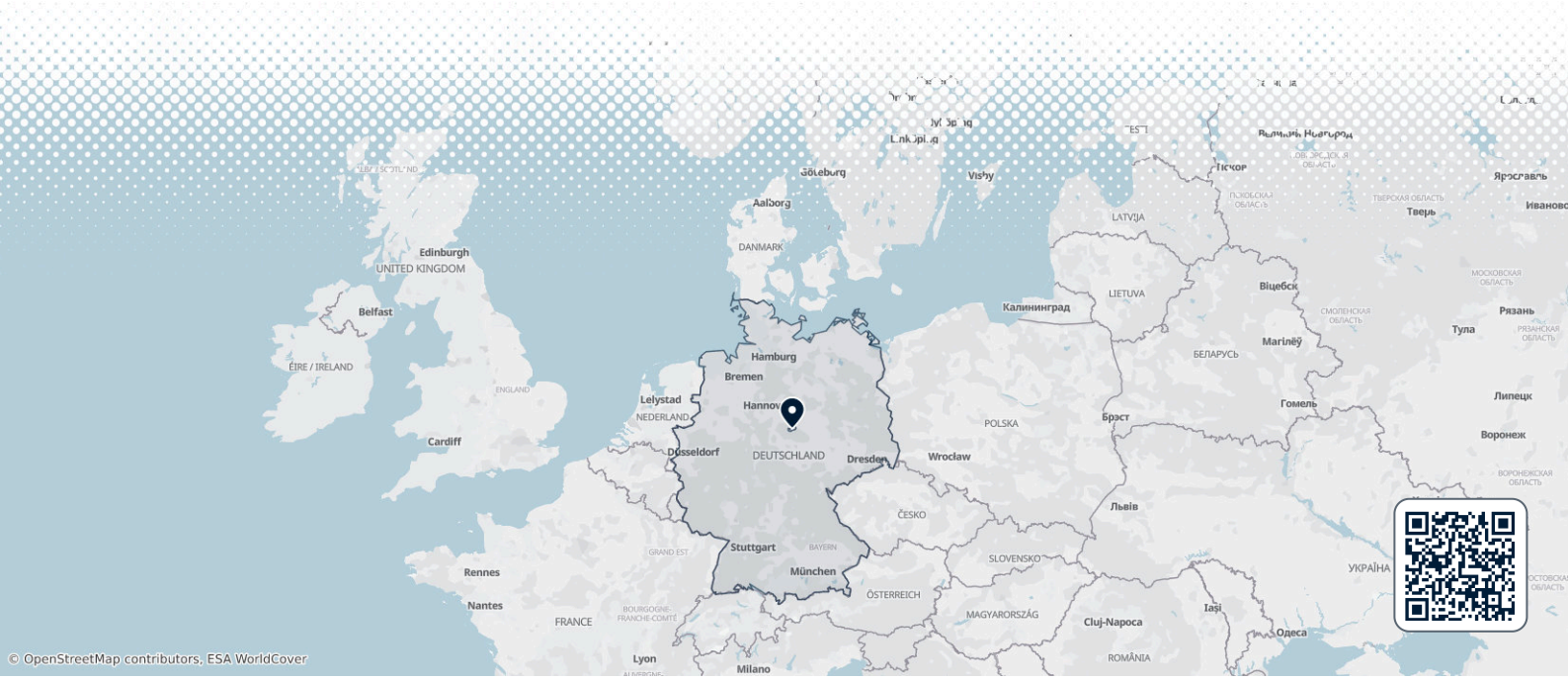


Wernigerode

Saxony-Anhalt · Germany

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Wernigerode lies on the northern edge of the Harz mountains in Saxony-Anhalt. The old town has colourful half-timbered houses, a medieval town hall and a castle on the hill above it.

It suits a trip of two or three nights. Walk the old town, then use the town as a base for the Brocken, the highest peak in the Harz. Steam trains and hiking trails start here.

When to visit

Late spring to early September is the warmest period and the best time for walking in the Harz. Rain falls often in every season, so bring a waterproof jacket. Winter is cold, with frost and snow, and the Brocken is colder still.

