



Stuttgart Hiking Trail

Field Guide



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Hikers are reminded to observe all local German laws and customs, including crossing the street at crosswalks. Stuttgart Mitte is under heavy construction at the time of this writing, therefore, deviations from the intended route may be necessary for safety. Always ensure that you are dressed appropriately for the weather and have adequate water for your hike. Above all, have fun!



Stuttgart

The first inhabitants settled this fertile land near the Neckar River now called Stuttgart. The subsequent settlers were Romans occupying and invading German provinces in an effort to expand the Roman Empire. In doing so, they founded a fort in present-day Bad Cannstatt, currently a district in Stuttgart. In A.D. 950, Stuttgart turned into a stud farm for breeding horses for the Duchy of Württemberg. Half a millennium later, Stuttgart became the capital of the Duchy of Württemberg in 1482 and later became the capital of the Kingdom of Württemberg under Napoleonic rule. The 19th and 20th centuries were a turbulent time for Stuttgart, with the most significant impacts resulting from the Allied bombing of critical industrial and military targets in the area during World War II. After the war, the city rebuilt many of its buildings using primarily modern-style architecture, but some old architectural styles were also used, such as Bauhaus, Baroque, and Rococo. Currently, under Stuttgart 21, the Baden-Württemberg parliament and mayor are overseeing renovations designed to revitalize city architecture to compete with other German cities, such as Hamburg, Lübeck, Berlin, Munich, Cologne, Frankfurt, and Dresden.

Stuttgart is a wonderful city with lots to see and do and offers a great chance to experience German and Swabian culture amid the classical architecture of the old town. Stuttgart has preserved its palaces and castles while tastefully building modern, functional structures, including the Bibliothek, the Porsche museum, and the Stuttgart VFB soccer arena. It truly is a wonderful city with a unique and vibrant culture that is centuries old and easily discoverable. Exploring Stuttgart and completing the hike will take approximately 2-3 hours and cover a total distance of about 5 miles.



Hauptbahnhof

Checkpoint #1

Arnulf-Kletz Platz 2

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'56" N 9°10'54" E

Elevation: 250 meters

<https://www.bahnhof.de/bahnhof-de/bahnhof/Stuttgart-Hbf-1038338>

Paul Bonatz built the Hauptbahnhof, or central train station, for the Kingdom of Württemberg, in 1914, and the station came into service in 1922. In 1933, the Deutsche Reichsbahn electrified the Hauptbahnhof. The Hauptbahnhof was constructed in the architectural style of the Renaissance Revival and is currently under refurbishment and renovations under the Stuttgart 21 Project.

In World War II, the Allies targeted the Hauptbahnhof in many bombing raids on Stuttgart because it was a center for logistics and communications. The Nazis built a decoy at Lauffen am Neckar to protect the station from air raids between 1940 to 1942.

Despite the decoy, Allied air raids from British and American heavy bombers severely damaged the Hauptbahnhof. Following World War II and during the Cold War, the United States occupied Stuttgart under the Four Powers' Agreement. In 1971, plans to build the modern S-Bahn (Stadt Bahn) started, and construction finished in 1978. As part of the new Stuttgart 21 construction project, the renovated Hauptbahnhof will add new tracks and platforms and will be able to accommodate more trains, including a new high-speed European train route from Paris through Stuttgart to Vienna. This will improve passenger transport across southern Germany and Europe.



Stadtbibliothek

Checkpoint #2

Mailander Platz 1

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°47'25" N 9°10'59" E

Elevation: 260 meters

Documentation: Mon - Sat 09:00 - 21:00, closed Sun

<http://www1.stuttgart.de/stadtbibliothek/>

In 2011, Stuttgart completed the Stadtbibliothek, or City Public Library, at the cost of 80€ million. Eun Young Yi designed the library, which welcomes 2 million visitors per year. Home to 60,000 books and four stories high, the library is designed as a cube of white block brick with squares and panes of glass. This vantage point provides a full view of the Neckar Valley, Stuttgart, and its suburbs. The original library in Stuttgart was built in 1834 and was previously housed in the Wilhelm Palais.



