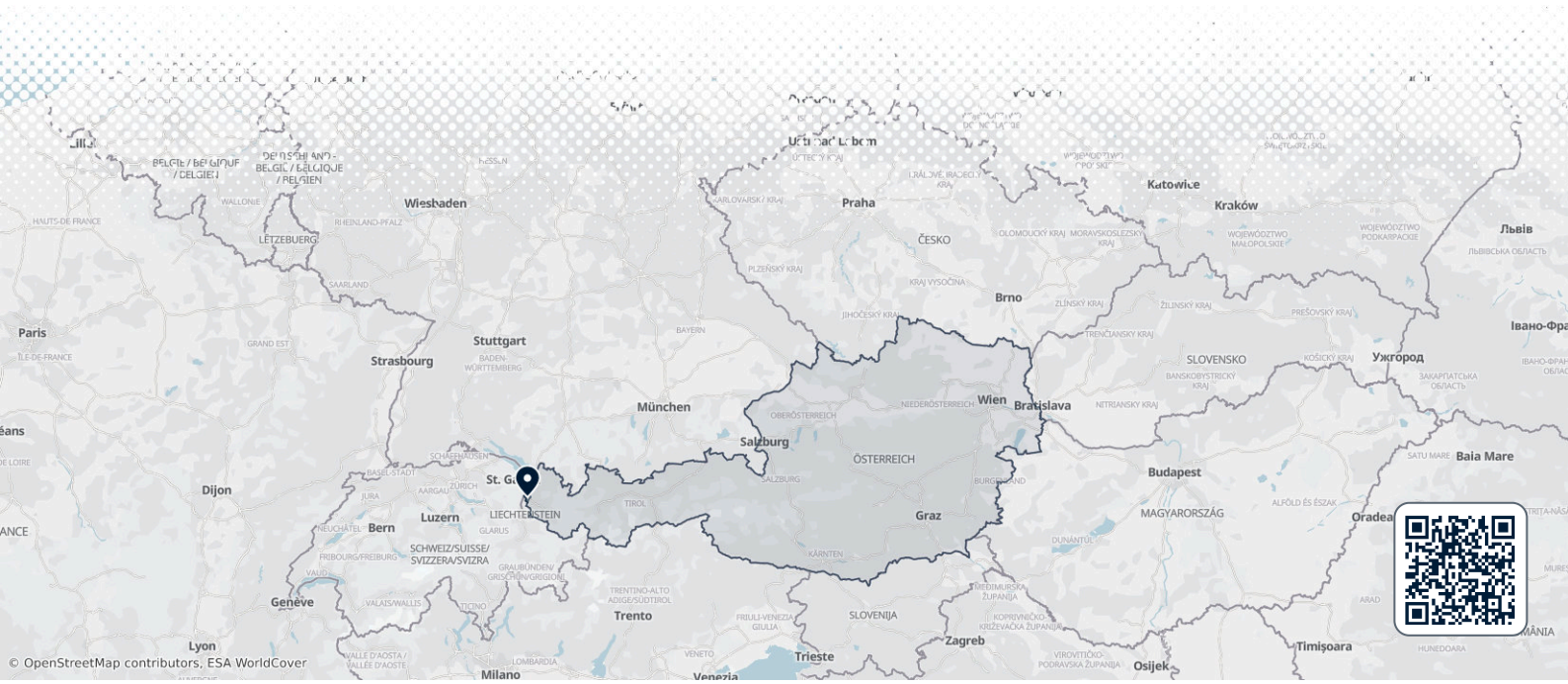


Feldkirch

Vorarlberg · Austria

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Feldkirch is a medieval town in western Vorarlberg, close to the borders with Liechtenstein and Switzerland. Its old centre is lined with arcaded streets, towers and pastel houses, and a castle stands above it.

The town is calm and pleasant, with cafes and small shops. It makes a good base for the Rhine Valley and for trips into the Montafon and Arlberg mountains.

