

3. City Museum – Stadtmuseum

The *Stadtmuseum* is located in one of the finest Baroque buildings in Iserlohn. The City Museum is well worth a visit, because it shows that the town's history – from prehistoric times and the Middle Ages up to the 20th century – can be an interesting journey through the ages.

4. House Rampelmann – Rampelmannsches Haus

This house is an example of a magnificent merchant's house in late Baroque style with plastered rubble masonry. The wall anchors show 1748 as the date of construction.

5. Industrial Crafts- and Postal History Museum – Handwerks- und Postgeschichtliches Museum

The museum is housed in an old factory and industrial monument, the so-called "*Mastesche Fabrikhaus*". One collection shows the history of traditional industrial crafts in this area and its historical-social structural change. The second collection displays the development of postal services in Iserlohn and the County of Mark.

6. St. Mary's Church – Oberste Stadtkirche, Marienkirche

Generally referred to as the *Oberste Stadtkirche* the *Marienkirche* is a Gothic style building with two main aisles and a transept. The church is situated on an imposing limestone cliff named Bilstein and was erected on the remains of a Romanesque chapel dedicated to the Saints Cosmas and Damian. The building dates back to the middle of the 14th century and has twin towers. The most important work of art in the church is a winged altar with figurines of apostles and saints as well as a crucifix tableau and panels showing scenes in the life of the Virgin Mary, known as the *Iserlohner Marien Tafeln*. It is a Protestant church today and opens only for services or events.

7. City Library in the Old Town Hall – Stadtbücherei im Alten Rathaus

The Old Town Hall was built in 1876 and is the most impressive neo-Renaissance building in Iserlohn, showing its splendour after having been completely renovated lately. The City Library has been located in the Old Town Hall since 1976. The library offers 80.000 books and other media. The *Alter Rathhausplatz* was the site of all old town halls and the former market-place.

Wermingser Straße is the heart of the pedestrian zone. Together with *Unnaer Straße* these streets have always been the main shopping area. *Wermingser Tor* – Wermingsen Gate was situated at the corner of *Wermingser Straße* and *Am Dicken Turm* and also called *Ostentor* (East Gate) – near today's *Wermingser Straße* number 27. This road led to the settlement of Wermingsen in the east and further on to Hemer.

8. Reformed Church – Reformierte Kirche

The Reformed church was consecrated in the year 1718. The main entrance on the south side is accentuated by the Prussian-Brandenburg coat of arms. It has been converted into an Open Church where exhibitions, concerts, evening lectures and discussions are held.

9. St. Aloysius Church – Aloysius-Kirche

The Roman Catholic parish church of St. Aloysius was consecrated in 1894. Until today it is the biggest Roman Catholic church in the district of *Markischer Kreis*. The great neo-Romanesque brick basilica has four towers, two larger towers and another two smaller towers flanking the choir. The three large rose windows situated above the main entrance were designed by Irmgard Wessel-Zumloh, an artist from Iserlohn.

10. Schiller Square – Schillerplatz

In 1905 the *Schillerplatz* was named after Friedrich Schiller, the famous German poet, philosopher, historian and playwright. On Wednesdays and Saturdays the square is used as a market-place. The fountain "*Lebensfreude* – Joy of Life" shows the famous "*Iserlohner Tabakdosen*", tins für Tobacco made of brass and produced in Iserlohn in the 18th century.

11. (New) Town Hall – Rathaus

The (new) Town hall, built in 1974, is near the market-place and the pedestrian zone. The foyer is frequent venue for exhibitions on topics of current communal interest. In this area and to the north there were calamine mining activities until the end of the 19th century. Calamine (zinc ore) was used for the production of brass, one of the main production branches in Iserlohn at that time.

12. Werner Jacobi Square – Werner-Jacobi-Platz

The square is named after Werner Jacobi, who was a German lawyer and politician. He was dismissed from office by the Nazis in 1933. After the war he was rehabilitated and elected as mayor of Iserlohn in 1946. The offices of the municipal technical departments are situated here.

13. House Wessel – Villa Wessel

The house was built in 1891 as a residence for the owner of a large factory in Iserlohn. The design of the house is typical for buildings of this kind at the end of the 19th century. Today it houses an art gallery for exhibitions of the Wilhelm Wessel/Irmgard Wessel-Zumloh Society.

14. Art Gallery – Von-Scheibler-Haus

The City Art Gallery is housed in a building, which was formerly owned by the von Scheibler family. The gallery is known throughout Germany as a location for the exhibition of works of photographic artists and contemporary painters of international renown. The house was originally erected in 1783 as imposing residence of Johann Rupe, a merchant of Iserlohn. His son-in-law, Friedrich von Scheibler, was the town's mayor between 1808 and 1812.