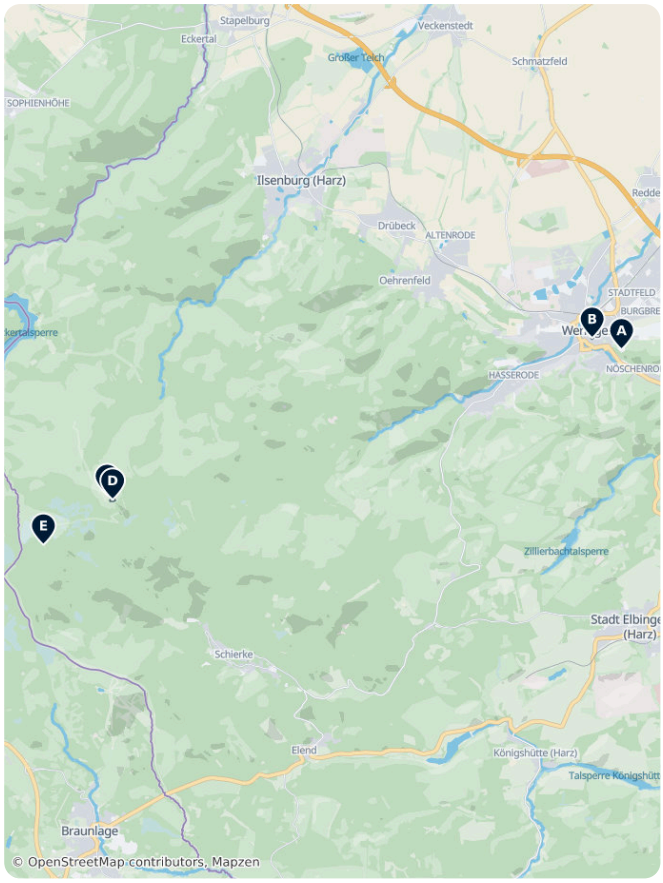
The Christmas market in the old town runs from late November to just before Christmas. It is the main event to plan around.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for hiking	2° / 9° Feels like -4°	-3° / -12°	14 rainy days · Dry air
February	Poor Poor for hiking	4° / 11° Feels like -2°	-2° / -12°	12 rainy days · Dry air
March	Poor Poor for hiking	8° / 16° Feels like 3°	0° / -7°	12 rainy days · Dry air
April	Good Good for hiking	13° / 21° Feels like 9°	3° / -3°	Dry air
May	Good Good for hiking	17° / 25°	7° / 2°	13 rainy days · Dry air
June	Great Great for sightseeing	21° / 28°	11° / 6°	13 rainy days · Dry air
July	Good Good for sightseeing	23° / 30°	13° / 9°	15 rainy days · Dry air
August	Great Great for sightseeing	23° / 30°	13° / 9°	13 rainy days · Dry air
September	Great Great for hiking	20° / 27°	9° / 5°	Dry air
October	Good Good for hiking	14° / 21° Feels like 10°	6° / -1°	13 rainy days · Dry air
November	Poor Poor for hiking	7° / 14° Feels like 3°	2° / -5°	13 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for hiking	3° / 9° Feels like -3°	-2° / -10°	15 rainy days · Dry air

Best months: June, August, September

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

Top sights



- A Schloss Wernigerode stands on a hill above the old town. Its towers and turrets can be seen from many streets below.
- B Rathaus Wernigerode is a half-timbered Gothic building on the market square. It is the centre of the old town.
- Stiftskirche St. Sylvestri is a church close to the market square.
- Schiefes Haus is a leaning half-timbered house that now holds a museum.
- Kleinstes Haus is a very narrow house in the old town. It is open as a small museum.
- C Brocken is the highest peak in the Harz, at 1,141 m. Views are wide on clear days, but fog is common.
- D Brockengarten is a garden of mountain plants on the Brocken. It is close to the summit.
- E Goetheweg is a hiking trail to the Brocken from Torfhaus, named after *Goethe*.

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What to experience

- Ride a steam train to the Brocken summit and back. The narrow-gauge line climbs through the Harz forest.
- Walk up the Brocken on foot. The trail is long and the weather can change fast.
- Visit the Christmas market in the old town in the weeks before Christmas.

Day trips

These trips fit easily into one day.

- Schierke is a mountain village at the foot of the Brocken. It is a good base for walks, and the Brocken narrow-gauge line stops here.
- Halberstadt is a historic town with a Gothic cathedral. Regional trains run there from Wernigerode.
- Goslar is a medieval town and UNESCO World Heritage Site, with the nearby Rammelsberg mines. Regional trains also run there.

