

A journey through culture and nature **visitdessau.com**





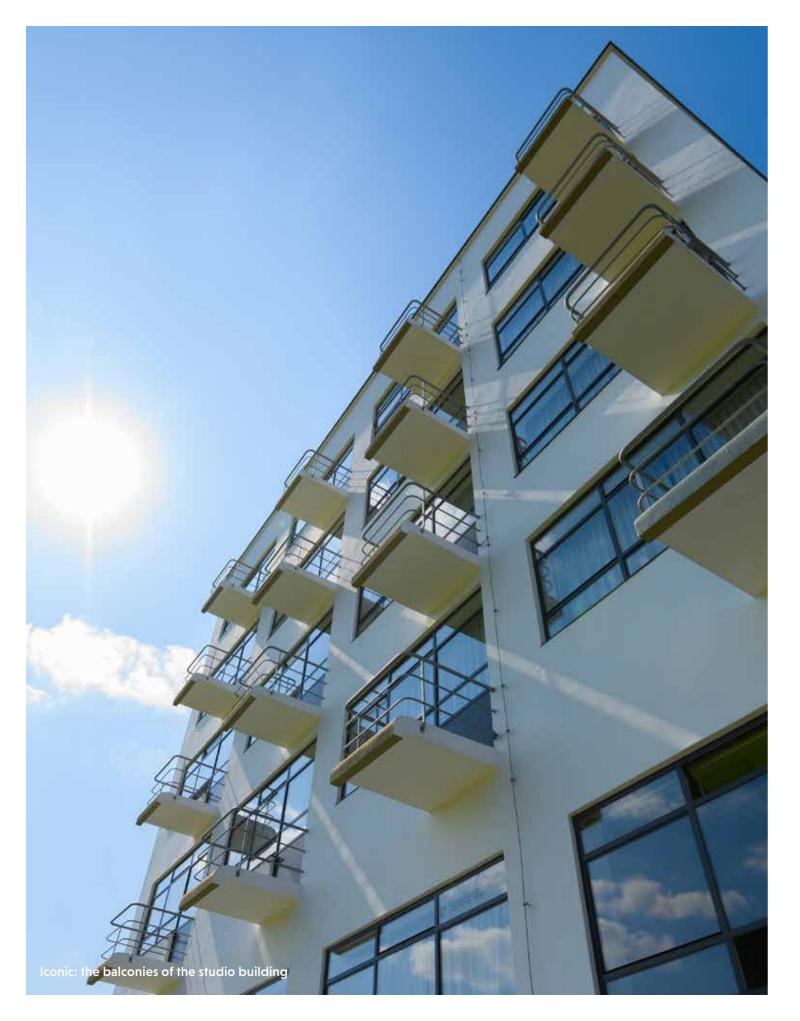
Welcome to Dessau-Roßlau

The mayor of Dessau, Fritz Hesse, showed foresight in 1925 when he successfully campaigned in city politics for the relocation of the Bauhaus from Weimar, where it was no longer politically wanted. His courage paid off. The former School of Design experienced its heyday in Dessau. This is the 100th anniversary of the move - a welcome occasion to celebrate and experience the iconic original buildings. A large programme of festivities by many of the city's actors offers a wide variety of entertainment.

Hesse's 'predecessor' was also a visionary. When Prince Franz of Anhalt-Dessau set off on an educational trip through Europe in 1765, he could not have foreseen that his home region would still bear the stamp of his Grand Tour to this day. After his return, filled with new impressions and inspiration, he decided to make his principality an enlightened European country. During the following decades, Englishstyle parks, Roman and Dutch edifices that had nothing to envy the originals and even Greek temples grew up here.

To this day, the town and its surrounding region reflect this European way of thinking in many different ways. Discover UNESCO World Heritage sites, the venues of the region's eventful history, cultural gems, gorgeous gardens, unspoiled river landscapes and much more besides.





