

## Weimar



A whisper of a breeze gently rustles the red and yellow bands of a long flag. White sunlight washes over the steeply sloped rooftops of three-story houses painted ecru, sage, and salmon as the tranquil sounds of a fountain permeate the cool morning air. While the quiet of dawn fades away, the intoxicating sensations of a brand new day emerge on Weimar's Market Square. Striped awnings unfurl above a flower vendor's yellow daisies and scarlet carnations as open-air cafes set out their tables and chairs. A gem of a city in the heart of the German region of Thuringia, Weimar holds a distinguished place in history. Once home to Goethe and Schiller, it spawned a fabled republic and cultivated an innovative art school called the Bauhaus.

### Memorable Experiences

#### City Walks

Stroll across cobblestones passing the Renaissance era houses of Marktplatz.

#### Native Strings

Be moved by the renowned symphony orchestra at the German National Theatre.

#### A Pungent Affair

Peruse the onion harvest during October's Weimar Zwiebelmarkt Fair.

#### A September Market

Watch local craftsmen shape their creations at the Potter's Market.

### Distinctive Details

Green plants sway in the breeze on the market square. Golden leaves shine in shop windows. In 1815, Goethe penned "Gingko Biloba" a poem devoted to his lover, and today the gingko leaf remains Weimar's emblem.

### Starwood Preferred Guest Recommends

#### Goethe Wine Festival

The clinking of glasses resounds through the streets as wine merchants from Germany's most acclaimed growing regions descend on Weimar for the Goethe Wine Festival. A focal point of the Goethe birthday celebrations, the event takes place each August.

### Destination Information

**Country** Germany  
**Province** Thuringen  
**Elevation** 208 meters  
**Population** 64,720 (2007)  
**Language** German



**Area Code:** 3643  
**Country Code:** 49



**Erfurt Airport (ERF)**  
**Leipzig/Halle Airport (LEJ)**



**Transportation:**  
Car, Train, Taxi, Bike



Euro

### Nearby Luxury Collection Hotels and Resorts



#### Hotel Elephant

Markt 19  
Weimar, 99423  
Phone: (49)(3643) 8020



## Culture

A jewel of a city, Weimar astonishes with its rich heritage of literature and art.

### Highly Recommended



#### Bauhaus Museum

Pastel triangles sprawl across hand woven rugs while gleaming copper curves to form art deco coffee pots. Simple frames surround floor plans where rectangles of teal, cornflower, and gray converge in pioneering forms. The Bauhaus movement has had an unprecedented impact on 20th century design. Within a low peach building opposite Weimar's statue of Goethe and Schiller, inspiring sketches, sculptures, and mechanical figures created by Wassily Kandinsky, Paul Klee, and other acclaimed masters offer a dynamic overview of this renowned school.

**Address: Theaterplatz 1**  
**Phone: (49)(3643) 545961**



#### Neues Museum

Black and white garlands of plums, artichokes and laurel leaves swag against a yellow ribbon in a sunlit room overlooking the leafy streets of Weimar. Beneath them, winged sirens beckon from salt-sprayed rocks and waterfalls plunge into the shadowy caverns of the "underworld." On the second floor of this glorious art museum, the Preller Gallery depicts scenes from Homer's Odyssey. Impressive galleries filled with marble-framed, arched windows join this graceful hall in presenting evocative works of contemporary art.

**Address: Weimarplatz 5**  
**Phone: (49)(3643) 545930**



#### Wittums Palais

Oak planks of staggering width stretch across an exquisite sitting room. Portraits of German aristocrats hang perfectly on powder blue walls. Down a wide staircase, where neo-classical grandeur merges with Thuringian style, settees and writing tables furnish elegant salons. Once home to Weimar's most prominent arts patron, the Saxon duchess Anna Amalia, this sumptuous residence offers an unparalleled glimpse inside a period abode. Red parlors with ruby damask walls lead to the emerald, silk-lined bedroom where the duchess once slept.

