



AHRWEIN



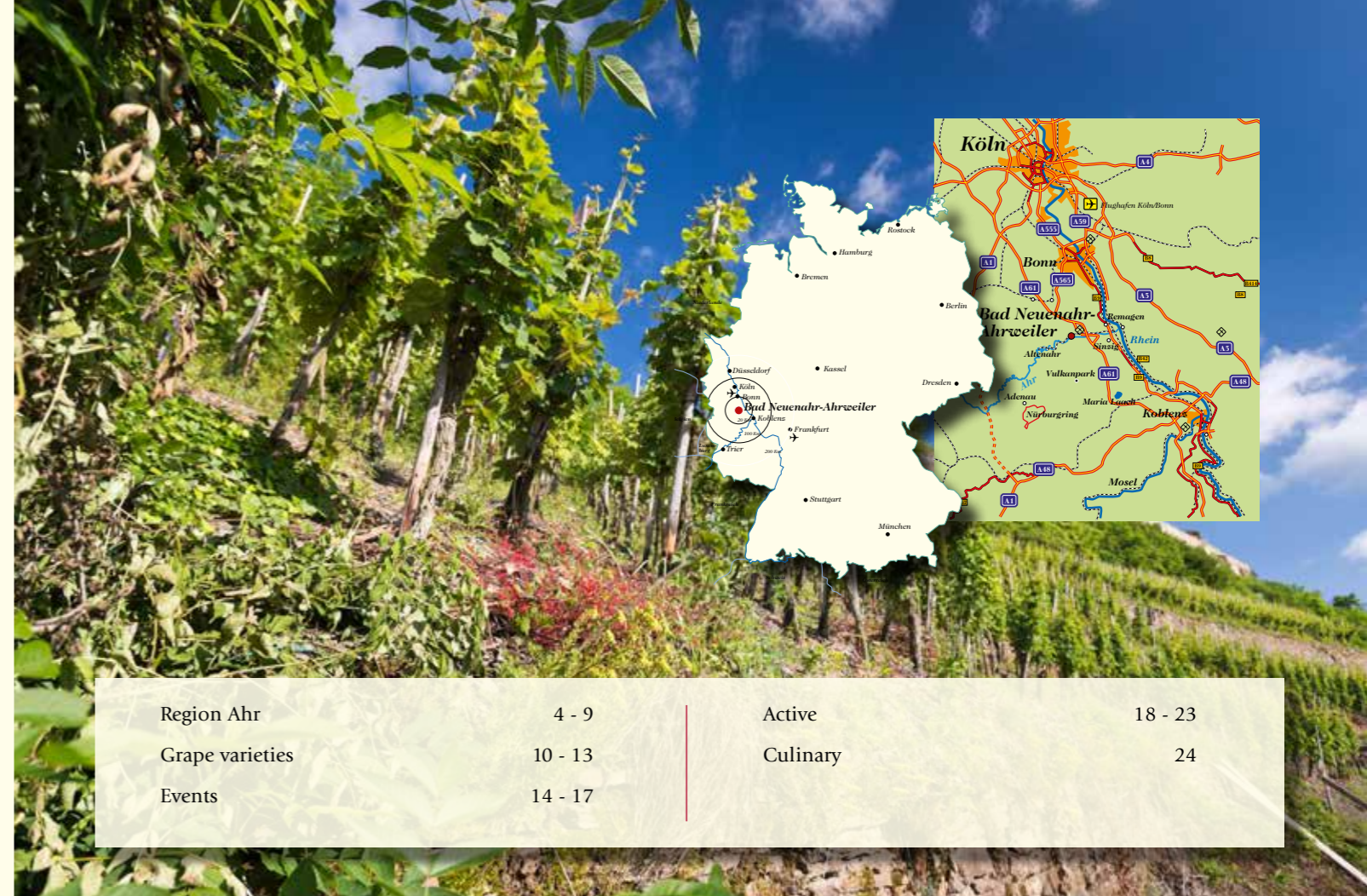
Enjoy life
on the wine side





Ahrwein e.V. & Ahrtal-Tourismus Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler e.V. • Hauptstraße 80 • 53474 Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler
 Tel. +49 (0)2641 / 9171-0 • Fax +49 (0)2641 / 9171-51 • info@ahrwein.de & info@ahrtaltourismus.de • www.ahrwein.de & www.ahrtal.de

Bildnachweis: RPT GmbH • shutterstock.de • Ahrwein e.V. • Dominik Ketz • Ahrtal-Tourismus Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler e. V.
 www.rotweinwanderweg.de • Titelmotiv: RPT GmbH



Region Ahr	4 - 9	Active	18 - 23
Grape varieties	10 - 13	Culinary	24
Events	14 - 17		



Welcome to the wine growing region AHR

The Ahr region is considered to be the "German red wine paradise".

The river Ahr meanders dreamily round narrow bends through a quaint rocky landscape, the vineyards clinging to sparse rocks. The Romans knew about the climatic advantages of this unspoilt valley, and were the first to plant vines there. In addition to the "king of the red grapes" – the Pinot Noir, the Pinot Madeleine is also considered to be one of the most valuable grape varieties in the region. The grapes for the top quality wines of the Ahr valley require a lot of effort to produce, growing on the steep slopes bounding the valley – but when the result is a high quality wine, it is worth the arduous work.