The happiness of clean lines

In Dessau-Roßlau, there is no escaping the Bauhaus. Nowhere else can this architectural style be experienced in such abundance. The town has more than 300 original buildings, including **Building, the Masters'** Houses and the Houses with Balcony Access (Laubenganghäuser), which are UNESCO World Heritage sites. Wassily Kandinsky, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Marianne Brandt - all of them were here. When will you be coming?

When the school of art, design and architecture designed by Walter Gropius was inaugurated in 1926, visitors came from Europe and all over the world to marvel at it. Such a Gesamtkunstwerk of glass, steel and concrete had never been seen before. The building still cogently embodies what the architect wished **some, such as the Bauhaus** back then: "Together let us create the new building of the future!"

> With bold blueprints, functional design and a delight in experimentation, from that time on the Bauhaus revolutionised the architecture, art and crafts of the 20th century. Out of the academies, into the workshops and into life was the artists' credo. They wanted to develop "radical solutions to the problems of our time", to create beautiful and useful things and affordable, modern living space for all. This or anyone just discovering it. "joy of clean lines" comes across when

you visit the Master's Houses estate, where white cubes shine out between the pine trees. But the Historical Employment Office and the idyllically situated riverside restaurant, the Kornhaus, show that functional architecture can also have sweeping, rounded lines.

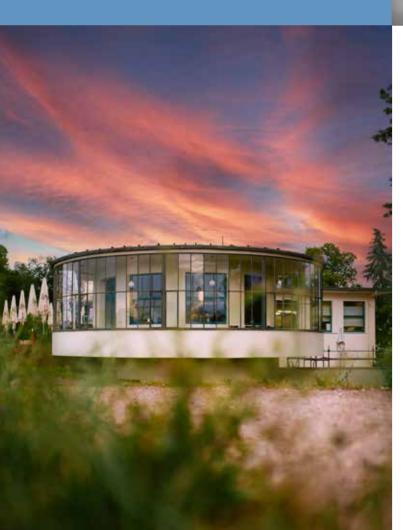
Bauhaus Museum Dessau was inaugurated in 2019 to mark the centenary of the founding of the Bauhaus. The following year, the International Association of Art critics (AICA) named it Museum of the Year. The collection recounts the history of this famous school with more than 1,000 exhibits. It describes the Bauhaus as a lively place of learning and teaching, where artistic experiments were conducted and industrial prototypes developed. A must, whether for Bauhaus connoisseurs

Bauhaus Building ¬ Masters' Houses ¬ Houses with Balcony Access ¬ Bauhaus Museum Dessau ¬ Kornhaus ¬ Törten Housing Estate ¬ Konsum Building ¬ Historical Employment Office

"Es hat ausgeweimart, meine Herrn, wir gehen jetzt dessauern!"

Lyonel Feininger (1871–1956)

Feininger's reaction to the forthcoming move from Weimar to Dessau in 1925 is a play of words with the citie's names. It can be roughly tranlated with "Gentlemen, 'Weimaring' is over. From now on, we are 'Dessauing' ".



DON'T MISS →

Learn, explore and experiment in Bauhaus Museum Dessau

Can you dance with glass? Can light create? What is the origin of all creativity? These and other questions are investigated in the exhibition Versuchsstätte Bauhaus (The Bauhaus Laboratory) in Bauhaus Museum Dessau. This does more than display the treasures in one of the world's greatest Bauhaus collections.

The museum is an open stage that invites visitors young and old to actively explore, and even to become Bauhaus designers themselves, to experiment with materials and forms or be inspired to play a Bauhaus game. You can do all of this and much more besides in the new, glazed museum building.

Tickets at bauhaus-dessau.de



DON'T MISS

Delphinium Maximum

The constantly changing and also transient flower show is dedicated to cultivating, preserving and displaying living plants in the museum.

CONTOUR WINSERM DEVIOUR

18.05. – 28.09.2025 Bauhaus Museum Dessau

← DON'T MISS

Bauhaus festival

Under the motto 'Testing, touching, feeling, experimenting', contemporary artists will interpret the historical material dances at the Bauhaus.

