



1 Johannisburg Palace

This red sandstone palace is one of the most significant and beautiful Renaissance buildings in Germany. Its unique features include the chapel (decorated by Hans Juncker in the early 17th century), the royal living quarters, the world's largest collection of architectural models made from cork, the state gallery with paintings by Lucas Cranach the Elder and the palace museum, which houses works by Ernst Ludwig Kirchner and Christian Schad.

The state gallery, the vestment chamber and the royal living quarters are currently closed as a result of ongoing restoration works to the palace.

Palace garden

Designed by Friedrich Ludwig Sckell in the 18th century, the palace garden covers the area between Johannisburg Palace and the Pompeiianum. In addition to the leafy promenade offering beautiful views, the garden is home to impressive features that include a neoclassical 'breakfast temple' and a mediterranean-style landscape surrounding the Pompeiianum with figs, agaves, almond trees and vines.

3 The Pompeiianum

King Ludwig I of Bavaria commissioned this replica of a Roman villa in Pompeii, the only one of its kind in the world and a marvel of interior design and decoration. The famous architect Friedrich von Gärtner created it to be studied and appreciated as an idealised imitation of classical culture.







Information

Tourist Information

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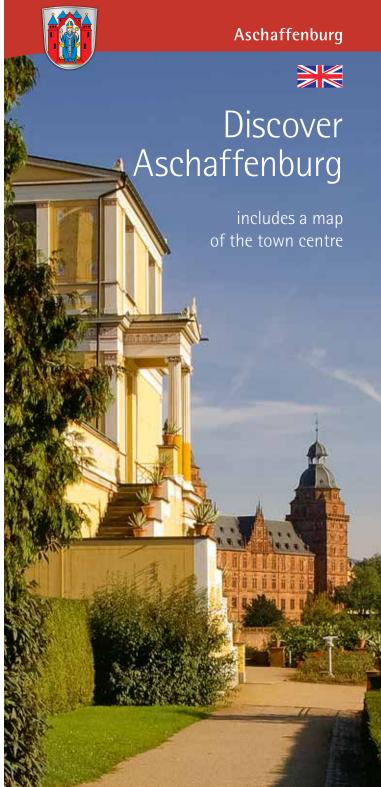
April-September: Mon-Fri 9am-6pm, Sat 10am-3pm

Sun & public holidays 10am-3pm

October–March: Mon–Fri 9am–5pm Sat 10am–1pm

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4 Saint-Germain terrace

This terrace takes its name from Saint-Germain-en-Laye in France, a twin city of Aschaffenburg. Open to the public as part of the palace garden, it features a mix of baroque and modern sculptures as well as a fountain.

5 The Main riverbank

Along the banks of the river Main, sunny lawns alternate with sections of trees and vegetation – perfect for relaxing or getting some exercise by the water. Cyclists using the River Main Cycle Route enjoy easy access to the town centre.

6 Kornhäuschen

Dating back to 1805, this neoclassical building was commissioned by Carl Theodor von Dalberg. It was used by farmers to store corn for their weekly markets when the weather was bad – hence the name 'Kornhäuschen' ('little corn house'). Today, it serves as an exhibition space for modern art projects that push the boundaries.

Brewery museum

This private museum is located at the former premises of the Schlappeseppel brewery, which ceased operations in 1979. Guided tours are available by arrangement.

8 Jesuit Church Art Gallery

With its extensive stucco work, the former church of the Aschaffenburg Jesuits (built between 1619 and 1621) provides a stunning backdrop for art exhibitions of national significance.

Ohristian Schad Museum

Opening in 2018, the Christian Schad Museum will display the world's largest collection of works by the renowned pioneer of the New Objectivity movement after whom it is named. Christian Schad (1894–1982) rose to international fame for his 'schadographs' (a form of cameraless photography) and early paintings.

Muttergottespfarrkirche

The catholic Muttergottespfarrkirche (or 'Church of Our Lady') first appears in records in 1183. Construction of the present single-nave church building began in 1768 under the direction of master architect Franz Boccorny from Bohemia. Of particular note are the ceiling frescos by Hermann Kasper (1965–67) and the Romanesque tympanum from the original church.

11 The old town

The route from Johannisburg Palace to the town hall is a labyrinth of narrow alleys, where there are many quaint restaurants among the pretty half-timbered buildings.

Stadttheater

Built in 1811, Aschaffenburg's municipal theatre has a modern glass facade and features one of the most beautiful neoclassical auditoriums in Germany.

13 Theaterplatz square and sundial

The sundial on Theaterplatz square is one of the largest in Europe. The shadow cast by its 6.4-metre-high gnomon can be seen particularly well from the nearby viewing platform, which also has a room with further information on the sundial. The time indicated by the sun's position corresponds to standard Central European Time.