The Ahr valley - for all the good things in life

With a particularly mild climate and stunning scenery, the Ahr valley is one of a kind. The Ahr river twists its way between steep vine-clad slopes and wooded hills, while a string of idyllic wine-making villages tempts visitors to take a break and sample their wares. Magnificent scenery, a hearty welcome, wonderful wine, delicious food and of course the Ahr valley's friendly people make this destination an all-round treat.

The Ahr hills

The villages in the hills above the Ahr river have a charm all of their own. Set in the tranquility of unspoilt countryside, these hidden gems are ideal for hikers and nature lovers alike. Although they are off the beaten track, the walking trails are well marked and the villages are worth exploring for the surprises they yield; such as the painted wooden winged altarpiece in the chapel of Kirchsahr, dating back to the 15th century.

Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler – Two places with one soul

Bad Neuenahr, with its elegant spa and health resort, contrasts with its neighbour, the romantic medieval district of Ahrweiler, although they complement each other perfectly. Bad Neuenahr, with its beautiful parks, spa centre, Ahr-Thermen thermal baths and grand old casino is a chic place to be seen; whilst the rustic charm of Ahrweiler captivates visitors with quaint half-timbered houses huddled within the perfectly preserved town walls.



Wine-Villages along the river Ahr

Altenahr

This lively wine-producing village is located below the Are castle, which was built around 1100 AD. Its location on a hill high above Altenahr did not prevent its destruction in 1714. The parish church, a three-nave Romanesque pillar basilica, dates back to the 12th century. Another castle, which can be seen in the nearby village of Kreuzberg, is inhabited to this day. This castle was destroyed in 1686; its oldest element, the keep, dates back to the 14th century. Our recommendation: the "prettiest vineyard view of the Ahr 2012" is to be found in the "Altenahrer Eck" vineyard site. Enjoy the gorgeous view of the bizarre rocky landscape.

Mayschoß

Located in the foothills of Saffenburg castle - The major attraction of Mayschoß is the world's oldest cooperative wine-growers association, founded in 1868. The winegrowers of Mayschoß produce highly regarded wines, and the wine itself as well as the tour of the historical cask cellar are experiences not to be missed. The black marble funerary monument of the duchess Katharina von der Mark (1646), Mistress of Saffenburg castle, is embedded in the parish church of St. Nikolaus. Little remains of the castle walls, but magnificent views of the valley can be enjoyed from the ruins' site.

Rech

A small village with famous great wines - the small wine-growing village of Rech is situated on both sides of the river Ahr, and its two parts are connected by the oldest stone bridge of the Ahr (1764). It is named after the landmark in the village, the statue of St Nepomuk. Half-timbered houses, wine-growing estates and the parish church of St Lucia determine the character of the historical centre. The Christmas market of St Lucia takes place in this romantic setting every year on the second Sunday of Advent.

Dernau

This romantic winemaking village with its 141 hectares of vineyards, is the biggest wine-growing area of the Ahr valley. The Dagermova wine cooperative produces individual and characterful wines from grapes supplied by more than 600 winegrowers. Dernau's eleven wine-growing estates also offer outstanding quality and have received many awards. Impressive viewpoints can be found on top of the Sonderberg below the K-35 road, which has been voted the „prettiest Ahr vineyard view of 2016“, and on the Krausberg tower. The tower is attached to an inn that is open on Sundays. Wine tastings and visits to wine-growing estates can be arranged on request.

Marienthal

Tracing the Augustinian nuns of Klosterrath - this little village owes its existence to the monastery built by the Augustinian nuns from Klosterrath in 1137 AD. Today the historical monastery walls house a modern wine growing estate. In June 2010, the wine estate Kloster Marienthal was awarded the prize "Highlight of Wine Culture" by the German Wine Institute. There are two family-run wine-growing estates in the village itself. The monastery's ruins are often used as a location for cultural events with a unique atmosphere.

Walporzheim

A wine village with a living tradition - the attractions of Walporzheim include the "Bunte Kuh" (the coloured cow), a bizarre rock formation that juts out of the schist above the Ahr. This rock is the source of many legends and tales. It does not actually resemble a cow at all, and some believe the name was created by the soldiers of Louis XIV. Another feature of Walporzheim is the "Walporzheimer Gärkammer" (fermentation chamber), the smallest vineyard in the whole wine region. Dating back to 1246, the historical guesthouse Sanct Peter is the oldest wine house of the Ahr valley, itself a monument to the outstanding history of Walporzheim.



Ahrweiler

A historical red wine metropolis – the town of Ahrweiler is a centre of red wine production, and has a special charm. Many of its buildings are still original and have a strong medieval flair. The town centre is surrounded by a completely preserved circular wall. Today, its half-timbered houses accommodate butchers, bakeries, boutiques and specialised wine shops. This is living, breathing history, dating back to Roman times, which have left more visible marks in the town of Ahrweiler than elsewhere. The roof of the fascinating Roman villa (Roemervilla) protects one of the best preserved Roman estates north of the Alps. Everywhere here history can be touched and experienced, for example during a guided tour taking in the “Government Bunker” and the „AhrWeinForum“ museum. The latter provides information on the beginnings of viticulture and the daily routine of a wine grower. The Forum can be found in the historical buildings of the wine growers’ association in Ahrweiler.



