



PRESSE-INFORMATION

Magdeburg, March 9, 2021

Truly Stunning: the Perfect Time to Journey across the Beautiful Travel Destination Saxony-Anhalt

From March 9 to 12, the Investment and Marketing Corporation Saxony-Anhalt will be showcasing the rich variety of travel destinations the state has to offer at the ITB NOW travel trade fair, which is taking place virtually for the first time. Saxony-Anhalt boasts truly unique highlights that make for exciting excursions in the heart of Germany, including sublime natural landscapes, thrilling outdoor activities, culture, art and cities, as well as outstanding World Heritage sites.

Saxony-Anhalt is getting ready for the return of tourism and building on its “Saxony-Anhalt: Truly Stunning” campaign that was successfully introduced in 2020. It uses stylish and atmospheric photos and videos to show how extraordinary and welcoming the state is by promoting its culture, cuisine, natural landscapes and outdoor and sporting activities. Thomas Einsfelder, Managing Director of the Investment and Marketing Corporation Saxony-Anhalt (IMG) is confident that Saxony-Anhalt is the ideal travel destination: “You don’t have to travel to faraway places to have a great holiday: you can also find the perfect getaway right on your doorstep. Saxony-Anhalt has so much to offer visitors. In terms of the coronavirus, the tourism sector has developed sound strategies for keeping our guests safe and giving them the best possible service.”

As the leading marketing organization for the state of Saxony-Anhalt, the IMG is focusing on three main themes for its presence at this year’s trade fair. For example, the six UNESCO World Heritage sites in the state are now promoted under one marketing strategy with the title “6 Spectacular Sites”. Be it Naumburg Cathedral, Quedlinburg’s old town and collegiate church, or the Luther sites in Eisleben and Wittenberg, these are all buildings, artefacts and architectural ensembles of unique historical importance. Another highlight is the “The World of the Nebra Sky Disc – New Horizons” exhibition at the Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte (State Museum of Prehistory) in Halle from June 2021 to January 2022. The exhibition’s patron is Federal President Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier.

The historic Gartenträume network in Saxony-Anhalt is a green wonderland of 50 gardens and parks dating from the 17th to the 21st century. Last year’s planned events marking the anniversary of the Gartenträume have been rescheduled to 2021. The program will feature magical festivals, breathtaking

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night-time light displays, classical concerts at exquisite locations such as castles and palaces, and outdoor garden seminars – the perfect opportunity for visitors to enjoy and experience the gardens and try out their own green thumbs.

What's more, a special exhibition in Magdeburg called "With Bible and Spade – 900 Years of the Premonstratensian Order" marks 2021 as the anniversary year and explores the social significance of the Order, which shaped the culture and architecture in the city of Magdeburg over several centuries. The five tourism regions in Saxony-Anhalt have also chosen their own themes to focus on; for more information, please see the attached press releases.

Saxony-Anhalt is hosting a range of large events, many of which are taking place in the second half of the year, to entertain guests and local residents – be it the Handel Festival, Germany Unity Day (Halle is the host city for this year's celebrations), the Reformation Festival in Luther's Wittenberg or the Magdeburg Light Festival. Thomas Einsfelder said: "We and our tourism providers are really looking forward to welcoming guests who would like a 'truly stunning' holiday and want to immerse themselves in an environment rich in a cultural heritage that is still shaping Saxony-Anhalt to this day."

More information on the tourist destination Saxony-Anhalt can be found at:

www.saxony-anhalt-tourism.eu

And on IMG's social media pages: [IMG tourism \(@IMG Tourismus\) | Twitter](#), [Tourist destination Saxony-Anhalt \(@reiseland_sachsen_anhalt\) | Instagram photos and videos](#) and [Tourist destination Saxony-Anhalt | Facebook page#](#)

Images under this link: <http://reiseland.sachsen-anhalt-bilder.de/app.html#/public/b934edf0-8043-11eb-a051-795e51b0d9fd>

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PRESSE-INFORMATION

Truly special

History for the Present Day: Two Exceptional Exhibitions in Saxony-Anhalt

Two fascinating exhibitions are set to open this year in Saxony-Anhalt: “Plague – a Pandemic Changes the World,” a special exhibition in the Augusteum in Luther’s Wittenberg, and “The World of the Nebra Sky Disc – New Horizons,” a state exhibition at the Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte (State Museum of Prehistory) in Halle whose patron is German Federal President Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier. To showcase these exhibitions, the Investment and Marketing Corporation Saxony-Anhalt (IMG) is inviting press representatives to its first press trip of 2021.

Plagues have left a lasting mark on Western culture and profoundly shaped Europe’s cultural consciousness. Many comparisons can be drawn to the current COVID-19 pandemic. The “Plague – a Pandemic Changes the World” special exhibition runs from August 2021 to February 2022 in the Augusteum in Luther’s Wittenberg and embarks on an exciting journey of discovery into revolutionary changes in medicine, society and religion. Although much attention has been given to the peak of the Black Death in 1347/48, until now there has been only limited investigation into its influence on subsequent centuries. It had undeniable consequences for the Reformation in the 16th century and, in turn, the new ideas that the Reformation gave birth to impacted how plagues were fought and how disease and illness were dealt with generally.

The State Museum of Prehistory in Halle is showing “The World of the Nebra Sky Disc – New Horizons” state exhibition from June 2021 to January 2022. It will give a multilayered insight into the world in which the Sky Disc was created – an age that we have more in common with than we previously thought. The exhibition will showcase results gathered over the past 20 years from research into the Sky Disc, interwoven with natural science, archaeology, social theory and art. The new finds and discoveries from Saxony-Anhalt will be supplemented by prestigious artefacts from over 50 lenders from Germany and abroad.

The British Museum in London is an exhibition partner and will display the Sky Disc after the large special exhibition in Halle has ended. The Arche Nebra, Pömmelte Woodhenge, the Salzland Museum in Schönebeck, the

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Goseck solar observatory and the Halle planetarium are taking part in the project as satellite exhibition locations with their own events and special exhibitions.

