Aalen

... in the heart of the south of Germany.
At the foot of the Swabian Mountains our town stretches to the west over the Welland hills and to the east onto the mountain plateau to the hiking and recreation region Härtsfeld.

Our 67,000 inhabitants value the urban flair of Aalen city, the shopping centre of the region, as well as the leisurely way of life in the lively municipal districts, all with their own character and their own history.

Thermal springs, mine tunnels, castles homes, and the Roman UNESCO World Heritage Site „Limes“, with this formula we can pinpoint Aalen’s big attractions. Whether as a guest or a new citizen – in Aalen you are in excellent hands. The wide range of childcare facilities and schools are carried forward in the wide variety of occupational training opportunities and the University of Applied Sciences with its international partners. Our strong business location is a guarantee for secure jobs.

Sporting, cultural and social diversity leaves room for the fulfillment of personal freedom. A wide range of sheltered residential forms near the city also makes Aalen attractive for the elderly.

As you can see, there are many reasons to come to Aalen.

We are looking forward to seeing you!
Aalen’s squares and streets, with their southern flair and attractive shops and businesses invite you to go on a shopping expedition. We can meet for an ice-cream, a cappuccino or a refreshing drink in the street cafés and restaurants while Emperor Joseph I watches the rambunctious activities of the children from the column of the flower-decorated baroque market fountain. The Aalener Spion (spy) squints down onto the town, which according to the legend, he once saved, from the tower of the old town hall.

Shopping, strolling and enjoying – the whole year, but especially at the festivals, whose culmination are the „Reichstädter Tage“ in September. The citizen’s of the equally active and leisurely town value their quality of life and leisure time possibilities, visitors its charm and its atmosphere in a varying hiking and adventure landscape.
It was breathtaking when the largest Roman cavalry fort north of the Alps, from which large sections of the Limes from 1,800 years ago were guarded, were discovered near Aalen. No less breathtaking was the recognition of the Limes as a UNESCO World Heritage site a few years ago.

The Archaeological Park with the famous Limes Museum today offers an impressive insight into the epoch when Aalen was a frontier zone to the Roman Empire. The fascinating depiction of everyday life, trading, agriculture, art and living standard can not only be seen in the museum.

In every even-numbered year Aalen holds its „Römertage“ (Roman days) a journey back into the past, on the last weekend in September. At this, the largest Roman Festival in Europe, the fort site is transformed into a Roman Forum, in which tens of thousands of visitors are inspired by the spirited equestrian games and exhibitions of handworkers and traders in Roman robes.
Bubbling thermal water from the depths of the Swabian mountains, swimming baths and pools in roman-style bathing temples or in the open-air pool, exclusive sauna bliss – the Limes Thermal Baths invite you to dive into the world of well-being. Wellness indulgences for him and her in soft packs, relaxing massages and fitness training, increase the joy of living. Additionally, as a state-approved spa the Limes Thermal Baths offer a wide range of physical therapy, such as physiotherapy, classic and specialist massages, medicinal baths and kinesitherapy for the palliation and healing of rheumatism, venous and many other health problems.

Mit einem Mercedes fahren Sie nicht nur ein besonderes Automobil Sie haben damit auch.
The „Tiefer Stollen“ in Braunenberg near Aalen-Röthardt is far more than an interesting visitor’s mine. There the absolutely pure, dust and pollen-free air in the mine activates healing powers against asthma and other respiratory problems as well as certain allergies. After only a few visits you are able to breathe easily and deeply. Scientific studies have shown the positive therapeutic effect of the climate under ground.

The moderate, almost year-round fog-free stimulating climate at 400 to 800 metres above sea level increases your sense of well-being, and the impressive hiking and cycling landscape of the Swabian Mountains let’s your body, soul and spirit tank new energy.
The ride with the mine railway into the visitor’s mine “Tiefer Stollen” is itself an exciting experience for adults and children. There’s lots to marvel during the tour of the extensive tunnels and shafts. The fascinating multi-vision show below ground shows us the process of ore mining and iron processing in past times. Industrial history was written around Aalen, where the first smelting works already came into being in the 17. Century in Wasseralfingen – long before the Ruhr area.

