Dear Readers

The year 2020 marks a proud milestone for Freiburg that gives us pause to take stock of the past, consider our present and look ahead to our future. Tradition and deep historical ties may be rooted in the city’s spirit, but Freiburg is “900 years young” at heart!

Visible traces of history meld with a vibrant life in the here and now: Even though the clocks in the sunny southwest may have always run at a slightly different pace, time has by no means stood still here, which is evident in Freiburg wherever you look. The most beautiful spire in Christendom collides with the avant-garde architecture of a new university library, the tranquil activity on Münsterplatz (Cathedral Square) collides with the bustling atmosphere on Platz der Alten Synagoge (Old Synagogue Square) and a charming medieval and “Little Venice” flair collides with Freiburg’s leading international role as a green city. As the warmest holiday spot in the tripoint area, where the borders of Germany, France and Switzerland converge, Freiburg combines an unbeatable climate with the best of all worlds and has leapt to the top of the most popular cities in Germany. As befits the anniversary year, this issue reveals just how well opposites go together here, where an appreciation of tradition pairs with a spirit of innovation, local pride with a cosmopolitan mindset and verve with an easygoing nature. Discover both the old and the new, a bustling city center and sleepy neighborhoods, a lively cultural scene and a way of life that you won’t find anywhere else: 900 years young!

Happy reading! With warm regards from

The FREIBURGER team
Freiburg Wirtschaft Touristik und Messe GmbH & Co. KG

Freiburg – comfortably down-to-earth, pleasantly laid-back and culturally cosmopolitan in every way. Perhaps this is precisely why the city is equally beloved among visitors and locals as an extremely livable place with lots to experience. This is as true now as it has been in the past and especially this year, as Freiburg celebrates its 900th anniversary!
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The sound of the city: anything but ordinary.

Herdern – a district of many faces

On skis in the winter and on wheels in the summer – the surrounding countryside entices with its culture, cuisine and fun.

Neighborhood profile of Herdern

On skis in the winter and on wheels in the summer – the surrounding countryside entices with its culture, cuisine and fun.
A stroll through Freiburg’s city center reveals interesting remnants of bygone eras in many places. Actually appreciating them as such and listening to stories about the city’s history transforms an amble through the alleyways into a multilayered trip through time. Two historical remains typical of Freiburg and the findings of archeological research lead us back to the beginnings of the city’s development – and right on down into the underworld.

By: Ute Battig
Shortly after it was founded in the 12th century, Freiburg underwent sweeping phases of renovation. The city was, in a sense, one large construction site. After analyzing archeological sources, experts regard it as fact that, in those days, large sections of the city center were raised up to three meters by piling up gravel. This served to increase the slope and thereby the range of the raw water system at the time – giving rise to Freiburg’s Bächle, or the little streams that flow through the city – ensuring the supply of the core city with its growing suburbs.

In the course of this, what had formerly been a building’s ground floor back then became a basement, while the existing basement became a subbasement. The original entrance and the spaces people lived in essentially moved down one floor, which meant that there were two floors below ground. Nowadays, they provide valuable information about the development of the city’s buildings and how old they are. A trip back in time to the Middle Ages is something you can experience quite vividly in the subbasement of the city archive on Grünwälderstrasse, where visitors can still see the windows and doors of the former structure, which are now about 2.50 meters below street level. Another subbasement that is both accessible and carefully restored can be found in the Hotel Zum Roten Bären Oberlinden, which is considered to be Germany’s oldest inn. Bread soup and stables have long since become things of the past here, leaving behind a tasteful and dignified atmosphere. The hotel now attracts guests with its modern flair and a touch of extravagance. Both of the subbasements mentioned in this article have unfortunately not yet been made accessible to the public at set times. However, visitations are possible by scheduling an appointment in advance and for hotel guests. In addition, the Uniseum – or the museum of the University of Freiburg on Bertoldstrasse – provides access to a late medieval basement and the stories and other lore that relate to it.

Researchers assume that Freiburg’s Bächle (canals) have been around since before 1120 and that they were laid out systematically, presumably in connection with the expansion of the city walls. The first written mention of the Bächle is in a document by the Dominican order from the year 1246.

A landmark’s changing function

From providing raw water for everyday use and water for fighting fires to surface drainage and, yes, even disposing of street waste, the Bächle played a critical function for a long time. Like the Gewerbebach stream on Gerberau street, which, to this day, supplies the water from the Dreisam River into the system of small canals, the Bächle may not necessarily be one of the city’s most obvious attractions at first glance, but they certainly have some of the richest history. Population growth and technological advancements meanwhile made it necessary to find new solutions. For safety reasons, the watercourses were relocated in the mid-19th century first from the middle to the edge of the street and redirected into pipes, in some cases. With the introduction of modern sewer and drainage systems, the Bächle lost their original importance to the city’s inhabitants. After all this, the canals continue to play an important role in city planning even nowadays, both as a traditional landmark and, in light of rising urban temperatures, as a sustainable way of improving the microclimate.

The founder

Archduke Albrecht VI of Austria founded the University of Freiburg in 1457. One of his objectives for doing so is to encourage people to move to Freiburg, a highly indebted city at the time in the territory of Further Austria.

The explosionist

During alchemical experiments in 1359, Franciscan monk Barthold Schwarz grinds together saltpeter, sulfur and charcoal, inventing gunpowder in the process, as the legend goes. It is uncertain if the story is true, but a statue on top of the fountain on Rathausplatz (Town Hall Square) and a stained-glass window in the Johanneskirche (Church of St. John) like to perpetuate it anyway.

The trailblazer

In Freiburg in 1900, Mathilde Wagner is Germany’s first female student to gain access to the university, where she receives her doctorate in medicine. In 2014, the University of Freiburg began awarding the Mathilde Wagner Prize each year to outstanding women scientists in the field of medicine.

900 years young

Over the centuries, many well-known women and men have come to the university city in the Breisgau region and left their marks. We took a look at their stories.
Life in shared accommodations in the 16th century: One of many buildings that are interesting from the perspective of architectural history is the late Gothic ‘Haus zum Walfisch’ (the Whale House) . This is where Erasmus of Rotterdam lived after fleeing from Basel. The scribe and namesake of today’s Erasmus study-abroad program did not remain here for very long, however. Due to disputes over rent and disagreements with housemates, he left the magnificent building after two years and moved into a private abode at Schiffstrasse 7. Today, the bright red building belongs to the savings bank Sparkasse, which means that it is partially accessible to the public.

freiburg.archeology

Even though Freiburg is one of the most active regions in the state of Baden-Württemberg when it comes to medieval archeology and has been performing high-caliber scientific research here for some 200 years, there has never been a comprehensive exhibition on where those findings currently stand. Over 300 excavations have been carried out in and around the city and approximately 15 percent of the entire area has been archaeologically cataloged. As part of an exhibition called freiburg.archeology, the Städtische Museum Freiburg (Municipal Museums of Freiburg), together with the Landesamt für Denkmalpflege Baden-Württemberg (the State Office for the Preservation of Historic Monuments and Buildings), is offering an in-depth look into the first time at archeological research concerning the city history of Freiburg. ‘Written sources offer little insight. Far more answers await discovery below-ground. Archeological findings provide a fragmented account of earlier periods. By piecing together many different clues, we end up with a complex picture of the past,’ states the exhibition’s announcement. With this promise in mind, the curators of the exhibition at the Augustinermuseum, Museum für Stadtgeschichte (Municipal History Museum) and Archäologisches Museum (Archeological Museum) get the discovered objects to talk. The pieces make the lives and settings of people in earlier periods accessible in a variety of ways for all age groups and show that history, when cleverly dusted off, can be incredibly fun.

**AN AMBLE THROUGH FREIBURG**

**History up close**

1. Hotel “Zum Roten Bären”, @ Oberlinden 30
   www.roter-baeren.de
2. Unisem Freiburg The University of Freiburg’s museum
   @ Bertoldstrasse 17 www.unisem.uni-freiburg.de
3. Augustinermuseum, @ Augustinplatz
4. Museum für Stadtgeschichte im historischen Wentzingerhaus (Museum of Municipal History in the historic Wentzingerhaus), @ Münsterplatz 30
5. Archäologisches Museum Colombischlössle (Colombischlössle Archeological Museum), @ Rotteckring
   www.freiburg.de/museum
6. Stadtarchiv Freiburg (Freiburg City Archive), Grundwälderstrasse 15
   www.freiburg.de/stadtarchiv

More information: Freiburg “water city” map
www.wasserstadtplan-freiburg.akwasser.de

**The first American**

In Freiburg in 1507, cartographer Martin Waldseemüller creates a map of the world and includes the recently discovered New World. Since he erroneously believes that Amerigo Vespucci is the man behind the discovery, Waldseemüller names the continent “America.” The map is widely distributed and repeatedly copied.

