

RATHAUS

The townhall, built in 1589, acquired its present façade in the C.18th. To this day the seat of the town-council, it also hosts the municipal-administration centre.



STEUERHAUS

The "Taxhouse" arcades exude southern flair; the additional storey, built in the C.18th. and the flamboyant Roccoco frescos give the building its present unmistakable character.

GROSSZUNFT

The Memmingen patricians formed their own guild (Großzunft) in 1347. The imposing guildhall reflects the measure of their influence.





ST. JOHANN

The former church and priory are the sole remaining elements of the Augustinian hermitage, which was dissolved in 1803.

BLAUE SAUL

The blue corner-column which gives this building its name is one of Memmingen's 7 emblems.





HALLHOF

After the Reformation, the houses of the former monastery courtyard were deemed either Catholic or Evangelical, depending on the previous owner's confession.

The Hallhof's most prominent features today are the elegant façade of the county court and the roofs of the earlier brewery.



KREUZHERRNKLOSTER

The monks were relieved of their responsibilities for the hospice with the division of the monastery in the C.14th. The monastery remained in the upper part of the building until 1803 and the poor and sick were cared for in the city hospital, which was situated in the lower section.

KREUZHERRNSAAL

The combination of frescos and stucco, within the high and narrow church-nave, is particularly noteworthy. The “Wessobrunn” stucco, the work of Matthias Stiller in 1709, with its garlands, mussels and acanthus leaves, is considered one of the most beautiful in southern Germany.





KALCHSTRASSE

The first expansion of the town since its founding in C.12th. took place along the old salt trading road, in the "Kalchviertel" during the C.13th.

SALZSTADEL

Memmingen, situated on the old salt-route to Switzerland, possessed many salt-cellars. The centre of Memmingen's salt trade was established here, in the Kalchviertel.

The salt trade was a reliable source of income over centuries and formed the basis of the town's wealth.



DREIKÖNIGSKAPELLE

The "Chapel of the 3 Kings" was founded in 1399 for the benefit of the poor. The house was later used as a beer-cellar by the Weisses Ross (White Horse) brewery opposite.

ALTER FRIEDHOF

The "Old Cemetery", a few minutes' walk from here, with its historical tombs and gravestones, has been transformed into an idyllic park.





HERMANSBAU

The Baroque-palace of Benedikt von Herman, today the home of the town museum, was built in 1766 and hosted many important guests, including King Ludwig I, Kaiser Franz I and Zar Alexander.

MARTINSKIRCHE

The clock-face of this imposing church-tower was the work of Bernhard Strigel in 1524. The 8-sided tower-extension with its watchman's chamber was added in 1537. Matthias Böblinger from Ulm built the volcanic tuff chancel 1496-1499.





HERRENSTRASSE

The name “Herrenstraße” (Lords’ Street) pays tribute to the important Memmingen families who lived here. The trading-associations in Memmingen were comparable to those in Augsburg or Nürnberg during the late Middle Ages.



MARTINSKIRCHE

The main attractions in this rather austere church are the Baroque chancel, the modern organ and the choir stalls dating from 1507; the work of local craftsmen and some of the most impressive in southern Germany.

As the starting-point of the Memmingen Reformation, the "Martin's Church" had great influence on the entire region.



KINDERLEHRKIRCHE

The fresco above the main entrance depicts scenes from the life of St. Anthony, to whom this church is dedicated. The monks from the nearby Antonierhaus worshipped here until 1562. Since then Evangelical-Lutheran, the church is also the home of the children's sunday school.

ANTONIERHAUS

Victims of the terrible illness “St. Vitus’ dance” were treated here by the monks. The 4-winged Antonierhaus, today the home of both the Antoineriemuseum and the Strigelmuseum, is deemed one of the best-preserved of its kind in Europe.





FUGGERBAU

Built by the family Fugger, this imposing building attained its historical significance during the 30 Years War.

The headquarters of General Wallenstein were located here for 4 months during 1630 and those of his evangelical counterpart, King Gustav Adolf of Sweden.



ROSSMARKT

The red walls of the tradesman's guild-house demarcate the east side of the Rossmarkt (Horse Market). Opposite the former weights-and-measures house stands one of the few remaining half-timbered buildings in Memmingen: the Furtenbachhaus.

German history was written here in March 1525, with the drawing-up of the "12 Articles" of the peasants. Social demands were published for the first time in a charter: the first declaration of human-rights in Europe.

STADTBACH

Water from the river, earlier essential for the town's craftsmen, has been diverted from Benninger Ried into Memmingen since before C.12th.



