Little things make a big difference.

Discover it for yourself – spot by spot.
Always open to new things.  
From the Saarland – into the world.  
Where knowledge is made.  
The Saarland is a great place to work and live.  
You grow up somewhere else. You grow tall here.  
The Saarland is Europe.  
With a blue horse and a blue heart.  
Your ears won’t believe your eyes.  
This landscape is truly delicious.
Welcome and wellstay.
This brochure will show you why it is a good idea to seek your future in the Saarland. Because the Saarland is a region that offers much more economic strength and dynamism than many people think. And it offers a better quality of life, lots more development opportunities and much more art and culture than many a Saarland cliché would indicate. The fact is: the Saarland has successfully overcome a tremendous economic structural change, and in recent years has undeniably become a high-tech location. We combine the quality of our economic location with a high quality of life – and that at nowhere near the same high costs as in many other cities and regions. For mobile specialist and executive personnel in particular, but no less for young families, we are a region that offers excellent starting and career conditions.

Major achievements and successes are achieved in many places in our little Saarland – which many people quite correctly call the most European of all the Federal lands. Strong brands such as Villeroy & Boch, scientific excellence, for instance in information and communication technology, cultural highlights such as the Max Ophüls Festival for up-and-coming German film-makers, an almost endless range of top gastronomy – all this, and much, much more confirms that if you choose the Saarland, you’re in for a wonderful surprise! No one who has ever been here will ever forget the beauty of the scenery or the warmth and friendliness of the people in the Saarland. And those who stay here know that it’s a fabulous place to live and work.

Just have a look and see where big things start small in the Saarland – it’s worth it. It’s only a short stop from welcome to wellstay here!

"The Saarland offers everyone something special. This is something that anyone who has ever been here already knows. And for those who haven’t, they will find it in this brochure. It contains lots of things that make our land what it is: good infrastructure with short routes, the best opportunities for professionals, a strong corporate and research landscape, a family-friendly working world, and rich and varied leisure and cultural offerings in direct proximity to France and Luxembourg. Come and get to know the Saarland and its people better – we’re looking forward to meeting you!"

Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer
State Premier of the Saarland

"There’s plenty going on in the Saarland. Instead of mining coal, we now promote talent – and in the most diverse and unusual areas. It’s no coincidence that today we are both a high-tech forge and a gourmet centre. Here, everyone simply writes their own personal success story. With the help of the Saarland way of life. Because here, we’re all successful together. We are a land where people help each other. We all pull together, and we make sure that the Saarland will also be your land of opportunities!"

Anke Rehlinger,
Deputy State Premier
Minister of Economic Affairs, Labour, Energy and Transportation

"This I can say with complete conviction: the Saarland can be really proud of its economy. Not many regions have overcome such major structural changes with such excellence. And it’s a success that is also particularly evident on the labour market: never before have so many people been in employment as in the past few years. With its dynamic companies, our little Federal land offers new Saarlanders in particular excellent living and career perspectives."

Dr Richard Weber
President of the IHK Saarland
Always open to new things.
Making big speeches isn’t their thing. The Saarlanders would rather just roll their sleeves up. That’s what has helped them to survive other hard times. It’s not just about structural change. It’s also about changing and adapting established mentalities, values and certainties.

The Saarland is in a state of change. And has been for some time. So it has said goodbye – albeit with a heavy heart – to its economic landscape that was shaped by the coal mining industry. However, its influences can still be seen in its art and culture today. The history of the Saarland is closely entwined with the mines – without the black gold, the land would never have existed. Its people are responsible for the incredible historic challenge of fundamentally changing the industry and region, and leading it into a globalised digital future with tremendous verve, creativity and congenial understatement.

Mining towers, blast furnaces and blower sheds – now rededicated as memorials to an industrial culture – remind us of bygone days. But what are the visible, tangible symbols that shape a modern society? What remains? Without doubt the established cross-border relationships to our neighbours France and Luxembourg at the heart of Europe. Introducing bilingualism at an early stage in our nursery schools and schools is essential, because the paths to the European centres of politics, administration and business are short.

What is passed on to successive generations is reliable – as is this: a deep commitment to one’s home, the loving preservation of its dialect, and a highly developed sense of community. A varied history under the most diverse "sovereigns", our fate as a border region, the hard labour "underground" and at the blast furnaces – all of these have "welded" the people of the Saarland together over the centuries, and resulted in a cultural identity that binds us and carries us into the future. This spirit lives on in many public and social areas, and creates a lively, modern civil society. Whether in the emergency services, youth work, or nature or environmental conservation, the voluntary dedication of the Saarlanders is beyond compare.

As is the visible and successful structural change in its industry. Today, major industrial companies in the steel, automotive and machine construction industries represent one of the fastest growing and strongest export regions in Germany. There have long been innovative high-tech and software "forges" in the Saarland that operate on globalised markets. Together with high-performing small and medium-sized companies, the Saar industry remains firmly on course to success. A number of the Saarland’s research institutes have also arrived in pole positions, in particular in information and communications technology, nano and biotechnology, medicine and medical technology, pharmaceutical and material sciences, mechatronics and automation technology.

And regional creative industry is also on the rise. The new K8 Institute for Strategic Aesthetics contributes to this, as does the Kreativzentrum Saar which is based at the Academy of Art, and will also act as an adviser to small and medium-sized companies. Design in trade is one area that comes into play.

8 Always open to new things.

9 Always open to new things.
From the Saarland – into the world.

Around 70 per cent of the Saarland’s industrial products are exported, either directly or indirectly. Whether whole cars or individual components for them, the safety software for the control system in the new Airbus A380 or elegant bathroom ceramics, leading brands made in the Saarland are the expression of a strong industry, and are extremely popular all over the world.
Competitive on global markets

Products from the Saarland have an excellent reputation all over the world. Fine porcelain and beautifully styled bathroom ceramics by Villeroy & Boch are tremendous export hits, as are the fuse boxes by the Hager Group, one of the world’s leading companies for electrical installations. To say nothing of the other “hidden champions” who welcome us into their worlds in the middle of October every year for the “Long Night of Industry”.

The Saarland is one of Germany's leading automotive locations. Over 40,000 jobs are directly associated with the manufacture of vehicles. The staff at the Ford works alone manufacture around 1800 vehicles every day. Furthermore, local suppliers such as Bosch, Nemak, Schaeffler, Thyssen-Krupp, Michelin and ZF fit the engines, gearboxes and chassis of countless cars all over the world with state-of-the-art technology, emissions-reducing vehicle electronics and precision-made components.