To mark the opening of the state exhibition, the IMG is inviting press representatives to a press trip. After the opening in Halle on June 4, 2021, the trip will cover the state's six UNESCO World Heritage sites, known as the 6 Spectacular Sites, and will last for several days. Barbara Weinert-Nachbagauer, Head of Marketing at IMG, said: "I am sure that investigating society as it was in the past will give us valuable insights into our own modern-day lives. We would like to warmly invite others to join us and learn more about the fascinating places in our state where history is brought to life at original historical sites."

More information:

www.saxony-anhalt-tourism.eu
www.martinluther.de
www.ausstellung-himmelsscheibe.de
www.welterbe-sachsen-anhalt.de
www.saxony-anhalt-tourism.eu

And on IMG's social media pages: [IMG tourism \(@IMG Tourismus\) | Twitter](#), [Tourist destination Saxony-Anhalt \(@reiseland_sachsen_anhalt\) | Instagram photos and videos](#) and [Tourist destination Saxony-Anhalt | Facebook page](#)

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PRESSE-INFORMATION

Truly green

Glorious Parks and Abundant Displays of Blossom: Phase Two of the Gartenträume Anniversary Celebrations

2021 will see the continuation of celebrations to mark the anniversary of the “Gartenträume – Historic Parks in Saxony-Anhalt” state-wide initiative. For more than 20 years, these historic parks and gardens have beguiled visitors with their romantic night-time events, palace festivals and art in extraordinary settings. The Investment and Marketing Corporation Saxony-Anhalt (IMG) is inviting members of the media to take part in its press trip around one of the most exquisite locations: the Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The historic Gartenträume is a tourist network that manages and preserves the 50 most significant and beautiful locations among around 1,000 garden landscapes in the state of Saxony-Anhalt. Following on from the 20th anniversary of the state-wide initiative in 2020, the participating gardens have come up with lots of creative ideas for the start of the tourist season and are drawing in visitors to the special highlights planned for 2021. As open, outdoor spaces, the Gartenträume are perfect COVID-secure travel destinations where the whole family can enjoy themselves.

A special, state-funded exhibition called “Passion for Beauty – Gartenträume in Saxony-Anhalt” at the Moritzburg Zeitz Castle Museum runs until April 25 and examines the character and individual story behind each park. By exploring original designs, paintings, historical tools, postcards, sculptures and much more, the exhibition reveals the diverse cultural movements and history that the gardens encapsulate.

Visitors can also marvel at the Gartenträume in photos taken by the photographer Janos Stekovics, on display at Wernigerode Castle. The outstanding images were captured over several years in different seasons and at different times of the day, and experiment with all types of perspective, proximity and distance. This “indoor walk” through the gardens is open until May 16.

Inspired by the idea of a garden as a microcosm of the world, the 9th Merseburg triennial art exhibition will be taking place in the gardens. From March 13 to May 30, 2021, around 30 artists from the Burgenlandkreis and Saalekreis districts in southern Saxony-Anhalt will be exhibiting their new work in the Garden Salon at Merseburg Castle and in the Castle Gardens, which form part of the Gartenträume network. The artworks range from painting and drawings to metal design, craftworks and sculptures, providing

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an artistic and philosophical counterpoint to nature and a commentary on how it is shaped and changed by humans.

The world's largest rose collection, the Europa-Rosarium in Sangerhausen, is another setting for a large outdoor exhibition – "Roses Meet Art." The exhibition will once again feature many works which will be on show from July 1 to August 7, 2021. Last year's exhibition attracted thousands of art enthusiasts and had over 200 stunning artworks on display, which were also available to purchase, across 13 hectares of park grounds. Artists can still apply to have their work shown.

To mark Garden Kingdom Day at the Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz, which is a UNESCO World Heritage site, the IMG is inviting members of the media to a three-day press trip from August 13 to 15. Barbara Weinert-Nachbagauer, Head of Marketing at IMG, said: "Everyone who has experienced the unique charm of the landscape garden with its canals and Venetian gondolas is keen to come back. We are inviting press representatives to experience garden design and classical architecture at first hand and to enjoy a very special evening."

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PRESSE-INFORMATION

Truly cultured

In the Footsteps of the Premonstratensian Order in Saxony-Anhalt

A special exhibition in Magdeburg called “With Bible and Spade – 900 Years of the Premonstratensian Order” is celebrating the Order’s anniversary this year and exploring its social significance. The Investment and Marketing Corporation Saxony-Anhalt (IMG) is organizing a press trip to Magdeburg and other exhibition locations along the Route of the Romanesque in Saxony-Anhalt to mark the exhibition’s opening in September.

Guided by their motto, “Furnished unto all good works,” the Premonstratensian Order has shaped cultural, intellectual and economic life in Europe and around the world since the Middle Ages. The Order is celebrating two special anniversaries this year: the 900th anniversary of its creation and the 30th anniversary of the canons’ return to the abbey in Magdeburg in 1991 for the first time since the Reformation, when they were expelled from the city.

Magdeburg was the heart of the Order and retains close links with it to this day, not least because the Order’s founder, St. Norbert von Xanten, was archbishop of the city from 1126 to 1134. That’s why the “With Bible and Spade – 900 Years of the Premonstratensian Order” special exhibition at Magdeburg’s Cultural History Museum is one of the three official partner exhibitions marking the Premonstratensian anniversary. It is running from September 8, 2021, to January 9, 2022. The other two exhibitions are being held in Park Abbey in Leuven, Belgium, and Strahov Monastery in Prague, Czechia. The exhibition in Magdeburg looks at the Premonstratensian Order’s historical and cultural significance, which can still be felt today, at original sites in Saxony-Anhalt and neighboring states.

