

KONSTANZ



A M B O D E N S E E

Lake Constance

A WALKING TOUR

with notes
on the sights



CONSTANCE: DISCOVERY TOUR BACK TO THE PAST



CONSTANCE: ADMIRE THE SIGHTS, EXPERIENCE THE HISTORY

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Welcome to Constance, the historic city on Lake Constance. Soak up the atmosphere of our city. Nestling in one of Germany's loveliest landscapes, Constance has culture and leisure activities to suit every taste. Immerse yourself in a fascinating journey through time, experience world history in the places where it actually happened and discover a city which is young, modern and vibrant right on the edge of Lake Constance and the Rhine.



TOUR

Full walking tour

Through the historic Old Town.
Approx. 2 hours.
Follow the red dots...



TOUR

Short walking tour

Through the historic Old Town.
Approx. 1 hour.
Follow the green dots...



1 Tourist Information Office

1 Starting point for the walking tour. Here you will find all kinds of useful information on everything to do with Constance.

2 Former Citizens' Hospital "Zum Heiligen Geist" ("The Holy Spirit") and former Hotel "Zur Krone" ("The Crown").

As an expression of their growing independence, in 1225 the citizens of Constance founded a municipal hospital, which consisted of several different buildings. It served this function until 1812, but today the area is a modern residential and business complex. In the post office's main counter hall there are medieval frescoes from the original building which are well worth seeing. The former Hotel "Krone" ("The Crown") is now part of the Tertianum old people's home, as is the former hospital building next door.

3 Former Imperial Post Office Building

3 Prestigious commercial building dating from the time of the Kaisers. Built between 1888 and 1891 in neo-Renaissance style. Today, it is the head office of the Sparkasse Konstanz savings bank.

4 Former Hotel "Zum Goldenen Adler" ("The Golden Eagle") and collection of buildings on Marktstätte Square

The "Hôtel de l'Aigle" once occupied today's bank and office building. As the inscriptions on its Classical façade illustrate, it was not only the exclusive crowned and uncrowned heads who frequented the hotel, but also the leading intellectual Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. One famous guest was Prince Louis Napoléon Bonaparte, later Emperor Napoléon III.

A Napoleonic eagle made of gold, which faces south-westwards, forms the apex of the imposing bay. A gift from Napoleon III, it represents the connection between the Residenz city of Constance and the Imperial Arenenberg Palace in Thurgau. Extending westwards from here is Constance's tourist hub, the Marktstätte. Originally a "Market on the shoreline" built on land reclaimed from the lake, today the modern square is a good place for shopping or just lingering. Especially well worth seeing is the late medieval

Haus "Zum Korb" ("The Creel") on the north side, with its Gothic window arrangement (today a bookshop).

5 Imperial Fountain (Kaiserbrunnen) and Haus "Zum Wolf"

Created in 1897 by the sculptor Hans Baur, during the 1940s the fountain lost its original decorative figures. Professor

Gernot Rumpf redesigned the structure and concealed within it a number of allusions to Constance's past. A multi-headed peacock, for instance, symbolises the Church, proud, and ruled at one and the same time by three popes. This state of affairs, which the people of the Middle

Ages found intolerable, was one of a number of things which led to the Council of Constance, which was convened between 1414 and 1418. To the South-West of the fountain is the Haus "Zum Wolf", built in 1774. Its rococo façade is the only one of its kind in Constance.



**6 Haus "Zum Rosengarten"
("Rosgarten" Museum)**

Housed in a medieval guildhouse (incl. butchers, bakers and pharmacists), the 'Rosgarten' Museum is the most important collection of exhibits from the artistic and cultural history of the Lake Constance region. Alongside prehistoric and early historical items are valuable artworks from the Middle Ages as well as testimonies of everyday life right up to the 20th century. The history of Constance as a former Imperial and episcopal city is a particular focal point.

**7 Trinity Church (Dreifaltigkeitskirche)
and former Jewish Synagogue**

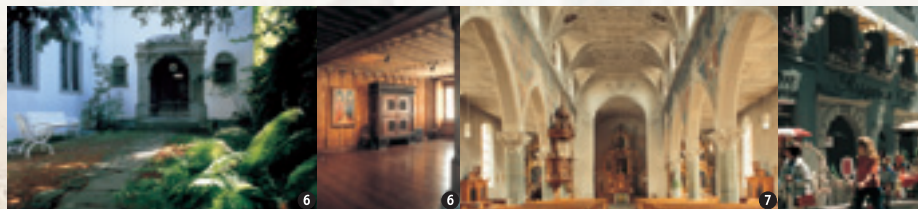
Today's parish church, which dates from the late Gothic period, is the last visible part remaining of the city-centre Augustinian Monastery, founded in 1268, dissolved in 1802 and pulled down several years later. Besides the furnishings, which came originally from St. Michael's Church in Zug (Switzerland), worthy of special consideration are, in particular, the frescoes painted in 1417/18 at the request of King Sigismund. Below and south-east of the sacred building stood "the great and holy building of Constance's Israelite community's synagogue" until it was criminally destroyed by the SS (10 November 1938). In 1966, the plot of land where the ruins stood was built over in a no-nonsense way by a Jewish businessman. The new high-rise building now houses a small prayer room and the Dr.-Erich-Bloch-and-Lebenheim Library (JUDAICA) among other things.

