

Press Release

Lights, Camera, Action Cinematic Settings in Southwest Germany

STUTT GART - Fairy-tale castles, modern architecture, hidden historical gems, and breath-taking landscapes - Baden-Württemberg is rich in atmosphere and inspiration. A diverse setting for creating unforgettable stories, it's no wonder that Southwest Germany, with its countless legendary locations, has been attracting production teams from around the world for years – filming everything from regional dramas to movies for the silver-screen.

Northern Baden-Württemberg: Historic Charm & Extraordinary Stories

Film fans can discover many familiar backdrops in northern Baden-Württemberg. Heidelberg's romantic old town and castle appeared in German films such as 'Anatomy' and 'The Pharmacist'. While Netflix romcom hit 'Isi & Ossi', plays on the contrasting clichés of Heidelberg and nearby Mannheim. The old salt-making town of Schwäbisch Hall is now probably more well-known for its film-making, earning it the nickname 'Hollywood'. But the most notable international big screen appearance comes from the small village of Öhringen-Michelbach which featured in the film 'Rush', a biopic about Formula 1 legends James Hunt and Niki Lauda, starring Chris Hemsworth.

tourimia-tourismus.de

Stuttgart Region: Urban Appeal

The Stuttgart region has long been in the spotlight with its elegant settings making it a favourite for both national and international productions. Popular German TV series' such as 'Tatort', '4 Blocks', and 'SOKO Stuttgart' regularly use the capital's diverse scenery. And Hollywood, too: Stuttgart was the site of the epic superhero showdown in 'The Avengers' – although scenes were actually filmed in a replica of Stuttgart built by set designers in Cleveland, Ohio, where a few curious mistakes crept in. German cinema dramas 'Freier Fall' and 'Novemberkind' managed to show the quieter, more emotional side of the region, filmed amid the charm of Ludwigsburg and Kornwestheim.

stuttgart-tourist.de/en; erlebnisregion-stuttgart.de

Swabian Alb: Myth & Movies

The Swabian Alb, with its ancient caves, dense forests, and dramatic landscapes, offers scenery straight out of any fantasy film. And that's why filmmakers love it: the German reimagining of 'Sleeping Beauty' was filmed at both Lichtenstein and Hohenzollern castles. Years later, the 'Pirates of the Caribbean' director, Gore Verbinski, chose the same dramatic settings for 'A Cure for Wellness'. During filming, the castles became crowd magnets - and today, even without cameras rolling, their enchanting atmospheres continue to attract visitors.

schwaebischealb.de

The Black Forest: A Blockbuster Setting

The iconic Black Forest's career as a film location began with the German film 'The Black Forest Girl'. The region's green fir trees, colourful traditional costumes, 'Bollenhut' red hats, and of course a happy ending attracted over 14 million people to cinemas from 1950 onwards. It was the first German post-war film produced in colour and starlet Sonja Ziemann achieved worldwide fame for her role. Since then, numerous film crews have used the area as their backdrop: the small town of Gengenbach featured in the opening sequence of Tim Burton's remake of 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory', the 2020 Netflix series 'Biohackers' was filmed in Freiburg, and stars such as Joaquin Phoenix have filmed in Karlsruhe, where you can sleep in the Cinema City Hotel. schwarzwald-tourismus.info; karlsruhe-erleben.de; cinema-city-hotel.de

Upper Swabia & Lake Constance: True Crime & Fairytales

The imposing Sigmaringen Castle towers majestically over the Danube and is not only a popular destination for visitors, but also a sought-after location for TV and film dramas alike. Guided tours of the state rooms and the castle courtyard evoke a fantastic atmosphere of centuries past - but its towers, bay windows, and artistic façades have also been featured in numerous productions such as the German fairytale film 'The Three Royal Children' and the Danish literary adaptation 'The Queen and the Physician'. In 2020, the pile dwellings at Unteruhldingen provided the backdrop to scenes for the Apple TV+ science fiction series 'Foundation'. And Lake Constance is often used as a location for German TV crime dramas 'Tatort Konstanz', 'WaPo Bodensee', and 'Die Toten vom Bodensee' where investigative teams can regularly be found searching for clues around the lake.

oberschwaben-tourismus.de/en; echt-bodensee.de; bodenseewest.eu/en

NOTE

As the central hub for film and cinema expertise, the Medien-und Filmgesellschaft Baden-Württemberg mbH (MFG) works to strengthen and expand Baden-Württemberg's position as a leading film location. Eight regional film commissions provide guidance on filming locations, permits, and production logistics, helping to connect filmmakers with local destinations. The film tourism network, coordinated by MFG and currently including more than 80 municipalities, works together with tourism partners to help production teams find authentic settings and promote Baden-Württemberg's cinematic potential worldwide.

film.mfg.de



PRESS RELEASE

A digital version of this press release - as well as more detailed information on South-west Germany - is available on our website www.visit-bw.com/en/press

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