



# Museums & Sightseeing

St. Gallen is where art meets culture.  
Wonderful architecture, museums, rich history,  
a hotbed for theatre and for musical creativity.  
These are the hallmarks of this great town.

## MUSEUMS & SIGHTSEEING



Picture©stadt.sg.ch

### Natural History Museum

The Natural History Museum is a newly renovated, modern information center about nature and its beauty all over the world. The oldest exhibit of the museum, which is still an attraction for visitors, is a real crocodile from the Nile that was mounted and stuffed in 1623.

Rorschacher Str. 263 | naturmuseumsg.ch



Picture©thisismysaintgallen.com

### Museum im Lagerhaus

The Museum is one of the leading Naive Art and Art Brut museums in Europe. It is a beautiful space in an old «warehouse» in St.Gallen. The museum presents changing exhibitions. The different temporary exhibitions are always very carefully curated.

Davidstr. 44 | museumimlagerhaus.ch

### Historical & Ethnological

The museum shows cultural history, art history, archaeology, ethnology, and contemporary history. The embedded children's museum is really cool and the kids can discover history with all senses. In July, the museum hosts a three-week music festival in the back garden called the «Kulturfestival».

Museumstr. 50 | hvmsg.ch

### Kunst Halle

The Kunst Halle was founded in 1985 and describes itself as a place where artistic statements are used to react to controversial situations relating to urban development.

Davidstr. 40 | kunsthallesanktgallen.ch

### Galerie vor der Klostermauer

The gallery in front of the monastery wall was opened more than 50 years ago (1967) as a space for regional artists, especially for those who do not yet have a lively exhibition activity and want to show their work. Check out their website for more information!

Zeughausgasse 8 | klostermauer.ch

### Museum of Art

This museum is a delight for art lovers. The art is displayed on several levels and in multiple rooms. The museum is great to fill an afternoon on a rainy day. It is open six days a week from Tuesday until Sunday.

Museumstr. 32 | kunstmuseumsg.ch

## MUSEUMS & SIGHTSEEING

Picture©Gilgi Guggenheim, museumoe.com



### MoE Museum of Emptiness

This extraordinary museum was founded in 2016 by the artist Gilgi Guggenheim. As a walk-in architectural sculpture, it invites you to relax from the offer of abundance, to get involved in the emptiness and explore its theme or simply to experience it.

Haldenstr. 5 | [museumoe.com](http://museumoe.com)

### Sitterwerk

This is a lively center dedicated to art and art-production. It boasts an art library of over 25'000 pieces and a diverse material archive with art production samples. The «Kesselhaus Josephsohn», a boiler house that is now home to a permanent exhibition and storage area for the sculptures and plasterworks of the sculptor Hans Josephsohn, is open to the public. The «Kunstgiesserei», the photo lab and the institutions of the Sitterwerk contain production, research, conservation, presentation, and mediation of art and therefore interfuse and enrich one another in a multifaceted manner.

Sittentalstr. 34 | [sitterwerk.ch](http://sitterwerk.ch)

Picture©Ladina Bischof, viereinhalb.ch



### 4½

4½ is a group of people interested in culture and offers a platform with rooms for various ideas. Local artists and creative minds are given the opportunity to realize their work and ideas. If you want to know more, visit their website for further information.

Lämmlisbrunnenstr. 4½ | [viereinhalb.ch](http://viereinhalb.ch)

### Soap Museum

Vasco Hebel is the youngest museum director of Switzerland. With its collection of over 3'000 pieces, the museum presents the history of soap. This includes soaps, posters, stamps, machine parts and much more.

Rorschacher Str. 135 | [seifenmuseum.ch](http://seifenmuseum.ch)

### Casino

Enjoy the fun of gambling in a casino. St. Jakob Str. 55 | [swisscasinos.ch](http://swisscasinos.ch)

### Bambolino

It's the best indoor play space a little bit outside the city center. It is well made and fun for young children (ages 2-12). Zürcherstr. 464 | [bambolino.ch](http://bambolino.ch)

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Picture©thisismysaintgallen.com

### Wildpark Peter and Paul

The Wildpark is an open institution for more than 100 years. The entry is free of charge. You will see local, wild animals in a natural and beautiful environment (Ibex, roe, fallow, sika deer, chamois, marmot, lynx,...). It's a beautiful and quiet area for a walk – even if it rains.

