

# Die Pfalz.

## Tagesausflug Nr. 12

### German Wine Route



#### Picturesque Freinsheim

The top down and the wind in your hair is truly the best way to visit the Palatinate. The breeze carries the intense perfume of damp chestnut leaves, the vineyards radiate in all imaginable shades of red and yellow. In between, picturesque and contemplative villages whose names are reminiscent of a well-stocked wine cellar: Ungstein, Kallstadt, Leistadt. And wonderful vistas at every turn when the morning mist dissipates to make way for the rich colour palette of early fall. If your trip is beginning at the House of the German Wine Route in Bockenheim, we recommend that you make a small detour to visit picturesque Freinsheim. The Palatinate version of Rothenburg with its Baroque houses and medieval rampart is the ideal place to stop and take a little walk around.

#### Forst at a Snail's Pace

85 kilometres may not seem very far, but if you drive at a relaxed speed, you may have to hurry to get to Schweigen on the French border before the end of the day – and leave many a sight by the wayside: Bad Dürkheim with its giant barrel, the spa gardens, the Limburg monastery ruins (to name but a few of the most beautiful), or the Roman “Villa Rustica” in Wachenheim, for example. When you get to Forst, however, we recommend that you bypass the bypass and drive right through the village at a snail's pace. Model train set owners will recognize the scenario: half-timbered houses, fig trees, the well, cobblestone streets – all things that define the quintessential idyll.



#### The Villas of Neustadt

The road continues to Deidesheim (with its remarkable Town Hall and the famous “Deidesheimer Hof” restaurant) and Neustadt, the cultural and geographic centre of the Wine Route. The town's fabulous villas, built in the historical style of the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, are particularly noteworthy while the half-timbered houses surrounding the quaint market square hark back to earlier times.



#### Simply Everything Grows Here

If you think only of wine when you think of the Palatinate, you are in for a surprise when travelling along the German Wine Route: almonds, figs, kiwis, lemons, and innumerable chestnut trees grow abundantly by the roadside. We'd like to share a little secret on Leinsweiler: if you park your car on the small parking lot by the well and walk up the steep hill to the Slevogthof where the hiking path to the Trifels castle begins, you will see that the sky hangs full of chestnuts.



#### The Homestretch to France

The German Wine Route curves its way towards the French border past Klingenstein with its Landeck castle and Bad Bergzabern – the second spa town in the Palatinate with a noteworthy town centre and a vast spa garden. The countryside with its softly rolling hills is reminiscent of a southern idyll but the menus clearly point to France: “Flammkuchen”, “Coq au Vin”, etc. The magnificent Wine Gate in Schweigen marks the end of a tour that knows only two downsides: forget about getting into a bikini after a tour like this one and riding in a convertible also presents a major inconvenience: the trunk is only big enough to accommodate a single case of wine. The solution, however, is obvious: come more often!

Anfahrtsbeschreibung

<http://portale.web.de/Auto/Routenplaner/>

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Zum Wohl. Die Pfalz.