**JÜLICH GUEST SERVICES: TOURIST INFORMATION**

The Tourist-Information office is centrally located, right on the Castle Square.

**Our service:**
- Advice on accommodation - Arranging historic group tours
- Information to events - Mailing information and brochures
- Sale of cycling and hiking maps
- Sale of souvenirs from Jülich

We arrange your visit in Jülich – according to your wishes.

**Contact:**
Stadt Jülich / Tourist-Information
Kölnstraße 19b / 52428 Jülich
Tel. +49 2461 8018737 / E-Mail: stadtmarketing@juelich.de

**postal address:** Große Rurstraße 17, 52428 Jülich, Germany

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Jülich – history conscious and future oriented

We invite you to get to know Jülich. It is worth going on a tour of discovery between the past, steeped in history, and innovative research.
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JÜLICH
PORTRAIT OF THE TOWN

Kontakt
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JÜLICH
PORTRAIT OF THE TOWN

Over the centuries Jülich has developed into a medium-sized town with 33,000 inhabitants. Attractive shopping and leisure facilities, sophisticated entertainment and numerous cultural events invite visitors and inhabitants to visit the centre throughout the year.

Jülich is a fascinating combination of tradition and modernity. Historic attractions like the citadel, the bridgehead and the witch tower meet a unique concentration of research and science facilities like the research centre, technology centre, the campus of the FH Aachen and the solar thermal test power station (solar power station).

Discover the town of Jülich.

Axel Fuchs
Mayor of the town of Jülich
OVER 2,000 YEARS OF HISTORY

An eventful history has shaped the face of the town

Jülich was completely rebuilt after the great fire of 1547. The character of this urban settlement encounters visitors today in the Old Town between Witches Tower and Castle Square. The Citadel, a 90,000 square foot fortress, is an architectural monument of European standing. Imposing ramparts and four arrow-shaped bastions surround the former residential castle of Duke William V of Jülich-Kleve-Berg.

Architecture of the High Renaissance

Built by Italian architect Alessandro Pasqualini in the 16th century, the castle is the most magnificent “palazzo in Fortezza” in the style of the Italian High Renaissance in Germany. In the historic cellars under the former castle and today’s high school, the museum exhibit provides information about life at the ducal court as well as objects and productions relating to the history of the fortress from the 16th to the 20th century.

Testimonies of European architectural tradition

The great monuments of the Witch Tower, citadel and Napoleonic bridgehead were restored in the 1990s and represent a unique ensemble of Central European history.

The eventful history at a glance

Around the time of the birth of Christ Jülich, Latin Juliacum, becomes an intersection of major Roman roads during Roman times

Around 486 End of Roman rule; the Franks capture Jülich
1238 The first documentary mention of Jülich as a “town”
1239 Destruction of Jülich by the Archbishop of Cologne
Around 1340 Construction of the Witch Tower and two town gates
1356 Elevation of the Margraviate of Jülich (since 1336) to the Duchy of Jülich (Duke Wilhelm I)
1521 Unification of the three duchies of Jülich-Kleve-Berg through the marriage of Duke Johann of Kleve and Maria of Jülich
1547 Large town fire
1549 Laying of the foundation stone of the citadel
1609–1614 Jülich-war of succession
1794–1814 French period. Construction of the bridgehead next to the river Rur
1815 Jülich becomes a Prussian fortress town
1860 Dismantling of the fortress Jülich; a Prussian officer school moves into the Citadel; construction of a synagogue.
1873 First railway, first industrial settlements
1918–1929 Occupation (Rheinlandbesetzung), French and Belgian troops in Jülich
1938 Anti-Jewish riots, destruction of the synagogue
1944 Destruction of Jülich (97%) on 16 November by bomb attacks of the allied forces
1945 100 citizens live in the ruins of the town
1949–1956 Reconstruction of the town centre
1956 Founding of the Jülich Research Centre (Forschungszentrum Jülich)
1966–1972 First phase of the reconstruction of the citadel
1970 Completion of the college (Fachhochschule Aachen) at the “Merscher Höhe”
1994 The Citadel Museum is established
1998 Regional Garden Show on the present site of the bridgehead-park (Brückenkopf-Park)
Located in the centre of a technology region, Jülich is home to the Jülich Research Centre [Forschungszentrum Jülich], the Technology Centre Jülich [Technologiezentrum Jülich], the Jülich campus of Aachen University of Applied Sciences [Fachhochschule Aachen] and a solar thermal test power station. Jülich has research and development potential that can be found in only very few locations worldwide.

