



# Must-see sights ...

**For newcomers and advanced visitors – we will show you everything Kaiserslautern has to offer. Take a closer look with us and discover the most beautiful sides of the “Barbarossa City”!**

## **1 City Hall**

... is 84 meters high and one of the city's most prominent landmarks. You have a magnificent view of the city and the Palatinate Forest from the panorama restaurant on the 21st floor, which is open daily from 5.30 pm. » *Willy-Brandt-Platz 1*

## **2 Imperial Palace & Casimir Castle**

The story of the Castle Hill in Kaiserslautern can be traced back over 1,300 years. The Lutra Imperial Palace, along with its neighboring chapel, was built in around 1152 on the orders of Emperor Frederick I, also known as “Redbeard” (Barbarossa). It was the first palace that he had built during his reign and it was one of the most famous and magnificent buildings of its kind in the entire Empire. You can still see some parts of the building today. Thanks to excavations and reconstructions, we have been able to bring the Imperial Palace back to life by creating a 3D model of this splendid building.

Just next to the palace and chapel complex, you can see the Renaissance-style castle built by Count Palatine Johann Casimir in 1571.



Both buildings have always been connected to one another because of their construction and their fate throughout history.

Following damage during the Thirty Years' War and subsequent emergency repairs, blasts from

French troops in the 17th/18th century ultimately brought about the successive decline of the Imperial Palace and Casimir Castle. In 1813, the French owners auctioned off the ruins of the buildings. In 1825, the Royal Bavarian State Government demolished the north part of the complex completely and constructed a central prison. The palace and castle areas on the southern side of the complex were changed forever when they were used by the Wächter Brewery in 1842.

The building that you can see today with the Count Palatinate Hall was built in 1934 with stones from both the Casimir Castle and Imperial Palace and is used by the city of Kaiserslautern for official receptions and events.

The history of both buildings comes alive during diverse guided tours around the palace and castle area as well as through the subterranean passage.



**All dates can be found here**

### 3 Palatinate Theater

Situated in the immediate vicinity of the distinctive reinforced concrete architecture of City Hall, the impressive sandstone structure of the Palatinate Theater rises and is framed by two masks made of Carrara marble. The front mask depicts an African king, while the rear mask represents a fallen angel. Parts of the old town fortification were found at this site in the course of construction work and excavations at this site, and remnants of a New Stone Age settlement were uncovered – indications that the city was settled 6,000 years ago.  
» *Willy-Brandt-Platz 4-5*



Thomas Linkel

### 4 Fruchthalle tomis

The “Fruchthalle” (“Fruit Hall”) was built 1843-1846 by architect August von Voit in Renaissance style based on the model of the Palazzo Medici in Florence and served as a market hall. The government of the Palatinate Revolution had its seat here in 1849. Concerts and major social events are held in the ceremonial hall today. The “23rd Monument” is located between the Fruchthalle and tourist information office. It was built in 1930/31 to commemorate 3,963 soldiers from the 23rd Bavarian Infantry Regiment killed in World War 1. The solemn inauguration was held on June 12, 1931. The monument was designed by sculptor Sepp Mages. » *Fruchthallstraße 10*



Thomas Linkel

### 5 Spinnräd

The historic restaurant Spinnräd in Kaiserslautern was first mentioned on a planning map dated 1742. It is one of the oldest preserved half-timbered houses in the city.  
» *Schillerstraße 1*



