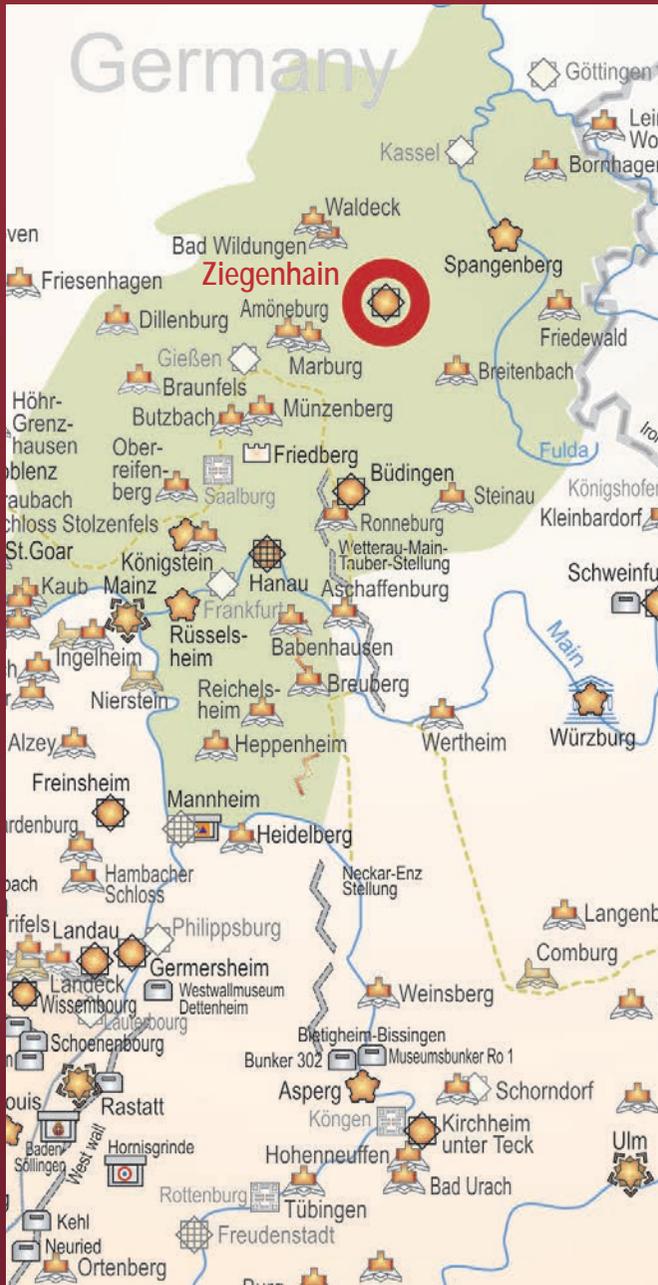




fortified town

# The fortified heritage Ziegenhain

*in the fortress landscape of Hesse*



## Events

Returning event highlights in  
fortress Ziegenhain

### Handcrafts Easter market

*elaborate handicrafts and traditional food, al-  
ways two weeks before Eastern in the Museum  
of Schwalm*

### Ziegenhain Salad kermess

*almost 300 years-old traditional folk festival  
with large traditional costume parade at Sun-  
day, always 14 days after Whitsun*

### Schwalm Christmas market

*colourful Christmas activities on the parade  
ground with concerts, handicrafts and food  
and drinks, always on 3rd weekend in Advent*

## Discover Ziegenhain

- Museum of Schwalm  
with large fortress model
- Schwalm Touristik
- City tours
- Fortress wine tasting
- Catechism path
- Castle church
- Specialities at the Lüder cellar
- And many more



## FORTE CULTURA® regional center North Hesse Ziegenhain



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## EUROPEAN CULTURE ROUTE FORTIFIED MONUMENTS



# Water Fortress Ziegenhain

Living fortified heritage in North Hesse



Station  
on the European Culture Route  
Fortified Monuments  
- FORTE CULTURA -

[www.forte-cultura.eu](http://www.forte-cultura.eu)





## Water fortress Ziegenhain in the European Culture Route Fortified Monuments

„Strong as Ziegenhain“ was once a saying which referred to the imposing former water fortress. Built in 1546 under landgrave Philipp the Generous, it withstood all besiegement and conquest attacks around 100 years later during the Thirty Years' War.

