






City of Freising

Tourist Guide – Sights and City Map

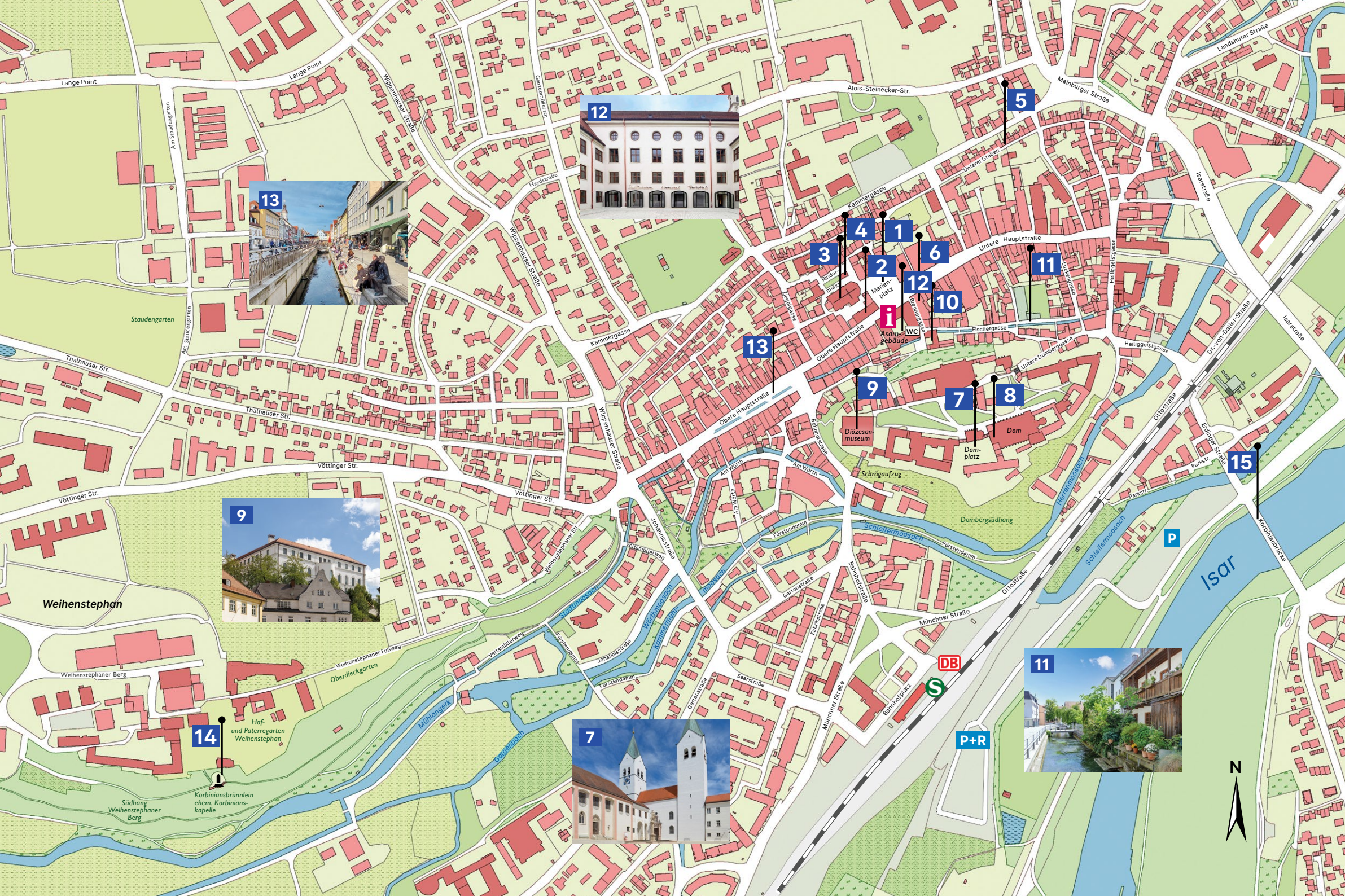


Freising
Tourist Information Office
Marienplatz 7
D-85354 Freising
Tel. +49(0)8161/544411
touristinfo@freising.de
tourismus.freising.de





Tourist Guide




Footsteps of History – Walking Tour of Old Freising

Freising's cradle is Cathedral Hill, a spiritual and intellectual centre of Old Bavaria for centuries past. Corbinian was the first bishop to serve there; his successors included the important medieval chronicler, Otto of Freising. The Romanesque towers of Freising Cathedral still bear witness to the important status of this ancient episcopal city. Freising's bishops expanded their residential city into an imposing seat of government. Today Freising is a university city whose proximity to Munich Airport is a major economic driver. The city's revitalised centre, vibrant cultural scene and traditional warm Bavarian hospitality add up to a memorable experience for visitors. This varied and interesting tour of Old Freising presents places that have historical tales to tell, and that capture the Freising way of life.


- 1

Marienplatz and Mariensäule



Marienplatz square has been the beating heart of the free city of Freising since it was granted market rights in 996. Formerly home to the city's granary, it was named after the central Marian column presented by the ruling bishop Albrecht Sigismund in 1674, which portrays Mary encircled by four saints, including Corbinian – the first Bishop of Freising – with his bear. Mary's Column is the city's official centre and surveying point. The River Moosach flowed along the main street and through Marienplatz until the early 19th century. Erected in 1988, Josef Moser's Market Fountain splashes alongside a bronze model of Freising.
- 2


Rathaus – Town Hall



Freising's town hall was the result of an architecture competition. Built in 1904/1905 in historicist style to plans by Günther Blumentritt, it replaced an older building that no longer met the needs of an early 20th-century administrative centre.