04. – 07.09.2025

DON'T MISS

Invisible Bauhaus

The multimedia open-space exhibition takes visitors to places in the Dessau city area that no longer have an immediately recognisable connection to the Bauhaus. From 26.09.2025

← DON'T MISS

A view of the Elbe from the **Kornhaus terrace**

In Dessau, the most beautiful view to be had is at the curve in the River Elbe called the Elbbogen. On this popular excursion destination a restaurant was built in 1930 on the site of a former granary to designs by Carl Fieger.

More at kornhaus-dessau.de

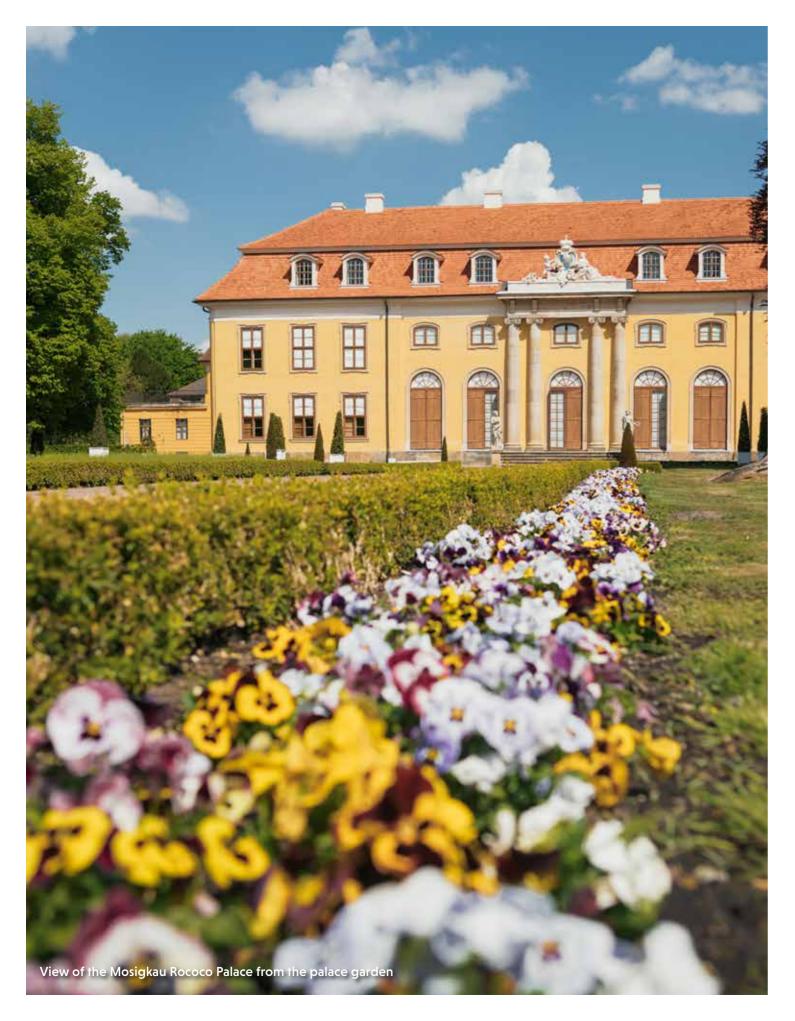
DON'T MISS

Experience **architectural history** in the Törten estate

Built in 1928 by Walter Gropius, the Törten housing estate was intended to quickly provide affordable living space for many people. Discover houses in their original state, the steel house and Hannes Meyer's Laubenganghäuser on a guided walk.

bauhaus-dessau.de





The whole country a garden

The Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz has enraptured visitors for generations. Today, it is one of sites. But even at the time of its creation in the 18th century, it was considered to be one of Europe's landscapes. Goethe visited it frequently. "It is infinitely beautiful here," he wrote to Charlotte von Stein. "It moved me deeply that the gods have allowed the prince to create a dream around himself."

