

Actively experiencing Stolberg

Today the castle complex ⑦ from the 12th century is mainly used as an event venue and community centre. In the upper floor there is the castle gallery, a spaciouly laid out room, which is regularly used for the exhibition of arts. The middle floor with the so-called knights' hall serves as venue for concerts, festivities, etc. In the basement the castle provides for excellent hospitality in a romantic ambience. In 1375 the castle, originally from the Medieval Ages, was destroyed and its rubble cleared away. In 1450 it was replaced by a Late Medieval or Early Modern Age complex. By using style elements of Historicism the reconstruction carried out in 1900 strongly alienated the character of the complex. After it had again been partly destroyed during the Second World War, the castle in 1950 was to a large extent reconstructed in the way it looked in the 17th and 18th century. Since then our Stolberg landmark has almost got back its historically correct appearance. At the west side of the bailey, between main building and the round tower in the front, a stairway leads down to the lower bailey. Here the view of a modern industrial estate appears which has developed in the area of the former "Hammerfeld". The industrial use of this area has its origins in the 15th century at first as trade and later as industrial location. Behind the archway there is the Torburg-Museum, which mainly shows local history and handicraft exhibits.

Did you know?

In the 18th century the Stolberg copper masters exported their brass articles even to Africa.



St. Lucia-church ⑧: The immediate vicinity to the castle gives evidence that the church was originally developed from the castle chapel, the origins of which can be traced back to the 14th century. Besides close proximity and historical relations, there also is an architecturally striking relation to the castle complex, due to identical or similar style elements and the use of domestic quarry stone as building material. Today's building shape is strongly influenced by the 19th century, with the Baroque style onion-shaped spire of today's church tower from the early 1950s excellently harmonizing with the west tower of the castle complex.

Finkenberg church ⑨: The church's parvis situated above the old town offers the visitor the probably best known view of the Stolberg old town with the castle and Lucia church in the background. The Finkenberg church, which closes the parvis to the east, was built in the years between 1688 (completion of the tower) and 1725 (consecration of the nave). After descending a few steps the copper master cemetery ⑩ is reached behind the church with a great number of impressive memorial stones hewn from bluestone and decorated with the copper masters' families coats of arms. Not just their imposing size, but also the design and in particular the impressive coats of arms witness the copper masters' self-esteem and social position.

Did you know?

As a Late Medieval fortress built on a hill, the castle of Stolberg is a regional rarity of special preservation value. The impressive appearance results from the combination of the original castle building and reconstruction work carried out at the end of the 19th century.

We are looking forward to welcome you!

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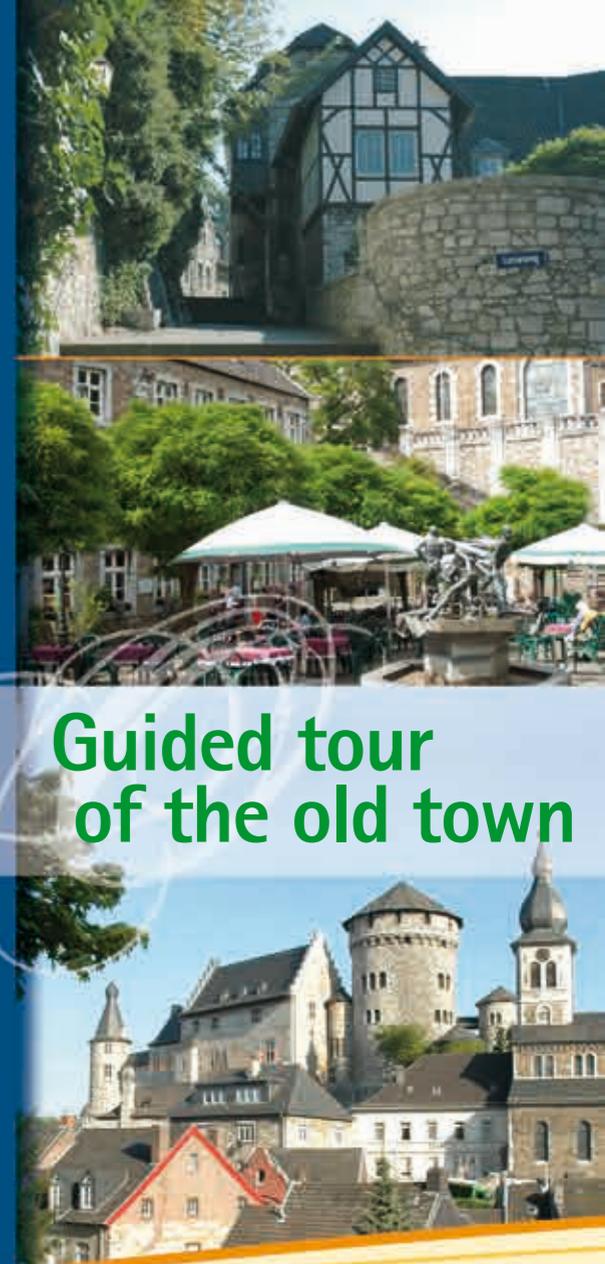
**We will be pleased to advise you in all questions
around Stolberg! Please don't hesitate to contact us.**

