The colourful houses of the old town quarter nestle up against one another like something out of a picture book and the world’s longest castle stands picturesquely above the heritage-protected site. Visit Burghausen and be taken on a journey through time that excites all the senses – and will stay with you for a very long time. Situated just 100 kilometres from Munich and only 50 kilometres to the north of Salzburg, the town on the border with Austria enchants visitors with its past and entertains them with its cultural richness – offering them a wealth of leisure activities that make an excursion to the Salzach an unforgettable experience. Visitors to Burghausen can take a stroll along its mighty tuff stone walls and through six castle courtyards, are regaled with the stories that didn’t make the history books by tour guides dressed in historical costumes, and take a ride downstream on a Plätte boat that was previously used to transport salt. But they can also get into the swing of International Jazz Week, experience the collegiate atmosphere of an academic town and enjoy some homely Bavarian hospitality.

The pearl on the Salzach

Burghausen & the world’s longest castle

The world’s longest castle

1,051 m

www.visit-burghausen.com

BURGHAUSEN

EXTRA LONG

The world’s longest castle stands 70 metres above Burghausen’s old town; 1,051 metres of medieval heritage mark the path that leads to an endless series of towers and battlements – that extends for a very long way. Visitors witnessing one thousand years of history may well get into the spirit and feel like noblemen striding gallantly through the castle or noblewomen wandering through the rooms of the ducal residence. This photo transports you right back to the present day, where there are so many things worth seeing – the buildings and towers are still home to 200 people and still offer an unimpaired view of one of Bavaria’s most glorious town squares and the idyllic Lake Wöhrsee, and greet visitors with a sublime panoramic view right up to the peaks of the Alps.

World’s longest castle

Old town / Street of Fame

Renaissance, Baroque, Rococo – visitors never tire of looking at the façades of the picturesque old town. But it is not just the heritage-protected ensemble that charms visitors. The manual traders’ district and the small shops with their quaint features are just waiting to be discovered; Bavarian beer gardens and exquisite restaurants cater to their guests’ every need; art, culture and music bring people together on the picture-perfect squares of the Salzach. The old town really comes alive in the evenings.

And enter Hochbühelbrücke, this “Gate of Town” – the brightly polychrome wooden gate in the palace entrance hall – just a few steps further and staging posts of its predecessors – the first stone brookstones – are standing. Along the old town, 60 brightly polished bronze plaques immortalise all the great jazz musicians, creating a magnificent historical heritage. Visitors can see Ella Fitzgerald, Dave Brubeck and Chet Baker among others, while walking up and down the delightful narrow streets that surround the “Street of Fame.”

The tour guides paint a picture of the lives of the rich Bavarian dukes that gives visitors to this town on the Salzach river an insight into a thousand years of Burghausen’s history. Specially themed guided tours focus on particular aspects of history – for example, “Witches, Harlots, Saints” takes people back to a time when a person’s fate often hung by a thread. Children visiting Burghausen find out whether the little knight also went to school, and get to listen to some spooky ghost stories in some of the castle’s more mysterious places.

Public castle tours are available every Saturday, Sunday and on public holidays, and also take place several times in the week during the summer months.

Tours of the castle and the town

The world’s longest castle

The pearl on the Salzach

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Tours of the castle and the town
Plätte boat rides on the Salzach river

Three Plätte boats are built on site as "white gold" to the town, and now they take passengers for a ride along the Salzach.

The Plätte boats are the unique "living teasers" of the historical tradition and economy of Burghausen. They sail through the old town three times daily (before the start of Kriegszeit is now planned for a two-hour ride) and provide a scenic view of the old town and the Salzach river.

The Plätte boat rides are a particular delight. The theatre Plätte boats have storytellers on board, who transport passengers back to the Middle Ages and paint a picture of the tough lives led by the Salzach skippers. The musical Plätte boats, which entertain passengers and "glimmer away" along the river, are a particular delight. The theatre Plätte boat sails three times a day, where the passengers have to step on the deck, where the pictures of the last boat, led by the Salzach skippers.

Raitenhaslach abbey complex

Five kilometres from the town gates lies the legacy of the Cistercian monks, nestled in the wild and romantic landscape of the Salzach region. The original Raitenhaslach abbey now covers an area of 12,000 m². In 1996, the Cistercian monks were allowed to return to Raitenhaslach, and today the abbey complex consists of a Romanesque pillar basilica houses some magnificent altars and frescoes in its Baroque interior. Tombstones of the Wittelsbach family remind visitors of the Bavarian royal dynasty. The straight-lined beauty of the abbey with altars and frescoes in its Baroque interior. The castle museum guides visitors through the dukes’ chambers, painting a picture of how the aristocracy used to live. The interactive town museum, which only opened in 2016, engages all the senses and enthrals visitors with captivating stories of Burghausen – from the town’s history to its gardens. The museum, which is a branch of the chemical industry in the twentieth century. The Castle festival, which brings the world’s longest castle to life, almost wakes the noble knight folk from the dead. The past, the present and the future are brought to life at the world’s longest castle with such vivacity that it almost wakes the noble knight folk from the dead. The Castletipps are a bridge between the past, present and future.

Lake Wöhrsee

A dark-green emerald lies at the foot of the hillside, the A8 lake Wöhrsee is a place for nature and bathing, recreation and cycle paths effortlessly follow the course of the rivers. Enchanted lake country embraces you from every side, wooded hill ranges guide you on your way, goats bleat on the embankment, dewdrops form tiny pearls around kilometres of unspoiled landscape stretching for ever closer with every turn of the pedals. Ride your bicycle through thousands of years of history on the lake Wöhrsee. The live is a painters’ paradise. The lake Wöhrsee is a place for nature and bathing, «emotions and pleasure, » nature and bathing, «enriched with nature» on the lake Wöhrsee. The lake Wöhrsee is a painters’ paradise. The lake Wöhrsee is a painters’ paradise. The lake Wöhrsee is a painters’ paradise. The lake Wöhrsee is a painters’ paradise.

Group and individual packages

By bus: ticket or boat trip for € 3.00, or a tour of the abbey for € 3.00. 

Museums and exhibitions

The past, the present and the future in the most magnificent way. The Salzach skippers are part of this legacy. The castle museum guides visitors through the above-mentioned "living teasers" of the world’s longest castle, and the Plätte boat rides are a particular delight. The theatre Plätte boats have storytellers on board, who transport passengers back to the Middle Ages and paint a picture of the tough lives led by the Salzach skippers. The musical Plätte boats, which entertain passengers and "glimmer away" along the river, are a particular delight. The theatre Plätte boat sails three times a day, where the passengers have to step on the deck, where the pictures of the last boat, led by the Salzach skippers.

Group and individual packages

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Cycle anywhere

Discover the area and its off-road possibilities by bicycle routes and cycle paths in the wild and romantic landscape of the Salzach region. The Raitenhaslach abbey complex, the castle museum, and the interactive town museum are part of the cycling region. With a bike, you get a different view of the area. The castle is almost like a stage, providing a scenic view of the old town and the Salzach river.

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Event highlights

International Jazz Week

Mal-Wies’n Mayflower market

Historic Castle Festival

Burgausen Summer of Culture

Winter Market in Burghausen

Christmas market “Advent in den Grüben”

Christmas market at the world’s longest castle