Prince Franz's European travels can be impressively traced in the Dessau-Wörlitz on the Posillipo coast. But an Italian flair journey in England. In our case, that's in model. Wörlitz Palace is one of the earliest in Kühnau Park, and the Pantheon on the neoclassical palace buildings outside the river side of the flood wall in Wörlitz. British Isles. It has an impressive collection most beautiful man-made of Wedgwood pottery and numerous elegant details. Another reminder of the United Kingdom is the Iron Bridge over the Georgskanal (George Canal), which is a scaled-down replica of the Iron Bridge at Coalbrookdale.

> Our next stop is Italy. Insel Stein, the Isle of Stone, is a reminder of the prince's stay in the Bay of Naples. It has rocky passageways, grottoes, temples, an amphitheatre and an artificial volcano modelled on Vesuvius which, thanks to clever sound, light and water effects, can even spew out "lava". At the foot of the artificial volcano lies Villa Hamilton,

reminiscent of the Casino di Mappinola Garden Kingdom. Let's start our European also permeates Georgium Park - the outline of which is similar to the boot-shape UNESCO's World Heritage Wörlitz Park, the first landscape garden in of Italy – the Piedmontese farmhouse, the continental Europe created on the English Weinbergschlösschen, or "wine château"

> The journey continues to Holland. Together, Oranienbaum and the palace park are an impressive example of a largely Netherlands-inspired Baroque site with a large collection of citrus plants, one of the longest orangeries in Europe and, in Oranienbaum Palace, a summer dining room tiled entirely with Dutch tiles. Similarly, in the Gallery of Mosigkau Palace, you can discover Dutch and Flemish painters, such as Rubens and Brueghel.

Three countries in one day? You can certainly manage even more than that.

Luisium Park and Palace ¬ Georgium Park and Palace ¬ Grosskühnau Landscape Park ¬ Oranienbaum Park and Palace ¬ Mosigkau Park and Palace ¬ Sieglitz Hill ¬ Wörlitz Park

"Combining utility with beauty."

Prince Leopold III. Friedrich Franz (1740–1817)

In the almost 60 years of his reign, the prince succeeded in carrying out an unparalleled programme of landscape embellishment. Back then, visitors to the parks could learn a lot about the buildings of antiquity, the fine arts and architecture, and they still can today.





DON'T MISS → Old Masters in the

Garden Kingdom

The Anhalt Art Gallery in Dessau is one of the most important sights in the UNESCO World Heritage Site Dessau-Wörlitz Garden Kingdom. Paintings from the late Middle Ages to the early modern period provide a rich insight into European art history. The painting collection focuses on Dutch painting from the 15th to 18th century and German painting from the 15th to early 19th century. The rich collection of prints and drawings includes drawings and prints from the 14th century to the present day.

The exhibition highlight of 2025 is a show of works by British artist Tony Cragg. Today, he is internationally recognised as one of the most important contemporary sculptors. His sculptures will be on display in the Orangery and Georgium Park from 21 June to 5 October.

More at

gemael degalerie. dessau-rosslau. de



DON'T MISS

Mosigkau Palace via app

The ceremonial rooms of Mosigkau Castle can be explored via app. In the digital tour, you can learn more about the famous paintings in the Garden Hall, their painters and the stories behind them.

gartenreich.de

← DON'T MISS

History layer by layer in **Oranienbaum Palace**

Since it was built, Oranienbaum Palace has been repeatedly adapted to the fashions and needs of the time. It has become a stone timeline, as traces of the various periods are visible throughout the palace - for example as paintings on the walls. A new exhibition tells many stories, including the connection between the palace and the Bauhaus artist Hinnerk Scheper. From 22.03.2025



DON'T MISS

Gartenreichsommer festival

Concerts and theatrical performances in the palaces and parks of Dessau-Wörlitz Garden Kingdom May – September gartenreichsommer.de

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DON'T MISS

Cabaret festival Oranienbaum

On two summer evenings, Oranienbaum Palace Park will host top-class cabaret on around 20 stages.

13. and 14.06.2025

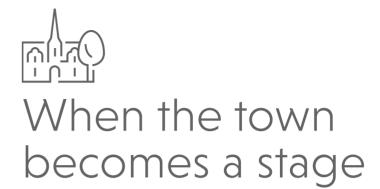
← DON'T MISS

The volcano is calling!

