

City Tour

The best place from which to begin your sightseeing is the **church of St Ludwig 17**, built in the "Weinbrenner style" and dedicated to St Ludwig in 1829. The statue of the winemaker bearing his grape harvest basket in front of the church was created in 1936 by the Kaiserslautern-based sculptor Adolph Bernd. It symbolises the wine-growing town of Bad Dürkheim, with its 848 hectares of vineyards, its 115 wineries and their first-class produce, which has won prizes from the German Agricultural Society and Regional Chambers of Agriculture. A walk down Kurgartenstraße brings you to the entrance of the "Villa Denis" Posthof. This was where Paul Camille Denis, founder of the Palatinate railway lines, town planner of Ludwigshafen and builder of the first German railway line between Nuremberg and Fürth, lived until his death in 1878. At the end of the street is the **Post Office 11** built in 1906. Cross Mannheimer Straße to reach **Bahnhof-Platz 2**, with its war memorial to the fallen of 1870-71 and the **Wurstmarkt fountain 23**, designed by Walter Graser in 1986. It depicts the past and present of the world's largest wine festival – the Dürkheimer Wurstmarkt (or sausage market) – which lasts for around nine days over the second and third week-ends in September.

Return to the pedestrian crossing and follow Mannheimer Straße towards the city centre. At the entrance to the pedestrian zone, note the sandstone sculpture "Der Wächter an der Mauer" (the "watchman at the wall") by Mathias Nikolaus. The pavement is inlaid with sandstones depicting the course followed by the city walls from the 14th century (also visible on a metal plate). The wall, with its three gates, earned the city the title of "the strongest fortress in the Haardt Mountains". Farther along, via **Römerplatz 22**, considered to be the original core of the city and whose name derives from the Town Hall (known as "Römer" or "Romans") built in 1495 in the centre of the square, you reach the **Stadtplatz 20**. On its southern side, note the sculpture by Walter Perron depicting a "Phoenix", the mythical bird which is consumed by fire only to arise anew, symbolising the revival of Bad Dürkheim after the terrible damage brought about by the Second World War. Now observe the building on the crossroads of Leininger Straße / Weinstraße Süd at the edge of the Stadtplatz. The façade bears a memorial plaque and an original stone from the synagogue which stood here until the Second World War.

A few metres further bring you to the **Obermarkt**, where a twice-weekly market was already in full swing in the Middle Ages. Turn right through Marktgasse and head for the **Burgkirche 4**. On this site stood the castle of the Counts of Leiningen. Destroyed in 1689 in the Palatinate Wars of Succession, the ruins were bought by the Reformed Congregation, who in 1756 built a simple church in the Baroque style, which in its turn burned down in 1945. Today, the site serves as a community centre for the local Protestant church. In the cellars of the half-timbered building near the church (one of the city's oldest buildings), are the remains of the castle (not open to visitors). Opposite the Burgkirche, follow Strauchelgasse to the **Haus Catoir Cultural Centre 8**, which houses the local history museum, the city library, the Open Workshop (creative centre), the city music school and a set of function rooms. On leaving the courtyard, with its decorative ginkgo trees, vines and fig trees, turn right and head for the **Dürkheimer House** and the former "Vierjahreszeiten" guest house, now a school of dance. In the 19th century, this was a popular meeting place, where guests such as King Ludwig 1 of Bavaria, or the poet who created "Struwelpeter", among many others, came to sample the fare of "Beautiful Anna" – Anna Bergner, the cook whose fame spread as far as America and whose cookery books are still sold in Bad Dürkheim. The guest house is also the founding seat of the "Pollichia" Natural History Society (1840). Head farther down Kaiserslauterer Straße, past the stately houses, whose arched entrances are typical of the Palatinate region. A few metres further, you reach the **oldest house** in Bad Dürkheim **1** – built in 1559. Turn right at the crossroads (B37) and follow the waterway known as the **Isenach-Bach**, which was used as a transport route in Roman times and drove the mill wheels and later, from the Middle Ages onwards, the pumps of the saltwater baths. This soon brings you to the 1720 **Gerbhaus**, with its gabled roofs – important at the time for ventilation – and the Rococo gateway of the former late 18th-century hunting lodge of the Princes of Leiningen. Right in front of you, admire the old Classical **Eichhaus 21** (Weights and Measures House), where the wooden containers of the winegrowers were calibrated in days gone by, which now serves as an exhibition hall.

