THE HISTORICAL PLACES OF GERMANY



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Anne Frank House

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Central Events

The Anne Frank House is significant for several events in European and German history, including:

- -The Nazi occupation of the Netherlands during WWII, which led to the persecution and murder of millions of Jews and other minority groups.
- -The bravery of those who helped to hide and protect the Jews during the war, risking their own lives to do so.
- -The Legacy of Anne Frank and her diary, which has become a symbol of hope and resilience in the face of adversity.
- -Reminder of of the atrocities committed during the Holocaust an the importance of combating prejudice and discrimination

entrance to the hiding place:



Location:
Amsterdam,
Netherlands



History

The Anne Frank House was the hiding place for Anne Frank, her family and four other Jewish people during World War II.

They lived in the secret annex for more than two years before they were discovered and arrested by the Nazis in August 1944.

Anne Frank's diary, which she wrote while in hiding, became an international bestseller after her death in a concentration camp in 1945. The diary has been translated into more than 70 languages and is considered as one of the most important works of literature from the Holocaust.



The Berlin Wall

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The Walls History

The Wall was built in 1961 as a result of people emigrating to the West during the Cold War. The decision was made by the DDR (Deutsche Demokratische Republik - German Demokratic Republic) and construction began on the 13th August 1961. It was made out of concrete walls and barbed wire and stretched for 155km, cutting off East Berlin from West Berlin and West Germany. It had multiple guard towers and was heavily guarded, with anyone trying to cross having a risk of being killed. During its time aroung 5000 people were able to escape to West Germany, around 140 were killed.



The Fall

On the 9th november 1989, a spokesperson of East Germany announced during a press conference, that travel between east and West Germany was going to be allowed through visa, however, while being interviewed he accidently announced that the changes would be immediate. This caused chaos and confusion and people gathered at the Berlin Wall to be let through. Eventually the guards opened up the checkpoints and people from both sides celebrated the fall of the wall.



The Consequences

The fall of the wall symbolized the end of the Cold war, as it was seen as a symbolic victory for the West and a decline of Soviet influence in Europe. It also paved the way for the reunification of Germany in 1990 and was a big help in spreading democracy across the world and communist countries. The last thing it brought was hope. It showed that even ordinary people were able to bring change and seemingly impossible challenges could still be overcome.



Wartburg

Location: Eisenach, Thuringia









Wartburg

1. The castle in Thuringia was built by Ludwig dem Springer in 1067 and is nowadays a UNESCO world cultural heritage.

2. Wartburgfest (1817) In 1817 gathering of fraternities, led by the one of Jena (city in Thuringia) celebrated the Wartburgfest. The students unions saw themselves as a new of wave of forming the (German) nationality. Furthermore it was seen by the spectators as day of remembrance for other historical events. Part of their new understanding was also to protrest against independent little german speaking states and absolutistic monarchies (also in form of burning books or other

symbolic items).

3. German Revolution 1848/49 The Wartburgfest and other events can be seen as upleading to the German Revolution in 1848/49. The German Revolution affected German federal states but also areas of Austria and Prussia (e.g. Hungary or the province Posen), which wanted their independence and get rid of their supressor. One of the main aims of the revolution was to reach more democratic elements like the right to vote or to demonstrate in public. Although the revolution failed, it had an huge

impact in forming the

German nationality.

Sources

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