Bachem

A wine village focused on Pinot Madeleine - the hamlet of Bachem is located between the towns of Bad Neuenahr and Ahrweiler. The old baking house, for example, remains as a beautiful witness to 17th century architecture. During the Wars of Liberation, it served as a Cossack guard house. Today it is an attractive viticulture museum. You may also enjoy hiking to the three chapels of Bachem: consecrated to the saints Anna, Leonardus and Lourdes, they are little treasures of Bachem. The town is best known for the Frühburgunder (Pinot Madeleine), which is a wonderful yet highly sensitive grape variety providing beautifully soft and fragrant wine. This variety benefits particularly from the soils and location of Bachem, and matures into an exceptional wine.



Bad Neuenahr

The health resort with the flair of a spa in the Ahr valley - allow your body, your mind and all your senses to enjoy a vacation. This town fits the bill perfectly, as fitness and health have always played a traditional and important role in Bad Neuenahr. The healing power of the local thermal springs is said to bestow health and vitality on the visitors. Crown your holiday in Bad Neuenahr with a spa programme in the Ahr-Thermen complex. Moreover, the glamorous ambience of the late nineteenth century with its glorious white houses contributes to your relaxation and wellbeing. The elegant salons of the casino are housed in the Kurhaus. If the weather permits, the viewpoint on the Neuenahr hill offers a fantastic view as far as Cologne Cathedral 60 km away. The mineral water produced by Apollinaris is a hallmark of the town and its slogan “The Queen of Table Waters” has become well-known throughout the world. The wine grower Georg Kreuzberg discovered the source in a vineyard in 1852.

Heimersheim

Picturesque half-timbered houses create a historical atmosphere - Heimersheim is a district of Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler, and the first wine producing area of the lower Ahr valley. The “Landskrone” hill provides the first impressions of the steep vineyards as its volcanic cone dominates the village. The remains of a razed castle from the 17th century can be found at its top, only the chapel remains below the ruins. There are a number of interesting buildings in Heimersheim: the parish church of St. Mauritius, a late-Romanesque basilica from the mid-13th century that owes its historical and artistic significance predominantly to its Romanesque windows. The Zehnthof “Tithe house”, the rebuilt western gate and the old bake house from the 13th century are also exceptional pieces of history.

Grape varieties

With a vineyard area of 564 hectares, the Ahr valley is the 10th largest of the 13 German wine growing areas. Red grapes are grown on 475 hectares (84.2%) of the vineyard area; with white varieties on the remaining 89 hectares. The queen of vines – Pinot Noir - is grown on 356 hectares (63.1%) of the total area followed by Pinot Madeleine on 37 hectares and Portugieser on 28 hectares, Regent is grown on 20 hectares and Dornfelder on 13 hectares. Other red varieties are grown on the remaining 21 hectares. White wines play only a minor role, although remarkable qualities are produced. Grown on 89 hectares, white varieties make up 15.8% of the whole wine-growing area. Riesling is grown on 47 hectares, Müller-Thurgau on 15 hectares, Pinot Blanc on 15 hectares and other white varieties are grown on the remaining 13 hectares.

Pinot Noir (Spätburgunder)

Pinot Noir is one of the oldest and most royal of all grape varieties in the world. The German name – translated as late-ripening burgundy - itself says a lot about the character and origin of the wine. The grapes which turn dark blue in late summer came originally from Burgundy in France. We have the monasteries there to thank that Pinot Noir spread beyond the borders of France. However it was not just the symbolism of the wine that made the grape variety so significant, it was through viticulture that the monasteries were able to secure their economic viability.

The Ahr valley became one of the best suited places for high quality red wine due to the professional, hard-working hand-craft of the vintners. However, Pinot Noir is not an easy grape to grow as it places high demands on soil and climate. The grape also has a very delicate immune system, which makes work for the vintners all the more difficult. Pinot Noir is not unlike the mimosa in many ways – a very frail, thinly skinned plant. The skin of the grapes tends to break with even the most minimal of handling, and the fruit can become quickly infected by viruses. At the German Research Institute in Geisenheim, researchers have created clonogenic cell - a cell that has the potential to proliferate and give rise to a colony of cells - which is not as susceptible to virus, but this does not have an identical aroma. The sensitive Pinot Noir needs

to be nurtured with lots of love. And this is exactly what the vintners from the Ahr valley do on their 564 hectares, on the steep south-westerly hill slopes of the smallest wine growing region in the federal state of Rheinland-Pfalz.