**The visionary women thinkers**

Like Hannah Arendt, who studies philosophy in 1926 with Edmund Husserl, many brilliant and self-confident women start flocking to Freiburg beginning in 1900. The university circles turn into one of the hotbeds of the women’s movement in Germany.

**Bling bling**

During the Middle Ages, Freiburg was long a gem-cutting hub. Beginning in the 15th century, the precious stones were cut and polished on large waterwheels, powered by water from the Gewerbekanal.

**Münsterplatz (Cathedral Square)**

During the Middle Ages, the market was located on the “Grosse Gass,” which is Kaiser-Joseph-Strasse today. Around the Cathedral, where nowadays you will find the lively hustle and bustle of the farmer’s market like the whole week long, was the site of the town cemetery into the 16th century. The spot later served as a place where people would convene and hold court proceedings.

**All-rounder**

Haus “Zur schwarzen Katz” (House of the Black Cat) @ Konviktstrasse 39 is the place where the executioner called home. The executioner was many hats and kept quite busy in his other roles as torturer, privy cleaner, brothel operator and doctor for ordinary people.

**Past and present**

Looking for traces …

“This Friburg in der Stadt sufer isch un glatt”

This line from an Alemannic poem composed by Johann Peter Hebel describes Freiburg as “clean and tidy.” To make sure it stays this way, Freiburg relies on a time-honored profession that still exists today: “Bächle cleaners.” These workers head out into the city every day to keep trash, leaves and other refuse from clogging the waterways.

**The spy**

Dušan “Dusko” Popov comes to Freiburg in 1935 to study law. In addition to his reputation as a lady-killer, it is his role in particular as a double agent during the Second World War that made him a real-life inspiration for Ian Fleming’s fictional agent, James Bond.
One special anniversary, one big idea, one overwhelming show of commitment: A dazzling array of events to be held across Freiburg and its surroundings this year is a testament to what you can achieve and make possible by calling on all citizens to take part in shaping the celebrations to mark the 900th anniversary of their city. Freiburg 2020 – 900 years young is the ultimate invitation to one huge, all-year event!

It’s not every day you get a chance to celebrate, so when a milestone anniversary comes around, how to honor it in style becomes the million-dollar question. Expectations run high; after all, the plans should be something special, something exciting, something that everyone will remember and—ideally—something that hasn’t been done before. The Freiburg city council began mulling over such considerations well in advance and came up with the idea to make the city’s milestone anniversary a celebration of, with and for the people of Freiburg. In other words, the council sought to mobilize institutions, organizations and associations, along with the entire community, to take part in shaping the anniversary year by having them contribute their own ideas and projects. The response to this invitation was overwhelming, exceeding all expectations and it showed once more how closely the inhabitants of Freiburg identify with their city. By the end of September 2018, some 500 applications had been submitted, from which the project committee overseeing the city’s anniversary ultimately selected more than 200 projects. These projects were then divided into six thematic clusters to create a more streamlined focus. The resulting gala program is a reflection of the colorful diversity that you find in Freiburg’s social and cultural life. It boasts an impressively filled lineup of events of all sizes throughout the city, its districts and quarters.

Creating appeal through a wide range of themes

Freiburg’s many facets, Freiburg remembers, Freiburg wants to know, Freiburg plays on, Freiburg connects and Freiburg thinks about the future: The scope of the six thematic clusters ensures a multifaceted range of events for citizens, visitors and guests from all walks of life, of every age and with various interests. Throughout the year, Freiburg’s anniversary will be celebrated in various places and locations and the lineup covers practically all aspects of communal experience in the city. Whether it’s Freiburg’s paranormal phenomena or the Sound of the City, Night of the Fools, Sports in the Park, Basketball Europe Minifestival, World Press Photo Exhibition, or a 365-day quiz, anyone who stays in Freiburg during the anniversary year won’t have to look hard to find lots of excitement and variety. From the very beginning, ensuring conscious engagement with the past, the present and the future has been a key priority for the organizers, because this trajectory of development also informs the widely appreciated way of life here and the path from the historic city of the House of Zähringen to a dynamic site of research and scholarship.

“We called on the people of our city to get involved and the excitement and extent of their response has been thrilling.”

Ulrich von Kirchbach, Deputy Mayor
12 of 200 event highlights during the anniversary year

January 9–29 World Press Photo Exhibition @ Sparkasse
February 22 Night of the Fools @ Old Town
March 20–29 Cathedral Mapping @ Munsterplatz, south side
April 25–26 MTB Enduro Race
May–October Penalty(y) area / Sidelined and serving time in Freiburg Photo exhibition at the correctional facility
June 20 A Midsummer Night’s Table A 900-meter table welcomes one and all to talk and celebrate together.
July 10–14 Main gala weekend
August 22–23 FreiRäume (Open Spaces) Performances, readings, music and dance in various open spaces throughout the city
September 12 Hosanna – the sonic experience of 2020
October 10 SoundCity One ticket, one night of live music and DJs in 20 locations
November 5–7 Freilicht (Painting on Air) A city transforms in the light
December 21 900 years young – closing event with the Pan.Optikum Action Theater

From a light art festival to a ping-pong event, the range of events is as diverse as the people of the city themselves.

A highlight, month after month

With exhibitions, lectures and concerts featuring a variety of different musical styles, the anniversary year promises a steady stream of great moments and a new highlight, month after month. The pinnacle will be the official gala weekend from July 10–14, 2020, which will feature a virtually seamless chain of nonstop events. During this five-day flood of events in the city center, we will witness cultural abundance and civic creativity on full display. Bands will be sharing the microphone on at least five stages, while the SWR Symphony Orchestra, the Philharmonic Orchestra and the Freiburg Baroque Orchestra are scheduled to perform on Münsterplatz (Cathedral Square). The 14th of July, on the other hand, will be dedicated to the cross-border friendship with la grande nation. To mark France’s national holiday, the Rotteckring festival mile will transform into a boulevard typical of the country, where art, culture and culinary delights of our western neighbor will be the focus. In the end, there’s really only one thing left to say: come visit Freiburg in 2020 – there’s something for everyone!
Exploring Freiburg’s flea markets and second-hand stores

It’s true, Freiburg doesn’t have London’s Hyde Park. And the Marché aux Puces de Saint-Ouen in Paris isn’t exactly around the corner. Instead, a number of charming flea markets capture the essence of Freiburg: close and convenient, approachable, homey and the opposite of overwhelming. There is plenty of good rummaging fun for families, connoisseurs and those who just want to have a look. Most flea markets take place outdoors—plenty of sunshine guaranteed.

Freiburg’s flea markets were born primarily out of citizens’ and neighborhood initiatives, which is reflected in their names, such as the flea market on Kirchplatz in Stühlinger, the Bährle flea market in Wiehre or the Habsburger flea market in Herdern. There is a variety of theme-based and small flea markets as well.

Happenstance and haggling
You enjoy drifting along and getting inspired by what you see. You can’t really say beforehand what you need, but surely there’s some wiggle room to come down on the price, right?

Frollein flea market
The flea market by girls and women for all those who love vintage clothes. It is organized by the Badische Zeitung newspaper and takes place several times a year at various locations. www.instagram.com/frolleinflohmarkt

Habsburgerstrasse flea market
Flea market as street fair or street fair with a flea market? Either way, the stands that go up in late June in the Herdern district make up the biggest flea market. To that end, one of Freiburg’s main traffic arteries and several side streets are closed off, becoming the site for music stages, food stands and plenty of hoopla. www.habsburgerstrasse.de

Bährle flea market
Rummage to your heart’s content in a relaxed atmosphere and beautiful setting. Usually every third Saturday in the month, you will find children haggling with fathers over a good Lego set or old ladies bargaining with old men over an heirloom tea service at the Alter Wiehrebahnhof (Old Wiehre Train Station). The flea market is held from March/April to October/November, depending on sun and temperature. http://wiehre.norma.uberspace.de

Vauban fall flea market
This is the spring or fall flea market on Alfred-Döblin-Platz in the southern part of Freiburg, held between the former barracks in the Vauban district. The event is an informal gathering beneath large plane trees. www.quartiersarbeit-vauban.de

Stühlinger family flea market on Kirchplatz
The square around Herz-Jesu-Kirche (Sacred Heart Church) serves as the heart and venue for several events in the Stühlinger district. One of them is the family flea market, which takes place in the spring and fall on the large lawn. Imagine a friendly, open-air version of eBay. www.familienzentrum-klara.de

Searching for something specific
Be it the ‘79 bootleg version of this obscure funk band from Lapland, this one designer armchair (in red!) at a price mere mortals can afford, or something else, you know exactly what you want! You’ll find professionals at these stores who can help you find what you’re looking for.