Kirchlistr. 92 | wildpark-peterundpaul.ch

### Tower Tour St. Laurenzen

The tower tours take place twice a day from March to November (10am & 3pm). On Sundays and during the winter months the tower remains closed. The view from above is worth all the steps.

Marktgasse 25 | ref-sgc.ch

### Observatory

It's very small but still worth seeing if you are interested in astronomy. There are some public viewing evenings.

Unterer Brand | ksbjg.ch/sternwarte

### Escape room

If you like adventures, go to one of the four escape rooms with friends.

Unterer Graben 1 | escapecompany.ch



Picture©Iko Freese, theatersg.ch

### Theatre St. Gallen

It is a performing arts center for theatre, musical, ballet and opera and considered to be the oldest professional theatre in Switzerland. If you like going to the theatre, you really have to see a show and hopefully feel a magical moment. That experience is very special!

Museumstr. 24 | theatersg.ch

### Lattich, Hektor

In summer this place is wonderful, unique and full of charm. With lots of spots to sit, all unique and different, you will definitely find a spot right for you! It's cozy and fun in an urban, picturesque sort of way. They also have a diverse program of events. For further information, please visit the websites.

Güterbahnhofstr. 8 | lattich.ch, hektor.sg

### Lokremise

If it's raining, this is the best address to spend the day. There is an alternative cinema (Kinok.ch), a restaurant, an art museum and a contemporary theatre. Take also a look at the old water tower from 1906.

Grünbergstr. 7 | lokremise.ch



## MUSEUMS & SIGHTSEEING

«St. Galler Spitzen» has always been a sought after raw material for expensive haute couture creations and count among the most famous textiles in the world. All the big fashion designers at one point or another come to St. Gallen to accessorise their lace and embroidery creations. Big names such as Akris, Chanel, Armani, Givenchy, Dior, Lacroix and Yves Saint Laurent all create designs with embroidered fabrics made in St. Gallen.

In the 15th century, St. Gallen became known for producing high quality textiles. In 1714, the zenith was reached with a yearly production of 38'000 pieces of fabric. At the beginning of the 19th century, the first embroidery machines were developed in St. Gallen. Around 1910, St. Gallen its embroidery production was the largest export branch of the Swiss economy. More than 50% of the world production came from St. Gallen. However, World War I and the Great Depression caused another severe crisis for St. Gallen textile industry. Nowadays, because of competition and the prevalence of computer-operated embroidery machines, only a reduced textile industry has survived:

- Bischoff Textil (1927), [bischoff-textil.com](http://bischoff-textil.com)
- Forster Rohner (1904), [forsterrohner.com](http://forsterrohner.com)
- J. Schläpfer (1904), [jakob-schlaepfer.ch](http://jakob-schlaepfer.ch)
- Schlossberg (1959), [schlossberg.ch](http://schlossberg.ch)
- Filtext (1919), [filtext.ch](http://filtext.ch)
- OkuTex, [okutex.ch](http://okutex.ch)

### Akris

Akris was founded in 1922 by Alice Kriemler-Schoch, an ambitious and entrepreneurial woman who began making polka dot aprons out of her modest sewing studio. Today, Akris is a Swiss fashion house specialising in luxury goods for women: Akris fashion is very modern, with effects that are often based on geometrics or graphic design. [akris.ch](http://akris.ch)

### Textile Museum

Founded in 1878, the Textile Museum of St. Gallen houses one of Switzerland's most important textile collections housing woven materials and embroideries from every corner of the globe. The building has been the home of the textile museum and the textile library ever since 1886.

Thousands of pattern books, designs, fashion photographs, magnificent textiles and the demonstrations of a hand embroidery machines take visitors into a world of creativity and technological advancements. The library provides an insight into thousands of patterns created by textile designers in the last 170 years.