When to visit

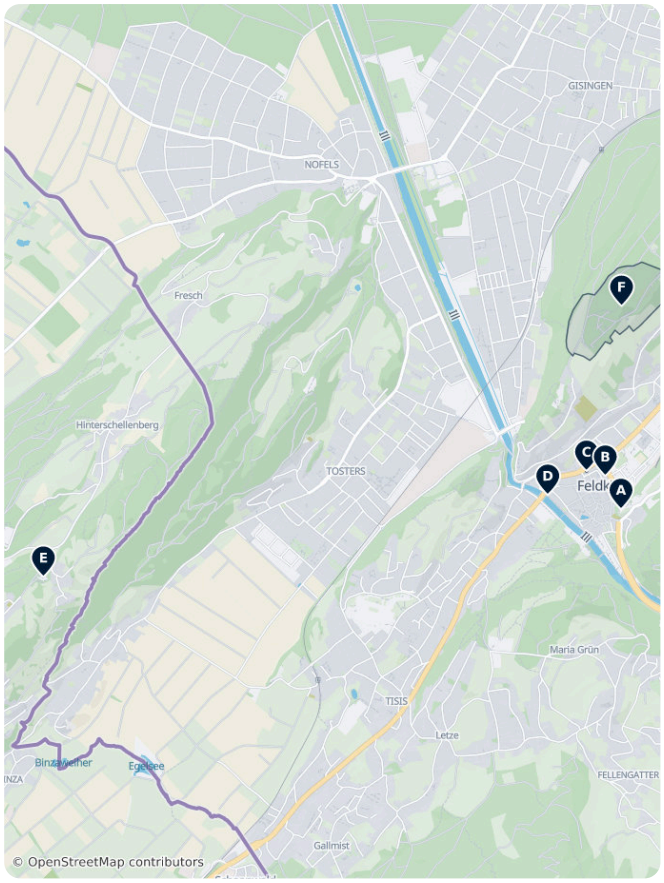
May to September is best for walking and cafe terraces. Autumn is colourful, and the Christmas market is a draw in Advent. Winters are cold, and snow is more reliable in the nearby mountains than in the town.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	5° / 10° Feels like 1°	-4° / -12°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	6° / 11° Feels like 2°	-3° / -13°	12 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
March	Fair Fair for cycling	10° / 18°	1° / -8°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
April	Good Good for cycling	15° / 23°	5° / -2°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
May	Good Good for sightseeing	20° / 27°	10° / 4°	20 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
June	Good Good for sightseeing	24° / 31°	14° / 8°	20 rainy days · Calm winds
July	Good Good for sightseeing	25° / 31°	16° / 10°	20 rainy days · Humid air · Calm winds
August	Good Good for sightseeing	25° / 31°	16° / 11°	19 rainy days · Humid air · Calm winds
September	Good Good for sightseeing	22° / 28°	12° / 6°	15 rainy days · Calm winds
October	Good Good for cycling	18° / 24°	8° / 2°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
November	Fair Fair for cycling	11° / 19°	3° / -6°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	6° / 12° Feels like 3°	-2° / -12°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights

- A Schattenburg is the hilltop castle above the old town, now with a museum and a restaurant.
- B Dom St. Nikolaus is the late Gothic cathedral on the edge of the old town.
- C Katzenturm is a round tower in the old town wall.
- D Wasserturm is a tower of the old town fortifications.
- Johanniterkirche is a church of a former Hospitaller commandery.
- E Ruine Neu-Schellenberg is a ruined castle reached on a forest walk.
- F Wildpark Feldkirch is a small wildlife park for families.



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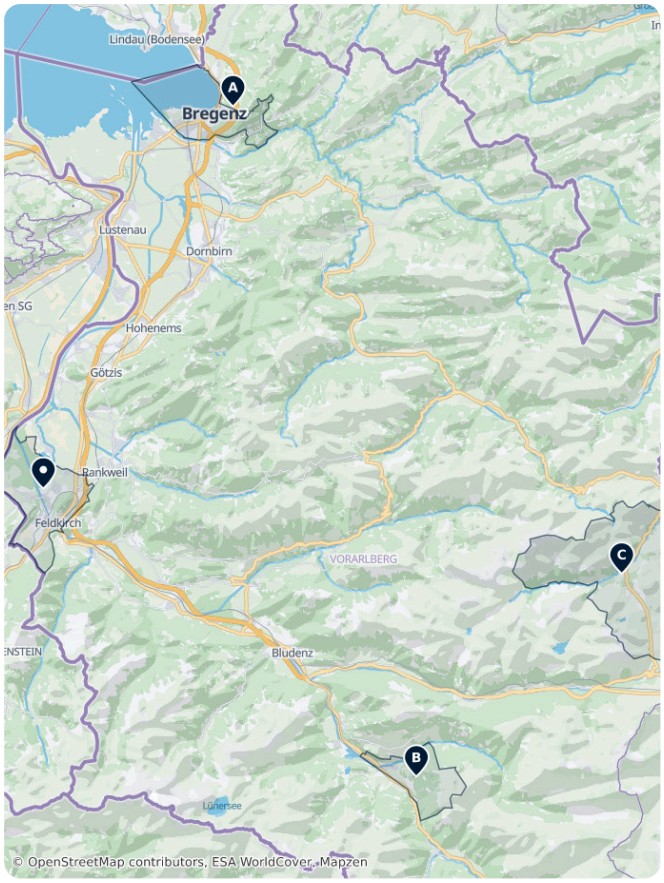
What to experience