Cross the bridge to reach the city walls and observe the "Kuhpforte", which was passable only by individuals and small livestock. Climb the steps past the work of art known as "Die Wolke" (The Cloud) to the Protestant **Schlosskirche 16**, the castle church first mentioned in 946, whose Gothic character was once again brought to the fore following extensive renovation in 1983. The 1504 **funerary chapel** is the final resting place of the Counts of Leiningen. Heading past the church, take the passageway that turns first left then right 20 m later into the **Schlossplatz 12** (Castle church) with its two remarkable fountains at the **Kurhaus 9** (spa house). In 1725, the castle residence of the Counts of Leiningen was built here. In 1779, the Counts were elevated to the status of Reichsfürsten, or Imperial Princes, but the princely family was forced to flee because of the French Revolution, taking their library and archives with them. In 1794, the building fell victim to the flames of the revolutionary troops and the Palatinate became a French territory. From 1816, Bad Dürkheim came under the dominion of the Wittelsbach Dynasty, the Palatinate became Bavarian, and the castle building was turned into a Town Hall, some of its rooms

occasionally being used for curative purposes. After the administration left in 1936, a centre for spa guests emerged, and the venue has been home to the **Casino 9** since 1949. Walk past the building to return to your starting point, the **church of St Ludwig 17**.

You may now choose to continue your journey with the:

Spa Tour

Directly behind the **church of St Ludwig 17** is the **upper spa park**, where the grape cure was offered from 1820 onwards, which may be seen as the starting point for the development of the cure trade. Bathing facilities in hotels cemented Bad Dürkheim's reputation as a spa town, earning it the official title of "Solbad" (Saltwater Spa) in 1847. Dr. Bunsen (the famed inventor of the Bunsen burner), examined the Dürkheim water, discovered two new elements (caesium and rubidium) in 1861 and used the water in his further development of the science of spectral analysis. A sanatorium was created for medical purposes and a Spa Resort emerged. In 1904, the city earned the title of "Bad" (Spa) and henceforth became known as Bad Dürkheim. Do not miss the eye-catching 1910 **Ostertag fountain**, commemorating Valentin Ostertag. Early in the 16th century, he bequeathed to the city a substantial foundation, which is now regarded as the oldest secular example of its kind in Germany. Take the steps leading down to the left from the fountain and turn left again at the "Ginkgo leaves" sculpture. About 50 m later, turning left into Kurbrunnenstraße brings you to the **Psychosomatic Clinic**. Turn left through the narrow little street to reach the **Dürkheimer Riesenfass 6**, the world's largest wooden barrel, with a capacity of 1.7 million litres, built in 1934 by master cooper Fritz Keller. It was never filled with wine – serving as a restaurant from the outset. Head back through the passageway and turn left towards the **thermal baths 10**. It houses also the **Tourist Information office 18**. Pick up the latest leaflets or a few personal tips for your stay in Bad Dürkheim. Head down Kurbrunnenstraße, past the **Salinarium 15** public swimming pool and the **Salierhalle 14** events venue, until you come directly to the spa park. Above the grounds on the left is the **Michelsberg** with its little **Chapel**, originally built in the Middle Ages and renovated in 1990, thanks to a private donation. This is the origin of the world's largest wine festival, the "Dürkheimer Wurstmarkt". Turn right and follow the road to the **Gradierbau 5**, at 333 m the longest salt evaporation works of its kind in Germany. Salt water trickles here over blackthorn twigs and is then reboiled, making for healthy marine air inland, deep inhalation of which provides relief from respiratory problems. Opposite the southern access, a reconstructed **water wheel 25** can be seen. It resembles the historic one, which drove the salt evaporation works by pumping mineral water up its eight-metre-high walls from where it trickled back down the hawthorn twigs. The principle is shown by a "miniature saltworks" next to the wheel. South of the water wheel stands a small, half-timbered building, housing the **Fronmühlquelle 19**. Head past the building and through the Kurpark, along the way crossing some of the eleven bridges, the **mini-golf course, Brunnenhalle 3** and Café Traubenkur (grape cure), created in 1936-1937. In former years, typical southern fruit was sold and nutritional consultations were provided for the traditional 'Grape cure'. The 'cure' itself was administered in autumn during the grape harvest. The **Brunnenhalle 3** served as a drinking fountain area and reading room. Today the building is used for events and exhibitions. Feel free to take a short break here at the sandstone steps of the **Kaskadenbecken 26** and dip your feet in the water. Here also note the **Hochzeitsbrücke** (wedding bridge). At the crossroads, walk straight ahead up the street and to your left you will see the **Town Hall 13**, which is a former winery in the classical style. The tour continues crossing the next bridge. If you are a little more daring however, do not cross the bridge but instead turn right just in front of the bridge and take the **stepping-stones 27** to cross the water.

