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Tourismusverband Oberlausitz-Niederschlesien e.V.
Bahnhofstr. 14, D-02625 Bautzen
Tel.: +49 (0)3591 / 4 87 70 · Fax: +49 (0)3591 / 48 77 48

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DIE PARTNER GmbH,
Agentur für Marketing und besseres Werben
Peterstr. 3, D-02826 Goerlitz
Tel.: +49 (0)3581 / 47 07 - 0 · Fax: +49 (0)3581 / 47 07 20

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EUROREGION



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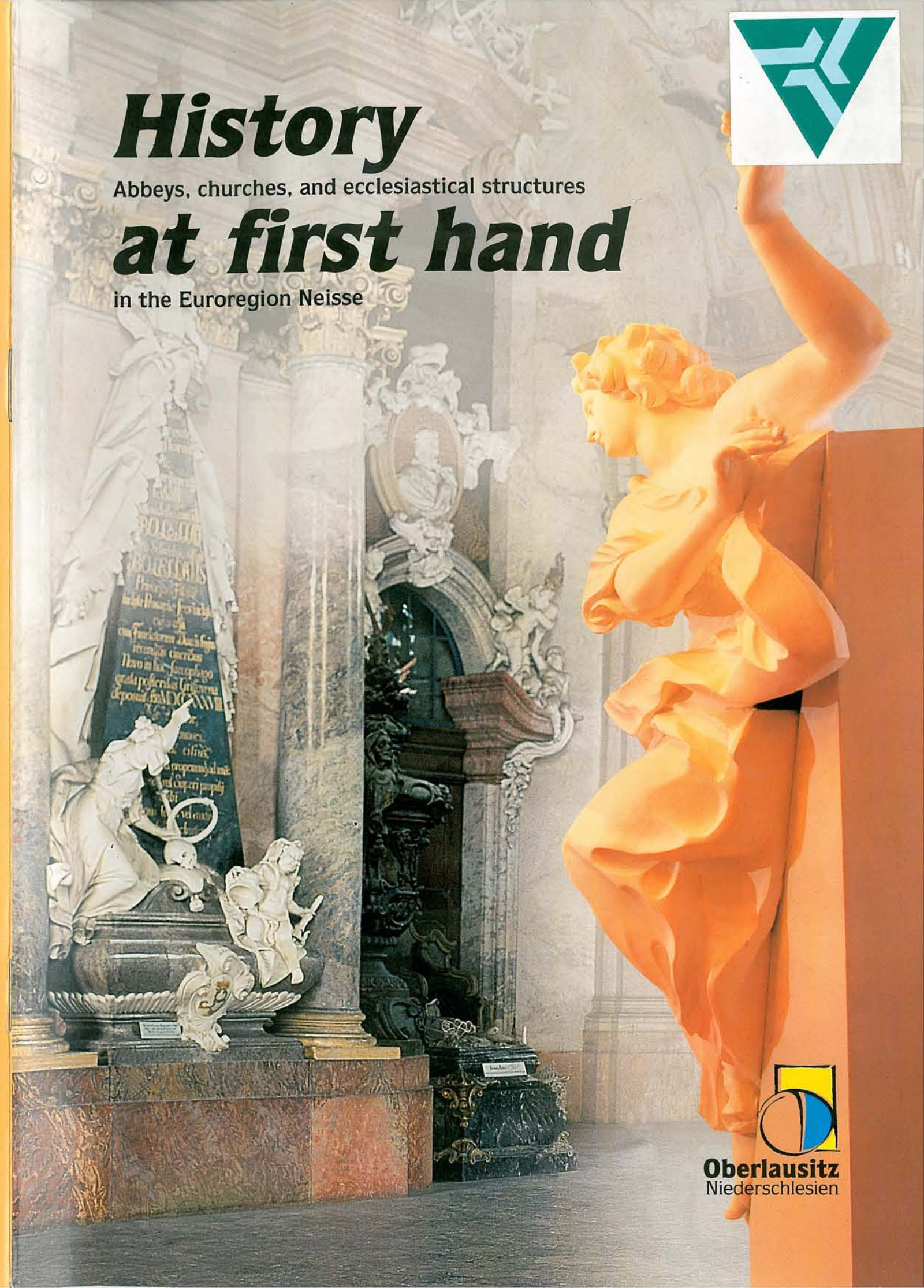


History

Abbeys, churches, and ecclesiastical structures

at first hand

in the Euroregion Neisse



Oberlausitz
Niederschlesien

Since time immemorial people have endeavoured to lend expression to their metaphysical inclinations by means of major works of architecture. The tower of Babel, the pyramids of ancient Egypt, the temples of the Incas, these were all intended to outlive their creators, are all testimonies in stone to the urge for immortality. Over and above this, Christian structures East and West are also places of encounter for personal and, most importantly, inter-denominational acts of faith.

The European cultural space is blessed with a rich proliferation of churches, abbeys, and generally ecclesiastical buildings. It is our intention with the present prospectus to provide you with waymarkers for a decidedly spiritual journey through the Euroregion Nisse. Euroregion Nisse is the name given to the region within which the borders of Germany, the Czech Republic, and Poland converge, more specifically the respective national regions of Upper Lusatia/Lower Silesia, northern Bohemia, and the voivodeship (county) of Jelenia Góra in western Poland. It is a stretch of land extraordinarily rich in culture and natural beauty.

On the pages that follow we would like to accompany you to a number of buildings of great cultural-historical significance. Each page contains a stylised map to facilitate the process of 'discovery', a word that needs emphasizing,

since many of these abbey complexes were deliberately sited in out-of-the-way places to enable all efforts to be focused, by dint of hard labour, on strengthening spiritual qualities and powers of resistance and in this way moving closer to God. You will be impressed by the dignity and solemnity that pervades these centres and religious houses. Their architectural attributes and precious interior appointments are witness to the phenomenal skills of their creators and have lost none of their impact over the years.

