

Hiking through Palatine

Almost 1300 km of hiking tracks lead through Germany's biggest coherent forest area: the Palatine Forest. From short and flat or long day tours, like the Pfälzer Weinsteig: there are the many different kinds of tours for every kind of hiker to enjoy the beautiful landscape. Due to the mild climate and over 1800 hours of sun during the year hiking in Palatine is possible for much longer than in other German regions.

Examples for the regional cuisine are bratwurst, Palatine Saumagen, liver dumplings, sauerkraut and bread. The so-called „Pfälzer Teller“ is a combination of all these delicacies and is very popular among hikers.

The Palatine history is rich with traditions, for example the roman settlements, the halftimbered villages or the many castles or ruins you can pass during your hike.

The Pfälzer Weinsteig

This trail is pure Palatinate. The more than 180 kilometre long trail follows picturesque paths through pleasant forest and sun-drenched stages to the Rebenmeer.

Short informations about the trail:

Difficulty	difficult
Landscape	*****
Experience	*****
Highest point	662 m
Lowest point	116 m
Best time of year	Mar. – Nov.
Distance	185,40 km

Along the Pfälzer Weinsteig trail you have 11 stages:

- Stage 1: Bockenheim to Neuleiningen
- Stage 2: Neuleiningen to Bad Dürkheim
- Stage 3: Bad Dürkheim to Deidesheim
- Stage 4: Deidesheim to Neustadt an der Weinstraße
- Stage 5: Neustadt an der Weinstraße to St. Martin
- Stage 6: St. Martin to Burrweiler
- Stage 7: Burrweiler to Dernbach
- Stage 8: Dernbach to Annweiler am Trifels
- Stage 9: Annweiler am Trifels to Klingenmünster
- Stage 10: Klingenmünster to Bad Bergzabern
- Stage 11: Bad Bergzabern to Schweigen-Rechtenbach

The stage 3, 4 and 5 combines the both members of cittaslow in the Palatinate, Deidesheim and Maikammer, near by St. Martin:

Stage 3: Bad Dürkheim to cittaslow Deidesheim

Short informations:

Difficulty:	moderate
Distance:	14,9 km
Durance:	4,30 h
Ascent:	500 m
Descent:	511 m

The third stage of the Pfälzer Weinsteig leads you from the picturesque Römerplatz square in Bad Dürkheim through Poppen Valley and Burg Valley to the ruins of Wachten Castle, with ist amazing views. Passing the Heidenlöcher (Heathen Holes) castle ruins, we descend tot he small town of Deidesheim, one of the jewels of the German Wine Route.

Stage 4: Deidesheim to Neustadt an der Weinstraße

Short informations:

Difficulty:	difficult
Distance:	19,8 km
Durance:	6 h
Ascent:	639 m
Descent:	611 m

You begin the 4th stage of the trail in the picturesque historical town centre of Deidesheim before hiking through vineyards, the Palatine Forest and along idyllic streams up to the summit of the Weinbiet mountain. A descent with plenty of interesting views brings you down to Neustadt an der Weinstraße, one of the largest wine-producing communities in Germany.

Stage 5: Neustadt an der Weinstraße to St. Martin near by cittaslow Maikammer

Short informations:

Difficulty:	difficult
Distance:	19,8 km
Durance:	6,45 h
Ascent:	786 m
Descent:	700 m

This is the longest stage of the Weinsteig. Along the way you will discover many interesting natural monuments like the Zigeuner rock, the Hambacher Bergstein mountain and the impressive block field. You will also climb the 673 m high Kalmit, the highest peak in the Palatine Forest.

More informations and the maps you can find here:

<https://www.outdooractive.com/en/walking-routes/pfalz/hiking-menu-palatinat/1442991/>