

Ecological
sustainability
and biodiversity
are our priority.

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Portfolio



With nearly 18,000 inhabitants, Bad Saulgau is the largest town in the district of Sigmaringen, and also one of the oldest. It was first mentioned in a deed as early as 819, which is why we celebrate our 1200th anniversary this year. However, Bad Saulgau is also a young, vibrant town. It excels as a centre of ecological urban land-use planning, as a business location and as a place where both young and old citizens feel at home. Moreover, it boasts an above average infrastructure as a centre for education and sports activities. As a health resort and spa and the “region’s cultural stronghold”, the town’s reputation reaches far beyond its boundaries.

A very warm welcome to Bad Saulgau



We are extremely proud of the intensive, sustainable ecological work that has been carried out in Bad Saulgau for more than two decades. Due to its species diversity programme and its effective and consistent implementation, the town has been awarded the title of “State Capital of Biodiversity” and has assumed a pioneering role throughout Germany. Bad Saulgau boasts a number of other important environmental awards. Our newly established “Nature Theme Park”, which opened this year, provides a plethora of information and offers plenty of leisure facilities making it another key component of this concept.

By taking part in the “Entente Florale Europe” competition, our town is now attracting a great deal of attention even on a European level. We feel honoured to be the only town in Germany allowed to participate in this important competition and I would like to express my heart-felt gratitude to the Competition Commission.

We look forward to your visit and hope we will be able to convince you of our town’s beauty and the commitment of its citizens.

Yours sincerely,

Doris Schröter

Doris Schröter
Mayor

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Geographical location

Much of Bad Saulgau's charm is due to its situation in Upper Swabia, the region between the Danube River and Lake Constance. As a sub-regional centre, it plays an important role for its immediate rural surroundings and the region as a whole. The local infrastructure is well developed, featuring all types of schools plus other social infrastructure facilities such as hospital and emergency services. The local industry offers a variety of attractive employment opportunities. The local residents also have many shopping facilities at their disposal and citizens are particularly proud of Bad Saulgau's quaint and lively, historic centre with its vibrant pedestrian precinct. The choice of cultural and artistic activities, which is well above average for a town of this size, further highlights the town's attractiveness.

Sustainable growth

It is the favourable geographical location in the south of the economically powerful state of Baden-Württemberg and the town's amenities that fascinate more and more people. That is why our town continues to grow in size and importance. This trend is highly encouraging, but it also poses major challenges for the town planners. Growth must be subject to careful monitoring taking into consideration to the parallel development of the local infrastructure. Although the zoning plan, including the corresponding landscape plan, defines the broad framework for this development, the detailed planning must be filled with life and innovative ideas. The town administration also takes advantage of the opportunities of simplified development offered by § 13b of the German Federal Building Code. It is of the highest priority to reconcile careful further development and responsible land management with the town's self-imposed ecological objectives.

Internal development versus external development

Bad Saulgau is a leader when it comes to internal urban development. Through the programme for the promotion of urban development, in particular, it has been possible to turn the formerly unattractive peripheral areas of the town centre into more upmarket neighbourhoods. What has emerged is a new, urban centre that is second-to-none among towns of our size complementing the historic centre. A further component in this development is currently under construction. Creating these new urban planning qualities has served to further enhance the function of the town centre. We in Bad Saulgau believe in a European town, where everything is within easy reach, a town of a colourful side-by-side of different functions with a well-balanced and concentrated urban centre. Reasonable renewed concentration has also been achieved in the other quarters of the different extensions to the town – the fact that very good use has been made of our potential has been demonstrated by our participation in the “Gain space through internal development” programme.

Controlling and shaping external development

It is precisely because so much has already been achieved in the field of internal development that moderate, ecologically compatible external development is a necessity. It is typical of our region that building areas are designated one by one successively. This, however, cannot be a solution when it comes to creating new living space within the town proper. Because of this, the municipal council and administration adopt different approaches whenever possible. New construction areas of greater urban density are to be created where the infrastructure allows. Unnecessary automobile traffic can be avoided and residents can easily meet and

communicate. The town's central development focus is currently the “Mooshaupten” area, where the plans for building a high-density, upmarket area are in progress. Naturally, it is our ambition to implement the best urban design possible. That's why a planning competition was held. The urban planners' task involves creating an innovative residential area where consideration of new living situations is as important as a concept for mobility. The general idea, after all, is to make large parts of the neighbourhood traffic-free. Since a neighbourhood of this kind can only be a success when it has the support of the local residents, several planning workshops are being held with citizen participation expressly desired.

