

Short Trips from Reutlingen

Trip Six: Roman Germany

Features:

- Visit the open-air museum (Römisches Freilichtmuseum) in Stein (village near Hechingen): a Roman villa found here is cleverly exhibited to help you envision it.
- Learn more about the Romans in Germany at the Römisches Stadtmuseum in Rottenburg am Neckar (Rottenburg was called Sumelocenna by the Romans!).

Time Needed:

- Day Trip; get up early because careful planning is needed to use public transportation efficiently and to arrive at the two museums during open hours.

Expense:

- Transportation (train and bus to Hechingen-Stein, on to Rottenburg, then home).
- Entry fee at Hechingen-Stein: 2.50 - 3:00 €, depending on whether you take a guided tour (Sundays only).
- Entry fee at the Stadtmuseum in Rottenburg (ask to see the English film).

The Romans fought their way into western and northern Europe, but by about 9 CE the boundary between the Roman Empire and "not-Rome" was roughly fixed and the Romans went no farther east or north. The border ran along the Rhine, across Baden-Württemberg (the "Limes"), and along the Danube. This explains why Roman ruins, villas, and other artifacts are found in Germany just west and south of that border.

Travel first to Stein by taking the train to Tübingen and on to Hechingen. Take Bus 10 to Stein or walk 2 km. Then go back to Tübingen and take the train or bus to Rottenburg. (From Rottenburg's train station you walk to Eugen-Bolz-Platz, where the museum is located; if you take the bus from Tübingen you'll get out right at Eugen-Bolz-Platz.

The Stadtmuseum in Rottenburg is in the basement of the parking garage; they found the ruins (of a large Roman public toilet!) when they dug for construction of the garage! Rottenburg am Neckar was the home of Josef Eberle, a newspaper publisher and poet, whose nephew, Mr. Henry Giebel, generously supports our Valpo German program.

Freilichtmuseum Hechingen-Stein:

www.villa-rustica.de

Prices, opening times, and current information about how to get there (look under "Anfahrt").

Römisches Stadtmuseum:

www.rottenburg.de/sixcms/detail.php?id=49255

www.naldo.de

Regional train and bus schedules.