The high level of technological competence in other industries also helps to explain the growing turnovers on the domestic market, and primarily on foreign markets. Products exported from the Saarland have an excellent reputation all over the world. Example: The Queen Mary, one of the world’s largest passenger ships, sails the world’s seas with Saarland steel in the rear and side sections – made by a subsidiary of the Dillinger Hütte. Quality steel from Dillingen also helps modern buildings to stand firm in many other places around the world. One of them is the Shanghai World Financial Center, the sixth highest skyscraper in the world, and another is represented by the Olympic Stadium in Athens.

A region attracts

In the successful transformation of economic structures, not only has it been possible to replace the approximately 80,000 jobs lost in the mining and steel industries since 1960, but the number of jobs is higher in the Saarland today than ever before. Sixty years after the economic merger with the Federal Republic, the Saarland has become one of the fastest growing and strongest export regions in Germany. After the demise of the coal-mining industry, the region’s steel industry has experienced a renaissance. Since the turn of the millennium, its high-quality steels and innovative process technology have made it one of the fastest growing industries in the region. Based on this strong industrial foundation, a number of renowned companies have settled here, including Ford in Saarlouis, ZF in Saarbrücken, Fresenius in St. Wendel, and Bosch and Michelin in Homburg – to name but a few. Well over 200 industrial companies today employ more than 116,000 people.

Winning the future with industry

The Saarland is traditionally an industrial land. However, it is also an industrial land with a future. Confident companies seek their opportunities on the national and international markets – with success.

Strong IT provides the location with new opportunities for progressive digitalisation in production. The strategic image of “Saarland – the industrial land” describes this path, and provides the answers to the question of what modern workplaces could look like within the framework of “Industry 4.0”.

Small and medium-sized companies should also benefit from this development, supported by institutions such as htw saar with numerous individual projects, and “Power4Production” (P4P). The engineering-scientific co-operations platform focuses on the intelligent networking of products and product environments. The Centre for Mechatronics and Automation Technology (ZeMA) and the German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI) are currently working closely with colleges and universities. ZF Friedrichshafen is just one company that is preparing its production processes for the future with the assistance of P4P. The Saarland is also something of a trailblazer in technologies for the “factory of the future”.

Villeroy & Boch: a Franco-German success story

“The two stoneware and ceramic manufacturers whose roots lay in France and the Lorraine truly became one on German soil. The Villeroys and the Bochs stayed in Prussia, and merged their companies into Villeroy & Boch: at company level first, in 1836, in order to face the burgeoning competition from English industry, and then again six years later at a private level, when Eugen Boch married Octavie Villeroy. What is notable about Villeroy & Boch to this day is that the company has remained Franco-German – beyond all the political and marital conflicts (...). Today the company, whose most recent annual turnover was 766.3 million euros (minus currency fluctuations) and which has a workforce of some 7300 people, is one of the leading premium manufacturers in the area of bathrooms and tableware.”

Karin Finkenzeller, Wirtschaftswoche correspondent

She has been writing about Germany and France in this capacity since 2008. In 2014, Wirtschaftswoche published her four-part report on the traditional Villeroy & Boch brand. In it, she characterises the company’s seal, which “can be found under every plate and cup and on every bathtub!”, and which represents the gateway to the Old Abbey with the three heavy foundations as a “kind of loyal oath to the location of Mettlach.”

Training with Ford: an idea further

“After doing my work experience with Ford, I knew that I wanted to work here, so I started as a trainee in warehouse logistics. I became the 2000th trainee at the Saarlouis works, whose training centre is as old as the location itself – namely 40 years. The advantage of my training: apart from the job-related content, great value is also attached to developing self-confident individuals. That’s why training includes measures such as special courses where we develop our team spirit by being involved in projects and taking part in outdoor events.”

Sarah Gualano, former trainee, now a qualified warehousing specialist in the high-bay warehouse at the Ford works in Saarlouis

Every year, 60 trainees start their traineeships in six different jobs at Ford in Saarlouis. As well as learning the professional aspects, their training also includes topics such as preventing addiction, rhetoric, health and fitness, and self-assertion.

Facts

- Since the beginning of the decade, the productivity of the Saarland’s industry has grown by more than 9 per cent – which is about 50 per cent higher than the Federal average.
- The export rate in the production industry is currently above 50 per cent, with a further 20 per cent indirectly going abroad.
- Overall in the Saarland today, almost every second industrial workplace is directly or indirectly dependent on the automobile.

Good grounds for founders

On average, every new company founded provides three or four new jobs which the land can well use as it continues on its way into the future. That is why the Advisory Centre of the Saarland Offensive for Founders (SOG) has become such an important element in its economic policy. Experienced experts are happy to share their knowledge, for instance at the regular SOG Advisor Shops or at the "Grundermesse", the "Founders’ trade fair". Good business ideas should never just be stuffed in a drawer, but should be used to enrich the Saar economy. And an online “Nachfolgebörse” - an “exchange” for young entrepreneurs - facilitates the generation change in companies.
Where knowledge is made.

The best researchers are found among the world elite – and therefore in the Saarland. Saarland University is the only university in Germany to have a Cluster of Excellence and a Graduate School in IT. Other leaders in IT research are the Center for IT Security, Privacy and Accountability (CISPA), the Max Planck Institute for IT, the Max Planck Institute for Software Systems, and the German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI). And what about company start-ups? Another area where the universities are tops.
Excellent. 
Close to business. 
International.

Science taken to the top
Research in the Saarland? It stands for a wide range of ideas within the smallest space. Saarland IT, healthcare and medical technology, medicine technology and ingredient research, nano and bio technology, material sciences, mechatronics, automobile and supplier technology, and the humanities all have excellent reputations for research and teaching. The high level of importance of IT is confirmed by the Excellence Initiative of the Federal and Regional Governments which approved Saarland University as the only German university to have both a Cluster of Excellence and a Graduate School. With over 300 research co-operations world-wide, university medicine in Homburg is truly a pioneer in its field, enjoying an excellent reputation well beyond the country's borders.

