



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 to Life

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

The UNESCO World Heritage Committee recognised Speyer Cathedral as the first site in Rhineland-Palatinate and the second site in Germany (1981). This 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 (2002) with its romantic castles, picturesque villages and impressive churches was added, as well as the Upper Germanic-Rhaetian Limes (2005), the first 75 kilometres of which run through Rhineland-Palatinate.

In 2021, three more historical sites in Rhineland-Palatinate received this special recognition: the ShUM sites in Speyer, Worms and Mainz, the Lower Germanic Limes and Bad Ems as part of the great spa towns of Europe.

In addition, Rhineland-Palatinate has numerous other UNESCO designations:

- the Vulkaneifel (2015) in the UNESCO Global Geoparks category and the Palatinate Forest (1992) as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

Internationally recognised intangible cultural heritage includes:

- the Idea and Practice of Cooperatives (2016) and Meadow Irrigation in the Queichwiesen (2023).

The national register of intangible cultural heritage includes:

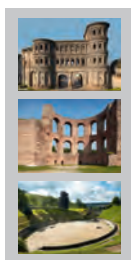
- Morse telegraphy (2014), the Forst's Twitt-himble-Game (2016), the Pottery tradition of Westerwald's Stoneware (2016), the World Dance Program (WTP) (2018), Wine Culture in Germany (2021), Palatinate Forest Hut Culture (2021), Vierz – production, consumption and customs (2024) and the Billy Goat tradition (2025).

Rhineland-Palatinate is also involved in several titles in the Memory of the World Register:

- the famous Codex Egberti from the Reichenau manuscripts (2003), writings from the Reformation movement (2015) and the Ada Gospel (2023), a manuscript from Charlemagne's court school.

Discover the World Heritage Sites in Rhineland-Palatinate.

 www.gdke.rlp.de



Trier

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

es to Life



Welcome to the scenes of European history!

Speyer Cathedral



Anyone approaching Speyer Cathedral cannot help but be amazed. This impressive building defies all dimensions: it is the world's largest preserved Romanesque church, its crypt is the largest European columned hall, and its floor plan influenced Romanesque architecture throughout Central Europe.

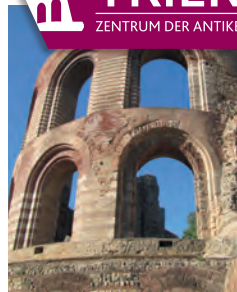
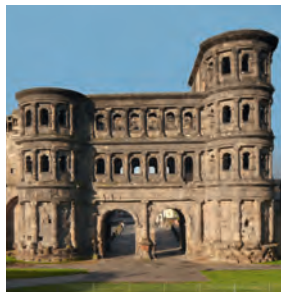
The cathedral, which serves as the burial place for eight German kings and emperors, was recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1981.

 www.dom-zu-speyer.de

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

Come on in: Roman Bridge, Porta Nigra, Imperial Baths, Barbara Baths, Amphitheatre, Constantine's Basilica – in Trier, Germany's oldest city, you'll feel like you've been transported back to Roman times. The Porta Nigra, the best-preserved Roman city gate north of the Alps, is a particular magnet for visitors. The Christian successor buildings are in no way inferior: the cathedral is the oldest bishop's church in this country and the Church of Our Lady is one of the oldest Gothic churches in Germany. The Igel 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

Fairytale castles, proud palaces and mighty fortresses are clustered together in the Middle Rhine Valley. Combined with breathtaking views and unique landscapes, these spectacular monuments make the approximately 67-kilometre stretch between Bingen in the south and Koblenz in the north a very special experience that cannot be found in any other European cultural landscape.

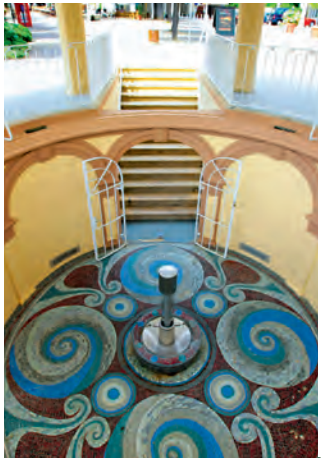
 www.romantischer-rhein.de
www.tor-zum-welterbe.de

Upper Germanic-Rhaetian Limes

With a length of 550 kilometres, the Upper Germanic-Rhaetian Limes is the longest monument in Europe. Its forts, watch-towers, walls and palisades separated the former Roman world power 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 kilometres that the Limes runs through Rhineland-Palatinate alone, the Romans stationed themselves on 132 watch-towers.

 www.gdke.rlp.de





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
www.greatspatownsofeurope.eu

Lower Germanic Limes

2,000 years ago, a 400-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 site 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. Its 450-year development is reflected in the multitude of archaeological sites.

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



We bring history to life.

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