

# INSIDER'S GUIDE TO THE KMC

## Kaiserslautern Military Community, Germany

### Table of Contents

Page

#### Local Activities

3

Bad weather suggestions	Bike rides
Caves & Mines	Movie Theaters
Hikes	Parks & Castles in the KMC
Horseback riding	Performing Arts
Ice skating	Playgrounds
Indoor playparks for kids	Water play (pools & lakes)
Local web links	

#### Store Recommendations

13

Auto work & Tires, Cakes, Catering, Clothing, Electronics  
& Appliances, Fabric & window dressings, FCK soccer tickets, Furniture,  
Grocers & Markets, Gyms and Fitness centers, Hairdressers,  
Home & Garden, Malls, Medical Care, Music lessons,  
Playgrounds sets for backyards; Rental Cars; Salons, nails & spas;  
Sporting goods, Storage units for rent, Travel Agencies, Wine & Liquor

#### Restaurants

23

#### Day Trips

31

Castles, Christmas markets, Cities, Medieval Fests, Parks & Play areas,  
Pottery, Skiing, Wine Tasting, & Other: Horse rides, Hot air ballooning,  
Car racing, Rhine river cruises, Trappist breweries

#### Vacation Tips & Recommendations, including Skiing

see [KMC Insider's Guide: Europe Vacation Pearls](#)

**Wine Tourism**    see [KMC Insider's Guide: Wine Tourism Europe](#) for notes on which wineries to visit at nearby wineries and some famous regions farther away on a multiday trip

**\*\*\*\* This document will no longer be updated after June 2015 \*\*\*\***

This site is a list of *recommended* activities and businesses -- not a comprehensive list. The activities are for all ages, including some adult-only, but many are focused for American military families living near Landstuhl & Ramstein with young kids. Asterisks (\*) leading an entry indicate *highly recommended*. Driving times & distances are from LANDSTUHL. I apologize for tabs not always lining up correctly -- this is a Google Docs issue, not mine!

# TOP TEN KMC PEARLS

Not in order:

- 1) The Trippstadt hike from the [Klug'sche Mühle](#) restaurant. Prettiest hike we've found around. See details below in Hikes section below (page 6). For a great day with kids, go bouldering at the [Felsenmeer](#) "sea cliffs."
- 2) Valet parking at Frankfurt International through [Fly & Drive](#). The cheapest valet parking you will ever find at a major airport in the world, at about the same cost as the cheapest Frankfurt parking lot (Holiday Parking) AND you only have to allow 5 minutes for the hand-off!! (For more details, see [KMC Insider's Guide: Europe Vacation Pearls](#), under General Tips: Flying.)
- 3) Semi-annual medieval festival at [Burg Satzvey](#), best in the area with a beautiful castle, lots of parking, and an elaborate 1.5 hour arena program with large scale jousting and infantry battles. More details below in the Day Trips: Medieval Festivals section (p. 33).
- 4) [SkyScanner](#) -- the best flight search engine for Europe, with the super cool features of looking at prices for a route for a whole month or whole year at a time; and leaving the "To" field blank and looking for all flights out of a certain city for a time period, sorted by price.
- 5) [Burg Lichtenberg](#)'s medieval Christmas market -- open only one weekend a year.
- 6) Pfalz wine tasting at wineries on the Weinstrasse, 45 minutes away. See [Insider's Guide: Wine Tourism Europe](#) for details. Great day trip while kids are in school!
- 7) Rent ski & snowboard packages for the entire season at [Pulaski Outdoor Rec](#) for the same price as one week at an Austrian ski resort. Includes free exchanges and 2 tune-ups. (Ramstein AFB offers the same but slightly more \$ and less selection.)
- 8) In a continent of backwards, cut-throat rental car agencies, [Avis in Ramstein village](#) stands out as a true pearl. They usually have prices 15% lower than the Avis at the KMC Mall and cheaper than you can find online through search engines; they don't sweat small door dings; they have great English and are nice people.
- 9) Restaurants: [Saigon Bistro](#) for great Vietnamese and [Esslibris](#) for a romantic date night or Sunday brunch and, when warm, a very nice outdoor terrace.
- 10) Day trip to [Soufflenheim](#) for French pottery. Can get there and back while kids are in school. (Completely different from Polish pottery.)

Runner-Up: GPS Address List in the paperback edition of the Find-It Guide. To find a US military installation with GPS, the closest civilian address for most bases in Germany are listed in the Find-It Guide (page 22 in the 2015 edition).

# LOCAL ACTIVITIES

## Bad Weather Suggestions

Caves & Mines -- many cool options around here.

See *Local Activities: Caves & Mines* below (page 4)

Ice skating, indoor -- some are seasonal but some are open year-round

See *Local Activities: Ice Skating* below (page 5)

Malls, indoor -- See Malls in the Store Suggestions section

Museums -- there are none in the KMC, but many worth doing as a short day trip

See *Day Trips: Indoor Options* below (page 32)

Playparks, indoor -- there are 3 good kid ones around the KMC + the RAFB climbing gym

See *Local Activities: Indoor Playparks* (page 6)

Skiing indoors at Snowhall France (1.5 hour drive), open year-round

See *Day Trips: Skiing* (page 35)

Swimming pools, indoor

See *Local Activities: Water Play* section below (page 10)

## Bike Rides

-- Websites that map bike trails: [opencyclemap.org](http://opencyclemap.org), [trailbehind.com](http://trailbehind.com)

-- Websites with other trail suggestions: [Ramstein-Gateway](#)

\*Auto-free Bike Rides

Many times a year, different scenic roads are blocked off to cars for miles and people of all ages and abilities come out to ride bikes. Think volksmarch on wheels. Many move at a slow pace, sampling wine, beer and food at many booths along the way. Very social.

Look for places and times in the Kaiserslautern American or [Stars & Stripes](#).

[Hinterweidenthal or Dahn, Germany to Wissembourg, France](#). 30 km route (2 hours) one-way, mostly on a protected path except within the town of Bundenthal. It ends just over the French border in the town of Wissembourg. A nice place for lunch. It can be shortened 5 km by starting in Dahn instead of Hinterweidenthal.

[Johanniskreuz \(off B270 towards Trippstadt\)](#)

Start in town and bike 8 km downhill into Trippstadt.

Shuttle trip or be prepared for a hill climb going back.

[K-town Entersweilerstraße](#)

Kaiserslautern, East side. 9.6 km, partial loop / partial there & back.

Begin at Volkspark (see Parks section below) & go east on Entersweilerstrasse

[Oberarnbach Ridge trails off A62 West-side](#)

Start: Dirt parking lot on the hill above Oberarnbach, on the A62 access road

Rolling hills with branching trails wandering 7 km south to Weselberg, can be windy

#### [Obernheim-Kirchenarnbach Valley floor ride on road K20](#)

Start at playground in center of Obernheim-Kirchenarnbach, head southeast

Very flat, 7 km to Wallhalben one-way

Bike routes & sidewalks in towns, bike trails between town

#### [Motschweiher Lake. Waldmohr to Ombach Lake](#)

Start at the small lake/pond called Motschweiher in Waldmohr (enter Glan-Bies Radweg as the street into a GPS, and 66914 Waldmohr as the town). Follow bike trails and signs to Ombachsee (lake) 7 km away. Protected route 99% of the time away from cars. Very flat except for a couple of very short small hills. On the far side of the lake, hit the cafe, good kids' playground with water area and hillside, or rent paddle boats for 30 minutes. Then head back.

#### [Queidersbach-Gelterswoog. L472 Bike Path](#)

Start at Queidersbach Sportplatz (or the other end at Gelterswoog Lake)

Bike path, 5 km long one way. There & back.

Short, moderate hills except for last 500 m to Gelterswoog

\* [Bann - Waldfischbach-Burgalben](#) (shuttle or there and back: 12 miles one way)

Bike trails between towns, on roads/sidewalks through several small towns, mildly downhill

*One of the prettiest trails in the western KMC is the part between Horbach and Waldfischbach.*

Ramstein A6 bike trail

There is a paved bike path running on the north edge of the clearing cut for A6 that can be seen on the A62 overpass. Looks like a nice trail.

## Caves & Mines

\*[BergbauErlebnisWelt](#) Hardrock mine & museum

Imsbach 67817, Ortsstr. 2 a little north of Mehlingen 30 min NE of Landstuhl

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED! Small museum in town center, worth a quick stop before or after the mine. From there, follow the signs to Weiße Grube (White Mine) past the far side of town. The mine address: Imsbach 67817 Langental 1. Guided mine tour of hardrock copper mine, covers medieval thru modern techniques. Hard hats, 1 inch deep water on rock floors, lightly dripping water in 50 degrees F, some crouching in 4.5 ft tall shafts. Light jacket or long-sleeve shirt may be desirable. 300m beautiful forest trail from parking lot to entrance. Open April-October. English guided tours only 3 days a year - see website for dates.

#### [Homburg Schlossberg Caves](#)

In Homburg, 20 min west of Landstuhl. See [Stars & Stripes article](#). Some of the largest man-made caves in Europe. It's actually a 12-story mine built in the hill/mountain behind St. Michael's church, under the ruins of the old Hohenburg castle on the hilltop. Supposedly open 7 days a week, but in reality not always, so call first: 06841-2064. You must enter the mine as part of a tour, which are held every hour on the hour. Only one floor (10th) is open to the public; at a year-round temperature of 50°F. Tour guides are bilingual, but the tour will be mainly in German unless you call ahead to ask for them to

do an English one. To get there: park at the [Schlossberg Hotel](#) at Homburg 66424, Schlossberg-Höhen-Str. 1. At the parking lot, explore the 12th century castle ruins right there, with playground and park benches and 360-degree views. Then hike 5 minutes down the hill to the cave entrance. Alternatively, you can park downtown near St. Michael's church (Homburg 66424, Ringstr. 50) and hike 15 minutes up the steps behind the church. From your church, you'll be a few minutes walk from many restaurants, bars and cafes.

### [Idar-Oberstein & Fischbach Mines](#)

45-60 min drive, north of Baumholder

One of the great gem centers of Europe, with over 600 gem shops and a museum. The local gem mines are no longer used but open for visitors. Gem work is now done with imported gems. See [Los Angeles Times article](#). Below are the individual options in the area:

- [Goldgottlieb Salt & Gem Mine](#) Idar-Oberstein 55743, Nahestr. 42  
Mine museum, kids "prospect" for gems on mine floor, jewelry exhibition, grinding demo  
M-F 9-18, Sa 10-18 (same for Sundays from Easter-1 Nov). Admission €3, €2 for kids>5.
- Edelsteinmein Gem Mine Defunkt, semiprecious gemstones, open for touring.
- [Precious Stone Museum](#) In the town center of Idar-Oberstein, 3 stories, with special shows
- Steinkaulenberg Abandoned gem mine with 33 smaller tunnels open to visitors where you can mine for your own gems in a special tunnel
- [Hosenberg Copper Mine](#) (Kupferbergwerk) Open 7 days/week 11-5  
Large mine abandoned in 1826, now open for visitors.  
100 foot high grottos connected in tunnels. On the first weekend of October yearly, the old smelting techniques are presented back to medieval times.

### [Kindsbach Cave](#)

owner & tour guide: Wolfgang Wuermell

Kindsbach 66862, Am Wingertshuebel

06371-17792

Old WWII then Cold War bunker, now open for tours

[KA article](#)

Must make appt with group of 10 or more, €5/person, younger kids free

## Fruit Picking

### [Appel Happel](#)

Mainz-Marienborn 55127, Marienborner Bergweg 33

Apples. M-F 9:30-12:30, 15-18:30. Sa 9-13.

06131-35905

### [Erdbeerland Ernst & Funck](#)

Multiple locations, see website

Strawberries (erdbeer) and asparagus

### [Erdbeer Paradies](#)

Zweibrücken 66482, Freudenbergerhof

06332-75291

Cherries, Strawberries & Raspberries

Sunshine Farms

Gerhardsbrunn, Adam Muller Str. 11

06375-5852

Pumpkins

## Hikes

### [Naturpark Pfälzerwald](#)

The name of the forested area from Landstuhl south to French border. Includes numerous hikes, castles, lakes, etc. Their English language website is very weak. Use Google Translate on their [German site](#) instead.

### [Queidersbach northeast hills loop hike](#)

- Begin near Sportplatz playground (see Playgrounds below) or from Flurstrasse in the northeast corner of town in the neighborhood above the cemetery.
- Sportplatz trailhead: Latitude: 49.3826, Longitude: 7.6402 [map](#)
- Extensive branching trails in forested hills with paved and dirt trails extending to Dieselberg and the lakes above Gelterswoog lake

### [Spielpark Teufelstisch \(Devil's Table\)](#)

Hinterweidenthal 66999, Im Handschuhsteich (40 min south of Landstuhl, east of Pirmasens). The area is famous for its formations, towers and spires carved by erosion from sandstone. Large kids playground & water playground, 60-ft tall hill tube slides.