1 Town hall

Looking out over Stiftsplatz square, Aschaffenburg's town hall was built during the 1950s. It was designed by Diez Brandi, an architect from Göttingen who sought to combine traditional and modern styles. He based the atrium on a traditional marketplace, incorporating an astronomical clock and a skylight in the form of a glass dome.

15 Sculpture garden

Aschaffenburg cultural prize winners Andrea Müller and Helmut Massenkeil share a studio complex that includes a sculpture garden. The freelance artists have turned this tranquil retreat into an exhibition space for their work, with sculptures in ceramic, bronze and iron on display alongside handcrafted bowls, vases and crockery.

6 Abbey basilica of St Peter and Alexander

The founding of the abbey basilica dates back to the 10th century and the days of Liudolf, Duke of Swabia. Along with Aschaffenburg itself, the abbey became part of the Electorate of Mainz in AD 982 and retained its status as a collegiate foundation until it was secularised at the beginning of the 19th century. In 1814, Aschaffenburg became part of Bavaria and today St Peter and Alexander is part of the Diocese of Würzburg. To mark its millennial anniversary in 1958, Pope Pius XII made the church a papal basilica. Highlights include the 10th century Ottonian crucifix, Matthias Grünewald's Lamentation of Christ (1525), the Maria Schnee altar and the beautiful late–Romanesque cloister from the 13th century.

Stiftsmuseum

Displaying an exquisite range of objects made from silver, rock crystal and gold, the Stiftmuseum's medieval treasure chamber is one of the most significant collections of its kind in Germany. The centrepiece of the exhibition is the famous Altar of St Magdalene by Lucas Cranach the Elder. The collection also features important discoveries that date back to prehistoric and Roman times.

18 Löwenapotheke

The original Löwenapotheke building, which followed the so-called 'transition style' of central German half-timbering (1470–1550), was destroyed in 1945. The present building (reconstructed between 1991 and 1995) is home to the Graphik-Cabinet – a gallery that displays prints and documents of historical significance to the city, from its days as part of the Electorate of Mainz to the time of the Bavarian kings.

Schönborner Hof

The former residence of the Counts of Schönborn, built in 1681, is home to Aschaffenburg's Natural History Museum. The collections present local flora and fauna alongside the geology and mineralogy of the Spessart hills. The building also houses the municipal and abbey archives and has a mineral garden in its grounds.

20 Sandkirche

The pilgrimage and votive church of St Mary's Visitation, also known as the 'Sandkirche', has been richly decorated in the rococo style by renowned artists.

21 Schöntal Park

The park started life as a zoo before work began in the 18th century to transform it into an English-style landscape garden. The old orangery in the eastern section is home to the famous Hofgarten Kabarett comedy theatre.

A particularly romantic spot in the park is the ruin of an old Beguine abbey set in the middle of a small lake. In springtime the main attraction is the magnolia grove with more than 40 trees, some of which are over a hundred years old.

@ Gentil House

This house was built in the 1920s by the industrialist Anton Gentil to house his extensive collection of artworks. Emulating the artist villas of the 19th century, the Gentil House reflects the personality of its originator and still retains the character of a private collection. The building's interior can be viewed as part of a guided tour.

23 Offenes Schöntal and Herstall tower

This park is a part of the original defensive moat surrounding Aschaffenburg's town wall and provides a verdant link between the Palace Park and Schöntal Park. Its central location is complemented by a walk-through water feature with alternating jets and fountains. The Herstall tower is all that remains of the medieval town gate that once stood here.

Kirchner House

The influential Expressionist painter Ernst Ludwig Kirchner was born on 6 May 1880 in this house, at what was then the Bavarian/Prussian border train station. As a small boy here he drew pictures of trains and locomotives, which he reproduced in woodblock prints as an adult. The building survived the war virtually unscathed, and today it serves as a documentation centre for Kirchner's childhood and a venue for Kirchner-related exhibitions.

25 Museum of Jewish History and Culture

The former Rabbi house in which this museum is located was once only a short distance from the synagogue that was destroyed in the 'Night of Broken Glass' of 1938, and a grove of plane trees has been planted here in memory of those events. A range of documents in the museum illustrate the lives of the Jewish community in Aschaffenburg.

20 The Main information pavilion

The Main information pavilion was built in 2012 by the Water and Maritime Office of Aschaffenburg as part of a project for apprentice waterway engineers and joiners. Visitors can learn about the office's activities and responsibilities via information on the display boards.

2 Schönbusch Palace and Park

In 1775, under the guidance of court gardener Friedrich Ludwig Sckell, this former royal game park began its transformation into a English landscape park – one of the first in Germany to use this new style. Emanuel Joseph von Herigoyen, the architect to the court, designed a number of follies that would give the 150 hectare country park a rich and varied character. A particular highlight is Schloss Schönbusch, a neoclassical summer house that affords an unimpeded view of Johannisburg Palace.