In Saarbrücken, three other universities offer top-quality courses: htw saar (the University of Technology and Economics of the Saarland), HBKsaar (Saar Academy of Fine Arts) and HfM Saar (Saar Academy of Music). The DHfPG (German University for Prevention and Health Management), founded in Saarbrücken, has 10 study centres all over Germany, and is of particular importance for dual courses and further vocational training. The University of Applied Sciences for Administration (FHSV) and three vocational academies, the ASW – Berufsakademie Saarland e.V in Neunkirchen, the Vocational Academy for Health and Social Welfare of the Saarland (BA GSS) and ISBA – International Study and Vocational Academy of Saarbrücken, complete the range of dual courses.

International courses open up new horizons
The Saarland’s universities currently (30.6.2015) offer 45 bi- and trinational courses. 23 are based at the university, 22 at the htw saar – with the aim of further strengthening links, in particular to France and Luxembourg. Furthermore, as well as studying German law in the Saarland, it is also possible to graduate in French law. This is not possible anywhere else in the country. The Franco-German Institute at Saarland University (DFHI-ISFATES), as a joint facility of the htw saar in Saarbrücken and the Université de Lorraine in Metz, was founded in 1978. This makes it the oldest and, to date, the biggest Franco-German university co-operation with a fully integrated study offer – and a trailblazer for the Franco-German university, also in the Saarland.

Science and industry on the same wavelength
Extramural research facilities are also of exemplary significance for the innovative location that is the Saarland. Like the universities, they enjoy international recognition, and are proven catalysts for economic and technological structural change and the associated necessary transfer of technology. The Fraunhofer Institute for Bio-Medical Technology, the Fraunhofer Institute for Non-Destructive Testing Methods and the Leibniz Institute for New Materials are other renowned university-related facilities that are active in areas ranging from fundamental and application-orientated research to prototype development. The main focuses of the institutes are also reflected in the portfolios of the universities, with whom they are in close co-operation. In recent years, other researchers have settled in the region in the form of the newly established Helmholtz Institute of Pharmaceutical Research in the Saarland (HIPS) and the Centre of Mechatronics and Automation Technology (ZeMA).

The main focus is on IT and communications technology. Experts from all over the world gather at the Leibniz Centre of IT – Schloss Dagstuhl. Superlative competence in IT research is based on the campus of the University of the Saarland in the faculty of IT and the CISPA – Center for IT Security, Privacy and Accountability – with the two Max Planck Institutes, one for IT and one for software systems, plus the German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI). The broad spectrum ranges from computer graphics and IT safety systems to information searches in large data bases. Numerous award-winning scientists enhance the spirit of research that can be found in Saarbrücken.
DFKI: "The Internet of things revolutionises our factories."
"All manufacturing machines are networked to each other in the digital factory, and can exchange digital information with each other using standardised languages. Every step in the production process is recorded by a range of sensors so that the quality of the resulting product can already be controlled during manufacture. What is revolutionary in Industry 4.0 is that the resulting products tell the machines what is to be done to them, rather than a central control system, as used to be the case. This facilitates individual production at mass production costs. A new generation of robots no longer works in safety cages, screened from the factory workers, but alongside them as assistants on the team. These intelligent factories can be adapted very quickly to new products and, thanks to their high level of flexibility, can produce several different product lines at the same time."

Wolfgang Wahlster, Professor of IT and CEO of the German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI)
He is one of the three fathers of Industry 4.0, and in 2010 suggested it to the Federal Government as a project for the future. He was in charge of the first pioneering projects for Industry 4.0, and successfully transferred the results to industry. In the Saarland, the tremendous range of variety and the volatility of the markets make the automobile industry the main procurer of DFKI technology for Industry 4.0.

(Saar)Land of ideas
"Back in 2010, our company was first acknowledged as a 'Selected Place' under the 'Germany - Land of Ideas' initiative. As a software and consultation company, we develop innovative solutions and technologies for intelligent, proactive language control and assistance systems, and mobile applications. Our unique technology enables us to seamlessly integrate combinations of various input options, such as language, gesture and touch control, making it much easier to operate and control equipment and applications."

Dr Norbert Pfleger, CEO SemVox
SemVox was founded in 2008 as a spin-off of the German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI), and has made it its goal to make information perceptible using intelligent operating and control concepts.
The Saarland is a great place to work and live.

The Saarland has a wide range of attractive job opportunities. There are lots of well-paid positions in the various industries. And not only that, but your money goes further. That’s because the cost of living is lower, which means you can enjoy a better quality of life.
Typical Saarland: open and reliable
You can rely on the Saarlanders: they give newcomers an extremely warm welcome because they are open-hearted by nature. And these characteristics are also reflected in the region’s job market. New colleagues are always welcome, and will quickly make contact with the locals – even after working hours. What helps to secure jobs here is, for instance, that the number of company insolvencies is falling. According to information published by the German Federal Statistics Office, it declined in 2014 for the third time in succession.

Integration as a lived opportunity
In the region with Germany’s highest number of commuters from other countries, integration is a matter of course. For generations, the people of the Saarland have been accustomed to people from neighbouring regions and different cultural circles coming here for work. As witnessed, for instance, over 40 years ago by the successful integration of more than 50,000 “guest worker” families from Italy. Today, the Italian community is a firm fixture in the Saarland’s identity, because being different is considered an enrichment here, and exchanges with other cultures are seen as an opportunity to learn from each other.

Good work, fair pay
Working in the Saarland means working to live, and not living to work. Good working conditions with short routes are combined with good wages and salaries. Exciting jobs await with above-average gross salaries. A vibrant social partnership provides increasing wages and salaries. Even young people with little professional experience will find opportunities to earn good money in the Saarland’s working world. The dream of one’s own home is entirely feasible here.

Salaries in the Saarland are already worth more than elsewhere because the cost of living is comparatively low. Rents and land prices are significantly lower than in other parts of Germany. More people take advantage of this here in order to fulfil their dreams of their own home. In the existing and newly created residential areas of the region’s capital – such as on the site of the former artillery barracks in St. Arnual or in the new “Bellevue 2.0” area. Life is even more affordable for families with a small budget in rural areas – and proximity to the city is guaranteed. Because in the comparatively small-scale Saarland, nowhere is particularly far from the capital or other Saarland hubs such as Homburg, Merzig, Neunkirchen, Saarlouis or St. Wendel.

