Welcome to Paderborn

Paderborn is a young, dynamic city with a history of more than 1,200 years and a diversity that speaks for itself. The city is rich of folklore and traditions with which can be discovered in many locations and numerous historical buildings. Among the many interesting landmarks are, for instance, the old city hall, the reconstructed imperial palace of Charlemagne, the community of three churches: the octagonal Abdinghofkirche, the former Jesuitenkirche and the Franzenkirche (4), the town’s oldest half-timbered house, are further examples of this architectural style.

Paderborn - look and see

Experience the pulsating life of a modern and upcoming city with a wide offer of cultural activities and leisure time facilities.

The city’s special atmosphere origins in its various opposite traditions versus innovation, old versus new, high-tech versus Middle Ages. Those are the attractive contrasts awaking you in Paderborn. You will experience them as a harmonious whole.

As a university town and ‘computer city’ Paderborn with its approx. 150,000 inhabitants offers an innovative business environment with a wide spectrum of highly qualified education facilities. Numerous green spaces inside the city and beautiful landscapes in the surrounding area offer additional possibilities for recreation.

Paderborn - Festivities and fun

There are many good reasons to visit Paderborn, and just as many occasions.

With a unique mixture of historical atmosphere and pulsating life, the numerous large and small annual events and festivities contribute to the quality of life. There are traditional festivals and manor events such as Lommerwirt, Spring Festival, Shrovetide, and Christmas Market, or the Lichtenfest Week at the end of July, which is one of the largest and oldest public fairs in Germany. A haystacking atmosphere, with roots going back to the year 836, due to a unique combination of practical ceremony and secular festivities which has survived until now.

An event calendar filled with concerts and festivals, a lively theatre scene, high-class sporting events and numerous activities and events in the Baroque castle park as well as in the former prince bishop’s residence Schloß Neuhaus make the city a popular attraction for guests from near and far.

Art and culture, shopping and sports, entertainment and Westphalian gastronomy - Paderborn have a lot to offer, and looks forward to welcoming you!

Places of interest

Walking through Paderborn is like walking through the centuries. The cityscape immediately mirrors the city’s essential history of more than 1,200 years. The centre alone contains more than twenty historic buildings of all architectural epochs. The reconstructed Ottonian-Salische imperial palace (Kaiserpalast) (1) to the north of the cathedral was built in the Romanesque period, in front of it, the foundation walls of Charlemagne’s palace can be seen. The Bartholomäuskapelle with its extraordinary acoustics was built in 1017 and is considered to be Germany’s oldest church hall. The influence of the Romans can clearly be seen on three churches: the octagonal tower of the Gaulkirche (2), the Abdinghofkirche (6) with its striking tower, and the St. Jakobi church (12) with its remarkable cloister from around 1300.

The transition from Romanesque to Gothic is most evident in the cathedral (Dom) (2). Its massive Romanesque facade of 1473 speaks in clear contrast to the new with its Gothic windows and tracery arcade. The crypt is the repository of the remains of Saint Liborius, the patron of the city and archbishop. The cloister contains the famous Three-Hares-Fenster (Drei-Hase-Fenster), one of the most prominent landmarks of Paderborn.

The three-gabled Paderborn town hall (4) as well as the Altstadt-Ever-Haus (5), the town’s oldest half-timbered house, are further examples of Weser Renaissance architecture. The Theological Faculty (13), the grammar school Gymnasium Theodorianum (15), as well as the former brewery near the Pader springs (15) are further examples of the architectural style.

How to get there

Skated conveniently in the middle of Germany, Paderborn can easily be reached by car, train or plane.

Car: The motorway A 33 (A 33), a connection between the A 2 (Ruhland-Hannover) and the A 44 (Dortmund-Kassel), leads to Paderborn. The city can also be reached via federal roads: the B 54 (from Holzle, Bad Driburg as well as Münster, Rheinau-Widdersbeck), the B 60 (from Warendorf, Kassel), the B 1 (from Hameln, Detmold and Geseke) and via the B 45 (from Brilon).

Train: Paderborn is located directly on the IC/EC routes Düsseldorf–Hannover–Kassel–Berlin as well as on the ICE routes Cottbus–Hannover and Cottbus–Berlin. Furthermore, there are good regional connections to the IC/EC stations Bielefeld, Dortmund, Hannover, Bremen and Hamburg.

Paderborn/Lippstadt airport (3-letter-code: PAD) lies about 25 km southeast of Paderborn. Buses connect the airport and the city Paderborn.

Other airports are located in Dortmund (Dortmund; 90 km), Münster/Osnabrück (65 km) and Hannover (150 km) (www.airport-pad.com).

About five kilometres south of the city centre, there is the sport arena Hasteberg (www.hasteberg.de)

Regional bus:

Timetable information: Tel. +49 (0) 5251 / 32034400

Local city line:

Bus: Tel. +49 (0) 5251 / 32034400

City bus (PaderSprinter): Timetable and tariff information: Tel. +49 (0) 5251 / 882980 www.paderborn.de
In the 1970s, Paderborn became the site of a “University for the Information Society,” counting over 20,000 students. Since then, Paderborn has become a large business location. The University of Paderborn attracts tens of thousands of visitors. The number of companies and establishments located in the city is enormous; over 2,500 firms are headquartered in the city, including many of the world’s leading companies. Paderborn is home to more than 60,000 students, and over 100,000 people work in the city.

Paderborn is a city in a city. The city of the Egge mountains, the Siemeihe lands and the Sauerland.