



7 4
3 2 1
BIBI

A Town awaiting
Discovery



A Town on the Move – Impressions of Bietigheim-Bissingen

2

A town situated on the river Enz where it meets the river Metter: Bietigheim-Bissingen nestles along one of Enz's rare fords. The Celts, Romans and Alemanni all settled here already. During the Middle Ages, the town became prosperous and was granted a town charter. The 19th century saw the beginnings of industry, with the use of water-power, resulting in an

economic boom that continues to this day. A number of monuments speak to this. History is alive everywhere in this modern town. There is beautiful architecture, state-of-the-art sport facilities and public swimming pools as well as many modern artworks and sculptures in squares, on streets and in inviting parks. Once neighbours, but united as a single community since 1975,



A SIGNIFICANT MONUMENT AND ONE OF THE SYMBOLS OF THE CITY: THE RAILWAY VIADUCT OVER THE ENZ, BUILT IN 1851–53.



Bietigheim-Bissingen has succeeded in achieving a grand balancing act – between old and new, between industry and leisure. A highly attractive residential town with modern infrastructure, and it is a tourism magnet in an idyllic setting. Join us to see for yourself! There is much to discover in the town on the Enz and Metter.

- 4 In the Heart of the Town
- 10 Championing the Arts
- 16 Calendar Highlights
- 20 Everything in Motion
- 26 Moving with the Times



In the Heart of the Town

4

The Old Town – Where history comes alive

The district town is comprised of four sections: the eponymous Bietigheim and Bissingen, along with Metterzimmern and Untermberg. They are all worth a visit in their own right, but the old town centre of Bietigheim is particularly attractive, with its unique well-preserved

historical buildings. The historic town hall is still being used by the mayor and his staff (photo right). The town can boast to being one of the outstanding examples of the German Half-Timbered House Road. A truly memorable experience for the visitor.



HALF-TIMBERED BUILDINGS WHEREVER YOU TURN, AND EVEN THE ALLEYS LOOK QUITE AUTHENTIC WITH THEIR OLD COBBLESTONES.



For those with just a few hours to spare, a visit to the old town in Bietigheim-Bissingen is a must. It is one of our absolute highlights and compares very favourably with other historic towns.



Guests always welcome

From this architectural abundance there are individual buildings which stand out like jewels in a crown: the *Latin School*, the stretch of half-timbered buildings on *Schiering Road* and the old *Wine Press*, which is still used for events to this day, *Bietigheim Castle* which has been tastefully restored with modern effects (photo below) and the various towers: *Lower Gate* (photo left), *Powder Tower* as well as the steeple on the *Town Church*.



And then there is *Hornmold House* (photo right), which hosts the Town Museum. In this magnificent edifice an exhibition documents the town's history since Alemannic and Roman times – and Hornmold House itself is a most impressive exhibit! Its elaborate half-timbered architecture and almost completely preserved interior decoration (note the famous *Summer Chamber*) communicate the self-image and life attitude of the bourgeoisie in an up-and-coming 16th century rural town. As such, it is one of the most important bourgeois houses of the Renaissance in southwest Germany.

You can find more information about Hornmold House at <https://stadtmuseum.bietigheim-bissingen.de/deutsch/das-hornmoldhaus/hausgeschichte>

STADTMUSEUM HORNMOLDHAUS
HAUPTSTRASSE 57
74321 BIETIGHEIM-BISSINGEN

TEL. 07142/74-352, FAX 07142/74-353
STADTMUSEUM@BIETIGHEIM-BISSINGEN.DE

OPENING HOURS
TU, WE, FR 1:45 P.M. – 5:45 P.M., TH 1:45 P.M. – 7:45 P.M.
SA, SU, LEGAL HOLIDAYS 10:45 A.M. – 5:45 P.M.
MO CLOSED