Where to explore

In the Harz foothills to the east:

- Quedlinburg

Getting there

- By air: The nearest large airports are Hanover and Leipzig/Halle. Continue by train.
- **By train**: Wernigerode has a station on the regional network, with connections to Halberstadt and Goslar. Plan journeys and buy tickets at Deutsche Bahn.
- **By narrow-gauge railway**: The Harzer Schmalspurbahnen station is near the old town. Trains run from here into the Harz.

Getting around

- **Steam train to the Brocken**: The Harzer Schmalspurbahnen run steam trains from Wernigerode to the Brocken summit. Check the timetable and fares at Harzer Schmalspurbahnen.
- On foot: The old town is small and compact. The castle is a walk uphill from the centre.
- By bike: Cycling is practical in town. Roads into the Harz are hilly.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The old town is compact, so most sights are a short walk apart.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

Cycling works in town, but roads into the Harz are hilly.

Food & drink

Harz food is hearty. Look for Harzer Käse, a small sour-milk cheese, and game dishes such as venison. Baumkuchen, a layered cake, is also a local sweet.

For a meal, walk the streets around the market square. Cafés and restaurants cluster there.

What to eat & drink

LUNCH

Doner Kebab · Döner Kebab
A sandwich of roasted meat, salad, and sauce in flatbread, invented by Turkish immigrants in Berlin and now a national staple.

DINNER

Schnitzel
A thin, breaded and fried cutlet, usually pork, served with potatoes or fries and a lemon wedge.

Sauerbraten
A pot roast marinated for days in vinegar and spices before slow cooking, served with red cabbage and dumplings.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Bratwurst
A grilled or fried pork sausage, often served in a bread roll with mustard, sold at stands nationwide.

Currywurst
Sliced sausage topped with curry-spiced ketchup, a Berlin invention now popular across the country.

Pretzel · Brezel
A large, chewy salted bread pretzel, especially common in Bavaria, often eaten with butter or cheese.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Black Forest Cake · Schwarzwälder Kirschtorte
A layered chocolate sponge cake with cherries, cherry liqueur, and whipped cream.

DRINKS

Beer · Bier
Germany brews hundreds of regional styles, from Bavarian Weissbier to Cologne's Kölsch, each tied to its home city.

Gluhwein · Glühwein
Mulled, spiced red wine served hot, a staple of winter and Christmas markets.

Apfelschorle
Apple juice mixed with sparkling water, the everyday non-alcoholic drink of choice.

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Safety & health

- Weather on the Brocken changes quickly and fog is common. Wear warm layers and sturdy shoes, even in summer.

History

Wernigerode was first mentioned in 1121. It received town rights in 1229. The counts of Wernigerode ruled the area, and their line died out in 1429. The county then passed to the counts of Stolberg.

The Stolberg-Wernigerode family rebuilt Schloss Wernigerode between 1862 and 1893, on the site of a medieval castle. The counts were raised to princely rank in 1890.

The timber-framed Rathaus Wernigerode dates from the late 15th century.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Germany at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY

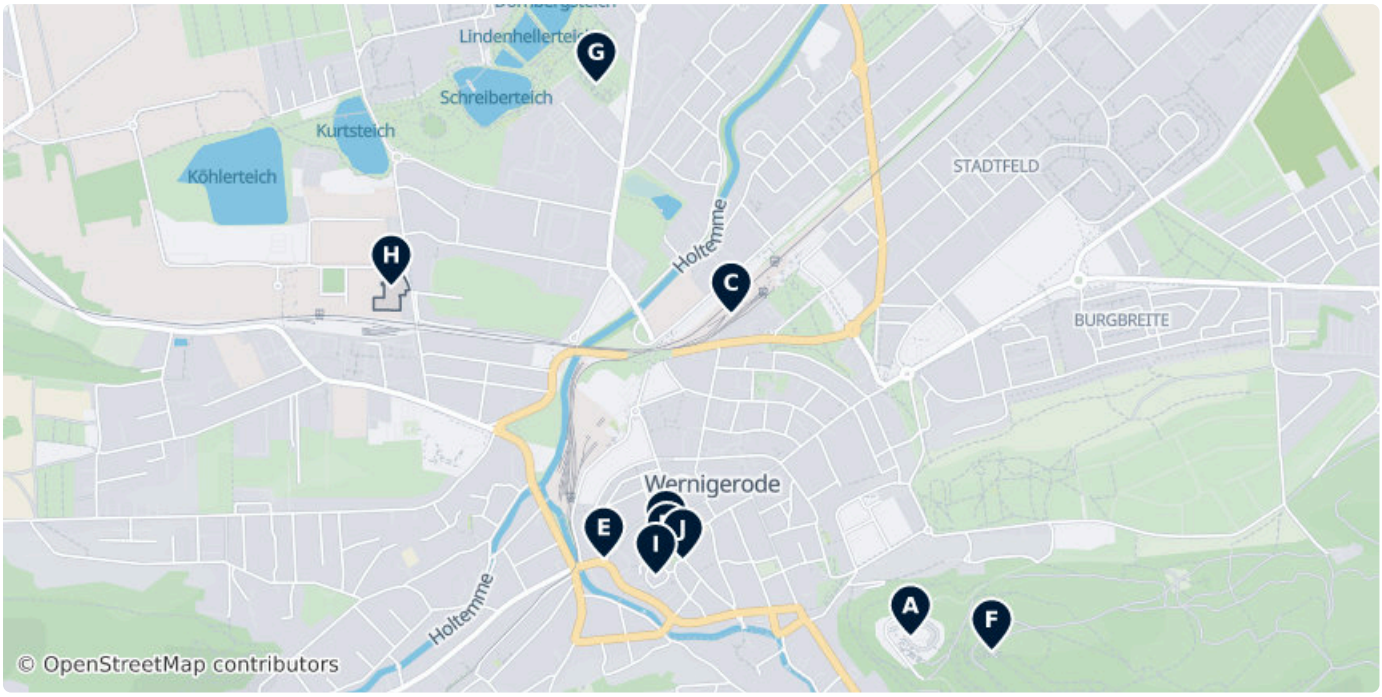
Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
German

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Wernigerode Essentials

Wernigerode, known as the 'Colorful Town on the Harz,' features a well-preserved medieval center dominated by half-timbered architecture. This selection includes the 15th-century Rathaus with its distinct twin spires and the hilltop Wernigerode Castle, which showcases 19th-century Neo-Romanticism. Visitors can explore technical heritage via the steam-powered Harz Narrow Gauge Railways or visit the Schiefes Haus, a 17th-century structure tilted by its historical proximity to a millrace. Natural vantage points like Agnesberg provide panoramic views across the valley.





A Wernigerode Castle

Wernigerode Castle is a schloss located in the Harz mountains above the town of Wernigerode in Saxony-Anhalt, Germany.

2 Am Schloß, 38855, Germany (51.83049, 10.79454)

Mo–Su Open 24/7

schloss-wernigerode.de



B City Hall Wernigerode

A 15th-century timber-framed masterpiece originally built as a playhouse. It features two prominent spires and intricate wood-carved figures representing various medieval social classes.

Marktplatz, 38855 Wernigerode, Germany (51.83294, 10.78433)

+49 3943 654-0

C Bahnhof Harzer Schmalspurbahnen

The main station for the Harz Narrow Gauge Railways, where historic steam locomotives depart for the Brocken, the highest peak in Northern Germany.

(51.83882, 10.78705)

D Schiefes Haus

A former cloth mill built in 1680. It leans significantly because the foundations were undermined over centuries by the water flow of a nearby millstream.

Klintgasse 5, 38855 Wernigerode, DE (51.83261, 10.78437)

Tu–Su 11:00–17:00

museum-schiefes-haus.de, +49 3943 6911-0



E Westerntor

This 13th-century tower stands 41 meters tall and served as the main western entrance through the medieval city fortifications.

34 Westernstraße, Wernigerode 38855, Germany
(51.83250, 10.78173)

F Agnesberg

A hilltop viewpoint located directly opposite Wernigerode Castle, providing a panoramic outlook over the castle grounds, the town, and the Brocken summit.

(51.83012, 10.79793)

G Miniaturenpark "Kleiner Harz" im Bürgerpark Wernigerode

Outdoor park displaying over 60 scale models of Harz landmarks, including the Brocken railway and regional castles, built at a 1:25 ratio.

