

STADT BAMBERG





Organisation der Vereinten Nationen für Bildung, Wissenschaft und Kultur Altstadt von Bamberg Welterbe seit 1993

ABOUT THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE **'TOWN OF BAMBERG'**

It is well known that Bamberg is on the World Heritage List, but do you know what this really means? Test your knowledge with our World Heritage quiz!

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So, what is it actually called? UNESCO World Cultural Heritage? UNESCO World Natural Heritage? UNESCO World Heritage? World Heritage City?



The World Heritage Convention is about cultural heritage as well as natural heritage. Whether a site is classified as cultural or natural heritage depends on the criteria for which it was inscribed. Cities would by definition belong to the World Cultural Heritage. Therefore, in the case of Bamberg, 'World Heritage', 'World Cultural Heritage' and 'World Heritage City' are all correct. So while the designation 'World Cultural Heritage City' is rich in words, the meaning doesn't change!

When did the 'Town of Bamberg' become UNESCO World Heritage?



In 1993, the 'Town of Bamberg' became the 624th World Heritage site on the UNESCO World Heritage List. In the same year the Maulbronn Monastery Complex and 31 other sites were inscribed on the list.

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How big is the World Heritage site 'Town of Bamberg'?

The World Heritage site 'Town of Bamberg' covers 142 hectares (excluding the buffer zone). Although it is popularly believed to be the largest World Heritage site in Germany, or even its largest World Heritage city, this is not the case.

Which parts of the city belong to the World Heritage 'Town of Bamberg'?



The World Heritage 'Town of Bamberg' includes the City on the Hills (together with the Cathedral and the former Benedictine Monastery of St Michael), the Island District and the Market Gardeners' District. The Hain park is located in the buffer zone. Altenburg and Gartenstadt are located outside the World Heritage area and buffer zone.

Why is the 'Town of Bamberg' UNESCO World Heritage?



A condition for nomination to the UNESCO World Heritage List is that a site must meet at least one of ten criteria. The inclusion of the 'Town of Bamberg' on the World Heritage List is a result of its 'Outstanding Universal Value' that is based on the following criteria:

- From the 11th century the layout and architecture of medieval and baroque Bamberg strongly influenced urban design and development in Central Europe.
- Bamberg is a unique and exceptionally well preserved example of an early medieval town in Central Europe, both in its layout and its religious and secular buildings.

What is a 'World Heritage' site according to UNESCO?



According to the conditions set by UNESCO, a World Heritage site is a place which has meaning for all humanity and is therefore worthy of special protection. A World Heritage city can demonstrate how people lived and worked in times past and is therefore also an excellent place to learn. The designation 'World Heritage' is not about certifying attractive tourist destinations. What other cultural heritage does Bamberg have, besides its World Heritage?



Apart from its UNESCO World Heritage status, Bamberg also has the intangible heritage of gardening. In 2014, the 'Inner city Market Gardening in Bamberg' was inscribed on the Bavarian Register of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

In addition, several entries to the UNESCO Memory of the World Register are kept in the Bamberg State Library: the Lorsch Pharmacopoeia, which is the oldest surviving book on monastic medicine of the early Middle Ages, and two illuminated Reichenau manuscripts from around the year 1000 - the 'Bamberg Apocalypse' and the 'Commentary on the Song of Songs and the Book of Daniel'. What responsibilities does Bamberg have with its World Heritage status?



World Heritage status comes with the obligation to ensure the protection and preservation of the state and values of the site as well as its passing on to future generations. It also entails a reporting obligation. Major construction projects that could affect the 'Outstanding Universal Value' of the World Heritage should be agreed with UNES-CO. Modern building is allowed provided it is not to the detriment of historic building fabric or important views of the site. The architectural development of the city should and must be visible. Who is responsible for the protection and financing of a World Heritage site?



When a site becomes UNESCO World Heritage, it does not change anything about who has responsibility, only about the related obligations. There are no financial provisions from UNESCO for German World Heritage sites. Special federal funding programmes can help to finance maintenance costs.

What is meant by the 'Bamberg Model'?

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The 'Bamberg Model' refers to a programme started by the City of Bamberg in the 1950s, which provides advice and financial support to owners for the renovation of historic buildings. Since 2003 grants for the 'Bamberg Model' have been awarded by the Stiftung Weltkulturerbe Bamberg.