- Walk the old town arcades and city walls.
- Climb to the castle for views over the Rhine Valley.
- Hike the forest paths to a castle ruin.
- Cycle along the Ill river.
- Cross into Liechtenstein for a day.

Day trips

- A Bregenz lies on Lake Constance, about 30 minutes away by car or train.
- B Schruns is the main village of the Montafon valley, about 40 minutes away by car.
- C Lech is a high-alpine ski village, about 1 hour 15 minutes away by car.
- Vaduz, the capital of Liechtenstein, is about 20 minutes away by car.



Where to explore

- Bregenz, Lech and Schruns are the nearest preferred destinations.

Getting there

- By air: Friedrichshafen, Altenrhein and Zurich airports are all within about 1 to 2 hours.
- By train: Feldkirch is on the Arlberg line. Trains from Innsbruck take about 2 hours, and Bregenz about 30 minutes. Check times on ÖBB.
- By car: The A14 and A14/S16 roads pass the town.

Getting around

The old town is small and best on foot. Local buses cover the surrounding villages, and the station is a short walk from the centre. Cycling is easy on flat river paths.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The medieval centre is compact and mostly pedestrian.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

High

Flat cycle paths follow the Rhine and Ill rivers.

Driving

The old town is mostly pedestrian, so park at the edge. Motorways in Austria need a vignette. The border roads into Liechtenstein and Switzerland are easy, but Switzerland has its own motorway vignette.

Food & drink

Vorarlberg cooking is a mix of Austrian and Alemannic styles. Try *Käsespätzle*, cheese noodles, and *Riebel*, a maize dish. The region is known for mountain cheese. Local wines come from the Rhine Valley.

What to eat & drink

DINNER

Wiener Schnitzel
A thin, breaded and pan-fried veal cutlet, traditionally served with potato salad or parsley potatoes and a wedge of lemon.

Tafelspitz
Boiled beef in broth, served with roast potatoes and a sauce of apples and horseradish — a favourite of Emperor Franz Joseph.

Viennese Goulash · Wiener Saftgulasch
A rich beef stew slow-cooked with onions and paprika, typically served with a bread dumpling or bread roll.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Käsekrainer
A grilled pork sausage studded with melty cheese, a classic order at Vienna's ubiquitous Würstelstand (sausage stands).

Sausage Stand Snack · Würstel vom Würstelstand
Grilled or boiled sausages (Bratwurst, Frankfurter, Bosna) served with mustard, bread and a pickle from street kiosks.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Apfelstrudel
Thin pastry rolled around spiced apples, raisins and breadcrumbs, usually served warm with vanilla sauce or cream.

Sachertorte
A dense chocolate cake with a thin layer of apricot jam under a dark chocolate glaze, famously served with unsweetened whipped cream.

Kaiserschmarrn
A fluffy shredded pancake caramelised with sugar and dusted with icing sugar, served with plum or apple compote.

Marillenknödel
Apricot dumplings wrapped in potato or quark dough, rolled in buttery breadcrumbs — a Wachau and Viennese summer specialty.

DRINKS

Viennese Melange · Wiener Melange
The signature Viennese coffee: espresso topped with steamed milk and milk foam, the centrepiece of coffeehouse culture.

Grüner Veltliner
Austria's flagship crisp, peppery white wine, widely poured in Vienna's Heuriger (wine taverns).