ADMISSION FREE





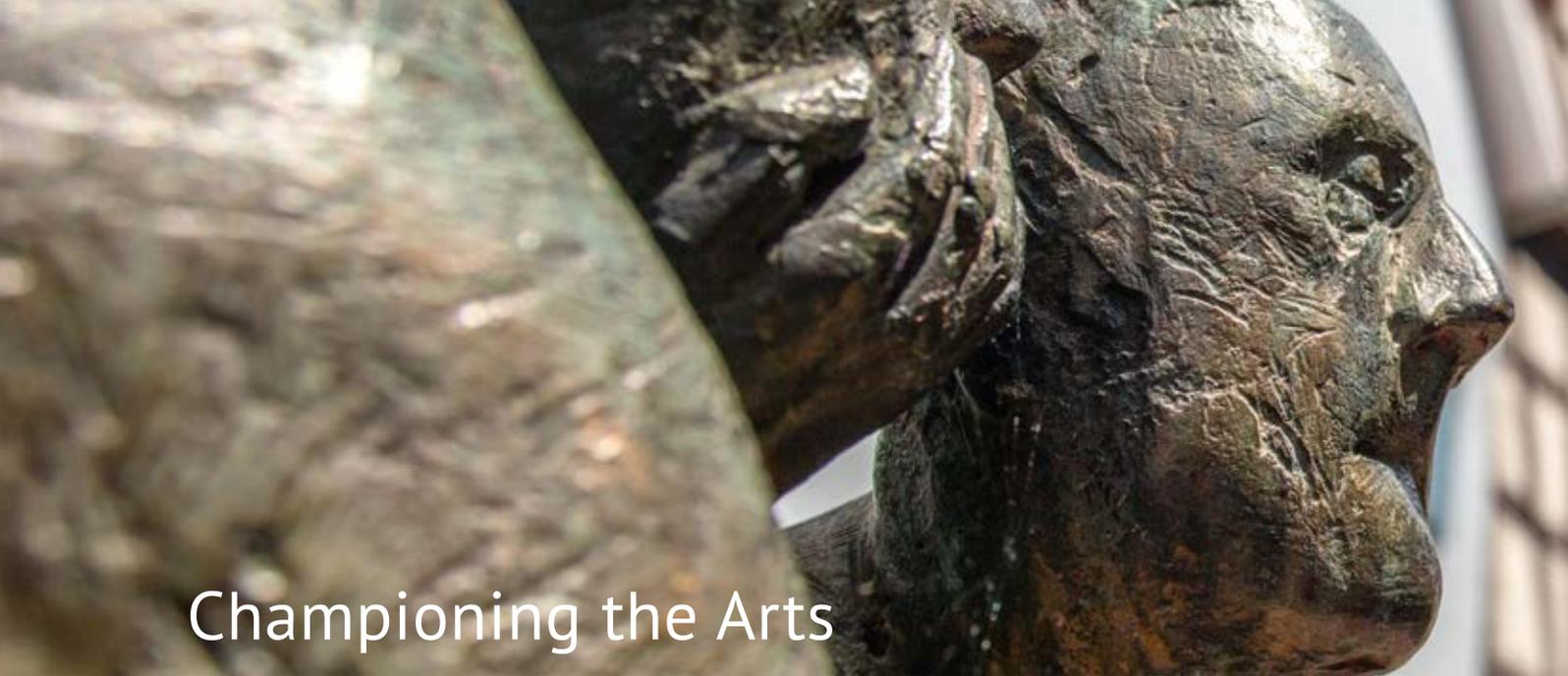


Cobblestones, Plain Tiles, Oxblood

Naturally, the streets and alleyways of the old town are paved, partially with historical cobblestone. Most half-timbered houses are still authentically clad in plain tile, the flat tile forming of a coat of arms, a feature already in use in the Middle Ages. Here and there, the timberwork still shows the classical oxblood paint.

And naturally, there are fountains. The *Fräuleinsbrunnen* and the fountain on the market square. The square holds a market on Wednesdays and Saturdays, which are well-attended events, as if to underline the fact that although an acclaimed tourist attraction, the town still belongs to its citizens.

