

## BAROQUE CHURCH OF PILGRIMAGE

Powerful, seven-storey spire, baroque building and furnishings with a unique double high altar dating from 1752, which includes the Madonna statue with the split head. Numerous votive signs and votive candles,...

The impressive altar is situated in the middle of two churches. For the entrance to the smaller monastery church you have to leave the churchyard and turn right.



## PILGRIMAGE MUSEUM

...in the former Pflerschloss (Markt-platz 10): Attractive exhibits and visitor-friendly presentation. The manor house in the centre of the village was once part of a fortified church. Today, this building houses a pilgrimage museum of supraregional importance with more than 1,000 original exhibits. On three floors „Christian Life“, „Worship of saints“, „Course of a pilgrimage“ and in particular the Neukirchener pilgrimage are represented.

- **Open:** Tuesday to Friday from 9 to 12 am and 1 to 5 pm  
Sat, Sun and public holidays (except Nov. until mid-Dec.) from 10 to 12 and 13 to 16 o' clock
- **Admission (p.P.):** € 4,- (with guest card € 3,-)



## FRANCISCAN MONASTERY GARDEN

The beautifully designed monastery garden is an oasis of tranquillity with (herbal) plants, which already existed in the Bible, because the respectful preservation of the creation was of particular importance to St. Francis. Ancient fruit trees, a herb garden, a garden for honey bees, a natural pond and many colourful flowers. Part of the garden is inspired by the „Sonnengesang“ – the best-known prayer of St. Francis of Assisi.



- **Access only within the scope of a guided tour.**
- Regular guided tours in German from May till end of September on Thursdays and Sundays at 4 pm (Entrance fee for adults: € 4,-)

## WAX ART GALLERY

...near the entrance to the Franciscan Monastery Garden. Unique gallery with the life's work of the gifted wax artist Annemarie Filzmann-Kerschensteiner: Candles, wax candle holders, flowers and plants in a lifelike reproduction.

- **Open:** Tue/Thu/Sun from 3 to 4 pm (closed in November)



Money donation box in the pilgrimage church

## HISTORY AND LEGEND

- **after 1000:** first settlements
- **1224:** formation of the village
- **1377:** granted right to hold a market
- **1422:** invasion of the Hussites
- **from 1452:** flourishing of the pilgrimage
- **from 1656:** Monastery of the Franciscan monks
- **1703:** devastation during the War of the Spanish Succession
- **1752:** 300th anniversary of the pilgrimage with consecration of the new altar

The pilgrimage to the **Madonna of Neukirchen b.Hl.Blut (Holy Blood)** is one of Bavaria's most important Virgin Mary pilgrimages. Around 1420 a religious farmer's wife rescued the wooden statue of the Holy Mary from the Hussites from the Bohemian village Loucim across the border to a small chapel in Neukirchen in Bavaria. A Hussite discovers this statue of the Virgin Mary, wants to destroy it and throws it into the nearby well. However, the statue returns to its place. This process is repeated three times. The Hussite then tries to smash the wooden statue of the Virgin Mary with his saber. He splits her head, blood flows from the wound. The Hussite wants to flee, but the horse does not move. The Hussite is converted. The **pilgrimage to Our Lady with the split head** begins. (Illustration of the legend on the organ gallery of the pilgrimage church)

In 1610 another miraculous event took place: in a dream, the girl Barbara was told the location of a **healing spring** near the pilgrimage church. She finds the spring and is cured (The chapel of St. Anna is built above this spring).

The Franciscan monastery was founded in 1656 in the immediate vicinity of the pilgrimage church. The Neukirchen pilgrimage reached its peak in the second half of the 17th and first half of the 18th century.

## Tourist-Information Neukirchen b. Hl. Blut

Marktplatz 10 · 93453 Neukirchen b. Hl. Blut  
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# NEUKIRCHEN B.HL.BLUT

## HOLIDAY RESORT IN THE BAVARIAN FOREST



# Discover Neukirchen



## LOCAL MOUNTAIN „HOHENBOGEN“

The local mountain **Hohenbogen (1.050 m)** is an attractive excursion destination for hikers, nature lovers and active holidaymakers. The summer toboggan run, various inline skating rides with skate rental, a small fun park and grass-cart racing at the Talstation Hohenbogen (lift groundstation) promise great enjoyment. A large children's playground near the terrace café makes the little visitors happy.