Selection is invariably both a subjective and a painful process, and there are obviously limits to what any brochure can cover. Accordingly, we would be delighted if you were to look upon the examples cited as points of departure for your own more exhaustive exploration work. We can wholeheartedly recommend that you start with a Saxon state exhibition - the first of its kind - entitled "Time and Eternity", which is being organised in conjunction with the 750th anniversary of the founding of the St. Marienstern Cistercian nunnery at

Panschwitz-Kuckau, a small town in the predominantly Sorb (Slav) area of eastern Germany. To mark these celebrations, the ambulatory and part of the cloister are being opened up to the public for the first time in the nunnery's history. May the majesty and inner tranquillity of this architectural gem accompany you on your journey and far beyond.



Upper Lusatia/Lower Silesia

| | |
|---|-------|
| Panschwitz Kuckau · Pulsnitz · Kamenz · Elstra | 4/5 |
| Raeckelwitz · Rosenthal · Ralbitz · Bluno · Horka · Schleife · Sprey | 6/7 |
| Cunewalde · Crostau · Herrnhut · Hainewalde · Hochkirch · Bautzen · Schirgiswalde · Goeda | 8/9 |
| Oybin · Zittau · Ostritz | 10/11 |
| Goerlitz | 12 |

Jelenia Góra voivodeship

| | |
|--|-------|
| Zgorzelec · Lubań | 13 |
| Krzeszów · Chełmsko Śląskie · Świerzawa · Kamienna Góra | 14/15 |
| Złotoryja · Gryfów Śląski · Lubomierz · Twardocice · Bolesławiec · Lwówek Śląski | 16/17 |
| Karpacz · Szklarska Poręba · Sosnowka Górna | 18/19 |
| Jelenia Góra · Czernica · Sobieszów · Cieplice Śląskie-Zdrój | 20/21 |

Northern Bohemia

| | |
|--|-------|
| Hejnice · Hrádek nad Nisou · Liberec · Kryštofovo Údoli | 22/23 |
| Turnov · Boskov · Nudvojovice · Rovensko pod Troskami | 24/25 |
| Jablonné v Podjěstědi · Česká Lípa · Horní Police · Sloup v Čechách · Nový Bor | 26/27 |
| Harrachov · Rychnov u Jablonce · Jablonec nad Nisou · Kořenov · Jablonec nad Jizerou | 28/29 |
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Rejoice

● St. Marienstern Cistercian nunnery, Panschwitz-Kuckau

Founded 1248 by Bernhard III, lord of Kamenz castle, and his family; having narrowly escaped death, he had a nunnery built on the site of the incident as an act of gratitude; he ascribed his salvation to the Virgin Mary and accordingly placed the nunnery under her patronage (the name translates as 'Maria's Star'); historical events have left their mark over the centuries: several buildings were pillaged and torched during the Hussite Wars, the plague took its toll, and part of the complex was destroyed by the Swedes in the Thirty Years' War. During the Reformation the Marienstern nuns remained true to their Catholic faith. The nunnery was spared dissolution in early C19 and even today forms a self-contained whole. Centre-piece is the abbey church, a late-gothic hall church with nave and flanking aisles built in the second half of C13. A baroque-style west gable was added in 1721. As always with Cistercian churches, there is no belfry. Notable late-gothic triptychs and C16 murals, particularly fine stained windows dated c. 1375 and depicting various saints and the coats of arms of noble families. The windows survived the burning of the church during the Hussite Wars (which is why they are known as the "Hussite Windows"); the crypt contains the mortal remains of the founder of Marienstern, several abbesses, and prominent Catholics at the Court at Dresden; epitaphs and memorial tablets of great historical and artistic value. Marienstern is one of the few abbeys in Germany that has served one and the same purpose since it was built in the Middle Ages. A convent has been in existence here for over 750 years, following the rule of its Holy Father St. Benedict whilst also observing the customs of the stricter Cistercian offshoot. To mark the 750th anniversary of the foundation of the nunnery, a Saxon state exhibition is being organised in 1998 during which the cloister walk and part of the cloister itself will be opened up to the public for the first time.

Open all year. Phone: +49 (0)35796 / 99 30



● St. Nicholas municipal church, Pulsnitz

Late-gothic nave and baroque interior dated 1745. First documented 1498 in an episcopal charter. Of particular art-historical note the pulpit built c. 1600 (accomplished wood carvings). In the oldest part of the church there is a memorial chapel to the most famous son of this gingerbread-making town - the sculptor Ernst Rietschel (1804-1867), who designed the Goethe-Schiller monument at Weimar. Interior extensively restored in 1995.

Mon-Sat 2-3pm and by appointment under
+49 (0)35955 / 7 23 55



● St. Mary's (principal) church, Kamenz

Thought to have been built in C13, richly appointed with late-gothic carved altars, sculptural works, epitaphs; pulpit by the Kamenz-born artist and wood-carver Andreas Dressler, galleries and prayer recesses; C14 granite font; interior redesigned 1890.

Viewing by arrangement. Lutheran rectory: Kirchstr. 20.
phone: +49 (0)3578 / 30 41 99

● St. Anne's abbey church, Kamenz

With abbey gate, completed c. 1512, richly appointed with late-gothic carved altars, sculptural work.

Viewing by arrangement.
Lutheran rectory: Kirchstr. 20.
phone: +49 (0)3578 / 30 41 99



● Church of St Michael, Elstra

Baroque, last consecrated 1722. Altar produced by Andreas Böhme 1732/33, paintings by the Dresden court artist L.W.E. Dietrich. Church houses a uniquely beautiful font and a noteworthy pulpit. The organ was built by Abraham Strohbach in 1755. Interior completely restored 1987-93.

Open to the public: all year 10am-4pm daily and by arrangement.
Parsonage phone number:
+49 (0)35793 / 52 22



● The "Maria Mater admirabilis" chapel, Raeckelwitz

Was consecrated in 1885. It is in what is known as the Beuron style, designs and plans being by P. Desiderius Lenz, the originator of Beuron art. He came with others of his order from the abbey at Prague, where the Beuron Benedictine monks had taken refuge from religious struggle. The images depicted in the English stained glass windows and in frescoes are of the founder family in the guise of their favourite patron saints. With the exception of the Maurus chapel at Beuron abbey in southern Germany, the chapel at Raeckelwitz is the only example of the style extant.

Viewing daily



● Rosenthal pilgrimage church, Rosenthal

Erected in its present form in 1778, the interior is fashioned out of superb natural timber to create a space whose stylistic simplicity and purity evoke a great sense of spirituality. An important item for pilgrims is "Unsere Liebe Frau von der Linde", a statue carved out of limewood depicting the Mother of God with the Baby Jesus; a spring known as the Marienquell surfaces next to the church and is said to have healing powers.