Staatsgalerie

Checkpoint #3

Museum Der Bildenden Künste

Konrad Adenauer Straße 30-32

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'51" N 9°11'9" E

Elevation: 250 meters

Documentation: Open Tues - Sun 10:00 - 17:00 PM, and Thurs 10:00 - 20:00, closed Mon

<https://www.staatsgalerie.de/>

The State of Baden-Württemberg first built the Staatsgalerie, or State Gallery, as the Royal Art School and a cultural enrichment project. Finished in 1843, it houses famous paintings by Italian, Dutch, and German artists.

After suffering extensive damage during World War II, it was rebuilt in 1947 and reopened in 1987. It contains both new and old works, including artwork by Pablo Picasso, most of which are renaissance or classical styles. It also includes beautiful depictions of abstract and modern art.



Staatstheater

Checkpoint #4

Oberer Schlossgarten 6

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'48" N 9°11'2" E

Elevation: 220 meters

Documentation: Tickets can be purchased by calling this phone number: 0711-202090

<https://www.staatsoper-stuttgart.de/en/>

Max Litmann designed the Staatstheater, or State Theater, which was built between 1909-1912. The drama section of the building suffered immense damage during World War II and was later rebuilt under the direction of Hans Volkart between 1959-1962. Between 1982-1984, Stuttgart modernized the original structure but subsequently restored it to its previous form of architectural elegance. The theater is still open today, hosts concerts, operas (including operas for children), ballets, and other performances. It specializes in highlighting German culture, such as the fairy tales of the Black Forest.



Haus der Geschichte Baden-Württemberg

Checkpoint #5

Konrad Adenauer Straße 16

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'44" N 9°11'15" E

Elevation: 260 meters

Documentation: open Tues - Sun 10:00 - 18:00, Thurs 10:00 - 21:00, closed Mon

<https://www.hdgbw.de/english/>

Stuttgart first built the Haus der Geschichte Baden-Württemberg, or House of History of Baden-Württemberg, to educate tourists and others about the Swabians' history and the state of Baden-Württemberg from the Napoleonic Wars to modern-day Stuttgart. The museum is entirely dedicated to the history of the state of Baden-Württemberg.



Neues Schloss

Checkpoint #6

Schlossplatz

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'43" N 9°10'59" E

Elevation: 260 meters

<https://www.neues-schloss-stuttgart.de/start>

The Württembergs first built the Neues Schloss, or New Palace, between 1746-1807 as a residence for the Dukes and Kings of Württemberg. Famous royals and monarchs from all over Europe visited the palace, including Russian Tsars Paul I and Alexander I, and the French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte.

During World War II, the Luftwaffe used the Neues Schloss as an air control headquarters until it was bombed during an air raid. Stuttgart later rebuilt the palace following a vote by Baden-Württemberg's Parliament. The vote succeeded by one vote. Today the palace is the home to the state's ministry of finance.



Schlossplatz

Checkpoint #7

Schlossplatz

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'43" N 9°10'59" E

Elevation: 260 meters

<https://www.stuttgart.de/tourismus/sehenswuerdigkeiten/schlossplatz.php>

The Schlossplatz, or Palace Square. is the inner courtyard of the Neues Schloss and the center of Stuttgart. On sunny days, residents and tourists alike can be seen sunbathing and enjoying the square, including the nearby restaurants and cafes. In the winter, it is home to part of the Christmas Market.



Königsbau

Checkpoint #8

König Straße 26

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'45" N 9°11'46" E

Elevation: 260 meters

Documentation: open all days 10:00 - 21:00 except Sun

<https://www.koenigsbau-passagen.de/>

The Swabian King, Wilhelm the 1st, and architects Christen Friedrich von Leins and Michael Johann Knapp built the Königsbau, or Royal Building as a business, concert hall, and ballroom between the years of 1856-1860. Today, with a rebuilt façade based on the original design, it is used as an eatery and shopping area for central Stuttgart.



Landesmuseum

Checkpoint #9

Schillerplatz 6

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'37" N 9°10'44" E

Elevation: 250 meters

Documentation: open 10:00 - 17:00, Tues – Wed, 10:00 - 21:00 Thurs, 10:00 - 18:00, Fri - Sun , closed Mon

<https://www.landmuseum-stuttgart.de/>

King Wilhelm the 1st founded the Landesmuseum, or State Museum, in 1862 as a museum of culture and history. It inspired patriotism for local residents and promoted tourism about the culture of the Kingdom of Württemberg.



