

## Press Release

2024

### Charming City of Culture: from Classic to Modern

**Weimar.** Weimar owes its excellent cultural reputation influenced by literature, music, art, and modernity to many famous personalities: the German classical poets Goethe and Schiller, the musicians Johann Sebastian Bach and Franz Liszt, and the avant-gardists of the Bauhaus. A total of 16 ensembles are on the UNESCO list and reflect the history of German art and culture. They are marked by the UNESCO World Heritage seal. Early on, Duchess Anna Amalia established the cultural reputation of the residential city: Goethe and Schiller came to Weimar and many other famous Weimar residents continued to add new cultural chapters to the royal residence. The cityscape is characterized by classicism, historic parks, and magnificent palaces. Hundreds of thousands of visitors come to the city every year just to explore them and discover the more than 25 museums. Their numbers have increased even more since the 2019 opening of the new Bauhaus Museum in Weimar.

Modernism and the Weimar Republic period can be explored in three museums. In Weimar, the founding history of the Bauhaus is told in the museum of the same name. In the same neighborhood, the modernist era leading up to the Bauhaus has its own museum: Henry van de Velde and the other modernist pioneers are honored in the Museum Neues Weimar, located very near the Bauhaus Museum. The "House of the Weimar Republic" on Theater Square is dedicated to the emergence of the first German democracy in 1919. However, Weimar was also shaped by the National Socialist era: the memory of the crimes committed between 1933 and 1945 is kept alive at the former concentration camp, now Buchenwald Memorial. Another museum will open in 2024: the Museum of Forced Labor in the so-called Gauforum, across from both the Bauhaus and the Neues Weimar Museums.

However, Weimar's guests are not only on the museum trail. There is also plenty of visual art and light entertainment, concerts and theater, exhibitions, and performances to experience. The festival season opens in March with the Thuringian Bach Festival, which is followed by the cabaret festival at the Köstritzer Spiegelzelt in May and June. During the "Weimar Summer", culture takes to the streets, squares, and open-air stages. The Weimar Kunstfest offers distinctive venues for contemporary artists from all over the world until the beginning of September. In the fall, Thuringia's oldest folk festival, the Weimar Onion Market, attracts thousands of visitors. Like the Weimar Christmas, it is one of Weimar's most popular events.

No doubt, so much activity is good for your appetite: Thuringian bratwurst is the traditional answer to fast food and the Thuringian dumplings are a must. And both can be washed down with a Weimar craft beer or local wine from the "Poetenweg".

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