

A NEW  
PERSPECTIVE



UNLIMITED INCENTIVE OPPORTUNITIES  
IN FRANKFURT AND THE  
RHINE MAIN REGION

*Le* MERIDIEN

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## Unlimited Incentive Opportunities in Frankfurt and the Rhine Main Region

Frankfurt and the Rhine Main Region offer unlimited opportunities not only to visit some important historical spots of Germany, but also to experience some of the most beautiful natural highlights of Germany. With its location right in the center of Germany and with the largest airport in continental Europe, Frankfurt is one of the easiest destinations to reach in Europe.

But back to the many-sided city that perfectly mingles business and leisure. Frankfurt's amazing equilibrium between bustling economy and leisure time activities can hardly be matched by other cities. Unsurprisingly, the fascinating skyline of modern skyscrapers is just round the corner from the historic city center and the magnificent buildings of the museum district. Just as diverse, Frankfurt and the Rhine-Main-Area present itself with fancy, sportive and stylish social programs, and countless events:

Be they adventuresome (off-road tour with a Touareg) or jolly (soccer matches or great concerts in the Commerzbank Arena), fascinating (a boat trip on the Rhine river) or thrilling (a flight simulator exercise at the Lufthansa Flight Training Center), out of the ordinary (have you ever rented a dinosaur museum?) or incredible (hip clubs, such as King Kamehameha, Präsidium, Cocoon Club, ...), rustic or stylish, classic or funny or ...

There are endless ideas how your stay in our region will become an unforgettable one. Below you find a fine selection of the various choices available and together with your individual ideas and expectations we will make your event unique.

Have a look and please contact us to explore everything in more detail:



## Opportunities around Frankfurt

- Rhine Valley - In search of Rhinegold treasure (30 minutes drive from Frankfurt)

Following the 1,320-km course of the Rhine from its source in Switzerland to the river's mouth in the North Sea, the most interesting section is without doubt the Middle Rhine and the Rhine Valley between Mainz and Bonn. This area where the Rhine cuts through the Slate Mountains between Bingen and Koblenz is also part of the Upper Middle Rhine Valley UNESCO world heritage site. With its many castles, it is the epitome of a romantic German landscape. Few other regions around the world are so densely packed with authentic historical attractions.

The Song of the Nibelungs, written in 1200, tells how the sinister Hagen, said to be from the Hunsrück region, sank the legendary Nibelungs' treasure in the Rhine. The narrowness of the valley, the untamed river waters and the mysterious echo all play their part in the myth of the Loreley, the blond siren on the rock who once lured sailors to their death, here where the Rhine is at its narrowest, with her beguiling song and mysterious beauty. The legend is as old as time itself. There is still a Loreley today, but she is not in the business of enticing people to their doom.

Nowadays the Loreley open-air theatre hosts rock, pop and folklore events. This region has been shaped by myths, sagas, legends and fairytales, not to mention historical and political events, medieval battles, religious Electoral feuds and spiritual and military conflicts. The knights brandishing their swords and clanking round the castles in their armour are long gone. Horses' hooves are no longer heard in the courtyards; the minnesingers' lutes are silent. However, the castles continue to dream and you secretly wish that their walls could tell a story.

The Rhine has more castles along its length than any other river in the world. Built to protect power and possessions, they were not only well-fortified residences and refuges, but also lucrative customs posts and hideouts for infamous robber barons

è Program idea:

- Excursion to Eberbach Monastery: The 800-year old Eberbach Monastery (Eltville am Rhein) - one of the locations for the film "The Name of the Rose" - is home to the wine estate belonging to the State of Hesse. Wine-tasting and tours are available. Depending on the size of your group, the tastings can be held in the tasting room, the cellar, in the baroque-style refectory or in the 13th century dormitory. It is also possible to combine the wine-tasting activities with a tour of the monastery.
- One-Day-Excursion to and through the Rheingau including wine tasting at a vineyard: On this day-long coach trip you will be acquainted with Germany's most enchanting wine-growing region and the areas' numerous castles, churches and wineries. We'll show you the famous Loreley heights and the Rhine towns Rudesheim, St. Goarshausen and Assmannshausen. Other famous sights on the tour include the Valentines Church in Kiedrich, the Eberbach Monastery, the Niederwald Memorial and the wine museum in Brömserberg. Lunch is the perfect opportunity for trying some of the famous Rheingau-Riesling wines.