Well designed for future generations – the Kessel housing complex

The regional development plan for the Lake Constance-Upper Swabia area is currently being updated and planners are obviously convinced that Bad Saulgau has a lot to offer and that further development of our town is beneficial for the whole region. Therefore, a housing complex of more than 30 hectares in the “Kessel” neighbourhood is being planned – a unique opportunity for us to build a compact housing estate which meets present and future requirements in terms of ecological, design-oriented and social criteria. The classical idea of the European city can serve as a role model in this context as well.



It is the favourable geographical location in the south of the economically powerful State of Baden-Württemberg and the town's attraction that make more and more people develop a fascination for Bad Saulgau.



Bad Saulgau – embedded in the Upper-Swabian hills and surrounded by nature ①. The future urban development area “Mooshaupten” ②. Tree planting is a priority in the building area “Krumme Äcker 4” ③ and ⑥. The residential area along Rosa-Hürner-Street near the cemetery has developed into a green oasis over the last 20 years ④. Ecologically designed allotment gardens ⑤.





Buchauer Straße – a sea of blossoms ① and ⑤. The biogas facility “Dreher” in Lampertsweiler provides the entire village with heat and electricity ②. “Cycling in the city 2018” – a total of 76,035 km cycled ③. Roundabout at the bypass road. Diversity in its purest form – a feast for the eyes ④. Durable insect-friendly planting on the outskirts of the town ⑥.



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2. SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

Sustainability in all areas is one of the most important goals the town of Bad Saulgau is committed to.

No use of pesticides and no mineral fertilisers

The municipal agricultural areas in the residential zone as well as outside the town proper are for the most part extensively cultivated according to ecological principles, i.e. without the use of pesticides and mineral fertilisers. If land is leased, a provision to this effect is included in the lease agreement. We regard this as a major contribution to enhanced biodiversity.

Sustainable planting

Solely perennial, location-appropriate and – in most cases – autochthonous plants that are not detrimental to domestic insects are grown on all urban planting areas in the residential zone. When selecting plants, we make sure that factors such as location, diversity of species and respective blooming seasons are considered. Wildflower meadows are only cut twice a year so as to enhance biodiversity.

Sustainable energy programme

The fact that Bad Saulgau has won the “European Energy Award” certification goes a long way to proving the towns tremendous commitment to climate protection. The administration has focussed on the expansion of renewable energies for many years. Bad Saulgau generates a major part of its energy through power-heat coupling (combined heat and power plants). These supply the municipal

schools, the spa, wellness clinics and entire residential areas. The whole street lighting system is gradually being replaced with LED illuminants. Most of this work has already been accomplished.

The space on many roofs on public buildings (schools, the spa, the railway station etc.) is leased out for photovoltaic use.

Part of the municipal transport fleet consists of busses powered by natural gas or electricity. Electric charging stations are provided throughout the town.

The district’s first bio-energy village

The Bad Saulgau locality of Lampertsweiler is the first bio-energy village (built in 2010) in the district of Sigmaringen. A privately owned bio-gas plant (350 KWh) and a privately owned wood-chip heating plant (300 KWh) supply most of the village’s households (80 out of a total of 110) with heat via a privately installed local heating network. Together with large photovoltaic plants, the biogas plant generates electricity (approx. 1.5 MW) for the public power grid. In addition, one of the most effective fast-charging stations in Baden-Württemberg (150 KW) for electric cars is currently being built by the same supplier in Lampertsweiler.

Public transport, cycle paths

Bad Saulgau has excellent railway connections. It is even possible to travel to the state capital Stuttgart, without changing trains. The villages around Bad Saulgau can also be

reached by public transport. A municipal bus operates within the town limits. In recent years, construction of cycle trails and footpaths within the municipal area has been encouraged/advanced, so that most parts of the town can be reached safely by bicycle or on foot. More cycle trails are currently being built or planned in order to fill existing gaps in the network.

