



SUSPENSE IN THE DEPTHS OF SCHWANDORF THE BIGGEST ROCK-CUT CELLAR LABYRINTH IN BAVARIA



ENTER the mystical underworld of Schwandorf consisting of over 130 separate rock-cut cellar caverns.



MARVEL at the huge feats of the stonemasons and workers from past centuries who created these impressive vaults by hand.



STROLL through the winding labyrinth of the rock-cut cellars' corridors and rooms, which sometimes span three floors, and follow in the footsteps of the so-called "cellar robbers".



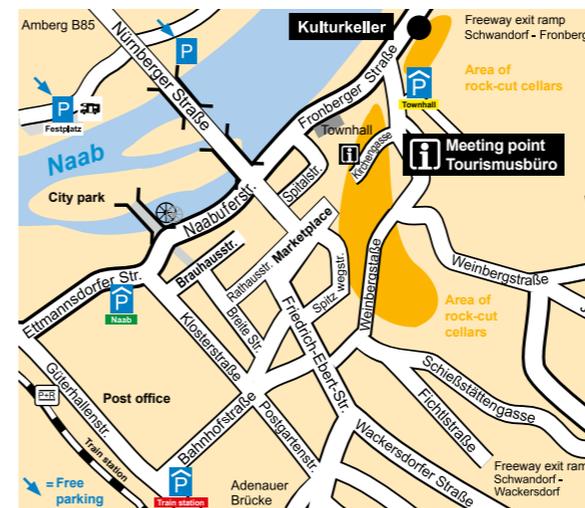
LEARN more about the fermentation and storage of beer in the cellars in times past, the development of communal brewing, which was once of economic significance, and the use of the rock-cut cellars as air-raid shelters in World War 2.



EXPERIENCE a guided tour with Regensburg's "Stadtmaus", where you can enjoy actors presenting humorous interludes about the history of these very same "cellar robbers".



ENJOY concerts or cabaret performances in the "culture cellar" on Fronberger Straße, with its magical beauty and excellent acoustics.



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Tourist Information Office opening times:
Mon – Fri: 9.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m. | Sat: 9.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.
Sundays and public holidays: Closed

The Tourist Information Office is happy to sign you up for the tours, which take place regularly, and will help you plan individual tour dates for your company or club outings.

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Images: Thomas Kujat, Werner Robold, Peter Hofmann, Karim Mager, Thomas Huber, Gerhard Götz



INSIGHTS

What makes the Schwandorf rock-cut cellars rank as a unique attraction in Bavaria is how far they extend, how many rooms there are, the sometimes complex system of three floors on top of each other, and the building fabric of four centuries, most of it preserved in its original state.

AROUND 1500

AROUND 1600

AROUND 1812

1857/1858

FROM 1920

1931/1932

1945

TODAY

FIRST ROCK-CUT CELLARS

The first rock-cut cellars are hewn from the ferruginous sandstone in around 1500. Due to their almost constant temperature of about 8°C, they serve the local brewers as ideal fermentation and storage cellars for bottom-fermented beer.

FIRST EXPORTS

Thanks to the conversion to bottom fermentation and thus to the rock-cut cellars being built, Schwandorf can already "export" beer to Regensburg and Nabburg in around 1600. The breweries are one of the most significant sources of income for the city and its inhabitants.

80 ROCK-CUT CELLAR ROOMS

In 1812, 80 citizens operate the communal brewing industry in the city. This, in turn, means that there are already over 80 rock-cut cellar rooms in existence.

EXTENSIONS

In 1857/1858, three communal brewers set up private breweries in the city and extend the rock-cut cellars they already have by a large number of rooms.

In the 19th century, the rock-cut cellars in Schwandorf are subject to one last great building phase, with new ones being built and old ones extended.

DECLINE OF THE COMMUNAL BREWERIES

1920 sees the beginning of the gradual decline of the communal breweries and the secondary use of the rock-cut cellars.

CELLAR ROBBERS

In 1931/1932, the "cellar robbers" break into the underground vaults, and on their thieving sprees they connect up seven cellar systems consisting of a total of over 60 rooms and corridors by breaking through dividing walls and natural rock walls – the birth of the rock-cut cellar labyrinth.

AIR-RAID SHELTERS

In 1945, the rock-cut cellars, some of which had been converted into air-raid shelters, saved the lives of thousands of people seeking safety when 70% of Schwandorf was destroyed in an air raid.

After that, the rock-cut cellars were forgotten and filled with rubble and rubbish.

UNIQUE ATTRACTION

In the late 1990s, the City of Schwandorf began extensive renovations of the rock-cut cellar labyrinth to prepare it as a tourist attraction.

Meanwhile, over 250 000 people have visited the Schwandorf underworld.



PLEASE NOTE THAT IT IS ONLY POSSIBLE TO VISIT THE ROCK-CUT CELLAR LABYRINTH ON GUIDED TOURS!

BOOK YOUR TOUR HERE AND ENTER THE SCHWANDORF UNDERWORLD!
www.felsenkeller-labyrinth.de