Park in town or pay to park at the tower. Bouldering opportunities.

### \*[Trippstadt Karlstal river hike](#) ([video clip of hike](#))

Trailhead on the east side of Klug'sche Mühle restaurant: Wilensteiner Mühle 1, 67705

Trippstadt. 20 min south of Vogelweh. Beautiful hike along the small but fast Moosalb river, with frequent footbridges & English garden. Nearby bouldering opportunities & small cliffs.

Park on the east side of the restaurant and face south, looking at the swan and duck pond. (Bring bread to feed them!) The hike starts to between the pond and the restaurant heading south. Once past the pond, you'll see the trail heading to the left (east) behind the pond and alongside the river.

For more ideas, see [Ramstein-Gateway hiking section](#).

## Horseback Riding

*The Ramstein Community Center has a short listing of stables in the Kaiserslautern area, supposedly. Stop by to pick one up. Another place to look is [MilitaryStables.com](#) and [Ohmbach Lake Horseback Flier](#).*

[Diana's Horse farm](#)      Otterberg 67697, Phillipp-Kirchner Str. 1      0176-2582-1002

English language skills, American & German clients. Website doesn't really work, though.

Gries 66903 (20 min NW of Landstuhl),

Reiterhof und Pferdepension Schachtzabel, Hauptstr. 76

06373-50-6411 or 0160-357-5753

Gries 66903, Pony treks: Susanne Jung, Schlossbergstrasse 13

06373-50-6708

Henschtal/Sangerhof 66909 (near Glan-Munchweiler), Islandpferdehof

Familie Welsch

0176-2237-5575

Some English. Children can ride on a tether. 8 and up can ride with reins. Open Sat.

Katzweiler (northeast of Ramstein AFB), [Bonanza Ranch](#)

Kusel (25 min northwest of Landstuhl): [Reit und Fahrverein](#)

\_\_\_Lessons, boarding, trail rides, host horse shows, care, indoor and outdoor arenas

Melanie Kassel stables in Miesau, with Julia as lead trainer, sold their teaching horses and are no longer offering lessons as of fall 2014

## Ice Skating

[Frankfurt Ice Sport Hall](#) Frankfurt

Large indoor and outdoor facility, hosting ice skating, curling, hockey, ballroom dance

Hosts hockey teams with a pro shop

[Gartenschau \(Dinosaur Park\)](#) Kaiserslautern 67659, Kalause 9

"Kaiserslautern on Ice" -- Nov to Feb, 800 sq. meter indoor rink, Rentals available

7 days/wk: 9-12, 13-15, 16-18, 19-2100 hours. F-Sa open to 2200. ~ €3/person.

Group beginner lessons on Fridays [Article in the KA -Nov11](#)

[Ice Arena \(Peter Cunningham Memorial Arena\)](#)

Zweibrücken 66482, Europa Alleestr. 11 (west of airport) 06332-481-7977

Indoor, open year-round. Rental skates available. Practice, fun & hockey team play.

[Queidersbach ice pond](#) Queidersbach, west side of town

Carved out of the ground in a field behind the playground near Steinbachstr. 16

Outdoor, seasonal and not filled some years at all, free. Not staffed or regulated. Bring your own skates

## Indoor Playparks for Kids

[Kinderspiel](#)

Kaiserslautern 67657, Entersweilerstr. 54 0631-3410-0900

7 days/week, prices vary by date & age: €5-8/child, €3/adults + some extra fees

Indoor & outdoor, + ropes course and miniature golf (separate fees)

[KMCC Outdoor Rec climbing gym](#) (great for adults too) 06371-47-5705

KMCC Mall, next to Ramstein Inn downstairs. 30+ ft walls. No shorts allowed!

7 days/week. Bouldering \$5 all day. Belay classes W 5-7 & every other Su 12-2.

[World of Fun](#)

Zweibrücken 66482, Europa Allee 11 (next to Ice Arena) 06332-481-7970

A bit smaller, but a bit nicer than Yabadoo & Kinderspiel. Bowling alley and ice rink attached.

[Yabadoo](#)

Mehlingen 67678, Hauptstrasse 86 (northeast suburb of K-town)

Northeast suburb of K-town, about 30 min drive from Landstuhl

Indoors: Bouncy tents, slides, nerf cannon, trampolines, food. 7 days/week. €6/child, €3/adult.



## Useful Weblinks for Local Stuff

* <a href="#">Ramstein Gateway</a>	Great site on KMC activities, includes weekly updates
* <a href="#">Buzz Off Base</a>	Nice. Activities in Germany for American military
<a href="#">Everything KMC</a>	Large bulletin board site for the KMC
<a href="#">Kaiserslautern American</a>	Online and monthly paper newspaper for the KMC
<a href="#">City of Kaiserslautern</a>	Official German homepage
<a href="#">KMC Cycling Club</a>	Local Cycling Club for Mountain & Road Biking - weekly rides
<a href="#">The Local</a>	Online news for Germany in English (expat target)
<a href="#">Mountain Biking in the KMC</a>	German site for local mountain biking
<a href="#">MWR Kaiserslautern Army</a>	Morale, Welfare & Recreation for Army posts in the KMC
<a href="#">MWR Ramstein AFB</a>	Morale, Welfare & Recreation for Ramstein AFB
<a href="#">Outdoor Rec, KMC MWR</a>	List with links for all the sponsored events of the month
<a href="#">Ramstein Underground</a>	Bulletin board to post questions & grievances
* <a href="#">Ramstein Yard Sales</a>	BookKoo site for the KMC (like Craigslist for military bases)
<a href="#">Stars &amp; Stripes</a>	Independent newspaper for US military, free online articles
<a href="#">Military in Germany: Local Secrets</a>	A nice list of things within one hour of the KMC

## Movies Theaters

*There are three cinemas in the KMC that play movies in English. German theaters usually play American movies dubbed into German, not subtitled.*

\*[Broadway Kino](#) Landstuhl 66849, Merkurstr. 9

An independent theater, near the McDonalds. Reserved seating, alcohol, 4 screens in English.

[Gateway Cineplex](#) Ramstein AFB in the KMCC Mall (top floor)

[Galaxy Theater](#) Vogelweh Army Post

[Saarbrücken](#): This city 30-45 min west of Landstuhl has several movie theaters. None of them have reserved English-language screens, but they do occasionally show movies in English, especially since 2014 when some rules changed dictating movie languages. Just look for OmU or OV after the titles for the English language showings (often on Tuesday evenings). See this [guide](#) for a list of Saarbruecken cinemas. *The code "OV" before or after a movie title means in its original language without subtitles. Movies in their original language with German subtitles will have the code "OmU".*

## Parks and Castles

-2 words for "castle" in German: "burg" is a military fortress; "schloss" is a royal palace.

[Bremerhof Park](#), south end of K-town

Kaiserslautern 67663 near Bremerhof (street)



Large public nature park with paved and dirt walking trails. Free.

Hotel Bremerhof up the hill has large beer garden & restaurant

### [Burg Hohenecken](#)

c. 1200 castle now in ruins in southern Kaiserslautern metro towards Trippstadt

### [Burg Nanstein](#)

Landstuhl 66849, Burgweg (access from Landstuhl-Melkerei) CLOSED MONDAYS

### [Fun Forest Homburg Ropes Course](#) 20 min west

Homburg/Jägersburg 66424, Kleinottweiler str. 148

8 courses 3-50 ft above ground. €19 adults, €14 kids ages 8-13, €5 kids ages 6-8.

Mar-Nov. Hours: Tu-F 12-7, Sa-Su 10-7 with later hours in summer.

### \*[Gartenschau, a.k.a. Dinosaur Park](#)

Kaiserslautern 67659, Kalause 9

-7 days/week, closed over winter.

-€6/adults, €3/children over 5. Consider buying a season family pass.

-Fantastic outdoor play area with life-size dinosaur statues, skate park, soccer field, several playgrounds and forts, 30-ft slides, open fields & wading stream, ropes course, food booths, cafe, and restaurants, prayer garden, cactus garden, city views, bird sanctuary (not open).

-Bring a stroller for smaller kids (or rent one there).

### [Japanese Gardens](#)

Kaiserslautern 67657, Am Abendsberg 1

0631-370-6600

Open Apr-Oct, 10-18. Go in early spring when cherry blossoms are out.

€4.50/adults, kids free. Buy some fish food at the entrance for the large Koi fish.

Very average by American standards. Not stroller friendly.

### [K1 Waldseilpark](#), Fröhnerhof "forest climbing park"

Mehlingen 67678, Fröhnerhof 20 (NE suburb of K-town)

06303-80-6045

High ropes course, takes about 2 hours to complete Tu-Su, 10-19

### [Naturerlebnispfad Enkenbach-Alsenborn](#) (Nature Adventure Trail)

Enkenbach-Alsenborn 67677, Hauptstrasse 18 (exit 17 off A6)

[Pics & googlemap](#)

Barefoot park & kids adventure trail. Just northeast of the K1 park in Mehlingen (above)

### \*[Volkspark](#) (People's Park a.k.a. Swan Pond)

Kaiserslautern 67657, Donnersbergstrasse 30 (East side of town)

Large, gorgeous city park with green areas for playing, duck/swan pond & stream running through it (consider swimsuits for kids on hot days, or at least flip flops & foot towels), playgrounds, water playground. Free. Food stands & beer garden 12:30-19.

Stroller-friendly. Amphitheater with Sunday brunch concerts 11-13.

### [Wildpark](#) (wildlife park, East side of town)

[Stars & Stripes article on WildPark](#)

Kaiserslautern 67655, Entersweilerstr.

0631-365-2317

Local wildlife on 62 acres: deer, boar, wild horses, rabbits, wild pigs, frogs, ...

62 acres. Free. Not stroller friendly. 100 year old trees.

### [Wildpark Potzberg](#)

(20 min north of Ramstein village)

Föckelberg 66887, Inhaber Harald Schauß

06385-6249

Petting zoo & reserve. Birds of prey, storks, peacocks, boar, deer & moose, goats, wild horses, etc.

Falconry shows. Open 7 d/wk, 10-6. Shorter hours in winter & closed in bad weather. €4-7

[Zoo of Kaiserslautern](#)

Kaiserslautern-Siegelbach 67661, Zum Tierpark 10

open 7 days/week

06301-71690

## Performing Arts Venues

[English Theatre](#)

Frankfurt 60329, Gallusanlage 7

069-242316

Largest English-language theatre in Europe, outside of the UK

Broadway and London shows transferred to local cast &amp; producers.

[Kammgarn](#)

K-town 67659, Schoenstr. 10

i.e. Cotton Club. next to the Gartenschau Dinosaur Park. Smoky, cover charge \$\$.

The biggest live popular-music venue in the KMC. Books small international artists.

[KMC OnStage](#)

Kleber Kaserne, KMC Theatre bldg. 3232

0631-411-6626

Talent is underwhelming, but shows for kids do entertain

Office: Tu-F 1300-1700

[Pfalztheater](#)

K-town, Willy-Brandt-Platz 4

0631-3675

Formal performing arts center for the KMC. Productions are usually in German, but

maybe one show a year is in English. Occasional kid-friendly shows. Some shows

offer discounts for military and children for advance ticket sales.

[Ramstein Community Center](#)

RAFB, near Library/Brit Shop

Volunteer performers. Kids productions are entertaining, similar to KMC OnStage quality

[TheaterHaus, Stuttgart](#)

Stuttgart 70469, Siemensstr. 11

0711-402-0720

3 theater halls, a concert hall, workshops, sports hall and restaurant

## Playgrounds of note

\*[Donnelly Park](#), Ramstein AFB Intersection of Columbia Dr. & California Ave.

In base housing area, north end of base behind fire station

Playgrounds for all ages, playing fields, restrooms (sometimes locked)

\*[Gartenschau Dinosaur Park](#) playground, Kaiserslautern (See Parks section above)

Maybe the best in the KMC but costs money or season pass, parking, long walk

[Hettenhausen](#)

(for those living in the Oberarnbach-to-Wallhalben valley, SW of Landstuhl)

Hettenhausen 66919, Talstraße

Small town playground for those living nearby -- zip line, stream crossing &amp; wading pool

\*[Queidersbach Forest Playground \(near its Sportplatz\)](#)

Walk uphill towards end of street past the Sportplatz. The road/paved path will then

curve left. Right after the curve, look up to your right into the woods. The playground

can barely be seen during peak foliage. A forest path leads up to it.

