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Zwickau

**AUTOMOTIVE AND
ROBERT SCHUMANN CITY**



STADT ZWICKAU

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ZWICKAU

FOR THAT SPECIAL EXPERIENCE!

As automotive and Robert Schumann city, Zwickau offers worlds of sound that fascinate. They range from really loud to harmoniously sensuous, from the roar of engines to virtuoso piano music. Cars have been manufactured in the city, one of the four largest in the Free State of Saxony, since 1904. Even today, automotive engineering provides the livelihood for a large part of the almost 90,000 inhabitants. Inquisitive car enthusiasts are drawn to the fascinating August Horch Museum.

Music lovers from all over the world feel magically enticed by the birthplace of their idol Robert Schumann (1810–1856). For them, the romantic composer and his wife, the talented musician Clara Schumann, are the “pop stars” of the 19th century. The people of Zwickau honour their famous son with events such as the International Robert Schumann Competition for piano and voice or the Schumann Festival.

Zwickau’s open air events, many of them music or car-related, are in any case very popular with audiences far beyond the city limits. After all, the lovingly renovated, historic old town offers an enchanting ambience and also beckons with cosy culinary options ranging from rustic to luxurious.

Unique museums tell the fascinating history of the city, which is over 900 years old and yet modern. They captivate their visitors with carefully staged exhibitions and spectacular presentations of their musical and artistic treasures.



→ Look.
Be amazed.
Conquer!



→ Exciting.
Varied.
Thrilling!

HISTORY

ZWICKAU IS FULL OF STORIES!

Zwickau was first mentioned in 1118 as territorio Zcwickaw, and the town charter was granted in 1212. Clothmaking developed into one of the most important sources of income for the townspeople. The exploitation of the silver deposits in the nearby Schneeberg in the 15th century soon brought Zwickau economic success and prosperity. Saxon Elector Frederick the Wise called Zwickau “a pearl in my lands”. Two other trades had their roots in this period: beer brewing and letterpress printing (1523).

Three devastating wars reduced Zwickau to an insignificant small town. Mining the coal deposits deep below the town only became possible in the course of industrialisation in the 19th century with the introduction of the steam engine (1826); shafts were later driven down up to 1,000 m. Company foundations followed: foundries, machine, wire and rope factories, glass, ceramic, chemical and textile companies.

Thanks to its innovations, the Zwickau company Friemann & Wolf became the world’s largest pit lamp manufacturer. The petrol safety lamp invented there is a genuine Zwickau original. From 1904 the engineer August Horch built the first vehicles in Zwickau. With the car brands Horch and Audi, this marked the beginning of the extremely successful era of automotive engineering, which was continued in GDR times with the Trabant and from 1991 with the production of models of the Volkswagen brand.

ECONOMY

ZWICKAU IS MOBILE.

→ Future-oriented.
Active worldwide.
Successful!



A forward-looking decision by the VW Group: the Zwickau vehicle plant of Volkswagen Sachsen GmbH will in future exclusively manufacture electric cars. The production of the ID.3 ushered in a new, dynamic era of electric mobility in the automotive city. Zwickau’s VW plant took on a pioneering role and is set to develop into the European e-drive competence centre.

Strong partners in the automotive supplier industry include globally active companies such as FES GmbH Fahrzeugentwicklung Sachsen, Clarios Zwickau GmbH & Co. KG, Snope Automotive Zwickau GmbH and Tenneco Zwickau GmbH.

Economic appeal is also ensured by innovative suppliers and service providers such as INTILION GmbH, a member of the HOPPECKE Group, or the traditional company VEM motors Thurm GmbH. Nothing is possible without flourishing logistics companies, as Weck+Poller and Sachsentrans prove every day. But companies such as Isoliertechnik ILKAZELL, industrial furnace manufacturer IFZW, pharmaceutical company Recipharm, synthetic resin specialist Arkema Coating Resins or ZSB Zwickauer Sonderstahlbau GmbH, a company with a long tradition in steel and bridge construction, also successfully operate internationally from their base in Zwickau.



MUSEUM LANDSCAPE

ZWICKAU IS FULL OF CULTURE.

Experience fascination! A promise made by Zwickau's museums and galleries. The **Priesterhäuser** („priests' houses') at Domhof 5–8 are the oldest preserved residential ensemble in Germany and therefore a perfect home for the city's historical collections. Opposite is the art gallery **Galerie am Domhof**, which mainly presents contemporary regional art. Not far from there, on Hauptmarkt 5, is the birthplace of the romantic composer Robert Schumann (1810–1856). As a museum and research centre, the **Robert Schumann House** houses the world's largest self-contained collection with more than 4,000 original manuscripts by the musician and his wife Clara, née Wieck (1819–1896), who was herself a gifted pianist.

