

Kempten^{Allgäu}



Enjoy Kempten

with map

information and map

Allgäu

Contact

We are available for you and happy to answer any of your questions to make your stay enjoyable, and we also offer the following services:

- Comprehensive visitor service
- Free brochures
- Room bookings
- Guided tour tickets
- Souvenirs and maps
- Conference service
- Groups tours and groups trips

Tourist Information

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Opening Hours

May to October:

Monday to Friday: 09:00 am – 5:00 pm,

Saturday: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

November to April:

Monday to Friday: 09:00 am – 5:00 pm

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Subject to change.



2,000 years old and full of life

Make memories to last a lifetime in Germany's oldest town*.

Cambodunum can be translated to “castle or settlement at the bend in the river”. And indeed, Kempten still has a river (the Iller) and a castle hill (the Burghalde). Many fragments of the past date back to Roman times. No wonder we have the archaeologists on site every time we dig.

But even they have the chance to discover Kempten and its history. Kempten's museums convey these in an appealing way, such as the Kempten-Museum in the Zumsteinhaus with its eleven themed rooms. You can also get to know the town better by taking part in varied and entertaining guided tours which cover a variety of topics.

For those who like things a little livelier, the town is a vibrant setting for events ranging from markets to large-scale concerts, as well as being a shopping metropolis with an extensive shopping district. We set a lot of store by food here, too. Countless cafés, ice cream parlours, beer gardens, restaurants and bars invite you to linger.

Nature lovers will also find what they're looking for – in and around Kempten. Parks and green spaces give you the chance to break away from the hustle and bustle, and the Allgäu Alps and numerous lakes can be reached in no time at all. The region can be explored by bike along the Iller and Allgäu long-distance cycle paths, and on foot you will find appealing trails ranging from walks to mountain hikes.

If you enjoy planning and would like to secure one or two tickets in advance of your stay in addition to booking your accommodation, then the Experience Shop is the right place for you. A variety of experiences for the entire Allgäu region await you there. What are you waiting for? Book your ticket for an escape room, bike tour, rafting, cheese classes and much more.

We hope you have fun and wish you a warm welcome to our Allgäu metropolis!



Info*

The oldest town in Germany – isn't that what other towns claim?

The Roman name for Kempten was “Cambodunum”. The town was first referred to by the Greek geographer Strabon (approx. 63 BC to 23 AD) as the Celtic “Polis” (town) “Cambodounon” in the fourth book of his description of the earth. Kempten is therefore the oldest German town to ever be recorded.




Tip:

Information, service and booking at www.visitkempten.com

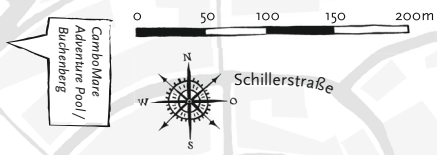


Key

- Historical walking tour
- Excursion
- Shopping district

 Tourist Information Centre,
Rathausplatz 24

Public transport:
www.mona-allgaeu.de/en



Main Station 1.1 km /
Immenstadt-Oberstdorf B 19 /
Isny-Lindau B12 / A / CH

Ulm-Stuttgart-Füssen A7 /
Kaufbeuren-Munich B12

APC: Gallo-Roman
Temple Area

APC: Small
Thermal Baths

APC:
Forum and Basilica

St. Mang /
Durach / B 309

King Ludwig Bridge

AÜW hydroelectric power station

Historical walking tour

Explore over 2,000 years of growth in a short time! You can do this in Kempten without needing to travel back in time, because history can still be seen and experienced here today. Explore the town on your own as part of the tour described here.

Tourist Information Centre, Rathausplatz 24: You will find the oldest written record of a settlement in Germany right in front of the Tourist Information Centre. Your tour starts here.



1 Town Hall (Rathaus): Across the street you will see Kempten's Town Hall, a medieval listed building that was built in 1474 and last rebuilt in 1987. Today, the Lord Mayor and the mayors of Kempten are based inside this historic building, which is also home to a Biedermeier-style wedding room and meeting rooms.

In front of the east side of the Town Hall you will find the **Town Hall Fountain**, on whose fountain column you can see the statue of a Roman commander.

The square outside the Town Hall captivates with its southern charm and inviting gastronomy. Stately patrician buildings constructed when this area was a market street inside the free town of Kempten still characterise the image of the square today. Rathausplatz 2: **Londoner Hof** (the most beautiful rococo façade in the old town dating back to 1764), Rathausplatz 3: **Altes Zollamt** (Gothic murals inside), Rathausplatz 5: **Neubronnerhaus** (classical façade) and Rathausplatz 10: **Ponikauhaus**, a patrician house made up of two older houses with a façade dating back to 1740.

If you continue straight ahead, you will reach St.-Mang-Platz.



② **St.-Mang-Platz:** House numbers 8, 10 and 12 form the so-called **Mühlberg ensemble**, a medieval group of houses. Number 12 was built in 1298 and is considered to be one of the oldest stone buildings in the town.

Church of St Mang (St.-Mang-Kirche) is Gothic in origin and was built over a Romanesque predecessor between 1426 and 1428. The 66-metre-high church tower dates back to Romanesque times up to the height of the clock tower.

There is an **Art Nouveau fountain** from 1905 on the square as well as the entrance to the underground **Showroom Erasmuskapelle (Schauraum Erasmuskapelle)**. This can be visited as part of a guided tour, which includes a multivision show that makes the medieval walls come to life.



On the opposite side of the street, is Number 3, the **Red House**. It consists of two late medieval houses, the façades of which were uniformly designed around 1730. The coat of arms of the patrician Jenisch family adorns the main gate.