The artificial volcano on Stone Island will once again spew smoke and ash. The eruption of the Wörlitz Vesuvius is an unforgettable experience.
15. and 16.08.2025







While the influence of Prince Franz is clearly visible first and foremost in the Garden Kingdom, the architect and master-builder Carlo Ignazio Pozzi also left his mark on the Dessau townscape. During his time as head of urban planning in Anhalt-Dessau in the 19th century, he drew inspiration from a large number of European influences that can still be seen today.

Dessau's historical buildings are not only witnesses to an eventful European past. At the same time, they serve as the backdrop for a contrasting range of cultural offerings that attract numerous visitors to the town year after year. Within the space of a few square kilometres, an exceptionally large cultural diversity can be enjoyed here. In Dessau-Roßlau, only a few steps separate the princely palace from the modernist Bauhaus. Or one of the largest theatres in Saxony-Anhalt from the art gallery with its German, Dutch and Flemish paintings by old masters.

trip you began in the Garden Kingdom in the town: right in the middle of Dessau town centre, outside the Museum of Natural History and Prehistory, you are suddenly reminded of Italy. No wonder the architecture is modelled on that of the Church, the Masters' Houses, the zoo or Santo Spirito hospital in Rome. The journey continues to Greece. The Napoleon

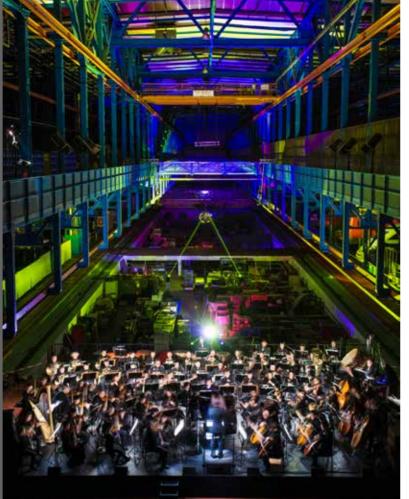
Tower in Mildensee was modelled on the Tower of the Winds in Athens. Even Russia is represented. Haideburg hunting lodge in the south of the town is a visual relative of Königsberg Castle - Königsberg being the former name of Kaliningrad. The Fremdenhaus, or "guest house", in Georgium Park combines no fewer than four European architectural styles. Each façade presents a different country: Italy, Netherlands, Germany and England.

These different European settings really come to life during the annual festivals that take place throughout the town. If you like, you can continue the European These include the Kurt Weill Festival, which commemorates one of Dessau's best-known sons. During the Bauhaus Festival too, the whole town becomes a stage where culture unfolds in often the most unusual places – in St. Mary's in historic workshops. Where will we find you?

Hugo Junkers Engineering Museum ¬ Anhalt Theatre ¬ Johannbau Palace ¬ Federal Environment Agency ¬ Anhalt Art Gallery ¬ Moses Mendelssohn Centre ¬ Kurt Weill Centre ¬ Roßlau Navigation Museum ¬ St. Mary's Church ¬ Zoo ¬ Water Castle Roßlau ¬ Middle German Theatre

The performing arts, a window on the world

The theatre tradition in Dessau goes back a long way. There has been a permanent theatre company here for over two hundred years. Today, the town offers a broad and exciting range of performing arts. First and foremost among them is the Anhalt Theatre's wide-ranging programme from opera to puppet theatre for children and adults. Exciting venues and unusual backdrops for concerts can be found throughout the town. Enjoy cultural events in the Bauhaus Building, the Water Castle in Roßlau, the vehicle maintenance workshop of German Railway, and the palaces and parks of the Garden Kingdom.



TIPP →

Dessau **Zoo**

Idyllically situated in the historic Mausoleum Park, the Dessau Zoo is a popular excursion destination for young and old. The animal husbandry specialises in animals from Siberia, South America, Australia and old, endangered domestic animal breeds from Central Germany. Knowledge is imparted in a fun way at hands-on stations, in the petting zoo, in the educational farm or interactively via the Actionbound app.