Schillerplatz

Checkpoint #10

Schillerplatz

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'37" N 9°10'44" E

Elevation: 250 meters

<https://www.stuttgart-tourist.de/en/a-schillerplatz-stuttgart>

Duke Frederick ordered Schillerplatz, or Schiller Square, to be built in 1607. Schiller was also a philosopher, poet, playwright, and historian. After disagreeing with Duke Carl Eugene, Schiller escaped Stuttgart under a false name with a trusted friend. The statue in the Platz is in honor of the hometown patriot and regimental doctor for Württemberg, Friedrich Schiller. A Danish architect designed the statue, and cast it from the metal from cannons from the city of Munich in 1839. The square was officially renamed Schillerplatz in 1934.



Stiftskirche

Checkpoint #11

Stiftsraße 12

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'37" N 9°10'44" E

Elevation: 250 meters

Documentation: open 10:00 – 19:00 Mon – Thurs, 10:00 - 16:00 Fri - Sat, Closed Sun

<https://stiftskirche.de/>

The Counts of Württemberg built the Stiftskirche, or Collegiate Church, in 1240. It houses the remains of Count Ulrich's first and second wives, who both died in 1265. The Stiftskirche is an Evangelical or Protestant church in Catholic-dominated southern Germany. In 1534, this church was reformed according to the Protestant and Lutheran doctrines, as the Reformation gained popularity. In 1944, the Allies accidentally bombed the church, but it was rebuilt in the 1950s, maintaining the original exterior façade with a modern interior.



Stauffenberg-Erinnerungsstätte

Checkpoint #12

Near the Landesmuseum

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'37" N 9°10'49" E

Elevation: 273 meters

<https://www.hdgbw.de/ausstellungen/stauffenberg/>

The Stauffenberg-Erinnerungsstätte, or Stauffenberg Memorial, is dedicated to Count Claus von Stauffenberg of Germany. He opposed the Nazi regime and attempted to kill Hitler in the Wolf's Lair, a fortified Nazi headquarters with camouflaged bunkers. It still exists in modern-day Gierloz, Poland. Stauffenberg's team planted a bomb in a briefcase and left just before it blew up.

The bomb killed and maimed several high-ranking Nazis but ultimately failed in its goal to kill Hitler. Stauffenberg's team was later captured and executed.

Famous movies including, *Valkyrie*, *Operation Valkyrie*, *The Plot to Assassinate Hitler*, and *The Plot to Kill Hitler*, have been made about Stauffenberg and his efforts. They depict Stauffenberg's attempts, failures, and efforts to seize control from Hitler and the Nazis.

The inscription between the blocks in the memorial reads "Vervemt, verstossen, gemartert, erschlagen, erhaengt, vergast. Millionen Opfer der nationalsozialistischen Gewaltherrschaft beschwoeren dich Niemals Wieder!" or "Condemned, violated, martyred, slayed, hung, gassed. Millions of victims of the National Socialist tyranny swear never again!"



Kaiser Wilhelm I Denkmal

Checkpoint #13

Karlsplatz

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'35" N 9°10'50" E

Elevation: 267 meters

<https://www.stuttgart.de/vv/adresse/kaiser-wilhelm-i.von-friedrich-von-thiersch-1897-98-.php>

The Kaiser Wilhelm I Denkmal, or Emperor Wilhelm I Memorial, is dedicated to the first Kaiser of Germany, who, along with Otto Von Bismarck, executed a series of wars that ultimately unified Germany under Prussian rule. Prussia invaded Denmark in 1864, annexing Danish territory and establishing the future German state of Schleswig-Holstein. In 1866, Prussia invaded Austria-Hungary, which at the time was the predominant German-speaking empire. In the third and final war, France declared war against Prussia on July 16, 1870, and invaded German territory on August 2, 1870. Each independent German state declared war against France, the Prussians defeated France and unified Germany in 1871.

As a result of the victory over France, Germany stripped France of Alsace and Lorraine; two border provinces transferred back and forth between France and Germany over hundreds of years. The transfer of these two provinces in 1871 furthered the long-standing grudges between both nations and would influence the conditions that led to World War I.

Kaiser Wilhelm was an essential leader to Germany. However, he was not as powerful as Bismarck, the preeminent European statesman of his time.



