A TOWN FULL OF HISTORY, TRADITIONS & CULTURE

Settled here during the Thirty Years’ War, have felt their mark on this part of the town. There is, of course, much more to be discovered in Seligenstadt apart from those gems mentioned before. Within the town walls 177 listed buildings can be admired, many of these are half-timbered houses restored to an exemplary standard. A leisurely 20-minute walk along the river to the “Wasserburg” (Moated Castle), the summer residence of the former abbots, is very much recommended. This country house completed in 1708 is well worth a visit although the interior is not accessible. However, the visitor will be compensated by the charm of its Baroque architecture. While you are on the way to the Moated Castle you should not fail to visit the “Evangelische Kirche” (Protestant Church).

Visitors will find ample parking facilities in Seligenstadt, marked with a “P” on the map of the town. Guided tours are on offer each Saturday at 12.30 p.m., starting at the Einhardhaus in which the Tourist Information Office is located. Here individual guided tours can also be booked.

Close to the Old House, about 300 yards from the Grabensteine, you will find the Wendelinuskapelle (Wendelinus Chapel). Retracing your steps it is only a couple of minutes’ walk to “Kleine Frankreich” (Little France). This quarter in the Northwest of the Old Town offers a particularly cozy and peaceful atmosphere. Exiled Wallians with their French way of life were
The Benedictine Abbey always remained the central point of the expanding settlement which was granted the freedom of a city in 1175. Whilst there is nothing left of Einhard’s early cloister buildings the abbey church has weathered more than a thousand years; although, various different architectural periods have left their traces the church remains nearly undamaged.

The visitor enters the Carolingian Basilica – a cultural monument of European significance - through the neo-Romanesque portal arches under the western towers added on in the 19th century. An early Gothic choir with a mighty lantern tower was added to the plain but impressive nave during the 13th century. Even today the relics of the martyrs Petrus and Marcellinus are kept in a beautiful silver shrine on the high altar.

The way from the basilica along the cloister walls leads to the main portal of the former Benedictine Abbey. Here, at the main portal of the former Benedictine Abbey. Here, it is possible to glimpse the plain but impressive nave during the 13th century.

Crossing the courtyard of the classical Town-Hall (1823) you will reach the market square with its fine examples of richly ornamented half-timbered houses. However, even more ancient houses are to be discovered nearby such as the “Einhardhaus” (Old House) dating from 1596, Seligenstadt’s best known half-timbered building. A further example of highly developed craftsmanship worth seeing is the “Alte Haus” (Old House) dating from 1327.