15. Unna Square – Unnaer Platz

Unna Gate stood at the end of *Unnaer Straße* until the beginning of the 19th century. It was the main entrance to the city from the west and the north. Daily at 10 am, noon, 3 and 6 pm the carillon on Unna Square usually plays the Westphalia song composed by Emil Rittershaus in 1869 in the former *Gasthof zur Post* nearby. The carillon was donated by the craftsmen of Iserlohn and shows the guild masters' emblems.

16. Wichelhovenhaus – Iserlohner Kreisanzeiger

The publishing house of the local newspaper *Iserlohn Kreisanzeiger* is named after the founder of the newspaper. It is a four-story brick building and was built in 1927 in the architectural form of New Objectivity and early Expressionism. The entrance hall is well worth a visit.

17. City Archives – Stadtarchiv

Since 2004 the City Archives are located in the former Post Office (*Alte Post*). The Renaissance style building was built by Otto Leppin in 1882 as General Post Office. When the Post Office moved to new premises in 1986, it became a training centre for trades and crafts. The building today also houses the Consumer Consulting Centre.

18. West Gate – Westertor

The *Westertor* (West Gate) was located at the crossing of the streets *Westergraben* (West Moat) and *Westertor*. It allowed access to the city from the southeast, Altena and Hagen. Part of the old town wall can be seen here. Through the urban renewal in the 2nd half of the 20th century the historical site of the

Westertor was largely destroyed. The former production centre of Iserlohn's silk industry is located here. A short look into the "Gosengasse – Goose Lane" is a trip back in time.

19. Old bathhouse and swimming bath – Altes Stadtbad

The former swimming bath and public bathhouse, which was inaugurated in 1908, has been converted into a home for senior citizens run by the Protestant community in Iserlohn. One of the façades and a tower of the original Art Nouveau building have been preserved.

20. Memorial Poth – Mahnmahl Poth

Near the railway station there is a memorial (situated on the *Poth*) for the victims of the *Nationalsozialismus* (NAZI Germany). The life-size bronze sculpture is surrounded by four swastika branches at an angle that „imprison“ the figure. The memorial was designed by Siegfried Neuenhausen and inaugurated in 1989.

21. Adult Education Centre – Volkshochschule

The Adult Education Centre is accommodated in the new railway station building. It has an excellent reputation with almost 100 years of successful activities. The numerous courses offered cover a wide range of subjects. Suitable rooms in such a central location contribute to the good results.

The Tourist Information Centre and ticket sales office is also located in the railway station building.



