

WEIMAR: RALLY



JOHANN WOLFGANG
VON GOETHE

STATIONEN *STOPS*

/ GOETHES GARTENHAUS
/ RÖMISCHES HAUS / GOETHES WOHNHAUS
/ DEUTSCHES NATIONALTHEATER

ANDERE TOUREN *OTHER TOURS*

→ MARIA PAWLOWNA

→ BAUHAUS

→ NS IN WEIMAR

→ NS ARCHITEKTUR
NS ARCHITECTURE

→ DDR *GDR*

→ DENKMAL *MONUMENT*

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BEGEGNUNGSSTÄTTE
WEIMAR

! Find out something about the life of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe!

AIM

? In what way and in which areas did he influence Weimar?

? What do you find especially interesting about his biography?



Have a look at the city map and start your tour! Your first stop is Goethe's Garden House.

! Later on, tell the others about Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. What souvenir could you offer tourists to remind them of Goethe? Work on an answer and present it to the others!

?



Find out what tour stop
this detail belongs to!

GOETHE'S GARDEN HOME
PARK ON THE ILM RIVER

1



Portrait 1775/76
Klassik Stiftung Weimar

Johann Wolfgang v. Goethe (1749–1832) grew up in Frankfurt am Main. He later studied law in Leipzig and Strasbourg. He became famous in 1774 because of his novel in letters, "The Sorrows of the Young Werther".

1749
1774

GOETHE'S GARDEN HOME
PARK ON THE ILM RIVER

1



INFO

In 1775, the only just 18-year-old Duke Carl August took over reign in Weimar. The small residence city was in a bad state. The palace had burned down the year before. The duchy was deeply in debt. The only way the duke could gain respect was by fostering a rich cultural life. That is also why the duke invited the renowned writer, Goethe, to come to Weimar.

1775

GOETHE'S GARDEN HOME *PARK ON THE ILM RIVER*

1

INFO

This garden house was given to Goethe as a present by the duke. He lived here during the first years of his life in Weimar. Land ownership was prerequisite in order for Goethe to become a citizen of Weimar. And he could only assume public and political offices as a citizen.

Soon, as a privy legation councillor, he worked closely with the duke in the government. In that capacity he assumed important jobs, e.g. the direction of the finance chamber. In 1782, the Emperor ennobled him. Since then, he has had the word "von" in front of his last name.

1776
1782

GOETHE'S GARDEN HOME
PARK ON THE ILM RIVER

1

→ QUOTE



Take a look around the garden that Goethe designed himself! Describe a detail that seems especially remarkable to you.

*"Unassuming as it looks,
A high roof and a lowly house;
All who were ever there
Found good spirits.
Slim trees with foliage green,
Self-planted, grew up high.
Spiritually it remained a place
For creating, preserving, growing."*

This is a translation of the description that GOETHE wrote about his garden house in 1827.

1827

GOETHE'S GARDEN HOME
PARK ON THE ILM RIVER

1



Drawing by Johann Wolfgang Goethe,
The Back of the Garden House,
around 1780

Klassik Stiftung Weimar



Compare the drawing with the way
the house looks today.

1780

ROMAN HOUSE
PARK ON THE ILM RIVER

2

➔ INFO



Look at the Roman House from all sides! Write down which details remind you of Roman antiquity.

Between 1792 and 1794, Goethe supervised the construction of this house. It was to serve as a garden house for the duke, but also for representational purposes. The design is reminiscent of a Roman country mansion. Goethe had brought the idea back with him from Italy. He had travelled there in 1786 for two years, after his court responsibilities had become too much for him. In Italy he was able to find the time to resume writing and enjoyed the proximity to the art and culture of antiquity.

ROMAN HOUSE
PARK ON THE ILM RIVER

2



QUOTE

*"Rome, 1st November 1786.
Yes, I have finally arrived in
this capital of the world! [...] I
see all the dreams of my youth
come to life; the first etchings
that I can remember (my father
had hung the prospects about
Rome in a vestibule), I now see
in reality, and everything I have
known for so long in paintings
and drawings, etchings and
woodcuts, plaster and cork, is
now assembled in front of me;
wherever I go, I find something
familiar in a new world."*

Johann
Wolfgang
von GOETHE:
Italian Journey

1786

ROMAN HOUSE
PARK ON THE ILM RIVER

2



Always a popular subject: the Roman House in the Ilm Park. Goethe was also responsible for much of the land-scaping of the park.

Klassik Stiftung Weimar

GOETHE'S HOME
FRAUENPLAN 1

3



PERSON

In 1782, Goethe moved into this representative city mansion. He lived here for 50 years until his death. Beginning in 1788, his companion Christiane Vulpius lived here too. For a long time the Weimar society disapproved of the relationship between the noble Goethe with the bourgeois Christiane. After 18 years of living together they finally got married. Julius August Walter was the only one of their children who did not die during infancy.

GOETHE'S HOME
FRAUENPLAN 1

3



Klassik
Stiftung
Weimar

Christiane Vulpius and August
as a child, painting from 1792/93

1792/93

➔ BUILDING



Which differences do you notice when you compare the front and the back of the house (➔ Card 15)? Describe your impression of the two parts of the house.

