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Bavarian Coat of Arms

Above you see the Bavarian Coat of Arms. The white and blue rhombs in the center shield are the patterns Bavaria is usually identified with. They represent the entity of the Bavarian state and were the heraldic coat of the dukes of Bogen before they were adopted by the Wittelsbacher, the later dukes of Bavaria, during the 13th century. The four symbols around the center shield stand for the different parts of this entity. The golden lion on black background represents Oberpfalz; the silver rake on red background Franconia; the blue panther on silver background Ober- and Niederbayern; the three lions on golden background the Bavarian part of Swabia.

The border sign

You can order the version of the Coat of Arms which you find besides virtually every major road entering Bavaria (see picture above). *Mattina*, the most reputated manufacturer of signs and displays in Bavaria, offers high-quality copies of these border signs. They are of oval shape, measure 37,5 x 45,5 cm (14,5 x 17,75 inches) and are made of varnished, weather resistant fiberboard. The reverse of the excellent five color print of the Coat of Arms shows the Bavarians National Anthem with notes and lyrics.

The border sign is US\$49 including taxes, handling and shipping to the United States. Write to mattina@t-online.de for the (usually lower) rates to other countries.

The sticker

The Coat of Arms is also available as a sticker, manufactured by *Mattina* as well. It measures about 24 x 19 cm (9,5 x 7,75 inches) and is made of very durable material. The stickers are **US\$5** each including taxes. Add US\$5 handling & shipping for each order. **Special offer:** When ordering 5 or more stickers, they are only US\$4 each!

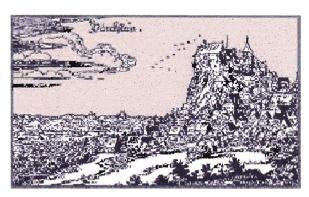
The municipality Parkstein - history

The legend about the founding of Parkstein tells, that the place was discovered by a count of Kastl and Sulzbach, who was lead to the peak of the basalt cone by a wild boar he was hunting.

Overhelmed by the beauty of the view over the beautyful countryside he decided to build a castle at this place. He named it "Bargstein" in memory of the animal which lead him there. The word "Barg" was the old high Geman word for "pig". The design of the coat of arms of Parkstein was most likely influenced by this legend. Count Friedrich of Brandenburg conferred the coat of arms on parkstein in 1435. It shows a wild boar "in a red sign and under the pig a triangular stone on which the pig shall stand".

Parkstein was first mentioned in historical documents when the bavarian duke Kuno (Konrad) burnt down the castle of Parkstein during a fight with its owner of that time, Gebhard III., bishop from Regensburg. Emperor Heinrich IV. rebuilt the castle and since this time the name of Parkstein appeared again and again in documents of that time.

Parkstein reached its historical height between 1278 - 1808 when it was appointed to the county court over a district that spanned 13 square-miles with a population of about 32.000 people and 151 municipalities. 1808 the seat of the court was transferred to Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab by prince Max Ferdinand of Lobkowitz. The union of



Parkstein, Floss, Störnstein, Leuchtenberg and others created the basis to the administrative district Neustadt an der Waldnaab of today.

Homepage German language

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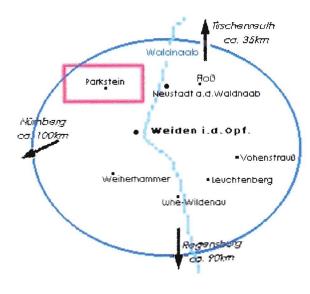
Markt Parkstein - a municipality with the certain something...

In the middle of the landscape of the Northern Oberpfalz rises <u>"Europes most beautiful basalt cone"</u>. A vulcano pushed striking basalt rock from the deep layer of the earth into a height of 595 metres above the sea level.

Mentioned 1052 for the first time in historical documents, the Markt Parkstein can look back to a long and interesting <u>history</u>. Today Parkstein represents itself as a versatile <u>municipality</u>.

Among <u>industry</u>, trade and agriculture Parkstein offers attractive housing areas in the open country.

Well build roads and bicycle tracks connect Parkstein directly with the town of Weiden, which offers a selection of shopping facilities, amusement and entertainment.



Due to its position in the middle of a wonderful nature

reserve and its modern and country style restaurants and pensions Parkstein is a very popular holiday resort. Many different interest clubs and societies create a busy <u>cultural life</u> throughout the year.

Information:

Verkehrsamt Parkstein Tel.: 09602-5171 Marktplatz 25 Fax: 09602-4619

92711 Parkstein, Germany eMail: amt@parkstein.de

Visit Parkstein - it's worth it!!!

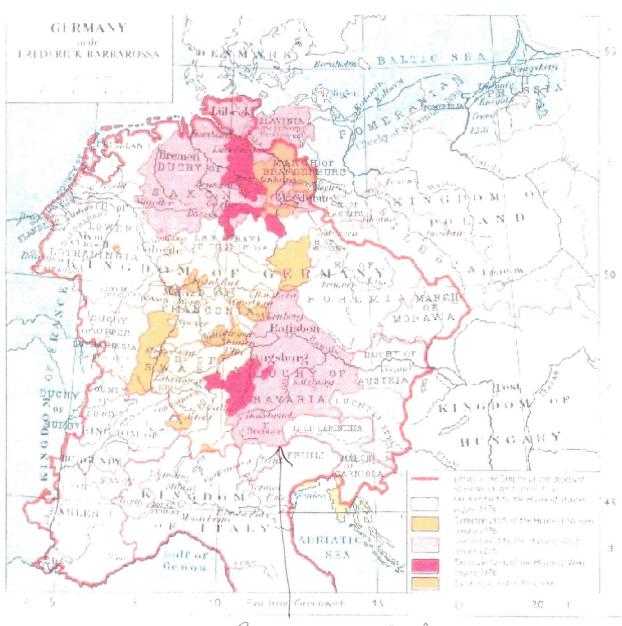
Look here for other web-sites about <u>Parkstein!</u> You can find more information about the administrative district Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab or about

Weiden i.d.Opf. at the sites of <u>Weiden Online</u>, <u>Neustadt Online</u> or at the official sites of the administrative district <u>Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab!</u>

visitors' book German language

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Bauaria in Red

Bavaria - governmental districts