Partially hidden in the woods, has cliffs and bridges above the playground

[Ramstein AFB Climbing playground](#) for ages 5 and up

Hidden behind housing units, northwest corner of base. In the square formed by the streets of Alabama Blvd. and Michigan Blvd., Kansas St. and New York Ave.

\*[Volkspark](#) in Kaiserslautern

Free & one of the best (see Parks section above)

## Water Play: Pools & Lakes

\*[Azur Pool](#)

Ramstein 66877, Schernauerstr. 50

Indoor & outdoor, pools, waterslides, high dives, sauna. Cafe. Toys ok.

[Bostalsee \(Bostal Lake\)](#)

Nohfelden-Bosen 66625, Am Seehafen 1 30 minutes NW of Landstuhl

Large no-wave lake with swimming, water slides, windsurfing, paddle boats.

Small fee to enter.

[Calypso](#)

Saarbrücken 66117, Deutschmühlental 7 40 min W

Multiple slides, swim up pool bar with cocktails, kids pirate ship & suspension bridge

[Center Parc Bostalsee](#)

Nohfelden 66625, Lindenallee 1 30 minutes NW

European chain of all-inclusive holiday resorts with hotel, large enclosed pool, & other indoor / outdoor play areas. Minimum 2-night stay required arriving on Mon or Fri.

There are other CenterParcs in all directions from the KMC.

[Cubo Outdoor Pool](#)

Landstuhl 66849, Kaiserstrasse 126 06371-2611

Pool & shallow clean pond (pebble bottom) with lots of surrounding lawn

Air mattress rafting, diving rock, water is a bit cool (20 deg C)

[Gelterswoog Lake](#)

Hohenecken (SW suburb of K-town)

300m sand beach, canoe & rowboat rentals, sunbathing lawn, mini golf, playground

No access without paying fee. Closed Sundays & winter.

\*[Miesau Outdoor Pool](#)

06372-8167

Bruchmühlbach-Miesau 66892, Zum Hasensprung (5-10 min W of Landstuhl)

Best outdoor pool on the west side of the KMC. Open 7 d/week, 9-8, usu. May-Sept.

Water temp 24 deg C. Wide slide, 3m platform, flow channel, shaded baby pool.

[Monte-Mare Pool](#)

Kaiserslautern 68657, Mailänderstr. 6

0631-30380

Indoor & outdoor pools, sauna, wave pool, slides, diving platforms

[Ohmbach Lake](#)

Gries, Bahnhofstrasse 20 min northwest of Landstuhl

Small dammed lake, which can be nice swimming in warm weather. Kneipp wading pool.

Pedal boat rentals on north side next to a small café, playground & water playground.

Gravel/dirt, flat walking path circles it, good for bikes & strollers (not scooters).

3rd weekend in July hosts small festival:

[KA article on Ohmbachsee fest](#)

[Ramstein AFB Pool](#)

06371-405-7665

[Bldg. 422](#), on Jefferson Ave past Wilson Blvd (NE corner of base near library)

Indoor pools & waterslides. No food/drinks allowed. Lifeguard breaks every hour.

Mo closed. Sa 9-19, Su 11-18, Tu-F 9-20

No toys or floats except USCG-approved. USCG floats available to use.

[Silber Lake](#)

40 min east of K-town, near Bobenheim-Roxheim

2nd largest lake in this area, man-made. Large beach on south side w/rec area

Swimming, snorkeling, sailing, surfing and fishing (with license). Activity trail.

[Warmfreibad Kaiserslautern](#)

K-town 67657, Am Warmfreibad 1 @ Entersweilerstrasse (East side of town)

Large heated (slightly) outdoor pool with slide, high dive platforms, & grassy play areas

Next to Volkspark & Kleber Kaserne

0631-414-6884

About €10 for a family of 4 all day. Floats & toys allowed. Small baby pool

[Waschmühle Pool](#)

Kaiserslautern 67659, Waschmühle 1

0631-370-4108

Biggest outdoor water basin in Europe with diving platforms

## STORE RECOMMENDATIONS

## Auto Work & Tires

### --- Body Shops

There are 3 USAA-approved body shops in the KMC. One in Landstuhl, which is not listed on the USAA Claims website but is an option: \_\_\_\_\_. Two in K-town: [Schäfer Paint & Body Shop](#) and \_\_\_\_\_. I used Schäfer in Oct 2012 and recommend them. They were professional, prompt and had good customer service, in English. I don't know anything about the others.

### -- Car Detailing and PCS Shipping Prep

[Weber Car Cosmetic](#) Kaiserslautern Einsiedlerhof 67661, Liebigstr. 1 0631-370-6605  
Of the ones listed in the 2015 Find-It Guide, the best seems to be Weber. Pre-PCS shipping cleaning is €100 and guaranteed. Get it done the day before your VPC appointment to allow time for the shampooed floor mats to dry. Allow several hours. They do a great job on buffing, hand waxing and probably repair work too. Reserve far in advance during PCS season (April-August).

### -- Mechanic

[Autocraft Shop](#), LPMC, Bldg. 3800 (by CDC 2) 06371-86-7335  
You can pay mechanics to do the work or pay a smaller fee to borrow their equipment to work on your car. Reservations recommended except evenings & weekends.  
Hours: M-F 12-19, Sa-Su 10-17.

### --- Tires (including snow tires)

\*[KSC Refen Stephan](#) Kaiserslautern 67663, Opelkreisel 15 0631-352-0120  
Their prices are often cheaper than [tirerack.com](#)! Great service, great English, they'll tell you if need something less expensive or even draw you a map for directions to a center than can do something they can't.

\*[Tirerack.com](#)

Cheaper, even with shipping, than most anywhere in Germany. Ships to APO boxes (APO limit is 70 lbs, which should cover any except maybe truck tires premounted on rims).  
-If you don't have room to store them in a garage, some mechanic garages will keep them for you for a fee. Not sure if you have to buy the tires through them, though.

### --- Stereo & Navigation systems (in-dash)

*No one (!) in the KMC, but drive 30 minutes west to this shop -- they know their stuff:*

[ASD Reupke Car Audio](#) Neunkirchen 66538, Fernstrasse 47 068-212-2029

Hours: M-F 9-18, Sa 10-13.

The receptionist speaks not a single word of English, but one of their main installers is Jan (a male, pronounced "Yon") who is good and bilingual. You can try asking for him, but he usually can't come to the phone -- so you either need to have a German friend call to make an appointment or drive there yourself and hope to talk to Jan.

## Bookstores

AAFES Exchange	Ramstein KMCC Mall, next to Cinnabon	06371-407-9281
<a href="#">Ramstein Used Bookstore</a>	Ramstein AFB, Bldg. 2113, near Chili's	06371-40-6524

Same bldg as MoM's Sporting Goods & the Video Store. Excellent, fairly large store - includes some movies (DVDs) & audiobooks as well. Holdings are searchable online. Free wifi, coffee bar, reading chairs. They purchase your used books too. M-Sa 10-6, Su 12-5

## Cakes decorated for birthdays, promotions, etc.

Commissaries                      Semi-custom cakes available for order in advance  
 All businesses previously have now closed (except for the commissary option)

## Catering

[Hotel Rosenhof](#)  
[Salvatore's Italian](#)                      €10 per adult, €8 child. Small amount extra for dishes and silverware.  
 Other ideas, not sure if they cater: Ramstein Officers Club, Gabriella's Italian

## Clothing

*For athletic wear, see Sporting Goods section below*

\*[Amazon.com](#)                      Amazon Prime will get most packages here between 1 (!) to 2 weeks.  
[H & M](#)                                      K-town, Fackelstr. 1                      0631-360-8869  
 Near the new K in Lautern mall, but not in it. Stylish but still reasonably priced women's and kids clothing. (Men's clothing too in other cities.)  
[Mango](#)                                      K-town 67655, Fackelrondell 1  
 For women's clothing. Opened March 2015 in the new [K in Lautern mall](#).  
[The Style Outlets](#)                      Zweibrücken 66482, Londoner Bogen 10-90  
 American-like outdoor outlet mall with brands ranging from Esprit to Armani.  
[Saarpark Center](#)                      Neunkirchen 66538, Mute Platz 1  
 Indoor shopping mall, mildly upscale. Will make you feel a bit like you're back in the US.

## Electronics & Appliances

<a href="#">Media Markt</a>	K-town 67663, Hohenecker Str. 26	0631-31720
	German chain like Best Buy	
<a href="#">Ramstein BX</a>	Ramstein AFB	06371-407-9242, -9243
<a href="#">Saturn</a>	K-town 67663, Merkurstr. 62	0631-41420
	German chain like Best Buy	

## Fabric & Window Dressings

<a href="#">Ramstein BX</a>	Small selection, some finds, most of it low quality
<a href="#">Fabric.com</a>	Excellent selection and shipping policies
<a href="#">Poco Domane</a>	K-town, Merkurstr. 62                      0180-599-7733

Located on the back side of Toys R Us near Opel Circle. Fabric is in the curtains section  
[Stoff-Centrum](#) K-town 67663, Denisstr. 22 0631-50520  
 Accepts VAT forms for purchases > €100

## FCK Soccer Games

*\*Football Club Kaiserslautern home games at Fritz-Walter Stadium in K-town, Aug - May. Go European while you are here and get into the local pro soccer team. FCK fluctuates between the top league/division (bundesliga) and the second one. Games last 2 hours. 50,000 seat stadium is open air, with a roof over the seating sections.*

--Purchase about 2 weeks in advance at Ramstein Community Center ([map](#)) or buy them online at [fck.de](#) earlier.

--Tickets (€15-50) often sell out the same day they get them on base. RAFB sells tickets in the Family section (high eastern end zone, OstTribüne) or near 50-yard line, southside (SüdTribüne). They do not sell tickets for the loud, local, rowdy cheering section (fun!) at the other end zone, Karlsberg WestTribüne.

-- There is really no significant parking by the stadium. Don't drive there. Free park & ride shuttles are available from several lots around town. The Opel lot is closed as of 2014 due to Ikea construction. There is a lot near Mexican Cantina and one at the Kaserne exit off A-6. There is another one in downtown K-town, but most roads to it will be blocked by police before a game so you have to know the secret solution to the maze. Allow 45 minutes from arrival at a lot to kick-off time, more if you want to buy food and drink at the stadium before the game starts. You can also train to the stadium. A game ticket includes free train ride from anywhere in the KMC! It's a 10 minute good uphill walk to the stadium from the K-town train station.

## Framing

[Frameshop Rahmen & Bild Galerie](#) KSL-Einsiedlerhof 67661, Kaiserstr. 1  
 Hours: M-F 10-6, Sa 10-2 0631-51100  
 Custom frame shop with pre-mades as well, very professional, excellent English.

## Furniture

*Note: German stores rarely keep furniture in a warehouse ready for sale. It usually has to be custom-made after you order it and then shipped, unless you buy the display model being discontinued. Wait times are ~ 6 weeks to 6 months, and may not be predicted well by store.*

-[Freddy's Antiques](#) Hütschenhausen 66882, Haupstr. 94b 06372-80-3255  
 M-Sa 10-6, closed Wed

-[Ikea](#) 2 locations: Mannheim 68307, Frankenthaler Str. 123 (50 min east)  
 Saarlouis 66740, Im Hader 1 (50 min west)  
 New one: K-town, Opel circle OPENING 13 AUG 2015

Both current stores are about the same size, quality and access from Landstuhl.

CASH ONLY or German debit card. No credit cards!! To use a VAT form,



you go through regular check-out, then go through customer service with VAT, then go through check-out AGAIN to get VAT refund. Really. Closed Sundays.