From here you can take a short detour to the **Blumenbrücke** (bridge of flowers) and the **Quelltopf 28** where the waters of Isenach emerge from the ground. Complete your tour by returning to the **church of St. Ludwig 17**.

At just under 5 hectares, the park, which originally served as the castle gardens and boasts a number of exotic trees, from olive, bitter orange and mulberry to bluebells and trumpet trees, gives the city a breath of fresh air. The spot commands a fine view of the **Town Hall 13**, a former winery in the Classical style. Turn right at the second junction and immediately left again until you return to where your journey began at the **church of St Ludwig 17**.

We hope our tours have helped you appreciate the beauty of our city. However, a brochure such as this is no substitute for a guided city tour – the Tourist Information office has prepared a varied programme of such tours for your enjoyment.

There is so much to discover in Bad Dürkheim.

Have fun!

● = Sights along the City Tour (total length 1,900 m)

● = Sights along the Spa Tour (total length 1,600 m)

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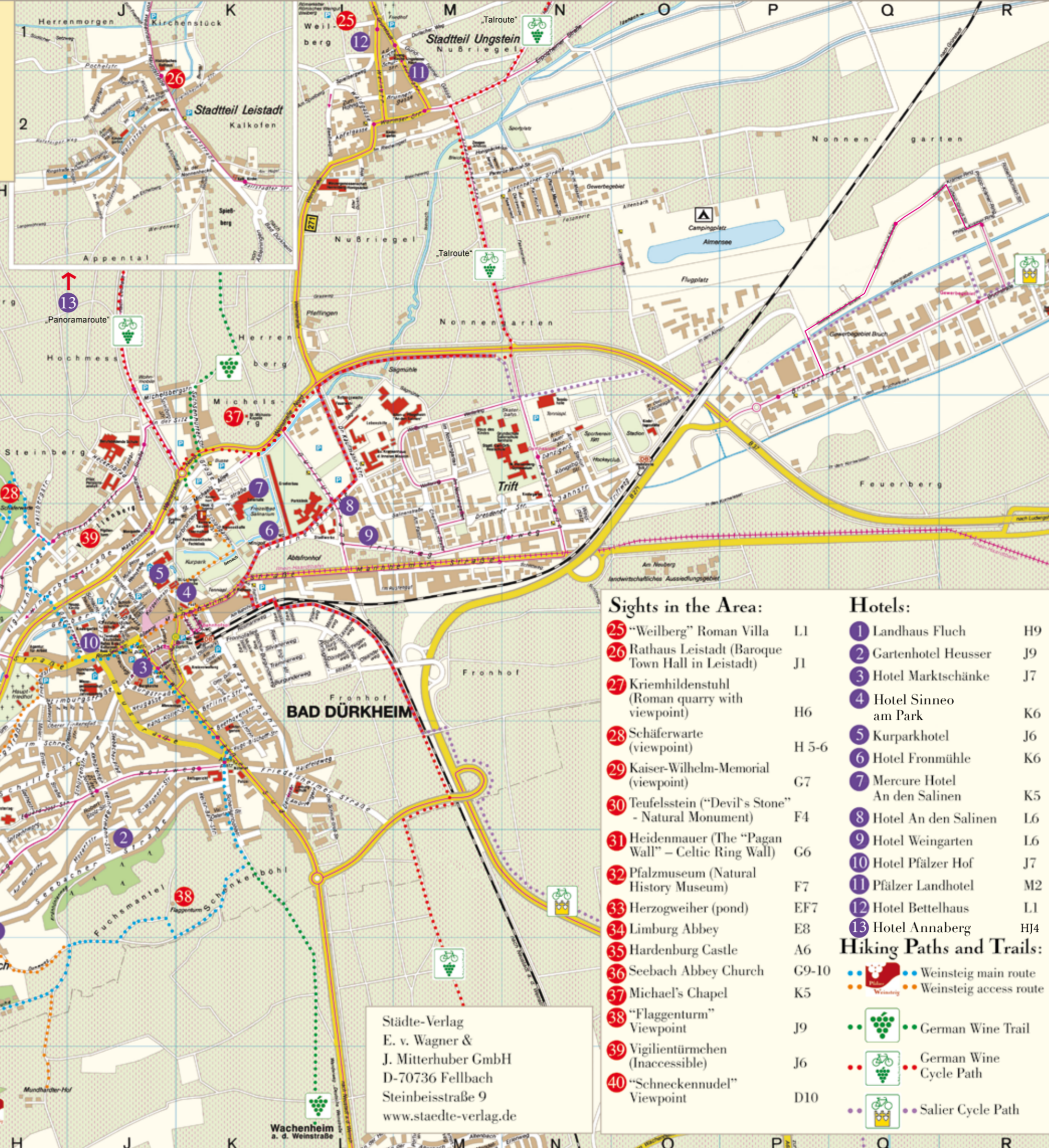
ENTRY POINTS, TRAIL MARKINGS AND HIKING DESTINATIONS