Pinot Madeleine (Frühburgunder)

Pinot Madeleine, is also a member of the Pinot family but is a separate grape variety, derived naturally through mutation. The intense colour and the fruity character make the wine truly special. As opposed to its big brother, Pinot Noir, Pinot Madeleine has smaller berries with a thicker skin. The yield is also appropriately small, with the colour of the berries starting to turn dark early in August. In the first half of the 20th century, Pinot Madeleine was the most widely grown grape variety in the Ahr valley. However, around 1960 vintners started to experience problems with this grape variety. The existing old clone became increasingly susceptible to disease, to the extent that the variety almost died out in the Ahr valley. Fortunately, producers in Bad Neuenahr and Bachem remained faithful, and kept the Pinot Madeleine alive. Indeed, it was not just the vintners from the Ahr valley who helped to save the Pinot Madeleine; the variety was recognized as a quality wine producer in Germany in 1971. In the 1970's, experts at the research institute in Geisenheim started to develop a new clone and the "Slow Food" association provided help in promoting Pinot Madeleine. The Slow Food association is an international non-profit organisation opposed to the trend towards fast food, and directs its efforts at preserving traditional and regional food culture and its variety of tastes.



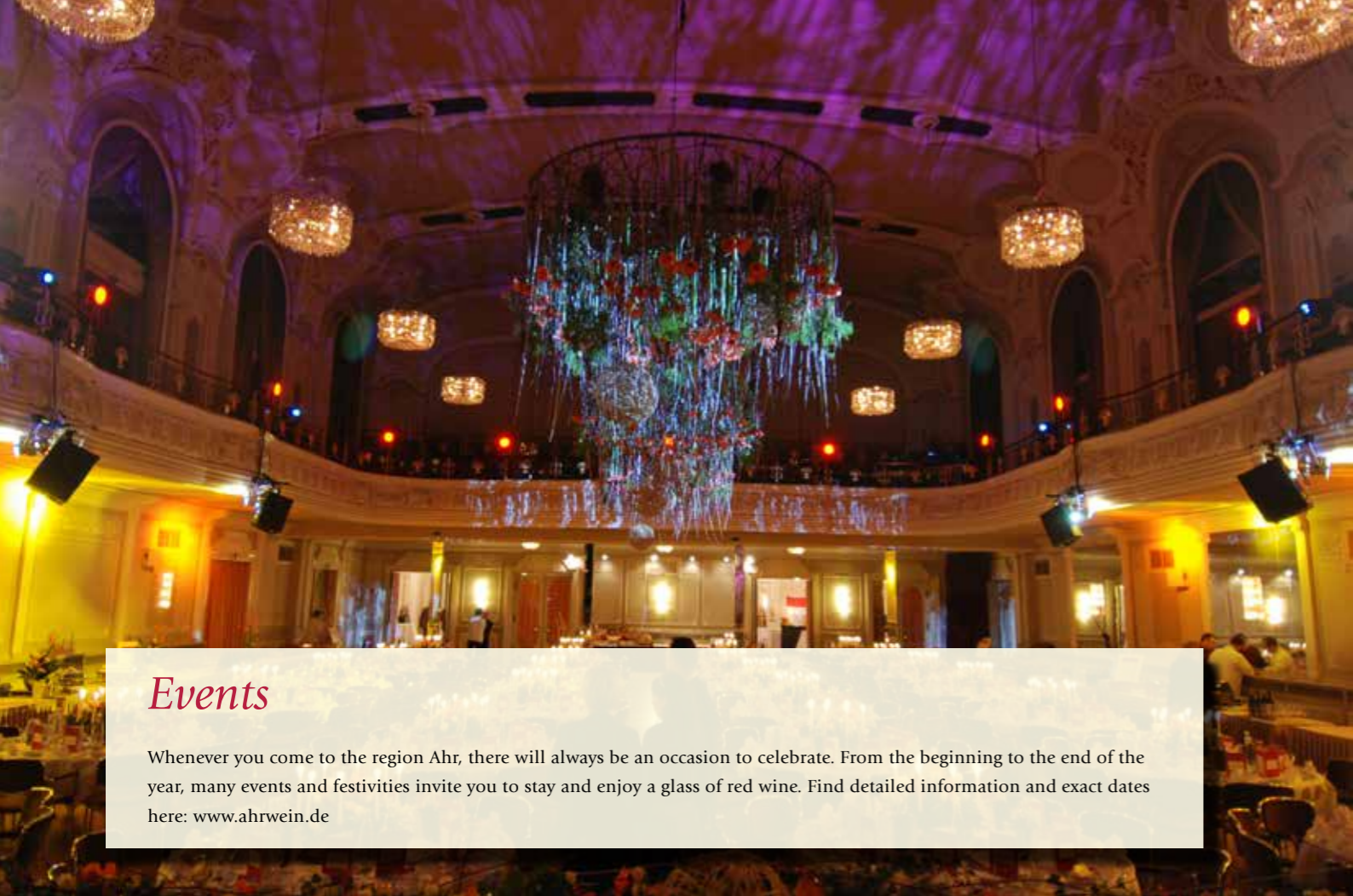
Portugieser

Portugieser is uncomplicated in comparison with Pinot Noir. The grapes are ready to be picked early and the wine is pleasant and low in acidity, making it easily accessible. You can see the "speed" of Portugieser in the cellar, the wine has usually completed fermentation at the end of November and is drinkable and harmonious by early December. In terms of the vineyard area, Portugieser is the second most important wine in the Ahr valley (after Pinot Noir). The total vineyard area it covers is roughly 25 hectares, which translates into 4.5 % of the wine growing area in the Ahr valley. In the 1970's a few producers were against Portugieser, but after the 1990's they started to plant the variety again. This type of grape is not really choosy about its location or soil, and can also handle nutrient-poor soils. What the variety does not like is to be planted in heavy, moist soils. When there is no winter damage to the grapes of the Portugieser it can be one of the fastest growing types of grapes. The grapes mature early, so they can be picked in the first half of September.