Regarding fountains, you will find a true curiosity on the Kronenplatz Square: The bronze sculpture *Ku(h)rosium* (photo left) was initially a highly controversial installation, a strange looking cow on a punctured milk churn. However, over time it has since been embraced by locals and visitors alike. This introduces a new theme: the exceptionally large number of artworks in the town.



Championing the Arts

10

Art in the open and everywhere

With his *Ku(h)riosum*, the sculptor Jürgen Goertz created an indelible landmark for the town. He also designed the *Grey Horses Tower* (photo right) on Hillerplatz Square, where his medallions adorn the *Villa Visconti* – named after *Antonia Visconti*, spouse of *Count Eberhard the Mild of*

Württemberg, a benefactress of the town. However, this is only a small portion of the art in the town's public spaces. More than 30 additional sculptures and other works of art attest to the high importance assigned to art here.

FIGURATIVE, IRONIC, ABSTRACT – THE ARTWORKS EMBODY MANY TYPES OF VARIATIONS AND STYLES, IN PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE.



Sculpture is visible not only in the historic town centre, but extends out so that an artistic stroll takes you as far as the town gardens and the banks of the river Enz – with side trips to the train station and even to Bissingen. A programme for a very pleasant day.

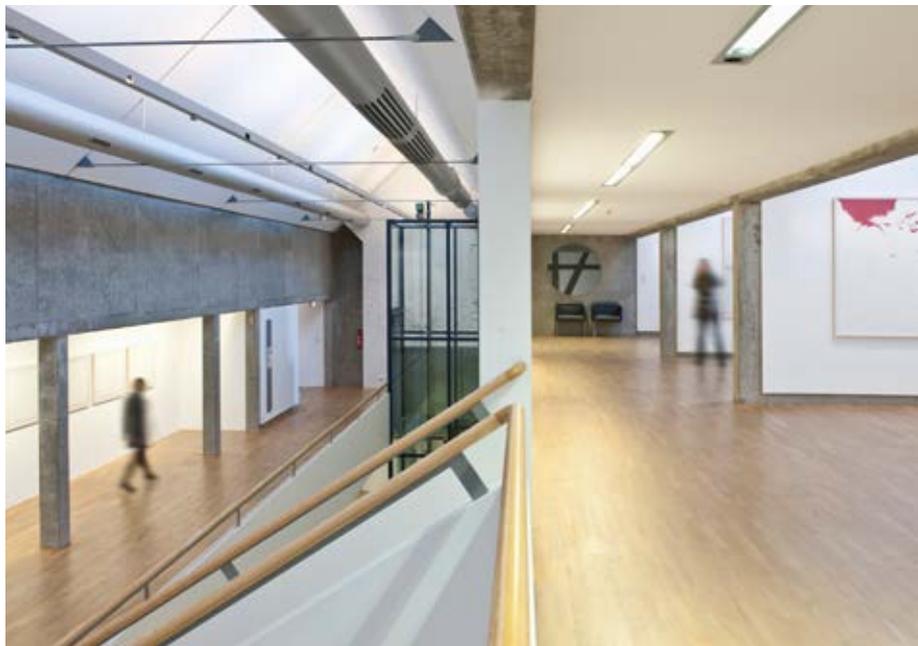


The Skulpt(o)ur and the Municipal Gallery

This collection, or rather exhibition, ranges from Reinhard Scherer's abstract *Brennpunkt* at Bietigheim train station (photo above left) to Karl-Henning Seemann's *Rafters* in front of Bissingen town hall (photo below left) to Waldemar Otto's sensual bronze sculpture *Adam eating the fruit* in Metter park (photo right). Discoveries await! The brochure *Skulpt(o)ur* will guide you there.