Flight 13 Records
A record store as if straight out of a film, featuring a huge selection, a cozy corner for listening to music and occasionally a live concert. The store will rustle up anything not in stock. @Stühlingerstrasse 15, www.flight13.com

Mono Tonträger
Freiburg’s oldest record store, which enjoys a lovely location and a café right next door where you can sit outside. It offers a wide selection, from heavy metal and alternative to jazz. @Gartenstrasse 11, www.mono-tontraeger.de

Antik-Lager Freiburg
You will find both antique and modern furnishings in the former machine shop on the “Grethergelände” factory grounds in the Sedan district. The place has its own workshop. @ Adlerstrasse 12, www.antiklager-freiburg.de

S’Einlädele
An attractive, non-profit second-hand store that sells rarities, antiques, jewelry, household goods, clothes, shoes, toys, postcards, CDs, pictures, and much more. @ Guntramstrasse 58, www.seinlaedele.de

Manuela Wolber
Second Hand
Linens and clothing from approximately 1880 to 1960, such as handwoven linen tablecloths, tea and hand towels, blouses, top hats and home accessories. @ Klarastrasse 31, www.antikesfreiburg.de
It’s Friday at 11 a.m. on Münsterplatz. The heavy chiming of bells mixes with the buzzing din of voices and noise from the farmers market. Hosanna – the much-noted voice of Freiburg, star among the Cathedral’s bells and ringing marvel across the ages – does the honors and, for a brief while, a sense of something sacred pervades the square and perfumes the air with the faint scent of incense.

To admire the solo artist among the Cathedral’s 19 bells, all it takes is a little workout. But the reward for climbing the 242 steps that begin directly behind the steeple entrance at the side of the Cathedral is absolutely worth the effort. Small embrasures pierce the darkness on the spiral staircase and reveal how far you have climbed. Shortly before you reach the watchman’s room, the glass wall that continues on provides a glimpse at the never-ending maintenance work on the wooden framework. Eighty percent of the wooden structure is still from the original from the 13th century. The long, thick beams carved out of silver fir are a feast for the eyes and bear witness to a kind of craftsmanship seldom seen in the Middle Ages. Once you have arrived in the watchman’s room, your gaze is arrested by the old exposed clockwork, still intact and shimmering in hues of gold and silver. The extensive use of wood in warm tones up here creates an almost homely atmosphere. Like any good room should, it invites visitors to enter and immerse themselves in the books and descriptions of the Freiburg Cathedral. Before you get the notion to order some coffee and cake and indulge a twinge of envy of the watchman’s workstation, the sound of bells chiming nearby and the barely discernible swaying of the ground beneath your feet snaps you back to the present. Swaying? In an assemblage of wooden struts rising up 21 meters into the sky? Yes. In fact, it is supposed to sway. That’s because the entire belfry stands on its own; it isn’t attached to the walls, thereby preventing the vibrations from the bells from being transmitted to the walls. For some time now, a light installation in the gap between the woodwork and the masonry has been making it easy to see that the tower is, indeed, not attached.
From here, it’s a fee of 4 euros for an adult and another 3 euros for a child to reach the belfry. The bells named Maria and Josef have just struck a quarter hour. They didn't swing to do so; rather, they were struck by a hammer to make them chime. The bells actually don’t swing all the time. Besides on Sundays, Maria and Josef swing, for example, only at 6 a.m., 12 p.m. and 6 p.m. The Christ bell swings even more infrequently. Measuring more than two meters in diameter and weighing almost seven metric tons, the biggest and heaviest bronze bell in the ensemble rings out with a strike note of G only on high holidays such as Christmas, for ordinations of priests and for masses held by the archbishop himself.

But since size isn't everything, as everyone knows, Hosanna is and remains the principal bell. Despite being "only" the third-heaviest bell with a weight of more than three metric tons, Hosanna is certainly the prettiest of the bunch, thanks to its sugarloaf shape, its wooden yoke featuring an extraordinarily elaborate design and its artistic ornamentation. Hosanna is one of the most prominent and important bells from the 13th century in Europe. Its unknown creator ended up casting what would prove to be a faithful ally to the people of Freiburg, especially in times of crisis, as Hosanna would call out not only during prayers, but also raise the alarm when a fire had broken out or during times of war. The fact that Hosanna has survived the centuries without sustaining significant damage is, apart from divine protection, due to the actions of the people of Freiburg themselves. Many records attest to Freiburg's deep and abiding attachment to the bell. Time and again, this fidelity saved the bell from being melted down or looted by enemies. Several times, significant sums of ransom were paid and more than a few golden chalices were given to the occupying forces in exchange for Hosanna. The bell even survived both world wars unscathed and, unlike some of its adjacent contemporaries, was not melted down during those dark times. As a result, Hosanna has also become a commemorative bell that chimes every year as a reminder of the bombing of Freiburg on November 27, 1944.

During peak periods, up to 900 visitors a day make the climb to admire and, albeit rather seldomly, hear the bell. The number 900 not only provides a good transition at this juncture, but is also a great reason to celebrate for a whole year. As part of the 900th anniversary of the city, 900 musicians will make Münsterplatz resound in honor of Hosanna in September 2020 in a very special sonic experience.

Already half a year before this event, the Freiburg Cathedral is going to be the focus of the festivities, when in March the entire facade will be illuminated with a projection featuring the city’s 900-year history and that of the Cathedral’s construction.

Dates and information:
www.visit.freiburg.de/en/city-anniversary

Tower and belfry
Summer opening hours:
Monday–Saturday
9:30 a.m.–4:45 p.m.
Sunday and holidays
1 p.m.–5 p.m.
Adults €4, senior citizens €3, students €2, children up to the age of 12 €1 / Family ticket: €10
(2 adults and unlimited number of children/teenagers—up to the age of 18)
www.freiburgermuenster.info

Hosanna chimes every Thursday, 7:15 p.m., every Friday at 11 a.m. and on November 27 around 8 p.m.
**Good finds**
**Made in Freiburg**

Maximum blade sharpness, minimum material abrasion, exclusive design, easiest handling – made in Freiburg. The HORL rolling knife sharpener – a revelation for anyone who appreciates perfect kitchen utensils.

HORL 1993
www.horl-1993.de

Chests of drawers, tables fashioned from suitcases, seating and other nice pieces: The creators of Stückgut, or “piece goods,” give worn-out objects a new purpose and, with a little luck, a new home shortly thereafter.

Stückgut Möbel-Manufaktur
@ Schwarzwaldstrasse 43
www.stueckgut-manufaktur.de

Fair-trade coffee from Nicaragua, produced by the co-op of small farmers called La Providencia from Freiburg’s sister city Wiwilí, as well as the Cosatin/Tierra Nueva co-op from the Boaco region.

FREINICA
Weltladen Freiburg, @ Gerberau 12
www.freinica.de

Spreads, sauces and chutneys, vinegars, syrups and mustards – all made by hand from handpicked ingredients without any artificial additives using refined recipes and packaged with love.

hakuna-matata Feinkost-Manufaktur
@ South side of the farmers market around the Cathedral
www.hakuma.net

The anniversary edition of “Kleiner Greif” (Little Griffon) with a bitter, hoppy tang from Ganter. For every bottle of both the anniversary and “regular” versions of “Kleiner Greif” sold, Ganter will be giving 10 cents to the celebration of Freiburg’s 900th anniversary.

Der Kleine Greif
Ganter Brewery
www.ganter.com

Streetwear made from 85% organic cotton featuring casual prints and high standards when it comes to social and environmental sustainability. Most pieces printed right on site by the creators themselves.

