstrasse. Whether Spanish, French, Turkish or Italian, the cuisine is international, and there's no official closing hour. And an underground culture scene has already emerged: it includes projects like the Projekttheater and lots of small art galleries. An



unofficial symbol of the Neustadt is the **Kunsthofpassage** (45) between Alaustr. 70 and Görliitzer Str. 21–25. Teams of artists here redesigned five interconnected courtyards and created a fantastic open-air labyrinth with romantic bars, small shops and craft workshops.

Now our route takes us to the left through Alaustrasse. Nearly one kilometer long, it runs through almost the entire length of Äussere Neustadt and leads to Alauplatz, which was used for infantry drills until 1945. Above the square, the garrison church stands out between the Albertstadt barracks. Now turn right into Böhmisches Strasse. Only seven meters wide, it is one of the New Town's narrowest streets. After a short time, you will then reach Martin-Luther-Platz. The church named after the reformer was built from 1883 through 1887 in Romanesque style to mark Luther's



400th birthday. The stately houses surrounding the square, with their facades of sandstone and colored clinker, used to be officers' quarters. Behind the church, to the left in Pulsnitzer Strasse, you will find Saxony's oldest **Jewish cemetery** (21) and the center for Jewish culture, HATIKVA (for visits or keys to Jewish cemetery, contact HATIKVA, telephone 802 04 89). Now return to Bautzner Strasse and head away from the town center, for you should on no account miss



## Music, theater

Dresden's fame is inseparably bound up with its great musical tradition: the Dresdner Kreuzchor boys' choir is more than 500 years old. On Saturdays, the choir sings vespers in Kreuzkirche (Church of the Holy Cross, summer 6.00 p.m., winter 5.00 p.m.).



Semperoper

The Dresden State Orchestra, one of world's leading orchestras, plays in the magnificent Semper Opera House. Its name is directly linked with more than 300 years of opera history in Saxony. Famous composers, such as Weber, Wagner and Strauss, brought musical theater in Dresden to full bloom. On holidays, the Dresdner Kapellknaben boys' choir and the Cathedral Choir perform near-operatic Catholic sacred music in the Hofkirche (Court Church). At the vespers service on Saturday afternoons you can hear the famous Silbermann organ (May through October). Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra, which gives concerts in the Kulturpalast almost every weekend, also enjoys worldwide fame. Not to forget light entertainment: The Dresden State Operetta features operettas and musicals every day except Mondays.

For more information consult the list of monthly events or visit our website on: <http://www.dresden.de/veranstaltungen>



Richard Wagner



Carl Maria v. Weber

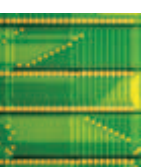


State Theatre Company

## »Green« Dresden

Television tower

Palace in Grosser Garten



## Business and research



Siemens Microelectronics Center Dresden

It's not the arts that have a long tradition in Dresden, but also innovative ideas and creativity. Ever since the Baroque period, Dresden has been the birthplace of many inventions, such as the first European porcelain, the first long-distance railroad, the first German Pilsener beer, the coffee filter, the bra, the SLR cam-

era, industrially produced evaporated milk, the tooth-paste tube, mouthwash and much more. Infineon, Advanced Micro Devices and Motorola have now settled here, making Dresden a leading high tech location in Europe. The city on the Elbe is home to more than 120 research facilities. The 14 departments of the Technical University offer the entire spectrum of a full-scale university, alongside other institutions of higher learning for engineering and business, the visual arts, music and church music. Dresden has around 40,000 enrolled students. A number of language schools invite you to learn German in Dresden, including the Goethe Institute and the Foreign Academic Affairs Office of the Technical University.



World Trade Center Dresden

"Athena Lemnia" Sculpture collection

Erich Kästner described Dresden as a triad of history, art and nature, and the city is still a green metropolis today.

The expansive Elbe Meadows reach into the town center, affording relaxing peace and quiet to visitors and natives alike. Occasionally you can even run into a herd of sheep.

Far from the madding crowds, the Elbe bicycle path wends its way along the river from the Altstadt to the Czech border and downstream to Meissen. Cyclists have ample opportunity to quench their thirst in the many beer and wine gardens and tourist restaurants along the way.

Dresden Heath with its varied landscape begins right at the city limits in the northeast, inviting you to take a romantic bicycle tour or hike. This forested area covers around three fourths of the district of Dresden. The Grosser Garten park covers an area of two square kilometers, joining the Bürgerwiese public common with the town center. The centrally located Palais is Dresden's first Baroque building. The park boasts a zoo, botanical gardens, a park theater, an open-air stage and a boating pond, which can all be reached easily and comfortably on the small park railroad run by school children.



Sophisticated architecture as the setting for an innovative combination of art and production: Volkswagen's so-called »Glass Manufactory« alongside the Grosser Garten Park promises visitors a completely new experience. Golfers have excellent opportunities to indulge in their favorite game outside the city gates in Ullersdorf and Possendorf, all situated in attractive countryside.