Riesling

Riesling is grown in all the wine regions in Germany. In the Ahr valley it accounts for around 46 hectares, which translates to 8.2 % of the total vineyard area. Riesling from the Ahr valley tastes extremely racy and zesty; its character is also fizzy and lively. The small berries are resilient, even under cold or dry conditions. This is the reason why producers appreciate the variety so much. Before you take your first sip there is a delightful aroma to be appreciated from the wine. Big Riesling has a stunning bouquet that reminds you of peaches. Riesling is one of the slowest growing grape varieties, and one of the most characteristic elements is the fruity acidity. It is perfect for the northern growing areas, where it can mature in the late autumn sun. Riesling has the highest demand in terms of solar energy, but places only low demands on the soil. Depending on climate and location, Riesling has a lot of different nuances. The Ahr valley provides optimal conditions for heat retention because of the steep slate hillsides along the river, and the Rieslings vary in quality and flavour. The wine is partly traditionally matured in wooden barrels; its typical colour is light yellow or greenish yellow and the smell of peaches and apples is quite dominant. Because of its natural acidity the wine has great potential to produce sparkling wine, and many wine growing companies produce a Riesling Sekt, or sparkling wine. Riesling wine should not be opened until at least a year after production with the majority tending to have an optimal maturity after a few years. However the shelf life of high quality wines is more or less unlimited.





Events

Whenever you come to the region Ahr, there will always be an occasion to celebrate. From the beginning to the end of the year, many events and festivities invite you to stay and enjoy a glass of red wine. Find detailed information and exact dates here: www.ahrwein.de

Gourmet & Wine Events

For more than twenty years, leading wine producers and high class caterers of the region have come together to offer gourmets the utmost enjoyment. Every year, exceptional individual events take place which appeal to all of the senses. Delicacies from kitchen and cellar make these evenings a top-class cultural experience. Due to the pairings of top wine-makers and caterers, wines and dishes are paired optimally and harmonize perfectly. As a special feature before the meal, opportunity is given to join a guided herbal or vineyard tour together with cooking demonstrations. As well as to provide insights into the art of producing brandy and other liqueurs.

Pinot Madeleine (Frühburgunder)-Forum (every 2 years)

The first Pinot Madeleine forum took place in March 2007, with the participation of 16 wineries and winegrowers, and was so successful it continues to be held every two years. Together with scientific and historical information, interested visitors can taste more than 40 different Pinot Madeleine wines from the Ahr valley.

Open Cellar Day

(Tag der offenen Weinkeller) (April)

Have you ever wondered how the excellent Ahr wines are produced, from the initial harvesting of grapes in the vineyard to the finished bottle of wine? The event "Open Cellar Day" provides a detailed view behind the scenes of a winery. The winemakers of the Ahr valley open their cellars and offer insights into the production of their wines; the processing of the grapes through to the maturation processes of wines. The various wine-related programmes provided throughout the day ensure an eventful day for all guests.

Wein-Wander-Wochenende

– Wine Hiking Weekend

On the last weekend of April each year, in co-operation with the regional wine advertising organisations, the German Wine Institute offers a special wine and hiking weekend. Hikers are given many opportunities to combine their hobby with a variety of wine experiences and to discover the German wine-growing areas for themselves over the weekend.

Other events

- Füe jede jätt Dernau – (Something for Everybody) – wine festival (May)
- Ahrtaler Gipfelfest – Ahr valley hiking festival (always on Corpus Christi weekend)
- Korkenfrei in the wine estate Kloster Marienthal – wine party (end of June)
- Burgunderfest Bad Neuenahr – Pinot wine festival (last Saturday in July)
- Köchemarkt Bad Neuenahr – culinary market Bad Neuenahr (August)
- Klangwelle Bad Neuenahr – water, light and music multimedia concert (October)
- Martinsmarkt der regionalen Genüsse Dernau – St Martin's market of regional culinary delights (November)
- Lucia-Markt Rech – Saint Lucia's market (first weekend in December)
- Weihnachtsmarkt Ahrweiler – Christmas market (every weekend in Advent, 4 weeks before Christmas)
- Uferlichter Bad Neuenahr - riverside Christmas market (every weekend in Advent and days between Christmas and New Year)





Wein-Wander-Event

– Wine and Hiking, always on the weekend of Ascension
 For our hiking friends, we also offer the “Wein-Wander-Event” on the Red Wine Hiking Trail to Bad Bodendorf, each year in May on the Ascension Day weekend. On the trail, you will come across different stands of the local winemakers who present their products for your wine enjoyment. The distance between each of the stalls is between 1.3 and 2.2 km, with a total walking distance of 6.5km so that the event offers an excellent opportunity for a family hiking tour.