FISCHERBRUNNEN

The fisher festival, celebrated annually in July, has a long tradition. The fishers' fountain, donated in 1955, is the symbol for "Fishers' Day".

SCHRANNENPLATZ

Wheat and rye were distributed throughout the whole of southern Germany from this corn-market and distribution-point.



GOLDENER LÖWE

The oldest wine-tavern in the town is the "Golden Lion", with its venerable wine parlour on the first floor. A cannonball under the gable bears witness to the siege of 1647.





FRAUENKIRCHPLATZ

The craftsmen influenced the character of the southern part of the town over hundreds of

years, while the so-called Patrician Town developed north of the Weinmarkt.

FRAUENKIRCHE

The "Church of Our Lady" owes its current form to the Late Gothic movement. The interior frescos from C.15th, the work of Hans Strigel the Younger, are some of the most significant of their kind in southern Germany. The Frauenkirche was used "simultaneously" by both Catholics and Protestants from the time of the Reformation until 1803.





MARIA GARTEN

This former Franciscan nunnery is now incorporated in the Bürgerstift, an old people's home.



GERBERPLATZ

The tanners produced leather for saddles, shoes and bridles with the help of tanning-bark; and with the use of alum, more finely-

worked leather for articles of clothing. The tanning-process could last up to 3 years.



SIEBENDÄCHERHAUS

The most distinctive house in Memmingen, the "Seven-Roofs House", bears witness to the importance of the tannery craft. The dormer-windows within the high gables could be opened to allow the leather to dry effectively. The house was bombed on 20.04.1945 and badly damaged.

BASILISK

The "Basilisk", one of Memmingen's "7 emblems", lived in a house in the tannery lane and was accredited with occasional mysterious





VOGTHAUS

The cabinet-makers "Vogt" obtained the gold medal for their New Gothic altar at the World Fair in Chicago 1893.



THEATERPLATZ

The Elsbethen nunnery once stood on the site of this elegant Neo Baroque style theatre. After its dissolution during the Reformation, the nunnery was used as an arsenal.

The building was converted into a theatre at the beginning of the C.19th. and Memmingen now has its own ensemble.



AUFLÖSUNG DER KLÖSTER

Only 3 of Memmingen's 6 original nunneries and monasteries survived the Reformation; the Kreuzherrn monastery, the Augustinian hermitage and the Franciscan nunnery.

EINHORNAPOTHEKE

The “Unicorn” pharmacy, dating from 1489, is the oldest in Memmingen and lies directly en route to the next information-board. Unicorns were considered to be not only a symbol of the Virgin Mary, but were also endowed with universal healing-powers.





WEINMARKT

The town's traders were organised into 11 guilds. The numerous guild-houses which flank the Weinmarkt emphasize the

importance of these artisans and traders to Memmingen. The retailers, weavers, butchers and carpenters were all represented here.

WEBERZUNFT

Here the guild with the most members in Memmingen erected one of the town's most beautiful half-timbered buildings. Woven goods from Memmingen, due to their high-quality, were successfully exported for many centuries.





KRAMERZUNFT

The Kramer were those merchants who were restricted to selling their wares within the town-walls. 42 professions were represented in the retailers' guild.

HEXENTURM

The “Witches’ Tower”, the oldest of Memmingen’s 3 prison towers, represents clearly the cruelty of the earlier judicial-system. Known as the “Adulterers’ Tower”, before the onset of the Witch-Hunts.



ZOLLERGARTEN

Once a private garden belonging to the family Zoller, the Zollergarten is a green gem, planted on the site of the filled in town-moat, within the oldest remains of the town-wall (C.12th.).

EINLASS

The “Entry Gate”, built in 1475, was the sole means of access to the town during the night. Of the former 8 town-gates, the Ulmer Tor, Westertor, Lindauer Tor and Kempter Tor have also remained standing to this day.





BETTELTURM

32 gateways and towers combined to make up the picture of the "imperial free city" Memmingen. The "Beggars' Tower", built in 1471, also served as an alms-house during the C.19th.

LUGINSLAND

The “Luginsland” (panoramic) corner tower in this, the so-called “Suburbs of Ulm”, quarter was once the highest in the whole town.



ULMER TOR

The style of this gateway is typical of the time before the 30 Years War. The modern mural portrays the entry of King Maximilian into “his” imperial city Memmingen in 1489. The town came under Bavarian control in 1803.

GRIMMELHAUS

This house, once belonging to an old trading family, is characterised by its overhanging storeys. Today it houses the office for heritage and the Arts, the adult education centre, the town archives and the science library.