Blackforest Apparel
Die Nische
@ Oberlinden 8
www.blackforestapparel.de

Spreads, sauces and chutneys, vinegars, syrups and mustards – all made by hand from handpicked ingredients without any artificial additives using refined recipes and packaged with love.

hakuna-matata Feinkost-Manufaktur
@ South side of the farmers market around the Cathedral
www.hakuma.net

**Little escapes from it all**

From swimming in the lake to skiing on the trails – sounds far-fetched, but it is absolutely possible to do in Freiburg in the spring. If this combo is too extreme for you, fear not, because the mountains and valleys around the city offer an expansive panoramic backdrop to a wide range of different activities and experiences.
Out and about among the vines

An outing around Tuniberg

By: Ute Battig

Seasonal wine taverns called Straussen, wineries and vintner co-ops – Freiburg’s Tuniberg communities are abundantly blessed by nature and dripping in sunshine. This is reflected in a distinctive culture of epicurean delights and a soothing laid-back attitude. Now that’s the good life!
In southern Baden, asparagus is traditionally served with Kratzete, or finely torn strips of pancake, although you will find asparagus served with potatoes and hollandaise or a vinaigrette on the menu in most cases, too.

Four in one go – a Tour de Tuniberg

Tuniberg is heaven on earth for cyclists and, thanks to its extensive network of trails, offers routes for every level of difficulty. Today, it’s going to be a beautiful flat route that less experienced riders can easily handle, while leaving open the option of much more challenging variations for ambitious cyclists. The bike ride begins in Freiburg’s city center; from there, the route first heads towards Haid industrial park and then past the forest on the right to Tiengen. If you already feel like a little breather after these first 10 kilometers, take a break on the terrace of Hotel-Restaurant Tuniberg or stock up on hearty food supplies for your bike ride at Hassler’s Hofladen, which is open on Fridays and Saturdays. For those who don’t want to stop, continue on through the Freiburger Landstrasse (Freiburg highway) and follow it to the left between pastures and fields until you reach the next destination: Munzingen.

Munzingen is famous for its lovely 17th-century chapel, a superb golf course and a renowned hotel with a long tradition located in the center of town. Visitors here will also find any number of inns and wineries, plus a well-known biodynamic Demeter farm. Kapellenberg can be seen here rising up lengthwise at the southern tip of Tuniberg in an impressive profile and its terraces promise spectacular views. If you aren’t winded or afraid of the uphill climb, turn off at this point in front of the park-and-ride parking lot from St.-Erentrudis-Strasse onto Windhäuslegasse and pass modern single-family homes before ending up right among the vines after a steep left turn. Once you have reached the intersection back on level ground again, you can turn left to go to the Erentrudiskapelle (Erentrudis Chapel) or turn right towards the Höhenweg, which leads either to Gottenheim or Merdingen. We decide to skip this undoubtedly rewarding detour and ride instead across the plain, through the communities of Nieder- and Oberrimsingen, which belong to Breisach and on around the mountain by turning right at the gravel works towards Merdingen.

Merdingen boasts impressive half-timbered buildings and a parish church in the late baroque style. It was built by Johann Kaspar Bagnato, one of the most famous baroque architects of the 18th century in southwestern German lands. The altars and pulpit are the work of sculptor Joseph Anton Feuchtmayer, the ceiling frescoes and altarpieces were created by Franz Joseph Spiegler and the image of Mary above the west portal is by Johann Christian Wentzinger from Freiburg. This is only mentioned here as an aside. We decide to sit down at the restaurant Die Sonne to make a pit stop and briefly take stock of our morale and motivation. At this point, we can either make another detour via Waltershofen or take the direct route to Opfingen. Some of the arguments in favor of Waltershofen are the seasonal tavern Scheunen-Strasse and the Zum Adler inn, one of the oldest buildings in the area. But the sun, which is already getting low and our somewhat tired legs convince us to go with the alternative, so we take the shortcut. After making the steep ascent upon leaving the town, we really get rolling in a spirited downhill ride and then take the right turn Wippertskirch—clearly marked by a bus stop—in the direction of Opfingen.

Eating is a big part of Tuniberg’s culture. Seasonal products are served, often traditionally prepared. Asparagus is a prime example, especially when accompanied by Kratzete, finely torn strips of pancake. The region is also known for its rich variety of cheeses and its famous wine, particularly the famous ländlicher Issel. Dishes are often accompanied by a selection of local beers, making for a perfect cycling and gastronomic experience.

ESCAPING THE DAILY GRIND
The narrow access road leads past an equestrian center on the right, followed on the left by the guesthouse Walter, featuring a farm shop and farm café. If you look straight ahead, you will see an observation tower, which offers stunning 360-degree views of the landscape for those who muster the energy to climb it. Anyone driven by other human desires – namely hunger – should follow the bend in the road onto Hohlweg until it turns left directly into the center of Opfingen and stop in at the restaurant Blume or the Sonnenbrunnenstrasse, just a few meters farther. The inn is inspired by fresh ideas such as Black Forest tapas and street food truck, while the winery, credited as Freiburg’s first organic winery, is a traditionally run establishment with a cozy dining room and outdoor seating, as well as a classic menu. In short, both are good and both are worthwhile. Go ahead and indulge; the last 10 kilometers are a straight shot back to Freiburg and hold no further challenges in store, so there is no need to worry. Covering this last stretch is a piece of cake, even on a full stomach.

Not to be confused with “ostriches,” which share the same name in German, Strausen are small, seasonal taverns, where proprietors serve goods they have produced themselves. You can identify these establishments by looking for a decorated thatch broom on the side of the road or in front of a door.
The Tuscany of Germany – this is how people affectionately refer to the area around Freiburg. Why? The winters here are mild and the number of days with sunshine plentiful. While the rest of Germany braces itself against cold and drizzle, the people in Breisgau are already sitting in a sidewalk café, sipping a cappuccino and squinting against the sun. But Freiburg has a frigid side, too. Just a few kilometers away, you will discover a winter wonderland in the Black Forest. Our author ventured there and fastened on a pair of skis.

By: Dimitri Lehner

Okay, I could go downhill skiing. It’s action-packed and lots of fun. But most of the time, you aren’t the only one to have this bright idea. With a bit of bad luck, you end up waiting in line for the ski lift and have to share the slope with countless others. When that happens, you don’t really get to experience much of the nature and scenery around you. That’s why it’s time to try something different: cross-country skiing! Up here on Schauinsland, I don’t need any lifts. I’m my own lift and it operates just for me.

Cross-country skiing = boring? No way! People who say that have obviously never tried it themselves! The Schauinsland cable car ferries me upward. Destination: the Schauinsland cross-country skiing trail. It winds its way up here for 15 kilometers through the winter landscape. The trail is one of many in the region. I’m alone, holding the skis in my hand, which I have rented, along with the poles and boots. The rental costs 50 euros during the week, which is perfect for trying out a sport that sport researchers claim is the healthiest in the world. Why? Because it works out the entire body, strengthens the heart and gets the circulation going. If I’m honest, I can’t stand cardio sports, because there’s nothing fun about them. I think jogging is tedious, for example, so I’m very curious to see how I like cross-country skiing. Cross-country skiing seems to me like jogging, but over snow. So will it be similarly dull, or something altogether different?

Click, click. Just like that, the thin slats are dangling off the toe of my boots. The man who rented me the gear gave me some encouragement. He said, “Anyone can cross-country ski – even you. You don’t need to take any expensive lessons and years of practice like you do with downhill skiing. No, cross-country skiing is self-explanatory, like stand-up paddleboarding or Nordic walking. But a lot more fun!” Well, okay then. I want to believe the man. I fasten on the skis at the start of the trail. Click, click. Just like that, the thin slats are dangling off the toe of my boots. I’ve decided to go with the classic version, which is easier than the modern form of skate skiing that took off in the 1970s. I place the slim skis in the equally slim double track and take a look around. Nobody here – excellent! There’s a winter scene to my left and to my right, just like I wanted. The sunlight catches the snow crystals on the fir trees and makes them sparkle as if someone had poured diamonds everywhere. Marvelous! Okay, but now it’s time to get going. I admit, the first few meters I move forward rather hesitantly. But with each passing meter, my push-off grows stronger, the gliding period becomes longer and before I know it, I’m whizzing along. Sometimes I push off with both poles at the same time, sometimes in an alternating rhythm, while I find myself striding and gliding through the winter wonderland.
Or something else after all?
Four alternatives for winter-sport enthusiasts.

Ski slope fun
Feldberg is the number-one stop for skiers and snowboarders. It is easy to reach by bus or train. Visitors can rent equipment at Talstation. There are smaller ski facilities located around it, such as Notschei, Todtnauberg and Haldenköpfe. In Hinterzarten, you can even go skiing under floodlights – romantic campfire setting included.

Sledging
One of the best-known sled runs can be found on Schauinsland. That could be due in part to the lift that comfortably brings sledging fans up to the southern slope. It is easy to reach, for example by taking the Schauinsland cable car from Horben. Sled rentals are available on site.