Discoveries also await at the Municipal Gallery (photo outer right). Set into the picturesque old town of Bietigheim, the gallery embodies the successful synthesis of historical structures and modern architecture. With temporary exhibitions on Classical Modernism and Contemporary Art, it holds an acknowledged position in the cultural life of the Middle Neckar Region. And with reference to a world-renowned product of Bietigheim-Bissingen, linoleum, the Municipal Gallery has compiled a comprehensive collection of linocuts and presents artistic endeavours and current trends related to this printing technique in a large annual exhibition.



MUNICIPAL GALLERY
HAUPTSTRASSE 60 – 64
74321 BIETIGHEIM-BISSINGEN

TEL. 07142/74-483, FAX 07142/74-446
GALERIE@BIETIGHEIM-BISSINGEN.DE

OPENING HOURS
TU, WE, FR 2 P.M.–6 P.M., TH 2 P.M.–8 P.M.
SA, SU, LEGAL HOLIDAYS 11 A.M.–6 P.M.
MO CLOSED

ADMISSION FREE

Garden and water art – A promenade in the outskirts of town

There would be no *Japanese Garden* (photo right) without *Erwin Baelz*. The doctor, researcher and anthropologist, who brought modern European medicine to Japan, ascended to become the personal physician of the Tenno and the Imperial family. *Erwin Baelz* spent 30 years in Japan and was highly regarded. In 1905, he returned home and was decorated.

Even today, his legacy is still apparent in the town's relations with Kusatsu, our twin town. The *Japanese Garden* was created in his honour and was re-designed by the Japanese horticulturist *Jun Susuki* on the occasion of the *1989 State Horticultural Show*. The Japanese Garden is next to the *town park* (photo, p. 15) where the *Enz Flower* rises into view: this colourful, water-spouting sculpture located right in the middle of the river was created by *Gottfried Gruner*.

A 20m high play tower on the opposite bank of the river challenges children to climb, to spin and to slide. Additionally, the town gardeners show that they really know their trade: The entire area is blooming almost all year round.







Calendar Highlights

16

It's All Go! – Markets, Festivals

Let's begin with the largest and most important festival, the *Bietigheim Horse Market* (large photo and photo right), the largest horse show in southern Germany, generally held around the first Monday in September. From the Friday before until the Tuesday after, there is lots happening

on the fairground by the railway viaduct. During the Advent season, the town smells of roasted chestnuts, gingerbread, mulled wine, and even spicy grilled sausage. The Christmas market *Sternlesmarkt* and the *Advent Mile* set the perfect mood for the Christmas season.



INDULGE YOUR SENSES DURING THE FESTIVALS. THE SIGHTS, SOUNDS, TASTES AND SMELLS ARE SURE TO DELIGHT AND FORM LASTING MEMORIES OF YOUR VISIT.



This chapter focuses on temporary events throughout the year within the areas mentioned in the previous chapter, the old town and the grounds along the river Enz. Of course, culinary delights also await you all year round.





A musical and culinary feast

In summer, the old town and the parks become the stage for a rich summer music programme. Every other year in July, Bietigheim-Bissingen is transformed into a *Wonderland*. A festival for all – and for all the senses. Another biennial event, the *Best of Music Festival* (photo left) is held on the market square. With an international music programme and your food and drink requirements well catered for, it's surely an experience not to be missed.



The food connoisseur will also greatly appreciate what Bietigheim-Bissingen has to offer. Local restaurateurs serve exquisite specialities in the most attractive of settings, the castle courtyard for example (photo upper left) or the market square (photo upper right). A feast for the eyes, as well as the taste buds – another highlight of our town.



Everything in Motion

20

An Oasis for all – Swimming pools and water parks

Immerse yourself in pure pleasure! Take a plunge in one of three public swimming pools, cool off and enjoy a swim. If cooling off isn't what you had in mind, the salt water heated outdoor swimming pool at the *Bad am Viadukt* (photo right) offers cosy warmth of up to 30 Celsius. There is also an indoor sports pool, a 48m long slide and a large sauna area.

An even longer slide, in fact the longest – at 158m – self-supporting water slide in southern Germany can be found at the outdoor water park *Badepark Ellental* (photo above), which contains six pools, including a wave pool. In the *Bissingen indoor swimming pool* clubs can train throughout the year. If you love water fun, you're spoiled for choice!