Viewing daily

● Church, Ralbitz

Small Catholic church, built 1752 in chaste style that pervades area as a whole, very striking Sorb cemetery with uniform white wooden crosses and ornamental embellishments (has been declared a listed monument).

Viewing daily



● Church, Schleife

Dating from C14, the oldest section, built of fieldstone, being the chancel, the last surviving example of late-gothic architecture in Upper Lusatia; a particularly interesting feature is the Slav village in the round (encircling the church).

Key to the church available from the rectory.

Phone: +49 (0)35773 / 76211 or 76516



● Timber-framed church, Bluno

One of the oldest preserved timber-framed churches, built in 1673; the tower, built a century later, is made entirely of wood except for the base course; worthy of mention are the pulpit altar so typical of the region, a Madonna with Child dated 1480, and a figurative ensemble produced in C13.

Viewing possible, information can also be obtained from the rectory under +49 (0)3564 / 2 25 05



● Fortified church, Horka

C12 fortified church, chancel murals dated 1250 and 1450 - a pictorial sermon for those who could not follow the church service then held in Latin. Wholly preserved ramparts, access to the von Gersdorff family crypt, church of enormous historical significance.

Viewing possible by arrangement: phone Mr Freye, the vicar, on +49 (0)35892 / 32 23



● Coarsewood chapel, Sprey

Built c. 1780, typical of the architecture of the Muskauer Heide region, the altarpiece is a five-figure shrine carved in wood; representation of Saint Barbara, the patron saint of miners. The chapel is listed.

Key to church available from rectory.

Phone: +49 (0)35774 / 3 03 17



● **Cunewalde Lutheran church, Cunewalde**

Built in 1793 with space for 2,600 people, considered to be the largest village church in Germany. Classicist interior dated 1893, pulpit 1655; pre-Reformation apostle figures, triple-manual Reiss organ dated 1840.

Tour of the church by prior arrangement with the parsonage, phone: +49 (0)35877 / 2 74 31 otherwise key available from parsonage.



● **Parish church, Crostau**

Parish church in idyllic setting with excellently preserved Silbermann organ dated 1732.

The church is open to the public between 8am and 6pm from April to October. Organ-playing demonstrations and general viewing possible at any time by arrangement. Crostau parish committee, Mrs Schwarzenberg, phone: +49 (0)3592 / 3 26 97



● **Kanitz-Kyawsch burial chapel, Hainewalde**

Erected in 1715 in the cemetery grounds at Hainewalde, considered the most outstanding example of baroque sepulchre art in Upper Lusatia. The architecture is often compared with that of the *Zwinger* in Dresden. 17 sandstone figures and the capital stones on 16 Corinthian columns are a particular attraction for any visitor. The statues are imbued with a lively mercurial quality.

Viewing possible at any time. Church office phone: +49 (0)35841 / 3 77 42



● **Prot. church, Hochkirch**

1720/1856, C17 Lehn family burial vault, church door with bullet holes from Battle of Hohkirch, hand-forged church clock mechanism dated 1751. Keith monument and baptismal font (C13) in the church.

Viewing by appointment, phone: +49 (0)35938 / 5 90 90



● **Church of the Herrnhut Brotherhood, Herrnhut**

Known as the Great Common Hall, consecrated in 1757. Style referred to as Herrnhut Baroque. A modest spire with a peal of bells is symmetrically set into a large hipped mansard roof. The Hall is devoid of embellishment and completely white inside, the colour of joy and forgiveness. The space is looked upon as the "Community's parlour". Hall and pews are designed to emphasize the transverse axis with a table serving as the preaching point arranged lengthwise to one side - there is no altar or pulpit in the Brotherhood's churches. The original structure was destroyed by fire on 9 May 1945 and rebuilt in 1953.

The church is open throughout the day. For information and tours please phone: +49 (0)35873 / 22 88



● **Catholic parish church of the Assumption, Schirgiswalde**

With glockenspiel, erected 1735-41, rare example of Bohemian rural Baroque in the region. Noteworthy items are an altarpiece representing the Assumption, a pulpit betraying elements of Rococo, and neo-gothic towers built 1866-68.

Daily from 8am-6pm in summer; daily from 8am to the onset of darkness in winter. To view at other times, please phone +49 (0)3592 / 50 23 31

● **Prot. church, Goeda**

Twin tower, C16 first restored 1820, redesigned 1960-92, interior conversion by Friedrich Kress, particularly fine church (cites in art catalogue for building monuments in Germany), Eule organ.

Viewing by appointment, phone +49 (0)35939 / 5 08 34



● **Late-gothic Cathedral of St. Peter, Bautzen**

Only interdenominational church in eastern Germany, contains precious sculptures and wood carvings, crucifix by Balthasar Permoser dated 1714; altarpiece by Antonio Pellegrini.

*June-September, Mon-Sat 10am-4pm
May-October Mon-Sat 10am-3pm
Phone +49 (0)3591 / 3 69 70 or 4 41 02*



● **Collection of cathedral treasures, Bautzen**

Opened 1985, display of liturgical vessels, vestments, images and figures providing insights into the history of St. Peter's and document the artistic and economic links Upper Lusatia has traditionally enjoyed with Bohemia and Poland.

*Guided tour and viewing of cathedral treasures from Monday to Friday
Phone +49 (0)3591 / 4 41 02*



Heavenly wine

● St. Marienthal Cistercian nunnery, Ostritz

Founded in 1234 by Kunigundis, queen of Bohemia. Picturesquely located at the end of the Neisse valley, close by the German-Polish border.



The impressive nunnery complex was reconstructed in the Bohemian baroque style in early C18 having been gutted by fire in 1683. The ensemble includes convent buildings (cloister), a conventual church, a priory, a chapel of the Holy Cross, a Calvary and diverse parks. In the grounds there are also a bakehouse, a saw-mill, an old corn-mill and brewhouse and a vineyard, the most easterly in Germany. Together, these elements give a

graphic insight into the spiritual and commercial workings of the nunnery.