Weinmarkt der Ahr – Wine Market of the Ahr, always at Whitsun

Every year wines and spirits from the 12 estates and wine co-operatives of the Ahr are presented in the historic market place in Ahrweiler. On the Whitsunday weekend, tourists and guests have the opportunity to taste many of the lovely wines grown in the Ahr area from Altenahr to Heppingen. One can taste classically vinified wines or wines matured in traditional barrels. Pinot Noir is a typical vine of the Ahr which can be enjoyed at this festival. A special highlight on the Friday evening is the crowning of the new Ahr Wine Queen.

Wine markets of the Ahr valley

Bad Bodendorf

Ascension Day

Heimersheim (historical)

Third weekend in August

Walporzheim (rustic)

Fourth weekend in August

Ahrweiler

First and second weekend in September

Rech

Third weekend in September

Bachem

Second-last weekend in September

Dernau

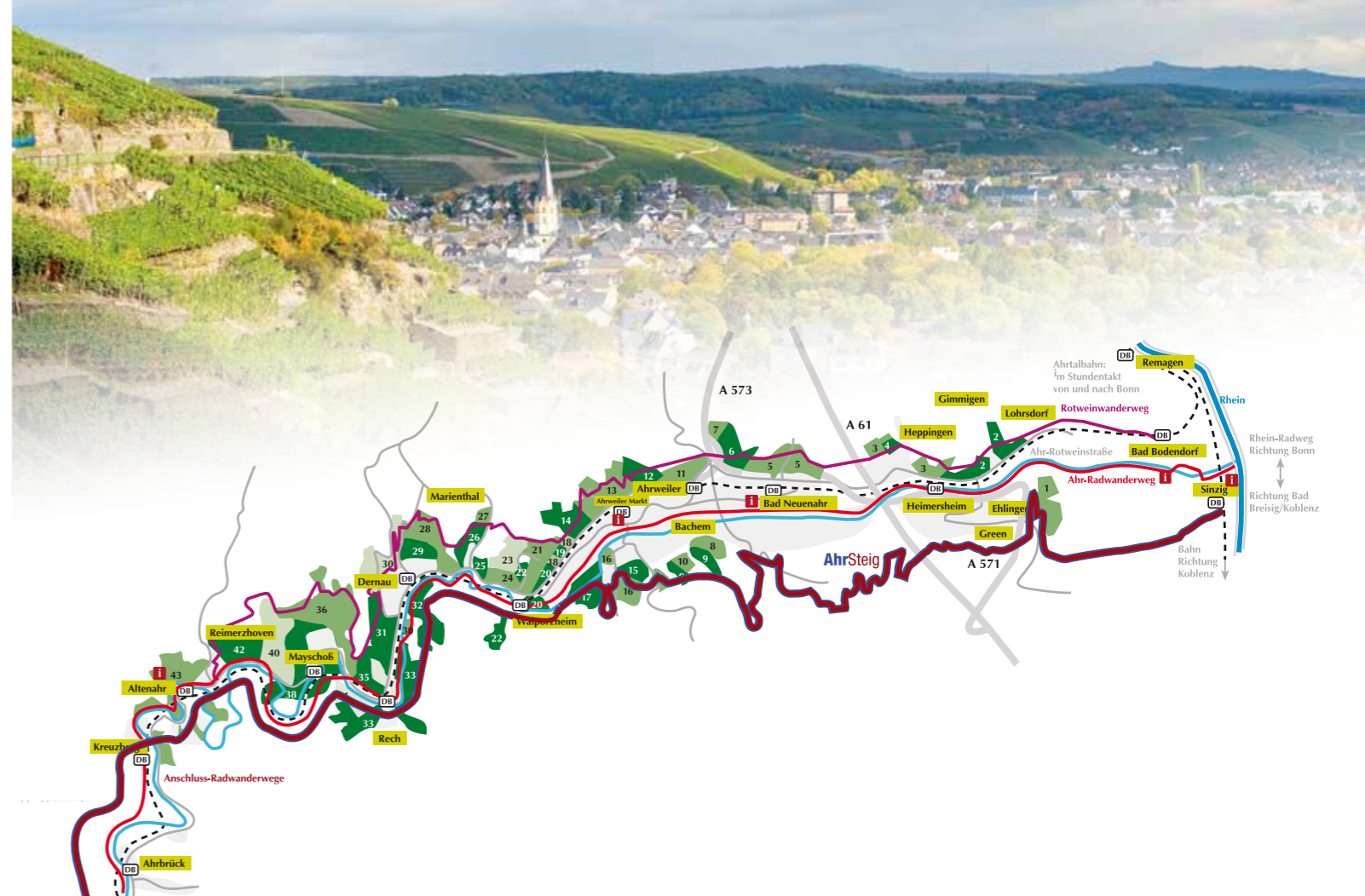
Last weekend in September

Altenahr

Last weekend in September and every weekend in October

Mayschoß

Every weekend in October





Red Wine Hiking Trail

Visit the red wine trail and watch the vintners picking the grapes. Should you want information about vines, wine or wine-growing, simply have a conversation with the people working in the vineyards. We guarantee you will be made to feel very welcome on the red wine hiking trail in the Ahr valley. Interesting excursions through the vineyards of this red wine paradise offer fantastic views from the hills into the wonderful landscape of the Ahr valley. Here you are in Germany's most famous red wine growing area. The 35 Km long picturesque hiking trail leads from Altenahr to Bad Bodendorf through the red wine paradise, connecting the small wine villages strung out along the romantic Ahr river. The red wine hiking trail was opened in 1972. Should you like to have a glass of wine, other refreshment or a meal, you will find a descent from the trail above every wine village. Here you can relax in the welcoming wine restaurants and taverns, or taste the wine directly in the wine cooperatives or wine estates.

Stages and Distances on the Red Wine Hiking Trail:

Altenahr	Mayschoß	4 kms
Mayschoß	Rech	3 kms
Rech	Dernau	4 kms
Dernau	Marienthal	4 kms
Marienthal	Walporzheim	3,1 kms
Walporzheim	Ahrweiler	3,4 kms
Ahrweiler	Bad Neuenahr	6,7 kms
Bad Neuenahr	Heppingen	2,3 kms
Heppingen	Heimersheim	1,1 kms
Heimersheim	Lohrsdorf	1,4 kms
Lohrsdorf	Bad Bodendorf	2 kms



Active

The Ahr valley offers many possibilities for those who wish to be active. Whether you enjoy taking a leisurely stroll or are an ambitious hiker, climbing every slope on your walk in order to be able to enjoy the breathtaking view over the vineyards and the Ahr valley with its lovely towns and villages – everyone will find what he or she is looking for. You can also walk or cycle along the Ahr river, through lush forests or over rocky heights. Natural spectacles are guaranteed: a rugged, romantic river scene, impressive rock formations, deep green forests and meadows full of wild flowers. The picturesque Ahr cycling track meanders through this amazing landscape.



Wine Tutorial Path

The 4 km long wine tutorial path runs between Ahrweiler and Walporzheim below the Hohenzollern restaurant, and is part of the red wine hiking trail. Thirty-one presentation boards along the way provide a wealth of information about wine growing in the Ahr valley: climate, vine variety, soil status, soil cultivation and the work that has to be done in a vineyard.



