

1



'Hochwachturm' (High Watchtower) and 'Zehnthof' (Tithe Courtyard)

The High Watchtower was probably erected at the end of the 12th Century and is actually older than the city walls. In the Zehnt Courtyard (Tithe Courtyard), the residue of the burned down 'Zehnt' Barn was discovered in 1928. The 'Zehnt' Fountain created by Fritz Mehlis in 1963 commemorates the earlier times of distress when the peasants often had to give up their 'last chicken' to the tithe.

2



'Torwarthaus' (Gatekeepers House) and 'Zwinger' (Outer Ward)

The 'Fellbacher Tor' (Fellbach Gate) was demolished in 1834 in the course of urban expansion, and all that remains is the actual Gatekeeper's House (Torwarthaus) built in 1826 bearing the arms of Count Ulrich V., the Well-Loved. A passage leads to the compound of the 'Outer Ward' (Zwinger) between the actual city walls and the outer wall.

3



'Buergermuehle' (Townsmen's Mill)

The Townsmen's Mill (Buergermuehle) was newly erected in 1574, but had existed alongside the two other mills since the 13th Century. It also survived the town fire of 1634. Milling was discontinued in 1921.

4



'Michaelskirche' (St. Michael's Church) and 'Nonnenkirche' (Nunnery Chapel)

The outer churchyard area surrounded by the 'Schalenturm' (Shell Tower) (1463) includes the late Gothic 'St. Michael's Church' (Michaelskirche) erected at the end of the 15th Century as well as the late Gothic 'Nonnenkirche' (Nunnery Chapel), a two storey chapel presumably intended as a tomb repository.

5



'Alter Postplatz' (Old Post Office Square) and 'Karolingerschule' (Carolingian School)

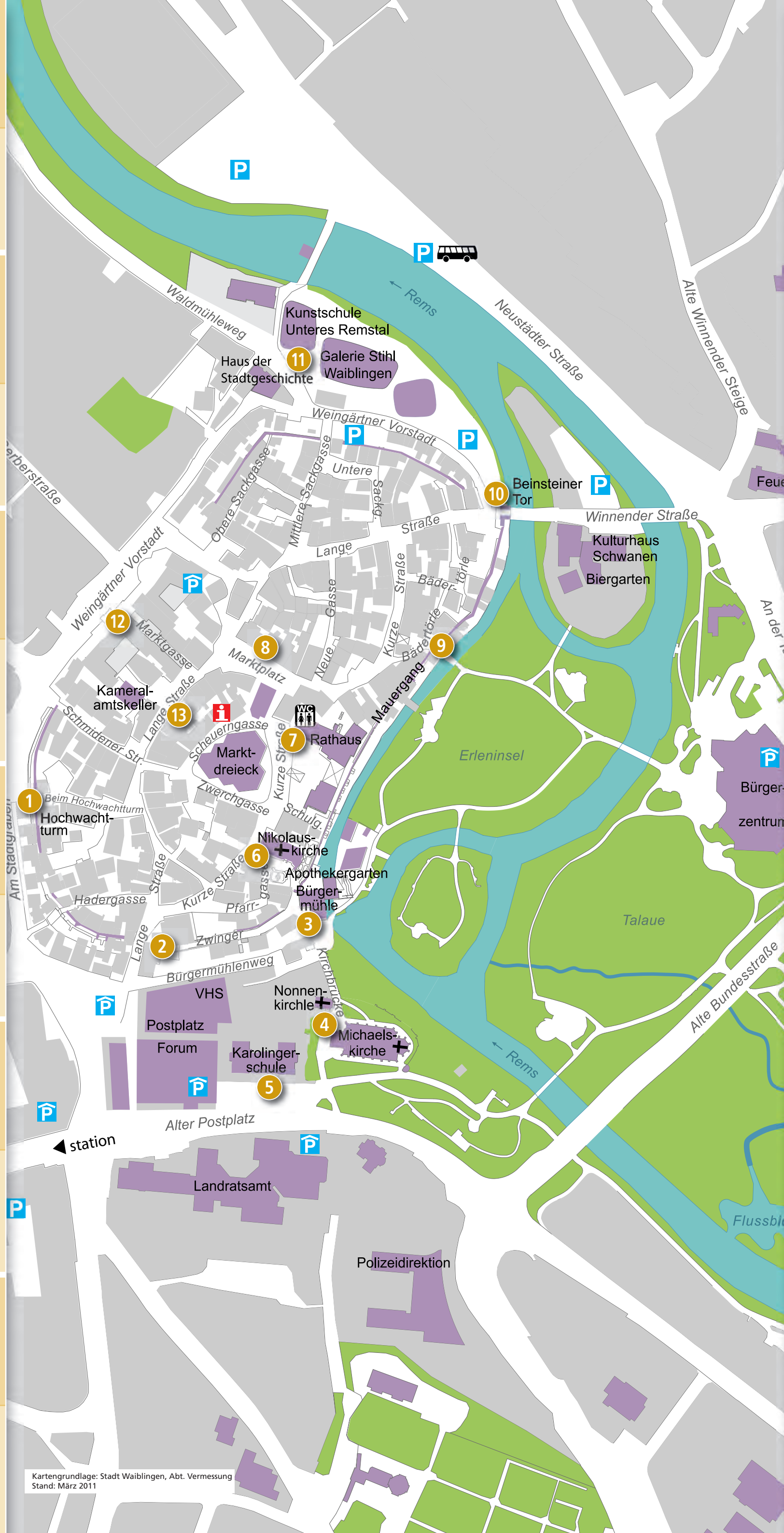
The site is currently occupied by Regional Council Offices, but previously the Waibling tile works occupied the site. The connection to the railway network in 1861 caused the urban area to expand out towards the railway station. On the 'Old Post Office Square' ('Alter Postplatz'), which is today again a site of urban development, is the 'Carolingian School' ('Karolingerschule') built in 1902 and the 'Villa Toller' erected in the Art Nouveau style.