Thomas Linkel





## 6 Collegiate Church

The church (today a Protestant parish church) is regarded as the most significant late Gothic hall church in southwestern Germany. Construction of the choir was started in the 2nd half of the 13th century, whereas construction of the nave followed in the 14th century. The “Union Monument” in the entry hall of the main portal was created by Professor Knoll in 1883 and is reminiscent of the ecclesial political importance of the Collegiate Church as the birthplace of the “Palatinate Union” of Reformers and Lutherans in 1818. The carillon playing times: daily at 9.31 am (Sun 9.46 am), 11.01 am, 12.31 pm, 3.01 pm, 4.31 pm, 6.31 pm and 8.01 pm (subject to change). The **“Beautiful Fountain”** in front of the Collegiate Church was mentioned for the first time in 1571. At the beginning of the 18th century it received an attachment that depicts an imperial eagle, the municipal coat of arms, as a symbol of imperial freedom and the lion as a sign of territorial sovereignty. Together with the **“Eagle Pharmacy”** - which was converted from a former chapel in 1811 by pharmacist Müllinghof and other old buildings - the fountain constitutes a romantic ensemble in the middle of the city. » *Marktstraße 13*



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## 7 Synagogenplatz (“Synagogue Square”)

The place of worship was consecrated in 1886 and regarded as the most important Palatinate synagogue for 52 years. The National Socialists destroyed it in the late summer of 1938, even before the Reichspogromnacht (“Pogrom Night”). The memorial was completed in 2003. Two roughly seven meter high wall fragments of the former north side portal of the synagogue were reconstructed in red and yellow sandstone. The names of 192 Kaiserslautern holocaust victims are carved on the back side. Media viewers enable the view of a virtual reconstruction of the synagogue. » *Fischerstraße 12*

## 8 St. Martin’s Square (cover picture)

Decorative St. Martin’s Square constitutes the gateway to the Old Town. The building known as “Kaufhaus”, where among other things the city’s grain stocks were stored, once stood on the edge of the beautiful square shaded by two chestnut trees. Together with the **“Old Town Hall”** from 1745 (today the location of the Emmerich Smola Music School), the **“Rettig House”** from the middle of the 18th century and the former **“Hotel Zum Donnersberg”** (in which even Napoleon once had breakfast), the cast-iron fountain from 1891 provides a particularly idyllic atmosphere.

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## 9 St. Martin's Church

St. Martin's Church (today a Catholic parish church) is considered a illustrative example of a medieval church of a mendicant order. Built in the early 14th century as a Franciscan monastery church, it was expanded as early as the 15th century. The Baroque ceiling inside the church stems from the 18th century. The statue in front of the entrance depicts Saint Nepomuk. This image was created in the beginning of the 18th century and previously stood on the so-called "Scherbrücke", a nearby bridge over the Lauter River. Gravestones preserved from former cemeteries are exhibited behind in the church's presbytery. Remnants of the medieval town wall still border on this facility today. » *St.-Martins-Platz 5*

## 10 Little Church

The church located at the spaciouly arranged "Union Square" on the Rittersberg was built between 1711 and 1717 by the Lutheran congregation. Today it is a popular church for weddings. » *Unionstraße 2a*

## 11 City Museum | Theodor Zink Museum

Located on the other end of Steinstraße with its many pubs and bistros, the museum invites guests to visit its folkloric and municipal history collections. The former coachmen's inn "Rheinkreis" from 1817 with its picturesque inner courtyard is linked together with the opposite "**Wadgasserhof**", a former farmyard of the Wadgassen Premonstratensian Abbey, to form a charming conclusion of the Old Town. The Theodor Zink Museum is open Wed-Fri from 10 am to 5



pm and Sat-Sun from 11 am to 6 pm. Visiting the permanent exhibition is free of charge. » *Steinstraße 48*

## 12 City Museum | Wadgasserhof

The farm came into possession of the territorial lord of Palatinate-Lautern, Count Palatine Louis Philip. Later it was the dowager's residence of Maria Eleonore, the Princess of Lautern and wife of the Count Palatine. The magnificent stucco room furnished with furniture and fixtures from the 18th century is reminiscent of this estate's past as an aristocratic residence. The ceiling with strap work ornaments and putto allegories of the four seasons is among the most important Baroque stucco works in southwestern Germany. The opening hours of the Wadgasserhof correspond to those of the Theodor Zink Museum. » *Steinstraße 55*