Jülich Research Centre
Since 1956, Jülich has been home to a Research Centre. With 5,700 employees, it is the largest research centre in Europe. The scientists carry out cutting-edge interdisciplinary research and aim to solve the major challenges facing society in the areas of health, energy and environment and information technology.

www.fz-juelich.de

University town Jülich
Jülich has been a university town for about 40 years and offers future-orientated courses with a primarily technical and scientific focus at the campus of Aachen University of Applied Sciences.

www.fh-aachen.de/en

German Aerospace Centre – Institute of Solar Research (Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt – DLR)  www.dlr.de/sf

Technology Centre Jülich
www.tz-juelich.de

In the town centre of Jülich you can stroll around, visit an art exhibition at the Witches Tower or explore the citadel. As part of a guided tour of the citadel, you will receive exciting insights into closed areas of the citadel, like the casemates, the bastions and ramparts. You can also experience the sights of Jülich on your own by following the 5 kilometre circular walk. Or be accompanied by a knowledgeable tour guide who will gladly explain the attractions of the town to you.

The map with the individual stops of the circular walk can be found from page 16 of this brochure.

1 Town hotel – „Hotel Kratz“
In 1948, professor René von Schöfer from Aachen, in cooperation with Jülich architect Bruno Wernerus, constructed the corner house as a hotel restaurant and a prototype building for the reconstruction of Jülich.

2 Provost’s church
The Provost’s parish church „St. Mariä Himmelfahrt“ is the most important and oldest church in the town. It was rebuilt in 1952 after being destroyed in the war. Parts of the Roman west tower from the 12th century still exist.

3 Old town hall/market place
The old town hall was built in 1953/54 according to the plans of René Schöfer. In the 1st century, the Roman highway Köln-Jülich-Maastricht-Boulogne-sur-Mer on the Channel coast ran diagonally across today’s market place – about 3 m below the current level (indicated by grey nature strip).
4 Witches Tower
Twin tower gate (Rurtor) of medieval Jülich town wall (early fourteenth century)

5 Aachener Gate
Remainder of a town gate that belonged to the bastioned fortification, next to a 115 metre-long wall.

7 Napoleonic bridgehead
The defence system on the west bank of the Rur was built from 1799 to 1812 and had the task of protecting the sensitive western edge of the city. The bridgehead (Brückenkopf) was constructed in the traditional „Kronwerks“ form.

8 Synagogue, Memorial Plaque and Monument

9 Protestant church of Christ
The church, inaugurated in 1910, shows elements of the New Baroque and Art Nouveau. The portal of the church building from 1745 now serves as a gate to the earlier Protestant cemetery built in 1620 along Linnicher Straße.

10 Museum citadel
The Jülich Citadel is one of the best preserved fortresses of the early modern period. It was built from 1549 by Duke Wilhelm V of Jülich-Kleve-Berg as part of the Renaissance town of Jülich. The jewel of the citadel is the east facade of the ducal palace in the style of the Italian high renaissance. The palace with an exhibition on the history of the complex and the Jülich countryside as well as the meticulously restored fortress with ramparts and casemates are particularly picturesque. Historical works of Jülich’s most popular landscapist Johann Wilhelm Schirmer are published in the powder magazine.
April to October: Mon–Fri 2pm–5pm / Sat, Sun, public holidays 11am–6pm
November to March: Sat 2pm–5pm, Sun 11am–5pm, public holidays: closed