- [Luc's European Antiques](#) Spesbach 66882, Ramsteiner str. 45 06371-915797  
Near Hütchenhausen. [Facebook page](#). Open W-F 11-6, Sa 10-6
- [Möbel Martin](#) Kaiserslautern 67657, Europaallee 21 0631-89240  
Higher-end furniture chain for Germany, most of it is modern/Euro-styled

## Grocers & Markets

### GENERAL GROCERY

- Aldi Hypermarket Landstuhl  
Cheaper than Wal-mart on average
- [Commissary, Ramstein](#) Ramstein AFB DSN 480-6712 06371-47-6712 /7231  
Hours: M-Sa 9-21, Su 9-20 Early Bird hours: 0730-0900
- [Commissary, Vogelweh](#) Vogelweh Army Post DSN 489-6828 0631-3543-00223  
Hours: same as Ramstein
- [Cora](#) France, Forbach cedex 57602, Avenue de l'Europe  
Just across the border from Saarbrücken (~45 min drive). Large wine sale quarterly.  
Hypermarket with lots of cool French foods, like a Super-Target. Quarterly massive wine tasting & sale advertisd in the Kaiserslautern American paper.
- \*[Edeka](#) Ramstein-Miesenbach 66877, Miesenbacherstr. 6 06371-40-3690  
Landstuhl 66849, Bahnstr. 28 06371-61-2190  
M-Sa 8am-9pm. Nice suburban grocer equivalent with good signs, not crowded, helpful staff, good produce, meat, decent cheese and beer selection.
- [Farmer's Market](#) Kaiserslautern 67655, Stiftsplatz [YouTube video](#)  
Tuesdays & Saturdays, 0700-1300. Meat, produce, cut flowers, herbs & plants, cheese, eggs.  
Grill on site for eating there. Street parking or in underground garage below SAKS Hotel.
- [Globus](#) Kaiserslautern 67663, Merkurstrasse 57 0631-53580  
The highest end of the hypermarkets in the KMC, like a Super-Target or Super-Walmart
- [Kaufland](#) Landstuhl 66849, Torfstr. 10 06371-92600  
Medium to low end Super-Walmart or Super-Kmart. Next to Toom.
- [Wasgau](#) Queidersbach 66851, Pirminius str. 1 06371-3780  
Best regional grocery store for those living in nearby towns

### ETHNIC

- Asia Store Chi Thanh K-town 67655, Pirmasenser Str. 22 0631-63241  
Vietnamese owned
- Asian Shop Ramstein, Schulstrasse 5 06371-61-7661  
Thai, Japanese, Chinese & Korean ingredients canned, frozen & a few fresh
- [Brit Shop](#) Ramstein AFB, British Support Unit, Roosevelt St., Bldg. 539 [map](#)  
Across Jefferson Ave. from the Library 06371-40-1442  
Cuban cigars, Indian prepared foods, British beer & liquor. M-F 9-5

Latin markets: none. The closest is a Mexican market in Frankfurt.

Middle eastern markets: none

[Seoul Market](#) Ramstein 66877, Kindsbacher str. 43 06371-61-4284  
M-F 9-7, Sa 9-6, closed Su

## Gyms & Fitness Centers

[Northside Fitness Center](#) Ramstein AFB 06371-47-8085 (DSN 480-8085)

M-F 5-19:00, Sa-Su closed.

Cardio, free weights, machines, racquetball, fitness classes. Parent/child workout room.

[Southside Fitness Center](#) Ramstein AFB 06371-47-0294

M-F 5-23, Sa-Su 7-22

Cardio, free weights, machines, racquetball, fitness classes. Parent/child workout room.

[Southside Annex](#) Ramstein AFB, next to Southside Gym

M-F 6-20, closed weekends

Old school basement gym with cardio, weights, heavy bag, free weights & gym floor

[Landstuhl RMC Gym](#) LRMC, Bldg. 3720 06371-86-7172

M-F 5-22:30, Sa-Su 11-18. Basketball court, 1 racquetball court.

Personal trainers, masseuses, smoothies available for fee.

[Crossfit Gym](#) LRMC, Bdg. 3714, next to gas station 0151-5206-9578

M-F 5-6, 1630-1800. Sa-Su closed.

[Vogelweh Gym](#) Vogelweh 0631-536-7329 (DSN 489-7329)

M-F 5-20:00, Sa & Holidays 10-18, Su closed

Cardio, free weights, machines, racquetball, fitness classes.

## Hairdressers, Barbers and Hair Salons

*There is so much disagreement on who does a good and bad job in the area for women's hair that we will refer you to the Find-It Guide and let you make your own decisions.*

Bella's Haarmodern Queidersbach 66851, Mittelfeldstr. 6 06371-13112

Isabella Muller cuts out of her home by appt, speak English well

Does a good job for childrens' haircuts (boys €11, girls ?).

[Kapaun AAFES Barber](#) Kapaun Air Station [map](#)

Often no line, unlike the craziness at LRMC and Ramstein AFB barber shops

## Home & Garden

[Dehner Garten Center](#) Kaiserslautern 67663, Merkurstr. 55 0631-35721

next to Globus. Open M-F 9-7, Sa 9-6.

[Gärtnerei Hanns](#) Ramstein 66877, On Koehlwaeldchen 3 06371-91-5163

next to McDonalds at the A-6 autobahn entrance. Significantly cheaper than Toom prices on

plants

<a href="#">OBI</a>	K-town 67663, Opelkreisel 16	0631-35-1730
Large Home Depot-like chain		
<a href="#">Toom</a>	Landstuhl 66849, Torfstr. 8	06371-92630
Next to Kaufland far west Landstuhl.		

## Malls

*Europeans are not into indoor shopping malls the way Americans are, nevertheless there are a few near the KMC.*

Skyline Plaza Frankfurt 60327, Europa-Allee 6

The best mall in southwest Germany. Large, high-end American-style just opened in 2013 with 180 stores like H&M, Zara, Mango, Esprit, Calzedonia, Desigual, Foot Locker, U.C. of Benetton, Tommy Hilfiger, Vero Moda, Chipotle ... in downtown Frankfurt. Public park & green area on the roof.

[K in Lautern](#) in Kaiserslautern. Brand new in 2015

[SaarPark Center](#) in Neunkirchen (26 min)

[Europa Galerie](#) in Saarbrücken (35 min)

## Medical Care

*Besides US military treatment facilities, there is a group of health care practices in the KMC that feature American-licensed providers who speak native English. They are all located within a block of each other, on the far east of Landstuhl heading towards Kindsbach. Their receptionists are usually German and may not be fluent in English. Several of the practices are "in network" for Tricare and take other American and German insurance.*

*And of course there are many German physicians in the KMC and in the nearby town of Homburg, to the west is where the University of Saarland Medical Center. Many German physicians speak English fairly well. Beware that most other German "allied health professionals" have much less training than their American counterparts -- e.g. therapists, audiologists, pharmacists, etc.*

[American Medical Center](#) formerly called Amer. Rehab & Urgent Care Center

Landstuhl 66849, Bahnstr. 104

Urgent Care 06371-495011

Adult physical therapy 06371-495020

American physical therapists and PAs staffing urgent care

[Jeanette Kruft Speech Therapy](#) Landstuhl 66849, Kaiserstr. 169 06371-734-9757

Offices in Landstuhl & Spangdahlem with American speech-language pathologists

Therapy offered at their offices and at schools & daycares in the KMC

[Jennifer Walk Speech Therapy](#) Ramstein

Multiple American speech language pathologists

[Tina Schmitt Occupational Therapy](#) Landstuhl 66849, Kaiserstr. 169 06371-731-9294

American pediatric OT

[MVZ Westpfalz](#) Landstuhl 66849, Kaiserstr. 171 06371-404-9100

A German multispecialty group w/ an American pediatric dentist

[Dr. Hans-Jurgen Jost Plastic Surgery](#) Landstuhl 66849, Nardinistr. 11 06371-91-2356

His wife, Dr. Ayten Jost, also a plastic surgeon has a Kaiserslautern office too (see weblink)

Focus in breast surgery, good prices on botox (actually uses Dysport). Takes VAT forms.

In practice since ~2000, fluent English (but not receptionist).

[Wellness Kliniek Plastic Surgery](#) Belgium, Genk 3600, Grotestraat 44 +32-8932-9500

Large volume, low-priced, multi-provider practice focusing in cosmetic surgery. Several friends of friends satisfied, but mixed reviews online. 2 hour 45-minute drive.

[Dr. Bianca Knolls Plastic Surgery](#) Frankfurt 60325, Savignystr. 61 069-7422-7979

American-trained (Yale). Charges more than some, but very well regarded.

## Music Lessons

Piano / Keyboard Miriam Schmidt Musikschule

Landstuhl 66849, Ludwigstr. 2

06371-13770

Recitals held in nearby castles, better instruction than other Landstuhl studios

## Playground sets for backyards

KMCC BX Plastic and metal swing sets

[Rainbow Play Systems](#) High-end last for a lifetime, medium to massive sized sets

1 retailer in southern Germany: [holzparadies.de](http://holzparadies.de). Sets priced €1,000-5,000

1 retailer in central France (nicer, better English): contact through Rainbow's .com site

OBI ?Probably available to order at Customer Service

Toom Customizable wood playground sets available for order.

## Rental Cars

\*[Avis in Ramstein Village](#) Ramstein-Miesenbach 66877, Kindsbacher Straße 58

For reasons unclear to me and to the staff themselves, this shop frequently has better deals than the Avis on Ramstein Air Base (15% cheaper) and compared to any site online, even a multi-company search engine like Kayak. They speak great English, are friendly and have great service. Hidden behind Hotel Circle Inn across from Pentagon Car Sales. 06371-95-2555

## Restaurants

*See separate page below, page 22*

## Salon, Nails & Spa

[Total Beauty Spa](#) K-town, Kaiserstr. 39

0631-414-8537

[Wellness Spa Land](#) Landstuhl 66849, Kaiserstr. 165

06371-94-9670

Tu-F 10-18:30, Sa 9-15. Closed Su-M

## Sporting Goods & Athletic Wear / Clothing

[Conrad's Sports](#) Garmisch-Partenkirchen 82467, Chamonix str. 3 08821-73-2270

Large store for skiing, boarding, running, camping. Equipment & clothes.

[Cross Store](#) European online CrossFit store

### Equestrian Clothing and supplies

[JS-Reitsport & Zoo](#) Ramstein-Mies. 66877, Rathausring 6 06371-46-3308

[Reitsport Pegasus](#) Landstuhl 66877, Reichswaldstr. 1A 06371-46-5318

[Equiva](#) Homburg 66424, In Den Rohrwiesen 1 06841-777-7430

[der Fahrradladen](#) Ramstein, Steinwendener Str. 3 06371-62555

Bike shop. Small, but they do a good job with repairs, faster than WheelSports (below)

Open until 7pm weeknights

[Gear Up Jr. \(fb\)](#) Ramstein AFB, Bldg. 2113 on Mitchell Ave. 06371-47-5226

(southeast corner of base, near Housing Office)

[map](#)

Hours: M-Sa 10-19, Su-Holidays 12-16

[Intersport](#) one in Landstuhl, at the town platz  
& one in K-town in Saturn/ToysRUs Mall, Mercury str. 62  
0631-350-6716 (there's a third location in K-town, but smaller)

Large European chain with 3 shops in the KMC. The shops here have few international name-brands for clothing, but high-end prices (men's ski pants run \$200-450). Kids sizes too. Ski equipment, however, can be similar or even cheaper than US pricing.

[KMCC Outdoor Rec](#) Ramstein AFB, next to Ramstein Inn downstairs 06371-47-5705

Hours: M-Sa 10-20, Su 10-18\*\*\*\* Pulaski Barracks is the place to go for ski/board rentals

\*[Pulaski Barracks Outdoor Rec Ski Shop](#) Pulaski/Vogelweh, take 1st right after entering from west entrance/Einsiedlerhof. **\$150 kids, \$200 adult SEASON RENTALS with tune-ups!!**

Several of the people working here actually know skiing and fitting skis, but some don't -- check your binding settings before you leave. Better for kids boots, poles than Ramstein.

Better ski trips than Ramstein as well, announced further in advance

[Ralf's Schreieck](#) Queidersbach 66851, Haupstr. 119 06371-63218

Small bike shop with faster service for tune-ups than Wheelsports. No website.

[Sport Kraub \(Intersport\)](#) Landstuhl 66849, Am Allen Markt 3 on the main Platz

Small but decent shop with gear for skiing, running, climbing. Some prices cheaper than U.S.

\*[WheelSports](#) Weselberg 66919, Zeiselstr. 5 06333-60-2395

High end road/mountain/commuter bicycle store in a barn.

Open til 12:30pm Sa, Closed Su. Often overwhelmed & slow service, but nice stuff, large inventory & they speak English. New and used bikes, kids bikes, repairs, other gear.