**Address: Theaterplatz**  
**Phone: (49)(3643) 545401**



#### Goethe Haus

A ring of white roses borders the upper edge of teal walls. A fountain pen rests in an inkwell upon a square maple table. Candle stubs peak over the edge of brass holders that rest on a windowsill where graceful plants grow. The study of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, one of Germany's most celebrated intellectuals, overlooks gently landscaped gardens where daffodils bloom. The sprawling complex of rooms where the philosopher and poet once lived is filled with colossal Roman busts, portraits of his family, and collections of coins and minerals.

**Address: Frauenplan 1**  
**Phone: (49)(3643) 545401**



## Shopping

Handcrafted tradition merges in modern environs for exceptional shopping encounters.

### Local Specialty



#### **Goldschmiede Schaedlich**

An oversized ginkgo leaf adorns a cream-colored house trimmed in ochre. Its metallic exterior shines above the entrance to a revered boutique. Upon the soft ecru bed of a pine-framed tray lies a collection of pendants and broaches. Long, thin stems lead gracefully to the delicate shapes of ginkgo leaves, one of Weimar's enduring symbols. Some are adorned with a single tiny diamond that glistens like a drop of morning dew. Since 1949, the Schaedlich family has been offering exquisite jewelry, handworked by skilled goldsmiths into enchanting heirlooms.

**Address: Frauentorstrasse 1**  
**Phone: (49)(3643) 850702**

### Shops & Boutiques



#### **Modepassage am Markt**

Light filters down through a long glass skylight into a modern complex of interconnected buildings. Leafy trees grow from brushed steel pots, looming above displays of colorful knitwear that encircle a table with vivid shades of fuchsia and aquamarine. Carefully laid out sections are devoted to the most highly regarded European brand names such as Olsen, Lacoste, Roy Robson, Betty Barclay, and Marc o' Polo. Constructed on the site of the city's first modern department store, this radiant shop maintains a high level of service and offers a vibrant shopping experience.

**Address: Markt 5**  
**Phone: (49)(3643) 80830**



#### **Weimar Atrium**

Wide gray steps lead up to the glass façade of an impressive modern building. Above renaissance-style storefronts that line up along the four stories of this bustling emporium like Venetian palazzos, tiny lights twinkle from blue ceilings. Just beyond the edge of Weimar's historic center lies this immense shopping paradise. Some of Germany's most celebrated brands, such as New Yorker, Esprit, and Mexx offer fashions for all ages, while the upper floor houses a 3-D cinema and bowling alley.

**Address: Friedensstrasse 6**  
**Phone: (49)(3643) 7756922**



#### **Oeke Juwelier**

Golden petals intersperse with luminous white orbs on a trio of curving thin bands that resemble a forest vine's tendrils. A single strand of Tahitian pearls mesmerizes with its mysterious sheen of onyx, olive, and plum tones. A piercing green emerald, ringed in polished gold, hangs from a matching chain. Since 1919, Oeke has been creating magnificent jewelry of distinctive designs. In a small, sage green boutique on Market Square, watches by Omega, Mont Blanc, Tissot, and Breitling join bracelets and rings in modern cases of blond wood.

**Address: Markt 22**  
**Phone: (49)(3643) 24130**



## Cuisine

Time-honored recipes, passed through generations, are revealed in rare atmospheres.

## Acclaimed



### Anna Amalia

Mango and balsamic infuse foie gras, while raviolis are filled with scallops and ginger. Gourmet ingredients combine in the imaginative selections listed on the menu of this unparalleled restaurant. Named for Weimar's beloved duchess, a stately dining room offers warm intimacy with marble detailing and royal blue velvet. In an open-air courtyard garden, sheltered by the embrace of a stunning hotel, tables, shaded by striped awnings, surround a whimsical topiary elephant.

**Address: Hotel Elephant**  
**Phone: (49)(3643) 8020**



### Restaurant Elefantenkeller

Arches, striped with persimmon, span an enduring vaulted ceiling. Marble statues of Schiller and Goethe stand among candelabras and long tables reminiscent of dining in the Middle Ages. Within this historic cellar, where Weimar's most celebrated intellectuals once dined, the aromas of hearty Thuringian fare drift from an acclaimed kitchen. Pickled trout from a local fish farm is coated in potatoes while grilled sausages are served with pea puree and sauerkraut. In this enticing space, a quintessential experience awaits.