The Cistercian nuns resident at St. Marienthal imbue the venerable site with a very special aura. The spirit of "ora et labora" - pray and work - is palpably present, as is the will to continue to live out the ideals of the order. In 1992, an International Meeting Centre was established here with comprehensive education, recreation, and accommodation facilities for up to 120 people.

Open all year.

Phone:

+49 (0)35823 / 88 60 (nunnery)

+49 (0)35823 / 8 00 (meeting centre)



● Franciscan monastery, Zittau

One of the eldest and historically most momentous structures in Zittau is the Franciscan monastery founded in 1268 and embracing the monastic church and the Heffter Wing. The monastery is now home to the municipal museum. Jewels of the collection are the Zittau Lenten cloths dated 1742 and acknowledged as being unique; as from 1999, they will be on permanent display in the Church of the Holy Cross. Concerts and theatrical events are held in the romantic abbey courtyard. High spot of the year is the abbey festival at Ascension.

Open to the public:

Tue, Thu 10-12am and 1-4pm

Wed 10-12am and 1-6pm

Fri 10am-1pm

Sat 2-4pm

Sun 10-12am and 2-5pm

Phone: +49 (0)3583 / 1 02 70



● Castle and monastery site on mount Oybin, Oybin

Singularly evocative ruins of gothic castle and monastery on top of mount Oybin, erected 1366-1384 by the cathedral builders of Prague to a commission by Emperor Charles IV, castle museum, imperial residence, monastic church ruin with superb acoustics, mountain cemetery, camera obscura, inn at summit.

The enchanting setting inspired painters such as Caspar David Friedrich and is tailor-made for concerts, monastic processions, and flights of Romantic fancy.

Guided tours: May-Sep Fri 6pm and 7pm by appointment.

Phone: +49 (0)35844 / 7 33 11

Fax: +49 (0)35844 / 7 33 23



● Baroque mountain-top church, Oybin

"The little wedding church" dated 1734, pews arranged auditorium fashion, faceted ceiling and galleries decorated by damask pattern designer, gallery with lines from the Lord's Prayer and scenes from the Sermon on the Mount, ceiling ornamentation contains biblical scenes, altar is strikingly embellished in an almost rococo manner, pulpit directly above altar.

Open daily from 9am-4pm.

Tours: Sep-mid May Sat 2.30pm

mid May-Aug Tue 2.30pm

and by arrangement.

Phone: +49 (0)35844 / 7 33 11

Fax: +49 (0)35844 / 7 33 23

● St. John's church, Zittau

Was completed in its present form in 1837 to plans by Karl Friedrich Schinkel. Standing imperiously at the heart of a town that is close to the borders with both Poland and the Czech Republic, it is little used for religious purposes despite being the principal church. An assortment of concerts, permanent exhibitions, and cultural projects draws over 10,000 people a year. From the 195 foot tower, there are splendid views to be had of the 750-year-old town and the Zittau hills.

Telephone information and booking: +49 (0)3583 / 51 09 33





● The Synagogue, Goerlitz

Built in 1911 by what was at the time a thriving Jewish community in a bold *art nouveau* manner, architecturally significant and featuring one of the first reinforced concrete domes to be built in Germany. It emerged unscathed from the *Kristallnacht* pogrom in November 1938, but decades of neglect followed and it was even used for a time as a warehouse; redevelopment began in 1991 once the go-ahead had been given by the regional parliament. Re-opened as a "playable building site" on 23 July 1997 with a concert by Lord Yehudi Menuhin.

Viewing and tours on request, contact the Europa-Haus/EBIZ Goerlitz on +49 (0)3581 / 67 12 86 or the Verein zur Durchführung beruflicher Bildungs- und Beschäftigungsprojekte des EBIZ e.V. on +49 (0)3581 / 40 74 66



● Holy Sepulchre, Goerlitz

Faithful recreation of the Stations of the Cross in Jerusalem. Built at the behest of the lord mayor of Goerlitz in 1476, the buildings (chapel of the Holy Cross, chapel of the Holy Sepulchre, chapel of the Holy Anointment) are linked to the oldest symbolic landscape gardens in Europe.

Tours: May-October
Mon-Sat 11am and 3pm
Sun 11.30am and 3pm
In winter and at other times by arrangement.
Phone: +49 (0)3581 / 40 95 90



● St. Peter's, Goerlitz

Striking C15 hall church with double aisles and impressive baroque features. The Georgskapelle, a late-gothic crypt (1456), is considered a gem of religious architecture. Restoration of church concluded 1992. Dedication of the sun organ (1703, Eugenio Casparini) in 1997 after thorough overhaul.

April-October
Mon-Sat 10.30am-5pm
Sun 12am-4pm
Viewing at other times by appointment. Restricted opening in winter!
Phone: +49 (0)3581 / 40 72 24

Churches unite



● Catholic church of St. Boniface, Zgorzelec

A dominant feature in the eastern, Polish part of Goerlitz is the church of St. Boniface. It was erected 1927-29 to plans by the Goerlitz architect Bernhard Sander. It is an unembellished hall church built using the steel skeleton method and consecrated on 26 May 1929. The church served as a garrison for the large numbers of military personnel in the city and later became the operational base of the celebrated Catholic priest Dr. Franz Scholz.



● Church of the Holy Trinity, Lubań

Built 1859-61 on the site of the old Nowogrodzka Gate near the Magdalene abbey. Its construction was necessitated by a considerable increase in the Roman Catholic population in the city. Designed in the neo-gothic manner, the church boasts a notable altar painting and fine side altars.



● The Protestant-Augsburgian Church of our Lady, Lubań

Built on the consecrated grounds of a chapel in 1452, acquired major significance in 1654 as the Bertelsdorf border church. It looks now as it has done since a major conversion in 1857, when the altar with its elaborately carved cross was installed. The church bell was cast by Benjamin Koerner of Goerlitz in 1735.



Pearl of the Baroque

● The Cistercian abbey, Krzeszów

Founded in 1292 ("Gruessau abbey") nestles in Kamienna Góra hollow in the Silesian Mountains. From medieval times to end C18 it exerted an enormous influence on the economy of the entire region. The abbey complex has been called a pearl of the Baroque, amongst its most impressive elements being the abbey church of the Assumption with opulent interior and notable stone dressing work. An ensemble comprising abbey and working quarters and the nearby church of St. Joseph, whose spaces are adorned by a magnificent row of frescoes, is of great historical value and well worth inspecting.