11 Ellritzen fountain
The Ellritzen fountain (Ellritzen Brunnen) on the corner of Köln-/Kurfürstenstraße was designed by sculptor Bonifatius Stirnberg in 2011. It presents four bronze figures, which are closely linked with the history and presence of Jülich: architect Alessandro Pasqualini, landscape painter Johann Wilhelm Schirmer, the Jülich researcher with atom molecules and a farmer. The patron goddess of Jülich, Minerva, watches over all of them. A couple of toads crouch on the edge of the fountain. People born in Jülich are commonly called „Muttkrate“ (Mutt = mud/Krate = toad).

12 Swan pond and new town hall
The new town hall was built in 1952/53 and is now the seat of Jülich city council.

13 Historic town wall
Remains of the medieval town fortifications from the beginning of the 14th century. (Access through the gate of the corner house on Poststraße)
After the state garden festival in 1998, the approx. 33 hectare grounds were converted into the family and leisure park “Brückenkopf-Park Jülich”. The park invites you to walk, skate, enjoy nature or wonder at native animals in the zoo. Furthermore, you will find huge play areas, a “garden of the senses”, a mini golf course and a high ropes course, which has been integrated into the existing trees in the park.

Fun for children and families
For the smallest visitors, there are numerous opportunities to slide, seesaw and swing in Brückenkopf-Park. A large water playground invites you to splash, dig and muck around. Children can be kept occupied everywhere here. Bigger ones can enjoy the skate park, the small sports field, beach volleyball or the climbing walls.

Marvel at Europe’s wildlife
The Brückenkopf-Zoo is inhabited by around 500 animals that are primarily native to Europe. Arctic wolves and lynxes, ponies and donkeys, as well as red and black deer are amongst the large animals in the park. The substantial number of different species of birds, including some exotics, impresses visitors.

www.brueckenkopf-park.de
PURE SHOPPING PLEASURE

Shopping und weekly market

Diverse retail opportunities with around 200 shops in the town centre, inns and cosy cafes and the popular weekly market, invite you to shop, stroll or just stay a while. The shopping centre of Jülich extends from the Große Rurstraße to the Witches Tower. Many owner-operated specialised stores, a shopping arcade and branches characterize the shopping landscape of Jülich. Bistros, restaurants and cafes complete the services on offer.

A shopping guide with the range of products available, opening times, dates and more information can be found online at

- [www.werbegemeinschaft-juelich.de](http://www.werbegemeinschaft-juelich.de)
- [www.juelich.de/essenundtrinken](http://www.juelich.de/essenundtrinken) (gastronomy in Jülich)

The popular weekly market in Jülich takes place every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday between 7.00 am and 1.00 pm. Here all sorts of regional products are offered fresh, complemented by a rich variety of textiles, haberdashery and useful things for the household. The weekly market is a meeting place for a cosy chat and abidance in the centre of town.

- [www.juelich.de/wochenmarkt](http://www.juelich.de/wochenmarkt)

CULTURE IN JÜLICH

Inspiration and entertainment

Cultural offers, events and concerts in Jülich are an integral part of public life. The extensive cultural programme (theatre, concerts, cabaret) with renowned artists and ensembles from Germany and abroad is of a high level. Many operators such as the municipal culture office (Kulturbüro), Kultur im Bahnhof e.V., Jülicher Schlosskonzerte e.V. and others offer ambitious small arts and cultural programmes.

Traditional customs are also a major issue, especially in the districts. The people of Jülich engage in many celebrations.

All dates available at

- [www.herzog-magazin.de](http://www.herzog-magazin.de)
Discover the region by bike

In and around Jülich are well-developed cycling and long distance cycling trails for leisure cyclists and racing cyclists.