Perfect balance of family and career
For us to feel really happy, we not only need secure jobs, we also have to enjoy the right conditions for our family. Which is why the Saarland’s industry attaches great importance to achieving a balance of family, support and career. And in order to encourage this development, the Chamber of Commerce (IHK), Chamber of Trade and the state government established the Saarland’s quality seal for “Family-friendly companies”. More than 130 employers have already received this award for their family-friendly working conditions. This makes the Saarland’s job market particularly attractive, especially for women. The department ”Working and living in the Saarland” of the business development agency “saarland. innovation&standort” (saar is e V) also advises on every issue concerned with achieving a better balance between work and family life.
The Saarland is a great place to work and live.

**Every question asked in a single word**
The Saarland is not a place for lots of words – and yet we always understand each other. Newcomers who are not used to it invariably struggle with the local dialect. One typical example is the common greeting that consists of a single syllable: “Unn?” Although it may sound abrupt and rather impolite, it is in fact anything but. Loosely translated into English, these three letters mean, “Oh hello, how absolutely lovely to see you here. And just how are you on this glorious day?” Well, that’s how “Die Welt” put it in an online article on this very subject!

**Facts**
- **In the past 10 years**, the number of employees with social insurance in the Saarland has risen by more than 25,000.
- **There are nursery places for all children** aged between 3 and 6 years.
- **Crèches for more than 35 per cent** of children under 3 years of age will be available on completion of the current investment measures.

**Self-determination with self-reliance**
In 1998 I left my position as head of a laboratory with a pharmaceutical company in Basel because it put too much pressure on my personal life. My husband at the time was working in Saarbrücken, but I was unable to find a suitable position as a pharmaceutical researcher there. So for many years, we had a weekends–only relationship. Even after my son was born, I would go to Basel on Mondays and come back again on Wednesdays. Finally, I decided to set up my own company in Saarbrücken: Pharmacelsus, providing research services for the pharmaceutical industry. As an entrepreneur I had a relatively good level of flexibility, and it made it much easier to balance my career and my family. My son effectively grew up with Pharmacelsus.

Christine Batzl-Hartmann, founder of Pharmacelsus, Saarbrücken

In order to achieve a balance between family and independence, she decided never to work more than 40 hours a week, and soon found that it could be done. Today she runs a company with 35 employees and is happy to be able to determine her own life professionally and privately.

Klinikum Saarbrücken: excellent care for the next generation

“Just as I started working here, the ‘Berglöwe’ children’s room opened. I’d heard it advertised, and straight away thought it was the perfect solution for me. I can choose whether to leave my son there regularly to be looked after from 7 in the morning until 5 in the afternoon, or only on certain days and for the hours I need it. And if I ever need care at short notice, even on weekends or in the holidays, it’s always possible. All I have to do is let them know a day in advance. It’s a real blessing with the irregular hours that doctors and nursing staff work in hospitals. And it saves me the time I would otherwise need to drop my son off and pick him up again because we both have the same route.”

Ermeline Jeatsa Kamgang, junior doctor, gynaecological clinic, Klinikum Saarbrücken

As a company that needs highly-qualified personnel, the Klinikum Saarbrücken decided to adopt this family-friendly offer that also includes flexible working hours and taking families’ interests into consideration when planning duty schedules.

"
You grow up somewhere else. You grow tall here.

Good pay, affordable living, social support – families can grow here, children become tall and strong. Support and encouragement from the beginning is our motto. And because the social cohesion is right, it’s often easier to balance job and family here than elsewhere.
Degree by degrees
Which nursery school for the little ones? Which are the best schools? And what about after school: traineeship or university? Questions, questions – and we have good answers to them. And what does "life-long learning" make us think of? Different offers for every stage in life.

The Saarland takes its educational responsibilities very seriously, even for the very youngest children. They are already given tremendous encouragement in crèches and nursery schools. We want their knowledge and trust in themselves to grow and develop just as much as their social skills. Because we believe that the Saarland virtues of community spirit and cohesion should be learnt from the very beginning.

Expansion of all-day schools
The Saarland has a long tradition of all-day schools. Further expansion of the same is an important contribution to equal opportunities and to the future-oriented development of the Saarland’s education system. Tied all-day schools in particular – with all-day offers for high-quality education and care – provide individual encouragement for children. Those who seek flexible afternoon care for their children, especially while balancing a family and a career, will find the corresponding offers in the Saarland. If not tied, then almost all of the general schools are voluntary all-day schools with varied care in the afternoons.

Equal paths to the ‘Abitur’
With regard to schooling, parents and children can choose between eight years at a ‘Gymnasium’ [secondary school at high school level] which, like nine years of junior school and general secondary school, offers the ‘Abitur’ [equivalent to the UK’s ‘A’ levels]. And to ensure that parents don’t feel abandoned when having to make this decision, a non-binding school recommendation is agreed with the half-year report issued in Year 4.

The Saarland offers no fewer than three binational schools: the pre-school and primary school offer of the French School Saarbrücken and Dillingen (EFSD), the Franco-German High School in Saarbrücken (DFG) and the German-Luxembourg Schengen-Lyzeum in Perl. As models for cross-border learning, they work on the principle of educational objectives recognised in both countries and harmonised curriculaums. At the DFG, students achieve the Franco-German ‘Abitur’ with the associated entitlement to study in the other country.

There are also school exchanges all over the country. One option is the Schuman programme, in which Year 8 and 9 students spend two or four weeks in the Lorraine, Luxembourg or Wallonia.
And for those students who find their educational career isn’t quite following the path they expected, the Saarland’s school system has a number of other options. The system’s lack of barriers between the various types of education offers a range of paths to success.

Key position in the system: vocational training
On completion of their general schooling, students have the option to attend vocational school, which offers them plenty of opportunities for embarking on dual vocational training. Some of this takes place in the training organisation, the rest at the vocational schools. During the early stage of vocational training, the Saarland Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber of Trade and the employment agencies offer comprehensive career advice.

In the search for training or work experience, a look at the current vacancies on the online Welcome portal at willkommen.saarland and career advice from the Agentur für Arbeit Saarland are invaluable.
As a general rule, all young adults in the Saarland should have an opportunity to gain work and employment. Model projects by the regional government such as “Ausbildung jetzt” and “AnschlussDirekt” help to improve success on the job market.