6



'Nikolauskirche' (St. Nicolas's Church)

This inner urban church within the walls was first mentioned in documents in 1269. Today, the church can be seen in the style of its late Gothic renovation in 1488. The Baroque pulpit is worthy of a visit.



Kartengrundlage: Stadt Waiblingen, Abt. Vermessung
Stand: März 2011

7



'Rathaus' (City Hall), 'Schlosskeller' (Castle Cellar) and 'Marktdreieck' (Market Triangle)
The City Hall ('Rathaus') was erected in 1959 and renovated again in 2002 and stands on the historic site of the castle of the Counts of Württemberg, which burned down in 1634. Only the Castle Cellar ('Schlosskeller') has survived. On the opposite side, is the 'Market Triangle' ('Marktdreieck'), a project erected in 1976 by the Architects Messrs. Wilfried Beck-Erlang in a modern dialogue with the topography and style of the ancient town. The building at the street address 'Kurze Strasse 28' is decorated with a beautiful 'Neidkopf' (one of the Waibling decorative Masques seen on arches and window frames around the town) dating from the time of the 17th Century.

8



'Marktplatz' (Market Place)

On this site stands the old 'City Hall' (Rathaus) (No.: 4), which contained the council offices until 1875. Today, the arcades have been made opened. The Waibling 'Justitia' Statue can be seen to rise above the 'Marktbrunnen' (Market Fountain), and the restored 'Fruchtkasten' (Fruit Box) building, which was once the ecclesiastical administration. In the former 'Amtsgericht' (No.: 1) (District Court) once resided the Chief Justice in the 19th Century, Justice Karl Mayer, who received visits from his poet acquaintances Eduard Moerike and Nicolaus Lenau in the highly decorated Baroque oriel.

9



'Baedertoerle' (Little Bath Gate) and 'Mauergang' (Tour of the city walls)

The way out of the town to the 'Erleninsel' (Alder Island) is through the 'Little Bath Gate' (Baedertoerle) over the Muehlkanal (Domestic Waste Canal). This is the green park belt around Waiblingen with meadows and trees. There is a passage within the well conserved city wall dating back to the 13th Century running though to the 'Beinsteiner Torturm' (Beinstein Gate Tower).

10



'Beinsteiner Torturm' (Beinstein Gate Tower)

The Tower indicating the road out of town to Beinstein has been conserved as the only one of the several earlier city gates. On the side towards the city, the visitor can see the Arms of the Count Eberhard V, together with the Waibling City Arms of 1491. Below these, can be seen two 'graffito' paintings from 1938 depicting scenes from the history of the city.

11



'Haus der Stadtgeschichte' (House of Urban History), 'Galerie Stihl Waiblingen' (Waiblingen Stihl Gallery) and 'Kunstschule' (Art Schools)

Outside of the town walls in the 'Weingaertner Vorstadt' (Suburb), there is an imposing timber-framed building. This was previously the Tannery and today houses the City Museum. On the other side a modern architectural building houses the 'Galerie Stihl Waiblingen' (Waiblingen Stihl Gallery) and the 'Art Schools' (Kunstschule).

12



'Marktgasse' (Market Mall)

The 'Market Mall' (Marktgasse) is a modern shopping mall inaugurated in 1990 and built over the former 'Sachsenheimer Gasse' (Sachsenheim Lane) and is a connection between the old city centre and the outer city.