What’s more, the Center for Medieval Exhibitions has organized the “Heritage of the Premonstratensians” cultural tourism project that spans multiple locations and connects a variety of activities and events at selected former Premonstratensian sites in Saxony-Anhalt, Brandenburg, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania and Schleswig-Holstein. For example, the former Premonstratensian Monastery of Our Lady in Magdeburg was the first burial place of St. Norbert. A new Premonstratensian convent is also being

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built in the Ecumenical Courts in the old town in the north of Magdeburg, creating a new religious center.

In preparation for the exhibition and the multi-location project, an academic conference was held at the end of September 2020. The opening of the exhibition in September will see the continuation of this intense focus on the Premonstratensian Order. Magdeburg's Cultural History Museum is hosting a press conference on September 7 that will be attended by the exhibition's patron, the Minister President of Saxony-Anhalt Dr. Reiner Haseloff.

To mark the opening of the exhibition, the IMG is planning a press trip focusing on the Premonstratensians to showcase selected locations and events to press representatives. Barbara Weinert-Nachbagauer, Head of Marketing at IMG, said: "Saxony-Anhalt has so many wonderful testaments to the legacy of the Premonstratensians – the Jerichow Monastery Foundation, Leitzkau Castle, Havelberg Cathedral, Quedlinburg and Klosterrode. We are looking forward to following in the footsteps of history with our guests and visiting magnificent buildings and exhibitions along our Route of the Romanesque."

More information: www.saxony-anhalt-tourism.eu

Magdeburg's Cultural History Museum | Exhibitions > With Bible and Spade
(khm-magdeburg.de)

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PRESSE-INFORMATION

TRULY STUNNING: EVENT HIGHLIGHTS IN 2021*

For our full list of events, please go to www.sachsen-anhalt.de

* Subject to change. Date: March 2021.

GIVEN THE ONGOING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC, WE RECOMMEND YOU CONTACT THE EVENT ORGANIZERS IN ADVANCE TO CHECK WHETHER THE EVENTS ARE GOING AHEAD AS PLANNED.

Feb 1 – April 25	Gartenträume exhibition: Passion for Beauty , Moritzburg Zeitz Castle, www.zeitz.de
From Feb 23	Annual exhibition at the Handel House: Get Down off Your Pedestal! On Heroes and Redeemers www.haendelhaus.de
Feb 26 – March 2 Aug 27 – Sept 5	Kurt Weill Festival , Dessau-Roßlau, online, www.kurt-weill-fest.de
From March 20	Back into the Light – Georg Forster and the Wörlitz South Seas Collection, exhibition at Wörlitz Palace
March 20 – 21	Spring Awakening in Wörlitz , Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz, www.gartenreich.de/en
April 15 – 18	International Fasch Festival , Zerbst/Anhalt, www.fasch.net
April 20 – 25	Carl Loewe Festival , Löbejün, www.carl-loewe-gesellschaft.de
April 30	Walpurgis Night in the Harz Mountains , www.harzinfo.de
May – September	Garden Kingdom Summer Festival , Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz, www.gartenreich.de/en & www.gartenreichsommer.de
Every 3rd Sunday starting in May	Open Gardens in the Garden Landscape of Altmark , Altmark region, www.gartenakademie-sachsen-anhalt.de , www.gartentraeume-sachsen-anhalt.de/en/
May 2	Elbe Cycle Day , www.elbe-cycle-route.com
May 16	International Museum Day
May 16	UNESCO Day of Celebration in Saxony-Anhalt , www.welterbe-sachsen-anhalt.de
May 27 – 30	Town of Bernburg's 52nd Rose Festival , www.bernburger-freizeit.de
Whitsun weekend	Kaiserfrühling ("Emperor's Spring" festival),

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	Quedlinburg www.kaiserfruehling-quedlinburg.de
May 28 – June 13	Handel Festival , Halle, www.haendelhaus.de
End of May until start of September	Altmark Festival , various locations around the Altmark region, www.altmarkfestspiele.de
Last weekend in June	Naumburg Hussite Cherry Festival , Naumburg (Saale), www.hussiten-kirschfest.de
June 4 – 6	King's Festival , town festival commemorating King Henry I., www.quedlinburg-info.de
June 4 – 6	MELT! Festival , Gräfenhainichen, www.meltfestival.de/en/
June 4 – 6	Garden Rendezvous , tours, exhibitions and music organized in collaboration with the German Society for Garden and Landscape Design (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Gartenkunst und Landschaftskultur), www.gartenraeume- sachsen-anhalt.de/en/
June 4 – Jan 9, 2022	The World of the Nebra Sky Disc – New Horizons , state exhibition at the Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte (State Museum of Prehistory) in Halle (Saale) www.ausstellung-himmelsscheibe.de
June 5 – 6	Naumburg Master's Market , craft market in the open access cathedral gardens and activities in the KinderDomBauhütte (children's construction workshop): “World Heritage spring. Naumburg masterpieces as key fobs,” Naumburg Cathedral, Cathedral Gardens, KinderDomBauhütte, www.naumburger-dom.de/en/
June 6	UNESCO World Heritage Day , www.welterbe-sachsen- anhalt.de
June 11 – 13	Luther's Wedding Festival , Luther's Wittenberg, www.lutherhochzeit.de/en/festival/home/
June 18 – 20	montalbâne Festival of Medieval Music , Freyburg/Unstrut, www.montalbane.de
June 26 – 27	Rose Festival and Fair , Europa-Rosarium Sangerhausen, europa-rosarium.de
First weekend in July	Clay at the Cathedral , ceramics, art and culinary delights, Halberstadt, www.ton-am-dom.de
June 26 – July 25	24th Schönebeck Operetta Summer, <i>The Merry Widow</i> by Franz Lehár, Bierer Berg open air theater, Schönebeck Bad Salzelmen, www.mitteldeutsche- kammerphilharmonie.de