Vadianstr. 2 | [textilmuseum.ch](http://textilmuseum.ch)





## Walks & Trails

You can do some interesting walks in St. Gallen. Here are some of them:

- **Foxtrail** (~2h)  
Exploring the city in an adventurous way. Choose one from several options.  
Website: foxtrail.ch
- **Geocaching**  
There are millions of geocaches hidden around the world – there are probably some near you right now.  
Website: geocaching.com
- **Textile walk** (~1h)  
If you are interested in the story of embroidery, this is the right walk for you. App: «TextileStGallen»
- **Reformation walk** (~1h)  
If you are interested in history, you can do the reformation walk.  
App: «R-City Guide»
- **Planetary trail** (~4h)  
It starts with the sun at the entrance of the botanical garden and ends almost at the Lake Constance with pluto. You will find the walking map by the sun at the botanical garden.
- **The Way of St. James**  
Walk a small part of the popular way. The Pilgrim's Route ends by the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Spain.  
Website: jakobsweg.ch
- **Wenigerweiher** (Philosophentalweg)  
Just google some pictures and you'll see, that this is one of the most beautiful small lakes near the city.
- **Bridge Trail** (~3h)  
The bridge trail leads from the St. Gallen-Haggen Station over eighteen different bridges.
- **Panoramic Walk** (Panoramaweg)(~1h)  
An unmissable one is the scenic path leading up to the three ponds. On a clear day, you can see Lake Constance and even Germany on the other side!



## Broderbrunnen

The Lake Constance water started to flow into the households of St. Gallen on the 1st of May 1895. As a reminder of this achievement, August Bösch created this fountain. Look over to the roof of the UBS and you'll see the statues Helvetia and Liberta. These two women are also on our Swiss coins. St. Leonhard Str.

## Karlstor

Built in 1570, Karlstor is the only remaining gate of the original seven gates in the town wall. It is named after Cardinal Karl Borromäus of Milan, who is supposed to be the first person who went through the gate. Klosterhof 10

## Mühleggbahn

Since 1893, this small cable car connects the old town with the St. Georgen district. The Mühleggbahn leaves every few minutes. You have to ride at least once, but you can also walk through the romantic «Mülenenschlucht» gorge and watch the Steinach waterfalls. Mühlegg Talstation | muehleggbahn.ch

## MUSEUMS & SIGHTSEEING



### Monastery of St.Catherine

The Dominican Convent of St.Catherine was founded in 1228 as a women's community. The nuns loyal to the Catholic faith moved to Wil in 1607. From then on, it served as a school and also housed the Library built by Vadian. Now it's a children's and youth library.

Katharinengasse 11



Picture@fhsg.ch

### Library FHS St. Gallen

If you thought that all libraries were the same, then you haven't seen the library designed by the architects Giuliani Hönger. The tower's central position produces an outdoor courtyard that provides light for the entrance hall and an internal courtyard that becomes a three-storey library.

Rosenbergstr. 59 | fhsg.ch

### Kirchhoferhaus

In the entrance of this house from 1876, there is a high entrance hall with a great white lion statue, which is worth to see.

Museumstr. 27

### Narrowest Alley

The «Schmittengässlein» is the 4th narrowest alley in Switzerland. It is a mere 1.21 meter wide. Snuggle through it to find more of the old town on the other side.

Schmittengässlein

### Tröckneturm Schönenwegen

The tower was built in 1828 and was used to hang up freshly coloured cloth panels for drying.

Am Burgweiherweg 1 | troeckneturm.ch

### Mythical creatures

At Unterstrasse, you can find a little park surrounded by walls. Embedded in those walls, you can find mythical creatures by Eva Lips. Especially at dusk, it is mystical.

Unterstr. | evalips.ch

### Pfalzkeller

From 1997 to 1999, Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava renovated and transformed this underground room. Sometimes it's open and can be entered.

Klosterhof

### Lambrecht's weather column

This weather column was mounted in the period 1890-1915 and still works.

Grabenpärkli