

Journey through



STUTTGART

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Stürtz



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Historic buildings, prestigious palaces and splendid villas bear witness to the significant history of the state capital of Baden-Württemberg, once a ducal and royal seat. Modern and post-modern architecture make the city a mecca on the Neckar for fans of architecture; art and culture are on offer at the state theatre, the post-modern state gallery and the art museum on Königstrasse. Automobile enthusiasts flock to the Porsche and Mercedes museums in Zuffenhausen and Untertürkheim; gourmets enjoy trying a glass or two of local Stuttgart wine with their typically Swabian specialities or savouring the city's mineral water that feeds no less than three spas.

Around 190 photos show Stuttgart in all its glorious variety, with four specials focussing on the history of Württemberg's ducal and royal seat, mineral water, Mercedes, Porsche and the city of cars and the daring designs and constructions of pioneering modern and post-modern architecture.



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First page:
The fountains on Schlossplatz attract locals and visitors to Stuttgart whatever the time of day (or night). The three wings of the

Neues Schloss now house two ministries and are also used for official state receptions by the regional government of Baden-Württemberg.

Previous page:
The grass on Schlossplatz in front of the Königsbau is a veritable oasis in the heart of the city. The glass cube of the art museum

blends in with the buildings on Königstrasse, mirroring its surroundings during the day, including the collegiate church.

Below:
East of the city centre is the Bohnenviertel with its half-timbered houses and narrow streets. The Brett restaurant, shown

here, features a statue of a vintner; the making and sale of wine was once the city's chief pillar of the economy.

Page 10/11:
Stuttgart's museum of natural history moved to Schloss Rosenstein in 1954. The neoclassical

palace was built by Giovanni Salucci (1769–1845) at the instigation of King Wilhelm I between 1822 and 1830.



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Page 32/33:
The pavement cafés in the Königsbau have extended their 'territory' out to the edge of the grass on Schlossplatz. Here, with a glass of something refreshing in front of you, you can sit and observe the passers-by on Königstrasse and those admiring the jubilee column.

Left page:
The arcade in the Königsbau is the oldest of its kind in Stuttgart. Here it's usually much quieter than on Königstrasse, with plenty of specialist shops to peruse at your leisure.

Left:
Dorotheenquartier is the youngest and most central of the three new shopping malls in the heart of Stuttgart. It also boasts a third superlative: this is where the most exclusive boutiques and restaurants are to be found. The agitated architectural design demonstrates strict geometrical forms – and a roof landscape which was at first rather controversial.

Right page:
Through the glass façade of the art museum you can gaze out over Schlossplatz to the Kunstgebäude or art building and part of the Neues Schloss, with Stuttgart's famous heights in the background. On the left are the columns adorning the Königsbau.



Right:
The glass façade of the art museum has performed a minor urban miracle in that it now greatly enhances the appearance of Kleiner Schlossplatz which has been a bone of contention since it was laid out in 1969.



Far right:
The restaurant on the top floor of the art museum is aptly named Cube. The café/bar in the basement has the arty title of no title: o.T. or „ohne Titel“.

Right:
At the art museum exhibitions are advertised by enormous letters stuck on to the glass façade which cast their shadow in the interior. The very word „Art“ is thus an art it itself ...



Far right:
The bar in o.T. is extremely minimalist in design, calling for the various bottles to be kept in very tidy order. The café acts as a perfect interface between the mad bustle outside on the streets and the ethereal clam of the museum – a fine place to prepare yourself for the delights that await on either side of the divide.



THE (HI)STORY OF WÜRTTEMBERG'S DUCAL AND ROYAL SEAT

In 2029 the city of Stuttgart can celebrate the 800th anniversary of its first official mention. What is now the suburb of Bad Cannstatt is much older as it was once a Roman settlement. However, it can be safely said that Stuttgart is rightly the state capital of Baden-Württemberg as it fell to the House of Württemberg as part of a dowry from a Baden margravine. Its further development was decisively shaped by the fact that the city – with a few interruptions – was the seat of the counts, dukes and later kings of Württemberg.