- Main – Taunus Region (The outskirts of Frankfurt – 15 minutes drive)

The Taunus hills stretch for more than 75 kilometers from the area known as the Wetterau as far as the Rhine, dropping steeply down into the valleys of the Rhine and the Main. The surrounding countryside is impressive and diverse, featuring broad swathes of forest interspersed with meadow valleys and open fields. Known for its hills, castles, palaces and spa resorts, the Main-Taunus region is a lush green gem.

From the hills, you can enjoy panoramic views over the densely wooded countryside to idyllic villages, secluded mills, rocky hills, tranquil lakes and the Frankfurt skyline. Though not actually classified as mountains, the hills reach up to 880 metres above sea level at their highest peak, the Grosse Feldberg with the Brunhildis rock and its breathtaking views. According to legend, it was used as a resting place by the Valkyrie and Teutonic gods.

The slightly smaller Kleine Feldberg has a weather and earthquake station on it, while the Altkönig features an ancient stone "crown" made of circular Celtic walls. And in the valleys below, you'll be surrounded by birdsong and the rustle of trees all year round while visiting the parks and orchards, churches and temples, half-timbered buildings, quaint cider bars, bakehouses and mills, or walking alongside the small streams flowing through idyllic countryside. The knights certainly knew a good thing when they saw it: they built a whole string of castles in the Taunus hills high above the Main plain.

For those interested in history, the region also has a number of fascinating museums including the Hessenpark open-air museum where you'll find history at your fingertips. Saalburg Castle is the only restored fort from the days of the Roman Empire. Immerse yourself in the history of the region with its rich and varied cultural attractions - or simply relax in the thermal waters at one of the sophisticated health resorts where the beneficial mineral water bubbles up out of the ground from unfathomable depths. The Ancient Romans spent a long period of time here, and they learned to prize the therapeutic waters and mild climate of the Taunus hills.

#### è Program idea

- Combine a day trip to the Taunus with a high-ropes-course in the Frankfurt Rhine-Main region - Incentives for clients, employees and teams on 15.000 sq/m outdoor area. Special theme-events i.e. "Asterix & Obelix"-Meals, Tipi-Tent-Accommodation or open-air congresses for 450 pax.
- Quad tours and quad events: The ATV and Quad Shop Niedernhausen offers guided on-road and off-road tours through the adventuresome Rheingau and Taunus regions. Increase employee motivation, promote teamwork and customer loyalty or simply take in the thrill and excitement of a rugged off-road venture. There are plenty of good reasons to take our quads and all-terrain vehicles out for a spin! One thing's certain, it'll be the most fun you've had in quite a while. Combined with one or more of our other outdoor activities, which include a quad course, climbing wall, mountain-bike trail and archery competitions, we are able to perform special events for up to 100 participants.
- Castle Incentive Schloss Kransberg: Teambuilding at Kransberg Castle in Taunus will be the unique experience for your group incentive. Searching for the Treasure of the Castle you will have to open a treasure chest. The group members will be divided into teams and have to collect special notes. Therefore they have to solve different games and tasks, which require an optimal teamwork and a lot of creativity. The number of stations and the size of the teams will be adapted individually to your group size and your schedule. Some Fun ? Of course!



- Heidelberg and surrounding areas (1 hour drive away, excellent for a day trip)  
 The Castle Road, one of Germany's longest-established scenic routes, celebrated its 50th anniversary in March 2004. Fully signposted and running for around 1,000 km from Mannheim to Prague, it offers plenty of diversity, historical sites and delightful scenery peppered with romantic castles and fairytale palaces. The glorious past, still very much in evidence today, has left its imprint on many towns and villages along the route. The scenery along the route is as fascinating and awe-inspiring as the region's history. As the river Neckar meanders through the legendary Odenwald region, the Neckar valley reveals itself in all its grandeur. The Hohenlohe plain seems almost endless, but then come the rolling Franconian Heights, then the northern part of Franconian Switzerland. In Mannheim and Heidelberg visitors can still admire the legacy of the former Palatine electors, who adored the arts.