Sturm
A cloudy, lightly alcoholic partially-fermented grape must, available only for a few weeks in autumn.

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Safety & health

Feldkirch is very safe. Mountain trails need the usual care in weather changes. Tap water is clean and safe to drink. The emergency number is 112.

History

Feldkirch was founded in the 12th century by the Counts of Montfort and was walled in the Middle Ages. It became part of the Habsburg lands in 1390. The old town survived the centuries largely intact and is now a protected historic centre.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Austria at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY

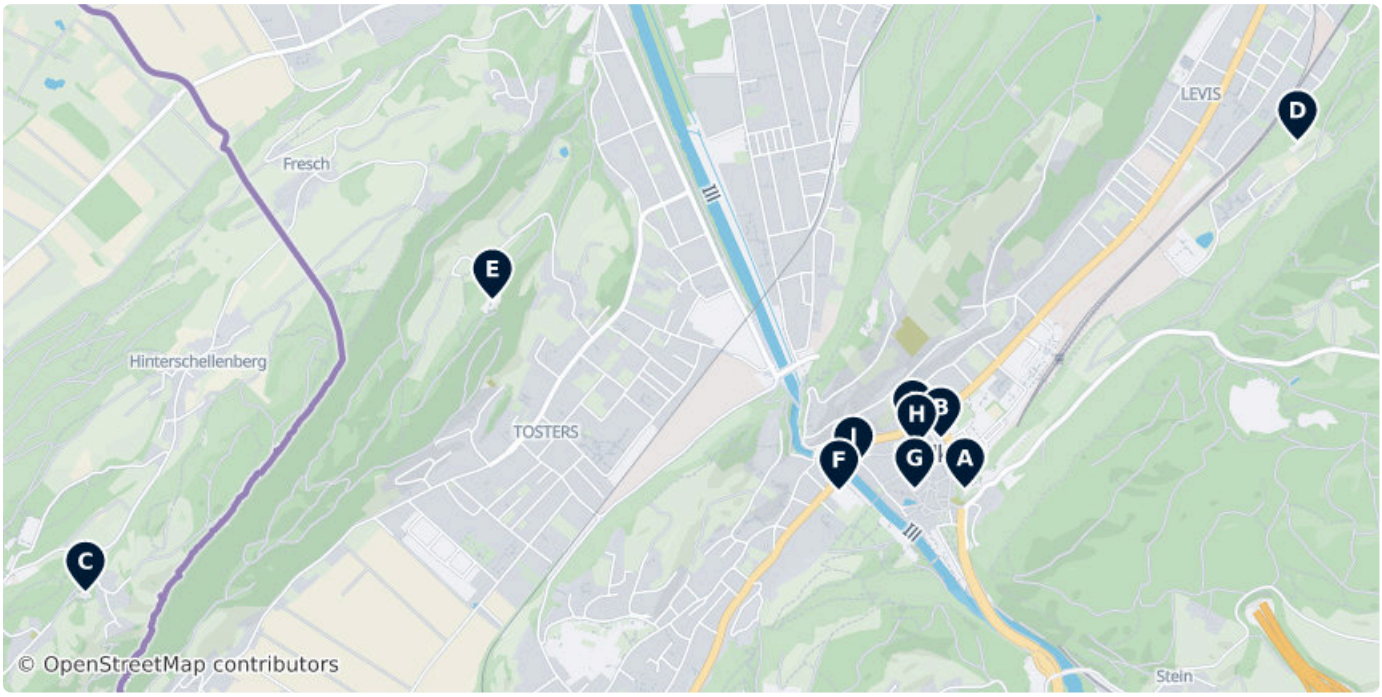
Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
German

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Feldkirch Essentials

Feldkirch is defined by its well-preserved medieval architecture and strategic Alpine location. The city's skyline is dominated by the 12th-century Schattenburg Castle and the Gothic Dom Sankt Nikolaus. Defensive structures like the 16th-century Katzenturm and the Wasserturm mark the former city limits, while the nearby ruins of Tosters and Neu-Schellenberg offer glimpses into the region's feudal history. Cultural landmarks include the Baroque Palais Liechtenstein, now an art gallery, and the historic Johanniterkirche, illustrating the town's religious and administrative importance in the Vorarlberg region.