### 13 Emperor's Fountain

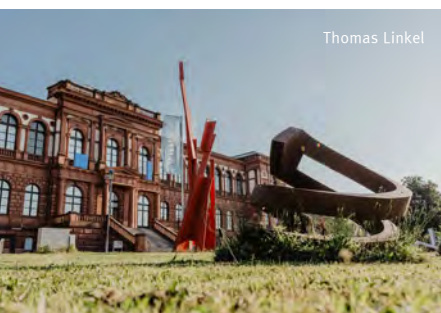
The fountain at the Mainzer Gate was created in 1987 by Gernot Rumpf. The impressive composition of bronze and sandstone depicts the history and present of Kaiserslautern in a humorous, occasionally bizarre design vocabulary. The



Harald Kröher

fountain has a diameter of approx. ten meters. The back to back portrayal of Emperor Frederick Barbarossa and Rudolf von Habsburg forms the focal point. Figures such as the carp from the Kaiserwoog reservoir, an owl as a symbol for the university and the Napoleon hat can be seen in the surface of the water and on the edge of the fountain. Local industry is symbolically depicted by a (Pfaff) sewing machine and an (Opel) engine block. » *Mainzer Tor*

### 14 mpk – Museum Palatine Gallery



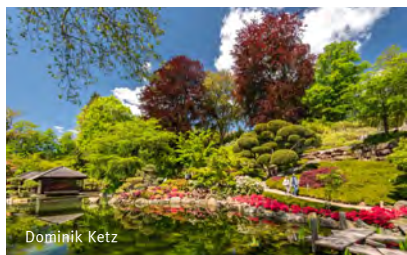
Thomas Linkel

The building at “Museum Square” was constructed in neo-Renaissance style from 1875-1880 according to plans by Karl Spatz and accommodates an excellent collection of paintings and sculptures as well as select handcrafted items in the newly

renovated permanent exhibition rooms. The Gallery is open: Tue-Wed from 10 am to 5 pm, Thu from 11 am to 8 pm, Fri-Sun from 10 am to 5 pm. » *Museumsplatz 1*

### 15 Japanese Garden

The Japanese Garden in Kaiserslautern was opened in April 2000 and is among the largest of its kind in Europe. Carefully selected plants, ponds, waterfalls, fish, lanterns and stone arrangements conjure up a



Dominik Ketz

Far East atmosphere in which body and soul come to rest. The Japanese Garden is open daily (except Mondays). Shortened opening hours in winter. » *Am Abendsberg 1*



## 16 Garden Fair

Since the first Rhineland-Palatinate State Horticultural Show which was implemented in Kaiserslautern with great success in 2000, there is quite a bit going on every year from April to October on the 22 hectare grounds of the Kaiserslautern Garden Fair. Various thematic gardens, a large LEGO® exhibit, one of the largest dinosaur exhibits in Europe, an annual pumpkin exhibit and an extensive cultural program make an excursion in the park a pleasant experience. From Kaiserberg you can enjoy a wonderful view of the city; the Neumühle Park primarily attracts families and young visitors with recreational facilities such as a skating park, water playground and adventure golf course. » *Lauterstraße 51*

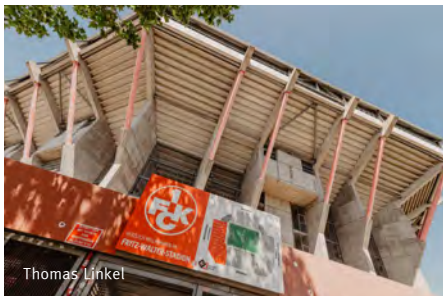


## 17 Kammgarn Cultural Center

The worsted yarn (“Kammgarn” in German) spinning works established in 1857 was the city’s most important textile business for a long time. The facility was converted into a cultural center at the end of the 1980s. The repertoire ranges from jazz concerts via rock, pop and soul events up to comedy stage programs. » *Schoenstraße 10*