Town cycling campaign

The town of Bad Saulgau, together with many of its citizens and the municipal council, take part in the three-week Federal State campaign “Cycle around the town”. “Leave your car at home and get on your bike” was the motto. In 2018, 268 Bad Saulgau participants covered an impressive 76,035 km by bike saving an impressive 10,797 kg of CO₂.

Avoidance and recycling of waste

ALBA is a large local waste disposal company, which, together with the municipal authorities, advertises and informs people regularly about separation and reuse of garbage as well as the working of the recycling system.



Our historic centre – Bad Saulgau's heart and soul

Historically evolved town and city centres play important roles, not only in Bad Saulgau, but all over Europe. Historic centres are the prototype of a European city; they stand for a generally harmonious coexistence of urban functions, short distances, high concentration, limited use of space, plus a very special standard of living and hospitality as well as quality of life. Furthermore, historic centres are, as a rule, of central importance to the residents' sense of belonging and pride in their town, as is the case with us in Bad Saulgau. The market square is our “living room”, as it were, the hub of social life as well as the stage for traditional and cultural events. The broader streets and narrow alleyways are home to the retail trade, catering and business life as well as stylish living quarters. All this is invariably associated with the old, distinctive buildings of a town or city. Yet, this rich heritage is in jeopardy, not only here, but in many other towns and cities too. At the moment, the pressure for change is very high as realisation of new building projects in historic centres is economically attractive. The idea is to exploit the scant space available to a maximum effect. Unfortunately, this has led to dubious results in Bad Saulgau: There are constructions that seem totally out of place in the urban planning context. This is why the municipal council and administration have decided to set up rules designed to protect the historic centre and promote its development at the same time.

Fine architecture deserves decent treatment

Our responsibility does not only extend to the historic centre but also to younger buildings and areas. When the Stuttgart architect Walter Salver built a modern, spacious school flooded with light in our small country town, he gave expression to the hopeful spirit of a burgeoning democracy a few short years after the horrors of the Nazi dictatorship. Wasn't this an outstanding achievement of civilisation? We certainly think so. This far-sightedness of our predecessors, both men and women, is particularly worthy of respect; for this reason alone, we must once again identify the original qualities of the building during its current process of renovation and carefully adapt it to the requirements of a modern school and those who use it. The overall refurbishment of our grammar school, which is nearing its accomplishment, also called for sometimes laborious, but ultimately successful reconciliation of preserving a cultural monument with the management of a 21st century educational institution.

Taking on responsibility by building the future for the future

The largest urban construction projects are currently under way for the smallest members of our community; modern child-care facilities are indispensable for a growing town. Where our children are concerned, we are not willing to compromise – only the best is good enough. This applies to architectural design as well as the choice of construction materials. “We shape our buildings; thereafter they shape us” – these words are attributed to Sir Winston Churchill. What presumably also guided

Walter Salver, when he built his school, still applies today. Well-designed buildings support the teaching work going on inside. This is ultimately the reason why an architectural competition is being held for planning and building a new seven-group kindergarden in Bad Saulgau. In the locality of Braunenweiler, a three-group kindergarden with an environment-friendly timber construction is currently being built; the structural and educational concept is geared to a responsible attitude towards nature and a sustainable lifestyle in a rural environment. These ideas are underlined by particularly nature-oriented planning concepts of the outdoor facilities intended to arouse awareness of our natural basis of existence even among the youngest. This approach also underlies the design of the primary school playground in the locality of Renhardsweiler, which was developed in close collaboration with the teachers and parents' representatives. In the summer of 2019, high quality playgrounds close to nature will be created here, which encourages teaching and learning outdoors.



Old town in green surroundings ①. Sustainable planning of the kindergarden in the town district of Braunenweiler with an outdoor area close to nature ②. The market square – a place to meet up and enjoy life ③. The old town, which has taken centuries to grow and develop, requires sensitive handling of new constructions and renovation work ④ and ⑥. Grass strips along the remnants of the town wall ⑤.



The beaver as shaper and artist ①. View from “Sießen Valley” to Sießen convent ②. The “Krähbach Valley” biotope at Fulgenstadt. Oasis of peace and quiet ③. Storks are the hall mark of the town ④.