Markthalle

Checkpoint #14

Dorotheenstraße 4

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'35" N 9°10'49" E

Elevation: 286 meters

Documentation: Open 07:00 - 17:00 Sat, 07:30 - 18:30 Thurs - Wed, Closed Sun

<https://www.markthalle-stuttgart.de/en/>

Stuttgart built the Markthalle, or Market Hall, in 1914 and had it decorated with large paintings of artisans, merchants, and other tradespeople selling goods and wares. The images can still be seen outside the building, a tradition in Stuttgart that hasn't been lost to the ages. Today, in the Markthalle, they still sell goods and other items for people to buy, such as fresh fruit and honey, to meats and fish.



Marktplatz

Checkpoint #15

Marktplatz

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'38" N 9°10'49" E

Elevation: 246 meters

<http://www.elivewebcams.com/stuttgart-marktplatz-webcam-live/>

The Marktplatz, or Market Courtyard, is the Stuttgart city center and is bordered by the Rathaus. It sits on top of a large bunker complex from World War II, a bomb shelter protecting the city's residents against American and British air raids. This bunker complex was used as housing after the war and can be visited only once a year in December. In addition to the bunker complex, there are other reminders of Stuttgart's Nazi and wartime past, such as the stumbling stones or Stolpersteine. These brass-covered cobblestones remind Jewish residents who were deported from Stuttgart to concentration camps and death camps in World War II.

Despite these grim reminders, the Marktplatz maintains its principal function in the city and is surrounded by many fine stores and shops. It is another location for the city's Christmas Market in the winter. One of the stores in the Marktplatz is the fine porcelain store Meissen, a Saxon porcelain company that produced the first stiff paste porcelain in Europe. Meissen discovered this type of porcelain, which rivaled the latest technology in China at the time. Meissen has been used to decorate many palaces throughout Europe, such as the Saxon Zwinger palace in Dresden.



Rathaus

Checkpoint #16

Marktplatz 1

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'20" N 9°10'42" E

Elevation: 253 meters

Documentation: Open 08:00 - 18:00 Mon-Fri, Closed weekends

<https://www.stuttgart.de/rathaus/>

The Rathaus, or Stuttgart City Hall, borders the Marktplatz, the main square of Stuttgart. The original Rathaus of Stuttgart was bombed During World War II and damaged beyond repair. It was rebuilt as a modern facility in the 1950s. The Rathaus displays an Advent Calendar in its windows during the Christmas season, each office window showing a different day.

In addition, the Rathaus houses a unique type of elevator, the Paternoster. The Paternoster is a perpetually moving elevator. It does not have doors that open and shut like modern elevators. Instead, you step on and off when it reaches your floor. It was built in 1956 by the Zuffenhausen machine factory. A few years ago, the German Federal government tried to shut down the Paternoster. Still, the ban was overturned after only a few weeks, leading to the Paternoster's return as the elevator for the Rathaus.