Kurtsstraße, 38855 Wernigerode, Germany
(51.84477, 10.78141)

Apr Mo–Su 09:00–18:00
May-Sep Mo–Su 09:00–19:00

wernigerode.de/de/miniaturenpark.html

H Luftfahrtmuseum Wernigerode

An aviation museum housing over 50 aircraft and helicopters across four hangars, including a Transall C-160 and various historic jet fighters.

Gießerweg 1, 38855 Wernigerode, DE (51.83953, 10.77284)

Mo–Su 10:00–18:00

luftfahrtmuseum-wernigerode.de, +49 3943 633126



I Stiftskirche St. Sylvestri

A historic church featuring a blend of Romanesque foundations and later Gothic and Baroque architectural elements, located on the Oberpfarrkirchhof.

1 Oberpfarrkirchhof, Wernigerode 38855, Germany (51.83207, 10.78390)

kirchenkreis-halberstadt.de/kk/kirchen/St-Sylvestri-in-We...



J Wernigeröder Bimmelbahn

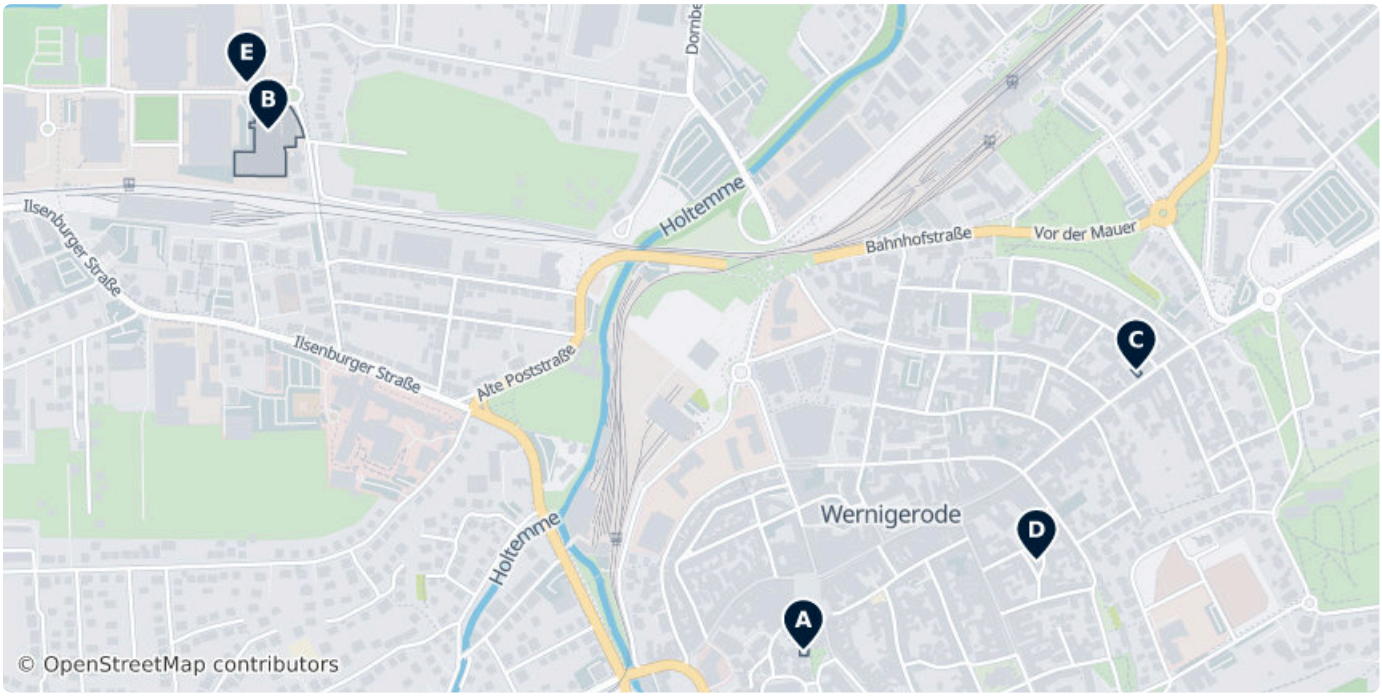
A motorized tourist road train that transports visitors from the market square and central parking areas up the steep incline to Wernigerode Castle.