Multi-model study and practical work
Young adults with the Abitur or Fachabitur [vocational baccalaureate diploma] can opt for a dual course with practical, professional or job-integrated study. This is possible in various professions, and is available with many courses offered by the htw saar and the University of the Saarland. The Saarland’s vocational academies ASW – Berufskademie Saarland e.V., the Vocational Academy for Health and Social Welfare of the Saarland (BA
GSS), the International Study and Vocational Academy (ISBA) and the German University for Prevention and Health Management (DHfPG) – offer a broad range of dual courses of study. The combination of practical content and theory gives students an excellent insight into professional life, and an academic degree at the same time. And for those who end their studies without a degree, the Chamber of Trade of the Saarland (HWK) has the project "Vom Hörsaal ins Handwerk" with highly promising perspectives for training in mechanical skills.

Even Goethe once visited the Saarland.
While still a student, Johann Wolfgang Goethe spent some time in Strasbourg in 1770, and took the opportunity to visit the Saarland. On his travels from Saarbrücken to Neunkirchen, he encountered a curiosity – the "Burning mountain" near Dudweiler. This underground coal seam, which had in fact caught fire 100 years before, was still smoking so badly at the time of his visit that he could even "feel the heat of the ground through the thick soles" of his footwear.

Facts

- There are 497 children’s day-care facilities in the Saarland.
- 18,567 trainees are listed in the statistics for 2014.
- 29,506 students were registered in the winter semester 2014/2015 at universities in the Saarland.

From a small Federal state to the Federal league
"Saarlanders have always been able to fight and assert themselves. These are qualities I learnt in my home. And that’s why I found it easy to make the leap from the 1. FC Saarbrücken to Borussia Mönchengladbach in the Bundesliga."

Patrick Herrmann, midfield and national player
The lively striker from the Saarland is currently also making a voice for himself internationally – as a player in the Champions League and on the DFB national team.

Turning theory into practice
"I’m studying industrial engineering at the ASW, and after the third/fourth semesters I realised that I really can apply my technical knowledge in practice. This confirms that the dual course of study is exactly what I set myself as a goal. It’s giving me reliable preparation for my professional life. I also hope to start studying for the accompanying Master’s in Automotive Production Engineering in August 2015."

Nadja Seiler, student at the ASW Berufsakademie Saarland in dual training at Robert Bosch AG
During her three-year accompanying Bachelor’s course, theory and practical work alternate every three months.
The Saarland is Europe.

Over 50,000 commuters a day, strong links to nearby France, good neighbourly relations with Luxembourg – the Saarland thinks, feels and lives Europe. One result of this is that the Saarland is considered one of the most mobile job markets in Europe. A particularly charming advantage of the European commitment to the Saarland: the ICE high-speed train takes passengers to the middle of Paris, the Gare de l’Est, in less than two hours.
The heart of the wider region beats here

The Saarland has always considered itself the “pacemaker” of co-operation and solidarity in the European region Saar-Lor-Lux, which also includes its neighbours in the Rhineland-Palatinate and the German-speaking community of Belgium in Wallonia. The entire wider region covers the area between the Rhine, Moselle, Saar and Maas, a total area of 65,400 square kilometres. The short routes to European centres such as Paris, Strasbourg, Luxembourg, Brussels and Frankfurt encourage international business associations and attractive opportunities for professional advancement. They have made the region one of the most mobile job markets in Europe. This is also reflected in the countless thousands of border commuters, crossing the almost non-existent borders every day as a matter of course to work.

This cross-border co-operation is equally important at community level: in the Eurodistrict SaarMoselle, the towns of Saarlouis, Saarbrücken, Homburg, Saargemünd, St. Avold and Forbach all represent their interests together. Countless smaller communities are involved in town twinnings. They want to live in a Europe where people live and work.

Good links at the heart of Europe

Early industrialisation resulted in an extensive road network within the region. The highly developed road and rail network facilitates encounters and business relationships all over Europe. What is currently Germany’s fastest direct rail connection to Paris is unique: in less than two hours, the ICE high-speed train races from Saarbrücken’s Eurobahnhof towards the French capital, and Saarland is also firmly on course for the future. Because this region has the best links. It’s easy to travel short distances on public transport. And it’s just as easy and quick to get to Luxembourg, the Lorraine or Alsace by bus or train. Those who are drawn to far-off places can head for the international airport at Saarbrücken or the nearby airports in Luxembourg or Frankfurt am Main to explore the world.

A whole region is fit in French – multilingualism from the start

The proximity to France is audible as well as tangible in the Saarland. French can be heard everywhere – which is perfect for those wanting to learn the language. With the “France strategy” passed in 2014, the regional government wants to continue to develop competence in France and French to make it an economically and culturally relevant USP. At the Franco-German High School in Saarbrücken and the Schengen-Lyzeum in Perl, the first German-Luxembourg school ever, multilingualism in lessons has long been a matter of course. And the earlier it starts, the better. Already, 37 per cent of all day-care facilities use two languages. This means the Saarland has the highest density of bilingual day-care facilities in the country, and holds the uncontested first place among all German states. Already, all pupils in Years 5 and 6 at general secondary school learn French and English. This makes the Saarland the only state in the country where all secondary level pupils are taught in French and English.

With regard to French skills, vocational training is at the same level. For instance, the partner schools Berufsbildungszentrum St. Ingbert and the Lycée Professionnel André Citroën in Marly now both offer the new vocational subject “Automobile”. In 2013, the Kaufmännisches Berufsbildungszentrum Neunkirchen added “French in Industry and Administration” to its course offer. Just how far you can go with Franco-German language, knowledge and intercultural skills is confirmed by the 45 bi- or trinational study courses offered by the Franco-German University (DFH). The Saarland is proud of the home of this binationally supported institution with its approximately 180 German and French partner facilities and one-third of all German double diploma courses with currently more than 6000 students. The quality of teaching is such that 70 per cent of all graduates find employment within three months.
Franco-German friendship 200 years ago
A soldier named Lacroix was forgotten in 1815 at his post after the wars of liberation when the French cleared the Saarbrücken bastion. The Prussians found him, fed him and sent him back to his unit. A memorial to the conscientious Lacroix still stands on Vauban Island in Saarlouis today.

More than bilingualism – the DFG lives Franco-German culture
"Lots of people here have both German and French as their mother tongue, which creates an entirely different feeling of belonging. I’ve got several French friends, which means I’m often in France anyway. But it’s not a given with schoolchildren who go to all-German schools. We visited the French version of the event "Abi – was dann?”, which was terrific and gave us a good insight into French working life. A teacher once baked French ‘madeleines’ with us, which we then ate during class. It’s the little things that distinguish our school from its all-German counterparts."