June 30 – July 4	15.000 Gray , the machinaeX theater group perform their award-winning game theater project at the Bauhaus Museum Dessau, open stage, www.bauhaus-dessau.de/en/
July 1 – Aug 1	Roses Meet Art , exhibition showing works by artists from Germany and the EU, Europa-Rosarium Sangerhausen, europa-rosarium.de
July 19 – Sept 4	MDR SUMMER OF MUSIC , at various locations in Saxony-Anhalt, Saxony and Thuringia, www.mdr-musiksommer.de
July 24 – Aug 8	29th Hundisburg SummerMusicAcademy , Hundisburg Castle, Haldensleben, www.schloss-hundisburg.de
July 25	Gartenträume Picnic Day , www.gartentraeume-sachsen-anhalt.de/en/
July 3	21st Castle Festival , Bernburg (Saale), www.schlossbergfest-bernburg.de
Aug 7	Romantic Night , Drübeck Abbey and Gardens, www.kloster-druebeck.de
Aug 14	Night of the 1,000 Lights , Europa-Rosarium Sangerhausen, europa-rosarium.de
Aug 13 – 15	20+1 years of UNESCO World Heritage , Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz, www.gartenreich.de/en
Aug 20 – Feb 20, 2022	Special exhibition: Plague – a Pandemic Changes the World , Augusteum, Luther's Wittenberg, www.martinluther.de/en
Last weekend in August	Naumburg Wine Festival and Pottery Market www.naumburg-weinfest.de
Aug 28	Havelberg Boat Parade , www.havelberg.de
Aug 29 – Sept 4	International Telemann Competition , Magdeburg www.telemann.org
Every year in August	Lantern Festival on the Banks of the Saale , Halle (Saale) www.laternenfest-halle.de
Summer	Wernigerode Castle Festival , www.pkow.de
September	Merseburg Organ Festival , www.merseburger-orgeltage.de
Sept – Nov	IMPULS Festival of new music in Saxony-Anhalt www.impulsfestival.de
Sept 2 – 5	Havelberg Horse Market , Hanseatic town of Havelberg, www.havelberg.de

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Sept 3 – 4	Bauhaus Festival , this year's theme is "Infrastructure," Bauhaus buildings, www.bauhaus-dessau.de/en/
Sept 8 – Jan 9, 2022	With Bible and Spade – 900 Years of the Premonstratensian Order , Magdeburg's Cultural History Museum, www.mitbibelundspaten.de
Sept 21	Open Monument Day , www.tag-des-offenen-denkmals.de
October	Heinrich Schütz Music Festival , Weißenfels www.schuetz-musikfest.de/eng/
October 1 – 3	Oktoberfest on Karlsplatz in Bernburg (Saale) , www.bernburger-freizeit.de
October 1 – 3	Germany Unity Day , Halle (Saale) www.dubisthalle.de/tag/tag-der-deutschen-einheit
October 22 – 31	Wittenberg Renaissance Music Festival , Luther's Wittenberg, www.wittenberger-renaissancemusik.de
Oct 29 – Nov 1	Magdeburg Telemann Festival , www.telemann.org
October 31	Reformation Day , festival service, festival concerts at the churches, renaissance music festival, talks, readings, city tours of Luther's Wittenberg and Luther's Eisleben, www.martinluther.de/en
Around Nov 10	Luther's Birthday , a festival lasting several days, with medieval activities, cultural offerings and events in Luther's Eisleben, www.martinluther.de/en
November 11 – 25	Xist*innen. A Metabolist Laboratory , by Solomon Nikritin, a performance installation featuring talks, discussions, shows and open workshops, Bauhaus Museum Dessau, open stage, www.bauhaus-dessau.de/en/
Nov 22 – Feb 2	Light Festival , www.lichterwelt-magdeburg.de
Nov 27 – 28, Dec 4 – 5 and Dec 11 – 12	Advent in the Courtyards , Christmas-themed tours of historic inner courtyards that are usually closed to the public, www.quedlinburg-info.de
Nov 27 – 28	Christmas Courtyards , craft market in the cloisters and activities in the KinderDomBauhütte (children's construction workshop), Naumburg Cathedral, Cathedral Gardens, cloisters, www.naumburger-dom.de/en/
3rd weekend of advent	Advent Festival at Luther's House and Courtyard , special tours, play-along theater, creative activities and markets at Luther's House, Luther's Wittenberg, www.martinluther.de/en



PRESSE-INFORMATION

Truly Stunning: Fun Facts and Fascinating Figures about the Travel Destination Saxony-Anhalt

Did you know that...

- Saxony-Anhalt, located in the heart of Germany, covers an area of over 2 million square kilometers and is home to around 2.24 million people.
- Around one quarter of Saxony-Anhalt's population live in the state capital Magdeburg and in Halle an der Saale (around 238,000 people in each city) and in Dessau-Rosslau (83,000 people).
- Over 20% of the state is covered with forests, where you can go for beautiful walks.
- At 303 km long, the longest stretch of the Elbe flows through Saxony-Anhalt; you can cycle along it, and along the Saale, Unstrut and Mulde rivers, on a network of cycle paths.
- In addition to natural lakes such as the 510-hectare Arendsee, there are reservoirs such as the one formed by the Rappbode dam in the Harz region and lakes formed by reclaiming and flooding former mines. The Geisel valley lake, the largest artificial lake in Germany, has developed into a tourist attraction over recent years thanks to its water sports facilities and marina.
- Saxony-Anhalt has the highest concentration of UNESCO World Heritage sites and, together with other Central German states, is seen as Germany's cradle of culture.
- Saxony-Anhalt has lots to offer not only in the way of history and culture, but also technical inventions and innovations (see [Success stories](#) invest-in-saxony-anhalt.com)
- Saxony-Anhalt is always thinking ahead of the times (have you taken a look at our #moderndenken campaign?).
- Saxony-Anhalt is easy to get to from anywhere in Germany via the A2, A9, A14, A38 and B6n highways, by train via the main rail routes, and from abroad via Leipzig/Halle Airport. It can also be reached quickly using Fly and Rail schemes from airports such as Frankfurt, Berlin and Hanover.

