

## **TRAVEL WRITING SAMPLES**

### **VISITOR INFORMATION**

The country code for Germany is 49; dial it before calling any of the numbers below.

### **GETTING THERE AND AROUND**

Direct trains from Frankfurt Airport, Stuttgart Airport and Paris arrive in the station just outside town. Alternately, the Baden Airpark — between Baden-Baden and Karlsruhe — is served by the discount carrier Ryan Air ([www.ryanair.com](http://www.ryanair.com)) with daily flights from Dublin, London, Barcelona, Rome and other cities.

The only time you will need a taxi is to and from the train station because the town is that small and walkable. For general tourist information stop by at the city's i-Punkt information center (7221-275-200), right next to the Casino. It is closed on Mondays.

### **WHERE TO STAY**

The stately Brenner's Park (4-6 Schillerstrasse; 7221-9000; [www.brenners.com](http://www.brenners.com)) is arguably one of the best hotels in Germany. The 100 rooms are beautifully furnished with high-quality antiques. Doubles start at 255 euros, \$326 at \$1.28 to the euro.

For something more modern, try the recently opened Dorint Sofitel Maison Messmer (1 Werderstrasse; 7221-30120; [www.dorintresorts.com](http://www.dorintresorts.com)) built in former summer residence of the Kaisers across from the Kurhaus. Doubles start at 195 euros.

A little out of town, the imposing Schlosshotel Bühlerhöhe (1 Schwarzwaldhochstrasse, Bühl; 7226-550; [www.buehlerhoehe.com](http://www.buehlerhoehe.com)) should be more deserving of its five stars now that the English players have checked out. Doubles start at 250 euros.

The Badischer Hof (47 Lange Strasse; 7221-9340; [www.badischer-hof.steigenberger.de](http://www.badischer-hof.steigenberger.de)) is a former monastery and the only hotel with the town's spring water in its own pools — in fact, it is even piped into some rooms. Doubles from 149 euros.

The Merkur, just off the main square (9 Merkurstrasse; 7221-3030; [www.hotel-merkur.com](http://www.hotel-merkur.com)), offers a hearty breakfast with its rooms. Doubles from 92 euros.

### **WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK**

The long-time Michelin star chef Stéphan Bernhard and his wife, Sophie, prepare some of the town's best French food — like fried foie gras and pigeon breast — in their courtyard restaurant, Le Jardin de France (Lichtentalerstrasse 13; 7221-300-7860; [www.lejardindefrance.de](http://www.lejardindefrance.de)). Dinner for two with wine is at least runs 150 euros.

The charmingly old-school Palais Gagarin (Augustaplatz 1, 7221- 25838) has German pub food and tall glasses of pilsner served indoors or out. Dinner for two with wine or beer is 60 euros tops. Medici (Augustaplatz 8; 7221-2006; [www.medici.de](http://www.medici.de)) attracts visiting celebrities, particularly at its bar.

Late at night, the designer-jeans crowd makes its way to the lively, noisy Bombay Rooms (Kaiserallee 4, 7221-397-437; [www.bombayrooms.de](http://www.bombayrooms.de)), or downstairs to Max's for dancing.