St. Mary's Church – Oberste Stadtkirche, Marienkirche

Text written by Irmgard Mämecke



STADTMARKETING
Iserlohn

Information and guided tours
in the Tourist Information Centre

Stadtinformation/ Stadtmaking
Bahnhofplatz 2
58644 Iserlohn

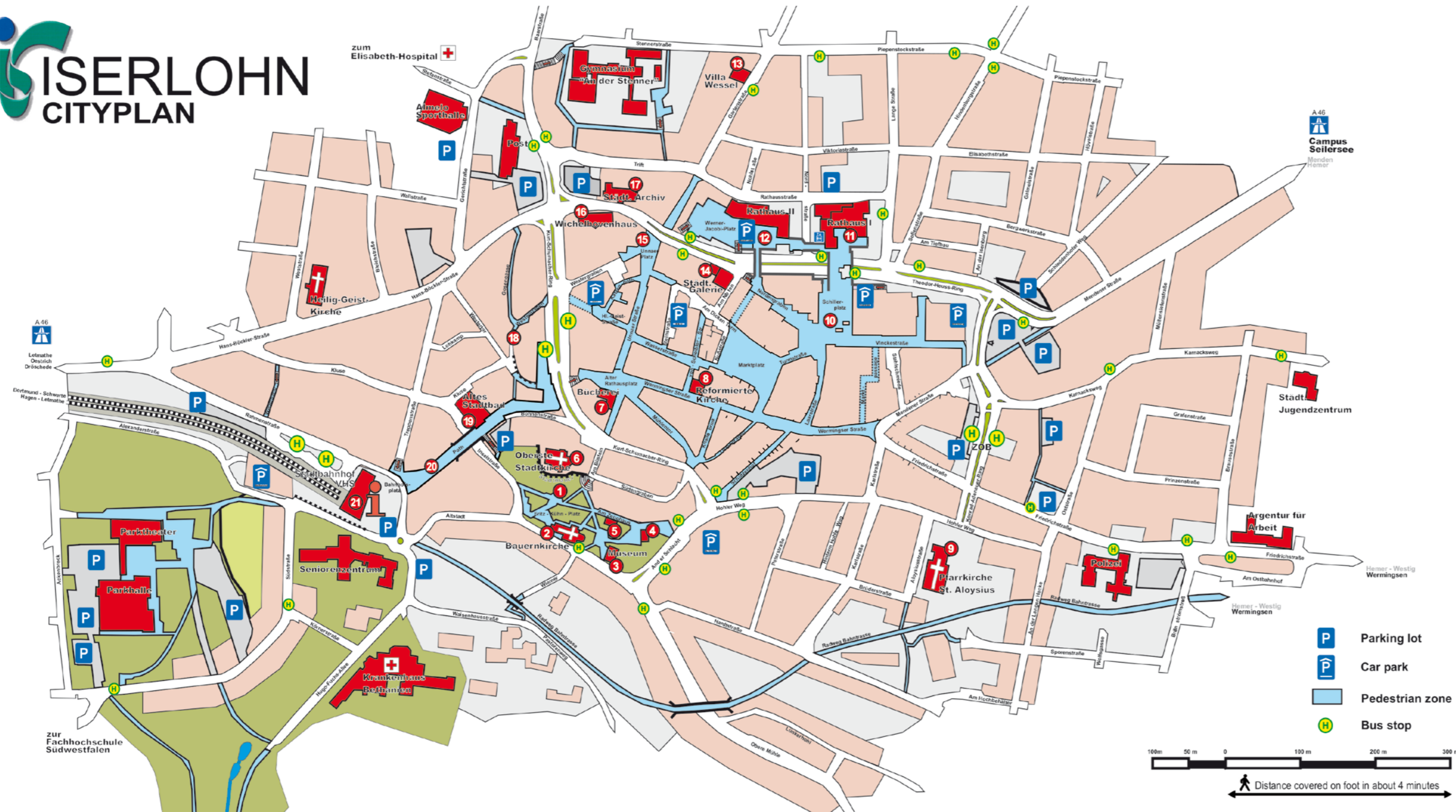
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STADT I SERLOHN



ISERLOHN

SHORT TOUR
THROUGH THE CITY



Old bathhouse and swimming bath – Altes Stadtbad

Iserlohn is the largest town in the Märkischer Kreis District and has about 96,000 citizens.

Its history goes back to the 10th century, the first written document is dated 1150. In 1237 the Count of the Mark gave Iserlohn municipal rights. In the 18th and 19th century Iserlohn experienced an economic boom thanks to the metal industry and was largest city in Westphalia for decades.

Iserlohn, also known as "Waldstadt" because of the numerous forests surrounding the town, offers excellent living conditions and leisure opportunities. This short walking tour through Iserlohn takes about an hour's time. Starting at the Tourist Information Office at the Railway Station it leads past historical buildings, old churches, along the remains of the old town wall and right through the middle of the city and its attractive shopping centre in the pedestrian zone.

1. Fritz Kühn Square and the old town walls and gates – Fritz-Kühn-Platz und die Stadtmauer

The first settlement named "Loon" was located here. Iserlohn was fortified in the 13th century by a town wall built of stone. Five roads led from the marketplace in the middle of the town to the gates, towards north to Unna Gate, towards east to Wermingsen Gate, towards southeast to the *Mühlentor* (Mill Gate), towards south to the *Kirchtor* (Church Gate) and towards west to the *Westertor*. Around the end of the 18th century the gates were demolished. Street names ending in *graben* (moat) remind us of the former fortification and the course of the town wall. The *Kirchtor*, probably not a gate but only a larger door and the *Kirchtreppe*, led to the church and graveyard. Remains of the town wall can be seen here. A former castellan's house, now housing the church archives, is one of the oldest buildings not destroyed by one of at least nine great fires in Iserlohn. Until 1798 the Gun Powder Tower stood here.

2. Protestant parish church of St. Pancras – Bauernkirche St. Pankratius

This is the oldest building in Iserlohn today. Originally built as a cruciform Romanesque columned basilica around the year 985, the church is made of quarry-stone. Only the spire is still of the Romanesque period, whereas the nave, transept and chancel are in Gothic style. In 1969, the wooden barrel vault was replaced by a flat ceiling. The Gothic altar shrine was created around 1450. It is a Protestant church today and opens only for services or events.