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Landscapes and regions:

Altmark: This flat, unspoiled region in Northern Saxony-Anhalt formed during the Ice Age is known for its riding stables and a 1,600-km long bridle path network and for its extensive cycle path network. Imposing Brick Gothic buildings in the Hanseatic towns of Havelberg, Salzwedel, Stendal and Tangermünde recall the towns' impressive past. But the Altmark region is also a hidden gem for digital nomads thanks to its many green, creative spaces for co-working, co-living and co-creation in the countryside.

Magdeburg and Magdeburg Börde: The spires of the Romanesque cathedral in the state capital Magdeburg, known as the City of Otto, can be seen from afar, standing out against the gently sloping landscape and the most fertile agricultural land in Germany. Situated on the Elbe river, the city boasts museums, many cultural institutions and shops, cafés and restaurants, public sector bodies, universities and businesses; it offers a high standard of living and is constantly evolving.

Harz: The Brocken Mountain, the highest peak in Northern Germany, and the Harz National Park have always been steeped in myths and are favorite travel destinations among walkers. The Harz Narrow Gauge Railway is a popular attraction for rail enthusiasts, who enjoy riding the steam train up to the 1141-meter high summit of the Brocken Mountain. Many new attractions have recently opened, such as the longest rope bridge in Germany, which stretches out over the gorge beyond the Rappbode dam, and many other traditional tourist activities as well as extreme sports.

Heathlands: The Letzlinger heathlands are home to the largest lime forest in Europe, while the Düben heathlands are a magnet for mushroom pickers. Both heathlands are popular among people who love walking, riding and cycling and those in search of solitude.

River landscapes: The vineyards of Germany's northernmost wine-growing region run along the Saale and Unstrut rivers, where canoeists drift gently past on the idly flowing waters. The Middle Elbe Biosphere Reserve, part of the UNESCO Elbe River Landscape Biosphere Reserve, is a largely untouched natural landscape. As it reaches Dessau-Wörlitz, the Elbe passes by the garden paradise of Wörlitz Park, which also has UNESCO World Heritage status.

Mansfelder Land: Hundreds of years of copper shale mining has had a lasting impact on the area in the form of the Mansfeld pyramids, three spoil heaps clearly visible from a distance. At 153 meters, the largest is actually



14 meters taller than the Great Pyramid of Giza. You can even climb the hill as part of a public tour once a year.

Halle and southern Saxony-Anhalt: During the Middle Ages, Halle an der Saale became wealthy due to its salt production. Today, visitors can learn about the traditional methods of salt boiling in demonstrations given at Germany's only museum that produces salt. As Halle was not destroyed in the war, the buildings bear witness to bygone eras throughout the history of the city – which was also the birthplace of the composer Handel. If you follow the river south toward the Saale-Unstrut region, you will reach Naumburg, where you will find the Romanesque-Gothic cathedral, now a UNESCO World Heritage site, and its world-famous founder figure Uta.

Truly individual: trips that are everyone's cup of tea

The historic Gartenträume in Saxony-Anhalt is a network of 50 gardens and parks dating from the 17th to the 21st century. Last year's planned events to mark the **20th anniversary of the Gartenträume** have been rescheduled to 2021. The program will feature magical festivals, breathtaking night-time light displays, classical concerts at exquisite locations such as castles and palaces, and outdoor garden seminars – the perfect opportunity for visitors to enjoy and experience the gardens and try out their own green thumbs.

Saxony-Anhalt's Sky Paths: This adventure trail takes in sites where sensational archaeological discoveries have been made in southern Saxony-Anhalt, such as the solar observatory in Goseck, the site where the Nebra Sky Disc was found, now the location of the Arche Nebra archaeology visitor center, and the dolmen goddess of Langeneichstädt. From June 2021 to January 2022, the Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte (State Museum of Prehistory) in Halle will be showing a special exhibition called **“The World of the Nebra Sky Disc – New Horizons.”**

Saxony-Anhalt is home to outstanding **UNESCO World Heritage sites**. As part of the **6 Spectacular Sites** scheme, 2021 will see a focus on the Bauhaus, the Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz, the Nebra Sky Disc, the Luther sites in Wittenberg and Eisleben, Naumburg Cathedral and Collegiate Church, and the castle and old town of Quedlinburg.

A special exhibition in Magdeburg called **“With Bible and Spade – 900 Years of the Premonstratensian Order”** marks the Order's anniversary in 2021 and explores its social significance. What's more, a cultural tourism



project spanning multiple locations connects a variety of activities and events organized by selected former Premonstratensian sites in Saxony-Anhalt, Brandenburg, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania and Schleswig-Holstein.

Did you also know...

- Saxony-Anhalt is the land of Luther; it is the cradle of the reformation and home to authentic historical locations in the movement's history.
- The Bauhaus and Modernism in Saxony-Anhalt: the world-renowned design school in Saxony-Anhalt has left its mark across most of the country. Dessau in particular is home to many original Bauhaus buildings from the movement's heyday.
- Saxony-Anhalt has an active music scene with numerous music festivals and themed days as well as concerts featuring music from the Middle Ages to the present day.
- Saxony-Anhalt is a great destination for activity and nature holidays, from cycling, hiking and riding to water sports, outdoor fun and camping.
- The wine-growing region of Saale-Unstrut offers wine and vintner festivals, wine taverns, wine tastings, the Saale-Unstrut Wine Road, and the wine museum in Neuenburg Palace in Freyburg.
- The state has five state-recognized spas, as well as climatic spas, health resorts and numerous wellness and beauty packages in hotels and thermal spas.



