Leipzig Music Trail

Leipziger Notenspur – A step-by-step discovery

Leipziger Notenspur

Leipziger Notenspur - Leipzig Music Trail

The Leipziger Notenspur Initiative

Leipzig offers a unique spatial density of the originally preserved homes and workplaces of renowned composers. Many of these composers can be encountered on the music routes of the Leipziger Notenspur, e.g.: G. Ph. Telemann, J.S. Bach, A. Lortzing, F. Mendelssohn Bartholdy and R. Schumann, as well as R. Wagner, E. Grieg, L. Janáček, G. Mahler, M. Reger and E. Schulhoff.
The Leipziger Notenspur Initiative provides opportunities to discover this musical and cultural heritage and to combine an exploration of the city with a musical experience.

The Leipziger Notenspur: Rendezvous with Music Geniuses

The Leipziger Notenspur is a 5 km long route in the centre of Leipzig that connects the most important authentic sites, primarily composers' homes and performance locations from the baroque and romantic eras.

Further Projects

Two other projects – the Leipziger Notenrad (Music Ride) and the Leipziger Notenbogen (Music Walk) – are currently in development. More information is available on our website www.notenspur-leipzig.de and in the guidebook "Leipzig Music Trail" (Leipziger Notenspur) published by Kamprad-Verlag.

Project Supporters of the City of Music

The idea of the Leipziger Notenspur was derived from Leipzig's citizens and has been actively supported by volunteers. A great number of Leipzig citizens have contributed to the multifaceted development of the project by sharing their ideas and experience. A far-reaching network is behind the music-, tourism- and citizen-related project "Leipziger Notenspur": music institutions, associations and individuals, with participation of Leipzig's higher educational institutions, Leipzig Tourism and Marketing GmbH and the city's municipality. The Cantor of St. Thomas Church, the Gewandhaus Music Director, the Director of the Leipzig Opera and the Chief Conductor of the MDR Symphony Orchestra are also among the supporters of the project.

www.notenspur-leipzig.de
www.leipzig-music-trail.com

Notenspur for Children

The Little Leipzig Music Trail ("Kleine Leipziger Notenspur") invites children to explore the city's music routes with the mascot Toni and a Notenspur Discovery Pass ("Entdeckerpass"), which can be obtained at the Leipzig Tourist Information Office (ⓘ) at Katharinenstraße 8.

Route and Audio Guidance Systems

The route guidance system consists of the in-ground stainless steel inlays that mark the way from station to station. Every Notenspur station has an information board. Since music can be mainly experienced through hearing, an audio guidance system was developed for Notenspur visitors as well. You can listen to the audio samples via phone (local call). A Notenspur-app for smartphones and i-Phones is available for download.

The European Heritage Label

The music of the famous Leipzig composers as well as the houses in which they have worked are a heritage of global significance. Therefore, the Music Trail Initiative has suggested to apply for an international award. As a result, the City of Leipzig, supported by the Free State of Saxony, has now adopted the proposal of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs to apply for the European Heritage Label for the Leipzig Music Trail project.

Special thanks to

Gemeinsam für LEIPZIG

for the financial support of the route between the „Old City Hall" (Station 13) and „St. Thomas Church" (Station 17) (highlighted in blue on the map)

Leipziger Notenspur

The "Notenspur" concept was created by the Leipziger Notenspur Initiative.

Stadt Leipzig

Freistaat SACHSEN

The implementation of the route and audio guidance systems of the Leipziger Notenspur was carried out by the City of Leipzig in cooperation with the Notenspur-Förderverein and funded by the Free State of Saxony.

Notenspur Förderverein e.V.