Biotope networking concepts and water body development plan

Biotope networking concepts have been developed and implemented in the surrounding districts of Haid-Sießen-Bogenweiler and Groß- and Kleintissen. As part of a watercourse development plan, 50 kilometres of water bodies in the municipal area have also been listed and a catalogue of measures drawn up. A great number of the ecological measures described go back to these concepts.

Restored water bodies

All in all, 15 kilometres of streams and brooks have been restored over the past 20 years. Concrete embankments and artificial bank reinforcements were removed, many kilometres of water rims were purchased and the streams were given curved courses. Thousands of bushes and trees were planted by pupils and members of various associations.

Habitats

By way of land consolidation procedures or through private initiatives, the town administration has been able to acquire a substantial amount of land, unfit for agriculture so that conservation measures could be started. Over the past 25 years, more than 100 ponds have been excavated, thousands of native trees and bushes have been planted and dry as well as wet areas have been established. Over a total area of 120 hectares, many extensive and structurally rich habitats, which are home to a myriad of native animal and plant species, have been created.

Nature and conservation area Boos-Musbach moor and Sießen wet meadows

The Bad Saulgau districts of Hochberg and Lampertsweiler boast extensive moorlands surrounded by beautiful countryside. Here the administration, together with the neighbouring municipalities, have created five well signposted circular

The landscape around Bad Saulgau was shaped by glaciers during the last two ice ages.

The most recent glacier ended here and left its mark. This is why the topography is richly varied; even the soil types, soil fertility, rocks and groundwater levels sometimes display differences within tiny areas. This structural diversity also provides an opportunity for a wide biodiversity of fauna and flora. The Bad Saulgau administration seized this opportunity early on and together with farmers, conservationists, local residents and authorities, implemented many ecological projects within its municipal area. The local farmers look after these areas in an ecologically responsible manner. Information boards and signposts make sure that people learn about these measures and natural trails allow the hiker to access and view the results.

hiking trails. A number of information boards give the hiker interesting facts about the area. Many areas have been restored to their natural state and are extensively cultivated. The site covers 343 hectares and owing to the richly varied structure, is a paradise for many animal and plant species. On the south-western border of Bad Saulgau, a beautiful, species-rich, extensive wet meadow area stretches along the “Sießen Valley”. It is used for extensive agriculture.

Beavers and white storks in Bad Saulgau

Owing to the extensive renaturation measures, many beaver families and stork couples have settled in the Bad Saulgau municipal area. With a nota-

ble 20 beaver territories, Bad Saulgau holds a region-wide record. There was only one stork couple in Bad Saulgau twenty years ago, now there are already 17. An absolute record: 34 young storks became fledged in 2018. Both beavers and white storks are welcome visitors to Bad Saulgau.

Woods

Nearly 30% of the municipal area is covered by woods. The municipal woods above all serve as recreational and natural woodland. The new Nature Theme Park as well as many of the town's nature trails lead through the urban woods, sprinkled with newly created biotopes.

Schillerhöhe

The “Schillerhöhe” with its majestic “Lindenallee” alley, the venerable old Schiller Monument and the playground in its charming setting are dominated by a modern timber observation tower, a present given to the town by a local foundation (“Bürgerstiftung”) and built by local craftsmen. An architectural expression of Bad Saulgau’s civic pride, it offers a magnificent view of our town and the surrounding area; on fine days the Alps seem only a stone’s throw away. At the foot of “tower hill”, a little spring bubbles away dreamily.

Spa gardens

The spa gardens present themselves as a counterpart to the naturally sculpted Schillerhöhe. They form an open space with an incredible density of design and spatial quality that invites guests as well as the citizens of our town to linger, relax and recuperate. A particular highlight is the artificial stream of used thermal water from the nearby spa running to a cooling pond, where it reenters the ecological cycle. What at first glance looks like a landscaping gimmick at closer inspection turns out to be the logical consequence of our town’s basic ecological orientation: elsewhere, used spa water is simply discharged into the sewage system. The fact that the stream is home to fish that love engaging in pedicure has brought many a smile to the faces of visitors once the little fellows have set to work.