- 3

St. George




St George's was the first church built below Cathedral Hill, next to what was then a cemetery. A parish church since 1250, today it contains a striated gold altar, a modern design by artists Lutzenberger + Lutzenberger. A Baroque tower was added to the Gothic church at the end of the 17th century. For opening times to ascend the tower, consult our tourist information. Here, the tower warder once kept watch over the city.
- 4

Rindermarkt and Ziererhaus



The Cattle Market is home to the Ziererhaus, a former patrician's palace with what may be the most beautiful façade in all Freising. The palace was built around 1730 for the royal master mason, Johann Lorenz Hirschstötter. The work of Thomas Glasl, the rococo façade features ornamental stucco with personifications of Faith, Hope and Charity. The house was once the office of the Zierer printing works and still bears its name. It was remodelled in 1980 and is today the registry office.
- 5


Grabengasse with Bürgerturm



Although the city walls are long gone, Grabengasse follows their course. The walls were built outwards from this lane, which received its name (meaning "Trench Alley") from the outer trench or ditch surrounding the walls. Dating from 1350, the "Citizens' Tower" is one of the last visible traces of the medieval fortifications.


- 6

Marcushaus and pavement memorial stones




Marcushaus is named after its Jewish former owner, Marcus Lewin, who took his own life in 1942 rather than be deported to a concentration camp. His daughter, Hildegard, was able to flee Germany and later sold the building to the City of Freising. It now houses administrative offices. The fate of the Lewin family and other Jewish residents in Freising is documented on 30 gold pavement memorial stones.
- 7

Domberg



Cathedral Hill is the nucleus of the city. Whether you choose to walk or take the inclined lift to the top, there's so much to discover. The cathedral court was the ruling seat of the prince-bishops. Today a fountain stands there depicting the archdiocesan crest – the Moor of Freising. In good weather, the Alps can be seen from the Belvedere. The prince-bishops' residence in the cathedral court opposite the cathedral itself is being converted into a modern conference and educational centre. The Princes' Walk passes from there through the side aisle of the Gothic Church of St. John and to the cathedral. It was the route taken by the ruling bishop to his church, past portraits of the Freising bishops and views of all the estates in the ownership of the prince-bishopric.
- 8


Mariendom



In 724, Corbinian discovered a small Marian church on Cathedral Hill. When its successor was destroyed by fire in 1159, rebuilding began immediately – and that cathedral is still standing today. Its simple walls enclose a Romanesque space richly clad in Baroque stucco and frescoes, created by the Asam Brothers in 1724. The altarpiece, painted by Peter Paul Rubens for Freising 100 years previously, is a copy; after secularisation, the original was deposited in the Alte Pinakothek in Munich.


- 9

Diözesanmuseum



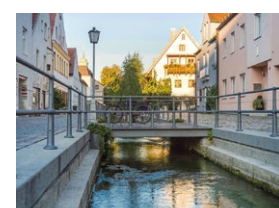
Housed in a classicist building from 1870, the Diocesan Museum contains old and new artworks. The Chapel of Mary's Mantle, built in 2023, was designed by US artist Kiki Smith in partnership with architects Brückner & Brückner.
- 10

Altes Gefängnis




The Old Prison, partly overhanging the River Moosach, contains the "Witches' Tower", its ancient walls offering the chance to visit art exhibitions and relax over delicious food.
- 11

Fischergasse




Fischergasse, at the foot of Cathedral Hill away from the bustling high street, is a delightful place for a stroll. Its name recalls the many fishermen that once lived there. Here, the River Moosach is an open stream. Today clean and sparkling, it once carried the city's waste and powered a string of mills.
- 12

Asamgebäude




The former prince-bishops' college, now fully restored under its new name of ASAM, stands directly on Marienplatz. In the mid-18th century it housed up to 900 students taking classes in Latin; today it is the city museum, where you can explore the history of Freising through historical exhibits, obtain information at the Tourism Office, and attend concerts or plays in the former school hall among Hans Georg Asam's original frescoes.
- 13

Moosachöfning




The old course of the River Moosach was reopened at Obere Hauptstrasse. Now steps have been placed along its banks, overlooking the flowing waters and providing inviting places to linger, greet the Freising-born actor Karl Obermayr immortalised in bronze by sculptor Ioana Luca, or admire the shoal of colourful fish mosaics by Elke Härtel; look very closely, and you may even spot a tiny bronze mouse fleeing from the Bear of Freising.
- 14

Korbiniansbrunnlein



A short walk now takes you to Weihenstephan Hill. Its Benedictine church and chapels were demolished in 1812 after secularisation, leaving only the outer walls of a chapel that had once been decorated with frescoes by the Asam Brothers, encircling a small fountain. Today, students throng Germany's largest "green campus" amid blooming gardens, and the Bavarian State Brewery Weihenstephan continues to brew beer just as it has done since 1040.
- 15

Korbiniansbrücke



Although Freising's historic city keeps a safe distance from the fast-flowing River Isar, a bridge was first mentioned in the early 14th century. The modern Corbinian's Bridge has been in place since 1893, rebuilt in 1948 after being blown up at the end of World War II. Seven statues along its length depict St. John of Nepomuk, patron saint of bridges, and major figures from Freising's history: Karolina Gerhardinger, founder of a religious order; sainted bishops Corbinian and Lantpert; Otto of Freising, likewise a bishop and important chronicler; Bonifatius, missionary and church reformer; and the Virgin Mary, patron saint of Freising Cathedral.