Stuttgardia

Checkpoint #17

Stiftstraße 12

70173 Stuttgart

GPS Coordinates: 48°46'31" N 9°10'40" E

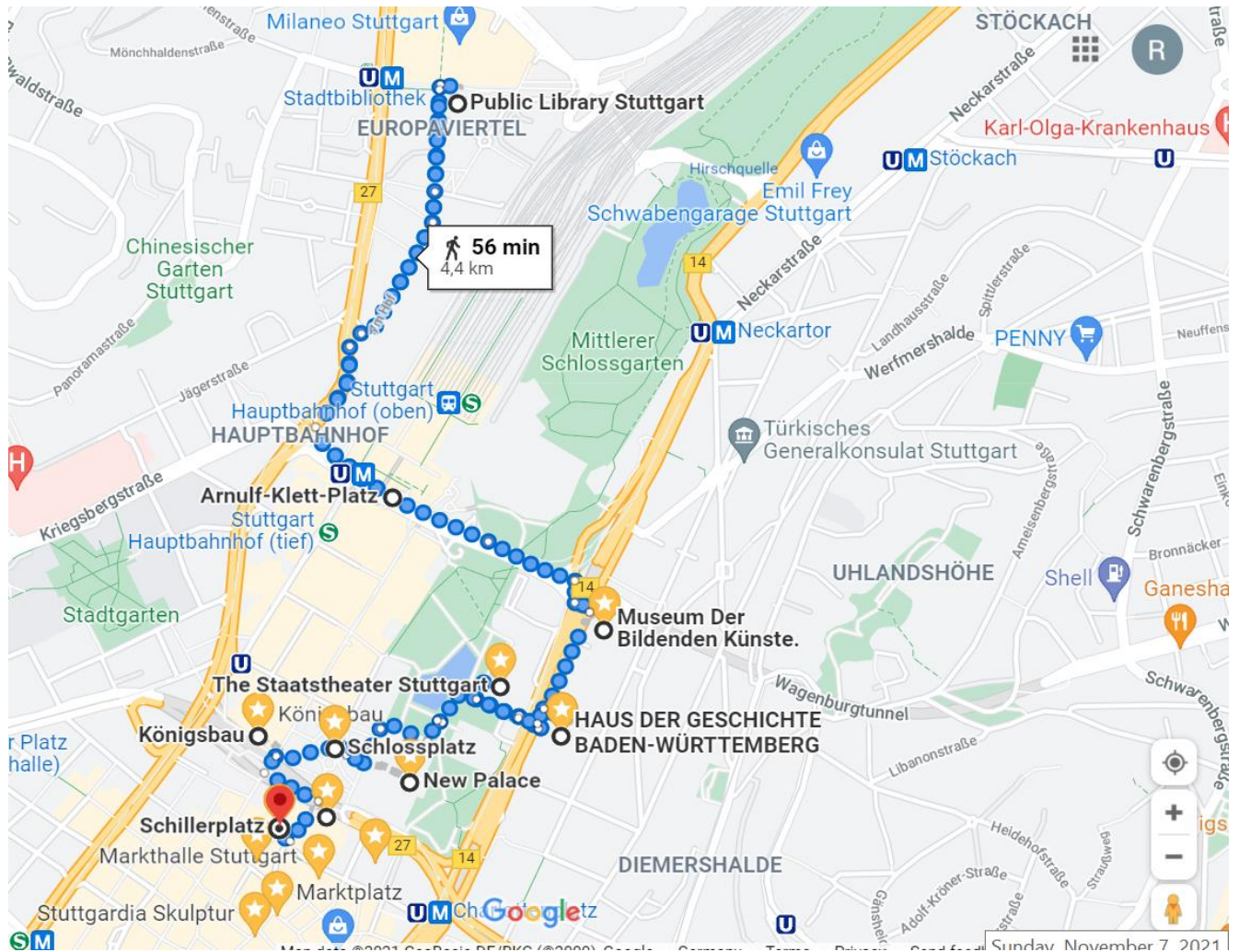
Elevation: 300 meters

<https://www.stuttgart.de/vv/adresse/heinz-fritz-standbild-stuttgardia-1905.php>

In the 19th Century, Stuttgart made plans to build a new Rathaus, or Town Hall. Stuttgart commissioned a statue of the city's Patron goddess for this beautiful new building, called Stuttgardia. All German cities have patron gods and goddesses to portray the towns and their traits, such as a port city would have a statue related to water. So Stuttgardia proudly hung off the walls of the Rathaus until severe heavy bombing wrecked the building. Stuttgardia fell off the building but was left undamaged. The Swabians dutifully restored their patron goddess to the newly constructed Rathaus in 1956, where it still stands today.



Maps





Pictures

1. Main Train Station



Left the Stuttgart Hauptbahnhof as seen today, and the Württemberg Bahn plaque from 1920.

2. City Public Library



3. State Galerie



4. State Theater



5. House of History



6. New Palace





Pictures (Cont.)

7. Palace Square



8. Royal Building



9. State Museum



10. Schiller Square



11. Collegiate Church



12. Stauffenberg Memorial





Pictures (Cont.)

13. Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial



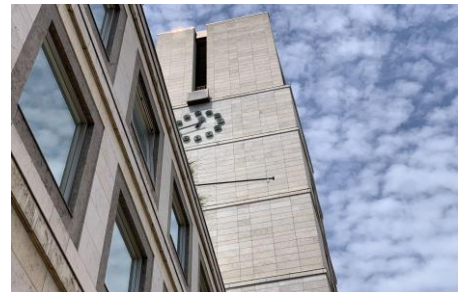
14. Market Hall



15. Market Courtyard



16. Town Hall



17. Stuttgardia





Ryan M. Healy created the Stuttgart Hiking Trail for
his Eagle Scout project as a member of Troop 324,
Edelweiss District, Transatlantic Council.