Along a total distance of 365 kilometres, the water castle route (Wasserburgenroute) passes more than 130 castles and palaces between Bonn, Cologne and Aachen. Historic village centres, monasteries and mills are also located on the route. [www.wasserburgen.de](http://www.wasserburgen.de)

The Green-route (Grünroute) connects Düren in the Rhineland with Hasselt in Limburg (B) and sees itself as a vivid reminder of the mining industry, which contributed to shaping our three countries (Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany) for many decades. The 370-kilometre route runs frequently on car-free paths and through different natural landscapes and recreation areas. [www.gruenmetropole.eu](http://www.gruenmetropole.eu)

The Rur shore bike path (RurUfer-Radweg) leads more than 180 kilometres from the Belgian High Fens at Botrange, past the Rur reservoirs and ends at the mouth of the Maas in Roermond (NL). Around Jülich, inclines are rare. The scenic route is consistently signposted in both directions. [www.rurufer-radweg.de](http://www.rurufer-radweg.de)

Via Belgica

The Project „Erlebnisraum Römerstraße | Agrippastraße – Via Belgica“ allows its visitors to experience the Roman long distance trade routes and their development through the centuries. On a cycling and walking route that runs close to or on the original lines of the two roads, guests can explore the former Roman state routes with its sights and information-centres. [www.erlebnisraum-roemerstrasse.de/en](http://www.erlebnisraum-roemerstrasse.de/en)

Information and Maps: Fischer bookstore (Kölnstraße) or Tourist Information Jülich (Schlossplatz/castle square).

Leisure time – hiking experience in and around Jülich

Jülich circular trails (Jülicher Rundwanderwege)

Walks and hikes are a great way to explore Jülich, its districts and the Jülicher Börde. Seven circular walks with a length of between 5 and 23 km start at the castle square in Jülich town centre (corner of Kölnstraße/Schlossstraße). Whether you go past orchards, through corn fields and forest, or past the Inden opencast mine, on the routes you will experience the scenic, cultural and historical diversity of Jülich and its surroundings. [www.stadtmarketing-juelich.de](http://www.stadtmarketing-juelich.de)
FESTIVALS, FAIRS AND MARKETS

Celebrate throughout the year

**Spring fair and spring festival (March)**
Children’s paradise with carousels, lottery and shooting booths, combined with a Sunday shopping event and a convertible show

**Town festival (May)**
Fairground rides and culinary fairground and stage show

**Artisan market (June)**
Colourful ceramics, metal objects for the garden, jewellery, felt and enamel, unusual handbags, unique hats and clothing and much more

**Wine summer in the castle square (July)**
Wine festival in the castle square

**Festival of cultures (September)**
Takes place every two years, extensive and colourful stage show with international groups

**Harvest festival (September/October)**
Sunday shopping event, stands with artisan crafts, entertainment programme and a stage show

**Christina fair (November)**
Fairground rides and culinary fairground, historical artisans and tradesmen

**Christmas market (November/December)**
Visit of St. Nicolas, tasty treats, mulled wine and gift ideas in the castle square

**Events in Brückenkopf-Park Jülich**
Period festival, pirates, autumn lights, etc.
Discover Jülich – the sights

The circular trail through the town centre is marked with yellow signs (JÜL) and leads through Kölnstraße towards the market place, through the Witches Tower and along the promenade to the Rur. Here, there is an opportunity to discover Brückenkopf-Park Jülich, across the foot bridge. Back to the town centre, the path leads past the Protestant church of Christ and through the citadel moat.

1 Town hotel “Hotel Kratz”
2 Provost’s church
3 Old town hall and market place
4 Witches Tower
5 Aachen Gate
6 Bastion St. Jakob
7 Napoleonic bridgehead
8 Jewish memorial
9 Protestant church of Christ
10 Citadel
11 Ellritzen fountain
12 Swan pond
13 New town hall
14 Historic town wall
1 Tourist-Info

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