## Annual highlights

**SemperOperaball**  
SemperOpenairball

January

**Operetta Ball**

March

**Dresden Film Festival**

Mid April

**Dresden Waltz Night**

April

**Steamer parade**

May 1

**International Dixieland Festival**

Mid May

**Dresden Music Festival**

Late May to early June

**Elbhangfest Riverside Festival**

Last weekend in June

**Summer arena**

June

**Long Night of Science**

June / July

**Dresden Museum Summer Night**

July

**Dresden Palaces Night**

July

**Elbe Bank Film Nights**

July - August

**Classic Open Air on the Neumarkt square**

August

**Zwinger Festival Dresden**

August

**Pillnitz Palace Night**

August

**Dresden City Festival**

August

**OSTRALE – International exhibition of contemporary art**

September

**TonLagen - Dresden Festival of Contemporary Music**

Early October

**Dresden Jazz Festival**

November

**CYNETART Festival**

November

**Dresden Striezelmarkt**

December

**New Years Eve on Dresden's Theaterplatz**

December 31

**Tours of the city**

Starting several times each day at the following points of departure:

- Theaterplatz/Augustus Bridge,
- Wilsdruffer Straße/Ostra-Allee
- Postplatz

**Tours of the city on foot**

Daily from Theaterplatz, and from March to October from Zwinger/Kronentor and Augustus Bridge

**Steamboat tours**

During the season guided tours and scheduled trips daily from the Terrassenufer, on weekends with jazz music and dancing

## and Saxon hospitality



Prager Strasse, Altmarkt and Wilsdruffer Strasse are the main shopping centres in Dresden's Old Town. On these broad streets you will find department stores and small shops with a wide variety of offerings. The side streets are also well worth a detour. On the Neustadt bank of the Elbe, the tree-lined Hauptstrasse not only invites you to go shopping, but also to spend some time in one of the many restaurants and cafés.

And Dresden's posh Königstrasse offers you high-class dining and elegant shopping facilities in a Baroque ambience. The fringe area of the New Town exudes an atmosphere of its own, marked by contrasts even in shopping. Elegant boutiques and small shops with quirky offerings, arts and crafts and kitsch, branded products and second-hand goods are waiting to be discovered in the narrow lanes.

A good tip for the evening: the wine cellars, cocktail bars, beer gardens and restaurants in this quarter stand practically shoulder to shoulder. Saxon cuisine favors hearty meals. Give the Sauerbraten a try, the potato soup or the tasty Quarkkeulchen («drumsticks» made with curd). Order a Pilsener and dark beer from the region, or a fine drop of Meissen wine. Enjoy your cup of coffee with delicious Dresden Eierschecke (cake with egg cover filled with sweet curd) and at Christmas time, of course, a piece of Dresden Christstollen.

## Shopping



## Dresden in brief

- Capital of the Free State of Saxony
- City area 320 km<sup>2</sup>, 50 km<sup>2</sup> of which is forested
- Population 501,000

**Climate**

Mild, owing to the effect of the Elbe Valley  
Average temperature: 9 °C  
Warmest months: June, July, August  
Coldest month: January

**Highways and regional roads**

- Highways (Autobahnen) A 4, A 13, A 17
- Regional roads (Bundesstrassen) B 6, B 97, B 170, B 172, B 173

**Railroads**

- Daily links with all major German cities
- Linked to the ICE high-speed and EC/IC network
- International connections with more than 10 major European cities
- Two long-distance train stations



**Air traffic**

- Airport in Dresden-Klotzsche, 9 km from town center
- 2 terminals, 1,200 parking spaces
- Feeder traffic with suburban train

## Around Dresden

Surrounded by the heights of the Osterzgebirge (Eastern Ore Mountains), the sandstone cliffs of Saxon Switzerland and the gently rolling Lusatian Hills, this city on the Elbe is ideal for excursions of all kinds: to the west of Dresden lies **Radebeul**. The vine-covered slopes around Wackerbarth Castle and the historic vineyard of Hoflösnitz give it an almost Mediterranean flair. By contrast, the Karl May Museum spirits visitors off to the Wild West. From Radebeul, a steam-operated narrow-gauge railroad will take you through picturesque country dotted with ponds to the Baroque castle of **Moritzburg** in only 30 minutes.

**Meissen** is the historic hub of Saxony. Albrechtsburg is Germany's earliest example of a residential castle, Meissen Cathedral an impressive model of pure Gothic style. Beneath the castle hill stretches a sea of gabled houses



Moritzburg

in the old town. The famous Meissen porcelain manufactory presents past and present masterpieces made from the "white gold". Be sure not to miss a tour on one of the paddle wheel steamers of the Saxon Steamboat Company into **Saxon Switzerland**. From the cliffs of the Bastei you can enjoy the splendid view of the Elbe Valley below and the surrounding plateau. Below the viewpoint in **Rathen**, the open-air cliff theater entices people to visit throughout the summer. Its program consists of operas and plays, including Karl May's Wild West plays. Further upstream, Germany's biggest fortress towers over the small town of **Königstein**. From Bad Schandau, you can take the environmentally friendly tram through the romantic Kinitzschichtal Valley. **Stolpen** Castle is also a popular sight among visitors, since it is here that Countess Cosel, once a mistress of Augustus the Strong, lived in captivity for nearly 50 years.