Marienpark

Why urban planners at the turn of the last century provided for a green space at this very spot is anyone’s guess today. Maybe the position at the junction of two major roads was an advantage for its use as a parade ground at that time. After the small green area with its beautiful population of trees had lain dormant for many years, the Marienpark was successfully brought back to life just over

Bad Saulgau sees itself as a town that is home to regular citizens of all walks of life. We do not boast sprawling, feudal baroque gardens or English-style stately parks. Yet this is precisely why Bad Saulgau has surprises to offer at every turn.

a year ago – with spectacular results! Here the first element of the Bad Saulgau playground concept was implemented; the result is a wonderful, centrally located theme playground in the form of a playful, fantasy town that has something to offer for each individual child. Little daydreamers are as well catered for as future master builders-to-be or venturesome conquerors and future aristocrats. The planning of the playground, though, involved a basic democratic process – its young prospective users and their parents were invited to contribute their ideas for the facilities on small slips of paper which were then hung like laundry on a length of string. This contributed significantly to the planning process.

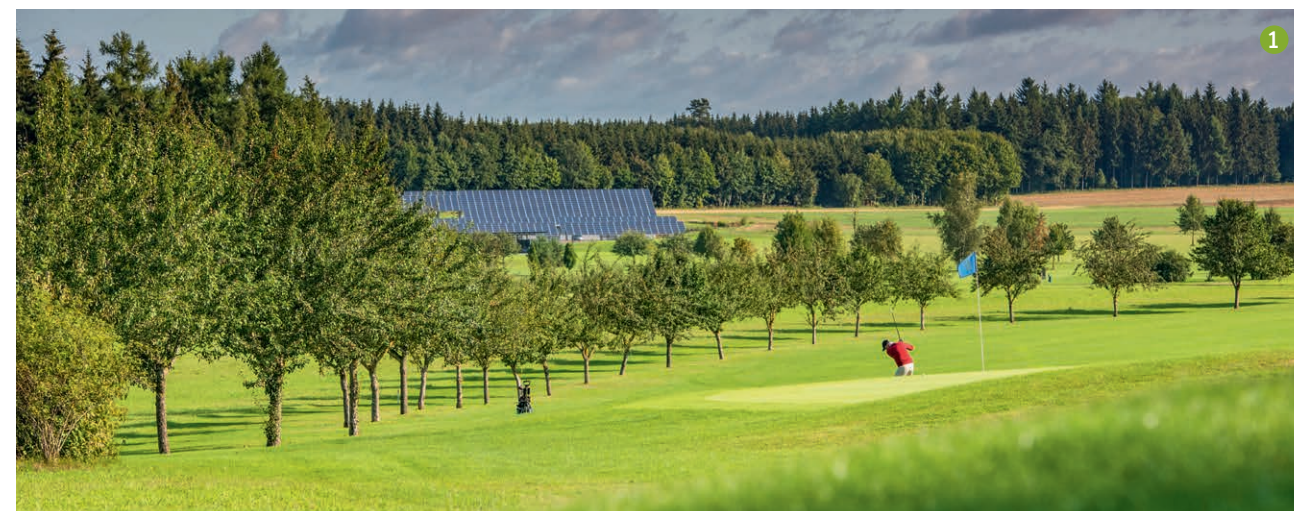
Cemetery

In Germany, a cemetery is often referred to as the final garden which is a fitting image for Bad Saulgau’s cemetery, too. The graveyard is listed in its entirety as a monument; the ancient population of trees in the conservation area “cemetery” lends a special dignity to the place allowing people to mourn their loved ones. The evidence of the stonemasons’