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More information on the tourist destination Saxony-Anhalt can be found at:

www.saxony-anhalt-tourism.eu

www.bauhaus-entdecken.de

www.luther-erleben.de

www.naturfreude-erleben.de

www.ausstellung-himmelsscheibe.de

www.welterbe-sachsen-anhalt.de

<http://www.himmelswege.de/index.php?id=136>

And on IMG's social media pages: [IMG tourism \(@IMG Tourismus\) | Twitter](#), [Tourist destination Saxony-Anhalt \(@reiseland_sachsen_anhalt\) | Instagram photos and videos](#) and [Tourist destination Saxony-Anhalt | Facebook page](#)

Images under this link: <http://reiseland.sachsen-anhalt-bilder.de/app.html#/public/b934edf0-8043-11eb-a051-795e51b0d9fd>

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Welcome to the Altmark – A Region full of Heart and Soul

The well-preserved and attractive Altmark region is less than two hours away from Berlin, Hamburg and Hanover. Here you can discover Prussia's roots, impressive examples of Romanesque architecture, historic Hanseatic towns and exquisite parks and gardens. In addition to its eight Hanseatic towns, the Altmark is characterized by picturesque villages, beautiful landscapes and rolling farmland.

It is one of the most sparsely populated areas of Germany, but it is far from being boring. You won't find any traffic jams, polluted air, stressful hustle and bustle, or noisy concrete labyrinths in this beautiful part of northern Saxony-Anhalt. But it certainly isn't lacking in unspoiled landscapes, magical villages, romantic towns and impressive history and culture. If you are looking for rest and relaxation, the Altmark is the place to be.

With more than 100 hotels and guest houses to choose from, visitors can be sure of a comfortable stay. The region offers 1,500 km of cycle paths, including the attractive and extremely popular Elbe Cycle Route and the Havel Cycle Route, as well as many hiking trails. At 1,600 km, Europe's largest continuous network of bridle paths promises adventures for riders and their horses.

Join us on a journey of exploration to learn more about the red bricks on the Route of the Romanesque and to discover uniquely preserved natural landscapes. Visitors will be captivated by the dazzling blue of Arendsee lake in bright sunlight and will marvel at the natural abundance of color in Drömling Biosphere Reserve.

The German Green Belt runs along the former border between East and West Germany; its color of hope represents the freedom that has grown with it. The agricultural region of Altmark has many fields of bright yellow oilseed rape. Walkers and riders pass each other on the quiet forest paths. Canoeists pull their boats out the water and onto the banks of the Elbe and rest alongside the cyclists on the country estates.

The Altmark isn't just well known and loved for its cultural and outdoor activities, but also for its regional culinary specialties. Vibrant, up-and-coming eateries are making a name for themselves alongside well-established restaurants with more traditional menus, selling classic dishes as well as inventive, innovative meals.

The Altmark also has many exciting dates for your diary this year: Havelberg Horse Market from September 2 to 5, 2021, which has been running for over 200 years, Tangermünde Castle Festival from September 10 to 12, 2021, in the over 1,000-year-old town of Tangermünde, and Steinfeld Farmers' Market on September 25, 2021, with over 180 regional traders.

If you are looking for new inspiration for a small-town break, enjoy cycling or going to concerts in Romanesque churches, or if you are a history enthusiast





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and fancy walking in the footsteps of the Iron Chancellor Otto von Bismarck, come and visit the Altmark and discover the huge variety of attractions the region has to offer.

More Information:

www.altmark.de

www.havelradweg.de

www.altmarkrundkurs.de

Images under this link: <http://reiseland.sachsen-anhalt-bilder.de/app.html#/public/b934edf0-8043-11eb-a051-795e51b0d9fd>

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World Heritage Region of Anhalt-Dessau-Wittenberg #vacationmadeeasy

Discover the people and culture of a unique region in the heart of Germany – a region rich in history and world heritage set in an impressive landscape. Come and marvel at our four UNESCO World Heritage sites: the Luther Memorials in Wittenberg, the Bauhaus buildings in Dessau, the Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz and the UNESCO Middle Elbe Biosphere Reserve. Immerse yourself in the diverse world cultural heritage surrounding Kurt Weill, Johann Sebastian Bach, Hugo Junkers and Catherine the Great in Anhalt or experience the fascinating background to the industrial heritage of the former coal-mining region between Wittenberg and Bitterfeld.

WelterbeCard 2021 now features 15 new partners

A tourism card for the whole family. The WelterbeCard is your ticket to an extensive world of discovery throughout the World Heritage Region of Anhalt-Dessau-Wittenberg. Tourists pay a one-off sum for the card and can then explore the region's 125 art, culture, nature and leisure attractions for free for a limited period. And it gets even better: from 2021, you can use the card to travel for free on the World Heritage Region's local buses and on the WelterbeLinie 304 and 310 bus routes to the World Heritage sites in Dessau, Wörlitz, Wittenberg and to the Biosphere Reserve. The WelterbeCard is available as a 24-hour or 3-day card from all tourist information centers in the region or online at www.welterbecard.de. It also comes with a useful free travel guide with detailed descriptions of the different attractions.

Our tip for your #vacationmadeeasy: the card remains valid the whole year – the 24-hour or 3-day period only starts when you first use your card!

World Heritage by the water

Anhalt-Dessau-Wittenberg is a World Heritage Region with a wonderful variety of lakes, ponds and rivers. It has much on offer for sport enthusiasts and those looking for a relaxing break. The Elbe, Saale and Mulde rivers and the idyllic pit lakes such as Muldestausee, Gremminer Lake, Gröberner Lake, Bergwitzsee and the Great Goitzschesee are the perfect places to both relax and keep active.

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Word Heritage Cycling: a new cycle tourism campaign

Cycling is an excellent way to explore the natural and cultural treasures in the World Heritage Region of Anhalt-Dessau-Wittenberg. A dense network of different cycle routes covering around 700 km connects the region's tourist highlights. It includes the Elbe Cycle Route – one of Germany's favorite cycle routes – and the European Bicycle Route R1, the Saale Cycle Path and the Berlin-Leipzig Cycle Route. To kick-start the upcoming cycling season, the World Heritage Region has launched its "WelterbeRadeln" (Word Heritage Cycling) campaign. This new campaign is designed to make visitors aware of the many cycle paths in the World Heritage Region and to boost the area's cycle tourism. In addition to seven transregional cycle paths, a variety of themed tours that pass by the UNESCO World Heritage sites as well as lesser-known spots and sights are waiting to be discovered. Word Heritage Cycling will first be advertised in spring as part of a wide-reaching poster campaign in Berlin. Adverts will then be placed in the leisure magazine AktivRadfahren, articles posted on the region's own "Welterbe-Blog" and marketing posts put out on social media.