A Schattenburg Castle

Schattenburg is a castle, museum and restaurant in Feldkirch, Vorarlberg. Schattenburg is 480 metres above sea level..

Schattenburgtunnel, 6800 Feldkirch, Austria (47.23635, 9.59944)



B Feldkirch Cathedral

Feldkirch Cathedral is a Roman Catholic cathedral dedicated to Saint Nicholas in the city of Feldkirch, Vorarlberg, Austria.

Schloßgraben, 6800 Feldkirch, Austria (47.23812, 9.59821)



C Obere Burg

Obere Burg, also known colloquially as Burg Neu-Schellenberg, is a castle ruin located in the municipality of Schellenberg, Liechtenstein.

13 Hinterschloss, Schellenberg 9488, Liechtenstein (47.23275, 9.55418)



D Schloss Amberg

Historic castle located in the Levis district on a low hill north of the railway station.

Amberggasse 43, 6800 Feldkirch (47.24848, 9.61655)

schlossamberg.at, +43 5574 643460



E Ruine Tosters

Ruined hilltop castle situated on a rocky northern spur of the Schellenberg ridge.

6800, Austria (47.24295, 9.57512)



F Landesgericht Feldkirch

The regional court building serving the Austrian state of Vorarlberg.

Schillerstraße, 6800 Feldkirch, Austria (47.23628, 9.59296)

justiz.gv.at/web2013/html/default/2c94... , +43 5 76014 343



G Johanniterkirche

Historic church on Marktgasse, originally established by the Order of St. John.

(47.23635, 9.59685)

Tu–Fr	10:00–12:00, 15:00–18:00
Sa	10:00–14:00

johanniterkirche.at



H Palais Liechtenstein

Baroque palace on Schlossergasse housing the city archives, a library, and contemporary art exhibitions.

Schlossergasse 8, 6800 Feldkirch, AT (47.23789, 9.59696)

Mo–Fr	16:00–19:00
Sa–Su	10:00–13:00

palaisliechtenstein.at



I Katzenturm

Eight-story defensive tower built between 1507 and 1521 as part of the town's medieval fortifications.

(47.23838, 9.59674)