Discover the interesting history and many touristic offers in the water fortress Ziegenhain with the European Culture Route **FORTE CULTURA**<sup>®</sup>. Historic city tours, fortress wine tastings and many more, embedded into the Red Riding Hood country.

Walk along the water trench around the landgrave castle and through the idyllic old city. Visit the Museum of Schwalm in the former commanders' building with the handmade and several square meters large fortress model and many exhibits.

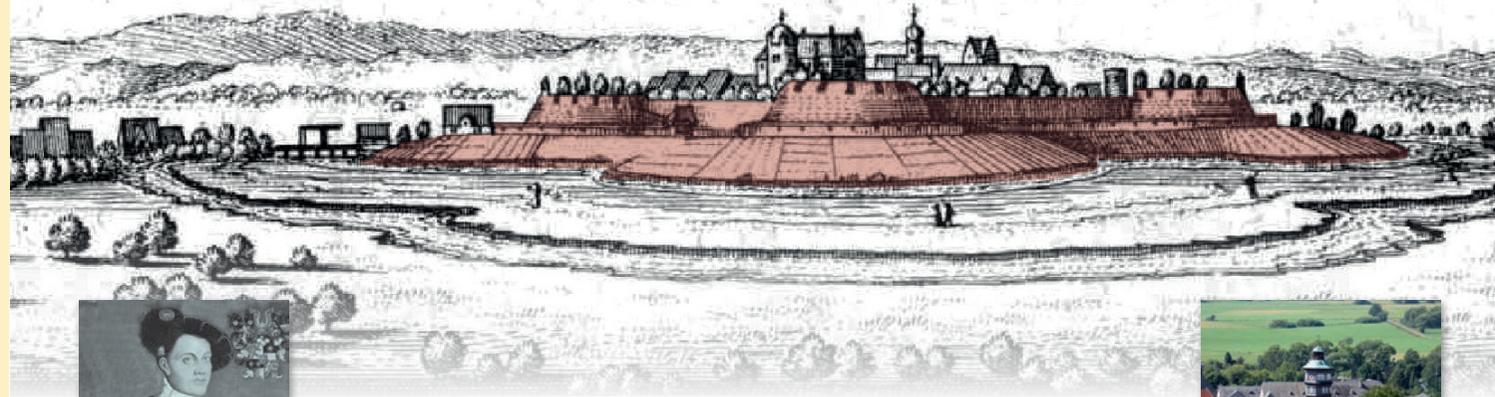
The world of travel and experience in historic fortresses is a new attraction in the European culture tourism.

Fortified cities and citadels, fortified castles and palaces, protective sacral building, large fortifications and defence lines tell about European history, from the rich and dynasties. Today these monuments are full of life, which are conquered peacefully by tourists.

The European Culture Route **FORTE CULTURA**<sup>®</sup> takes you into the interesting world of “architectura militaris”, to its huge and often hidden buildings and its divers experiences. See festivals, concerts, family festival or historic battles in original scenery. Visit modern museums with interactive exhibitions and multimedia shows. Be surprised and the rich nature and enjoy wonderful views.

# Water fortress Ziegenhain

Bulwark of Protestants, where once the Confirmation was developed



**Landgrave Philipp the Generous**, also known as „Leo Hassiae“, was one of the first protestant prince in the German-speaking area.

From 1537 he had the landgrave's castle Ziegenhain rebuilt to the central main fort of the four Hessian fortresses. Besides a mighty ring wall with altogether four protective round bastions, walls and the inner and outer water trench were built. Even the area in front of the fortress could be flooded with the Watergate system of the Schwalm in state of defence.

During the years 1622/23 four ravelins were added as additional reinforcement of the fortification and the suburb was walled. That way the water fortress Ziegenhain survived the Thirty Years' War mostly undamaged.

By the end of the 18th century the parade ground and the “New Guardhouse” were built together with a new fortress entrance with a bridge. In 1806 it was given peacefully to Napoleon's troops.

Napoleon also gave to order to finally slight the fortification in Ziegenhain in 1807. What was left is the water trench and the military buildings in the city. The castle was used as a prison from 1842.