Hannah Rouenhoff, current Head Girl
The Franco-German University in Saarbrücken (DFG) is a binational "encounter school" where German and French pupils are taught together in both languages. It combines elements of the French and German school systems, and provides both linguistic and intercultural skills and abilities. All branches lead to the Franco-German Abitur/Baccalaureate, which entitles pupils to study in both countries.

Administering justice in two languages
"As a Franco-German, I had the unique opportunity to study Franco-German legal sciences at the Centre Juridique Franco-Allemand (CJFA) of the University of the Saarland where I gained an in-depth knowledge of both legal cultures. At the same time, I soon noted the differences between the two countries, as well as their common features, with regard to culture and thinking, which greatly honed my Franco-German profile. In the context of continuing Europeanisation and unification, and in law in particular, this course opens up significant perspectives."

Antoine de Chantérac, DFH graduate
He studied German and French legal sciences at the University of the Saarland in Saarbrücken and at the Université de Lorraine in Metz from 2008 until 2010.

Facts

- 45 bi- and trinational courses are taught at the Saarland’s universities.
- The French rate is well above the national average.
- Over 200,000 border commuters cross one of the region’s borders every day.
Many are surprised that so much culture is able to fit in such a small region: the renowned collection of the Saarland Museum and the most important festival of young German-language cinema, the "Max Ophüls Prize", the industrial culture and highly regarded exhibitions in the Völklinger Hütte UNESCO World Heritage Site.
Of breaks that create cultural bridges
The Saarland is different. It contains plenty that is interesting, but without being "styled". And it stands by the breaks in its political and cultural identity just as much as by the economic and social changes of the past decades and centuries. The roots lie in its varied history, dominated for so long by coal and steel. Art and culture clearly benefit from the proximity to our neighbours in the Lorraine and Luxembourg. They are multi-layered and multifarious, colourful and dazzling. All it takes is a look at the many monuments to its industrial culture to know this. They are among the most important in Europe, and are used for many purposes today. While the former mine in Reden has become an "experience destination", musical shows and visitors to the same fill the refurbished blower sheds in neighbouring Neunkirchen.

Open and always ready to establish new things
Talking of industrial culture: every other year since 2011, the Urban Art Biennale® at the Völklinger Hütte UNESCO World Heritage Site has provided the street art of major world cities with a highly regarded platform. The 2015 event once again attracted many thousands of visitors. At the Völklinger Hütte – the cathedral of industrial culture – young exhibitions such as "Generation Pop" have been and are offered as well as classic themes such as "Egypt. Gods, People. Pharaohs", "Skulls – icons. Myth. Cult." or "The Röchlings and the Völklinger Hütte". And when the regional capital of Saarbrücken starts handing out the blue hearts of the Max Ophüls Prize at the opening of the festival season, up-and-coming talents of German-language film have the opportunity to walk the red carpet.

The Saarland’s museums are a must
The Saarland’s museum landscape has much that is appealing – including the "Little Blue Horse" (1912) by Franz Marc, which became part of the Saarland Museum’s permanent exhibition in 1956. The latest acquisitions of the Saarland Museum have announced their arrival under the heading "New acquisitions 2000+", and are to take up residence in the extensions of the Modern Gallery. New acquisitions such as these are made possible by the foundation Saarländischer Kulturbesitz. Since 1980, it has ensured that the most important of the region’s approximately 100 museums act at international level. Some of them, such as the Historisches Museum in Saarbrücken Castle, provide an insight into historical buildings like the casemates. Furthermore, many other museums all over the region have their own historical stories to tell.

The region as a stage
For years, the Saarländisches Staatstheater (SST) has been staging plays, operas and ballets consistently and successfully for new audiences. As well as the main sites Großes Haus and Alte Feuerwache, there is now also a home for unconventional theatrical forms and experiments in Sparte4. In 2011, two Kleist award winners had their premières in Saarbrücken: Ferdinand von Schirach’s "Verbrennen" and Wolfram Lotz with the winning piece of the Kleist Prize for emerging young playwrights, a co-production with the Ruhrfestspiele Recklinghausen. The SST also maintains active exchanges with theatres in Nancy, Metz, Forbach, Luxembourg and Berlin. Along with the "Le Carreau" in Forbach, the SST is the venue for the "Festival Primeurs – Festival of Francophone Contemporary Drama" and the "Saar Dance Festival". The "St. Ingberter Pfanne" has also established itself in the Saarland as one of the leading German-language cabaret awards with first-class emerging talent. Impressive and harmonious: in the world of classical music, the Deutsche Radio Philharmonie Saarbrücken Kaiserslautern currently sets the tone under principal conductor Karel Mark Chichon. Germany’s youngest radio symphony orchestra is bursting with tradition. In 2007, the Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester Saarbrücken merged with the Rundfunkorchester Kaiserslautern. The musicians delight audiences both in the wider region and in the Far East.
Contemporary French theatre meets German dramatic art.

Great art is presented at the "Franco-German Festival Perspectives", which first took place in Saarbrücken in 1978. In addition to spoken and musical theatre, the programme also includes opera and dance, circus and acrobatics, performance and pantomime, improvisation and scenic readings. What is surprising is the mixture of challenging spoken performances and primarily visual and musical festival contributions that even encourage participation by audiences who understand little or no French.

Facts

- There are almost 100 museums in the Saarland.20
- Saarbrücken’s Ludwigskirche is the most significant Protestant baroque church in Germany, along with the Dresdner Frauenkirche and the "Michel" in Hamburg.21
- In 1994 UNESCO named the Völklinger Hütte, which was closed in 1986, a World Heritage Site. This made it the first industrial memorial in the world.

Theater überzwerg: children’s and youth theatre for everyone

"On 7 February, I brought the kids in my youth group to see ‘Herz eines Boxers’. It was simply fabulous, and extremely well performed. The youngsters really enjoyed it, and were so excited – in fact, they discussed the play all the way home. Many of them had never been to the theatre before, and so were quite sceptical about the whole thing at first. But your piece simply drew them in, and absolutely bowled them over."

Diana Weiß,
Jugendförderverein Evangelische Kirchengemeinde Schönenberg-Kübelberg

Founded in 1978, Saarbrücken’s überzwerg theatre encourages playwrights who also write for children and young adults. Of the approximately 120 productions that they have performed since the theatre first opened, 30 have been premières (at February 2013).

