



Rheinland-Pfalz

GENERALDIREKTION
KULTURELLES ERBE

DISCOVER THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN RHINELAND-PALATINATE



**WE ARE WORLD
HERITAGE SITES!**

Welcome to Unique Sites
of European History.

Where History Comes

Seven World Heritage Sites Bear Witness to the State's Cultural Wealth

As the first site on Rhineland-Palatinate soil and the second site in Germany, the UNESCO World Heritage Committee recognised the Speyer Cathedral (1981). This award was followed by the Roman monuments, St Peter's Cathedral and the Church of Our Lady in Trier (1986). In the 2000s, the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, whose first 75 kilometres run through Rhineland-Palatinate (with its romantic castles, picturesque towns and impressive churches, 2002) and the Upper Germanic-Rhaetian Limes (2005) were added to the list.

In 2021, three additional historical sites on Rhineland-Palatinate soil have received this special recognition: the ShUM-Sites Speyer, Worms and Mainz, Bad Ems in the series of important spa towns in Europe, as well as the Lower Germanic Limes.

In addition to these World Heritage Sites, Rhineland-Palatinate has other outstanding cultural sites, whose global significance was recognised by the UNESCO as well.

The World Heritage Committee also awarded natural treasures and ideas from Rhineland-Palatinate in the categories UNESCO Global Geopark (Volcanic Eifel, 2015), UNESCO Biosphere Reserve (Palatinate Forest, 1992) and Intangible Cultural Heritage (among others the cooperative idea, 2016 and Meadow Irrigation in the Queichwiesen between Landau and Germersheim, 2023).

The state of Rhineland-Palatinate also scores high in the World Document Heritage ranking thanks to several outstanding works, such as the Early Writings of the Reformation Movement, the well-known Codex Egberti and since 2023 the "Ada-Evangeliar", a manuscript from Charlemagne's Court School.

Rhineland-Palatinate is simply exceptional and with its abundance of UNESCO World Heritage Sites has much to offer.

Discover the World Heritage Sites in Rhineland-Palatinate.

 www.gdke.rlp.de



es to Life



Welcome to the sites of European history!

Speyer Cathedral



When approaching Speyer Cathedral the sight is awe-inspiring. The impressive building exceeds all standard dimensions: It is the world's largest preserved Romanesque church, its crypt is Europe's largest arcade, and its layout was model to Romanesque architecture across all of Central Europe.

The cathedral, which served as the burial place for eight German kings and emperors, was recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site as early as 1981.

www.dom-zu-speyer.de

Roman monuments, St Peter's Cathedral and the Church of Our Lady in Trier

A Roman bridge, the Porta Nigra, the Kaiserthermen and Barbarathermen spas, remains of the city fortifications, an amphitheatre, the palace aula – in Trier, Germany's oldest city, you will feel transposed into Roman times. The Porta Nigra above all, as the best-preserved Roman town gate north of the Alps, magically attracts visitors. Subsequent buildings from the Christian era are no less impressive: The cathedral is the oldest episcopal church in this region, and the Church of Our Lady is among the oldest Gothic churches of Germany. The Igler Column is also part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site in Trier.

www.trier.de
www.zentrum-der-antike.de



Cultural Landscape Upper Middle Rhine Valley

Fairy tale castles, fabulous palaces and mighty fortresses are lined up along the Middle Rhine Valley in an incredible density. Paired with breath-taking views and a unique landscape, the spectacular architectural monuments make the around 65 kilometres between Bingen and Koblenz a very special experience that cannot be matched by any other European cultural landscape.

www.romantischer-rhein.de
www.tor-zum-welterbe.de

Upper Germanic-Rhaetian Limes

With a length of 550 kilometres, the upper Germanic-Rhaetian Limes is Europe's longest monument. Its forts, watchtowers, walls and palisades shielded the former Roman Empire from the free, "barbarian" Germania. Together with Hadrian's Wall and the Antonine Wall in Great Britain, the Limes forms the UNESCO World Heritage Site "Frontiers of the Roman Empire". Along the 75 kilometre stretch which the Limes runs through Rhineland-Palatinate, the Romans were stationed in no less than 131 watchtowers.

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World Heritage Bad Ems Great Spa Towns of Europe

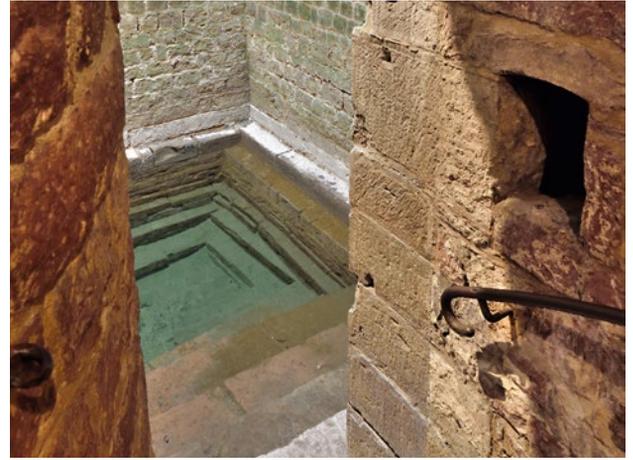
Masterpieces of spa architecture with magnificent buildings from the Baroque and Classicism periods, as well as healing waters from no less than 15 springs: The Rhineland-Palatinate spa town of Bad Ems has been recognised as a World Heritage Site since 2021. Together with ten other important spa towns in Europe, which together form the “Great Spa Towns of Europe”, Bad Ems has thus received the highest international distinction that can be awarded to a cultural site.

www.badems-nassau.info

Lower Germanic Limes

2,000 years ago, a 385-kilometre-long section of the outer border of the Roman Empire ran through the Netherlands, North Rhine-Westphalia and Rhineland-Palatinate. As the Rhineland-Palatinate partner of the Lower Germanic Limes, Remagen is delighted about the UNESCO award. The outer border of the Roman Empire corresponded to the course of the Rhine River at that time – this is how the name “Wet Limes” came about. Up to 30,000 soldiers were stationed along the Rhine River to secure the Roman Empire.

www.gdke.rlp.de



ShUM-Sites Speyer, Worms and Mainz

ShUM – that is what Jews in the Middle Ages called the unique network of Jewish communities in Speyer, Worms and Mainz. The unique monuments preserved there, such as synagogues, fraunschuln, mikvahs and cemeteries, bear witness to the creative power and immense importance of these Jewish communities. They were centers where the architecture, culture, religion and jurisprudence of the Central and Eastern European diaspora were shaped.

www.schumstaedte.de
www.gdke.rlp.de



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