More information:

www.anhalt-dessau-wittenberg.de
www.welterbecard.de

You can get pictures under this link: <http://reiseland.sachsen-anhalt-bilder.de/app.html#/public/b934edf0-8043-11eb-a051-795e51b0d9fd>

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Harz

Nature, Culture and Outdoor Fun Make For an Action-Packed Holiday in the Harz Mountains

After the first lockdown last summer, the Harz region showed that it can triumph when it comes to attracting and delighting visitors thanks to its diverse range of natural landscapes and cultural and outdoor activities. The tourism sector in the Harz mountains is hoping to make the most of this winning selling point this year too, by capitalizing on the increased demand from German staycationers.

Thousands of kilometers of hiking trails lead tourists and visitors on a journey of discovery through the Harz natural landscape: along the Devil's Walk and through the mythical valley of the river Bode, the Harz National Park, the Upper Harz Water Regale and the South Harz Karst Landscape. The "Harzer Wandernadel," a system of 222 hiking checkpoints in the Harz mountains, help walkers plan their day trips and also mark out worthwhile stopping points. Stretching almost 100 km between Osterode in the south-west and Thale in the north-east, the Harz Witches' Trail is an enticing hike lasting several days. Since 2008, it has belonged to the list of renowned hiking trails known as the "Qualitätswegen Wanderbares Deutschland," selected by the Deutscher Wanderverband (German Hikers Association). This top-tier status was renewed in 2020 for another three years.

Another remarkable highlight is the cultural and historical treasures at the heart of the Harz mountain range. Visitors are transported back in time by the picturesque towns of Wernigerode and Quedlinburg with their half-timbered houses and many museums and galleries, and by historic sites such as Wernigerode Castle, Falkenstein Castle and the former Harz mines. The Harz Narrow Gauge Railway with its impressive steam locos also takes its passengers on a journey through time as it winds its way through the Harz landscape. And if that weren't enough, the Harz region boasts three of the 46 UNESCO World Heritage sites found in Germany.

Adrenalin junkies will find more than enough to keep them entertained with vertical wall running, the Megazipline double zip wire, and the 75 m GigaSwing pendulum jump from the TITAN RT suspension bridge to choose from. Summer toboggan runs such as the "Harzbob" in Thale, the new "Baumschwebbahn" treetop zip line in Bad Harzburg and the region's mountain bike trails and bike parks also offer fast-paced thrills. If you enjoy trying your hand at outdoor puzzles, Outdoor Escape Games provides the perfect challenge around Braunlage and Wernigerode.

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Dates for your diary in 2021 (subject to the ongoing coronavirus situation):

- HarzerKlosterSommer (Summer of Harz Abbeys) – a program of events including: Michaelsteiner Klosterfest (Michaelstein Abbey Festival) on August 1, 2021, Romantische Nacht (Romantic Night) in Drübeck Abbey on August 7, 2021, Kloster à la carte (Abbey à la carte) at Wöltingerode Abbey on August 14, 2021
- 41st Quedlinburger Musiksommer (Quedlinburg Summer of Music) from June 12 to September 11, 2021

For more informations:

www.harzinfo.de

You can get pictures under this link: <http://reiseland.sachsen-anhalt-bilder.de/app.html#/public/b934edf0-8043-11eb-a051-795e51b0d9fd>

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Welcome to Magdeburg, City of Otto, and the Elbe-Börde-Heide Region!

Magdeburg delights visitors from near and far with its history of world-changing events and the wide range of cultural and leisure activities it has in store. Away from the hustle and bustle of the city, the region offers a rich variety of landscapes such as the fertile Magdeburg Börde with its traditional customs that are still practiced today, the Blue Ribbon of the Elbe with its unique river wetlands, and peaceful forest landscapes like the Colbitz-Letzlinger heathlands.

One of the region's standout highlights is the **Elbe Cycle Route**. The 2021 holiday season will see bike trips returning as a firm favorite among vacationists. Biking is booming and many enthusiastic cyclists are using this opportunity to explore the region by bike. The Elbe Cycle Route starts at the source of the Elbe in the Czech Krkonoše mountain range and continues for 1,300 km across Germany. The particularly charming section of the route that runs through the Magdeburg region is a must-see. This famous route runs along idyllic river landscapes such as the UNESCO Middle Elbe Biosphere Reserve. You can marvel at the many elegant towns and quaint villages with their cultural attractions along the way – an experience not to be missed.

The Sweet Tour is another adventure the region has to offer which guides guests through the sugar and sugar beet areas of the Magdeburg Börde. These individual tours pack in a wide range of tourist providers, museums and local firms at 21 different locations, bringing the sweet traditions of the Börde to life. Guests can experience the regional fare as well as contemporary products and production sites. Each year in October, the special Sweet Tour Day takes place, featuring exciting tours and visits for all the guests.

The thrilling Elbe-Börde-Heide region has a long tradition of salt production. **The Salt Tour** takes guests along old salt trading streets where many intriguing surprises lie in store. It is particularly suited to day trips out with the whole family. This year will see the return of the themed months of special events hosted by the tourism partners in the Salt Tour network from May to June, subject to the coronavirus restrictions in force.

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More information:

www.elberadweg.de
www.regionmagdeburg.de

You can get pictures under this link: <http://reiseland.sachsen-anhalt-bilder.de/app.html#/public/b934edf0-8043-11eb-a051-795e51b0d9fd>

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Saale-Unstrut 2021 at ITB Berlin NOW

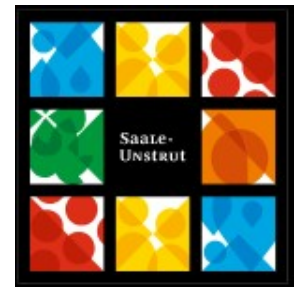
Saale-Unstrut is a charming region in the heart of Germany with a rich cultural landscape and a wine-growing tradition going back to the High Middle Ages. This region has a unique architectural heritage from 1,000 years of European history. It is a welcoming holiday destination with so much to offer, from picturesque riverscapes and old vineyards to steep terraces, stone walls and winemakers' cottages. It is the ideal getaway for discerning lovers of wine, culture and the natural world.