è Program idea

- Visit Heidelberg! It is the blend of different, thoroughly contrasting characteristics that harmonize to make Heidelberg a fascinating and unique place. The charm of this interplay has inspired artists, stimulated scientists and is an unforgettable experience for all visitors to the city. What is striking is the beauty of the location and architecture. The baroque silhouette of the houses, the green of the hills, the beguiling curve of the bridge over the river and, of course, the ruins of the electoral castle. Beneath them pulses modern life. Students, tourists and long-time residents meet in winding streets. They enjoy the annual jazz, classical music, film, theatre and literature festivals. Research takes place here at the highest level, not only at Germany's oldest university, but in numerous renowned scientific institutes and up-and-coming life science companies. Situated in one of the most dynamic economic regions in Germany and with deal transport connections, Heidelberg is also an attractive congress and conference location. Castle idyll and Technology Park, romantics and Nobel Prize winners, Bridge Monkey and (S)printing Horse – this city combines he diverse to form something unique. Heidelberg is, one may say, quite ideal.



- German Fairytale Route - To fairytale land in the footsteps of the Brothers Grimm (The route starts in Hanau, approximately 20 minutes away from Frankfurt – Good for a day program)

Travel to fairyland on the German Fairytale Route, one of the oldest scenic routes in Germany. It takes you on a magical journey from Bremen to Hanau, linking more than 70 towns and villages associated with the Brothers Grimm and the realm of fairytales, sagas, myths and legends. Fabulous footpaths and cycle trails whisk you away to the wonderful world of fairytales where childhood dreams spring into life... to the land of daring princes, the seven dwarfs and their seven mountains, enchanting fairies, the Pied Piper and Little Red Riding Hood. Between Heiligenstadt and Göttingen you can walk the Frau Holle trail - Frau Holle could still be shaking out her featherbeds to "make it snow" and you will feel like Hans in Luck.

So let's go away to the places where these fairytales are set. Trendelburg Castle, for example, where the Rapunzel tower offers glorious views of Reinhardswald forest, Sababurg Castle, where Sleeping Beauty was woken by the prince's kiss, and Ebergötzen mill museum, which features the rascals Max and Moritz and their seven pranks. In delightful Schwalmstadt we recall Little Red Riding Hood and the wolf, on Mount Hoher Meissner we find ourselves in the fairytale land of Frau Holle. Hamlyn awaits with the tale of the Pied Piper and in Polle we are on the trail of Cinderella. The German Fairytale Route is also glorious walking terrain. A land of fantasy for young and old alike, it offers open-air plays, puppet festivals, fairytale festivals - one celebration after another.

#### è Program idea

- Enjoy a fairytale day with a historical feast: In some places visitors come face to face with "real" fairytale characters. No visit is complete without a historical feast - there are buffets and fairytale meals with all the trimmings, barn parties, regal banquets and all the pleasures of medieval dining. The German Fairytale Route offers culture and history, enchanting medieval towns, bewitched castles, fairytale palaces, museums, galleries, concerts and theatres - a charming blend of colorful town life and local folklore traditions. Sleeping Beauty, Little Red Riding Hood, Hansel and Gretel – who could resist the idea of going in search of the characters from our favorite childhood fairytales. Many fairytales start with "Once upon a time..." Travel the German Fairytale Route and create a fairytale that is yours to keep.



- Odenwald forest - half-timbered architecture, the Bergstrasse and UNESCO Geopark (another opportunity for a fantastic day trip)  
Odenwald forest is located in the south-west of Frankfurt. This area of uplands is known for its romantic countryside with meadows, forests and valleys. It is bounded by the Main and Neckar rivers and the "Bergstrasse" region with its centuries-old wine making tradition. In the summer, you can visit its idyllic villages with houses that are resplendent with dazzling displays of flowers, and in the autumn the fairytale-like landscape is dominated by the colourful broadleaf forests. Designated a UNESCO Geopark, the Odenwald forest also features a number of medieval town centres.