The building consists of a front and rear wing. There is a well in the courtyard. Thus, Goethe's servants did not need to fetch water from the public city wells like the rest of the Weimar citizens. You are standing in front of the façade of the front wing. This was the representative part of the house. Goethe received his guests here. He used the rear wing primarily for working.

GOETHE'S HOME
FRAUENPLAN 1

3



The rear wing and garden

Photo: Jens Hauspurg

GOETHE'S HOME
FRAUENPLAN 1

3



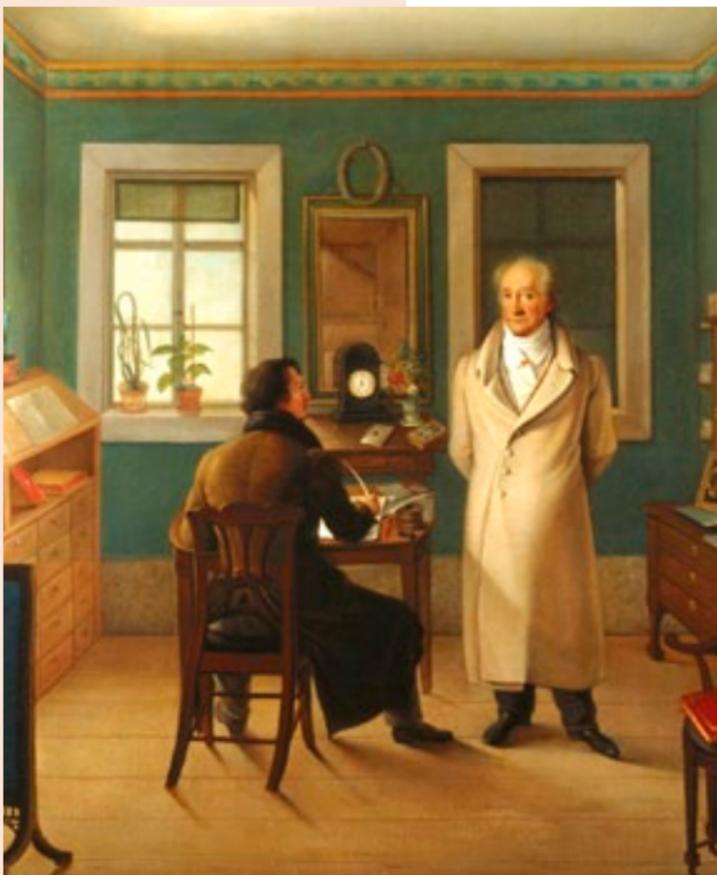
PERSON

Goethe's visitors had a lot to be amazed about. After all, his art and scientific collections were also kept here at Frauenplan. They comprised approximately 50,000 objects. Goethe collected artworks such as paintings and sculptures, but also stones and plants. He used them for his scientific research. Goethe was thus not only a poet and a minister, but also a collector and natural scientist. His comprehensive Colour Theory became especially famous.

GOETHE'S HOME
FRAUENPLAN 1

3

In this room Goethe dictated important works like "Faust II" to his respective secretary. However, he kept that work locked up here until he died.



Painting by Joseph Schmeller, 1834
Klassik Stiftung Weimar

1834

GERMAN NATIONAL THEATRE
THEATERPLATZ

4

→ INFO

During the palace fire of 1774, the permanent theatre there had burned down as well. That is why the duke had a new theatre built in 1779, where Goethe and Schiller worked together. Pieces by Shakespeare, Lessing, Schiller and Goethe himself were performed there, but also those of popular playwrights of the day, such as August Kotzebue. The classicist theatre building, as we see it today, was not erected until 1908. Since 1919 it has been called the German National Theatre.

1779
until today

GERMAN NATIONAL THEATRE
THEATERPLATZ

4



This picture shows you how the theatre looked in Goethe's day.

Klassik Stiftung Weimar



PERSON



What is your impression of the monument? Think about how the poets' friendship is expressed here.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and Friedrich Schiller were close friends. At the same time, they were also competitors. That motivated both of them towards greater achievements. They both wrote poems and theatre pieces that they performed themselves to a certain extent. Each of them greatly valued the other's opinion. About 1,000 letters have been preserved in which they exchanged ideas about their passion for theatre and their artistic oeuvres. Schiller's premature death in 1805 deeply upset Goethe.



QUOTE

"I wish you could see the performance of the Theatrical Adventures this evening; it will certainly be good, because it is supposed to be the dress rehearsal in preparation for the performance for the king. Yesterday and the day before yesterday I watched the rehearsals with great pleasure, and during the process I once again noticed: how very much one must remain within measure, practice and habit in regard to art if one wants to be able to reasonably enjoy and even judge its productions."

LETTER from
Johann Wolfgang
von GOETHE to
Friedrich Schiller

CITY MAP

YOUR STOPS:

- 1 Goethe's Garden House Park on the Ilm River
- 2 Roman House Park on the Ilm River
- 3 Goethe's Home Frauenplan 1
- 4 German National Theatre Theaterplatz