Snowshoeing
It is possible to go snowshoeing practically everywhere, such as in Hinterzarten. You can go as part of a guided tour or on your own. Rentals cost around 9 euros per day, for example from Sport Kiefer.

Sledding
My pulse is racing, my lungs are pumping, but wait! The rental guy told me to start slowly. I reduce my speed and continue gliding ahead at a more leisurely pace. Enjoy the moment, don’t rush through it. Breathe, don’t pant. It’s better this way, because I can see better and take in my surroundings much more clearly. And the silence. No noise at all! The snow absorbs every sound and the only thing I hear is the whoosh of my skis in my ear. It is exactly what I was looking for: the chance to finally get away from the city’s hustle and bustle, turn the volume all the way down and not have to see or hear anyone or anything. I whiz ahead. Small descents make my pupils dilate and send my heart rate galloping from exhilaration. Then the skis begin to slide as if all on their own, but ever faster.

I tense my thighs to stay on course on the thin slats. The skis are just 4 centimeters wide. I’m happy that I decided to go with the easier black Halde track or night trail, which also wind their way through the area up here on Schauinsland. Just a hop, skip and a jump away from Freiburg, the possibilities here seem virtually endless. There is even a long-distance snowshoeing trail from Schonach to Belchen. So if you feel like it, you can make a big trip. What amazes me is that the focus on turning in an impressive performance that you find in so many sports is hardly evident when it comes to cross-country skiing. Sure, you don’t want to go at an absolute snail’s pace over the trail, but the point here is much more about experiencing nature and indulging the spirit – a little like yoga and meditation.

According to sport science, cross-country skiing is the world’s healthiest sport. I read up that, according to sport science, cross-country skiing is healthier than almost any other kind of exercise out there. Cross-country skiing strengthens the heart, goes easy on the joints and mobilizes muscles in the arms and upper body through the use of poles. That’s great! Risk of injury? Low! Because the kind of high-speed collisions that can occur on the ski slope don’t happen in cross-country skiing. There is one danger, however: getting a gliding high and overestimating your abilities, like I have just done.

My first round has gotten a bit excessive and now I can feel that cross-country skiing is, indeed, a workout. My energy has begun to wane, regardless of the gliding periods and I can feel the constant use of poles to propel myself forward in my shoulders especially. Even so, I am still enjoying it. Between the tracks for classic cross-country skiing, which look like white tracks of a Märklin model train cutting through the snow, a path has been leveled into the ground. This one is for the skaters. They slide the skis outwards, like you would with inline skating and push down and back over the edges of the skis while pushing off with overlong poles in an overlapping movement. The technique looks athletic and exhausting. Do you suppose it’s possible that skaters can enjoy the snow-covered landscape around them as much as I am here? It’s hard to imagine with skis and poles swinging every which way. I come to a halt and let a fast skate skier swoosh past. I remember something the ski rental guy said to me: “Skiing is a bit more strenuous at first, but you can pick it up just as fast as the classic version.” So, next time I want to skate ski, that much is now clear. Equally clear is that there is going to be a next time. Cross-country skiing is my thing, as I found out today. And I’m happy about it, because this realization just melted my dread of winter clean away. I’m happy about it, because this realization is now clear. Equally clear is that there is going to be a next time. Cross-country skiing is my thing, as I found out today. And I’m happy about it, because this realization is now clear.

The Black Forest Ski Museum
The museum housed in the rustic Black Forest building in Hinterzarten shines a light on the origins and success of skiing as a sport in the Black Forest through pieces of art and numerous original exhibits from Olympic icons such as Georg Thomer and Martin Schmitt.

The final adventure: the Schonach–Belchen backpack race
Each year, the “final adventure in the Black Forest” kicks off in February. The cross-country ski race, which is contested over a distance of 100 kilometers, is only for true pros (some might say: for those off their rocker). It’s an experience, at any rate.

Adler Ski Stadium
Hinterzarten has four ski jumps, which see action all year long. The most important competition takes place in the summer, funnily enough, when the world’s top skiers face off in preparation for the winter season. Visitors can get their own impression as part of a ski jump tour. Spectacular views guaranteed!

Nobody here – excellent! There’s a winter scene to my left and to my right, just like I wanted.
Cultural Life

Freiburg’s music scene has the stuff to impress even connoisseurs and acknowledged genre-jumpers. The quality of the scene’s variety surprises them all. Wherever there’s something to delight the ears, there’s always something going on.

Q&A: My favorite spots

Felix Groteloh
An unconventional autodidact with a deft, intuitive touch for people and good stories. After 20 eventful years as a professional musician, photographer Felix Groteloh stepped off the stage to make way for others. Since then, he was been on the road with his camera in tow, always on the lookout for “sweet gigs”...

I came to Freiburg over 20 years ago to do my non-military service. I ended up studying here afterwards and now my children are growing up here. Given the nature of my job, I have a lot to do with people and am usually on the road, but since Freiburg is well connected and I live close to the train station, I can get to the airport in Basel quickly. In my spare time, I love being out in nature, be it camping in the Vosges or going swimming at the Dreisam with my kids. I actually wouldn’t mind moving out to the countryside, but then I couldn’t quickly pop by Café Huber in Stühlinger for an espresso, by Bar am Funkeneck for a beer (they’ve got pale ale on tap!), or by One Trick Pony for one, two, three drinks that aren’t too shabby. To put it simply, things really couldn’t be any better for me here!

Café Huber
Wentzingerstrasse 46
www.huber-freiburg.com

Bar am Funkeneck
Ferdinand-Weiss-Strasse 8
facebook.com/BARamFunkeneck

One Trick Pony
Oberlinden 8
www.onetrickpony.bar

Sebastian Faber
A degree-holding winegrower, young vintner who has traveled the globe and general wine enthusiast: Sebastian Faber returned to his parents’ family-run business following stays abroad in the regions of Tuscany and Champagne, in Austria and in New Zealand, in order to produce Baden wines for connoisseurs.

For me, as a true “Bobbele,” or native of Freiburg, Freiburg is and remains the authentic and likable big city in Germany’s most beautiful region, in my view. It remains my home and the center of my life. The quality of life here is top-notch. It isn’t just our wines that benefit from the perfect blend of climate, nature and fertile soil, ensuring enjoyment that can’t be beat; the large number of visitors can experience it, too. The city’s “old” inns reflect this perfect mix of an established culture, excellent cuisine and a sociable attitude. One of my favorite places is Münsterplatz. The lively atmosphere during the morning bustle of the market is as charming as an evening stroll through the beautifully illuminated city center after a good meal.

Weinguts-Vinothek
Langgasse 5, 79111 FR-St. Georgen
www.weingutfaber.de

Freiburger Schönberg mountain
Circular route with an educational trail on winegrowing

Schauinsland
Up, up and away by foot, mountain bike or cable car
www.schauinslandbahn.de

Florian Högner / Thomas Krohn
These guys love games. With “FreiSpiel,” the two Freiburg residents have turned their hobby into a career by opening a store with a café attached for playing games – a café that is full every evening. After just one year, it has already achieved cult status.

“Thomas and I really like going to the juice store Saßlädele on Schusterstrasse. They make really delicious juices. My absolute favorite is called Florida. It has mango, apple, orange and grapefruit. They also have the best müsli in the city with just the right blend of fruit, oats and yogurt,” Florian Högner says. Thomas Krohn has a soft spot in his heart for Adelhauser Klosterplatz. “I like to sit there and read the newspaper. There’s a nice tree nearby and it isn’t as busy as it is on Augustinerplatz. Young partygoers haven’t discovered the square yet, either. You can really discover the ‘old’ Freiburg there,” Florian Högner also loves being outdoors. “I enjoy hanging out on the banks of the Dreisam in the summer. Not to grill, but just as a cozy place to sit and enjoy a book. Ever since we opened the store, I haven’t had the time for that anymore, unfortunately.”

FreiSpiel Freiburg
Lehener Strasse 15
www.freispiel-freiburg.de

Saßlädele
Schusterstrasse 34

Portrait photos: Felix Groteloh · Weingut Faber · Georg Rudiger

Right: Felix Groteloh

Live music of all stripes with international performers in very different settings: Freiburg’s music scene has the stuff to impress even connoisseurs and acknowledged genre-jumpers. The quality of the scene’s variety surprises them all. Wherever there’s something to delight the ears, there’s always something going on.
Music bars will play the Beatles’ Sergeant Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band album all the way through, while scorning the radio and hit songs from the charts. What’s more, the music is played in the bar itself, not in the next room or the basement. That’s why a music bar isn’t just any old event location — it IS the event, be it in Freiburg or elsewhere. A lot depends on what the boss likes, who is usually more of a bandleader than manager of the bar or kitchen. At heart, at least.