Zum Weltl. De. Pl.:

Bad Dürkheim

Mehr Pfalz passt nicht zwischen die Weinberge

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- Sights in the Area:**
- 25 "Weilberg" Roman Villa
 - 26 Rathaus Leistadt (Baroque Town Hall in Leistadt)
 - 27 Kriemhildenstuhl (Roman quarry with viewpoint)
 - 28 Schäferwarte (viewpoint)
 - 29 Kaiser-Wilhelm-Memorial (viewpoint)
 - 30 Teufelsstein ("Devil's Stone" - Natural Monument)
 - 31 Heidenmauer (The "Pagan Wall" - Celtic Ring Wall)
 - 32 Pfalzmuseum (Natural History Museum)
 - 33 Herzogweiher (pond)
 - 34 Limburg Abbey
 - 35 Hardenburg Castle
 - 36 Seebach Abbey Church
 - 37 Michael's Chapel
 - 38 "Flaggenturm" Viewpoint
 - 39 Vigiliertürmchen (Inaccessible)
 - 40 "Schneckenudel" Viewpoint
- Hotels:**
- 1 Landhaus Fluch
 - 2 Gartenhotel Heusser
 - 3 Hotel Marktschänke
 - 4 Hotel Sinneo am Park
 - 5 Kurparkhotel
 - 6 Hotel Frommühle
 - 7 Mercure Hotel An den Salinen
 - 8 Hotel An den Salinen
 - 9 Hotel Weingarten
 - 10 Hotel Pfälzer Hof
 - 11 Pfälzer Landhotel
 - 12 Hotel Bettelhaus
 - 13 Hotel Annaberg
- Hiking Paths and Trails:**
- Weinsteig main route
 - Weinsteig access route
 - German Wine Trail
 - German Wine Cycle Path
 - Salier Cycle Path