9 Marktstraße, Wernigerode 38855, Germany (51.83247, 10.78502)

wernigeroeder-bimmelbahn.de, +49 3943 604000

Museums in Wernigerode

Wernigerode's museum landscape spans from industrial history to traditional crafts. The Luftfahrtmuseum showcases aviation technology with over 50 aircraft, while the Krellsche Schmiede, dating back to 1678, remains a working blacksmith shop. Explore the iconic Schiefes Haus, a former mill leaning due to foundation issues, and the Feuerwehrmuseum's collection of firefighting equipment. For a look into modern history, the "form gestaltung in der ddr" exhibition focuses on industrial and graphic design from the East German era.



A Schiefes Haus

A 17th-century former cloth mill that leans significantly due to the foundations sinking on one side. It now serves as a local history museum and cultural site.

Klintgasse 5, 38855 Wernigerode, DE (51.83261, 10.78437)

Tu–Su 11:00–17:00

museum-schiefes-haus.de, +49 3943 6911-0

B Luftfahrtmuseum Wernigerode

An expansive collection featuring over 50 airplanes and helicopters, including historical models from the Cold War era. The museum includes interactive flight simulators and detailed exhibits on engine technology.

Gießerweg 1, 38855 Wernigerode, DE (51.83953, 10.77284)

Mo–Su 10:00–18:00

luftfahrtmuseum-wernigerode.de, +49 3943 633126

C Krellsche Schmiede Wernigerode

Established in 1678, this is the oldest working blacksmith shop in Germany. It operates as a technical monument where visitors can observe traditional metalworking techniques.

Breite Straße 95, 38855 Wernigerode, DE (51.83633, 10.79154)

Mo–Sa	10:00–17:00

krellsche-schmiede.de, +49 3943 557373

D Feuerwehrmuseum

Dedicated to the history of firefighting, this museum displays a collection of historical fire engines, equipment, and uniforms dating back several decades.

4A Steingrube, Wernigerode 38855, Germany (51.83380, 10.78939)

Mo	10:00–14:00
Tu	10:00–16:30
We–Fr	10:00–14:00
Sa	14:30–17:00

feuerwehrmuseum-wernigerode.de, +49 3943 601063

E form gestaltung in der ddr

A specialized exhibition focusing on industrial and product design from the German Democratic Republic. It highlights the aesthetics and functionality of everyday objects produced in East Germany.

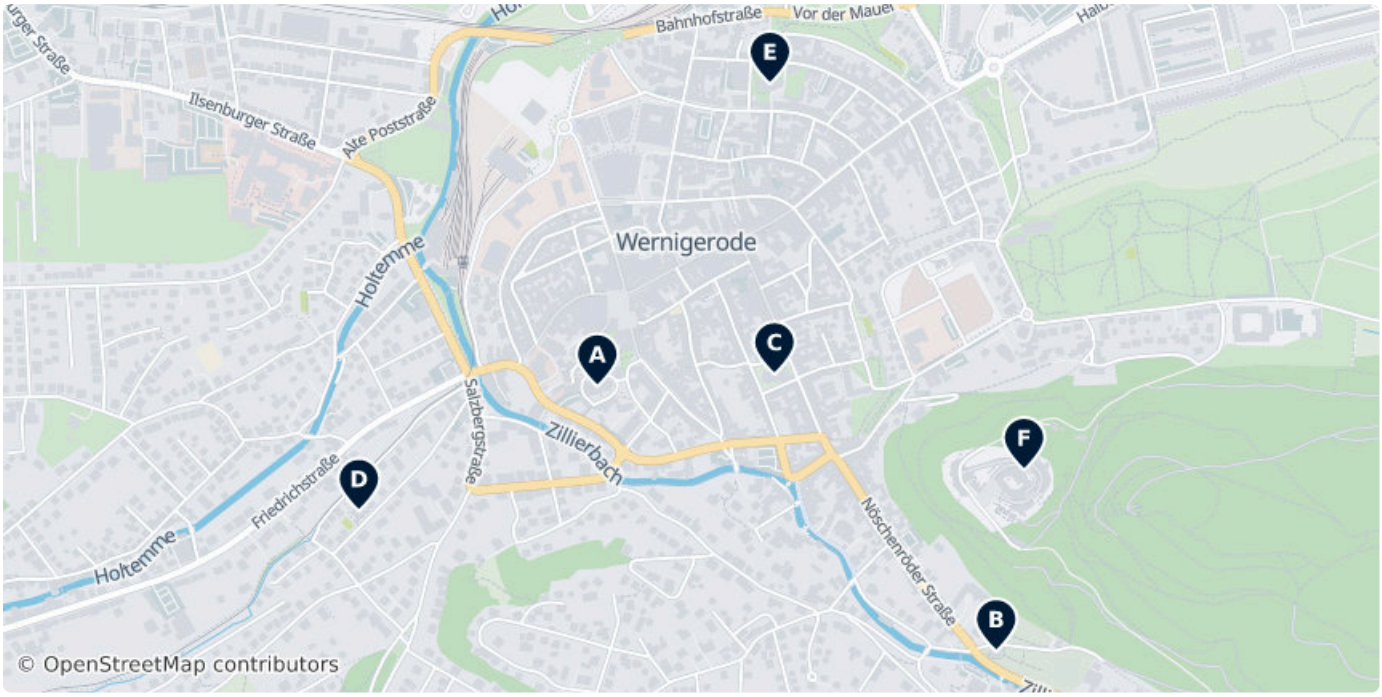
Gießerweg 2a, 38855 Wernigerode (51.84016, 10.77238)