8 Bodanplatz and Bodanstrasse

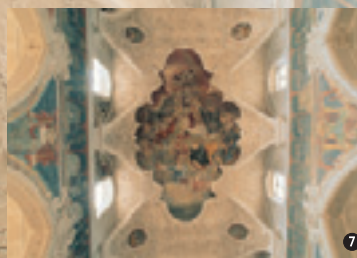
Former cattle market and moat in the "Kreuzlingen suburb" or the "Stadelhofen suburb". These were originally green spaces in the city centre, which were not cobbled until the 16th/17th centuries. As the name suggests, this was also a place where animals were sold for slaughter. A reminder of this tradition is the central fountain with the "butcher", symbolising the guild of master butchers, whose premises were in the Haus "Zum Rosgarten" ("The Horse Garden" – or "Abattoir") (see No. 6).

**9 Hüetlinstrasse, Haus "Zum Pilgerstab"
("The Pilgrim's Staff")
and Sweden Stone**

The first reference to the former "Rossgasse" (Horse Alley) goes back to 1312. This once was home to one of Constance's many public baths and still provides interesting insights into life in a suburb. The name Hüetlinstrasse goes back to the Mayor, Karl Hüetlin, who governed Constance from 1832 to 1849 and who played a decisive role during the 1848 Revolution. The south-western corner building adjoining Kreuzlingerstrasse bears the name "Zum Pilgerstab" ("The Pilgrim's



Staff") and is reminiscent of Constance's importance as a medieval centre of pilgrimage, as well as a stopping place for pilgrims en route for Rome, Jerusalem or Santiago de Compostela. To the South, at the junction with Otto-Raggenbass-Strasse, is what is known as the "Sweden Stone". During the Thirty Years' War, the attacking Swedish forces were successfully beaten back here. The "Schwedenschanze" fortification opposite is where Johann Georg Elser, the brave would-be assassin of Hitler, fell into the clutches of the National Socialists in 1939 whilst attempting to cross the border.



10 Former Church of St. Jodocus and its Pilgrims' Hospice

The late Gothic parish and hospice Church of St. Jodocus is clearly visible at the intersection of Falkengasse, Emmishoferstrasse and Kreuzlingerstrasse (today a residential and commercial building). Together with the former "Josenherberge" hostel or "Poor House" (also known as "Soul House"), which lies behind it to the North, this collection of suburban buildings once formed a hospital complex. Not only did it accommodate travellers passing through, it also took on some of the city's welfare work among the poor.

11 Northern Kreuzlingerstrasse and Haus "Zur Felsenburg" ("The Cliff Castle")

Whereas, until the 16th century, the south-eastern half of Kreuzlingerstrasse provided mainly for pilgrims (house names such as "Zum eng[e]lischen Gruss" ("The Angelic Greeting") are proof of this), the northern part towards the Schnetztor gateway was Constance's tanners' quarter. Even today, the steeply pitched roof trusses on the houses on both sides of the street bear witness to their original use as craftsmen's premises. A fine example of this characteristic architecture is what is known as the "Felsenburg" (today a wine bar and residential building), with its late medieval façade. The house opposite, No. 8, has another, equally fascinating, bay, which is supported by a man holding a tanners' knife.

12 Schnetztor Gateway

Gateway with an outer courtyard built in the 14th century to mark the southern city boundary. Apart from the Powder Tower (Pulverturm) and Rhine Gateway (Rheintor) (see No. 35), medieval Constance's only defensive structure still in existence.

13 Hus Museum

For a long time, this collection of buildings – which date from the 15th/16th centuries – was the refuge of the Bohemian reformer, Jan Hus, who, together with his brother in faith, Hieronymus of Prague, was executed during the Council of Constance. Acquired in 1923 by the Prague Museum Society. Inside there is a memorial to Hus (see No. 15).