#### Half-timbered architecture and lions' heads in Michelstadt

Built in 1484, the late-Gothic town hall of Michelstadt is certainly one of the most unusual half-timbered buildings in Germany. Massive, heavy oakwood beams, rounded gables and turrets give the building its medieval character. The town hall stands on the market square, which also features the Renaissance-style Marktbrunnen fountain. Donated by Count Georg II zu Erbach in 1575, it is deservedly described as the most beautiful of Michelstadt's many fountains. Home to the German Ivory Museum, the only one of its kind in Europe, a large market square on the banks of the romantic Mümling river and the Royal Collections at the castle, neighboring Erbach is also well worth a visit.

#### Messel Pit Fossil Site - fossils preserved in oil shale

A UNESCO World Heritage site renowned for the fascinating fossils from the Eocene period found during excavations, Messel Pit Fossil Site near Darmstadt-Dieburg is one of the region's very special attractions. Particular highlights include the very well preserved, fossilised remains of mammals and of the prehistoric horse, Hyracotherium. You can enjoy a guided tour of the Messel Pit or find out about the site and its history from the information boards. There is also an observation platform offering a fantastic overview of this fascinating excavation site.

#### Halloween German style

The over 750 year-old Frankenstein Castle, just a few kilometers south of Darmstadt, is associated with a wealth of legends and fairytales, truths and untruths, ideals of romantic chivalry and ghost stories. Doctor Frankenstein's monster was the creation of English authoress Mary Shelley. Having taken a boat trip on the Rhine at the beginning of the 19th century, she is thought to have stopped off to visit the ruins of this castle and felt that the name of Frankenstein would make a good title for her horror novel. Today, the castle is a popular attraction with a restaurant and a diverse program of events. Halloween is celebrated here in style every year for more than 4 weeks

#### ☞ Program idea

- Castle Frankenstein grounds provide the perfect backdrop for our exciting outdoor endeavours. Take a trip through time and emerge in the age of chivalry and honour, knights in shining armour and fair maidens. Storm the legendary castle together with your fellow knights, whether teammates or work colleagues they be. But beware! Various obstacles have been devised to make your advance a most difficult one.
- Or how about ending a day in Frankenstein's Castle? Let your guests disguise as Dracula, Frankenstein and other monsters and enjoy a "weird" dinner? You won't find a more genuine location!



- Towns and cities in Rheinhessen - fine wines and fascinating history (also a opportunity for a day excursion)  
 Situated in Rhineland-Palatinate in the south-west of Frankfurt, Rheinhessen is the country's largest wine-making area. Surrounded by the Rhine and Nahe rivers, the region has 1,700 hours of sunshine a year, making it one of the warmest in Germany. It covers an area of 1,400 km in a triangle between Mainz, Worms and Bingen, bounded by the Rhine in the north and east, and by the Alzey hills in the west. discover famous vineyards, gently rolling hills and historical towns that have been shaped by the region's rich history and mythology from the Romans to the saga of the Nibelungs.

#### Ingelheimer Kaiserpfalz

Charlemagne, one of the most powerful men of his time, turned his imperial palace into a 'command centre' for important decisions that were to have a significant impact on the history and development of Europe. Take a journey back in time to the 8th century and discover the history of the statesman at this royal residence built in 785 AD. The imperial palace witnessed a number of significant historical events, e.g. the meeting between Emperor Friedrich I, known as Barbarossa, and Hildegard von Bingen in 1163. Beautifully preserved highlights include the Aula regia assembly hall, the single-nave church and the throne room.

#### International celebrities - Rheinhessen's towns and cities

Among the most well-known towns and cities in Rheinhessen are the regional capital of Rhineland-Palatinate, Mainz, with its Roman relics such as the Mater Magna temples and the festival town of Worms with its Romanesque cathedral and the oldest Jewish cemetery in Europe, which also has associations with the famous Nibelung saga. Other cultural highlights include the opportunity to experience the world of Hildegard von Bingen, one of the most famous German women from the Middle Ages who founded Rupertsberg convent in Bingen.