Saxon Switzerland



Freiberg Cathedral

The Erz (ore) Mountains, also called "Christmas Country", are best seen from the town of **Seiffen**, the capital of the traditional art of wood-carving. In **Frauenstein**, a museum recalls the master organ builder Gottfried Silbermann, some of whose works have been preserved in the churches of the surrounding villages. One of the largest and most significant instruments stands in **Freiberg Cathedral**. **Bautzen**, in the heart of Upper Lusatia, with its medieval city walls and Sorbian Museum, is also a recommended destination for a short trip. In the course of a day trip you can also easily reach Leipzig, Berlin and Prague from Dresden.

In the city of Radeberg, known for its beer, 15 km from Dresden, you will find one of the most modern breweries in Germany – the **Radeberger Export Beer Brewery**.



Bautzen

ery. This was the first brewery in Germany to brew Pilsener-style beer. In Radeberg you can see how Radeberger Pilsner – one of Germany's leading premium beers – is brewed and bottled in ultramodern facilities.

After the guided tour, you can enjoy Saxon hospitality in the form of a freshly poured glass of Radeberger Pilsener in the historic Kaiserhof (Emperor's Court), the brewery's own cozy tavern. The Radeberger Brewery team looks forward to welcoming you.

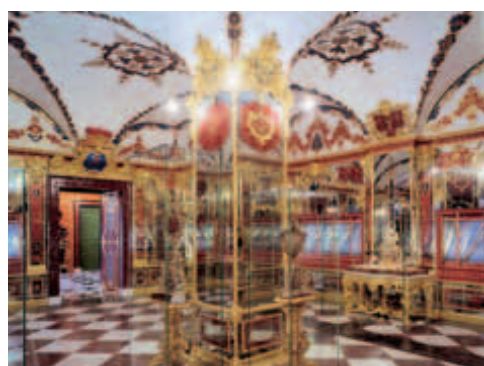
Tours (in German) for 15 or more persons, please apply 5 days in advance, Tel. (+49 35 28) 45 48 80, Fax (+49 35 28) 45 48 88



Radeberger Export Beer Brewery

## Museums

Forty museums and many private galleries mainly dedicated to contemporary art have given Dresden the reputation of being a city of culture and the arts. The Gemäldegalerie Alte Meister (Old Masters' Art Gallery) with Raphael's famous "Sistine Madonna", and the Grünes Gewölbe (Green Vaults) of the royal



Historical Green Vault

treasure chambers enjoy international acclaim. Over 100 exhibits, among them the golden coffee service and Johann Melchior Dinglinger's "Court of the Grand Mogul", are to be seen in the modern rooms for the "Neues Grünes Gewölbe" (New Green Vault), while the "Historisches Grünes Gewölbe" (Historical Green Vault) presents its riches in the magnificently restored original rooms of the historical treasure chamber. The Zwinger's porcelain collection features numerous specimens of Chinese, Japanese and early Meissen porcelain, which are counted among the most significant in the world.

In the historic Jägerhof, which is now home to the Museum of Saxon Folk Art, you can get to know traditional Saxon customs, such as bobbin-lace making, indigo printing, peasant folk art and wood carving. The most famous exhibit of the German Hygiene Museum is the Gläserne Frau, a see-through model of the human body. Constantly changing exhibitions illuminate numerous aspects of human life.

The Transport Museum on Neumarkt features all kinds of historic vehicles under its roof, and Pillnitz Palace, with its arts and crafts museum, is definitely worth a visit.



Old Masters' Art Gallery, Sistine Madonna



"Athena Lemnia" Sculpture collection

# Dresden

Highlights | Tours | Tips



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Dresden City Card, Dresden City Card for Families, Dresden Regional Card

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Get your Dresden Cards at the Tourist Information office, the Dresden Verkehrsbetriebe (DVB) Service centre, the VVO Mobilitätszentralen, the Dresden State Art Collection, and in many hotels and through the Booking hotline: ☎ +49 (0)351 50 160 160

## Tourist Information

at the Kulturpalast in the Altmarkt

- Information and accommodation enquiries
- Book city tours/sight-seeing walks
- Hire audio Guides in German and English
- Dresden Cards and Souvenirs



**Opening hours:**

Mon to Fri: 10 AM – 7 PM  
Sat: 10 AM – 6 PM  
Sun: 10 AM – 3 PM  
January – March shortened opening hours

**Order information material at:**  
info@dresden.travel

**Mailing address:**

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Prager Straße 2b  
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**Tourist Info and Booking hotline:**

Tel.: +49 (0)351 50 160 160  
Mon to Sat: 9 AM – 6 PM