14 Former St. Paul's Church and Haus "Zum weissen Pfau" ("The White Peacock")

Under Bishop Conrad (934-975), later canonized, and Bishop Gebhard (979-995), Constance was successfully built up as a "Roma secunda", a "second Rome". Until the 19th century, beginning with the Church of "St. Paul outside the Walls", visitors to the city were able to admire replicas of Rome's five great basilicas (see No. 17, St. Lawrence's; No. 25, St. Mary's Minster, No. 30, St. John's and No. 36, "Petershausen"). Inside the present K 9 arts centre, there are still many details preserved from the

earlier sacred building. Outside, the beautifully decorated high cross is a reminder of the cemetery there. The square in front of St. Paul's Church is bordered to the East by a modern department store. On its façade, you can make out the inscription "Zum weissen Pfau", a reference to three houses which were pulled down ("Zum Weingarten" – "The Vineyard", "Zum weissen Pfau" – "The White Peacock" and "Zur Nusschale" – "The Nutshell"). The "Pfau" was considered to be the most beautiful baroque burgher's house north of the Alps. Examples of its sumptuous stucco ceilings can be admired in today's reconstructed building.

15 Haus "Zum Delphin" ("The Dolphin")

Hieronymus of Prague, friend and comrade of the Prague reformer Jan Hus (see No. 13), lived in this building, which dates from the early 14th century. Until he was taken prisoner, Hus himself lived in the immediate vicinity, in the Haus "Zur roten Kanne" ("The Red Can") at Hussenstrasse 22.



16 Town Hall Buildings

Several historic buildings joined together make up the city council offices. The inner courtyard bears the unmistakable hallmarks of the spirit of the Italian Renaissance and is well worth seeing. The heart of the collection of buildings is the linen weavers' guildhouse ("Zur Salzscheibe", "The Salt Disc"), which dates from the 16th century; (entrance in Kanzleistrasse or Blätzle Platz). The council chamber, however, is within the walls of the late medieval Haus "Zum Thurgau" (entrance in Hussenstrasse). The paintings on the façades which face Kanzleistrasse (1864) depict important scenes from the city's history, as do the frescoes in the entrance hall on the first floor (1898). On the 2nd floor is the Town Hall Gallery, which has changing special exhibitions.



17 Obermarkt Square

Together with the Marktstätte (see No. 4), this was the most important square in the free Imperial city of Constance and one of the sites of execution in medieval society. Bordered to the North by the Haus "Zum Egli" and the Haus "Zum Kemlin" ("The Camel"), referred to as taverns as early as 1419. The present name "Hotel Barbarossa" harks back to the "Peace of Constance" concluded in 1183 by Emperor Frederick I (Barbarossa). Next to it on the right is a late Gothic high-rise building. Its façade frescoes, which date from around 1900, refer to Burgrave Frederick of Nuremberg being invested with control over the Mark Brandenburg. On the ground floor of the commercial building is a wooden pillar with the family coat of arms and the name of the man who built it: "Haffen von Lindow". Hence its name: Haus "Zum hohen Hafen".

To the south side, it is the "Malhaus" and the "Fischgrat" ("Fish Bone") which dominate the square. Referred to for the first time in 1293 as the "Gemalhus" (House at the Site of Execution), the complex of buildings have been used as a pharmacy since the 14th century.

Especially worth seeing is the magnificent late Renaissance bay, which belonged originally to the Haus "Zum Strahl" ("The Beam") at Rosgartenstrasse 34. Completing the square to the West are the Haus "Zum grossen Mertzen" with its richly decorated gables (the Atzenholz family's coat of arms) dating from 1601 and, beyond the arcade, the Protestant Lutheran Church, built in 1865. Concealed in the commercial building to the North-East on the left next to "Feuergasse" (Fire Alley) are remains of the 10th-century Church of St. Lawrence.

18 Row of houses in Wessenbergstrasse / St. Stephen's Square / Münzgasse

The south-western corner building consists of two houses, the Haus "Zum vorderen Mohren" (Wessenbergstrasse) and the Haus "Zum hinteren Mohren" (St. Stephen's Square), where there has been a pharmacy since the mid-18th century. Further west, in the background to the left, is the brightly painted "Hotel Zeppelin", built in 1904 with the name of "Zum deutschen Haus" ("The German House") and which, for a short time, also served as the "Upper Rhenish Bank". To the right, opposite, is the central nave of the late Gothic Franciscan Church, rebuilt



in 1844 as the "Bürgersaal" ("Citizens' Hall"). On the former choir wall is a relief by Johannes Grützke depicting the citizens' revolution of 1848. On the Haus "Zum Esel" ("The Donkey"), at the north-eastern end of Wessenbergstrasse, there is a baroque mural "Flight into Egypt" by Karl Jakob Stauder. It gives a clear impression of the bright colours typical of Constance's houses up until the 19th century. To the right, at the corner with Münzgasse, is the prestigious medieval patrician house "Zum hohen Hirschen" ("The Great Deer") (14th century) with its pretty, Gothic bay towards the Münzgasse.