NEUE WELT

The county garden-show in 2000 paved the way for this 18 hectare leisure-area, now the town park, with the name "New World". Enjoy the water meadows or take a stroll through the parkland to the lake.

SCHWALBENSCHWANZTURM

The brick-wall built to enclose the so-called "Suburbs of Ulm" was the Achilles Heel in Memmingen's ring of defence. This made necessary the building of moats, fortifications and towers such as the "Swallowtail Tower".



STADTHALLE

One of the most important new buildings in the old town centre of Memmingen is the civic centre, opened in 1984.

The unusual roof construction pays tribute to the town's gables.



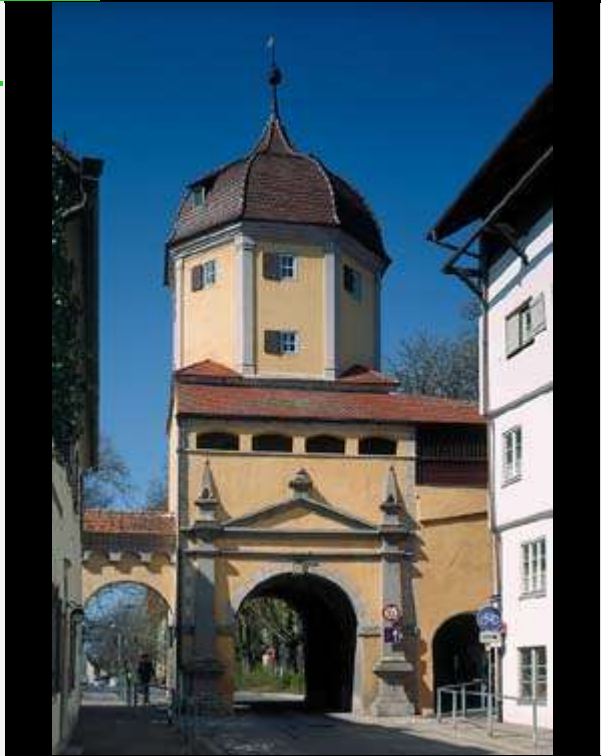
PARISHAUS

Built in 1736, the Parishaus was the first Baroque house in a town otherwise predominantly influenced by the Middle Ages. The house was named after its owner, Mr. Paris from Wismar, a wealthy entrepreneur.



WESTERTOR

The "Westgate" was built as a high span-roofed gateway in the C.14th. and was then partially destroyed during the 30 Years War. It took on its current octagonal form with a dome in 1660.



ZWINGERMAUER

With the change in the warfare strategy during the C.15th., it became necessary to augment the town-wall with secondary battlements such as the Zwingermauer.

These served to protect the original town-wall behind them.



GEDENKSTEIN

The memorial stone commemorates members of the Jewish population of Memmingen who were murdered during the Third Reich. The synagogue, built in 1909, was torn down after the "Kristallnacht" (Reichspogromnacht, November 1938).





KAISERGRABEN

Building outside the town-wall first became common-practice during the 1880's. The old promenade is lined with villas from Germany's industrial expansion era (Gründerzeit).

LINDAUER TOR

The Lindauer Tor, built in 1371, was the postern-gate on the important tradesroute towards Lindau, on the shores of Lake Constance, and Switzerland. The cannonball embedded in the wall is a relict from the 9-weeks' siege of 1647.



STADTGRABEN

A moat was one of the essential components of earlier defence-works. The water-courses between the Kempter Tor and Luginsland prohibited enemy approaches on the East

side, while, on the West side, attack was impeded by the higher-level deep trench with its steep sides and entangled thorn bushes.





SCHARFRICHTERHAUS

The executioner's duties included not only torture and the fulfillment of the death-penalty, he was also responsible for cleaning the town-wall and slaughtering sick animals.

STADTMAUER AN DER HOHEN WACHT

At least half of the originally 3 kilometre long town-wall remains standing.

Almost the entire east side of the wall was destroyed with the onset of the building of the railway, in 1862.



FRAUENHAUS

Until the Reformation, the brothel was to be found isolated in the South-West corner of the town. The employees here, like the executioner, were considered social outcasts.





WEBERVIERTEL

The weavers' linen wares were among Memming-en's most successful export goods up until the beginning of the C.16th.

Kempter Tor

The Kempten gate, completed in 1393, is typical of the 37 gates and towers formerly guarding the town. Not only does the tower signify the will of the town to defend itself, but also indicates by its name the strong trading links with neighbouring towns.