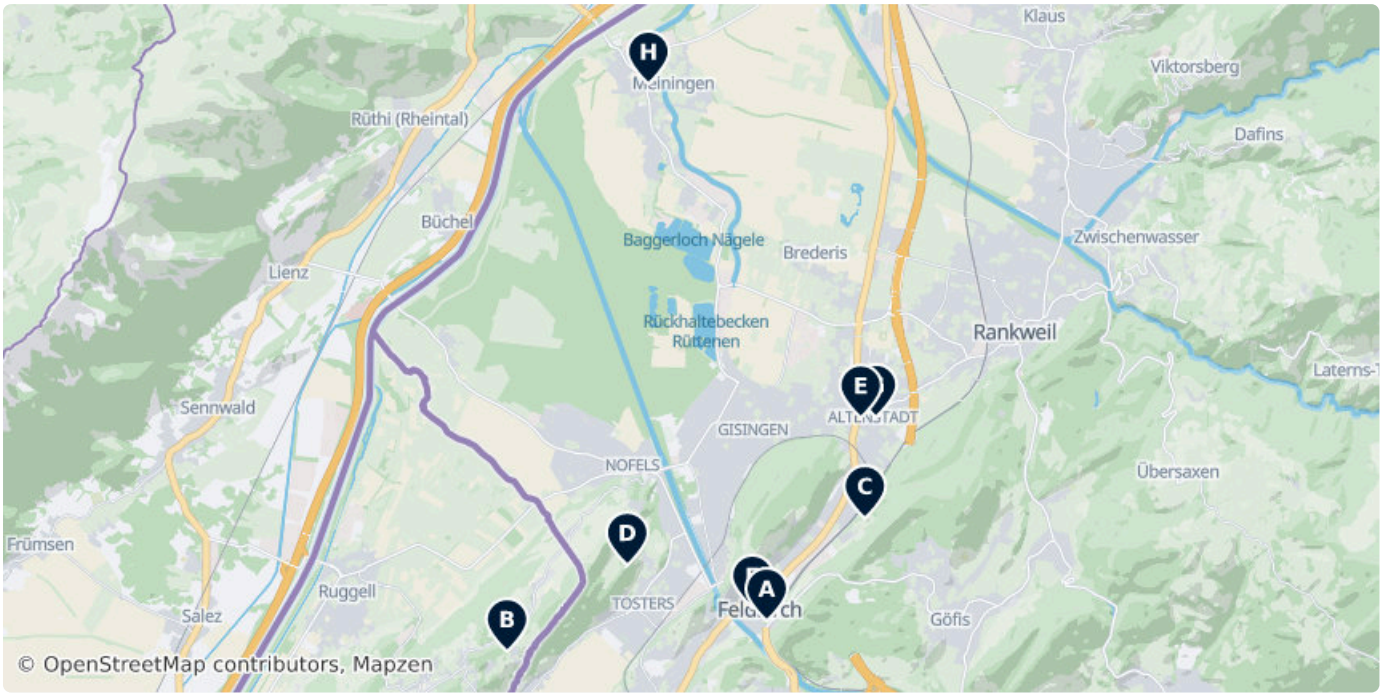
J Wasserturm

Medieval defensive tower located at the southwestern corner of the former city wall near the Ill river.

(47.23711, 9.59371)

Castles & Historic Sites

Feldkirch and its surroundings preserve a significant collection of medieval and Baroque architecture. This list spans from the dominant Schattenburg Castle and the strategic ruins of Neu-Schellenberg and Tosters to secular noble residences like Schloss Amberg and Palais Liechtenstein. These defensive and administrative sites are complemented by historic religious landmarks, including the Romanesque-rooted Petronillakapelle and the ancient parish church of Altenstadt, reflecting the region's long-standing cultural and political importance in the Rhine Valley.





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(47.23275, 9.55418)



C Schloss Amberg

A 16th-century castle located on a low hill in the Levis district. Originally built as a noble residence, the structure retains late-medieval architectural features and is used today for cultural events.

Amberggasse 43, 6800 Feldkirch (47.24848, 9.61655)

schlossamberg.at, +43 5574 643460



D Ruine Tosters

Remains of a medieval hilltop castle situated on a rocky spur of the Schellenberg. The site preserves fragments of the keep and curtain walls, providing insight into the region's medieval defensive network.

6800, Austria (47.24295, 9.57512)



E Petronillakapelle

A Roman Catholic chapel in Altenstadt with a Romanesque core. It is one of the oldest religious buildings in the area, featuring historical frescoes and late-Gothic architectural elements.

5 Sankt-Martins-Weg, Feldkirch 6800, Austria (47.26037, 9.61581)



F Palais Liechtenstein

A Baroque town palace in the city center built in the late 17th century. The building now serves as a public art gallery and cultural center, housing the municipal archives and library.

Schlossergasse 8, 6800 Feldkirch, AT (47.23789, 9.59696)

Mo–Fr	16:00–19:00
Sa–Su	10:00–13:00

palaisliechtenstein.at

G Pfarrkirche heilige Pankratius und Zeno

The parish church of Altenstadt, featuring foundations that date back to the 9th century. The current structure exhibits a blend of Gothic and Baroque styles and serves as a central historic landmark.

(47.26046, 9.61846)

