



Städte zwischen Rhein & Mosel
WeinKultur & Historie

Press Release

Cities between the Rhine and Moselle rivers welcome a new member

Coblenz, March 2012 – Cities between the Rhine and the Moselle – wine culture & history. The cooperation of cities welcomed a new member on 1 January 2012 - the Rhineland-Palatinate Cultural Heritage Directorate General, which is responsible for preserving and caring for the cultural heritage of Rhineland Palatinate entrusted to them and for maintaining it for future generations. The monuments are also being presented as cultural and tourist attractions, starting with this year's ITB trade show.

The community of cities has been represented at the ITB with its own stand since 2010, when the cities and the Rhineland-Palatinate Cultural Heritage Directorate General (GDKE) made a joint presentation under the motto of "Rhineland Palatinate - a Treasure Trove". This proven concept is being continued in 2012 with a small addition. The city of Mainz is also presenting itself as a member of the **Great Wine Capitals** network, thus doing special justice to the wine culture in the region. The **Coblenz cable car** was also welcomed as a sub-partner.

This year the 500-year anniversary of the Heilig-Rock pilgrimage is the perfect occasion for taking a short break in one of the five Romantic Cities of **Trier, Coblenz, Mainz, Worms** and **Speyer**, located between the Rhine and Moselle rivers.

Trier: *Founded by the Romans, Trier is the oldest city in Germany. Spectacular buildings such as Porta Nigra, Trier Cathedral and the Roman baths invite visitors to take part in one of the adventure guided tours. From 13 April to 13 May 2012 pilgrims and visitors from all over the world are invited to the Heilig-Rock Pilgrimage, a tradition which by then will go back exactly 500 years. In 1512 the tunic that Jesus allegedly wore on the way to his crucifixion was shown to the public for the first time ever by the German Kaiser Maximilian I.*

Coblenz: *The city has changed its appearance in many ways since hosting a most successful Federal Horticultural Show. The impressive landscape of the "Upper Middle Rhine Valley" UNESCO world cultural heritage and the relics of the history of Coblenz going back more than 2,000 years are once again a worthy incentive for a trip to Coblenz. One of the main attractions at the Federal Horticultural Show in 2011, the new, spectacular cable car spanning the Rhine, taking visitors from Deutsche Eck up to the stronghold of Ehrenbreitstein, will commence operation again on 16 March 2012. A unique experience for all to enjoy!*

Mainz: *Massive St Martin's Cathedral, unique churches and rustic wine cellars give the city its exceptional atmosphere. As the only German member in the Great Wine Capitals network, Mainz has a lot to offer, particularly when it comes to wine culture. In addition to a visit to the Kupferberg champagne cellars, which the German wine Institute included in its 40 wine culture highlights in 2010, the annual wine market, to be held from 23 - 26 August and from 30 August – 2 September 2012, is a must for every wine connoisseur.*

Worms: *A stunning city on the Rhine. The history of Worms is strongly characterised by the Songs of the Nibelungen heroes and by the reformer Martin Luther. Many museums and monuments invite visitors to get to know more about the city's history. The highlight of the year is the Nibelungen Festival, which will be staged by the renowned director Dieter Wedel on the western side of spectacular Worms Imperial Cathedral from 3 to 19 August 2012. Visitors can again look forward to new well-known actors and to new impressions.*

Speyer: *The fantastic Roman Imperial Cathedral of Speyer is the city's most renowned landmark, visible from a long distance. No fewer than eight German emperors and kings have been laid to rest in the magnificent Roman church building, once erected by the Salian emperors as the biggest Christian church. It is however not only the Catholic Church that is at home in Speyer. During the Reichstag at Speyer in 1529, 19 Protestant princes and imperial cities publicly stood up for their beliefs. It is thanks to them that the principle of freedom of religion became generally accepted. The name "Protestant" also resulted from their protest. Follow us in the footsteps of great history.*

Rhineland-Palatinate Cultural Heritage Directorate General: *As a new member of "Cities between the Rhine and Moselle", the Directorate General ideally supplements the cultural offer made by the city cooperation. It administers the state museums and the state-owned properties, including ancient Roman buildings such as Porta Nigra, the amphitheatre and the thermal baths at Trier Viehmarkt, the heart of ancient Germany. Ancient Middle Rhine castles such as Burg Sooneck, Pfalzgrafenstein and Stolzenfels Castle, Hardenburg, Trifels and Villa Ludwigshöhe Castle in the Palatinate and the Prussian stronghold of Ehrenbreitstein in Coblenz.*

Bookings & Enquiries

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