On the mining trail at the mine entrance you learn what role the bean ore of the mountains, and the ferrous „rock beans“ play.
Aalen swings. Not only during the annual Jazz Festival in November, where all the big names in the international jazz scene have appeared at some time, but also at the other concerts and sessions during the year. Theatre performances on the town’s stages and open-air theatre bring swing into cultural life.

The town’s theatre is famous as the youngest and smallest municipal theatre in Germany. Almost 400 events per year are presented on the three stages in Aalen. The annual highlight is the „Freilichtsommer“ (open-air summer) where well-known and loved pieces are presented at spectacular locations. Painting fans can find a wide spectrum of fine arts in the public and private galleries.

Culture at its finest, also in the architectural gem „Schloss Fachsenfeld“ in the middle of its original landscape park – a symbiosis of nature, history, culture and art including a significant collection of pictures from south-west German Impressionism.
... not to mention the unlimited hiking possibilities of the Swabian Mountains between the bubbling source of the Kocher river and the distinctive „Albtrauf“ (mountain trough). The „Aalbäumle“, the 26 metre high look-out tower on the Langen mountain range, offers a grandiose panoramic view over the Härtsfeld, the Aalen Bight and the Swabian Forest up to the Kaiserbergen. When the flag is hoisted on the tower, the nearby alm lodge is open and serving refreshments and snacks to strengthen you for the rest of your hiking tour.

Pack your bathing trunks. Your jogging shoes, tennis racket, hiking poles or simply your hiking boots. The Scholz Arena, sports fields, open-air swimming pool, cycling paths and skating track encourage all thinkable activities ...
Once ground-breaking in smelting, today a future-orientated business, research and technology location – Aalen’s dynamic is impressive. The University of Applied Sciences carries out intensive research, qualifies the top management of the future in 17 courses of study and promotes technological transfer at all levels.

The new campus, a knowledge park links the innovative regional economy with science and society. Metal processing, optics and the paper and textile industry stand out from the wide industrial mix – from A for Alfing to Z for Zeiss.
The seven amiable town suburbs lie around the town centre like a pearl collar where no two can be compared with the other. Each has developed its own character and individual aura over the centuries. Together they make Aalen to what it is today: an exceptionally varied and exciting town, that stretches from the heights of the Härtsfeld in the east to the gentle Welland Hills in the west.

Ebnat and Waldhausen with their rural surroundings on the plateau of the Ostalb have developed into close to nature places of residence and the starting point for eventful tours in the austere, beautiful landscape of the Härtsfeld.

Spread out at the foot of the forested steep slopes of the „Albtrauf“ (mountain trough) areUnterkochen, where the Weiße Kocher river rises; and Wasseralfingen with its famous visitor’s mine. Both have distinguished themselves as important industrial locations with internationally renowned enterprises. Hofen lies to the north in the hilly landscape of the young Kocher river.

In the west of Aalen, Dewangen with its widely scattered farms, nestles in the delightful landscape of Welland Hills. Its immediate neighbour, Fachsenfeld, is a popular residential area with a lively cultural and social life. Here, in the middle of a magnificent landscape park full of exotic trees is the charming Fachsenfeld castle with its valuable paintings collections.
In the heart of the South, Aalen is convenient for travelling on the A7 and is an Intercity stop of the Deutsche Bahn. Everything converges here and so interesting destinations can easily be reached by train or by car in an hour.

Wischauer Sprachinsel (Wischau linguistic enclave)
Czech Republic
Sponsorship since 1980
Distance from Aalen 650 km

Saint-Lô
France
Twin town since 1978
28,000 Inhabitants
Distance from Aalen 1,000 km

Tatabánya
Hungary
Twin town since 1987
75,000 Inhabitants
Distance from Aalen 800 km

Christchurch
England
Twin town since 1981
41,000 Inhabitants
Distance from Aalen 1,200 km

Antalya
Turkey
Twin town since 1995
150,000 Inhabitants
Distance from Aalen 3,000 km