#### è Program idea

- Heavenly nectar - Rheinhessen wine specialities  
 Wine lovers from all over the world enjoy the famous Sylvaner, Müller-Thurgau, Riesling, Bacchus, Huxel and Scheurebe wines produced on the gently rolling, lush hills of the Rheinhessen region with its sunny climate. The light and sweet Portugieser heads up Rheinhessen's small but excellent list of red wines, followed by the sophisticated pinot noir and Dornfelder. The white, rosé and red sparkling wines produced in the region are well loved by wine experts and connoisseurs. Wines from Rheinhessen are the most frequently drunk wines in Germany. So why not tasting these famous wines? Just combine a wine tasting with a guided tour through the vineyards – enjoy the wine with all senses! Treasure hunts are a great possibility, too.



## Opportunities in Frankfurt

Frankfurt am Main, the unknown city

Frankfurt – the financial centre of the continent, the European city, the transport hub, the smallest metropolis in the world. Those who think of the city on the Main, think of the airport, the Paulskirche and Goethe, think of the Stock Exchange, the Book Fair and the skyline. There is no doubt about it; Frankfurt brings opposites together in a charming way. A city with a savoir-vivre, in whose streets multilingualism is an accepted way of life. At the same time, the flair of the global city and homely coziness are often just a few steps apart. The self-contained and intact life of many districts of the city, such as Bornheim and Sachsenhausen, as well as the village atmosphere, for example, of Seckbach or Bergen-Enkheim show the other endearing and charming side of the city that often remains hidden from visitors.

Part of the unmistakable character of the city on the river are the renowned museums on the banks of the Main, the fascinating high-rise architecture, the thinkers of the Frankfurt School just as much as the Grüne Soße (a herb sauce, a specialty of Frankfurt), Ebbelwei (Apfelwein or cider) and Frankfurter sausages. Numerous exhibition halls, theatres and historic sites are all nearby and the next café or restaurant is also not far away. In short: Frankfurt has a lot to offer!

### è Program idea

- Lufthansa Flight Training Center – the largest Flight Training Center in continental Europe: Here, fascinating architecture, the expertise of commercial pilots and the brand identity of Lufthansa combine to create an impressive backdrop for festive evening functions, successful seminars and attractive incentive programmes. Take a seat in the simulated cockpit of a giant commercial airliner, normally used to train professional pilots, and learn how to take off, fly and land a behemoth of the skies. And if you think you feel pressure in your job, see how it feels to deal with emergencies such as a fire on board, the loss of cabin pressure or a splash-down. A great experience and a real eye-opener!
- Business Movie: Tired of the usual team games and reflection activities? Then why not liven things up with a day of filmmaking on a life-like movie set? Direct, produce or star in your very own Oscar-worthy motivational film while simultaneously improving teamwork as well as team spirit. Your cinematic efforts will be aptly supported by our qualified personnel and professional production equipment including stage props. Everything's here waiting for you! Bring your screenplay, your actors, production team and away you go
- Discover Frankfurt - Murder Mystery Games: This classical hunt for clues is a real challenge: In a race against time, and the rival teams, the participants are on the trail of a 'last will and testament'. Hunting down the clues requires teamwork, and leads you to several beautiful corners of the city. Be baffled, decipher the clues, and have loads of fun as you discover the City of Frankfurt. Who will find the inheritance? Advice: An even number of teams is necessary here, because two teams working together can cooperate to creatively solve different problems!
- Drum Conversation: Drum workshops for team-building and as an active break from seminars and conferences! DRUM CONVERSATION strengthens team spirit while injecting energy and motivation into your conference or seminar. Participants are furnished with an African drum and instructed in its use by our team of professionals, enabling them to become an integral component of a massive drum ensemble. The initial scepticism encountered is part and parcel of our concept, helping to increase the sense of achievement of all participants after their performance. Groups from 10 to 6,000 persons are welcome.
- Raft Building and Beach Party – at a lake right next to Frankfurt: On this "activity day", you and your team-mates are given the task of building from scratch a robust and fully functional river raft. All necessary items including ropes, drums, barrels, timber, sailcloth and spray paint - as well as one of our experienced trainers - are available in great quantity.