

Fortress Portrait



Fortress

Germany, Thuringia

Fortress moated castle Heldrungen

The only completely preserved fortified moated castle of French fortress architecture in Germany.



European Culture Route of Fortified Heritage

Monuments of power - full of life



Experience World

A defiant castle complex with a wide water ditch tells history

The fortress moated castle Heldrungen near Erfurt and Weimar offers a diverse, interesting and sustainable programmes for all target groups:

- The castle's boat rental – rowing in around 2 km long water moats
- Medieval market – moated castle Heldrungen
- Archery facilities, basket and volley ball, table tennis, playground
- Historical castle tours, barbecue and camp fire with camp fire bread
- Reservoir - most important „bird landing spot“ of thousands of cranes of Thuringia
- Visit of the world's biggest all-year model railway layout
- Visit of the Panorama Museum (German Peasants' War)
- Visit of the Barbarossa cave / Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial / Kyffhäuser Memorial (also Barbarossa Memorial: third biggest memorial in Germany)

History

The moated castle was first mentioned in 1143. Originally built as a refuge castle for residents of the near manor "Red Manor", it later served as an important base for the nobility during the Peasants' War.

After his overwhelming defeat, Thomas Müntzer, theologian, reformer and leader of a Peasants army in the battle of Frankenhausen, was detained here, held captive and tortured until his execution. During the Thirty Years' War the troops of Wallenstein conquered the fortress in 1632. Further change of ownership followed until the moated castle was taken over by the Swedish. Today a modernised youth hostel and a castle café in the impressive fortress invite the guest to stay and to "experience history".

Architecture

The moated castle Heldrungen is a cultural memorial of national importance. The three-wing building was rebuilt to a renaissance moated castle from 1512 to 1519 and afterwards completed with an enormous fortification and two moat systems. With this double moat, the castle is a unique evidence of medieval fortification art.

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Tourism Service



Tourism Infrastructure



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www.forte-cultura.eu



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Impressions