The mausoleum of the Swidnica Piasts dated 1735-47 contains gothic memorial tablets and is one of the finest of its kind in Europe.



● St. Joseph's, Chelmsko Śląskie

Baroque church with opulent stucco ornamentation. The altars are lavishly carved and originate from the abbey church in Krzeszów, which was restyled at the beginning of C18.



● St. John's or Low church, Świerzawa

First documented 1228, considered the best preserved wholly romanesque church in Silesia. Frescoes of inestimable worth were discovered inside.



● Holy Trinity, Kamienna Góra

One of the six "churches of grace", built on the plan of a Greek cross with a single tower. Originally a Protestant structure, it was extensively rebuilt after the Second World War to suit the requirements of the Catholic church. The chaste baroque nature of the overall building was nevertheless retained.



● **Municipal parish church of St. Mary and St. Michael, Złotoryja**

Construction commenced c. 1220 and continued on and off for five centuries. Striking epitaph in the chancel to the educationalist Valentin Friedland, a.k.a. Trotzendorf, founder and headmaster of the first humanities-based grammar school in Silesia. He is regarded as the originator of the modern, socially-oriented educational system.



● **Former Benectine nunnery and church of St. Maternus, Lubomierz**

Of the late-gothic nunnery complex founded in 1228 only the tower and the west section of the church remain. Fragment of a gothic arcaded walk in the extensive nunnery grounds particularly worth viewing.

The church was erected 1727-30 and has retained the stylistic integrity of its fixtures and fittings to the present day. Pre-eminent amongst these are a stately late-baroque high altar dated 1736, pictures with religious motifs, and free-standing figures of saints.

● **Municipal parish church of St. Hedwig, Gryfów Śląski**

Built in 1512 as a gothic hall church with renaissance elements. Altar dates from 1606, attractive renaissance baptismal font. In the burial chapel of the von Schaffgotsch family stands their sepulchral slab bearing eleven life-size figures as well as German-language inscriptions.



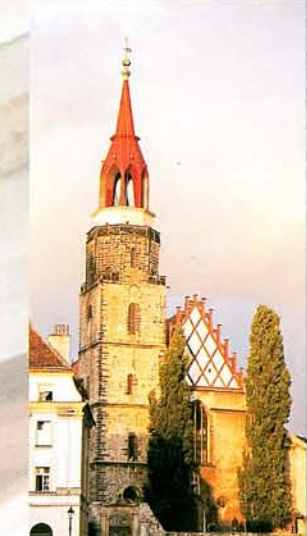
● **Church of sanctuary (ruin), Twardocice**

Built in 1726. This was an uncommonly large village church, measuring 133 ft lengthwise, 83 ft across, and 37 ft high inside. It could accommodate 2,400 churchgoers. Following closure of Protestant churches in the Habsburg "hereditary principalities", the faithful flocked to the Protestant duchy of Legnica. The church later became a centre for the activities of the Schwenkfelder, a sect outlawed by the Lutherans.



● **Municipal parish church of St. Mary, Bolesławiec**

Built 1482-93. Following a fire in the Thirty Years' War, the interior was fitted out in the early baroque manner. Six statues outside, one of Mary with the baby Jesus.



● **Municipal parish church of the Assumption, Lwówek Śląski**

Built in 1217. The relief above the entrance depicts the crowning of the Mother of God and is one of the oldest examples of relief work in Lower Silesia. Noteworthy baptismal font dated 1560, lavishly decorated with figurative sculptural work.





Carved treasures

● Church of Wang, Karpacz

Stave church of Norwegian origin now located 2,493 ft above sea-level. Built c. 1200 by the side of lake Vang in northern Norway.

King Frederick William IV of Prussia acquired the structure, earmarked for demolition, in 1841.

Following comprehensive restoration, the church was ceremoniously consecrated at Karpacz on 28 July 1844.

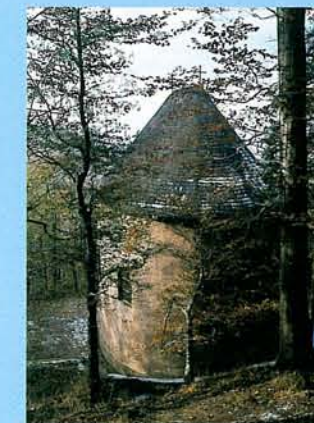
Highlights are the church's original carved portals and its column heads. The fantastic decorative work on the roof incorporates Norwegian timber, though it was actually carved on site by local craftsmen. The granite tower was built at the request of the king, who intended to house two bells in it. The Church of Wang is one of just 24 such structures still extant, the only one of its kind outside Scandinavia.



● Church of the Immaculate Heart of our Lady, Szklarska Poręba

From first half of C18

Key available from Mr Kaliski,
ul. Ks. Piotra Skargi 6/1



● St. Anne's chapel, Sosnówka Górna

Consecrated in 1719, contains an image of the Virgin Mary painted on copper in the altar.

● Chapel of St. Lawrence, Karpacz

First building of stone to be erected on the ridge-line of the Giant Mountains, produced 1665-81 to a commission by Count von Schaffgotsch. It is a cylindrical structure with shingle-clad pyramid type roof. In C18 the Krzeszów monks held services there several times a year as a means of banishing evil spirits terrorising the mountain population. Used as a restaurant from 1824 to 1850, when the Schlesische Baude mountain inn was built.



● Corpus Christi church, Szklarska Poręba

Built 1888 to 1890, notable paintings by Hofman and crystal chandeliers from the Julia company, one of the oldest crystal glass-works.

Roman Catholic priest's office
ul. Franciszkanska

Phone: +48 (0)717 / 22 82



● **Church of the Holy Cross, Jelenia Góra**

One of the six *Gnadenkirchen* ("churches of grace"), impressive baroque burial chapels of Jelenia Góra patricians - the "veil barons" - along the inner wall of the church cemetery. The chapels were fashioned between 1716 and 1780 and feature rich embellishments and elaborately crafted iron trelliswork; they are now listed monuments and have been undergoing restoration since 1992. The church's dome incorporates five towers and is a crowning achievement of the Protestant Baroque in Silesia.