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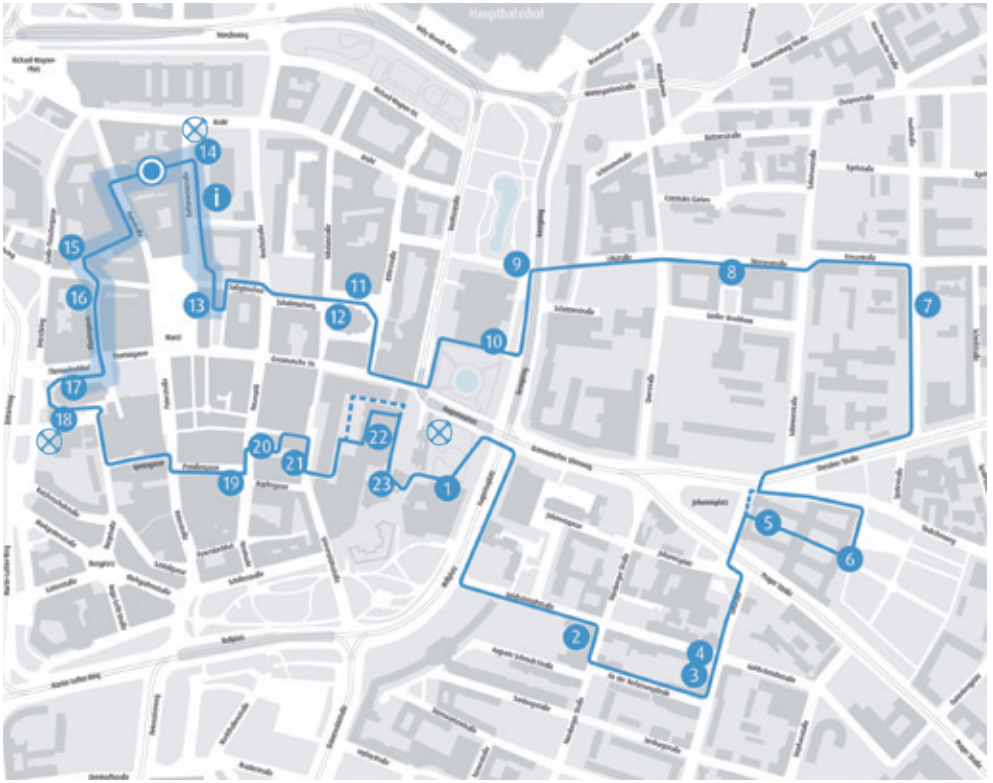
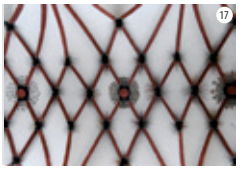


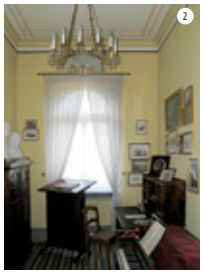
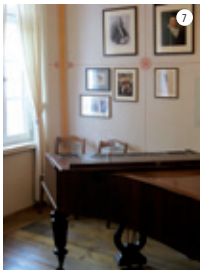
Stations of the Leipziger Notenspur

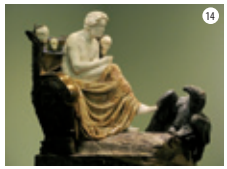
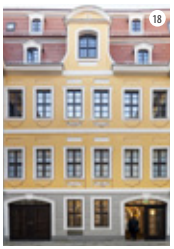
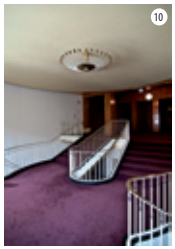
1 Neues Gewandhaus / New Gewandhaus
2 Mendelssohn-Haus / Mendelssohn House
3 Grieg-Begegnungsstätte / Grieg Memorial Centre
4 Ehemalige Musikbibliothek Peters / Former Peters Music Library
5 Museum für Musikinstrumente / Museum of Musical Instruments
6 Alter Johannisfriedhof / Old St. John Cemetery
7 Schumann-Haus / Schumann House
8 Grafisches Viertel – Musikverlage / Graphic Quarter – Music Publishers
9 Wagner-Denkmal / Wagner Memorial
10 Oper Leipzig / Leipzig Opera
11 Alte Nikolaischule / Old St. Nicholas School
12 Nikolaikirche / St. Nicholas Church
13 Altes Rathaus / Old City Hall
14 Museum der bildenden Künste – Beethoven / Museum of Fine Arts – Beethoven
15 Zum Arabischen Coffe Baum / The Arabian Coffee Tree
16 Hôtel de Saxe
17 Thomaskirche / St. Thomas Church
18 Bach-Museum / Bach Museum
19 Standort Geburtshaus Clara Wieck / Site of Clara Wieck's Birth Place *
20 Standort Altes Konservatorium / Site of the Old Conservatoire *
21 Standort Erstes Gewandhaus / Site of the First Gewandhaus *
22 Paulinum – Aula und Universitätskirche St. Pauli / Paulinum – Auditorium and University Church St. Pauli
23 MDR-Kubus - Rundfunkklangkörper / MDR-Cube – Broadcasting Ensembles