## 18 Fritz Walter Stadium

The Fritz Walter Stadium towers high above the city. The stadium was originally called “Betzenbergstadion”, named after the Betzenberg, the hill on which it stands. The stadium, which can hold almost 50,000 spectators, is home to 1st Football Club Kaiserslautern and has been the backdrop for some phenomenal matches, as well as a few painful defeats. Visits are possible within the scope of guided tours, contact: [eventlocation@fck.de](mailto:eventlocation@fck.de). » *Fritz-Walter-Straße 1*



## Shopping

A beautiful **pedestrian zone**, nationwide established chain stores, an extensive range of specialty shops as well as

a variety of options for dining enhance the length of stay in a compact city center, where you're never far from where you want to go. The shopping mall "**K in Lautern**" is also located directly in the city center.



### Beautiful views



Anyone who would like to get an overview of the city can climb the **Humberg Tower** located in the southern outskirts of the city. The observation platform of the tower built in 1899/1900 can be reached via a spiral staircase.

Another excursion to nearby Hohenecken is also worthwhile. The **ruins of Hohenecken Castle** can be viewed there. The castle was mentioned in a document for the first time in 1195. It was destroyed for the last time by the French in 1689. Today the castle ruins are among the most impressive architectural testimonials of the Hohenstaufen era. Guided tours are possible.



### Experience nature

#### Betzenberg Game Park

The 25 hectare game preserve with a 120 year-old tree population accommodates animals which are found in the wild or were once indigenous in our area such as wisents, roe deer, aurochs, wild horses, red deer, mouflons, wild boars and lynxes. The game park is open daily and admission is free.

#### Kaiserslautern Zoo

The zoo located in the Siegelbach district currently accommodates about 508 animals from more than 110 species in an area that is about 7 hectares. A playground with nature adventure trail for young visitors as well as guided tours round off the visit to the Kaiserslautern Zoo. The zoo is open daily, February to March 10 am to 5 pm, April to October 9 am to 6.30 pm, November to January 10 am to 4 pm.





## City history

- |                              |   |             |  |
|------------------------------|---|-------------|--|
| <b>6th/5th millennium BC</b> | Linear pottery culture settlement on the Rittersberg.                     | <b>1849</b> | Seat of the provisional government of the Palatinate and start of industrialization.   |
| <b>622</b>                   | Establishment of the Royal Court of Lutra.                                | <b>1944</b> | Destruction of 60% of the city in World War 2.   |
| <b>985</b>                   | Conferment of the right of market, customs and ban by Otto III.           | <b>1968</b> | Completion of the new city hall.   |
| <b>1152</b>                  | Construction of the Imperial Palace by Frederick I (Barbarossa).          | <b>1969</b> | Kaiserslautern becomes a major city.   |
| <b>1276</b>                  | Conferment of town privileges by Rudolf von Habsburg.                     | <b>1970</b> | Establishment of the university.   |
| <b>1375</b>                  | Kaiserslautern becomes part of the Electoral Palatinate.                  | <b>1995</b> | Inauguration of the New Palatinate Theater.  |
| <b>1571</b>                  | Construction of the Count Palatine castle by Johann Casimir.              | <b>2000</b> | Kaiserslautern hosts the first State Horticultural Show in the Rhineland-Palatinate.   |
| <b>1635</b>                  | Destruction of the city during the "Storm of the Croats" (30 Years' War). | <b>2006</b> | Kaiserslautern is the venue of the 2006 FIFA World Cup Germany.  |
| <b>1801</b>                  | Seat of a sub-prefecture under Napoleon.                                  | <b>2016</b> | Start of dismantling work at the PFAFF site – Transformation from an industrial wasteland into the high-tech district of the city. |



### Tourist Information

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**All information online**

### Opening hours:

Tuesday – Friday:

9 am – 5 pm

Saturday:

10 am – 2 pm

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