



# Stuttgart & the Black Forest

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## Best Places to Eat

- Valentin (p259)
- Olivo (p204)
- Kreuzblume (p237)
- Zur Forelle (p216)
- Weinstube im Baldreit (p222)

## Best Places to Stay

- Hotel Scholl (p212)
- Hotel Schiefes Haus (p215)
- Weysses Rössle (p230)
- Die Reichstadt (p232)
- Parkhotel Wehrle (p243)

## Why Go?

If one word could sum up Germany's southwesternmost region, it would be inventive. Baden-Württemberg gave the world relativity (Einstein), DNA (Miescher) and the astronomical telescope (Kepler). It was here that Bosch invented the spark plug; Gottlieb Daimler the gas engine; and Count Ferdinand the zeppelin. And where would we be without black forest gateau, cuckoo clocks and the ultimate beer food, the pretzel?

Beyond the high-tech, urbanite pleasures of 21st-century Stuttgart lies a region still ripe for discovery. On the city fringes, country lanes roll into vineyards and lordly baroque palaces, spa towns and castles steeped in medieval myth. Swinging south, the Black Forest (*Schwarzwald* in German) looks every inch the Grimm fairy-tale blueprint. Hills rise sharply and wooded above church steeples, looming over half-timbered villages and a crochet of tightly woven valleys. It is a perfectly etched picture of sylvan beauty, a landscape refreshingly oblivious to time and trends.

## When to Go

Snow dusts the heights from January to late February and pre-Lenten *Fasnacht* brings carnival shenanigans to the region's towns and villages. Enjoy cool forest hikes, riverside bike rides, splashy fun on Lake Constance and open-air festivals galore during summer. From late September to October the golden autumn days can be spent rambling in woods, mushrooming and snuggling up in Black Forest farmhouses.



## Stuttgart & the Black Forest Highlights

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| <p><b>1</b> Tuning into modern-day <b>Stuttgart</b> (p198)</p> <p><b>2</b> Wallowing in thermal waters and art nouveau grandeur in <b>Baden-Baden</b> (p218), belle of the Black Forest</p> <p><b>3</b> Hopping between borders on <b>Lake Constance</b> (p247), straddling</p> | <p>Switzerland, Germany and Austria</p> <p><b>4</b> Being amazed by Einstein's birthplace, <b>Ulm</b> (p213), crowned by the world's tallest cathedral steeple</p> <p><b>5</b> Going cuckoo for clocks, black forest gâteau</p> | <p>and waterfalls in <b>Triberg</b> (p243)</p> <p><b>6</b> Roaming hill, dale and kilometre after pristine kilometre of woodland in the <b>Black Forest</b> (p218)</p> <p><b>7</b> Cruising along the Neckar and living it up Goethe-style in postcard-pretty <b>Tübingen</b> (p208)</p> |
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### **i** Getting There & Around

#### AIR

Flights to the region serve Stuttgart Airport (p206), a major hub for Germanwings; Karlsruhe-Baden-Baden airport (p223), a Ryanair base; and Basel-Mulhouse EuroAirport (p238), where easyJet operates.

#### BUS

Trains, trams and/or buses serve almost every town and village, though public transport across the Black Forest can be slow, and long-distance trips (for instance, Freiburg to Konstanz) may involve several changes. Plan your journey with the help of [www.efa-bw.de](http://www.efa-bw.de) and [www.bahn.de](http://www.bahn.de).