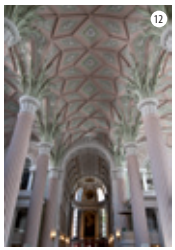
Leipzig Tourist Information Office
Sound Installation – City Sounds from three centuries
Information Point

* The historic building has not been preserved





STATIONS OF THE LEIPZIGER NOTENSPUR / LEIPZIG MUSIC TRAIL

01 Neues Gewandhaus / New Gewandhaus

The New Gewandhaus, opened in October 1981 in Leipzig, is home to the world-famous Gewandhaus Orchestra, founded in 1743.

Augustusplatz 9, 04109 Leipzig, Tel.: 0341/1270280
Monday - Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m, Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

02 Mendelssohn-Haus / Mendelssohn House

This is the only preserved home of Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1809-1847) in the world and at the same time his last residence. (Museum on site)

Goldschmidtstraße 12, 04103 Leipzig, Tel.: 0341/962882-0
Daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., concerts: Sundays 11 a.m.

03 Grieg-Begegnungsstätte / Grieg Memorial Centre

Edward Grieg (1843-1907), a Norwegian composer and pianist, lived in the C.F. Peters building as a guest of publishers M. Abraham and H. Hinrichsen during his stays in Leipzig. (Museum on site)

Talstraße 10, 04103 Leipzig, Tel.: 0341/9939661
Friday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m, Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (exception: public holidays; further opening hours can be negotiated)

04 Ehemalige Musikbibliothek Peters / Former Peters Music Library

The first specialized public library contained valuable autographs by Bach, Brahms and Haydn. The collection can now be found in the Leipzig City Library (Stadtbibliothek Leipzig).

Goldschmidtstr. 26, 04103 Leipzig

05 Museum für Musikinstrumente / Museum of Musical Instruments

Germany's largest collection of musical instruments contains more than 5000 pieces, including the oldest originally preserved fortepiano in the world. (Museum on site)

Johannisplatz 5-11, 04103 Leipzig, Tel.: 0341/9730750
Tuesday - Sunday and public holidays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

06 Alter Johannisfriedhof / Old St. John Cemetery

Final resting place for many of Leipzig's prominent musicians, composers and publishers. (If closed, consider the alternative routing)

Main entrance: Johannisplatz, behind the Grassi Museum

March - October daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. / November - December daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

07 Schumann-Haus / Schumann House

Composer Robert Schumann (1810-1856) and his wife Clara Wieck (1819-1896) spent the first years of their marriage in this house. (Museum on site)

Inselstraße 18, 04103 Leipzig, Tel.: 0341/39392191
Monday - Friday from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

08 Grafisches Viertel – Musikverlage / Graphic Quarter – Music Publishers

In the 19th century Leipzig became the metropolis of European music and publishing. The most significant music publishers include Breitkopf & Härtel (the world's oldest music publishing house founded in 1719), C.F. Peters and F. Hofmeister. Information regarding the history of music notation, riddles and audio samples is provided on the Music Wall ("Notenwand").

Großer Brockhaus / Dörrienstraße, 04103 Leipzig

09 Wagner-Denkmal / Wagner Memorial

Richard Wagner was born in Leipzig in 1813 (died in Venice in 1883). He spent his childhood years in Dresden and came back to his hometown in 1827. He attended the Old St. Nicholas School between 1828 and 1830 and studied music at the University of Leipzig afterwards. Some of his compositions were first performed in Leipzig.

Location: Georgiring, at the Swan Lake behind the Opera building.