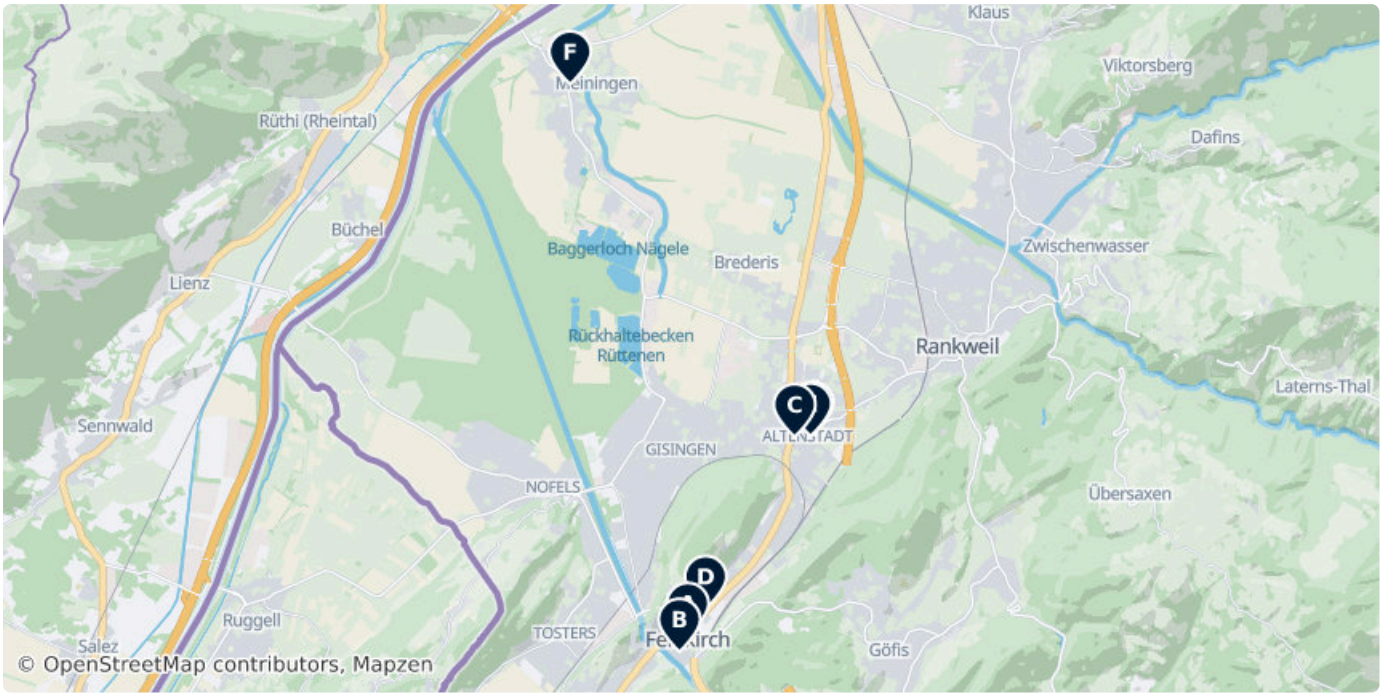
H St. Agatha

A Roman Catholic parish church in Meiningen with late Gothic origins. The building is a notable example of local ecclesiastical architecture in the Rhine Valley.

1 Winkelstraße, Meiningen 6812, Austria
(47.29981, 9.57882)

Historic Churches and Chapels

Feldkirch's religious landscape is defined by its Gothic architecture and long-standing monastic traditions. This collection includes the grand Cathedral of St. Nicholas, known for its late Gothic interior, alongside the 13th-century Johanniterkirche and the Protestant Pauluskirche. In the district of Altenstadt, the Romanesque-Gothic parish church of St. Pankratius and Zeno, the historic Petronillakapelle, and the Dominican monastery church represent over a millennium of ecclesiastical history within the Vorarlberg region.





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Schloßgraben, 6800 Feldkirch, Austria (47.23812, 9.59821)



B Johanniterkirche

A 13th-century church formerly belonging to the Order of St. John. Located on Marktgasse, it now serves as a contemporary art exhibition space while retaining its medieval architectural character.

(47.23635, 9.59685)

Tu–Fr	10:00–12:00, 15:00–18:00
Sa	10:00–14:00

johanniterkirche.at



C Petronillakapelle

A small Roman Catholic chapel in Altenstadt with foundations dating back to the 10th century, making it one of the oldest religious sites in the region.

5 Sankt-Martins-Weg, Feldkirch 6800, Austria (47.26037, 9.61581)



D Evang. Pauluskirche

A Neo-Gothic Protestant Reformed church built in the 1860s. It serves as a spiritual hub for the local evangelical community and features a distinctive spire.

(47.24115, 9.60117)

E Pfarrkirche heilige Pankratius und Zeno

The main parish church of Altenstadt, featuring a mix of Romanesque and Gothic architectural styles and serving as a key historical landmark in Feldkirch's oldest district.

(47.26046, 9.61846)

F St. Agatha

A historic church located on the outskirts of Feldkirch, noted for its simple architecture and significance as a local heritage site.

1 Winkelstraße, Meiningen 6812, Austria (47.29981, 9.57882)

G Klosterkirche

The church of the Dominican convent in Altenstadt, reflecting the town's monastic heritage and active religious life within the local community.

2 Klosterstraße, Feldkirch 6800, Austria (47.26061, 9.61882)

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