The art collections at **KUNSTSAMMLUNGEN ZWICKAU** in the building of the former King Albert Museum have existed for over 100 years. They present works of art from the 16th to the 21st century, sculptures and an impressive mineralogical-geological collection.

Since 2014 the collections have been home to the **Max Pechstein Museum** with the world's largest permanent exhibition on the work of the famous expressionist Max Pechstein (1881–1955), who was born in Zwickau. The artistic estate of the Bauhaus artist Albert Hennig (1907–1998) is also kept in the museum at Lessingstrasse 1. This building complex also houses the “memory



of the city”, the city archive, which dates back over 500 years, and the **Ratsschulbibliothek** („council school library’), first mentioned in 1498. With its valuable collection of incunabula, prints and manuscripts, it is one of the oldest and historically most important libraries in Germany.

Faced with the overwhelming display at the **August Horch Museum** in Audistrasse 7, the rumble and smell of shiny chrome vintage cars is almost palpable. Zwickau's automotive history comes alive on 6,500 m². It all began in 1904 with the arrival of engineer August Horch, who made the brand names Horch and Audi famous throughout the world. The GDR cult car Trabant, affectionately called “Trabi”, which was produced from 1958, is a Zwickau original. The Trabant P 601 became a symbol of German reunification in 1989/1990. From 1991 onwards, Volkswagen Sachsen GmbH gave Zwickau's automotive manufacturing a future.



WITNESSES OF TIME

ZWICKAU IS FASCINATING.

Zwickau is a hotspot for people with a penchant for the unique! Many factors contribute to the fascination of this city. Both the city centre and the surrounding area contain countless lovingly preserved buildings from earlier centuries that invite you to journey back in time. Even today, unmistakable places tell of the exciting history of the city. The Marienkirche (since 1935 St Marien Cathedral), which was first mentioned in a document in 1192, plays a central role. At 87 metres it is the highest point in the beautiful old town centre. Just opposite are the old Priesterhäuser from the 13th to 15th century. Chambers, parlours and the sooty kitchen convey a feeling for the life of people in the Middle Ages. Other popular photo motifs in the city or in the inner city ring: the Robert Schumann monument, the façade of the “old, new” city hall on the main market square, the Katharinenkirche, which was first mentioned in 1219, and Osterstein Castle. Right next to it is the Kornhaus (granary). As the largest medieval granary in Saxony, today’s city library is a monument of national importance, also thanks to its multi-storey roof truss construction.

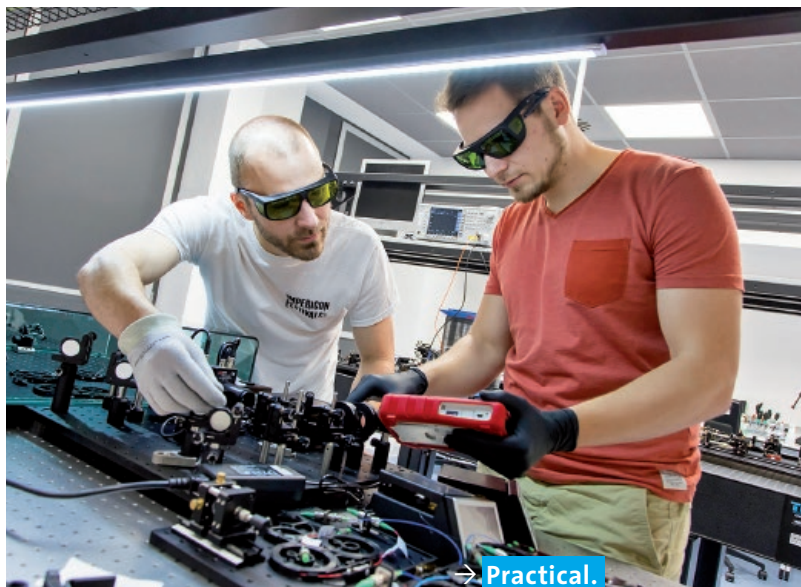
Walking tours in the footsteps of Martin Luther and Robert Schumann reveal original historical sites to Zwickau’s visitors. A tour along the „Industrial Heritage Route“ is also fascinating. City walks on a variety of topics with the TouristInfo city guides are highly recommended.

→ **Originals.
One of a kind.
Amazing ensembles!**



EDUCATION

ZWICKAU IS FUTURE-ORIENTED.



→ **Practical.
Networked.
Innovative!**

Technology, economy and quality of life, these are the main focuses of Westsächsische Hochschule Zwickau – University of Applied Sciences Zwickau (WHZ).