Sa–Su	10:00–14:00

form-gestaltung-ddr.de

Historic Churches in Wernigerode

Wernigerode's skyline is defined by its diverse religious architecture, ranging from the Romanesque Revival style of St. Marien to the intricate Neo-Gothic details of the Schlosskirche. This collection includes the town's oldest parish churches, such as St. Sylvestri and St. Johannis, alongside unique structures like the deconsecrated Liebfrauenkirche, which now serves as a cultural venue. These sites represent centuries of spiritual development and architectural heritage from the medieval period through the 19th-century revival movements.





A Stiftskirche St. Sylvestri

A historic Protestant parish church and former collegiate church. It features a mix of architectural styles and serves as a central place of worship for the local evangelical community.

1 Oberpfarrkirchhof, Wernigerode 38855, Germany (51.83207, 10.78390)

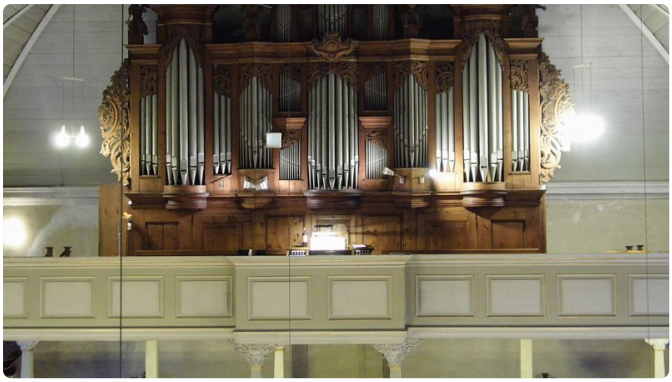
kirchenkreis-halberstadt.de/kk/kirchen/St-Sylvestri-in-We...



B Theobaldikapelle

A small evangelical chapel located in the Nöschenrode district. This historic structure is known for its intimate atmosphere and long-standing significance to the local parish.

1A Bohlweg, 38855, Germany (51.82773, 10.79447)



C Liebfrauenkirche

A deconsecrated church and protected cultural monument. Following restoration, the building has been transformed into a concert hall and event space known for its exceptional acoustics.

3 Liebfrauenkirchhof, Wernigerode 38855, Germany
(51.83227, 10.78859)



D St. Marien

The primary Catholic church in Wernigerode, constructed in the Romanesque Revival style. Dedicated to the Immaculate Conception, it is a significant example of 19th-century ecclesiastical architecture.

18 Sägemühlengasse, Wernigerode 38855, Germany
(51.83003, 10.77758)

kath-kirche-wernigerode.de

E St. Johannis-Kirche Wernigerode

A historic Lutheran parish church and one of the oldest ecclesiastical buildings in the city, representing traditional regional church architecture and heritage.

(51.83702, 10.78847)

st-johannis-wernigerode.de/home.html

F Schlosskirche St. Pantaleon und Anna

A Neo-Gothic chapel located within the Wernigerode Castle complex. This Protestant place of worship is noted for its ornate 19th-century design and historical connection to the Stolberg-Wernigerode family.

(51.83070, 10.79521)

DATA SOURCES

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