Repair work often takes 3+ weeks, so take your repairs to Queidersbach or Ramstein village shops

Some online ski clothing stores with good prices:

[trusnow.com](#)

[levelninesports.com](#)

[steepandcheap.com](#)

## Storage Units for Rent

[Pulaski Barracks Outdoor Rec](#), Bldg. 2905

0631-3406-4117

DSN 493-4117

## Travel Agency

*We used to recommend Do-It Travel, but they seem to have been less reliable recently, from personal experience as well as word from friends. Several friends highly recommend:*

[Unraveled Travel](#)

Agent: Tracey Teuber

0179-205-4145

## Wine, Beer & Liquor

*Strangely, true wine or liquor stores are uncommon in Europe. In the KMC, package alcohol mainly is sold in grocery stores and small wine "shops" run out of people's homes after hours. Beyond the BX and Shoppettes, here are some of the best options:*

[Brit Shop](#)

Ramstein AFB, British Support Unit, Roosevelt St., Bldg. 539

Small selection of liquor and beer, some different from Class VI & BX 06371-40-1442

[Canada Shoppette](#)

Ramstein AFB, Canadian Support Unit, just above Brit Shop, 2nd floor

Selection of liquor and beer, some different from Brit Shop & American base options

[Cercle des Connaisseurs de Champagne](#)

Frankfurt 60329, Niddastr. 54

[Cora](#)

France, Forbach 57602, Avenue de l'Europe

+33-38784-7100

Famous huge quarterly wine sale, advertised in the Kaiserslautern American, much of it available for tasting (usu. for bottles under €15)

[Edeka](#)

K-town 67663, Zollamstr. 28

0631-310-685

South side of main train station in E-Center, Largest selection of wine in the KMC

Open M-F 8-22, CLOSED Sat-Sun!

[web.edeka.de](http://web.edeka.de)

[Globus](#)

Kaiserslautern 67663, Merkurstrasse 57

0631-53580

Second largest selection of wine and largest of liquor in the KMC

[Harry's Weingut](#)

Miesau 66892, Talstr. 3

06372-62248

Small shop of hand-selected wines from around Europe in the basement of Harry's home

Hours M-F 4:30-7:30, Sa 10-4

[Pinard de Picard](#)

Saarlouis 66740, Fort Rauch 2

068-3897-9500

[s'Tabaklädsche](#)

K-town 67655, Markstr. 20

0631-68104

Tobacco and liquor shop, specializing in rum and whiskey, across from the Stiftskirche cathedral downtown

[Feine Wein](#)

Saarbrücken 66117, Zeppelinstr. 2

[Wein Hauck](#)

K-town 67655, Bismarckstr. 35

0631-360-5823

The owner Ralf speaks good English. Small, but it is one of only 2 real wine shops in the KMC!

Also has some sherry, port and liquor. Has tastings on some Saturdays -- very social.

Weird hours: M 14-18:30; Tu-F 10-12:30, 14-18:30; Sa 10-14

## RESTAURANT RECOMMENDATIONS

*The restaurants below are not an all-inclusive list, just some ones to recommend. There is not a consensus on German and Italian ones in the KMC because there are so many, but we've listed some pearls to get you started. [DC Cow](#) is also a nice blog with a thorough review of restaurants.*

*Winter vs. Summer: Germans love to be outside in the backyard being social in the evenings. This means in warmer months and in nice weather, they vacate the restaurants. Restaurants half empty on a Saturday night in the summer may require reservations days in advance in the middle of winter.*



## American

<a href="#">Chili's</a>	Ramstein AFB, Enlisted Club	06371-47-5637
Set back behind huge parking lot on Lawn Ave., across from Housing & Finance Office.		
<a href="#">Chili's Too</a>	KMCC Mall in the Ramstein Inn, 2nd floor	06371-405-1492
Usually very busy with a long wait. Next to Outdoor Rec		
<a href="#">Flying Pig BBQ</a>	Ramstein Community Ctr (Bldg 412)	06371-47-6200
Ramstein AFB. Open 11-9 M-Sa. Closed Sundays & holidays.		DSN 480-6200
Pulled pork (non-spicy), brisket and ribs are there best mains. Great homemade sauces		
<a href="#">MWR Ramstein Bowling Alley</a>	Ramstein AFB, Bldg. 2139	06371-47-5547
on Lawn Ave. next to Chili's, Housing Office and 435th Medical Group		
Food quality variable, but sometimes pretty good burgers (pizza is bad)		
Hours: F-Sa 11-23, Su/Holidays 12-22, M-Th 11-22		
<a href="#">Nick's Southern Fried Chicken</a>	KSL-Ensiedlerhof 67661, Kaiserstr. 1	0631-58145
Good fried chicken, just like the US		
<a href="#">Sam Kullman's Diner</a>	K-town, Mainzerstr. 119	0631-415-0916
Near Dreieck exit off A6. Good for breakfast, American-style with pancakes, omelettes, etc. Lunch and dinner burgers are just so-so. Homemade shakes.		
<a href="#">ShaWINGz!</a>	Landstuhl 66849, Kaiserstr. 22	06371-594-8228
Wings cafe with American ownership or involvement, slow service (45min)		
<a href="#">Woodlawn Golf Club</a>	Ramstein AFB, Bldg. 553	06371-47-6240
East of Northside Fitness Center, Steakhouse Fr-Sa only 1700-2100. Breakfast & lunch 7 d/wk		

## Breakfast

<a href="#">Autohof/Rasthof Ramstein</a>	Ramstein 66877, In dem Wat L363	06371-92240
Truckstop diner between Landstuhl and Ramstein junction at A6 exit/Burger King		
Daily 5am-1pm		
<a href="#">Bistorante Paradox</a>	Ramstein 66877, Bahnhofstrasse 2	06371-42776
Sunday brunch begins at 10. Indoor/Outdoor. Res rec.		
Moderate sized buffet by the train station, champagne. €15/adult, free for kids <7		
<a href="#">Hotel Goldinger</a>	Landstuhl, Von-Richthofen-Str. 18	06371-92490
Usually fairly empty for weekend breakfasts, service is moderate speed		
European/contin. buffet plus eggs (?& pancakes) to order		
* <a href="#">Landschloss Fasanerie</a>	Zweibrücken 66482, Fasanerie 1	06332-973207
Upscale Sunday brunch 10-14, reserv required. €30 adults, €15 kids.		
Not young kid friendly. In the Landschloss Fasanerie / Romantik Hotel.		
<a href="#">Ramstein O' Club</a>	Ramstein AFB	06371-47-2824
Sunday brunch 10-1:30		
* <a href="#">Sam Kullman's Diner</a>	Kaiserslautern, Mainzer str. 119	0631-415-0916

Route 66 Diner. American style service with good American fare (omelettes, pancakes, etc.) Prompt, attentive service & kitchen.

<a href="#">Sander's Cafe</a>	Landstuhl 66849, Kaiserstr. 17	06371-64624
Busy, mostly German clientele. Reservations recommended.		
<a href="#">Woodlawn Golf Club</a>	Ramstein AFB, Bldg 553	06371-47-6240
Sa-Su 0600-1300, M-F 0630-1330		

## French

* <a href="#">Julien</a>	K-town 67655, Altenwoogstrasse 3	0631-64887
Nice indoors & pretty walled outdoor sunken patio. Food ranges from just okay to sometimes better than Le Galopin.		
* <a href="#">Le Galopin</a>	K-town 67655, Mozartstrasse 18	0631-892-3000
Good traditional French food, cozy/cute place, but some dishes are a bit Germanic. Get a reservation days to a week in advance. TripAdvisor #2 ranked.		
<a href="#">Petit Chateau</a>	Homburg 66424, Alte Reichsstrasse 4	06841-15211
Listed but have not tried it. Heard good things. #1 on TripAdvisor for Homburg.		

## German

* <a href="#">Cockpit Lounge</a>	Landstuhl, Kaiserstr. 3	06371-902-1106
Inside the Hotel Christine downtown. Super cool old military aircraft theme. Waiters speak English and can make many good cocktails. Popular among Germans, expats and GIs, so make a rez for dining on weekends. Free parking inside the hotel gate -- get ticket validated inside.		
<a href="#">Klug'sche Mühle</a>	Trippstadt 67705, Wilensteiner Mühle 1	0630-6312
CLOSED FOR EXTENDED TIME DUE TO OWNER'S HEALTH		
Sits on a small stream where they catch fresh trout for their menu. Casual ambience, outdoor balcony option, 7/days week 11-21:00. There's also a small pond with swans, geese, goats, etc. with a playground nearby. Autumn game menu. Walking trails are right there which are easy trails (see Hikes section).		
<a href="#">Ölmühle</a>	Landstuhl 66849, Mühlestraße 2	06371-40-4980
The best German food in the KMC. Also the most expensive. Dress to impress. Fancy, pretty ambience. Attentive service, but standard German (long) timing.		
<a href="#">Burg Lichtenberg Restaurant</a>	Thallichtenberg 66871, Burgstr. 12	06381-2633
25 min NW of Landstuhl, near Kusel. Good food inside 13th Century castle. Fun for your guests visiting from America. Faster service than most.		
<a href="#">Rosenhof Hotel &amp; Restaurant</a>	Ramstein 66877, Am Koehlwäldchen 16	06371-80010
A cozy multi-roomed restaurant in a hotel, hidden behind walled grounds, behind the McD's and Kino movie theater. Reservations recommended. Better than average food.		
<a href="#">21 Lounge</a>	K-town 67657, Willy-Brandt-Platz 1	0631-320-4370
Reservations recommended for dining.		

Restaurant and trendy bar at the top (21st floor) of the tallest building in the KMC  
Standard German cuisine & service. Open air balcony with great 270 deg views.

[Uwe's Tomate](#) Kaiserslautern, Schillerplatz 4 0631-93406

German / Italian, 1 Michelin star. White table cloth indoor/outdoor dining

[Wiesbacherhof](#) Wiesbach 66894, Lamachstr. 5 06337-1616

On the high bluffs west of Martinshöhe, towards Homburg. A local's place where you will not likely run into other Americans, and Germans around know it stands out for the food.

## Gourmet

(reservations highly recommended for all below)

[Borst](#) Maßweiler 66506, Luitpoldstr. 4 06334-1431

Chef-owner Harry Borst, small plates, [mol-gas](#), allow 3-4 hrs for dinner

\*[Esslibris](#) Zweibrücken 66482, Fasanerie 1 06332-973207

Beautifully cooked meats, fanciful desserts for ~ €50/person with a bottle of wine!

In the Landschloss Fasanerie / Romantik Hotel

*Probably the best value for gourmet cuisine and high-end ingredients in this area*

[Erfort](#) Saarbrücken 66121, Mainzer str. 95 0681-958-2682

Nationally known in the food scene. Michelin 3\*. Very expensive \$400-500/p w/wine

[Restaurant L'Arnsbourg](#) France, Baerenthal 57230, Arnsbourg

The most remote Michelin 3\* in France, Alsatian wine pairings. 70 min south.

[Silk](#) Frankfurt 60386, Carl-Benz-Str. 21 069-9002-0200

Very chic, set in underground nightclub, Cocoon Club. Dress to impress.

American, good sushi, nouveau. Fun. Ambience stands out more than food, but both good.

[Wartenberger Mühle](#) Wartenberg-Rohrbach 67681, Schlossberg 16 06302-92340

25 min east of Landstuhl, just past Sembach. Great food.

[Vendôme](#) Bergisch Gladbach 51429, Kadettenstr. 022-04420

just east of Cologne (2.5 hr drive)

Michelin 3\*, Has been ranked #1 restaurant in Germany & top 50 in world by [S. Pellegrino](#).

## Greek

*No recs. Everything we've had in the KMC is mediocre, with German influences and priced double compared to the US*

## Indian

[India Palace](#) Kaiserslautern, Grüner Graben 21 0631-66460

Same owner as Himalaya (which closed in 2015). Good, uninspired Indian. Slow service at times: 60-90 minute wait to get your main course on weekend evenings

\*[Maharaja](#) Ramstein 66877, Spesbacher str. 1 06371-952-8910

Inconsistent, but at times is the best Indian in the KMC. Their sauces are prepared in house and can taste fresher and a bit different than the almost chain-like flavor of most Indian food sold to westerners. Their heat level is lower than the others in the area - ask for it hotter if you want it authentic hot, otherwise it will be mild (but flavorful). Some of the best tandoori I've had - moist and highly flavored, but on another occasion it was dried out and not a stand out. Their korma and samosas stand out. Make sure to try their Peshawar naan with pistachios and honey.

[Bombay](#) in Einsiedlerhof is hit or miss.

## Italian / Pizza

[Classico](#) Contwig 66497, Haupstr. 98 06332-56-9700

Near Zweibrücken, similar quality to Garibaldi's. People tend to dress up a bit. Good priced prix-fix 5-course menu at €50, but takes 2.5 hours. Normal menu as well. Little English is spoken, but the native language of all the staff seems to be Italian -- a good sign.

[Gabiella's](#) Landstuhl 66849, Bruchwiesenstr. 17 06371-40-4466

Moderately good Italian - esp. their pasta sauces. Desserts are not authentic. Outdoor seating. Casual ambience.