③ **Bäckerstraße:** Follow the historic row of houses in Bäckerstraße and then turn onto **Ankergässle**. There you will find the Anker-törle, the only remaining passage through the town wall.

And you can get back to Rathausplatz via Mehlstraße, Vogtstraße and Sigmund-Ullmann-Platz. Or you can take an excursion into Kempten's Roman past.





Excursion 1

Continue along Bäckerstraße to Illertor, cross St.-Mang-Brücke and follow Kaufbeurer Straße to the junction at Brodkorbweg. There, take the narrow footpath on the right, which will take you back to Roman times.

13 Cambodunum Archaeological Park (Archäologischer Park Cambodunum – APC):

The APC gives visitors insights into what everyday life would have been like in Roman times in three sections: You can see a partial reconstruction of the temples of Roman Cambodunum on the original foundation walls of the **Gallo-Roman Temple Area (Gallorömischer Tempelbezirk)**, as well as the permanent exhibition entitled “Um Gottes Willen”. The original remains of the baths at the governor's palace can be seen under a protective and exhibition building at the **Small Thermal Baths (Kleine Thermen)**. You will need to pay an entrance fee to access both areas, but the park area is freely accessible. Parts of the **Forum and Basilica (Forum und Basilika)** are signposted in the park area, and there is an adventure circuit with various activity stations which runs across the entire area.

You can either take the same path back to the Rathausplatz or continue along the path towards Excursion 2.



Excursion 2

From the Illertor, follow Burgstraße to reach the **arcade wall (Arkadenwand)** which dates back to the late 15th century. This served as the garden boundary for the municipal hall and is decorated with murals. Continue along Burgstraße, cross the road and walk up to the Burghalde.

14 Burghalde: The hill was once surrounded by the Iller river. There was a late Roman fort there and, in the Middle Ages, there was the castle which housed the monastery bailiffs and became part of the town's fortifications in 1488. Today, the fortress is home to the Allgäu Castle Museum (Allgäuer Burgenmuseum). Since 1950, there has also been an open-air stage on the Burghalde, which is used for events in summer.

Continue down Vogtstraße and Sigmund-Ullmann-Platz to get back to Rathausplatz.

back to the historical walking tour

4 Open Staircase (Freitreppe): Walk from the Town Hall into Rathausstraße. You will already be able to see the Open Staircase, which was built in 1903 as a symbolic connection between the free town and the collegiate town.



The tour continues along Fischerstraße, Klostersteige and past the Residence and into the Court Garden.

5 Court Garden (Hofgarten): The Court Garden is a Baroque park that was originally laid out in three terraces as a kitchen garden and ornamental garden to supply the prince abbots. The northern end is formed by the orangery, built in 1780, which was used to store Mediterranean plants over winter.

6 Historic Stables (Marstall): The Historic Stables was built around 1730 as part of the collegiate town's commercial area and the rooms now serve as exhibition space. From here you have a view of the Singing and Music school and the Kempten Art Gallery (Kunst-halle Kempten), where changing exhibitions can be seen.

From here you can either follow the rest of the tour directly or explore the former craftsmen's quarter of the collegiate town.

Excursion 3

15 Residential and craftsmen's quarter of the former collegiate town: Behind the Kempten Art Gallery, you will find winding lanes with half-timbered houses and the Seelenkapelle, which served as the cemetery chapel of the collegiate town until 1804.

back to the historical walking tour

7 Grain House (Kornhaus): The Grain House was built around 1700 as the granary for the collegiate town. The building with its Baroque façade and three-storey volute gables is being extensively modernised and will be used again as a venue for future events.

8 Basilica of St Lorenz (Basilika St. Lorenz): The Basilica of St Lorenz was built around 1652 as a Baroque parish and monastery church, and it was the first large church building in southern Germany after the Thirty Years' War. Externally, the magnificent double-tower façade and the mighty dome are impressive. The important interior decoration includes the carved choir stalls with rare scagliola panels.





9 Hildegardplatz: The southern part of the Baroque square around the Basilica of St Lorenz is called Hildegardplatz, and the current square design is the result of a reconstruction that took place in 2013 and 2014. The popular weekly market is held here on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The Residenzplatz is situated next to Hildegardplatz, where you will find a relief showing Kempten in 1823. The charmingly staggered arrangement of Residenzplatz, Hildegardplatz, Stiftsplatz and Kornhausplatz corresponds to the Baroque building concept.

10 Kempten-Museum in the Zumsteinhaus: The Kempten-Museum is located at Residenzplatz 31 within the listed walls of the Zumsteinhaus, which is considered the most beautiful classicist town house in the collegiate town and was built in 1802. Admission to the museum is free of charge and the exhibition is fully accessible. There is a lattice gate from 1830 next to the museum which is adorned with a rare perspective illustration.



11 State Rooms of the Residence (Prunkräume der Residenz): From the eighth century onwards, there was a Benedictine monastery on the site of the Residence. After its destruction, construction work for monastery complex as a Baroque double courtyard complex began in 1651, around the same time as construction work began on the basilica. The architects of both buildings were Michael Beer and Johann Serro. The stuccoed Prince's Hall (Fürstensaal) and the original State Rooms with their outstanding rococo furnishings can be visited as part of guided tours. The rest of the building houses the regional and district court.



12 Millstream Quarter (Mühlbachquartier): Today, a mill wheel with a small watercourse stands in the Millstream Quarter as a reminder of town's former stream. It used to be the site of the tanner's trade.



See you
soon in the
Roman town
of Kempten

www.visitkempten.com

Kempten Tourismus 

*Temple in the Cambodunum
Archaeological Park*