A **two-seater chairlift** leads directly to the Berghaus Hohenbogen – one of the most beautiful mountain restaurants in the Bavarian Forest.



From there it's only a short walk to the former Nato towers with a viewing platform (Aus-sichtsplattform Gipfelsteig) – a really great view in all

directions (Ticket-machine with admission through turn-stile). You can also hike from the top station to Haus Schönblick in about 15 minutes or to the Forstdiensthütte Hohenbogen (forestry service hut, approx. 1.5 hours from the top station).

In **winter**, the Hohenbogen offers the **longest floodlight run in the Bavarian Forest**, along with well-groomed ski slopes and a winter toboggan run.

Hiking information on the **well-marked hiking trails** can be found at the ground station of the Hohenbogen Sports and Leisure Centre (Tel. 09947 464) or at the Tourist Information Office Neukirchen b.Hl.Blut (Tel. 09947 940821).



## SOUND PATH – A PATHWAY FOR ATTENTIVE LISTENING (700 m long)

...at the East Bavarian portion of the **St. James' Way**. Pause · Listen · Play · Harken: Various sound stations deal with the

phenomenon sound and provide a sensual experience of a special kind. Musical instruments from different cultural backgrounds. information boards on ethnology, music therapy, physics and medicine.

■ **Summer months:** Easily accessible any time from the church of pilgrimage via the path of The Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Chapel of St. Anna or from the Krankenhausstraße (car park, accessible for wheelchair/child buggy).

■ **Winter months:** The instruments are kept in the museum of pilgrimage (entrance fee!), where they can be played

- 1 Gong – China
- 2 Organpipes – Europe
- 3 Drums – Beat the drums like the Indians in North America
- 4 Place for intense listening: „Silence is the biggest revelation“ (Lao Tse)
- 5 Sound mill: In the style of Indian prayer wheels this instrument bestows you an intriguing sound with unusual overtone rows that calms you down
- 6 Balaphon – Africa
- 7 Clay mill – Switzerland

■ **How to get there:** Either you turn at the only traffic lights into Krankenhausstraße and walk about 500 meters to the first little pavilion with the gong.

Or you take the path to the small chapel opposite the church of pilgrimage. If you walk further on you get to the first hut.



## KULTUR IM SCHLOSS

Every Wednesday evening at half past seven from May till end of September – free of charge for holiday-makers – there are some cultural events, mainly concerts either in the open air or in-doors in the Wallfahrtsmuseum.



## HIKING ROUTE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Nk11**
- approx. 3 km
  - duration approx. 1 hour
  - marked from the Tourist Information to the base station Hohenbogen
- Nk3**
- approx. 15 km
  - duration approx. 5,5 hours
  - **Day tour to the peak of the Hohenbogen:** Tourist Information – Forestry Service Hut – Mountain Station/Berghaus – Haus Schönblick – Tourist Information



## GUEST CARD

- Guests staying in Neukirchen receive a guest card from their host. This must be filled in completely with name and length of stay
- The guest card entitles you to free use of the public transport towards Furth im Wald or Hohenbogen/Arber base station



## NATURAL SWIMMING POOL

An outdoor swimming pool can hardly be more beautifully situated than the natural swimming pool in Neukirchen: Directly on the cycle path with a magnificent panoramic view to the Hohenbogen.

**Non-swimmer area** (from shallow to a water depth of 1.35 m) · **Swimmer** (28-metre-long pool with a depth of up to 2.40 metres) · **Children's paddling pool** with play area · **kiosk** with snacks, drinks, coffee, cake · children's playground · changing rooms, showers and toilets.

**Swimming as in a lake:** cleaning of the bathing water in the 700 sqm swimmer and non-swimmer area is fully biological. Chlorine and chemical additives are not used at all.

- **Open** from 8 a.m. to dawn, open until 9 p.m. at the latest
- **Free admission!**
- How do I get to the natural swimming pool? **By car** to Deschermühlweg car park: via Austraße towards Bauhof **Walking distance:** From the town centre/town hall through the archway/Torstüberl via footpath Pfarrhöhe, Pater-Fortunat-Straße 5 min.