OPEN ALL YEAR ROUND: ATTRACTIVE SPORTS AND LEISURE FACILITIES – IN-DOOR AND OUTDOOR AND IN NATURE.



For those visitors with a little extra time a visit to a public swimming pool is highly recommended. Or perhaps you prefer another sporting activity – as either spectator or participant. Or even head out and explore all there is to discover beyond the gates of the town.

Sports facilities – participate yourself or sit back and observe

Moving on from water related activities and before we get to hiking and cycling, there are numerous other sports facilities in town.

There are 14 sports halls, 2 multi-purpose halls, 3 grass sports pitches, 6 artificial turf sports fields, 5 smaller artificial turf sports fields and 3 all-weather sports fields, as well as 2 ice rinks and 3 swimming pools. There are also upwards of 50 sports clubs covering a wide array of disciplines.

Renowned far beyond the town's boundaries, the annual *New Year's Eve Run* (photo right) is one of the largest of its kind in Germany. It attracts athletes from around the world as well as numerous amateurs. About 3000 runners set off on the approx. 11 km long route each year. There is serious competition for sure, but there is more to it than that – as enjoyable to watch as it is to take part.





The *Steelers* (photo above) regularly finish at the top of the German Ice Hockey 2nd League. The men's SG BBM handball team and the notably successful women's SG BBM handball team (photo left) play in the German National League. The women have been German champions several times! Get your ticket and get yourself to one of their matches!



Venturing out – Along the Metter and the Enz

Travelling down the Enz, steep terraced vineyards line the left bank of the river. From above, the area known as “Lug” offers stunning panoramic views. Travelling upstream, the valley expands out into ideal terrain for hiking or for a cycling tour.

Meadows line the meandering Enz near Bissingen and Untermberg. In Bissingen, which united with Bietigheim in 1975, one can discover many an architectural gem – the impressive former grain mill

Rommelmühle for example. Cycling along the Enz, you will encounter villages like Unterriexingen and Oberriexingen. But this is not the end of the cycle path. There is plenty more to experience on the Enz valley cycle path, which winds through the valley from Besigheim through Bad Wildbad and Enzklösterle and deep into the Black Forest. A canoe trip downstream can also be fun. The Enz is an easy river to canoe down, from the towns of Mühlacker or Vaihingen for example.



Or why not hike to the Metter Valley. Climb the slope near the *Untermberg Ruin* (photo above), cross the ridges to Metterzimmern, the last urban area which has a lovely village-like appearance. However, these tours mostly introduce the local town districts. There are many more marked cycle paths and hiking trails beyond the town districts to be also discovered.

A photograph of a modern, curved building at night. The building features a prominent red horizontal band near the top and a glass facade below. The interior lights are visible through the glass, and there are blue and green light reflections on the glass. The sky is dark blue.

Moving with the Times

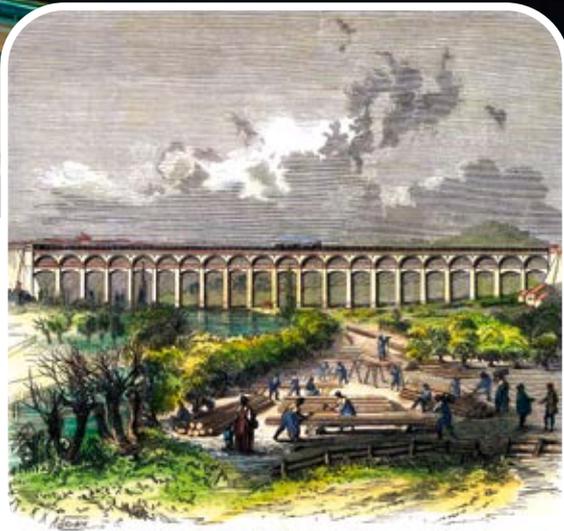
26

Work and industry – Timber rafting and worsted spinning

Industrialisation began late in Bietigheim, but quickly gained momentum in the second half of the 19th century. However, the once familiar sight of rafting pine timber from the Black Forest on the rivers Nagold and Enz came to an end. The routes the rafts took are still evident today. Although the river continued to be of great importance, powering