There might be a stage at a music bar, but the venue isn’t a lounge or dance club. We’re talking about bars for music lovers, not places where you sip cocktails to some Spotify playlist. Alex Bleiziffer and Stefan Gebhard insist on this definition. Both men have been musicians since letting loose their first hard-rock screams seconds after seeing the light of day for the first time. The one is sometimes to be found wearing the hat of singing performance DJ, while the other is a guitarist and crossover artist between various musical tides. The two now find themselves together in the AWA band and are long-time connoisseurs and aficionados of Freiburg’s bar and music scene. To prevent this depiction of music bars from devolving into some mawkish, personal oath of allegiance, letting someone else besides me weigh in seems like a reasonable thing to do.

Still, the feel-good factor is important. And Litfass, which is perhaps Freiburg’s oldest music bar, probably deserves a score in this regard of five out of five feel-good points. "As soon as you enter, you immediately have that feeling of, ‘Ah, excellent, I’ve arrived. Buddy, a beer, please. And yeah, gimme a schnapps with it. And can we listen to the album again from the beginning? It was so good.’"

The Litfass is the epitome of a Freiburg music bar: small — well, actually, very small, at just 35 square meters — nothing fancy, but 100% authentic. Unplugged, from the bar to the music. From readings (every second and fourth Wednesday in the month) to singer-songwriters and buskers who strike up the music again and drink their after-work beer while playing, all walks of life come together here in this small venue: actors from the Theater Freiburg next door, students, as well as the elderly gentlemen from the regulars’ table.

Play it again, buddy

By: Jürgen Uhl

Whether “Egon54” at Egonstrasse 54 in the district of Stühlinger was named after the street or the street was named after the music bar isn’t clear. But what we do know is that owner Peter Lischke has some entertaining stories of wild nights of music and other legends from the neighborhood to tell.
At times, there is almost something avant-garde about the Swamp. It’s extremely underground, as in, ‘Hey, you don’t know this band?’ Okay, well, anyway, they’re playing here on Thursday.

All these patrons can be found fraternizing among one another until 5 a.m. during the week and until 4 a.m. in the morning on weekends. There is no stage here. Music is performed on the wooden bench, framed by souvenir photos and smoke (it’s a smoking bar). Mitten­zein, or “part of the action,” is the name of the game and anyone who has a guitar with them, plays.

Oozing the same kind of authentic flair as the Litfass is the rustic and informal Egon 54 in the Stühlinger district. The menu offers unexpected fare at cheap prices. Visions of wild parties and a whiff of the 1980s pervades the space. You’ll find alternative rock playing here all the time and often performed live on the weekend.

The music only gets turned off on Tuesdays for the pub quiz event and on Wednesdays for the tournaments of Freiburg’s backgammon association.

If your thing is music paired with good brews, then you’d best to stay in Stühlinger. The BAR am Funkeneck surely has one of the biggest selections of regional craft beers. Most of the time, DJs are serving up the music while you enjoy a cold one, but concerts of every stripe and color are played here, too.

Heading back over the Blue Bridge, you will find two music bars of a very different kind between Jazzhaus and Crash. The first one is Kiez, where you’ll hear everything from punk and metal to rockabilly and psychedelica. It’s a typical punk-rock bar that wouldn’t be out of place music-wise in Berlin’s Kreuzberg district. The place features a long bar, a cool interior, a big beer selection and regular concerts, along with football and pool tables to boot.

If you walk 52 steps further heading towards the city center, this is where fans of rock and metal will feel right at home. “You don’t go to Eimer with the plan to have just one beer. It’s a busy place and starting at 11 p.m., things really get loud as the music begins to rock. Also, if you’re interested in playing some foosball at league level, look no further. You’ll find your champion here."

Next street, next bar: The Great Räng Teng Teng, Sor­vorock, rock ‘n’ roll, rockabilly, swing and more, plus lots of events, lots of music, lots of cabaret and stage shows, such as slam poetry and experimental formats for everyone. Alex remembers one event that he attended: “You had to give a talk on a PowerPoint presentation that you’d never seen before. Mine was on geysers in Iceland. It was a really entertaining evening,..." For the rather youngish crowd, Räng has turned into a kind of alternative dance club. The place gets packed starting between 11 and midnight and then it gets really loud from a.m. on, at which point it isn’t possible to fall over anymore on the dance floor. “You may not know exactly what kind of music you’re dancing to, but it makes you dance.”

Finding common ground over soccer and spaghetti Just behind Schwabentor (Swabian Gate), you’ll find the biggest music bar and a Freiburg institution: the Atlantik. There is no shame here about the wide range of different types of music, which makes it im­possible to classify the place—in a good way. Cross­over, in a word and never far from the charts. You can always bank on a good time and a good band. For bands that return year after year, playing on the stage at the Atlantik is like playing on home turf. “There is no dress code. Whatever you wear, be it a necktie or a heavy-metal T-shirt, you can’t go wrong. You’ll always fit in.” This place is like a one-stop shop with something for everyone, regardless of their crowd. A fan of the local soccer team SC Freiburg can watch the beginning of a match on early Saturday afternoon with other soccer enthusiasts and then raise a glass with a hard rocker about 90 minutes later to toast SC Freiburg’s win, in a best-case scenario. Or take lunch, for instance, where you have a university professor sitting next to a guy in a baseball cap. It just might be the most diverse place of them all. The food here is affordable, even on a student’s bud­get. With at least five spaghetti dishes and schnitzel with fries, the menu is basic, sure, but always okay. The music bar for everyone."

If the Atlantik is the music bar for everyone, then the Swamp in the Wiehre district sets the bar for the sub- and underground scene. “At times, there is almost something avant garde about the Swamp. It’s extremely underground, as in, ‘Hey, you don’t know this band?’ Okay, well, anyway, they’re playing here on Thursday.” Carmelo Policicchio, Swamp proprietor and long-time advocate of music at its finest, can claim to have a few music needs among his patrons. “That’s because a band that you for sure don’t know will play at the Swamp, but then on your way home, you wonder why the world doesn’t know about this band. Chico definite­ly has a knack, no doubt. And if he thinks an album is good, then he’s gonna play it from start to finish—loudly.” Maybe this is why the Swamp is also the music bar shaped the most by its owner. But it’s always nice. And maybe also by Volker Finke, the former coach of SC Freiburg, who is loved and respected by many. Rumor has it that Volker Finke held more press conferences at the Swamp than in the press room of the SC Freiburg club. That may also be why you can sense an almost nostalgic whiff of Freiburg soccer history when watching soccer at the Swamp.

BAR am Funkeneck @ Ferdinand-Weiss-Strasse 8
Café Atlantik @ Schwabentorring 7 www.cafe-Atlantik.de
Egon 54 @ Egonstrasse 54 www.Egon54.de
Eimer @ Balfortstrasse 59  www.eimer-freiburg.com
Kiez 57 @ Balfortstrasse 57
Litfass @ Mörikestrasse 17  www.litfass-freiburg.jimdo.com
Swamp @ Talstrasse 90  www.swamp-club-freiburg.de
The Great Räng Teng Teng @ Grünwälderstrasse 6 www.raengtengteng.com
Michael Musiol is not only the CEO of Jazzhaus Freiburg GmbH, but he also organizes the annual international Freiburg Jazz Festival. Georg Rudiger interviewed him about the city’s jazz scene, new trends, and strong emotions.

Many music lovers consider jazz to be too complicated and mostly you find the same old suspects sitting in the jazz clubs—patrons who have grown older along with jazz itself. I take a different view. A lot has happened in recent years. Jazz musicians have begun to embrace other styles, such as Kamasi Washington, who weaves elements of hip-hop into his music. Bahrain-born trumpeter Yazz Ahmed, who was a guest performer at the very well-attended international Freiburg Jazz Festival, includes Arabic influences. The Portico Quartet from England combines jazz and electronic music. This move towards opening jazz up to other styles is doing the genre a lot of good—and attracting a new crowd. Even the Freiburg Cécile Verny Quartet has since incorporated other styles, such as soul and rock, into the ensemble’s jazz.

Music plays a major role in Freiburg. Is the city also a jazz hub?

I wouldn’t say that. There are definitely other cities, such as Mannheim, where jazz is even more prominent. But we do have an active jazz scene in Freiburg, covering a wide range of styles.