\*[Garibaldi](#) Landstuhl, Kaiserstr. 39 06371-46-8256

*Good to great Italian, the best in Landstuhl -- especially their pizza and their special ravioli, homemade in brown butter.* Interior decor is chic and elegant. Quiet. Usually very nice service. Outdoor patio as well (blankets & heat lamps available). No credit cards.

[Macaroni Grill](#) KMCC Mall 06371-405-4049

While not real Italian, they are one of the few places here that can get spaghetti on a kid's plate in 10-15 minutes.

[Pizza Gallerie](#) Ramstein AFB Community Center 06371-47-6760

on Jefferson Ave. next to Library. Hidden in the very back of the building. Kid-friendly, buffet: lunch (M-F) & evening (MWF 5-7:30). Open Sa & Su evening. Pizza is like Anthony's at AAFES locations (mediocre). Video games.

[SAKS Restaurant](#) K-town 67655, Stiftsplatz 11 0631-36-1250

In SAKS Urban Design Hotel on the Stiftsplatz (site of the farmers & Xmas markets). Chic ambience, open kitchen. Pasta, wood oven pizza, a few mains & sandwiches. Large cocktail list, minimal wine list.

[Taormina](#) Landstuhl, Kaiserstr. 8 06371-3236

Moderately good Italian, nice atmosphere, tends to be busy and bustling

## Japanese / Sushi

*Most of the decent sushi south of Frankfurt is in Saarbrücken. The only Japanese restaurant to recommend in the KMC is Ayame. The only other Japanese owned and run restaurant is Kahori, a pale imitation of its Saarbrücken brother, Grand Asia. Other restaurants in the KMC serving sushi are staffed*

*by non-Japanese chefs and servers, with lower quality fish, mediocre rice, etc. At its best, it's the quality of American grocery store sushi, and it just goes downhill from there.*

[Ayame](#) K-town 67657, Moorlauterer str. 1 (in the Alcatraz hotel) 0631-8923-9845

Top Japanese cuisine in KMC outside of Saarbrücken

[Grand Asia](#) Saarbrücken 66111, Trierer str. 14 0681-970-5866

Trendy, loud, with chic decor. Reservations needed. Ordering is by iPad.

Decent sushi. Japanese staffed. Their sake is like some old school American sushi joint, though: bad & warm. **ADDRESS ALERT: There are two completely different streets named Triererstr. in Saarbrücken. Make sure you enter the zip code into your nav system.**

[Hashimoto](#) Saarbrücken 66111, Cecilienstr. 7 0681-39-8034

Good sushi, teppanyaki, tempura & other cooked and served by Japanese.

More types of nigiri available than what's on the menu, but service is a bit challenging: limited English, no pictures on menu. If you don't speak German and don't know sushi by Japanese name, don't go. The best sake menu in SW Germany. Meals €40-50/p w/drinks.

[Osaka](#) Saarbrücken 66111, Dudweilerstr. 1 0681-379-9066

Good sushi, a few decent sakes, pictures on menu, some English spoken, can be slow service (90 min to get sushi one Sat. night).

## Korean

[Korea House](#) KSL-Ensiedlerhof 67661, Weilerbacher str. 91 0631-350-5965

[Seoul Restaurant](#) Ramstein 66877, Landstuhler str. 23 06371-40-6789

Pretty good Korean. No cooking at the table. Sometimes crowded on Fr/Sa nights - consider reservation.

## Mexican

[Cantina Mexicana](#) KSL-Einsiedlerhof 67661, Kaiserstr. 117 0631-99328

Would not hold up in San Antonio or Albuquerque, but still marginally decent food for the KMC.

Above average margaritas and other mixed drinks. Indoor & outdoor seating; the biggest selling point for families is the outdoor kids play area & a small indoor one

Chipotle Frankfurt 60327, Europa-Allee 6

An American Southwestern chain, not really Mexican, in the striking Skyline Plaza mall

[Haragan](#) Bruchmühlbach-Miesau 66892, Kaiserstr. 168 06372-995-7433

Best authentic Mexican food in the KMC. Terrible, slow, inexperienced service. They charge for tap water, even refills. Margaritas are from a cheap mix. Good food and a cute little place, though.

[Mexico Lindo](#) Schwetzingen 68723, Mannheimer Str. 26 (near Heidelberg)

How desperate are you for good Mexican? Reportedly the best in this part of Germany, but it will cost you a 1-hour drive each way. Combine it with a trip to the Heidelberg castle or something. They even have live mariachi band at times -- check their [website](#).

[Pancho Villa](#) Ramstein, Miesenbacher Str. 45 06371-5432

Same owners as Cantina Mexicana. Small kids playground on back patio and a kids foosball table inside. Ask for their spicy salsa (they just default to serving their mild).

## Other

[Belgian Bistro](#) Weilerbach 67685, Danzingerstr. 10 06374-945-8512  
100 Belgian beers! American-style burgers, German fare

[Brit Cafe](#) British Support Unit, Ramstein AFB, Roosevelt St., Bldg. 539  
Same building as the Brit Shop. Across Jefferson Ave. from Library [map](#)  
Check out their weekly specials: Th - curry, Fr - fish 'n' chips DSN 606-258-1441  
Hours: M-F only. Breakfast 8-11, Lunch 1130-1330

[Dieter's Bier Stubb](#) Rieschweiler-Muhlbach 66509, Bahnhofstr. 12 0633-66467  
Guinness on tap and steaks imported from Argentina. Cooked accurately medium rare or as requested. Unfortunately, like most of Germany, they pan sear them - not grilled, and even the "Natural" option comes rubbed in heavy pepper & takes 45 minutes.

[Lissabon Portuguese](#) K-town 67657, Wormser Straße 8 0631-69385  
Mixed seafood grill is great. Other dishes we've had not so much.  
Service can be slow (90' for mains). Limited English. [BuzzOffBase link](#)

[Sabor Brazilian](#) K-town 67657, Mainzerstr. 122 0631-3103-0537  
Res required. Trendy brazilian steakhouse. Slow service.

[Safari East African Cuisine](#) K-town 67655, Humboldt str. 31-15 0174-911-5468  
Eritrean servers. Some Ethiopian dishes. Good food, good service. *Recommended.*

## Outdoor Dining

[Belgian Bistro](#) Weilerbach 67685, Danzingerstr. 10  
Belgian & Burgers, 3 plastic tables in front facing a sidestreet

[Bistorante Paradox](#) Ramstein 66877, Bahnhofstrasse 2 Italian & German  
Beer garden outside. Upstairs wintergarden w/ large fireplace & piano bar can be rented for parties. Sunday brunch.

[Brauhaus am Markt](#) Kaiserslautern German  
Brewpub on pedestrianised street, city center. Outdoor seating in front, views of the cathedral & other outdoor diners, beer garden in rear.

\* [Cantina Mexicana](#) Kindsbach Mexican  
Indoor/outdoor. Large outdoor kids playground, small indoor kids playroom.

\* [Esslibris](#) in Romantik Hotel Zweibrücken German  
Open air terrace upscale dining, view of fountains. Res required, playground.

[Gabriella's](#) Landstuhl Italian  
Nice patio on the side of the restaurant, on lesser used road in town near the Kino

[Garibaldi](#) Landstuhl Italian  
Outdoor tables in front of the restaurant on concrete brick, facing a plaza & street

\* [Hotel Bremerhof](#) Kaiserslautern German

Large beer garden in a huge meadow in the forested Bremerhof Park

Kids playground on the side

\* [Julien](#) Kaiserslautern French

Gorgeous sunken, walled garden with lighted trees

[Oscar's Irish Pub](#) Landstuhl Irish / pub

Outdoor tables facing the street

[Hotel Rosenhof](#) Ramstein 66877, Am Köhlwäldchen 16 06371-80010

Tables under trees with a small kids playground in a private courtyard. Behind McDonalds.

[Salvatore's](#) Landstuhl, Fleischackerloch 1 06371-2497

Plastic tables on the lawn next to the Landstuhl Tennis Club court

Kids playground [Stars&Strips article](#)

[Tamarillo](#) Kaiserslautern Spanish

Patio seating facing a pretty square across the street, downtown Kaiserslautern

Service can be normal German pace or disastrously slow. Food quality varies.

[Taormina](#) Landstuhl Italian

Covered backyard terrace seating with concrete walls

[Unnerhaus Bodega](#) Landstuhl Spanish

Beer garden on bricked alley

[Uwe's Tomate](#) Kaiserslautern German / Italian

German / Italian, 1 Michelin star. White tablecloths out on the Schillerplatz. \$\$

## Spanish

Unfortunately like several other types of ethnic food, you have to drive to Saarbrücken to get good Spanish cuisine. The others below are mentioned in passing but not that good. They would certainly never make it in Spain or in a mid-sized American city.

\* [Viva Zapata](#) Saarbrücken 66111, Mainzer Str. 8 0681-37-5647

True Spanish cuisine that doesn't taste the slightest bit like German. Great servers, great English skills. Pretty good food. Small, lively and trendy place that books out in advance -- reservations required on weekends.

[Tamarillo](#) K-town 67655, Pirmasenser Str. 59 0631-311-5553

Moderately large, nice indoor/outdoor seating.

Long waits for food/service (up to 90'), many of their dishes mediocre & German flavored.

[Tapas España](#) K-town 67659, Mühlstraße 45 0631-3710-0166

Low quality ambience, food and wine -- with few exceptions. Service at least is prompt.

## Thai

\* [Alom Dee Thai](#) Landstuhl 68649, Bruchwiesen str. 10 06371-611-1562

A Thai restaurant that could flourish even in major American cities. The best Thai in the KMC.

[Thai Thai Orchidee](#) Ramstein & Landstuhl locations

[Thairama](#) Kaiserslautern



## Vietnamese

\*[Saigon Bistro](#)

Kaiserslautern, Schmiedstr. 2

0631-412-6329

Excellent food, service is slow on weekend evenings -- with mains taking over 1 hour some nights.

*One of the best restaurants in the KMC.* #1 ranked restaurant in K-town on TripAdvisor. Order off their specialities of the house page from the menu!

## DAY TRIPS

### Day Trips: Castles

Check out this slideshow of Germany's great castles: [The Local's Guide to German Castles](#).

#### \*[Burg Eltz](#)

(2 hours north near Koblenz)

Münstermaifeld 56294, Burg Eltz One of the top 10 castles in Europe by many lists.

From parking lot, walk downhill for 10 minutes along the road to the castle or take a 20 minute hike through the forest. Or pay €2 for shuttle ride. The castle interior can only be seen by tour, English ones are excellent, lasting 40 min, every hour or so. Nice arms room on the tour.

#### \*[Burg Hohenzollern](#)

(2.5 hours SE in Black Forest)

Burg Hohenzollern 72379, Burg Hohenzollern. One of the top 10 best castles in Europe.

Beautiful outside and inside. 45 min inside tour in English is a bit more painful than some for kids.

Consider also seeing its sister castle [Schloss Sigmaringen](#) nearby, famous for its armory.

#### [Burg Fleckenstein](#)

(70 min south in Alsace)

France, Lembach 67510. On a dramatic, huge rock monument/tower above the countryside

#### [Burg Frankenstein](#) (Bergstraße)

(1.5 hr northeast)

WARNING: There are 3 towns in Germany named Frankenstein, all with castles.

This is the one of Mary Shelley acclaim, just south of Darmstadt, fighting Mannheim outskirts traffic. Ruins and a turret climb, but no tours of the insides. Probably not worth the drive for families with small kids by itself, but you could combine it with a trip to the Felsenmeer "sea cliffs", a.k.a. boulderfields (see listing below, Day Trips:Outdoor Play).

Annual adult Halloween party. Beautiful views from the top. Restaurant with outdoor tables.

#### [Burg Frankenstein](#) (Pfalz)

(30 min southeast of Landstuhl)

junction of Highways 37 & 39. Coordinates for Nav system: 49.439722,7.975833

No relation to the castle above or the Mary Shelley novel.

Ruins, free to see. Built around 1240. On the way to Bad Dürkheim.

#### [Burg \(Schloss\) Homburg](#)

(20 min west)

Homburg 66424, Schlossberg-Höhen-Straße 1 Large castle in ruins, free for exploring to the public at all times. Playground, park benches, 360-degree views, grassy fields.

Under the hilltop castle lies an extensive salt and sand mine worth seeing by tour. See Cave & Mine section of this document.

#### \*[Burg Lichtenberg](#), near Kusel (25 min northwest of Landstuhl on A62)

Thallichtenberg 66871 One of the largest castle ruins in Germany

One of the largest castle ruins in Germany, built first ~1200 AD. Medieval festival in June.