mills and later turbines, the construction of a main railway line propelled industrial progress. Since the 1940s, the railway has linked the town with Ulm, Esslingen, Stuttgart, Ludwigsburg and Heilbronn. Later, the *Bietigheim Railway Viaduct* was built by *Karl Etzel* (photo right), and in 1853 the first train on the *West Railway Line* travelled to Karlsruhe.

EXCITING ACHIEVEMENTS – THE
BUSINESS WORLD, THEN AND NOW,
AND MANY EXCURSION DESTINA-
TIONS – IN A FASCINATING REGION.



Wirtschaftsbau in Göttingen.



The modern town looks forward, yet acknowledges our industrial history. And a successful future is evidenced by the town's innovative strength. Enticing nearby excursions. And last but not least, around the world: our twin towns.



Industry 4.0 and other highlights

Industry is still the economic mainstay of the town, with many innovative medium-sized companies, some of which are world leaders in their field. Industry 4.0 is already being taught here at school (photo left).

With about 43,000 inhabitants, Bietigheim-Bissingen employs upwards of 30,000 people, a record-breaking figure. This figure is even more impressive when you consider that the town certainly does not look like an industrial centre. On the contrary, it also offers the highest housing and living quality in the entire region. This brochure provides ample proof.

Also, our modern town expresses itself in striking buildings. A notable example being the branch of *Porsche AG* at the entrance to Bietigheim-Bissingen on the Stuttgart side – it is even more impressive at night with its alluring illumination. Another eye-catching building, the stylistic skyscraper called *Sky* (photo right) located next to Bietigheim train station has become a modern symbol of the town.



Local excursions and day trips out of town

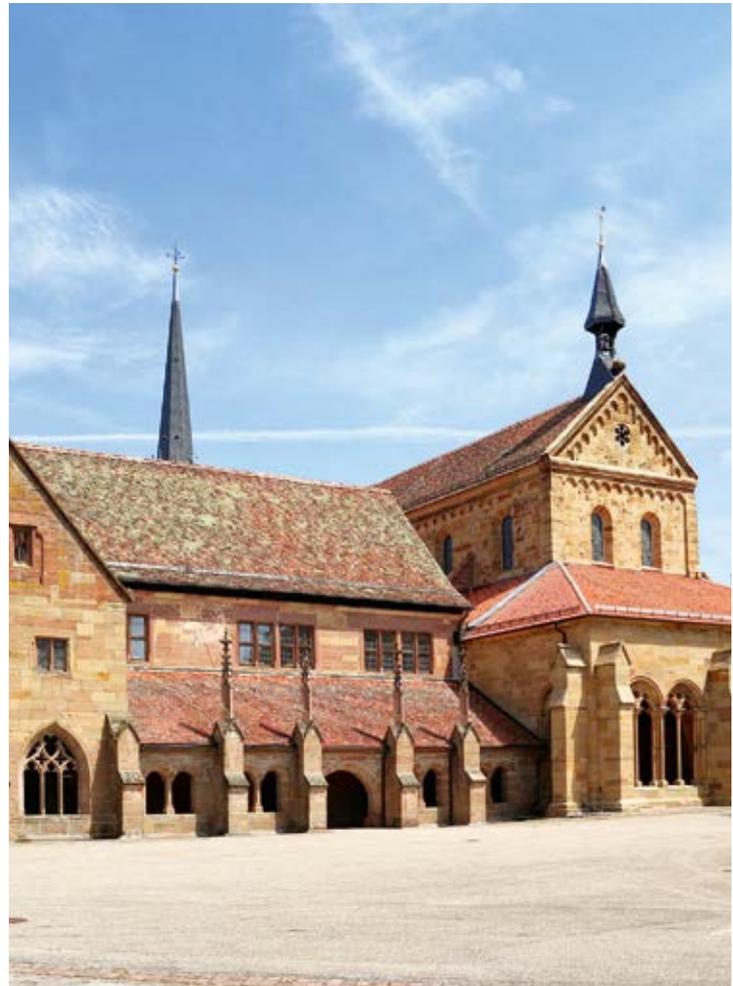
And last but not least, there are many appealing day trips out of town in every direction. The town is the ideal hub for excursions around the entire region.