What do you personally like about jazz?

I like how open the music is. Jazz is very experimental and innovative. You definitely have to engage with this music, but once you do, you can discover a lot of exciting and also profound things.

The Jazzhaus Freiburg has a long tradition. Miles Davis even played here. What kind of jazz can visitors hear at the club?

I keep a very close eye on the jazz scene and try to feature certain international trends here, such as Yazz Ahmed, who’s a big gun in England. It’s always a balancing act between economic obligations and the music we put on stage. Famous people such as Nils Landgren and Maceo Parker are also guest performers here. At the same time, we are happy to welcome the likes of Julia Hülsmann or Olivia Trummer to our stage as well, even though we don’t expect huge crowds.
University town and city of science and books — though it may not be apparent at first glance, if you look a little deeper at the role of literature and the importance of reading in Freiburg, you will be amazed by the inspiring diversity you will find here.

By: Ute Battig

Well-managed libraries, an active book trade and the city’s own Literaturhaus – an institution dedicated to promoting contemporary literature — all cater to readers’ needs with a wide range of very different genres, in addition to providing ever different ways to experience language and storytelling.

An educated middle class and a university setting have furnished Freiburg with a readership harboring many different interests and also a strong book trade. The concentration and quality of independent, predominantly owner-run stores is impressive and eclipses many larger cities. Thanks to extremely different selections tailored to specific target groups, the range of books and literature to be found in Freiburg is extraordinarily broad and attractive. By working together in a spirit of cooperation instead of competition and embracing mutual stimulus, booksellers manage to boost business and the willingness to participate in joint events is great. This also applies to teaming up with the Literaturhaus on Bertoldstrasse — and the feedback is exceptionally positive.

In the form of the Freiburger Literaturgespräche (Freiburg Literary Talks), the children’s literature festival LirumLarumLesefest and the StadtLesen outdoor reading series, three prominently attended annual events have taken root that have established a reputation for themselves extending beyond the city’s borders. A little more tucked away, but no less interesting, are the unter sternen (Under the Stars) reading series, the Herdermer Sommerlesungen (Herder Summer Readings) and the nighttime reading event GretherNachtfilme. The success story of the Literaturhaus Freiburg is as much the success story of the organization that sponsors it today, namely LiteraturForum Südwest (Southwest Literature Forum). Founded by regional authors in 1988 to foster the local literary life, the association soon opened its doors as well to translators who focused professionally on literature. This move expanded the scope of the association in an exciting and inspiring way. In 1992, the association then became the Literaturbüro (Literary Bureau), before finally becoming the Literaturhaus based at the Old University in October 2017. “If the library is the house of books, then the Literaturhaus is the house of people. We want to establish a place that can be accessed and experienced in many ways; one that embraces lively discourse where visitors come into contact with literature and discuss it,” said Martin Bruch, director of Literaturhaus Freiburg. “From the beginning, the aim was to give literature a voice and to do so through language, not through some bombastic, top-down approach.” This means through direct contact and discussion with the very writers and creative forces behind the works. The result is a remarkably transformed cargo bike and lend books for free, Freileser, or “open-air reader,” where we do so through language, not through some bombastic, top-down approach.” This means through direct contact and discussion with the very writers and creative forces behind the works. The result is a remarkably transformed cargo bike and lend books for free, Freileser, or “open-air reader,” where we do so through language, not through some bombastic, top-down approach.” This means through direct contact and discussion with the very writers and creative forces behind the works. The result is a remarkably transformed cargo bike and lend books for free, Freileser, or “open-air reader,” where we do so through language, not through some bombastic, top-down approach.” This means through direct contact and discussion with the very writers and creative forces behind the works. The result is a remarkably transformed cargo bike and lend books for free, Freileser, or “open-air reader,” where we do so through language, not through some bombastic, top-down approach.” This means through direct contact and discussion with the very writers and creative forces behind the works. The result is a remarkably transformed cargo bike and lend books for free, Freileser, or “open-air reader,” where we do so through language, not through some bombastic, top-down approach.” This means through direct contact and discussion with the very writers and creative forces behind the works. The result is a remarkably transformed cargo bike and lend books for free, Freileser, or “open-air reader,” where we do so through language, not through some bombastic, top-down approach.” This means through direct contact and discussion with the very writers and creative forces behind the works. The result is a remarkably transformed cargo bike and lend books for free, Freileser, or “open-air reader,” where we do so through language, not through some bombastic, top-down approach.” This means through direct contact and discussion with the very writers and creative forces behind the works. The result is a remarkably transformed cargo bike and lend books for free, Freileser, or “open-air reader,” where we do so through language, not through some bombastic, top-down approach.” This means through direct contact and discussion with the very writers and creative forces behind the works. The result is a remarkably transformed cargo bike and lend books for free, Freileser, or “open-air reader,” where we do so through language, not through some bombastic, top-down approach.” This means through direct contact and discussion with the very writers and creative forces behind the works. The result is a remarkably transformed cargo bike and lend books for free, Freileser, or “open-air reader,” where we do so through language, not through some bombastic, top-down approach.” This means through direct contact and discussion with the very writers and creative forces behind the works. The result is a remarkably transformed cargo bike and lend books for free, Freileser, or “open-air reader,” where we do so through language, not through some bombastic, top-down approach.” This means...
A day on Freiburg’s balcony

By: Georg Rudiger

Herdern is quaint and fashionable, quiet and busy. Here in Freiburg’s exclusive residential quarter, you will run into students and professors alike. In addition, you will enjoy the most spectacular view from the hillsides. Even a cemetery is a real eye-catcher here.

She must have fallen asleep while reading. The book still lies open in her right hand, but the eyes of the beautiful young woman are closed. Yellow roses adorn her chest. Some of the folds in her blanket are covered with moss. The grave of Caroline Christine Walter, located by the wall in the northeast section of the Alter Friedhof (Old Cemetery), is constantly decorated with flowers, though no one knows who brings them. To this day, the fate of this girl from Opfingen, who passed away in 1867 at the tender age of 17, still has the power to move visitors. Here, at the Old Cemetery (1683–1872), which has since been declared a monument of natural and cultural heritage, you can learn a lot about Freiburg. You will come across names, such as Johann Christian Wentzinger, Heinrich Sautier and Karl von Rotteck, which can be found on the approximately 1,200 graves across the park-like grounds, that you also see on the city's street signs. Each tomb and grave in this special park is different. Wrought-iron crosses stand next to stone sculptures and simple plaques next to massive altars. Freiburg’s citizens have had themselves immortalized here and a gravestone can also serve as a status symbol.

If you leave this tranquil oasis by taking the Stadtstrasse exit and head deeper into Herdern going north, the path becomes a journey through time back to the Freiburg at the beginning of Imperial Germany, when in 1871, following the Franco-German War, the first villas were built in the up-and-coming city for manufacturers, high-ranking military officers, professors and the mayor. The year 1883 has been forged into the iron gate of an estate on Hansastrasse. On Weiberhofstrasse, you will find palatial twin villas. Jugendstil elements appear constantly, for example on Tivolistrasse, where stained-glass windows combine with floral reliefs. Sometimes the facades are decorated with stucco, while other times half-timbered frames have been incorporated into the villas of this exclusive residential area. You can simply drift your way through these streets lined with ancient trees and look forward to what architectural surprise the next property holds in store.

Alter Friedhof (Old Cemetery) ① A place of repose and of nature. Behind each grave there is a story. Each tree bears witness to the past.

April 1–October 31: 7 a.m.–8 p.m.
November 1–March 31: 8 a.m.–5 p.m.
CULTURAL LIFE

The longer you follow Stadtstrasse with its slight incline, the smaller and more modest the buildings become, at least on the left side of the street. By the time you reach the tapas bar La Pinte (the rustic village character of Old Herdern is already evident). At Hauptstrasse, there is nothing left remotely reminiscent of big-city flair. The gently babbling brook known as Glashbach washes away any sense of hustle or bustle. Kirchplatz (Church Square) is not only the site of the popular farmers market on Tuesday and Friday afternoons, but also the hub of Herdern, what with its village fountain, shady lime and chestnut trees and the church steps, which provide the perfect place to sit. The first mention of the village in a document is from the year 1008, which means Herdern is over 100 years older than Freiburg. The villagers lived here as craftspeople and winegrowers. The parish church is dedicated to St. Urban, who is the patron saint of winemakers. Visitors today will discover the town’s rustic village past not only in the architecture of Old Herdern, but also in the mindset of its inhabitants. The sense of solidarity is immense. Many festivals and traditions strengthen community spirit, such as St. Urban’s Day in May, which begins with a procession, the Herdermer Rock street festival in July, which is organized by local associations and the popular soapbox derby in September on Eichhalde hill. People here are Herderners first and Freiburgers second!

