

DILSBERG FORTRESS RUINS



OPENING TIMES
CASTLE, BAILEY
1 APRIL TO 31 OCTOBER
DAILY EXCEPT MONDAYS
(OPEN ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS)
10 AM TO 5.30 PM

May close earlier in stormy weather

1 NOVEMBER TO 31 MARCH
By prior arrangement

BRUNNENSTOLLEN
AS FOR THE CASTLE
May be closed occasionally
to protect bat colonies

GUIDED TOURS
Group tours by arrangement
with the Tourist Information Centre
in Neckargemünd

ADMISSION
 · ADULTS € 2.00
 · CONCESSIONS € 1.00

DISABILITY ACCESS
Information is available at
www.schloesser-und-gaerten.de/disabilityaccess

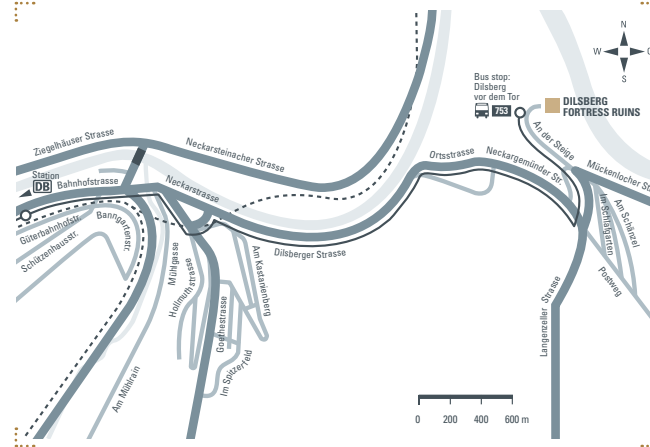
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ENQUIRIES AND INFORMATION ON
GROUP TOURS: TOURIST
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 69151 Neckargemünd, Germany
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info@tourismus-neckargemuend.de

Last updated: November 2011
 All information subject to change



HOW TO FIND US



GETTING THERE

By public transport: from Heidelberg central station by train to Neckargemünd (approx. 15 min.), then take bus line 753 to Neckargemünd Dilsberg, getting off at the stop Dilsberg vor dem Tor.

MORE INFORMATION
 Staatliche Schlösser und Gärten
 Baden-Württemberg
 Schlossraum 22a
 76646 Bruchsal, Germany
 Phone +49(0)72 51.74 - 2770
info@ssg.bwl.de



www.schloesser-und-gaerten.de/en



A PROUD FORTRESS WITH A SECRET TUNNEL

DILSBERG FORTRESS RUINS



Photo credit: SSG, LMZ; concept and design: www.jungkommunikation.de

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Dilsberg Fortress Ruins are known for their sweeping 360° views of the Neckar valley and the Odenwald forest. The other highlight is to be found lower down – a subterranean passageway in the depths of the well.

Dilsberg Fortress Ruins (*Burgfeste Dilsberg*) occupy a prominent position on a hilltop overlooking the Neckar valley, near the picturesque former imperial city of Neckargemünd. Built around 1150 by the counts of Lauffen, Dilsberg passed into the possession of the electoral palatinate in the 14th century, and was granted city rights in 1347.

RISE AND FALL OF A STEADFAST FORTRESS

For a long time, the castle was regarded as unconquerable, until it was eventually occupied by imperial forces under Count Tilly in the Thirty Years' War, after a long siege. In 1633, the fortress was taken again, this time by the Swedes. However, despite these defeats and some fierce battles, Dilsberg was never successfully stormed by attackers, nor was it destroyed. When the electoral palatinate came




 *An impressive sight: Dilsberg is known for its castle walls, which are over 15 metres high*

to an end in 1803, the fortress and town became part of Baden, the former serving as a prison. In the 19th century, the castle fell into disuse, and was used as quarry. In the early 20th century, however, the ruins became an increasingly popular tourist attraction, and were ultimately restored and partially reconstructed.

A FASCINATING PASSAGEWAY

The impressive 46-metre deep well in the bailey, or castle courtyard, supplied the defenders with much-needed water during sieges. A particular highlight of the fortress is to be found here: an approximately 80-metre long subterranean passageway, *the Brunnenstollen*, lies a few metres above water level. Rediscovered in 1896 by Fritz von Briesen, the tunnel was opened in 1926. Previously thought to have been an escape route out of the besieged castle, the tunnel is now believed to be a ventilation shaft.

Today, the town and fortress ruins of Dilsberg form an enchanting ensemble of Medieval character. A climb up the hexagonal tower takes you on to the 16-metre high curtain walls, where there are *panoramic views over the town and the Neckar valley*.

 *Left: The approximately 80-metre long “Brunnenstollen” passageway invites you to come and explore the realms underneath the fortress*

 *Right: A Medieval gateway takes you to the charming old town of Dilsberg*