Almost 4,000 students study at eight faculties with roughly 50 degree courses. They come from around 50 countries. Many young Zwickau natives also decide to study at this innovative, research-oriented university. The focus is on global megatrends: electric mobility, digitalisation, energy system transformation and globalisation. Scientific findings flow directly into teaching. Small and medium-sized companies are supported, as are internationally active global players. International university partners give WHZ students the opportunity to gain experience around the world. For many young researchers and startup founders, a WHZ degree course was and still is the beginning of an often international career. In addition to the WHZ, 12 vocational schools provide young men and women with a successful start to their professional lives.



→ **Family-centred.**
Child-friendly.
Future-oriented!

LIFE

ZWICKAU IS CARING.

In Zwickau, many activities revolve around the youngest residents: Childcare is provided by 50 daycare centres and after-school care centres run by the local authority and independent organisations with a capacity of over 6,000 places. Education begins in early childhood. Daycare centres are the „home of little researchers“ and even the youngest children attend the children’s university at the WHZ.

The educational work continues in the 12 primary and 6 secondary schools, 4 grammar schools and 5 special schools as well as in the municipal youth leisure facilities.

Zwickau also demonstrates its family friendliness with voluntary social benefits. We took a pioneering role by providing free lunches for children from socially disadvantaged families.

The life satisfaction in “Zwigge”, as the locals affectionately call their city, is nurtured by many factors, including the existence of special institutions such as the Robert Schumann Conservatory: People of all ages can take instrumental and music lessons here, from classical music to jazz. Many internationally successful talents have emerged from programmes promoting (highly) gifted young people.

HOUSING

ZWICKAU IS LOVEABLE AND LIVEABLE.

There are many reasons why its almost 90,000 inhabitants like working and living in Zwickau. You can make your housing dreams come true here, whether you want to be a tenant or owner: in a loft, in a monument, in attractive new buildings near the city centre or in the countryside, for instance in a modern detached house.

The reason: Rents and property prices are quite favourable compared to the rest of Germany.

Everything simply fits: there are many different types of shops with all kinds of products, sophisticated gastronomy, lush city greenery, wonderful parks and green spaces with fountains. The Mulde Paradise, the Schlobigpark or Schwanenteichpark and the Weissenborn Forest are particularly popular with those wanting to unwind. The path along the Zwickauer Mulde is especially relaxing. Zwickau’s location at the foot of the Ore Mountains beckons you to explore the surrounding area, which is also a holiday region. Indoor and outdoor sports facilities, beautiful open-air swimming pools and imaginative playgrounds are available for active leisure activities. Doctors’ surgeries, physiotherapists and pharmacies are located throughout the city.

The Heinrich Braun Clinic and the Paracelsus Clinic are high-performing hospitals.

→ **Make dreams come true.**
Enjoy your surroundings.
Feel good!



LEISURE

ZWICKAU IS VARIED.

Zwickau is a sports city. Successful cyclists, the footballers of the historic FSV or the professional handball players of the BSV are active here. There are also countless possibilities for recreational sportsmen and women. More than 43,000 people are organised in about 320 clubs in the Kreissportbund. Among the 80 club sports there are also tobogganing, trampoline gymnastics, synchronised swimming and wheel gymnastics.

With the Glück Auf swimming baths, the West Saxony Stadium, the Plasterodelbahn bobsleigh track, the Funpark, the dirt bike centre Marienthal, the climbing hall in the Knopffabrik or the golf course, attractive sports facilities are available both for competitive and recreational athletes.

A gem is the Johannisbad, which combines elements of neo-gothic and Art Nouveau.

Unadulterated culture in all its facets can be experienced in the Stadthalle or the Socio-Cultural Centre Alter Gasometer. A special jewel is the concert and ball house "Neue Welt" with its magnificent terraced hall.

Newly designed, the puppet theatre welcomes young and old spectators. After extensive renovation, the Gewandhaus on the Hauptmarkt will soon present itself as a special theatre venue.

→ **Active.
Party spirit.
Eventful!**



Zwickau's open-air events are unmistakable: City Festival, Classics under the Stars, various car events, concerts on the open-air stage, the children and family festival ZWIKKIFAXX, the historical market or the cosy Christmas market and the Castle Christmas.



CITY MAP

ZWICKAU

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- 5** Robert Schumann House
- 6** Town hall
- 7** Robert Schumann monument
- 8** Dünneberhaus
- 9** Gewandhaus – theatre
- 10** Puppent theatre
- 11** Paradiesbrücke
- 12** Mulde cycle track
- 13** Muldeparadies
- 14** Katharinenkirche
- 15** Schloss Osterstein
- 16** Town library in the Kornhaus
- 17** Glockenspiel at the Schumannplatz
- 18** Alter Gasometer
- 19** Johannesbad
- 20** KUNSTSAMMLUNGEN ZWICKAU Max-Pechstein-Museum
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