More at

tierpark.dessau-rosslau.de

TIPP

Round trip in a double-decker bus

Discover the city from a new perspective on a tour in a historic double-decker bus.

May - October



TIPP

Flyint to the stars at the **Hugo Junkers Engineering Museum**

The life and work of the famous engineer Hugo Junkers has been memorialised in the original halls of the Junkers aircraft factory. The museum is dedicated to Junkers' pioneering spirit in heating technology, engine technology and aviation.

Highlights of the exhibition include the legendary Ju 52, restored to its original condition, and the replica of the world's first all-metal aeroplane, the J1.

Take the controls yourself - it's possible here! In the flight simulator, you can take off in the Junkers F13. If you want to go even higher, you can even take a virtual trip to the moon.

More at

technikmuseum-dessau.org



TIPI

Kurt Weill Festival

International music festival in honour of the Dessau-born composer Kurt Weill. 28.02. – 16.03.2025

← TIPP

Cultural diversity at the Water Castle Roßlau

Theatre, Ska festival, Christmas market – The backdrop of the historic castle is used in a variety of ways.

This is Ska Festival 19. – 21.06.2025

Burgtheater Summer: Hamlet July – August 2025

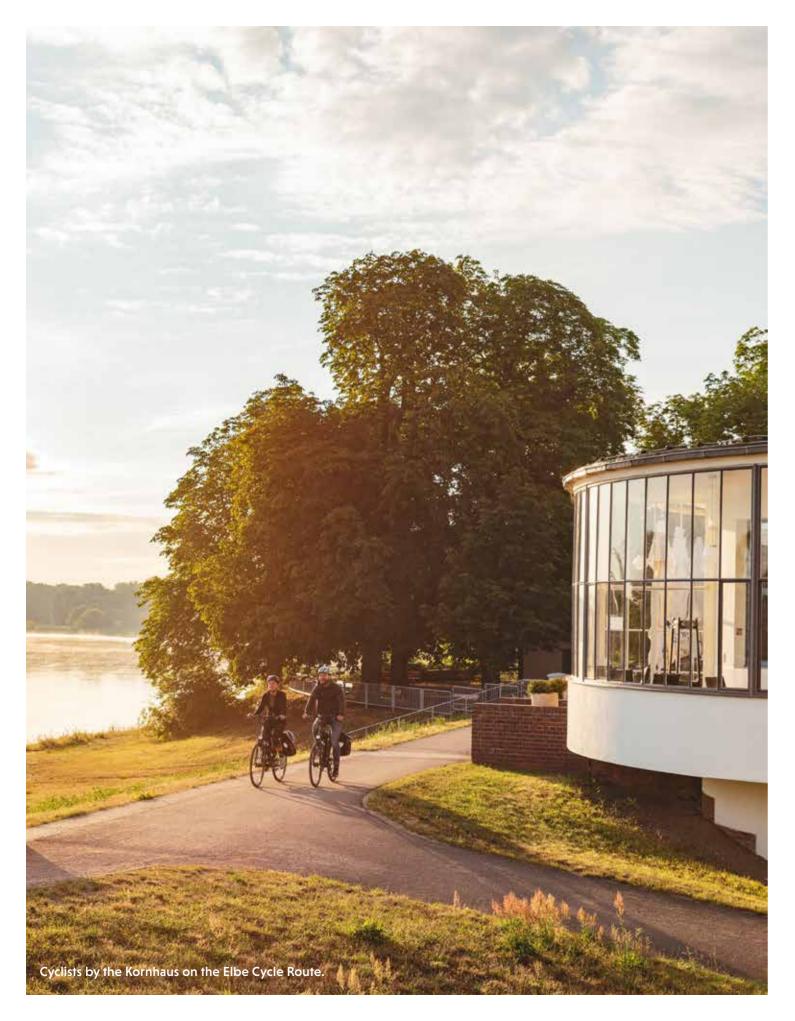
Christmas Market 13. – 14.12.2025

TIPP

Mitteldeutsches Theater

Dieter Hallervorden's theatre offers a wide range of events in the special ambience of St Mary's Church in Dessau's city centre.







it by bike. Thanks to the largely flat and well-developed network of cycle paths, cycling here is pure pleasure and easy even for children. But if the distance is too great for you, there's a convenient alternative: bikes can be taken free of charge on local trains.