10 Oper Leipzig / Leipzig Opera

Today's "Opernhaus" opened its doors in 1960 after the previous building had been destroyed in World War II. Leipzig's opera tradition goes back to the 17th century.

Augustusplatz 12, 04109 Leipzig, Tel.: 0341/12610
For tour bookings visit our website at: www.oper-leipzig.de

11 Alte Nikolaischule / Old St. Nicholas School

Opened in 1512, St. Nicholas School was the first city school in Leipzig. G.W. Leibniz, J.G. Seume and R. Wagner were among the school's prominent students. (Exhibition on site)

Nikolaikirchhof 2, 04109 Leipzig, Tel.: 0341/2118518
Tuesday - Thursday, Saturday and Sunday from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

12 Nikolaikirche / St. Nicholas Church

Another preserved church (after St. Thomas Church) where J.S. Bach held a position as cantor. Both St John Passion and a part of the Christmas Oratorio premiered here. The organ by Friedrich Ladegast from the year 1862 is the biggest church organ in Saxony.

Nikolaikirchhof 3, 04109 Leipzig, Tel.: 0341/1245380
Monday - Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday Church Service 9.30 a.m., 11.15 a.m. and 5 p.m.

13 Altes Rathaus / Old City Hall

This is where the town pipers performed and where Bach signed an employment contract with the city. The famous original Bach Portrait by E. Haußmann can be found here. (Museum on site)

Markt 1, 04109 Leipzig, Tel.:0341/9651320
Tuesday – Sunday and public holidays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Leipzig Tourist Information Office

Katharinenstraße 8, Tel.: 0341/7104260
Monday - Friday from 9.30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday/public holidays from 9.30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

14 Museum der bildenden Künste – Beethoven / Museum of Fine Arts – Beethoven

Here you can find the Beethoven Statue by Max Klinger, which is a masterpiece of symbolism and one of the world's most significant music-related art works. (Museum on site)

Katharinenstraße 10, 04109 Leipzig, Tel.: 0341/216990
Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday – Sunday and public holidays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Klanginstallation / Sound Installation

Kretschmanns Hof: in the passage between the Katharinen- and Hainstraße you can listen to the music and city sounds from three centuries by standing under the "sound shower".

15 Zum Arabischen Coffe Baum / The Arabian Coffee Tree

The oldest coffee house in Germany; meeting point of poets, scientists and musicians for centuries. Robert Schumann and other members of the League of David (Davidsbündler) gathered here to discuss ideas that would later appear in the New Journal for Music ("Neue Zeitschrift für Musik"). (Museum on site)

Kleine Fleischergasse 4, 04109 Leipzig, Tel.: 0341/9610060
Museum opening hours: daily from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

16 Hôtel de Saxe

The concert hall of the former hotel used to be a place where guest virtuosos gave their performances and a series of concerts in Leipzig were held. Mozart's widow Constanze stayed over night here in 1796.

Location: Klostergasse 9, 04109 Leipzig

17 Thomaskirche / St. Thomas Church

Home to St. Thomas Boys Choir for more than 800 years. St Matthew's Passion and many other compositions by J.S. Bach received their premiere here.

Thomaskirchhof 18, 04109 Leipzig, Tel.: 0341/222240
Daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Motette: Fridays at 6 p.m., Saturdays at 3 p.m. (exception: summer holidays)

18 Bach-Museum / Bach Museum

The Bach Museum is primarily devoted to the life and work of the Cantor of St. Thomas Church Johann Sebastian Bach in Leipzig. It is situated in the house of the merchant family Bose, who were friends with the Bachs. (Museum on site)

Thomaskirchhof 15/16, 04109 Leipzig, Tel.: 0341/9137202
Tuesday – Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

19 Standort Geburtshaus Clara Wieck / Site of Clara Wieck's Birth Place

Clara Wieck, famous pianist and later R. Schumann's wife, was born in the house "Hohe Lilie" ("High Lily") in 1819. The building was destroyed during World War II.

Preußergäßchen, at the corner of Neumarkt, 04109 Leipzig

20 Standort Altes Konservatorium / Site of the Old Conservatoire

This is the place where the first conservatoire on the territory of today's Germany was opened upon the initiative of Mendelssohn in 1843.