19 The house where Henri Dufour was born

Henri Guillaume Dufour, a General, politician and academic, the most famous founding father of modern-day Switzerland, first saw the light of day in 1787 in the late Gothic Haus "Zum Falke" ("The Falcon"). The son of Geneva emigrés, he spent several years in Constance and later maintained close relations with the Bonaparte family, who were living at nearby Arenenberg Palace in Thurgau.

20 Former Franciscan Monastery and southern St. Stephen's Square

The second mendicant order monastery in Constance, built around 1250 (see No. 7, No. 29 and No. 37). For a time, the monastery, which followed the order of St. Francis of Assisi, was also known as "Bare-Footed Monastery". Altered and partly rebuilt in the baroque style

following the Reformation in 1688-1727. The monastery's dissolution in 1788 brought about a change in its use, first to a barracks, later to a municipal house and public swimming baths. Today, the buildings are used as a citizens' hall and a school. The Haus "Zum Tiergarten" ("The Zoo") (a pharmacy), which stands south-east of St. Stephen's Church and is now part of Wessenbergstrasse, is one of the loveliest examples of bourgeois residential architecture of the baroque era.

21 St. Stephen's Church and northern St. Stephen's Square

Dating in its present form from the late Gothic period, the parish church might well date back to a late Roman sacred building from the 3rd century A.D. Later, repeatedly destroyed and rebuilt. During the Council of Constance (1414-1418), the venue where the papal court was convened, the "Rota Romana". Reformed between 1527 and 1549, resulting in the far-reaching destruction of the original furnishings and holy treasures. From 1550, refitted in keeping with the Catholic faith. Since 1770, frequent structural alterations. Inside, particularly worth seeing are:
- Choir: stalls dating from around 1270 and also late Gothic glass paintings in the round arch windows. Tabernacle by the

Dutch sculptor Hans Morinck (1594). Baroque Apostle figures from the nearby Franciscan Church (see No. 18 and No. 20). Ceiling frescoes by the episcopal court painter, Franz Ludwig Hermann (after 1770).
- Central nave: on the pillars, Apostles series from the Renaissance. On the upper windowed walls above the nave, frescoes from the 19th century.
- North side nave: frescoes from the late 15th century and an epitaph from the years of the Council.

- Gallery: Neo-baroque organ screen from 1936.
- Other pieces worth seeing, dating from the 16th to the 20th century.



To the North outside the Citizens' Church are several lovely medieval and early modern residential and commercial buildings. Including (from East to West) e.g. the Haus "Zum Ritter" ("The Knight"), "Zum weissen Bock" ("The White Ram") and "Zum schwarzen Bock" ("The Black Ram") and also the "Vordere Katz" ("First Cat"). The latter served as a prestigious entry portal (see No. 24) for the Constance patrician "Zur Katz" guild, whose estate

extended as far as the Katzgasse. Next to it on the left stands the former "Episcopal Hospital" – or "Little Hospital" – the "Kleinspital".

22 Lanzenhof

A patrician family seat dating from the 14th century, named after the Lanz von Liebenfels family. Between 1686 and 1698 and 1713 and 1715, it accommodated the uprooted University of Freiburg. Later repeated alterations. In the buildings, which today are used by the Public Prosecutor's Office, are Gothic and neo-Gothic frescoes which are well worth seeing. Viewing only by prior appointment.



23 Constance “Triumphal Arch” or “Lenk Fountain”

Peter Lenk, the artist from Bodman, one of the best-known contemporary sculptors from the Lake Constance area, deals mainly with our society’s mania for cars, but also with our leisure behaviour. The over 30 comical figures are unmistakable caricatures of well-known and less well-known personalities, symbolically bridging the gap between the past and the present. (see No. 44).

24 Arts Centre at the Minster

An amalgamation of buildings incorporating several medieval houses and a new building. With its facilities and new multi-functional rooms, this is a major focal point for the arts in Constance and the surrounding area. Besides the city library, the Wessenberg Gallery and the art club, also permanently located in these interesting premises are the adult

education centre and a café/restaurant. Changing special exhibitions. Inside, particularly worth seeing are:

- the spacious entrance area with its late medieval frescoes on the south wall and the original Daphne bush.
- The so-called “Wessenberghaus” (the residence of the last Vicar General and Diocesan Administrator Ignaz Heinrich von Wessenberg, 1774 - 1860). Together with Arenenberg Palace in Thurgau, it was the most important salon in the Alemannic-speaking area in the first half of the 19th century.
- The Romanesque residential tower in the inner courtyard.
- The late Gothic Haus “Zur Katz” (“The Cat”) (the house where the Constance patricians held social gatherings, built in 1424 and modelled on the Palazzo Vecchio in Florence) with its frescoes and prestigious rooms.