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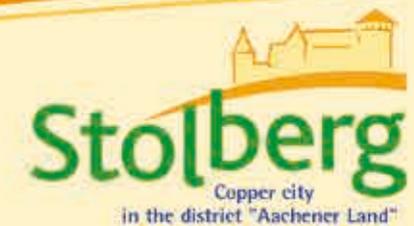
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**Stolberg – your address
for a relaxed stay**

Copper city in the district "Aachener Land".



Guided tour of the old town

**Stolberg**
Copper city
in the district "Aachener Land"

Narrow alleys, churches, the romantic castle.

A tour through the romantic old town



at that time were usually designed as defensible building, the exterior facades of which usually had only crenels instead of real window openings.

the building has meanwhile been restored. Today it serves as a venue for art exhibition and accommodates several artists' workrooms.

GUIDED TOUR OF THE OLD TOWN:

- 1 Kupferhof Schart
- 2 Offermann-Platz
- 3 Historic Adler-pharmacy
- 4 Alter Markt/Kupferhof Rose
- 5 Vogelsangkirche (church)
- 6 Castle cemetery
- 8 Church St. Lucia
- 9 Finkenberkirche
- 10 Cemetery of the copper masters
- 11 Sculpture garden

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Although the old town of Stolberg looks back to a long history of development, it convincingly appears as a homogeneous ensemble with a harmonious and attractive townscape offering a lot of variety. It exudes its charm by the arrangement of the individual buildings and the spatial effect resulting from it.

Around 1600 the former „Kupferhof Schart“ ① was built as two-complex courtyard building assembly. A “Kupferhof”, commonly called copper yard, was a facility for the production and processing of brass. Today's appearance of the building assembly goes back to reconstruction work carried out around 1808. The original look of the courtyard complex was completely different. The copper yards built

* see map of the old town

Did you know?

The terms copper master, copper yard and copper city relate to the idea taken for granted in former times that brass was nothing else but dyed copper.

The Offermann square ② was constructed around 1760 as part of a building complex used as a cloth factory, which was operated by the family Offermann who originally came from Monschau. The old manor built of quarry stones is located directly at the stream “Vicht” and today serves as a residential building.

The former Adler pharmacy ③ had previously been used as a manor that belonged to the first and oldest copper yard complex in the Stolberg area, which was constructed by Leonhard Schleicher in 1575. In 1790 a pharmacy was established in the copper yard's manor, which continued to work until 1971.

Old market square ④: At the north-east corner of the square, which today is partly planted with greenery, the former “Kupferhof Rose” is found. This building complex was constructed in 1600. Today the exterior view of the building assembly is characterized by a plaster and stucco facade created in the 1870s. Temporarily on the brink of dereliction

Vogelsang church ⑤ with the cemetery in front: the comparatively modest building is considered to be one of the oldest Protestant churches existing left of the Lower Rhine. The building complex was constructed by the Lutheran congregation in the years 1646-48 and until today it has maintained its plain but very appealing appearance. The separation between vicarage and church building can hardly be seen from the outside so that the actual function of the building complex cannot easily be recognized. Merely the apse at the east side and the shape of the church windows give rise to the assumption of a sacred building.



Plague cross

Castle cemetery ⑥: In former times the park-like area was the first cemetery in Stolberg. Its slightly elevated position allows a charming view of the houses nestled in the narrow alleys of the old town. On the right of the gravel path, in direction of the castle, there is a massive cross hewn from bluestone, which in colloquial language is called plague cross.