Once upon a time the regional capital was nearly Bad Urach; following the Treaty of Münsingen in 1482, however, which reunited a county divided, Count Eberhard the Bearded kept Stuttgart on as his traditional place of residence. He was made the first duke of Württemberg in 1495, commemorated by a statue of him on horseback in the courtyard of the Altes Schloss. A few decades later, in 1534, Duke Ulrich sanctioned the Reformation. Thanks to this auspicious event, to this very day there are a few days missing from Stuttgart's history books. The Protestants introduced the Gregorian Calendar decreed by the pope in 1582 much later than the Catholics, with the result that in the year 1700 February 18 was immediately followed by March 1.

Unlike most medieval castles the Altes Schloss in Stuttgart was not built on a hill but as a moated castle in a valley, this made feasible by its remote location. It's very probable that the Stutengarten (literally „stud garden“) which gave Stuttgart its name was once on what is now Schillerplatz. The ruler with the greatest enthusiasm for building was undoubtedly Duke Carl Eugen who ruled both the city and the country from 1744 to 1793. A generous donation by the citizens of Stuttgart finally persuaded him to move his ducal seat from the comfortable palace in Ludwigsburg back to Stuttgart – and to cement his return he had the Neues Schloss erected. He was also responsible for the palaces of Solitude and Hohenheim.

The first orangery in Germany was the Altes Lusthaus. Its successor the Neues Lusthaus, the ruins of which stand in the central palace gardens, has only managed to survive at all thanks to a local action group – and, again, hefty donations. This tradition of public pride and interest may not always have been agreeable to those in power but nevertheless it was this which in the mid 20th century saved the Neues Schloss from total annihilation. If a dedicated section of the local population have their way, in a similar vein

the station and Hotel Silber, once a Gestapo headquarters, will also be spared the demolition teams.

Lord, give us brains!

Herr, schmeiß Hirn ra! or Lord, Give Us Brains! is the title of a book by local author Gerhard Raff, published in 1985, which has become something of a local saying in Stuttgart. In 1995 the sequel *Mehr Hirn!* (More Brains!) was issued, illustrated by famous German comedian Loriot. Raff's plea to the Almighty is justified when we learn just how many historical buildings have been unnecessarily torn down since the Second World War. There are many legacies of the former kingdom of Württemberg still standing, however: the Königsbau and Kunstgebäude or art building on Schlossplatz, Wilhelmispalais, Schloss Rosenstein and Schloss Wilhelma in Cannstatt – and last but not least the chapel of rest on the Württemberg. Not only Stuttgart's kings – by the grace of Napoleon – were active; their wives also did their fair share of charitable and cultural works for the city. This is impressively described by Sabine Thomsen, niece of historian Hansmartin Decker-Hauff, in her book *Die württembergischen Königinnen* or The Queens of Württemberg. Stuttgart was also where the first Socialist congress in Germany took place, with Rosa Luxemburg as main speaker and Carla Zetkin as Lenin's 'host'. The world's first Waldorf or Steiner school was founded in Stuttgart, with the first university of agriculture established at Hohenheim. The main station by Bonatz took 14 years to build due to the deprivations of the First World War and the ensuing hyperinflation; it will take just as long (2014) until Stuttgart finally again has a museum of city history after the previous establishment of this kind was closed down in the Tagblatt Tower. Until then, the stories and histories of the Swabian metropolis can be perused at leisure in Harald Schukraft's epistle entitled *Wie Stuttgart wurde, was es ist* or How Stuttgart Came To Be What It Is Today.



Left: In 1991 a monument was erected to Wilhelm II, the fourth and last king of Württemberg, and shows him with his dogs. When the city museum was opened in the Wilhelmispalais the statue was moved from the front of the building to the garden.