The “Little Nice” of Freiburg

On the other hand, Herdern has also become a snazzy place in the exclusive hillside locations. From ehemaligen Winzerort zum Klein-Nizza’ von Freiburg (From a Former Wine-growing Village to “Little Nice”) of Freiburg is the name that Hans Sigmund gave to his book chronicling Herdern’s 1,000-year history. The title not only alludes to the warmer climate that this part of town protected from the wind enjoys, but also nods to the exclusive nature of the city on the French Riviera. Between 1904 and 1907, the Lord Mayor of Freiburg, Otto Winterer, hired workers to build Panoramastrasse in order to develop attractive residential neighborhoods. In doing so, he paved the way for later things to come. The long Winterstrasse, winding Sommhalde and lofty Eichhalde are Freiburg’s top locations, where modern hillside homes featuring lots of glass and cement may be found next to castle-like villas. Up here, on Freiburg’s balcony, you can enjoy extensive views every day over the city, the Rhine plain and the Vosges. Behind the parish church in what’s known as the “back village,” the terrain rises up steeply at the “fools” fountain” of Herdern’s Lalli guild guided into Helsackweg. People farmed on the Helsack estate, situated above Sommhalde, until 1971. You can still see at least a few horses in the surrounding orchards. And if you look closely, you will discover a green wooden barrack in the bushes on the side of the road with a white inscription: Licht-Luft-Sport-Bad (Light-Air-Sports-Bathing). You have to be a member of Naturheilverein Freiburg (Naturopathic Association of Freiburg), founded in 1899, in order to get a key to this tradition-rich place where, according to the charter, one must “care for one’s health by seeking fresh air, exercise, sunshine and cold-water treatments.” There is no pool, but the site does offer changing rooms, showers and a ping-pong table – as well as a magnificent view that the village youth in the 1950s sometimes traded for a titillating peek through a knothole into the nudist section.

Hans Sigmund

There is probably no one who knows Herdern as well as Hans Sigmund. In addition to having written the book “1000 Jahre Herdern” (“1000 Years of Herdern”), the former savings bank director (born in 1939) is also the honorary chairman of the citizens’ association and chronicler for the fools’ guild. He takes care of maintaining the Old Cemetery as a booster club member as well. While I have been living in Haslach since 1990, I find myself in Herdern almost every day. I like the communal spirit of the people from Herdern. We have a strong attachment to our homeland. My favorite place is Kirchplatz. The whole life of the town happens here around the Catholic parish church of St. Urban and the church’s steps are where all of the festivals and celebrations take place. For meals, I like going to Herdern’s oldest inn, Zum Schwaben. It’s also where we meet for our “Lalli-Zunft” (the local fools’ guild whose mask features a tongue lolling out of the mouth) and enjoy the tasty and affordable Italian cuisine. I still like the imposing red Herder building, designed by Freiburg architect Max Meckel, very much. The publishing house with its printing shop was an important place of employment for the people of Herdern after the war. Today, you can see the university’s archeological collection there.
Immerse yourself in a sea of flowers and leave everyday cares behind at the university’s Botanical Garden.

The former Hotel Stadt Wien located at the Remwweg intersection is one such jewel. Barracks were once situated west of Habsburgerstrasse. Nowadays, they are home to government agencies, such as the tax office and a correctional facility, which locals refer to as “Cafe Fließwerk“ (Café Fließwerk) due to the building’s five wings arranged in the shape of a star. The quarter is filled with life thanks to the many students who study medicine or one of the natural sciences here. A real eye-catcher on Habsburgerstrasse is the oxblood-colored building that is the Herder-Verlag (Herder Publishing House), which occupies a whole block. Today, large sections of the building, which was erected between 1900 and 1912, are home to the university’s department of forestry and silviculture. The inscription Geist schafft Leben (Spirit gives life) perches above the temple-like facade decorated in gold at the Herrmann-Herder-Strasse entrance. Now it’s high time to replenish your strength after the long walk through Herdern. Primo Market (Primo Market) on Bernhardstrasse doesn’t look very inviting from the outside and even inside, it takes some getting used to. But the particular appeal of neon lights and supermarket shelves. But by the time you are standing in line at the open-concept kitchen and owner Fabrizio Bonacci starts reciting the entire handwritten menu, the feeling of anticipation for the traditional Italian dishes begins to grow. Time for enjoying the finer things in life—that, too, is necessary in Herdern.

Q&A: My favorite spots

Fabrizio Bonacci

Fabrizio Bonacci has been running Primo Market on Bernhardstrasse for 15 years. Originally from Rome, he has expanded the charm-free supermarket into a top-notch trattoria that serves traditional Italian recipes for lunch and dinner. And anyone can look on.

I came to Freiburg because of love. The city reminds me of Italy. When it’s warm in the summer, life happens outside. I also like the Black Forest. The city’s proximity to France, Switzerland and, of course, Italy, is wonderful. I was deeply impressed by Münsterplatz and the Cathedral when I was here for the very first time with my father. It’s as if you can breathe in the history of the city there. I like the kind of German home cooking that’s served at Martinsbräu. Simple, but good—and featuring fresh ingredients. The beer tastes amazing, too. I enjoy going to the Mundenhof animal and nature adventure park with my kids. I really love the zoo there. It’s so wonderfully normal and located right on the city’s doorstep. People should get to know their own corner of the world before traveling to distant lands.

Münsterplatz, Freiburg Old Town

www.freiburgermuenster.info

Martinsbräu

@ Kaiser-Joseph-Strasse 237 www.martinsbräu-freiburg.de

Mundenhof—animal and nature adventure park

@ Mundenhof 37 www.mundenhof.de

Korbfliechtewei Witt

With their basketry workshop located right next to Kirchplatz, Gaby and Roland Witt run one of the last craft businesses in Herdern. They weave and repair everything from bread baskets to wicker chairs—all by hand, of course! @ Hauptstrasse 35 www.korbfliechtewei-witt.de

Stadtgarten

From strolling and chilling to slacklining, reading and more, the small, well-tended municipal park at the foot of Schlossberg is a popular place close to the city center where olives and mountains alike go to relax. The architecturally daring music pavilion is a venue where regular concerts and the annual Theatersport Festival are held. @ Jacob-Burckhardt-Strasse/Leopoldring.

Die Eisemanufaktur (INSTITUTE DISTRICT)

As the name suggests, you will find homemade ice cream here featuring natural and regional ingredients. The patio that abuts Kirchplatz also tempts patrons with an “after work on the piazza” feeling. @ Sandstrasse 2 www.dieeismanufaktur.de

Anadolu

Here you will find homemade appetizers, a wide assortment of olives, vegetables from the Kaiserstuhl hills and preserves filled with spices. @ Stefan-Meier-Strasse 129

Chada Thai

The sedate Musikerviertel (Musicians District) doesn’t offer too many attractions, but Chada Thai is definitely one of them, what with its patio bathed in the generous shade of chestnut trees, its exquisite Thai cuisine and tasteful furnishings. @ Richard-Wagner-Strasse 24 www.chadathai.de

Lebemann

This young bar has it all: scrumptious breakfast options, an ever-changing lunch menu, bratwurst specialties and all sorts of cocktails. @ Habsburgerstrasse 110 www.lebemann-freiburg.de

Restaurant Rose

This inconspicuous pavilion is not an eye-catcher and unobtrusive owner Somphon Schippers displays a rather acerbic charm. Perhaps this is part of the reason why her Laotian restaurant “Rose” has achieved cult status, though it is mainly due to the fresh Asian cuisine dished up here at affordable prices. @ Stefan-Meier-Strasse 34
Learn more about Freiburg?

If we have whet your appetite for learning more about Freiburg, you can feed that need all on your own. Go to www.visit.freiburg.de/en/strolls, where you will find select themed walks, from dining or shopping to city history or arts & culture. You can also learn more about health, nature and sustainability in Freiburg whenever and wherever it suits you.

Follow that Freiburg feeling
Whether you are a culture addict or allergic to museums, a nature lover or hobby historian, a churchgoer or an epicurean, a pack animal or an individualist, you can plan your perfect time in Freiburg online by visiting here: www.visit.freiburg.de

Get inspired and find out everything you need to know about seasonal activities, musical events and cultural highlights:

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www.visit.freiburg.de

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