**Address: Hotel Elephant**  
**Phone: (49)(3643) 8020**

## Indigenous Flavors



### Zum Weissen Schwan

The spirited rhythms of a Mendelssohn sonata waft through intimate dining rooms. Stained glass windows cast warm pink and blue hues against dark wood walls, while evocative paintings depict folkloric 18th century household scenes. Renowned for a long tradition of hospitality, this authentic eatery offers traditional Thuringian cuisine in addition to classical entrees from around Germany. Historical recipes are recreated in a modern kitchen, prepared in the same precise manner as they did when Goethe himself sat at these storied tables.

**Address: Frauentorstrasse 23**  
**Phone: (49)(3643) 908751**

## Local Specialty



### Restaurant Frauentor

Oversized white umbrellas shade woven French bistro chairs and marble-topped tables at the edge of a cobblestoned square. Candlelight dances around art deco details in an intimate dining room where the aromas of hearty seasonal ingredients fill the air. The sophisticated flavor of pumpkin seed oil infuses an arugula salad heaped with shredded carrots and parmesan. Honey and ginger combine in a pumpkin soup and thyme-tomato sauce rests between layers of lasagna. For dessert, chocolate truffle and red berry cheesecakes entice from within glass cases.

**Address: Schillerstrasse 2**  
**Phone: (49)(3643) 511322**



## Noteworthy

Memorable excursions ring throughout the enchanting hinterlands of Weimar.

### Day Excursions



#### Erfurt

The majestic spires of two ancient cathedrals rise above a bustling town square. Side by side, these grand structures form an enduring emblem for a remarkable city. Once home to Martin Luther, Erfurt charms with its striking medieval atmosphere. Stroll across the Gera River and explore the Krämerbrücke, an enchanting bridge dating from 1325, covered by thirty-two houses. Gaze up at the tracery rosette that adorns the 11th century synagogue. Considered to be Europe's oldest synagogue, it houses an intriguing museum on the Thuringian capital's history.

**Address: 24 kilometers west of Weimar**



#### Belvedere Palace and Park

Fresh county air drifts into a vast room where etched, eighteenth century wine glasses fill tall vitrines. The windows of this circular, yellow salon overlook splendid parklands where children frolic and blankets are spread out for midday picnics. A short journey beyond Weimar's bustling streets, the former hunting grounds of Grand Duke Carl August, are covered with serene forest paths and soft green lawns shaded by oaks and evergreens. The baroque chateau displays fine porcelain and heavenly frescoes, while an elegant orangery offers horticultural exhibits.

**Address: Belvedere Allee, 3 kilometers southeast of Weimar's city center**

**Phone: (49)(3643) 546162**



#### Park on the Ilm

Cool breezes sweep across a briskly flowing river. Along grassy banks, graceful birches lean toward the sun's warm rays. A haven of tranquility on the edge of Weimar's historic town center, these stunning natural parklands recall a time when Saxon royals took morning strolls along quiet pathways. The grand, pale pink structure of the Schloss Museum rises above its verdant lawns, a commanding and impressive building, that watches over these soothing environs like a gentle sovereign. Enjoy a sunset at Weimar's beloved park.

**Address: On the eastern edge of Weimar**

### Highly Recommended



#### Russian Orthodox Chapel and Royal Crypt

The voices of a solemn choir mingle with the chirping of birds in this small, holy space, dappled with sunlight. Clay-toned arches painted with intricate patterns of green and mauve surround a lofty dome. Cherubs fly among gold stars that gleam against a rich blue background. Striped with vivid bands of mustard and ochre, this stunning Russian Orthodox church rises above the evocative gravestones of a forested cemetery where a royal crypt houses the tombs of Goethe and Schiller. Green onion domes, adorned with golden scrollwork, gleam against a pale blue sky.

**Address: Poseckschen Garten, south of Weimar's city center**