25 Minster of Our Dear Lady (Münster Unserer Lieben Frau)

Cathedral of the Diocese of Constance, which was unjustly dissolved in 1821. From the ruins of the late Roman castle which stood on the same spot, a first cathedral church emerged by no later than the 7th century, and then underwent repeated alterations. After the Reformation, much rebuilding and renovation. These measures came to an end in 1853 with the building of the neo-Gothic pyramid tower. This was where the church plenary meeting was convened between 1414 and 1418. Inside, particularly worth seeing are:

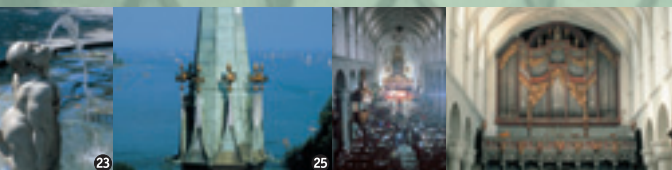
- Crypt: construction from the 9th/10th centuries, with the four original gold medallions from the external wall of the choir. Known as the “Majestas Domini”, the largest piece in this store of treasure,

unique in the Christian world, dates from around the year 1000.

- St. Maurice’s Rotunda: a round structure built around 940 as a replica of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. In its centre, the Holy Sepulchre, restored in the 13th century. The starting and finishing point for great medieval pilgrimages, e.g. on the “Swabian Route” to Santiago de Compostela. Frescoes and decorative figures from the Gothic and Renaissance periods.
- Cloister: sections preserved dating from the 13th to the 15th century. In the ‘Silvesterkapelle’ chapel, late Gothic frescoes.
- St. Conrad’s Chapel: construction from the 13th century, with Crucifixion altar of Bishop Hugo von Hohenlandenberg (16th century).



- St. Thomas’s Choir: late medieval spiral staircase, called the “Snail”, with richly decorated figures.
- East Choir: Gothic choir-stalls with ornate wood-carvings. Romanesque Madonna from the 13th century.
- Central nave: Romanesque monolithic pillars from the 11th century. Pulpit from 1680.
- Welser Chapel: masterpiece of late Gothic sculpture.
- West end: Renaissance organ (early 16th century) and frescoes dating from various epochs.
- Entrance hall: late Gothic double portal and “Great Christ of Constance”. The Minster is full of other things well worth seeing. However, some of these can only be seen as part of one of the regular guided tours (in the summer months). Accompanied tours are also possible at other times, by prior appointment.



26 Former Jesuit College and Church of St. Conrad

Founded in 1604 during the Counter-Reformation, an educational institution for pupils of the Jesuit order, also known as the "Societas Jesu". After its dissolution, it became a Humanist grammar school. Its chapel is a prime example of the ecclesiastical architecture of the late Renaissance and early baroque period in southern Germany. Today, a high Catholic Christian church and offices of the state administration. Viewing usually only by prior appointment.

27 Municipal Theatre (Stadttheater)

A former Jesuit College building, built in 1610. There were stage productions here as long ago as the 17th century. Because of this long theatrical tradition, Constance's Municipal Theatre is one of the oldest performing theatres in the German-speaking world.

28 Cathedral Deanery (Domprobstei)

On the site of the so-called "Little Hospital" ("Kleinspital") (see No. 21), a building erected in 1609 for the Prince Bishop's administration and official functions. Later, the city palace of the



von Fingerlin family and also the seat of the Baden Lake Area Government. Inside, particularly worth seeing is the private chapel (Russian-Orthodox) and the sumptuous rococo hall. Today used as state notary offices. Viewing only by prior appointment.

29 Zoffingen Dominican Convent

Founded in 1257. The only convent in Constance to have survived secularisation, because it has run a girls' school since 1775 (see No. 34). In the midst of the commercial life of the Niederburg district, the delightful convent church is an oasis of calm and a place for inner contemplation. Convent itself not open; only part of the small chapel may be viewed.

30 Former Canon Seminary of St. John

The fourth stopping place on the "Roma secunda" (see No. 14), laid out by St. Conrad in the 10th century. Was used until its dissolution in 1813 as a parish church for the Niederburg district (see No. 34).

Since then has repeatedly undergone fundamental changes and is now used, among other things, as a restaurant.