This is the ideal region for Everything worth seeing in Dessau-Roßlau anyone wishing to explore can be easily explored on two wheels, for example, by taking the Prince Franz Garden Kingdom tour, a circular route that takes in all the palaces and parks and leads you through the uniquely scenic water meadows by the Elbe. Or a tour of all the Bauhaus buildings in and around the town – from the Kornhaus by the Elbe to Törten Housing Estate.

> If you prefer a more natural setting, you'll get your money's worth in the virtually unspoiled water meadows of the UNESCO Mittelelbe Biosphere Reserve. Through green pastures with grazing Heck cattle and mighty solitary oaks, through dense forests, past sleepy lakes and ponds, moments of paramount enjoyment await nature-loving visitors. The flora and fauna are both diverse and unique. If you are lucky, you might even spot some wild horses.

Here, even the tiniest creatures are surrounded by a hint of romanticism – such as Brachyopa silviae, a new species of hover fly that was discovered in this region. The water meadows are also ideal for long walks. They are crossed by the Ell European long-distance hiking path, as well as the Luther Way hiking path that takes ramblers on a pilgrimage in the footsteps of the great Reformer. The water meadow nature trails, of which there are many here, are perfect for shorter rambles. They are a great way of combining restful recreation and discovery.

Do you want to set off on a long journey from Dessau? Easy! Dessau- Roßlau is a crossroads where numerous inter-regional cycle paths meet. The Mulde Cycle Route snakes its way from here to its source in the Erzgebirge, or Ore Mountains. Moreover, the route of the Elbe Cycle Route, regularly named Germany's most popular cycle path, passes through the town. And via the European Cycle Route, the more valiant cyclists can go as far as St. Petersburg or Brittany.

Prince Franz Garden Kingdom Tour ¬ Bauhaus Buildings Cycle Route ¬ Elbe Cycle Route ¬ R1 European Cycle Route ¬ Mulde Cycle Route ¬ Fläming Cycle Route ¬ Luther Way ¬ Hiking paths through the Elbe water meadows

A day in the saddle

The Prince Franz Garden Kingdom Tour
You can join the 68-kilometre circular route
anywhere, but the official starting point is
at the place where the Elbe Cycle Route
turns off the Aken-Dessau road. From
there, it takes you through Kühnau park to
the Beckerbruch water meadows in the
park of Georgium Palace. It continues via
the Luisium and Sieglitz Hill, past Vockerode to Wörlitz. From there, the route takes
you to Oranienbaum, then via Mildensee,
Törten, Haideburg and Kochstedt to
Mosigkau, from where you can return to
your starting point.



DON'T MISS →

Head for adventure with your caravan or motorhome

Whether in Dessau-Roßlau or any of the surrounding towns in the World Heritage region of Anhalt-Dessau-Wittenberg, on the banks of the Elbe or in the Fläming or Dübener Heide Nature Parks – the region offers caravanning fans numerous idyllic spots for a relaxing holiday in their very own house on wheels.

You can access all the not-to-be-missed tourist sights and destinations at very little cost – especially if you have your bikes with you as well. Our Tourist Information team will be glad to help you plan your trip.

More information visitdessau.com/en/campground/





← DON'T MISS Take a dip!

Several outdoor pools and bathing places in and around Dessau-Roßlau provide a chance to cool off on hot days. On the lakes in the former lignite mining area around Bitterfeld, you can have fun swimming, wakeboarding, sailing or taking out a pedal-boat.

If you prefer something less energetic, you can take a boat trip on the extensive Lake Goitzsche, or enjoy the view from the Goitzsche area's emblematic landmark, the Pegelturm tower. Or take a canoe trip on the Elbe to discover the Mittelelbe Biosphere Reserve from a whole new perspective.