Stage for young German-language film

"My début feature, ‘Chrieg’, was immediately voted best film by a young German-speaking film-maker. It is about four rebellious, violent teenagers who end up on a remote ‘educational’ farm. What particularly pleased me is that Benjamin Lutzke, the main character who was appearing in front of the camera for the first time, received the Best Actor Award. Like most of the characters in the film, I cast him for the role on the street."

Simon Jaquemet,
main prize winner at the 2015 Max Ophüls Film Festival, from Switzerland

A total of 16 films, 12 documentaries and 14 medium-length films competed over the course of a week for the highly-coveted trophies in the various categories at the 36th Max Ophüls Film Festival. The film festival is considered an important industry event and a career springboard for up-and-coming film-makers.
Your ears won't believe your eyes.

Live means lively – especially in the Saarland. Because when it comes to music, the region puts on an unbeatably dynamic performance. At the many large and small festivals, such as the Rocco del Schlacko or in Saarbrücken’s electrifying scene. And for those who prefer things a little quieter: it’s also a home for classical and jazz music.
Music plays and is played here.
The Saarlanders really do like to do things themselves. Not least when it comes to music. Hundreds of musicians and bands make really good music here. And prove it on the many stages. In the state of short routes, good connections and multiple festivals, it’s not difficult to find places and dates for performances – or to seize opportunities.

Festival time – time to celebrate
Life is lived to live music in the Saarland. Especially at outdoor concerts and in atmospheric locations, such as the AntAttack Festival in Dillingen’s Lokschuppen, the Rock Festival in Neunkirchen’s Hüttenpark or the RockCamp Festival at Saarwellingen’s outdoor swimming pool. Even Saarbrücken’s university campus likes it loud – at the AStA Open Air. However, the biggest event of the season takes place in Püttlingen forest: the Rocco del Schlacko. Started in 1999 as a mini festival with 600 visitors and five local bands, in 2015 some 24,000 fans had the Sauwasen shaking. The open-air festival with this memorable name takes place in the midst of typical Saarland countryside, and is a firm fixture in Germany’s festival summer. It’s a genuine forest meadows and big names festival.

There are also plenty of top acts outside the festival season. Throughout the year, the most diverse genres are offered in the legendary Garage, at the E-Werk, the Saarlandhalle and the Congresshalle in Saarbrücken.

The Saarland by night has much to offer.
The Saarland’s night-life is the same as everything else: the real treasures aren’t always instantly obvious. But that’s how we like it. Away from the big discotheques, an ‘electro’ scene has developed with a tremendous passion for detail that is much appreciated by those in the know. The parties that are held in the east of Saarbrücken and in the Nauwieser quarter are similar to those otherwise only experienced in major cities. And since 2012, things have also been rocking a few kilometres further west: when the resounding bass is heard in Völklingen’s landmark, it’s now due to “Electro Magnetic” rather than coal mining. Once a year, all the big regional, national and international DJs come to the Völklinger Hütte. The reverberations of electronic music go perfectly with the industrial flair of this World Heritage Site. And in its première year, it already won the award for “Best New Festival” at the “Festival Awards Europe”.

Textbook musical variety
The Saarland is not only a place of loud noises. Jazz lovers will also find themselves spoilt for choice in the Saarland. Saarbrücken, St. Ingbert and St. Wendel give all the national and international jazz greats a stage for swing, bebop, cool jazz and other style directions. To say nothing of the jazz pulsations in Nancy in Lorraine, where international celebs spend a week defining the entire city’s night-life.
Historic organ from Buckingham Place
The sounds of the historic Johann Christian Bach organ have been heard in Saarbrücken’s oldest building, the Deutschherren Chapel, since 2008. That was the year when the instrument was moved from Buckingham Palace to Saarbrücken. Mozart and Mendelssohn are just two famous musicians who have drawn breath-taking music from this organ, which was built in 1730. And Britain’s Queen Elizabeth II will have heard the sounds of this famous instrument at her christening in 1926.

Festivals with cult status
"I can certainly verify that big things start out small. We started the Rocco del Schlacko as a voluntary project with student friends in order to give the Saarland something that we felt was missing: a genuine open-air festival. We hit the nail on the head – and success soon followed."

Thilo Ziegler, urban planner
Encouraged by the success of the Rocco del Schlacko, in 2012 he founded Presented for People GmbH which also organises the Electro Magnetic. The next première came along in 2013. Thilo Ziegler brought rock to Saalbach-Hinterglemm – the heart of the skiing region – with the BERGFESTival.

Not only is culture consumed here – we also make our own!
"Tens of thousands of Saarlanders take part in well over 1000 orchestras, choirs, cultural and theatrical societies every week. Whether to high artistic acclaim or more folksy in genre, the Saarland is a land of broad culture and, measured by size and the population, is among the leaders in this cultural segment in Germany. So basically, really big and really small!"

Bernhard Stopp, federal conductor in the association of Saarland’s musical societies (BSM)
The BSM alone has over 12,000 active musicians in more than 300 orchestras, youth orchestras and ensembles.

Facts
- The Electro Magnetic was voted Europe’s best newcomer festival in 2012.
- Some 24,000 visitors attended the 2015 Rocco del Schlacko.
- More than 200 performances are given by students of the Academy of Music every year.
The Saarland lives and loves a relaxed flair: a touch of French, and yet direct and down-to-earth. A passion for culinary pleasures is an essential ingredient. Listen to your tummy, and follow the call of the land of gourmets.
Lovely weather we’re having
Pure nature and plenty of sun: the weather statistics recorded above-average temperatures in the year average for 2014. With an average temperature of 10.8 °C, the Saarland was the fifth warmest region in Germany. These climatic conditions have helped to create the varied natural landscape with a tremendous diversity of species from the Saargau to the Bliesgau, from the densely-populated greater area of Saarbrücken to the rural northern Saarland.

More than 10 per cent of the region’s area meets the EU’s Natura 2000 criteria for biological diversity. A prime example of biodiversity and sustainable tourism is the cross-border national park of Hunsrück-Hochwald, which consists both of part of the Saarland and the Rhineland-Palatinate. The Bliesgau is already considered an insider’s tip – with the UNESCO biosphere reservation in the south-east of the region.

And when a river gives a land its name, then it stands to reason that water must draw people as if by magic. Whether on a boating holiday on the Saar, heading for France, or on an excursion to Bostal Lake, the biggest recreational lake in the south-west, where Germany’s newest CenterParcs site, Ferienpark Bostalsee, opened in 2013: views of the lake, sandy beaches and a tropical swimming paradise included.