Saale-Unstrut also boasts a UNESCO World Heritage site of worldwide importance: Naumburg Cathedral, situated in the heart of the region.

Anniversary of the consecration of Merseburg Cathedral: Merseburg Cathedral is marking the 1,000th anniversary of its consecration with a year of celebrations: exhibitions, special tours, concerts and many other events will be taking place across Merseburg during the whole year. Because of the pandemic, visitors are not currently able to come and enjoy the cathedral's cultural pleasures; as a substitute, selected precious artefacts from the cathedral treasury are being showcased online on social media sites and on the cathedral's website at www.domweihe-merseburg.de. The celebrations will culminate in a special highlight: a performance of the Merseburg Incantations in the original Old High German. A festival weekend is also planned to take place from October 1 to 3, 2021, with the entire cathedral-and-palace ensemble acting as the stage for the festivities.

Kneipp Year in Bad Bibra. 2021 is the 200th anniversary of the birth of priest Sebastian Kneipp, and what better reason for the town of Bad Bibra to highlight his achievements. Situated in the Finne hills, Bad Bibra is a tranquil town in Saale-Unstrut-Triasland nature park that has been particularly blessed by the power of nature. The spring water at the former fashionable Baroque spa that belonged to the dukes of Saxe-Weißenfels comes from the local spring and has a very high iron content. There is a Kneipp walk-in water bath in the center of the Badeplatz and visitors can find out more about the history of the time-honored spring on the Kneipp walking tour through the town's forest. As soon as circumstances allow, the popular "Kneipp for Everyone" courses for both beginners and experts will start up again. Workshops, tours and cookery classes are also due to take place throughout the anniversary year. On May 17, Kneipp's birthday, there will be a hands-on presentation of the five main tenets of Kneippism on the Badeplatz in Bad Bibra.

Looking to the Stars on the Sky Paths: A special exhibition at the Arche Nebra. There are two highlights in store for visitors on the Sky Paths in summer 2021. The "Looking to the Stars – From the Sky Disc to the Rosetta Mission" exhibition at the Arche Nebra is running until September. This special exhibition explores in detail the infinite nature of the universe and takes visitors on a spectacular journey through the history of astronomy.



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State exhibition on the Nebra Sky Disc at the Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte (State Museum of Prehistory): After exploring the Arche Nebra, it is well worth visiting Goseck solar observatory and then continuing on to Halle, where the State Museum of Prehistory is showing a state exhibition called “The World of the Nebra Sky Disc – New Horizons” (from June). The exhibition will present results gathered over the past 20 years from research into the Sky Disc. The new finds and discoveries from Saxony-Anhalt will be supplemented by prestigious artefacts from over 50 lenders from Germany and abroad.

The „Handmade in Saale-Unstrut“ initiative promotes high-quality craftsmanship, diligence, a passion for locally-made products and close links with the Saale-Unstrut region. It increases the profile and value of artisan, agricultural and manufactured products, as well as the creative industry as a whole. There are currently 24 artisan partners in the network, which is growing all the time. The project is co-coordinated by the local Saale-Unstrut-Tourismus e.V. tourism association.

Handmade events open for booking online: A series of events are on offer to complement the regional products produced by the Handgemacht Saale.Unstrut network and are the perfect opportunity for guests to engage with local artisans. After all, nothing beats creating your own handmade treats! The first few events have been open for online booking on the network’s website since the end of 2020: www.saale-unstrut-tourismus.de/en/handgemacht/. Depending on the coronavirus restrictions, new events will gradually open for booking. Promotional posts on social media are also helping to boost the initiative’s publicity. Videos, photos, interviews, recipes and ideas to try out at home are posted on the network’s social media pages as a way of showcasing the different artisan crafters.

Schütz and Novalis double anniversary in Weißenfels in 2022: The town of Weißenfels is currently preparing for a double anniversary in 2022: the 350th anniversary of the death of the composer Heinrich Schütz and the 250th anniversary of the birth of the poet Georg Philipp Friedrich von Hardenberg, known as Novalis. Concerts, exhibitions and musical premières are planned to celebrate this special year. The first ever Weißenfels Long Week of Culture (March 25 to April 3, 2022) will feature the première of Maria Leontjewa’s setting of Novalis’ work to music. The artist Christina Simon from Weißenfels is dedicating two art exhibitions in the BRAND-SANIERUNG art gallery to the two anniversaries: “The Essence of all Creatures – In Search of Original Meaning,” which marks the 250th anniversary of the birth of Novalis on May 2 (runs from May 1 – June 26, 2022), and “O Dear Kisses and Merry Forests, or: How is it in Arcadia?,” a musical art project to mark the 350th anniversary of the death of Heinrich Schütz on November 6 (runs from October 1 to November 6, 2022). The celebrations will be rounded off by the première of “From the Life of Heinrich Schütz,” a choral symphony by Axel Gebhardt.

Looking back at the 2020 wine year: “2020 was a good year for quality, but less so for quantity,” said Hans Albrecht Zieger, President of the Saale-Unstrut Wine Growing Association. The harvest yield was 15% down on the



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previous year. He expects that it will produce less than three million liters of wine. In 2019, the vineyards produced enough grapes for 3.3 million liters of wine; the long-term average is 5.2 million liters. One reason for the reduced harvest was the frost on May 12, 2020, which damaged the vines. Low levels of rainfall also took their toll. 2018 and 2019 were also very dry years.

More Information:

www.saale-unstrut-tourismus.de

Images under this link: <http://reiseland.sachsen-anhalt-bilder.de/app.html#/public/b934edf0-8043-11eb-a051-795e51b0d9fd>

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