Kids playground. Good restaurant with nice ambience, fun ambience for US guests.

Nice medium-sized Christmas market set in medieval period (runs just 1 weekend)

#### [Burg Neuleiningen](#)

(40 min east of Landstuhl, visible to the south from A6)

Battenberg (Palatinate) 67271, Kirchgasse [map](#)

\*[Burg Satzvey](#) (2.5 hours north)

Mechernich 53894, An der Burg 3

Beautiful restored moated castle. Indoor is a private residence (tours by appt).

Hosts huge, elaborate spring & fall Knight festivals w/ jousting; Halloween & Witch festivals

Other castles: See the Naturpark Pfälzerwald website for a list of more castles with a brief summary. Avoid the English website -- use Google Translate on their [German site](#).

## Day Trips: Christmas Markets

*Usually open daily from the last weekend in November until Christmas Eve, typically starting 10-11 am until 10-11 pm. Some special markets only open for a single weekend, others especially outside Germany may stay open to New Years. Larger markets may be insanely, unpleasantly crowded on the last day or two of the season, especially if it falls on a weekend without rain. The fifth Sunday before Christmas is "Totensonntag" a Remembrance Day in Germany (25 Nov 2012) -- some Christmas markets may be partially closed.*

*Famous market foods include Glühwein (mulled sweet, warm red wine), Feuerzangenbowle (rum-soaked sugar set on fire and dropped into Glühwein), Eierlikör (spiked warm eggnog-punch), Stollen (bread with dried fruits, nuts, spices, and sugar icing), Lebkuchen (gingerbread biscuits), Bratäpfel (baked apples), Maronen (roasted chestnuts), Marzipanbrot (a big piece of Marzipan, shaped like a loaf of bread), and Gebrannte Mandeln (roasted almonds).*

*Almost every city in Germany has at least one Christmas market, with Berlin boasting 60 different ones. Here a few select regional ones:*

[Burg Lichtenberg](#) (near Kusel) 25 min NW

A "medieval" Christmas market. Small, at a partially restored castle, under candlelight and bonfires, people in costume like the old days. Better than usual Glühwein. Only runs a single weekend (usually first Advent weekend).

[Kaiserslautern](#) 15 min east

In downtown K-town around the Stiftplatz and cathedral

Rudensheim 75 min north

Moderately large market in a picturesque town along the Rhine

Rothenburg 4 hours north, towards Hamburg (not really a day trip)

Good market set in one of the (if not THE) most picturesque settings in Germany. 500 years old.

Medieval walled city still mostly intact with cobblestoned streets (if a bit Disney-ish)

Massive market - consider spending two days. Year-round Christmas village.

[Saarbrücken](#) 40 min west on the French border

The market is set in downtown Saarbrücken, a sparkly big-city downtown shopping area decidedly more upscale than Kaiserslautern. Small market. Lots of lights, Santa's sleigh flies overhead hourly on wires

[St. Wendel](#) 40 min NW

Largest market in southwestern Germany. Live nativity with reindeer. Kids section

[Trier](#)

65 min NW

Under the backdrop of the Trier Cathedral and the Black Gate, in Germany's oldest city. Brass choirs and puppet shows along with the usual.

## Day Trips: War Cemeteries

*There are several large cemeteries with American graves from WWI and WWII battles within a few hours of the KMC. They are maintained in gorgeous, immaculate condition with wonderful lawn, flowers and monuments not by their host countries but by the [American Battle Monuments Commission](#). See their website for hours and special ceremonies (like on Memorial Day). You should not leave Europe without visiting one or two.*

[Lorraine](#)

52 min drive SW. 10k graves. Largest WWII US cemetery

Good article in the Stars & Stripes [here](#)

[Henri-Chapelle](#)

2.5 hrs. 8k WWII graves in Belgium. See TripAdvisor [reviews](#).

[Meuse-Argonne](#)

2.5 hrs. 14k graves, largest US cemetery in Europe, mainly WWI. [TA](#)

[Oise-Aisne](#)

3.5 hrs, just W of Champagne. 6k graves, WWI. [TripAdvisor review](#).

[Normandy](#)

6.5 hrs. (Not a day trip) 9k graves. For trip recommendations, see my France section in [KMC Insider's Guide: Europe Vacation Pearls](#)

## Day Trips: Cities

	<u>Drive time</u>	<u>A few possibilities in each city</u>
Kusel	20 min	Try the <a href="#">bike trolley tour</a>
Pirmasens	30 min	Dynamikum Kids Museum
Saarbrücken	40 min	Trendy city near the French border, with indoor & outdoor shopping malls, restaurants, bars, ...
Bad Dürkheim & Neustadt	45 min	German Wine Route
<a href="#">Idar Oberstein</a>	45 min	Gemstones, caves, rock collecting
Heidelberg	1 hr	Castle, Fairytale Paradise
Mannheim	1 hr	Luisenpark, J. Deere tractor museum, planetarium
Speyer	1 hr	Aquarium, Technik Museum & IMAX, Cathedral
Trier	1 hr	Black Gate, Cathedral
Bernkastel-Kues	1 ¼ hr	Picturesque half-timbered town in the middle of the best of the Mosel wine valley
Frankfurt	1 ¼ hr	Senckenberg Nat'l History Museum, Zoo, Skyline Plaza indoor mall, outdoor shopping mall
Luxembourg	1 ¾ hr	Underground casements, historic parts of city Great wine shop: <a href="#">In Vino Gildas</a>
St. Vith, Belgium	2 hr	Closest place for your Belgium beer run
Strasbourg	2 hr	Cathedral, old town & canals, museums

Stuttgart	2 hr	Wilhelma Zoo-Botan. Park, Sensapolis Indoor Play, annual Flamenco Festival
Alsace wine country	2 - 2.5 hr	Ribeauvillé to Wettolsheim area
Cologne	2.5 hr	Cathedral, Roman-Germanic Museum

A longer list with more details is nicely laid out on [EverythingKMC](#).

And here is a nice picture list on [Pinterest](#).

## Day Trips: Medieval Festivals

*There are countless medieval festivals around Germany. Some of the more notable ones close to the KMC are listed below. A comprehensive listing of festivals throughout northern Europe is on [marktkalendarium.de](#). To use its map feature, enter "D" for Deutschland and your German zip code.*

*Consider avoiding festivals at castles on the Rhine in wine country, like Cochem. These castles are crowded enough on regular warmer days from all the tourists. Add a festival = crazy difficult.*

Month	Drive time	Location	Name, Features
May	50 min	<a href="#">Moschellandsburg</a>	Show fights, fireshow, ...
*June	2.5 hours	<a href="#">Burg Satzvey</a>	Knight Festival, jousting/mock battles
June	40 min	<a href="#">Burg Lichtenberg</a>	Medieval Festival, stilt walkers, archery
June	1 hr 40'	<a href="#">Burg Ronneburg</a>	Jousting Tournament
June	1 hr 40'	<a href="#">Catzenelnbogener</a>	Knights Tournament, jousting
July	4.5 hr	<a href="#">Schloss Kaltenberg</a>	Largest medieval festival in world 1 hour west of Munich, jousting arena
Aug	35 min	<a href="#">Burg Falkenstein</a> (there are several castles with this name. It's in the Pfalz at <a href="#">Donnersberg</a> )	blacksmiths, knight show fights
*Sep	2.5 hours	<a href="#">Burg Satzvey</a>	Knight Festival, jousting/mock battles
Sep	1 hour	<a href="#">Bad Münster</a>	Medieval Market, jousting
Dec	40 min	<a href="#">Burg Lichtenberg</a>	Medieval Christmas Festival

## Day Trips: Indoor Options (Museums and other)

<a href="#">Dynamikum Kids Museum</a>	35 min south	
Pirmasens 66954, Fröhnstraße 8		06331-23-9430
Small science museum		
* <a href="#">Gondwana Prehistoric Museum</a>	35 min west past Neunkirchen	
Schiffweiler 66578, Bildstockstr.		06821-931-6310
Dinosaur life-size models, some move & roar		
€10 kids 4-14, €15 adults, €38 family. 7 d/wk, 10-19 (check website for times)		
<a href="#">John Deere Tractor Museum</a>	1 hour east in Mannheim	
Mannheim 68163, John Deere Str. 70		0621-82901

European headquarters. Call to set up an impressive tour (free food at end).

[Märchen Paradies "Fairytale Paradise"](#)

1 hour east in Heidelberg

Heidelberg 69117, Königstuhl 5a

Classic fairytale settings in separate rooms that come to life with a push of a button

Open M-Sa 10-18, Su & Jul-Aug til 19:00.

[Sealife Aquarium](#)

1 hour east, south of Mannheim

Speyer 67346, Im Hafenbecken 5 [m](#)

06232-69780

€15 adults, €10 kids 3-14. Online discounts. *Not recommended.*

Small aquarium, often extremely crowded. Terrible reviews on TripAdvisor.

\*[Senckenberg Natural History Museum](#)

80 min north, in Frankfurt

Frankfurt 60325, Senckenberganlage 25

Fabulous, extensive museum. Great for adults & kids. You could easily spend an hour with each section: dinosaur bones, stuffed mammals, sea life, insects, and birds. Not stroller friendly.

€3 kids, €6 adults, €15 family. Restaurant on top floor. Crowded on weekends, but

still enjoyable. Look for parking across the street from the front of the museum,

a block back in the residential neighborhoods.

[Sensapolis](#)

2.25 hr drive southeast

Stuttgart, Sindelfingen 71063, Melli-Beese-Straße 1

07031-204-8530

Indoor play park larger and nicer than those in KMC

€15, free for kids < 4. M-F 12-20, Sa-Su and all of July 10-22:00 hrs.

[Snowhall Indoor Skiing](#)

France, Amnéville les Thermes 57360, Rue des Terrasses du Soleil

Open year-round. See Ski section further down in this document, page 36.

[Technik Museum](#) & IMAX Dome Theater

1 hour east, south of Mannheim

Speyer 67346, Am Technik Museum 1. Technology/Aerospace museum 06232-67080

Some rides in warmer weather. Real airplanes, helicopters, boats, subs & trains to climb in.

## Day Trips: Outdoor Play Areas and Parks

[Barfußpfad \(Barefoot Park\)](#)

1 hour drive north on B270

Bad Sobernheim 55566, Stauderheimer str. 88 (next to Saunarium water park)

Germany's original barefoot park.

06751-81241

Trails designed for bare feet of varying textures. 7 km loop along the Nahe river, includes balance exercises & river crossings depending on water levels. Stroller friendly.

Prepare to get legs wet & muddy. Cafe on site.

[Stars & Stripes article](#)

[Biosphere House](#)

1 hour south near Alsace

66996 Fischbach bei Dahn, Am Königsbruch 1

06393-92100

Treetop trail 18-35 m above ground in the trees. 270 m long. Website advertises that part of the course is suitable for young kids. They also have adventure trails on the ground,

including a water trail (wet in high river times). €5-8 admission, family discounts.

[Didi'Land](#)

1.5 hour south via Pirmasens

France, Morsbronn les Bains, Route de Gunstett  
Amusement park with roller coasters, water rides, kids car driving, etc.  
€17 ages 2-12, €18 adults. Season pass €47. Free parking.

### [Eifel Park](#)

1.5-hour northwest near Bitburg

Germany, Gondorf 54647, Weißstr. 12 06565-95-6633

Wildlife park (closed for snow/ice) and small Amusement park (Apr-Oct)

€10 kids, €16 adults, family discounts. €4-5 for wildlife park only.

### [Felsenmeer](#) Bouldering & Hiking area

75 min northeast (N of Mannheim)

Lauteral 64686, Seifenwiesenweg 59

Granite boulder fields stretching for hundreds of yards in patches through the Odenwald forest. Hiking trails, no entrance fee except nearby pay parking. The boulders are from prehistoric sea cliffs from an ocean long gone. [wiki/Felsenmeer\\_\(Lautertal\)](#)

### [Kurpfalz](#) (adventure park)

45 min east in the Pfalz forest, near Bad Durkeim

Wachenheim 67157, Rotsteig

06325-95-9010

Huge park with wild animals, playgrounds, rodelbahn (alpine slide), hillslides, bumper cars, bumper boats, maze, ... €14 adults, €12 kids (4-14).

### [Holiday Park](#)

Hassloch 67454, Holiday Park Str. 1-5

1 hour southeast

Huge adventure park with rides for all ages

### [Luisenpark](#)

1 hour east in Mannheim

Mannheim 68165, Theodor-Heuss-Anlage 2

Massive city park with lake with boat rides, Chinese & botanical gardens, tea house, butterfly gardens, festivals, zoo with animal feedings, restaurants & cafes.