31 Haus "Zur Kunkel" ("The Staff")

The canon seminary, which came into being in the last third of the 13th century, belonged originally to a cleric from the nearby Collegiate Church of St. John. The house is littered throughout with valuable, unparalleled Gothic frescoes.



- Courtyard entrance: the virtues fighting against the vices (north-west wall; late 13th century).

- Second floor: Parsifal cycle (southern side wall; around 1310), "Weavers' Frescoes" (northern side wall; around 1310), the sensory organs of man and

Samson's fight with the lion (eastern side wall; pre-1316).

Together with the frescoes in the former Dominican Monastery (see No. 37), the paintings in the Haus "Zur Kunkel" are the loveliest examples of Constance's extensive stock of frescoes, sacred and profane. Viewing only as part of a special guided tour arranged by the Tourist Information Office.

32 Blarer Canon Seminary

Documented as a residence as early as 1267. This prestigious building did not, however, acquire its external form until the 17th century. From 1846, it was the court building (first, the Court of the Court of Baden and today the Regional Court). Completely redesigned after a fire inside the building. Worthy of special mention is the beautiful Renaissance portal with its artistic representation of St. Jacob.

33 Tettikofer Hof Palace

Since 1418, the prestigious city palace of various Constance patrician families. The late Gothic portal dates from 1483, the very protruding bay from the Renaissance.

34 Dominican Convent "St. Peter an der Fahr" and Niederburg district

The Dominican monastery St. Peter „an der Fahr“ had its roots in a women community (middle of the 13th century). Later adopted the order of St. Dominic. In 1785, amalgamated with the nearby Zoffingen Dominican Convent (see No. 29). The convent, with its school for girls, is the spiritual centre of what is known as the "Niederburg" ("Lower Castle"). This, the oldest district of Constance, extends between the Rhine in the North and the minster hill in the South. The description "an der Fahr" is a reminder that there was originally a ferry connection here. The Niederburg is one of Constance's loveliest areas, with its twisting alleyways and its houses, many dating back to the 13th century. Particularly rewarding is an evening spent going from one of its many wine bars to the next.

35 Rhine Gateway (Rheintor), Powder Tower (Pulverturm) and north-west bank of the Rhine

Northern city gate erected around 1200 to protect the medieval bridge (see No. 12). In front, baroque Nepomuk sculpture (copy). Downstream stands the Powder Tower, built in the first third of the 14th century as the north-western corner pillar of the city's fortifications. Also used for a time as the city's prison. Opposite the Rhine Gateway is the "Neptun" rowing club's boathouse built in the style of the Bauhaus; to the left is the officers' mess of the Emperor Frederick III 6th Baden Infantry Regiment. A little further down is the spa and indoor swimming pool opened in 1937. The buildings which begin further westwards are industrial firms who began to settle here at the beginning of the 19th century; some are still operational.



36 Former "Petershausen" Monastery and Art Nouveau houses in Seestrasse

In 983, to complete St. Conrad's "Roma secunda" idea (see No. 14), his second successor, Bishop Gebhard, later also canonized, founded the "Petershausen" Benedictine Monastery on the far side of the Rhine. Its model – in name and position – is St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome. Rebuilt after a devastating fire in the 12th century, the monastery was redesigned from top to bottom in the baroque style between 1763 and 1769 and was dissolved soon afterwards (1802). It then served for a short time as a Baden palace. After that, the site was used as a regimental headquarters by the army units stationed in Constance (from the mid-19th century until the withdrawal of the French troops in 1978). Today, the site is home to several organisations:

- Baden-Württemberg State Archaeological Museum with its extensive collections on the history of south-west Germany (convent building; east and central wings).
- Constance City Archives in the western section of the same building.

- the Constance Music School (prelature).
 - the police headquarters (barracks).
 - various municipal administrative bodies (wine-press building).
 - administrative offices of Constance district authority (new building).
- In Seestrasse to the East of "Sternenplatz" ("Star Square") – named after a medieval tavern which was pulled down – is one of the loveliest examples of residential Art Nouveau architecture in south-west Germany.