To the north, there is the picturesque medieval Besigheim and, a little further on, Lauffen am Neckar, *Hölderlin's* birthplace. To the northwest, the small town of Bönningheim beckons with its palace and art gallery and nearby is the *Tripsdrill adventure park* (photo p.31 left), which is at least as much fun as its name suggests.

Taking in the surrounding landscape is also well worth the effort: the Lemberg wine area called *Stromberg*, for example.

To the west, a short half-hour trip brings you to the sandstone-red *Maulbronn Monastery* (photo right), a UNESCO World Heritage Site – the best preserved medieval monastery north of the Alps!

To the east, the village of Marbach invites: *Schiller's* birthplace and home to the *German Literature Archives*, bringing the world of books to life.





To the south, there is the captivating Baroque town of Ludwigsburg with its large residential palace (photo right) and its famous park as well as the small hunting lodges *Favorite* and *Monrepos*. Continue another quarter of an hour and Stuttgart awaits, which has so much to offer. We'd best avoid listing all of its attractions!



And for those tired after a day in the bustling capital city, the suburban railway operates until after midnight and throughout the night on Fridays and Saturdays. For example, it is only 25 minutes from Stuttgart. As mentioned previously, Bietigheim-Bissingen is the ideal base for the entire region.

Global connections – our twin towns

Bietigheim-Bissingen can also look far beyond its own horizons with five twin towns and friendly and supportive relationships with a further two towns – all dispersed across four continents. There are few municipalities which can boast to such a global reach.



Kusatsu in Japan, our Asian twin, lies about 200km northeast of Tokyo. It has a population of around 8,000 and is famous for its spas and hot springs. The initial contact goes back to the Bietigheim physician Erwin von Baelz – who we introduced on page 14. He recommended using Kusatsu's hot springs (photo) as treatment for ailments.



Overland Park, our North American twin, is located in the heart of the state of Kansas, and near Kansas City. It is a young municipality, founded as a city as recently as 1960, and an up-and-coming business location which is currently home to 170,000 residents.



Sucy-en-Brie, our twin in the Marne valley south-east of Paris, is a town with a very similar history to ours. It is characterised by agriculture and especially viticulture. It is also an extremely popular location for student exchange programmes.





Surrey Heath, our twin town located in the heathland of Surrey County, 50 km southwest of London. It is not a town at all, in fact, but rather a “Borough” – an administrative district of several municipalities.



Szekszárd, our twin town in Hungary, where the Danube Swabians originally settled, lies 150 km south of Budapest. It is one of Hungary’s leading wine producers. Back when the region was a Roman province called Pannonia, wine was already being cultivated there. And, of course, enjoyed.



Tupungato, in Argentina has held friendly ties with us since 2019. The town has around 32,000 residents and lies in Mendoza Province, another famous wine region. The town is named after an Andean peak which is over 6,500m high.



Zuckmantel, former judicial district in the mountainous “Altwatergebirge” region of Sudetenland is the native town of many of our fellow citizens who were expelled from their homeland after the war. An exhibition is dedicated to their local history in a little museum in Bietigheim old town (Schiering Street 20).