● **St. Michael's parish church, Czernica**

Is one of the most inspiring ecclesiastical items in the entire Jelenia Góra voivodeship. The very well preserved church interior is worthy of particular note. Further impressive features are a late renaissance high altar and galleries on which twelve scenes from the Old Testament are represented.



● **Roman Catholic municipal parish church of St. Erasmus and St. Pancras, Jelenia Góra**

Gothic edifice of C14 with baroque spire dated 1736; baroque high altar with figures by Thomas Weissfeld, an eminent Silesian sculptor of the time. Striking figure of Mary on column at west entrance. Outside the church weathered tombs of pre-eminent citizens with inscriptions in German still partly legible.



● **The baroque priory church, Cieplice Śląskie-Zdrój**

Was built for the abbots at Krzeszów by Kaspar Jentsch, Superintendent of Building at Jelenia Góra, after a fire in 1711 had destroyed all but the free-standing belfry of the medieval abbey complex. The most significant work of art inside is the high altarpiece depicting the Assumption. Thirteen renaissance grave-stones of note along the cemetery wall, dated 1579-1624



● **Church of St. Martin, Sobieszów**

On a low hill stands the church of St. Martin. Erected in the gothic style, it was converted along baroque lines 1778-82. Rococo altar and the church's side altars worthy of note. There is a late-gothic belfry with bells dating from C16.



● **Protestant church, Cieplice Śląskie-Zdrój**

Unassuming hall structure erected to a design by Demus, master builder at Jelenia Góra. A "Church of Grace" with pulpit altar and galleries.



Healing sleep

● Visitation of our Lady pilgrimage church, Hejnice

In 1211 an angel appeared to a tradesman who had fallen asleep beneath a lime tree. The angel told him that if he attached an image of the Virgin Mary to the tree his wife and child would be cured of the ills that were afflicting them. The miracle duly took place, and before the year was out a wooden chapel had been erected on the site. In 1472 the chapel was redesigned as a gothic church. The present basilica was constructed in 1722-9 incorporating the gothic structure. The church's superb frescoes were produced from 1902-6 by Professor Groll of Vienna. In the originally gothic section there is a triptych of the Virgin Mary donated by countess Isabell von Waldstein. Here is where the lime tree once stood that played such a prominent part in turning the site into a place of pilgrimage; its roots are now embedded within the altar.

The basilica can be viewed daily except Sunday from 9.30am to 5pm. Sunday from 8am to 5.30pm. Guided tours can be booked.



● St Bartholomew' church, Hrádek nad Nisou

Built originally as a chapel in 1466, extended from 1670-73 and fitted out in the early baroque manner. Ceiling frescoes dated 1766 with illustrations from the Old and New Testaments. The ambulatory and baroque sepulchres from C17 and C19 are of high artistic value.

Viewing by appointment with the priest's office. Services Sun 8am, Tue and Thu 5.30pm.

Phone +42 (0)48 / 5 94 54 12



● St. Anthony's church, Liberec

One of the oldest historical features of Liberec. First documented 1352. Originally a modest timber structure, it acquired its present neo-gothic appearance in 1880-2. The tower is over 230 ft high, making it the highest in Liberec. Predominantly neo-gothic interior, organ dating from 1930, new bells in place of those destroyed in the war.

Viewing by arrangement, phone: +42 (0)48 / 5 10 85 06



● Holy Cross church, Liberec

Finest baroque structure in, built 1753-6, interior appointments are of the same period and combine with the architecture to form a rare stylistic unity; Items particularly worthy of note are a figure of the Mother of God dated 1506 and a C16 image of the Virgin Mary. The first public library was established in the church in 1759, housing at the outset 1,163 volumes.

Viewing by arrangement, phone: +42 (0)48 / 5 70 85 06



● Timber church of St. Christopher, Kryštofovo Údolí

Built 1683-6 and featuring murals and a timber baroque belfry, sited in a picturesque valley to the west of Liberec.

Phone: +42 (0)48 / 5 10 85 06





● **Church of St. Francis of Assisi, Turnov**

Built in C17 by Maximilian von Waldstein, twice destroyed by fire, modifications 1803-22
Deanery, Dekanska 87,
phone: +42 (0)436 / 2 11 79

● **Deanery church of St Nicholas, Turnov**

Originally built in gothic manner, redesigned following a fire. Impressive burial stones of the Wartemburgs inside, striking 82 ft high rectangular tower with thick masonry walls that formed part of the urban fortifications. Sited adjacent is a baroque parsonage dated 1708. Deanery, Dekanska 87,
phone: +42 (0)436 / 2 11 79



● **Church of the Virgin Mary, Turnov**

Gothic structure co-founded in C13 by the blessed Zdislava. Original demolished in C19 and replaced by one of the first neo-gothic churches. The mighty triple-vessel basilica is dedicated to the Holy Virgin Mary. A particularly notable feature is the unfinished tower, which has become a major landmark of the town.

Phone: +42 (0)436 / 2 11 79



● **Scenic Church of the Visitation of our Lady, Boskov**

Very fine baroque structure dating from 1693, C18 sculptures outside.

The church is only open during services. Diocese of Litomerice, Roman Catholic priest's office at Boskov, Father Jucha, phone +42 (0)431 / 68 21 56



● **Church of John the Baptist, Nudvojovice**

Oldest building in the Turnov region, built late C12-early C13
Phone: +42 (0)436 / 2 11 79



● **Timber belfry, Rovensko pod Troskami**

A prismatic log structure dated 1630 and housing three bells whose clappers face upwards and are set in motion by kicking.

Viewing all year round from 8-12am and 1-5pm, tours should be booked in advance.