13



'Lange Strasse' (Long Street)

On both sides of 'Long Street' (Lange Strasse) are carefully restored timber-framed buildings. Among these, are the 'Alte Herberge' (Old Inn) (No.: 36) with its 'Herbergsbrunnen' (Inn Fountain) and the 'Pfleghof' (Healthcare Building) of the Adelberg Monastery, which later became the 'Kameralamt' (Chancery Office) (No.: 40).



The History of the City

Waiblingen is able to look back on a long tradition. Early historical findings give evidence of a settlement here already in the Stone Age.

This was formerly an interconnection point between earlier trade routes, and in Roman times an economically significant pottery was developed here. After this time, grave excavations reveal the presence of the Alemannic tribes in the area.

Waiblingen was granted its city charter in the year 1250, when the town came under the hegemony of the Counts of Wuerttemberg after the decline of the 'Staufers'. In the 15th Century, a wealthy class of citizens established itself as a result of the success of wine growing and the production of agricultural products. St. Michael's Church was erected and members of the family of the Counts of Wuerttemberg settled in the City.

During the Thirty Years War, any further development of the City was brought to an abrupt end. In September 1634, Waiblingen was burned down to the ground, and many citizens lost their lives. Of the approximately 2,300 residents, only 100 were left after five years. One hundred years later, the number of the previous population was again achieved, and the City was re-erected within the conserved walls on a new ground plan.

From the economic viewpoint, Waiblingen experienced its heyday as a result of numerous and various artisanal businesses. Several mills were built along the banks of the River Rems. During the industrial revolution with the connection of the city to the railway network, these artisanal businesses developed into larger industrial enterprises.

The location of Waiblingen is very closely associated with the history of the Roman Emperors of German Nation in the Early- and High Middle Ages. Waiblingen rightly refers to itself as a 'Staufer City'. From the era of the 'Staufers' itself, only the lower part of the High Watchtower remains, otherwise the vagaries of history have left nothing behind, as in other significantly important historical sites. The 'Staufer stele' at the foot of the High Watchtower is evidence of the bond between Waiblingen and the 'Staufers'.

As a traditional administrative centre for the hinterland since the Middle Ages, Waiblingen was made the main town of the new 'Rems-Murr-District' in 1973.

Up to the present day, Waiblingen being situated at the entrance to the Valley of the River Rems (the 'Remstal'), has more and more become a preferred residential area of the Stuttgart Region and has developed into a prospering economic centre with many well known enterprises.



Panorama View from the top of the Medieval High Watchtower

The High Watchtower rises like a landmark over Waiblingen. The Tower was made famous as the scene of the historical novel 'Die Kronenwächter' (the Custodians of the Crowns) by Achim von Arnim.

It is worthwhile climbing the Tower. There is an impressive view to be gained of the entire city – the key to the 'Hochwachturm' (High Watchtower) can be obtained from the Waiblingen Official Tourist Information Office against a deposit.



Waiblingen-Beinstein

Once upon a time, a large Roman tomb stood at Beinstein. The location of Beinstein is first documented in 1096 in a deed of Emperor Heinrich IV. In the centre of this former vinery village, is the town hall built in Renaissance timbered style.



Waiblingen-Hegnach

Celtic burial mounds give evidence of a settlement around 500 BC. In the Middle Ages, Hegnach developed from just being a manor. Of interest to visit is the former 'Schafshof' (Sheep Farm), whose medieval plinth was built over by Heinrich Schickhardt.



Waiblingen-Bittenfeld

The place was first mentioned in deeds at the end of the 12th Century. In the present centre of the village once stood a keep dating back to the Middle Ages. Today of interest to visit is the Gothic St. Ulrich's Church, the Schiller-Haus, the birthplace of the father of Friedrich Schiller, the dramatist and poet.



Waiblingen-Neustadt

Neustadt Castle once stood on the spur of the hill overlooking the River Rems dating back to the 12th Century, which is today no longer to be seen. The constructor of the castle called it the 'Niuwe Waiblingen'. Once the Gothic frescoes in St. Martin's Church were discovered and laid open, these became extremely famous.



Waiblingen-Hohenacker

A deed going back to the year 1398 described Hohenacker as a 'Farm near Waiblingen'. The still rural area of Hohenacker continues to offer a great deal of leisure-time- and residential quality for many commuters in the Region of Stuttgart.



A TOUR OF THE HISTORIC CENTRE OF THE CITY OF WAIBLINGEN, GERMANY



www.waiblingen.de

www.facebook.com/WaiblingenStadtportal/

Opening times:
Mondays to Fridays: 09:00 h to 18:00 h,
Saturdays: 09:00 h to 14:00 h

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