Table of contents

4 In the Heart of the Town

- 4 The Old Town
- 6 Guests always welcome
- 9 Cobblestones, Plain Tiles, Oxblood

10 Championing the Arts

- 10 Art in the open and everywhere
- 12 The Skulpt(o)ur and the Municipal Gallery
- 14 Garden and water art

16 Calendar Highlights

- 16 Markets, Festivals
- 19 A musical and culinary feast

20 Everything in Motion

- 20 An Oasis for all – Swimming pools and water parks
- 22 Sports facilities
- 24 Venturing out

26 Moving with the Times

- 26 Work and industry
- 29 Industry 4.0 and other highlights
- 30 Local excursions and day trips out of town
- 32 Global connections – our twin towns

More brochures

- Historical round tour guide
- Sculptor tour guide
- Maps of bicycle paths and hiking trails
- 3B regional tour guide
- Tour guide for children
- Calendar of events
- City map
- Information on rafting route

These free brochures are available at the Tourist Information, by mail, on request or partly as download.

Imprint

Publisher

Stadt Bietigheim-Bissingen
Presseamt
Marktplatz 8
74321 Bietigheim-Bissingen
Edition 2019

Conception and design

BSS Brand Communication Sachse Gerlach GmbH

Translation

Andrea Kohler

Photo credits

Achim Mende

Bildarchiv Stadt Bietigheim-Bissingen

Boris Lehner

BSZ Bietigheim-Bissingen

Erlebnispark Tripsdrill

Esslinger Stadtmarketing & Tourismus

experimenta gGmbH

Frank Kleinbach, Stuttgart

Georg Asperger

Helmut Pangerl

Jean-Claude Winkler

KTG Karlsruhe Tourismus GmbH/Fotograf Mende

Marco Wolf

Pixabay

Reiterverein Bietigheim-Bissingen

Roland Halbe

Sabine Braun

Stadtwerke Bietigheim-Bissingen

Steelers GmbH, Timo Raiser

Stefan Kampf

Stuttgart Marketing GmbH

Wolfgang Grünewald

Y. Saito

Bietigheim old town

1 **Kronenplatz Square**

2 **Ku(h)riosum**

3 **Powder Tower**

4 **Lower Gate**

5 **Alleyway “Hexenwegle”**

6 **Schiering Road**

7 **Old Wine Press**

8 **Protestant Church**

 **Pedestrian zone**

 **Parking facilities**

 **Bus to the old town**

The bus lines 551/552 (to Sachsenheim) and 553/554 (to Bissingen) take you from Bietigheim train station to the town centre. Get off at bus stop “Kronenzentrum”. Or you walk it in 15 min.

9 **Town Hall**

10 **Town Museum “Hornmoldhaus”**

11 **Latin School and Physiklat**

12 **Municipal Art Gallery**

13 **Bietigheim Castle**

14 **Grey Horses Tower**

15 **Historical Gardens**

 **Tourist Information**

 Information on barrier-free access can be found on the municipal website www.bietigheim-bissingen.de





Löchgauer Straße

Karl-Mai-Allee

Heilbronn



Hillerstraße

Neue Straße

Löchgauer Straße

Turmstraße

Schieringerbrunnenstraße

Talstraße

Mühlwiesenstraße

Schwätzgässle

7

6

3



Kronenplatz

1

Pfarrstraße

8



Markt-
platz

6

Schieringerstraße

Fräuleinstraße

Ziegelstraße

Hauptstraße

2

Hiller-
platz

14

Hauptstraße

12

13

11

10

9

15

15

5

Zwingerstraße



Farbstraße



Metter

Japangarten



Holzgartenstraße

Enz

Bürgergarten

Am Japangarten

Auwiesenbrücke

Ludwigsburg, Stuttgart

Stuttgarter Straße B27



Tourist Information

(in the Market Square Arcades)

Marktplatz 9

74321 Bietigheim-Bissingen

MO – FR 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

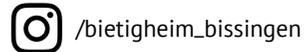
SA 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Tel. 07142/74-227

Fax 07142/74-229

tourismus@bietigheim-bissingen.de

www.bietigheim-bissingen.de



Bietigheim-Bissingen
LIEBENSWÜRDIG.LEBENSWEIT.