More information visitdessau.com/en/free-time/activ/



← DON'T MISS Get closer to nature

In the Auenhaus Information Centre on the road between Dessau and Oranienbaum, the special features of the Mittelelbe Biosphere Reserve come to life. Numerous interactive terminals provide fascinating facts and information for all the family. Admission is free. By bike, the Information Centre is accessible from the Prince Franz cycle path. The Dessau-Wörlitz train also stops close by.

In the beaver enclosure, very close to the information centre, you can get a direct insight into a beaver lodge. The way there is made entertaining and educational with games in the Actionbound app.

More information mittelelbe.com

A wealth of experiences at any season

Dessau lies at the centre of the Anhalt-Dessau-Wittenberg World Heritage region. Nature parks, towns with a rich history and witnesses of past industrial times invite you to discover and linger – all within a radius of some 30 kilometres around Dessau.



Not only in Dessau, but also in the Anhalt residence towns of Bernburg, Köthen and Zerbst, you can learn a lot about the history of the Princely House and important personalities such as Johann Sebastian Bach or Catherine the Great. Her rooms in Zerbst Castle can be rediscovered using augmented reality.

On excursions and explorations in the Dübener Heide and Fläming nature parks there is much to experience for young and old. Information centres introduce visitors to the local flora and fauna and explain the history of the formation of the end moraine landscape.

Learn more anhalt-dessau-wittenberg.de



Bathing fun, water sports and cultural highlights in the former coal-mining area. The structural change is tangible here. For example, in Ferropolis, where five lignite excavators form a unique backdrop for an open-air museum and festival ground.

Whether you travel back in time to the year 1517 in the Asisi Panorama or visit the original sites Castle Church, Melanchthon House, Town Church and Luther House in the historic town centre, all part of the UNESCO World Heritage: Lutherstadt Wittenberg offers many opportunities to discover the history of the Reformation.







Legal and Contact Information

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Tourist Information Offices in Dessau und Roßlau

Before setting off on your European journey, you can find further inspiration on our online and social media channels.

All our offers of excursions, guided tours, events, town tours, sights to see and full information direct to your screen.

We look forward to seeing you. Have a good trip!

visitdessau.com

Tourist-Information Dessau Rats-

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Opening times

November – March Mon – Fri 10.00 a. m. – 5.00 p. m.

10.00 a. m. - 2.00 p. m. Tue 10.00 a. m. - 12.00 a. m.

April - October

Tourist-Information Roßlau

Hauptstr. 11

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Opening times

Mon 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 a.m. 1.00 p. m. – 2.00 p. m.

1.00 p. m. - 6.00 p. m.

Mon - Fri 10.00 a. m. - 6.00 p. m. Thu 1.00 p. m. - 6.00 p. m.

10.00 a. m. – 3.00 p. m. Fri 10.00 a. m. – 12.00 a. m.





By the way, it's easy to get here from any direction:



By car

A9 Berlin - München

exits Dessau-Ost and Dessau-Süd A2 Dortmund - Berlin, exit Burg A14 Magdeburg – Dresden, exit Calbe Trunk roads B 184. B 185. B 187



By rail

bahn.de Information for train connections to and from Dessau, hourly or half-hourly connections to major railway stations in Berlin, Magdeburg, Leipzig, Halle, Lutherstadt Wittenberg

insa.de Information for rail, buses and trams in the city and the region



By air Leipzig-Halle 60 km

Berlin 130 km Dessau commercial airfield 5 km

flugplatz-dessau.de



By water

Elbe, river kilometre 261 Moorings and slipway in

Leopold Harbour Elbe / Historical reaction ferry from Coswig to Wörlitz



By bike

Dessau-Wörlitz Railway

Elbe Cycle Route **elberadweg.de**

Mulde Cycle Route mulderadweg.de

R1 European Cycle Route

europaradweg-rl.de

19 kilometres of track to the Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz

dvg-dessau.de