Phone: +42 (0)436 / 9 12 26



Mother to the poor

● St. Lawrence's, Jablonné v Podjěstědi

Notable baroque church with dome 147 ft high. Zdislava of Lviv oversaw the building in the gothic style of St. Lawrence's and a Dominican monastery. She often came to help out at the infirmary located near the monastery. Universally loved as a result, she was dubbed the "Mother of the Poor". Zdislava herself assisted in the construction of St. Lawrence's. The Dalimil Chronicle recalls: "Through the power of God she raised five people from the dead, restored the eyesight of many who had gone blind. She healed the lame and leprous and performed great miracles." When she died in 1252 at the age of 32, her mortal remains were laid to rest in St. Lawrence's. The magnificent baroque structure that now stands on the site of the original church, to a design by the celebrated Viennese architect Hildebrand, was commissioned by Count Berka in C17 to mark Zdislava's canonisation. Further items of note are the subterranean catacombs and the infirmary chapel of St. Wolfgang dated mid-C16

Viewing at any time



● Augustine abbey, Česká Lípa

Established in 1627 by Albrecht von Wallenstein. The abbey complex includes a church in the early baroque manner. The grounds, which now house the district's local history museum, are open to the public



● Visitation of our Lady pilgrimage church, Horní Police

Famous for the discovery in 1523 of a wooden Madonna in the waters of the Plounice. Besides this "miraculous statue", the church also contains the mortal remains of saints.

Viewing at any time



● St Catharine's, Sloup v Čechách

Baroque church built 1708-9 with a pulpit from the workshop of the eminent Czech sculptor Matthias Braun.

Only accessible during services.



● Church of the Assumption, Nový Bor

A late baroque structure built 1786-8. Open at all times during the tourist season.

Phone: +42 (0)424 / 3 48 08,
Mr Josef Pavlas



● **Chapel of St. Elisabeth, Harrachov**

Features a glass bell that is illuminated at night. The glass-works at which it was made is likewise in Harrachov and is now world renowned for the production of luxury drinking vessels and chandeliers.

Viewing possible at any time,
phone +42 (0)432 / 52 91 86



● **Church of Saint Wenceslas, Harrachov**

Dated 1822. Single-vessel Empire church with five-sided semicircular presbytery. Church interior in Empire style, high altar partially of glass.

Open during services. Diocese of Litomerice, Roman Catholic priest's office at Harrachov, Father Mazura, phone +42 (0)432 / 94 93 42



● **Church of St. Wenceslas, Rychnov u Jablonce**

Viewing by appointment,
phone: +42 (0)428 / 2 64 23



● **Church of the Holiest Heart of God, Jablonec nad Nisou**

A Roman Catholic church built in 1932. Hornovo nám.,

open Sat and Sun,
phone +42 (0)428 / 2 64 23

● **Church of St. John of Nepomuk at Polbny, Kořenov**

Built 1788-93, and church of St. Vitus at Prichovice, built 1859-62. Roman Catholic church,

viewing by arrangement,
phone: +42 (0)428 / 39 92 18



● **Church of St. Prokop, Jablonec nad Jizerou**

A late-baroque single-vessel structure dated 1777 and featuring a rectangular presbytery with a sacristy and a prismatic tower. The richly appointed interior is dominated by the high altar and the statue of the parish patron saint, St. Prokop.

Open during services. Diocese of Litomerice, Roman Catholic priest's office at Jablonec nad Jizerou, Father Mazura, phone: +42 (0)432 / 94 93 42





● **Church of the Holy Mary Magdalen, Krásná Lípa**

Baroque edifice built 1754-8, interior from C18 and C19. Mr Karel Strupl, Kostelní vrch,
phone: +42 (0)413 / 38 32 60



● **Church of the Holy Trinity, Jiřetín pod Jedlovou**

Renaissance structure built 1590-1611, redesigned in C19; sited on the hill of the Holy Cross above the parish is the Crucifixion pilgrimage chapel dating from the second half of C18. It is reached by means of a succession of broad steps giving access to 11 Stations of the Cross (rococo chapel niche).

Phone +42 (0)413 / 37 27 61



● **St. Peter and St. Paul's, Varnsdorf**

A baroque church dating from 1774. As can be gleaned from a memorial plaque, Beethoven's *Missa solemnis* was played here for the first time as a fully-fledged church production. (Nativity crib at Christmas)

Phone: +42 (0)413 / 37 27 61



● **St. Lawrence's baroque church, Rumburk**

Northernmost Loreto chapel with cloister walk in abbey courtyard. Built early C18. Copy of Italian original.

Phone: +42 (0)413 / 33 24 13

Germany

Tourist-Information Bautzen-Budysin
Hauptmarkt 1
D-02625 Bautzen
Tel. +49 (0)3591 / 4 20 16 oder 1 94 33
Fax +49 (0)3591 / 53 43 09

EURO-TOUR-Zentrum
Obermarkt 29
D-02826 Goerlitz
Tel. +49 (0)3581 / 47 57 0
Fax +49 (0)3581 / 47 57 27

Kultur- und Fremdenverkehrsamt
Comeniusstraße 6
D-02747 Herrnhut
Tel. +49 (0)35873 / 22 88
Fax +49 (0)35873 / 24 15

Tourist- und Stadtinformation
Schloßgasse 1
D-02977 Hoyerswerda
Tel. +49 (0)3571 / 45 69 20
Fax +49 (0)3571 / 45 69 25

Tourist-Information
Auf der Heide 11
D-02796 Kurort Jonsdorf
Tel. +49 (0) 35844 / 7 06 16
Fax +49 (0) 35844 / 7 00 64

Kamenz-Information
Kirchstraße 1
D-01917 Kamenz
Tel. +49 (0)3578 / 30 43 00
Fax +49 (0)3578 / 30 43 00

Loebau-Information
Altmarkt 1
D-02708 Loebau
Tel. +49 (0)3585 / 45 04 50
Fax +49 (0)3585 / 86 20 40

Tourist-Information Region Niesky
Zinzendorfplatz 8
D-02906 Niesky
Tel. +49 (0)3588 / 25 58-0
Fax +49 (0)3588 / 25 58-15

Tourist-Information
Hauptstraße 65
D-02707 Obercunnersdorf
Tel. +49 (0)35875 / 9 54
Fax +49 (0)35875 / 9 29

Tourist-Information
August-Bebel-Straße 32
D-02736 Oppach
Tel. +49 (0)35872 / 3 83-0
Fax +49 (0)35872 / 3 83-80

Pulsnitz-Information
J.-Kühn-Platz 2
D-01896 Pulsnitz
Tel. +49 (0)35955 / 4 42 46
Fax +49 (0)35955 / 4 42 46