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<p>Streets and Squares:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Altenbach O 3 Altenbacher Straße M 3-Q 2 Alter Dürkheimer Weg L 3-2 Alte Schmelz B 4 Am Bahnhof K 7-6 Am Brandweiher J 2 Am Ebersberg EF 9-10 Am Eichelberg JK 3-2 Am Falltor M 6 Am Forstberg GH 4 Am Hügel K 2 Am Kulturhof F 10 Am Limburgberg O 6 Am Neuberg O 6 Am Obstmarkt K 7 Am Ortswingert L 8 Am Rathaus K 6 Am Schlamberg G 4-3 Am Schloßbrunnen A 6 Am Spielberg L 2 Am Stadion N 5-6 Amtsplatz K 8 Am Wintersberg AB 6-7 Am Woogbach J 2 Am Woogberg J 3 An den Drei Mühlen H 7 An der Ameisenhalde CD 7 An der Dornhecke J 8 An der Kirche LM 1 Annaberg D 3 Apfelgasse L 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auf dem Köppel G 8-9 Auf dem Köppel I G 9 Auf dem Köppel II FG 9 Auf dem Köppel III G 9 Auf der Gänsweide N 3 Auf der Judenhut G 9 Auf der Wacht H 9 Bacchusweg K 7 Bärbelhof D 3 Bahnhofplatz K 7 Fasanerie N 3 Fasaneriestraße N 3 Feigenweg K 8-7 Berliner Straße K 7 Bernalt K 2-1 Birkental F 9/G 9-10 Bleiche M 2 Bleicheweg L 3, M 3-2 Breslauer Straße N 5 Bruchstraße P 5-R 3 Brückelweg A 6 Brunngasse LM 2 Bürgermeister-Dr.-Dahlem-Straße E 9-10 Bürgermeister-Gropp-Str. EF 7 Burgstraße J 7 Burgunderweg KL 7 Carl-Korbmann-Straße E 10 Cheminitzer Straße M 6 Dammweg H 10 Danziger Straße N 5 Denisstraße L 8 Dr.-Hugo-Bischoff-Str. K 8 Dr.-Kaufmann-Straße L 5 Dorfplatz GH 9-10 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dornfelderweg G 8-9 Dressener Straße G 9 Durlacher Straße MN 1 Eduard-Jost-Straße HJ 8 Eichenplatz D 7 Eichstraße J 7-6 Entengasse J 7 Fernseherstraße N 2-1 Fasanerie N 3 Fasaneriestraße N 3 Feigenweg L 7 Finkenpfad I J 7 Finkenpfad II J 7 Finkenpfad III J 7 Finkenpfad IV H 7 Finkenpfad V H 7 Finkenpfad VI H 8-7 Freinheimstraße J 2, K 2-1 Friedelsheimer Straße KL 8 Friedhofstraße H 7 Friedrich-Ebert-Straße F 8 Fronhofallee KL 7 Fünfguldenberg CD 9 Gaistal D 7-6 Gartenstraße H 6-7, J 7 Gaustraße J 7-8, K 8 Geisenweg H 7 Gerbenstraße H 7, J 7-6 Goetheplatz FG 7 Goethestraße H 8 Grasweg L 4 Große Allee K 5-6 Guck ins Land G 10 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gundheimer Gasse M 1-2 Gustav-Kirchhoff-Straße PQ 4, Q3 Gutleutstraße L 5-6 Häuserhöh J 3-2 Haidfeldweg L 8 Halsbergstraße H 6-5 Hammelstalstraße B 11-G 9 Hans-Koller-Straße J 8-7, K 7 Hauptstraße J 1-1, 3 Hausener Weg C 9-E 7 Heckenpfad J 5 Jahnstraße J 8-9 Heinrich-Bärmann-Str. 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Cheers! To the Palatinate.