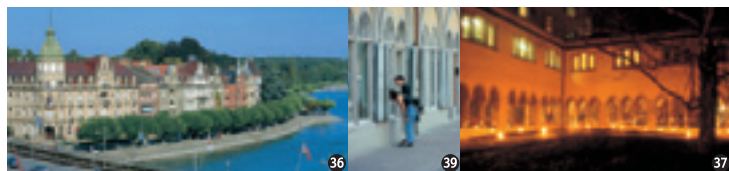
37 Former Dominican/Preachers' Monastery (Steigenberger Inselhotel)

Mendicant order monastery founded in 1235. The place where the best-known German-speaking mystic, Heinrich Seuse (in Latin, Suso), worked. In the earlier church nave (today a function room) rich

early Gothic and high Gothic frescoes, some of which are among the oldest of their kind in Europe (pre-1276). Medieval cloister with frescoes from the late 19th century – extremely well worth seeing. After the monastery was dissolved (1785), textile printing works and bank of the Macaire family and also the birthplace of the airship pioneer, Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin (1838). A hotel since 1875; for a short time after 1966 was also the seat of the newly founded University of Constance. Viewing by prior appointment or as part of a special guided tour organised by the Tourist Information Office.

38 Old Town Hall (Altes Rathaus)

Originally built in 1484, today's building underwent repeated alterations in the years that followed. Especially noteworthy is its late Gothic double portal, which is crowned by a plaque with the coat of arms of Ulrich

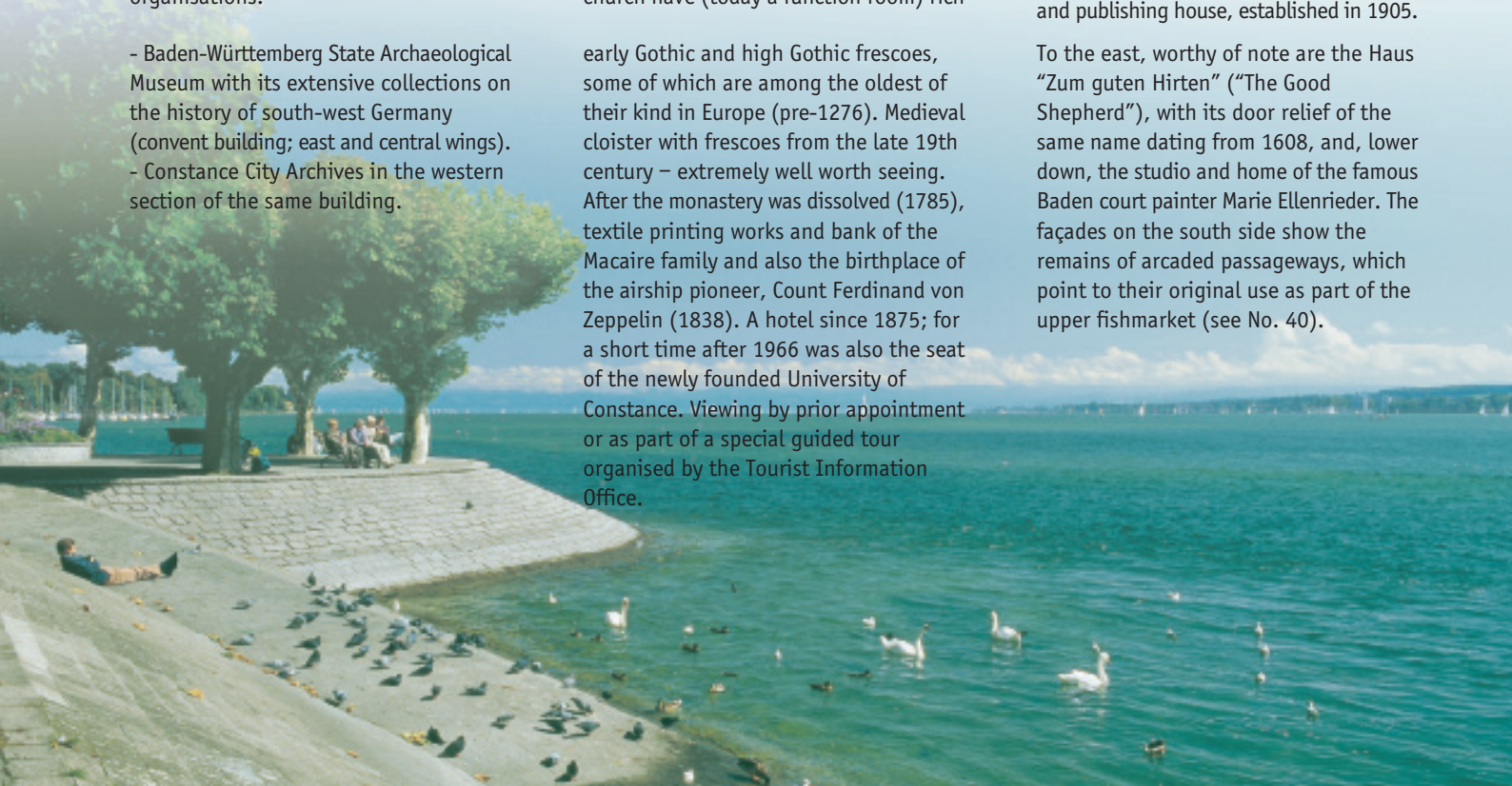


Gryfenberg (Imperial coat of arms flanked by the city's two patron saints, Conrad and Pelagius, and the coats of arms of the diocese and city of Constance).