Tourist-Information Schirgiswalde
Sohlander Straße 3A
D-02681 Schirgiswalde
Tel. +49 (0)3592 / 34897
Fax +49 (0)3592 / 34897

Tourist-Information
Dorfstraße 93
D-02799 Waltersdorf
Tel. +49 (0)35841 / 21 46
Fax +49 (0)35841 / 3 54 77

Tourist-Information Muskauer Heide
Schillerstraße 4
D-02943 Weißwasser
Tel. +49 (0)3576 / 20 71 26
Fax +49 (0)3576 / 20 71 26

Tourist-Information
Rathaus, Markt 1
D-02754 Zittau
Tel. +49 (0)3583 / 75 21 37
Fax +49 (0)3583 / 75 21 61

Czech Republic

Informační centrum – Muzeum
nám. 1. máje
CZ 463 31 Chrástava
Tel. +42 (0)48 / 5 14 31 61

Informační centrum
nám. Republiky 191
CZ 472 01 Doksy
Tel. +42 (0)425 / 7 20 67
Fax +42 (0)425 / 7 20 51

Městské informační centrum
CZ 512 46 Harrachov
Tel. +42 (0)432 / 52 96 00
Fax +42 (0)432 / 52 94 25

Informační centrum
Mírové nám. 19
CZ 467 51 Jablonec nad Nisou
Tel. +42 (0)428 / 41 03 35
Fax +42 (0)428 / 2 26 28
E-mail: icjablonec@lbc.pvtnet.cz

Poland

Sudecka Agencja Promocji Turystyki
ul. 1 Maja 42
PL 58-500 Jelenia Góra
Tel./Fax +48 (0)75 / 7 52 40 54

Centrum Informacji Turystycznej
ul. Konstytucji 3 Maja 25a
PL 58-540 Karpacz
Tel. +48 (0)75 / 7 61 94 53

Centrum Informacji Turystycznej
ul. 1-go Maja 60a
PL 58-530 Kowary
Tel. +48 (0)75 / 7 18 24 89

Informační centrum – Obecní úřad
Vinařská 32
CZ 407 56 Jiřetín pod Jedlovou
Tel. +42 (0)413 / 37 92 31
Fax +42 (0)413 / 37 93 39

Informační centrum
nám. Dr. E. Beneše 2/32
CZ 460 01 Liberec
Tel. +42 (0)48 / 5 10 17 09
Fax +42 (0)48 / 5 24 35 89
E-mail: mic.lbc@lbc.pvtnet.cz

Informační centrum – Městský úřad
nám. Míru 1
CZ 473 21 Nový Bor
Tel. +42 (0)424 / 3 28 15
Fax +42 (0)424 / 3 21 60

Informační centrum Loreta
9. května 149/27
CZ 408 01 Rumburk
Tel. +42 (0)413 / 33 45 36

Urząd Miasta Lubania
ul. 7. Dywizji 14
PL 59-800 Luban
Tel. +48 (0)75 / 7 22 25 41

Informacja Turystyczna
ul. Zymierskiego 53
PL 58-573 Piechowice
Tel./Fax +48 (0)75 / 75 33 09

Informacja Turystyczna
ul. Żołnierska 2
PL 58-562 Podgórzyn
Tel./Fax +48 (0)75 / 75 33 46

Městský úřad – Informační středisko
Husova 82
CZ 513 01 Semily
Tel. +42 (0)431 / 62 13 41
Fax +42 (0)431 / 25 34

Informační centrum
Krkonosská 629
CZ 468 41 Tanvald
Tel. +42 (0)428 / 39 41 93
Fax +42 (0)428 / 39 47 30

Informační centrum
nám. Českého ráje 26
CZ 511 01 Turnov
Tel. +42 (0)436 / 2 35 86
Tel./Fax +42 (0)436 / 2 55 00

Informacja Turystyczna
ul. Piłsudskiego 15
PL 58-850 Świeradów Zdrój
Tel. +48 (0)75 / 71 63 50

Biuro Usług Turystycznych
ul. Jedności Narodowej 7
PL 58-580 Szklarska Poręba
Tel. +48 (0)75 / 7 17 31 87
Fax +48 (0)75 / 7 17 22 51

Miejskie Biuro Informacji Turystycznej
ul. Jedności Narodowej 3
PL 58-580 Szklarska Poręba
Tel. +48 (0)75 / 7 17 24-49/-94

**Also worthy of inspection
UPPER LUSATIA - LOWER SILESIA**

- Hoyerswerda, *St. John's church*
- Kittlitz, *Protestant church*
- Loebau, *St. John's church*
- Nebelschütz, *Parish church*
- Neukirch, *Lutheran church*
- Neusalza-Spremberg, *Church of the Holy Trinity*
- Niesky, *Church of the Brotherhood*
- Pechern, *Timber-framed church*
- Petershain, *Protestant church*
- Sohland/Spree, *Protestant church*
- Taubenheim, *Protestant church*
- Uhyst a. T., *Church of St. Peter and St. Paul*
- Uhyst (Spree), *baroque village church*
- Waltersdorf, *Parish church*
- Wittichenau, *Catholic parish church of the Assumption*

**Also worthy of inspection
JELENIA GÓRA VOIVODESHIP**

- Jagniątków, *New church*
- Janovice Wielkie, *Church*
- Jawor Prot., *Church*
- Kowary, *Church*
- Jezów Sudecki, *Church*
- Lubawka, *Church*
- Mysłakowice, *Former Prot. church*
- Piechowice, *Baroque church*
- Podgórzyn, *Rom. Cath. church*
- Rybnica, *Gothic church*
- Wojcieszycze, *Baroque church*

**Also worthy of inspection
NORTHERN BOHEMIA**

- Český Dub, *Church of the Holy Ghost*
- Chrastava, *St. Lawrence's church*
- Chřibská, *St. George's church*
- Cvikov, *St. Elizabeth's church*
- Doksy, *St. Bartholomew's church*
- Frýdlant, *Church of the Invention of the Cross*
- Jiříkov, *St. George's church*
- Letařovice, *St. Jacob's church*
- Mařenice, *Church of the Holy Mary Magdalen*
- Mikulášovice, *St. Nicholas's church*
- Šluknov, *St. Wenceslas's church*
- Železný Brod, *St. Jacob's church*