Above: Huge blocks of stone on Karlsplatz, shown against the backdrop of the Altes Schloss, commemorate the victims of National Socialism.



Small photos, right, from top to bottom: King Wilhelm I had a chapel of rest built for his second wife, Katharina Pavlovna from St Petersburg, on the top of Württemberg Hill.

This statue in the courtyard of the Altes Schloss is of Eberhard the Bearded (1445–1496), the man made the first duke of Württemberg in 1495.

The Neues Schloss was badly damaged during the Second World War. Not long afterwards there were plans afoot to tear it down and replace it with a new department store; this was prevented by hefty protest from the local population.

These glass panels suspended from the roof of the Stiftskirche are not designed to detract from the historic fabric of the collegiate church but to improve the acoustics for the many concerts held here.



Below:
The Grand Café Planie has been ensconced in Stuttgart's old orphanage for several years now. Minsters from the neighbouring local authorities can often be found rubbing shoulders with locals and tourists at its wickerwork tables and chairs, which are especially well frequented when there's a flea market on.

Top right:
Sculptor Josef Zeiler was responsible for much of the plastic artwork on the houses on Geissplatz as well as its fountain. The area was torn down and

rebuilt in the local style from 1906 onwards and is now considered one of the prettiest spots in the city centre.

Centre right:
This statue on horseback in the middle of Karlsplatz is of Kaiser Wilhelm I. The square was once the duchess' garden which was levelled between 1775

and 1778 after the official Württemberg residence had been moved back from Ludwigsburg to Stuttgart. The street between the two palaces is thus now known locally as Planie or the plain.

Bottom right:
This angel and lute adorn the base of Schiller's statue on Schillerplatz outside the Altes Schloss. The square not only provides an attractive

backdrop for the weekly market; it's also the venue of the wine festival and Christmas market, bringing added life and colour to the middle of the city.



There are many hidden-away courtyards and backyards to discover in the Bohnenviertel where you can purchase all kinds of kitsch, artwork, junk – and even genuine antiques.



Some of the second-hand shops in the Bohnenviertel are crammed with an amazing array of artefacts. Here, you could find an unusual lamp for your living room or even a rusty antique saw to decorate the walls of your own backyard ...



Right page: This wine tavern (Kiste or chest) is on the edge of the Bohnenviertel next to busy Charlottenstrasse. It's the oldest in Stuttgart; the king allegedly once used to drink his quarter litres here.



The park in Killesberg was laid out for a national garden show in 1939. It's a composite part of Stuttgart's green belt which stretches from Schlossgarten in the centre to Villa Berg and its gardens, Rosenstein Park, the Leibfriedsches Garten and Wartberg to Killesberg Hill in the north of the city.



Right page: Perhaps one of Stuttgart's more unusual pieces of post-modern architecture is the viewing tower on the top of Killesberg. On the construction engineered by Jörg Schlaich (born in 1934), the steps are suspended from a central mast by a thick mesh of steel cables.





Above: When a mineral spring was discovered on the site of what is now the Wilhelma, King Wilhelm I decided to have a bathing house erected here. The result was an oriental palace, complete with vast filigree glasshouses.

Right: The botanical gardens at the Wilhelma include a tropical jungle with a cool waterfall.

Far right: One of the most popular places at the Wilhelma is the elephant compound. The oldest cow elephant in Europe once lived here; born in 1949, Vilja died of a circulatory collapse in 2010.



Above: Another of the highlights at the Wilhelma zoological gardens is the water lily pond. Several times a week the pond gardener wades into the heated water to remove faded blooms or collect seed for the following season.

Far left: Polar bear Wilbär, born in the Wilhelma in 2007, is more fortunate than his "cousins" Knut in Berlin Zoo and Flocke in Nuremberg who were both rejected by their mothers.

Left: Succulents, palms, ferns and many other Mediterranean, tropical and subtropical plants all feel perfectly at home in the glasshouses of the Wilhelma.



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