AhrSteig

The Ahr nature reserve and hiking region has yet another attraction: the AhrSteig - the hikers' paradise! Designed specifically as an advanced trail, divided overall into seven stages, this has already been awarded a quality certificate. The ambitious walk impresses with its richness of natural beauty and cultural treasures. Along every single stage, idyllic forest tracks and silent meadow paths face gentle hilly sections and narrow rocky tracks, while lonesome high plateaus alternate with lively wine towns. The AhrSteig hiking trail is approximately 100 km long, and is divided into seven stages. Stages one to four are signposted with a blue AhrSteig symbol and lead from Blankenheim across the Freilinger See lake, the villages Aremberg and Insul to the village of Kreuzberg. The blue signs symbolize water as source of life. Stages five to seven are labelled with a red AhrSteig symbol which represents the colour of the valley's famous Pinot Noir. These three stages lead through the wine-producing villages of Altenahr, Mayschoss, Rech, Dernau and Walporzheim. It bypasses Ahrweiler and the health resort Bad Neuenahr before ending at Sinzig castle.

Ahr Cycle Track

The cycle route is approximately 80 kilometres long and starts at the mouth of the river Ahr in the city of Sinzig. It runs through the wine-growing Ahr valley to the village of Blankenheim, where the river rises. The cycle track is suitable for both experienced and novice cyclists, running partly along fully developed cycle paths and partly along agricultural tracks but always following the river Ahr. Discover romantic meadows by the water, rugged rock faces, wonderful woods and colourful clearings with wild flowers. The cycle route can easily be broken down into a number of shorter stages. You can also use public transport between the town of Sinzig and the village of Ahrbrück, thus providing a variety of possibilities to start or finish the route as desired.



Activities

The Ahr valley is the perfect region for health and fitness activities, the arts or simply for getting away from it all. Enjoy your journey to the region AHR.

Waldkletterpark – forest climbing park

More than 70 climbing stations are connected in the middle of a 7 hectare forest in Bad Neuenahr Ahrweiler. The adventure course encompasses more than 50 climbing elements, and for the younger generation there are more than 20 elements in the childrens' course. The main attraction is a 450 metre long cable car 30 metres high above the ground. The "Waldkletterpark" combines both physical and mental challenges with a unique experience of nature and the different levels of difficulty guarantee fun for everyone.

www.wald-abenteuer.de

Ahr-Thermen (Thermal baths/spa)

For your relaxation and well-being the Ahr-Thermen (Spa) in Bad Neuenahr is located in the historical spa district and is in close proximity to large parks such as the Spa Park. Inside the Spa, bubbling thermal baths, thermal moti-

on baths, fresh water baths and four whirlpools provide relaxation. Moreover, you can look forward to a magnificent sauna landscape with eight saunas, a large outdoor area and much more. Bathe in one of the most beautiful and lavish thermal bath landscapes in Europe.