Atrium of the „Städtisches Kaufhaus“, Entrance via Universitätsstraße 16 or Neumarkt 9

21 Standort Erstes Gewandhaus / Site of the First Gewandhaus

Location of the first Gewandhaus, the warehouse and residence of the cloth merchants. The Gewandhaus Orchestra – the oldest citizens' concert orchestra in the world – performed here from 1781.

Universitätsstraße 16, Städtisches Kaufhaus, 04109 Leipzig

22 Paulinum – Aula und Universitätskirche St. Pauli / – Auditorium and the University Church St. Pauli

Music has always played an important role at the "Alma Mater Lipsiensis". Prominent composers, such as G. Ph. Telemann, R. Wagner, F. Mendelssohn Bartholdy, R. Schumannn and M. Reger, were closely connected to the University. (If closed, consider the alternative routing.)

Augustusplatz, 04109 Leipzig

23 MDR Würfel – Orchester und Chöre des MDR / MDR Cube – Orchestras and Choirs of the MDR

Rehearsals and recordings of MDR Radio and Children's choirs as well as of the MDR Symphony Orchestra take place in the Cube, built in 2001.

Augustusplatz 9a, 04109 Leipzig, Tel.:0341/3008732

Photos: Franziska Domschke (cover picture), Sven Winter, Bernhard Moosbauer, Werner Schneider, Sepp Beck

Design: Moosbauer & Huennerkopf Kommunikationsdesign (www.moosbauerhuennerkopf.de)

How You Can Support the Leipziger Notenspur

Your ideas, suggestions and desire to volunteer are always highly welcomed. You can also contribute to the implementation and development of the music routes of the Leipziger Notenspur by making a donation. Another way to support the project is by becoming a member of the Notenspur-Förderverein (Friends of the Notenspur Association).

Contact Details

Notenspur-Förderverein e.V.
Postal address: c/o Universität Leipzig / Grimmaische Str. 12 / 04109 Leipzig
Central Office: Ritterstraße 12, Room 201, 04109 Leipzig,
Tel.: 0341/9733741

E-Mail: **mail@notenspur-leipzig.de**
Web: **www.notenspur-leipzig.de**

Account Information:

Notenspur-Förderverein e.V.
IBAN: DE98 8605 5592 1100 8042 06
Swift-BIC: WELADE8LXXX
Payment details: Leipziger Notenspur
(Please add a „No“, if you don`t want to be mentioned as a donator)

Status: January 2017

Leipziger Notenspur

Leipziger Notenspur / Leipzig Music Trail

Come explore the musical city of Leipzig on the Leipzig Music Trail! Nowhere else in the world can you visit the historical sites where so many famous composers and musicians lived and worked in such a short walking tour. The places waiting to be discovered include:

- › The churches where many of Johann Sebastian Bach's works were first performed
- › The home and last residence of Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy
- › The house in which Clara and Robert Schumann spent the first years of their marriage
- › The Museum of Musical Instruments containing the oldest piano in the world
- › St. Nicholas School attended by Richard Wagner
- › The coffee house where Robert Schumann and his „Davidsbündler" regularly met
- › The Old City Hall, the Gewandhaus, the Opera House and other sights of Leipzig

Simply follow the curved stainless steel signs in the pavements from one site to the next. Additionally, an audio guidance system provides you with audio clips and musical examples. These will transport you back in time and enable you to immerse yourself in the creative atmosphere of musical Leipzig through the centuries. The following symbols serve as a guide:

please call the phone number next to this sign to hear the audio clips

<d><e> for corresponding audio clips in German and English

for selected musical examples

for audio clips on the Little Leipzig Music Trail

The journey along the Leipzig Music Trail lasts approximately three to four hours excluding visits to the museums. A Music Trail Discovery Pass („Entdeckerpass") with puzzles and information on Leipzig's musical history is available for children and young people at the Leipzig Tourist Information Office.

More information on the individual stop-off points and the Leipzig Music Trail as well as museum opening times can be found at:

www.notenspur-leipzig.de
www.leipzig-music-trail.com