Rely on your gut instinct
Those who embark on a culinary voyage of discovery will find plenty in this region of pleasure. There are more geniuses at the cookers and gourmets at the tables here than almost anywhere else in Germany. More Guide Michelin stars and Gault&Millau toques confirm it: with such a variety of regional dishes, connoisseurs will soon find their mouths watering. Glasses are filled with the traditional beers, ciders from the northern Saarland known as “Viez” and excellent Moselle wines from Perl. Southern European and exotic restaurants add an international flair to the local gastronomy. The ingredients offered by the landscape are processed and served, and the delicate influences of neighbouring France can be tasted on many plates.

Wanderlust meets leisure enthusiasm
Active in the outdoors: unspoilt forest and meadow trails make hiking in the Saarland a particularly enjoyable outdoor experience – more so, thanks to the extensive signage. The dense network of premium hiking trails is unmatched in the other Federal lands. The Saar-Hunsrück-Steig was voted Germany’s loveliest long-distance trail in 2009, and Germany’s first premium walking trail opened in Orscholz in April 2015. There is also an excellent variety of family-friendly trails along the river valleys, border tours to France and Luxembourg, and sweat-busting ascents up the Hunsrück range. Those who simply want to relax will find pure relaxation in the Saarland Therme spa, which has a decidedly Moorish-Andalusian appeal. Breakfast in a Roman villa, a knights’ festival at lunchtime, afternoon tea in a Baroque castle, and jazz in the evening outside the blast furnaces of the Völklinger Hütte UNESCO World Heritage Site – you can experience 2000 years of history in a single day in the Saarland. The cities’ promenades and cafés are also perfect for extensive shopping trips, and it’s easy to get from the Saarland to our neighbours in France, Luxembourg and Belgium for a visit.

Relaxation and tranquility
The Saarland has been awarded the title of the most relaxing holiday region in Germany. The Saar Spa is the largest spa complex in Germany, with 12,000 square metres of relaxation. A visit to the Saarland is like a spa treatment for the soul.

BBQ, Saar-style
The "Schwenker" is as much a part of the Saarland as the Saarschleife river loop. Perhaps that’s why the German word "Schwenker" has three different meanings. One kind of "Schwenker" is the three-legged rotating grill, but just to add to the confusion the meat itself is also called "Schwenker". And to continue: the person cooking the meat is also called a "Schwenker". Saarlanders will gather in almost all weathers, and indulge in their passion in a convivial gathering.

Facts
- 36% of the surface area is wooded (Germany 30.1%).
- At 120 hectares, Bostal Lake is the largest recreational lake in south-west Germany.
- In 2015, the Saarland held 9 Michelin stars and numerous Gault&Millau toques.

Saar-Alsace tour: Moselle, Saar and French canals
Those who like riverside cycle paths will thoroughly enjoy this tour from Trier via Saarbrücken to Strasbourg. It takes several days, and is rated "easy". The 275 km can comfortably be covered in five stages. Culture-loving cyclists will want to allow themselves a little more time. Three UNESCO World Heritage Sites on one route – historical Trier, the impressive backdrop of the Völklinger Hütte and the "Grande Île" in the centre of Strasbourg.

Saar-Alsace tour rating
"This bicycle tour was a fabulous experience. I saw and experienced so many lovely things that I’ll never forget. I’m still talking about it today, and I’m planning this trip as an ADFC tour leader for this July. I would advise anyone to have this experience, and enjoy the freedom of nature on a bicycle. There are so many fabulous ways to combine cycle paths with landscapes and cities. So, on your bike!"

Gerold Wilken
This enthusiastic cyclist completed the Franco-German bicycle tour in the summer of 2014.

Three stars in Saarbrücken’s culinary sky
"The air gets thinner the higher you go – something that top chefs are no less aware of than mountaineers are. Once you’ve achieved the maximum score, then really the only way to go is down. Some crumble under the constant pressure of expectation – but not the summiteer from the Saar. Klaus Erfort doesn’t just seem relaxed, he really is."

Klaus Erfort’s Gästehaus Erfort rating in Gault&Millau
When it comes to rating the Saarbrücken top chef and native Saarlander, the world’s restaurant critics and gourmets all agree: they love his creations. With 19.5 Gault&Millau toques and three Michelin stars, which he has held for years, it’s unlikely that any other internationally-renowned chef will surpass him at the cooker.
Welcome and wellstay!
In the competition for places to work and live, the second-smallest Federal land scores impressive triumphs over other regions and cities. The Saarland combines a high industrial location quality with a superb offer for quality of life, ranging from tourism to culinary attractions, culture to leisure offers. Blending the four main points in life - work, family, home and leisure – is easier in the small, manageable Saarland with its favourable living costs that in less manageable, anonymous cities with often prohibitive real estate prices. Good career prospects, the closeness of the generations and a well-developed leisure culture – they all go together in the Saarland.

So how do newcomers get to know the area and its people? One of the first things that people who come here learn is that Saarlanders don’t like to be alone. Also, they are open, sociable and friendly to visitors. The Saarland’s welcome culture develops best at gatherings with friends and in leisure activities. An impressive density of clubs, groups and associations offers options for activities and development – including the voluntary fire service, the cultural associations or one of the numerous choirs. Sports clubs account for the greatest numbers with around one-third of all Saarlanders actively involved in popular sports. Training starts at an early age in the clubs, and also includes parents and senior citizens. Exploring the area is most enjoyable in a group – in outdoor activities such as hiking, cycling and surfing. Welcome to the community! The Saar river is also a venue for festivities. In summer, the Saar Spectacle in Saarbrücken, the harbour festival in Merzig and the Saarfest in Völklingen turn the river into a stage. And when visiting one of the numerous little village, fishing or club festivals, visitors can directly experience the sociable togetherness of a colourful mixed-age gathering. Initial contacts are made at long tables, and locals and newcomers get to know each other – this is where new friendships begin. Big things really do often start out small.

People who live here benefit from a social network of relationships that grows over years and is passed on to the next generations. A lively culture of clubs, groups and associations, reliable neighbourhood supports and the traditional openness towards newcomers really do help and encourage people to settle here – quickly. Staying is specifically requested!
Editor's note: We specifically support the gender idea, but for the sake of legibility have dispensed with a continuous gender formulation in this document.

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