Stroller friendly. No scooters or bikes.

### [Monkey Mountain "La Montagne des Singes"](#)

2.5 hours south (40' south of Strasbourg)

France, Kintzheim 67600, La Wicki

Conservation and research park for macaques monkeys

### [Wilhelma Zoological-Botanical Gardens](#)

2 hours east

Stuttgart 70376, Wilhelma 13

[map](#)

Combination zoo, botanical gardens, and architecturally cool park

### [Zoo of Neunkirchen](#)

30 min west

Not sure if this is any better than K-town's to recommend the drive.

### [Zoo of Frankfurt](#)

1.5 hours north

Traditional zoo. Mixed reviews on TripAdvisor, but better than K-town or Saarbrücken's.

## Day Trips: Pottery Shopping - Soufflenheim, France

Soufflenheim is only 1.5 hours from the KMC, so it makes for a great ladies day trip. You can even be back in time to pick up the kids from school! See this Stars & Stripes [article](#). The pottery is quite different from Polish pottery. Some items you will come across are garlic savers, French butter keepers, salt bowls, Easter lamb cake molds, ceramic dutch ovens (baeckeffe) in all different sizes, kougelhoph molds (like bundt cake molds), plus vases, plates, etc. Prices are significantly cheaper than



in Germany.

To plan a trip, first go to the town's tourist [website](#). It is a very small, quaint Alsatian town that has pottery shops scattered throughout. Very walkable.

Next, drive there and park near the big church (you can't miss it). Timing is important -- see lunchtime comment below. Go to the Tourist Office next door to the church, 20B Grand Rue. Hours: M-F 9-12 and 2-5, Sat 10-5 (same hours as the potters). Get a map there that has all the pottery shops marked.

You won't have time to visit all of the pottery shops, but here are some brief reviews of the few that I have visited:

<a href="#">Poterie Graessel</a>	--my favorite, has contemporary designs
<a href="#">Poterie Streissel</a>	--a friend's fave
<a href="#">Poterie Lehmann</a>	--worth a visit
<a href="#">Poterie Siegfried Henri</a>	--worth a visit
<a href="#">Poterie Siegfried-Burger et Fils</a>	--worth a visit
<a href="#">Poterie Hausser</a>	--bad quality/attractiveness, avoid!

Lunch: The potteries all close for lunch, so you can enjoy a leisurely Alsatian lunch at any of the 3 restaurants on the map (e.g. [Au Boeuf](#) is nice). There is a creperie near the church if you're in a hurry.

## Day Trips: Skiing

[Erbeskopf](#) Germany, Waldgaststätte Erbeskopf, 54426 Hilscheid.  
45 min NW (east of Trier) near the town of [Thalfang](#).

Alternate address: Hunsrückhaus, Deuselbach 54411. Highest point in Germany west of the Rhine  
Tiny beginner mtn with 3 lifts (T-bars?), 68m (223 ft) vertical and 1 mile of trails. Crowded on weekends -- try to go weekdays. Lessons available by advance reservations. Opens only when cold enough to make snow. Snow report: 0650-4316. See Stars & Stripes article [here](#).

[Mehliskopf](#) Germany, Sand bei Buhl/Baden 77815, Schwarzwaldhochstr.  
2 hours SE, near Baden-Baden.

Some alpine skiing on smaller hills, with 600 miles of cross-country trails

[Snowhall Indoor Skiing](#) France, Amnéville les Thermes 57360, Rue des Terrasses du Soleil  
1.5 hours east (through Saarbrücken) in a suburb of Metz, France

A small, short run completely enclosed to control climate. **Open year-round**. 90m high, 620m long, 35m wide with some jumps, rails and other freestyle stuff. Slopes are beginner to easy intermediate. Rentals available, including overclothes. €15-20 for 2 hours, or go for an 8-hr day. Cafe on premises is only open for 2-hour periods around meal times. For apres ski, there are several nearby restaurants, although all are closed Sundays except McDonalds.

There are two other indoor ski areas within a day's drive of the KMC. One is in the Netherlands, one is in ?Germany. Neither are reportedly as nice and or as close as Snowhall, but they are cheaper.

## Day Trips: Trappist Breweries

As Ben Franklin said, “Beer is God’s proof that he loves us.” There are over 76 breweries in Belgium making around 600 beers. [See this great map here](#). The Catholic order of Trappists are particularly famous for theirs. There are currently 10 Trappist abbeys worldwide that brew *authentic* Trappist beer:

Brewery	Country	General location	Drive time
* <a href="#">Orval</a>	Belgium	Just W of Luxembourg	2 ¼ hours
<a href="#">Rochefort</a>	Belgium	½ way b/t Luxembourg & Brussels	2 ½ hours
<a href="#">Chimay</a>	Belgium	French border S of Charleroi	3 ¼ hours
<a href="#">Achel</a>	Belgium	NE corner of Belgium, on Dutch border	3 ¼ hours
<a href="#">Westmalle</a>	Belgium	Antwerp suburb	3 ½ hours
<a href="#">Westvleteren</a>	Belgium	SW of Bruges	4 ½ hours
<a href="#">Koningshoeven</a>	Netherlands	S central Netherlands near Belgium	3 ½ hours
<a href="#">Abdij Maria Toevlucht</a>	Netherlands	N of Antwerp, towards Rotterdam	3 ¾ hours
<a href="#">Engelszell</a>	Austria	Engelhartszell 4090, Stiftstr. 6	5 hours
<a href="#">St. Joseph’s Abbey</a>	USA	Spencer, Massachusetts	-

These breweries are run by monks, who are in general not set up to receive visitors. You usually cannot see the beer making process itself unless you are on a guided tour, booked in advance.

-- Orval is the closest to the KMC, the most accessible to visitors, and the most impressive visually. A beautiful monastery with an older part in ruins open to visitors set in a forest, with wonderful grounds and museums. Gift shop sells beer, cheese, mushrooms, biscuits and paraphernalia. [Visiting info here](#). The modern day abbey -- sanctuary, fromagerie and brewery -- are not open to the public. Guided tours of the older ruins and the 20-min audiovisual presentation are only in Flemish and French. Two restaurants are next door where you can buy a cold glass of Orval.

-- Rochefort does not receive visitors nor do they have a shop.

-- Chimay: The Abbaye Notre Dame De Scourmont is set on a hill overlooking farmland and woods. Visitors are free to wander the secluded garden in the middle of the abbey and visit the church. The nearby Auberge de Poteaupre serves beer that is made especially for the monks' own consumption.

-- Achel itself is the only Trappist monastery that has its brewery and cafe inside the abbey. This means that in Achel you can sip your beer quietly while watching through large glass windows as the monks brew. It's shop sells many types of Belgian beers (not just their own) and their individual glasses.

-- Westmalle does not receive visitors at the monastery, but you can go to its shop [Trappisten](#) for drinking and package sales. Ask to watch the brewing video while you drink a beer.

-- Westvleteren has been called “the best beer in the world.” The only place in the entire world where you can legally buy “Westy” is at [Café De Vrede](#), near the abbey. It has a small museum. Closed Fridays, and in the winter on Thursdays. The brewery does not receive visitors. If you want to buy a case, you have to get in their lottery system in advance.

-- Koningshoeven labels its beer sold in Europe as “La Trappe,” but as Koningshoeven in the USA.

-- Engelszell is the youngest and smallest Trappist brewery, and the only one in Austria. You can visit the abbey, which is home to great architecture started in the 12th century, although most of it arrived courtesy of a Baroque-era rebuild. Art geeks can gawk at the main chapel’s massive ceiling fresco.

There is a package shop to buy their beer, but no pub to drink at the abbey.

## Day Trips: Wine Tasting

The majority of German wineries (*weingut*) are within easy day-trip distance from the KMC, 30-120 minute drives, and make a wonderful, cheap day's adventure. Many of the wineries offer wonderful tasting experiences with one-on-one attention that are hard if not impossible to find anymore within the better known wine regions of the U.S. And it's all free. Don't leave Germany without experiencing it! There is a great how-to guide to wine tasting, a.k.a. wine tourism from the KMC at this link: [Insider's Guide: Wine Tasting Europe](#).

## Day Trips: Other

### Horse trail rides

Spangdahlem Outdoor Rec Center offers day trail rides, half day trail rides and even a western weekend getaway. 06565-61-7170. (For listings in the KMC itself, see the German stables listed in the Activities section above.)

### Hot Air Balloon Festivals

1. [Lorraine Festival](#) [Chambley, France](#) 1.5 hr drive  
Held ?biannually. Next one is July 2015, just west of Metz.  
Largest balloon festival in Europe, with a 400-balloon mass ascension in 2013.
2. [Warsteiner Festival](#) [Warstein, Germany](#) 4 hr drive (NE of Cologne)  
Held each September

### [Nürburgring motorsports complex](#)

\_ Nürburg 53520 , An der B 258 02691-30150 1.75 hrs NW

Features a Grand Prix race track (no public access) and a much longer old North loop track -- *Nordschleife* -- around the village and medieval castle of Nürburg in the Eifel mountains. The original combined track was built in the 1920s and was widely considered the most challenging purpose-built race course in the world.

Touristenfahrten: 13-mile, one-way, public toll-road on the Nordschleife open to anyone with a road-legal car or motorcycle. A single lap is €26, with multi-lap discounts. Open mainly Sundays, but also many Saturdays and weekday evenings. Closed for weeks during winter months for weather or maintenance. German road laws apply. There is no general speed limit although speed limits exist in certain areas in order to reduce noise and risks. Crashes occur daily and costs are sobering -- see: [Wiki - Nurburgring](#) . There are some fun YouTube videos too.

Multi-lap tickets include food & drink at the Eifeldorf Grüne Hölle village and entry to the Ring°Werk

Museum.

## Rhine River Cruises

Getting there: You can spend 14 days on a Rhine cruise, but the most scenic part only takes 4 hours going downstream (north), from Mainz to Koblenz. Lots of castles (one every 2-4 km), tons of vineyards on steep slopes and picturesque towns. Many people start in Bingen, a small town just northwest of Mainz and cruise downstream to Koblenz. Bingen is about a one-hour drive from Landstuhl and has free parking between the train tracks and the river docks, next to the Bingen stadt train station. If you want a shorter cruise, you can get off the boat earlier, such as at St. Goar, which would shorten the cruise to under 2 hours. Either way, get an early start out to Bingen and plan on a full day if you add in a lunch stop and/or sight-seeing and shopping in the towns.

Boats: As far as which boat company, KD (Köln-Düsseldorf) is the biggest and does a nice job. You can just buy a ticket when you get to the Bingen dock. Boat rides are about €30 to Koblenz, less for shorter trips, 30% discount for seniors. Great to take American visitors on. You have on/off privileges on the boats, but the next one may be in as short as 40 minutes - not enough time for lunch in a town -- or as long as 3 hours. The boats have galleys with decent lunch dining options on them, as well as beer and snacks along the way. You will be on the deck of the ship most of the time, which means be prepared for sun and a cool wind. Bring a windbreaker AND a sweater for layers. You may be surprised how much cooler it is on the water with wind.

Tour guides: The boats have a prerecorded very brief description over loudspeakers broadcast in 4 languages of the many castles and towns you will pass, but a travel guidebook will make the trip more fun. *Rick Steves Germany* does a nice job, or he has a free podcast with slightly more information. It's called *Best of the Rhine* from the series *Rick Steves - Germany Audio Tours* (37 minutes 14 seconds) on iTunes. Download it onto your iPod or phone and play the next track as you pass each castle or town.

Return trip: Catch a public train from any of the towns the boat stops in back to your car. The train station in Koblenz is a hike from the boat docks, though: 20-30 minutes walk, or you can get a cab or city bus to the station (Hauptbahnhof). The trains towards Mainz run every 30 minutes or so. They take one hour to go from Koblenz to Bingen, about €12. Make sure you get off at the *second* Bingen exit called Bingen stadt, not the first one called Bingen hbf (hauptbahnhof), if that is where your car will be parked.

### [Völklingen Ironworks](#)

Völklingen 66333, Rathausstraße 75                      45 minute drive

UNESCO World Heritage [site](#) in a western suburb of Saarbrücken. Old iron and steel mill with virtually unrestricted access. Potential to spend hours exploring, for all ages. Reportedly very cool.

## VACATIONS

Vacation tips, Skiing recommendations, and country-specific travel recommendations are separated into its own document: [Insider's Guide to KMC Vacations](#). Day trips are still in this document above.

---

*Thank you very much to the many people that contributed suggestions for this document, and for telling us about these finds when we moved here. We hope you find it useful.*