

# AMBERG MODERN TOWN CENTER WITH AN OLD TRADITION

**A delightful experience!**



"Opposites attract". Amberg is a living example of this proverb. With its almost thousand years of history and before its impressive, historical backdrop, the town of Amberg has entered the new millennium as a modern shopping and service centre with a broad range of cultural events. Modern and traditional features are closely intertwined, forming a harmonious entity which provides excellent quality of life. No wonder that living and working in this place are as pleasant as taking a holiday here. Amberg is worth a visit - you'll see!



## Looking with amazement

One of the most famous and beautiful landmarks of Amberg are the "town spectacles" - a water gate construction spanning the Vils river, which formerly served to fortify town and to connect the new castle to the armoury ("Zeughaus"). Next to it, the town wall encircling the ancient centre with a double fortification, its towers and gates, the Gothic town hall with its renaissance wing, mighty churches and many other historical buildings are characteristic for the unique image of the town. Visit the most impressive buildings:

the "Alte Veste", the new castle and the "Zeughaus" (today, both accommodate the rural district council offices), the "Klösterl" and the "Regierungskanzlei" (seat of the office of the government's chancellor, where today the Regional Court is located). As the term "Regierungskanzlei" suggests, Amberg was the seat of the government of the "Upper Palatinate" for many years. This era of the town on the Vils river, who owed its prosperity to ore-mining and the salt trade, ended in 1810. You will learn a lot more from town guides who will be pleased to show you the old and the new Amberg.

## Experiencing and enjoying culture

One of the sights of Amberg is the town theatre ("Stadttheater"), which is accommodated in a former church. Its varied programme invites visitors to remarkable performances and concerts. Here, premieres take place at regular intervals; here, renowned casts and artists meet. But Amberg has even more to offer as regards culture: in July, when the "Summer Festival" offers its varied programme including cabaret shows and jazz, you can enjoy art events outdoors. A sophisticated choice of films also caters for the movie fan community. Plus, there are events in the Amberg Congress Centre, high-powered literature in the town library and excellent exhibitions in the town museum and prehistoric museum.

## Shopping and feasting

Modern Culture in the evening, shopping during the day. You will be pleased by the personal shopping atmosphere of the small, but refined specialist shops and boutiques in the old town centre. This ample range is completed by big department stores both in and around the old part of the town. One of the biggest German glass manufactures is based in Amberg and has a factory shop. It is located on an industrial estate on the edge of the town, together with a number of other shops. A host of restaurants, cafés or bistros are the town waiting for you to rest and dine there during or after your shopping tour. And in the evening, many pubs and clubs await you.

There are four subterranean parking areas and two multi-storey car parks on the edge town centre as well as many short time parking lots in the "Amberger Ei" the inner town is called affectionately due to its oval - egg-like - shape, shortening routes and rendering shopping even more attractive. Moreover, the Amberg City Bus provides a well-functioning means of public transport.



## Recreation and activity

Just outside the town gates, paths and green areas are ideally suited for walking. Directly behind the "town spectacles", there the enormous acreage of the Land garden exhibition of 1996 which has been retained largely as a recreational area within immediate reach of the town. Apart from



this area south of the inner town, the so-called herb meadow north of it (near the almost continuous circular town moat) and the "Mariahilfberg" with its pilgrimage church and its large forest are available for recreation. This is the place where the legendary mountain festival takes place in late June, early July which, together with the town festival in June, the "Dult" - a big fair at Whitsuntide and in the autumn - prove that the Amberg people know how to celebrate. Join them! Many traditional festivals around Amberg also have their place in the calendar. Here you will come across a

landscape ideal for rambling, between the Jura Mountains and the Upper Palatinate forest. And those who prefer biking to hiking will appreciate the well-developed network of cycle paths, including the Five-River Cycle-Path which connects Amberg to Nuremberg and Regensburg. Further leisure-time pursuits are provided by an indoor leisure pool, an open-air swimming pool, a crazy-golf course and – in the centre of a spacious sports centre – an ice sports area.