39 Zollernstrasse with its row of medieval houses

On the north side, the Stadler printing and publishing house, established in 1905.

To the east, worthy of note are the Haus "Zum guten Hirten" ("The Good Shepherd"), with its door relief of the same name dating from 1608, and, lower down, the studio and home of the famous Baden court painter Marie Ellenrieder. The façades on the south side show the remains of arcaded passageways, which point to their original use as part of the upper fishmarket (see No. 40).



40 Tall House (Hohes Haus)

The oldest medieval high-rise building was built in 1294, and, with the pointed arches of its upper windows, clearly speaks the artistic language of the Gothic. However, the interior has fragments of frescoes which can be classified as late Romanesque. The depictions of a fishmarket on the eastern façade and of a wedding party on the northern side (both from 1935) are copies from a late medieval illustrated Council of Constance chronicle.

41 Haus "Zum Goldenen Löwen" ("The Golden Lion")



From around 1580, the frescoes on the façade of this characteristic building provide

a vivid impression of how colourful late medieval buildings once were. Although many of the embellishments are reconstructions, the high artistic standard of the original decoration is easy to imagine.

42 Haus "Zur alten Katz" ("The Old Cat") and the medieval Jewish quarters

Prior to moving into their new palace right beside the cathedral (see No. 24), the patrician guild "Zur Katz" owned this delightful property in what was at the time the "Sammlungsgasse" (the bay is a free reconstruction). After 1424, the building was sold to Constance's Jewish community. They set up a prayer room inside which existed for only a short time. It emerges from medieval written sources that there were Jewish quarters between what are today the Münzgasse and the Salmannsweilergasse, and also in Rosgartenstrasse (see No. 6). There is now no visible evidence of this.

43 Mercantile House at the Harbour (Kaufhaus am Hafen)

The so-called "Council Building" was built in 1388 as a grain house and warehouse for trade with southern Europe, and was also for a time the headquarters of the famous Constance Canvas Trade Fair. During the Council of Constance (1414 - 1418), the conclave was convened between 8 and 11 November 1417 on the first floor of this building and elected Cardinal Otto Colonna as the one and only Pope under the name of Martin V. Later repeatedly altered, the "Council" has been a concert and congress hall since the beginning of the 20th century.

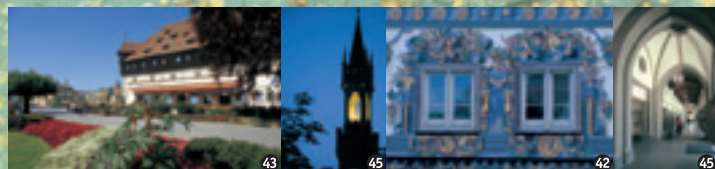
44 "Imperia" Harbour Statue

The statue by artist Peter Lenk (see No. 23), nine metres high and weighing eighteen tons, refers to a 16th-century Italian courtesan of the same name. Honoré de Balzac, the famous French novelist, transported this historic figure to Constance in literary terms. His "Contes Drolatiques" are a literary monument to Imperia. The statue has her arms outstretched and is holding two grotesque figures who have donned an imperial crown and a papal tiara, the insignia of worldly and religious power.

45 Main Railway Station

Built 1860-1863, the station, with its neo-Gothic tower, is a reference to the important medieval links between Constance and Florence. In Florence's

Palazzo Vecchio, there is a fresco with a view of the city – the city palace of the Medicis (see No. 24) once again became the model for a building in Constance.



Other places of interest and excursions to places close by:

- A** Sea Life Centre, Lake Constance Nature Museum, "Bodensee-Arena", and neighbouring city of Kreuzlingen
- B** Hus Stone, Paradies (Paradise) and Gottlieben (CH), (district footpath)
- C** Seestrasse and footpath to Mainau Island
- D** Towards car ferry, Mainau Island and suburbs
- E** Towards University and Wollmatingen
- F** Towards Switzerland (St. Gallen/UNESCO World Cultural Heritage, Zurich, Arenenberg Palace, Stein am Rhein, Schaffhausen), Reichenau Island (UNESCO World Cultural Heritage) and Radolfzell
- G** Ruins of the late antique Roman castle – Underground exhibition located in front of the cathedral, only accessible during guided tours





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April to October

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Sunday 10.00 a.m.-1.00 p.m.

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