www.ahr-thermen.de

AhrWeinForum – Through the year with the winemaker

Those who would like find out more about the history of vine cultivation in the Ahr region will find many interesting exhibits in the local Museum for Viticulture, the AhrWeinForum. There are also various guided tours on offer with many personal stories to be told.

www.ahrta.de

Dokumentationsstätte Regierungsbunker

– Government bunker documentation centre

In March 2008, the former government nuclear

emergency bunker of the federal government, situated in the Ahr valley, opened its nuclear blast-proofed gates to the public as a museum. The bunker was a top secret building in the history of the Federal Republic of Germany; it was commissioned in 1950. Extensive documentation and many original objects in combination with its original setting inform visitors about a chapter of German history. During the Cold war era it played a part in the global mutual deterrence of the atomic powers between the Eastern Bloc and the West.

www.regbu.de

Kurpark

Reading room, "Kneipp"-basin and drinking cures

The Kurpark Bad Neuenahr forms the centrepiece of the large parklands in Bad Neuenahr. With its old trees, colorful flower beds and summer palm trees the Kurpark offers numerous possibilities for walking and relaxing.

www.das-heilbad.de/Kurpark

The Roemervilla (Roman villa) – The Pompeii of the Ahr valley

A sensational find was made in the Ahr valley in 1980 in the course of road construction work: The Roemervilla – an ancient Roman villa dating from the first century AD. As the villa is extremely well preserved, it is often compared to Pompeii. The walls are partially window height and visitors can walk through ancient rooms, forming an idea of the domestic lifestyle of the Romans. The barrel vault with its frescoes on walls and ceiling, which are almost entirely preserved, is extremely impressive.

www.museum-roemervilla.de

Spielbank Bad Neuenahr (Casino)

- Gambling with style and action

The unique atmosphere of the colourful town of Bad Neuenahr with its spa resort and its casino attracts and fascinates a quarter of a million visitors each year. And it is not just the gambling itself that fascinates the guests of the town's casino, the ambience alone is worth a visit. The timeless and exciting game of chance has been the centre of attraction here since 1948. The

building with its historic gambling rooms for French and American Roulette and Black Jack has the flair of the Belle Époque, tingling tension presented with style. The entrance hall offers entertainment for those who are a little less adventurous, the new Jackpot Corner provides more than 150 slot machines, offering just a touch of Las Vegas. Satisfaction for the guests is the motto of the casino which is open from 2pm every day, and provides many good reasons for a visit.

www.spielbank-bad-neuenahr.de

Golfplatz

- Rhineland's finest golf course

The 18-hole championship golf course located above the town of Bad Neuenahr is one of Germany's leading golf courses. It recently received an award as the Rhineland's finest golf course, and provides superb facilities for golf lovers. This golf course is so popular as it offers not only a sporting challenge but also a beautiful panoramic view across the entire Ahr valley, stretching as far as the Eifel mountains.

www.glc-badneuenahr.de

Group offers

The Ahr valley together with the "capital" Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler invite you and your group of friends, guests or customers to discover one of Germany's most attractive and interesting regions. Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler can easily be reached by the A61 motorway or by rail, and we offer you exciting and interesting events throughout the year. Stop for a glass in one of the romantic vintner's taverns, arrange a special event or enjoy a well-organised stop-over. Activities include:

- Guided tours
- A day with a vintner/winemaker
- Segway tours
- Team events

Ahrtal Tourismus

Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler e.V.

Hauptstr. 80

53474 Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler

+49 (0) 2641/91710

www.ahrtal.de

info@ahrtal.de

Culinary

The Ahr valley is one of the top destinations for top quality Pinot Noir and Pinot Madeleine wines – and not only for German wine connoisseurs. The excellent quality of the wines produced on this particular tributary of the Rhine river has built its reputation as Germany's paradise for red wine. The extraordinary and exemplary cooperation of vintners and gastronomists of the Ahr valley is quite rare. They work hand in hand to organize events such as "Gourmet and Wine", where the hosts/organizers present a culinary trip through a top class menu of excellent wines and food. A great pleasure for the real connoisseur is guaranteed. The Ahr, Rhine and Eifel regions provide of a number of first-class restaurant venues, spoiling their guests with exceptionally delicious food and wine creations.

For more information on the gastronomic delights of the Ahr Valley visit www.ahrtal.de



Ahr Wine Queen

For more than 50 years the Ahr region, like other wine growing regions in Germany, has instituted the honorary post of the "Ahr Wine Queen". Since 1970 this queen has been elected annually, and each year several young ladies apply for the position, to serve as an ambassador of Ahr wine. The applicants must have charm as well as expert knowledge and an extrovert personality. The Ahr Wine Queen is selected by a secret ballot, and is crowned only a few minutes later on the market place in Ahrweiler. As ambassador for Ahr wine, she is now at the beginning of a very interesting and eventful year, she will take part in several festivals in the whole of Germany such as the summer festival of the Federal President in the Palais Bellevue in Berlin.