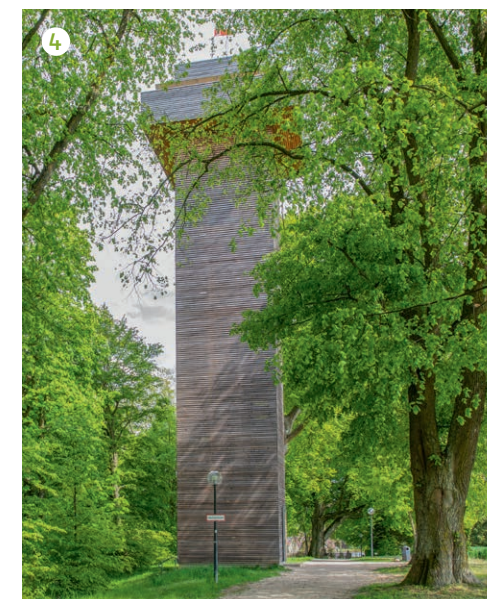
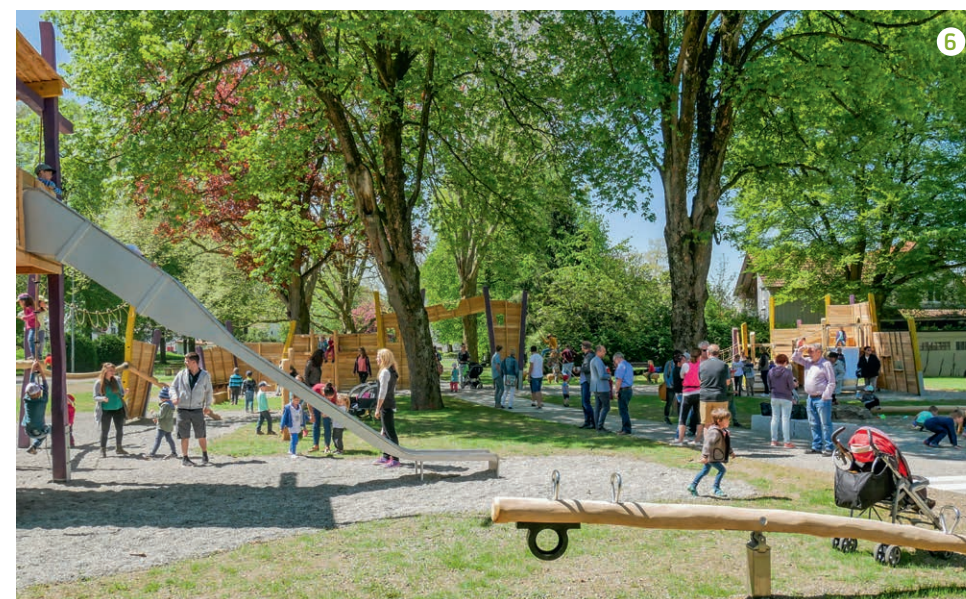
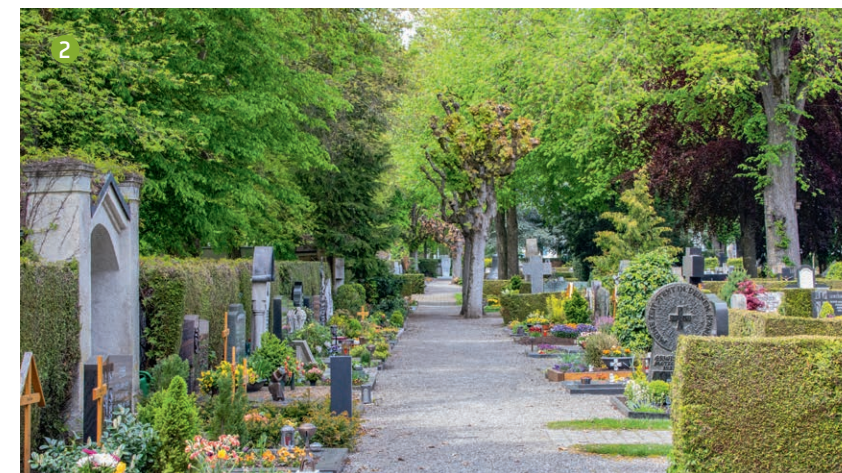
ancient craftsmanship is still to be found on many venerable old family tombstones. The change currently taking place in burial culture, however, makes it necessary for us to think about the cemetery, its present functions and its use in the future. This is why we are currently working on a planning scheme for the entire facility, so as to be able to preserve, protect and further develop its character to the best of our possibilities. For those seeking their last resting place in the heart of nature, a woodland burial ground in Frankenbuch forest has been established.

Golf course

In the southern part of the municipal area of Bad Saulgau, an extremely popular, naturally landscaped, 80 hectare, 18 hole golf course with its clubhouse blends magnificently into the rolling countryside. 44 hectares of the course consist of ecologically valuable wildflower meadows with thousands of native trees and shrubs completing the overall picture of high ecological value.



Golf course with an apple tree alley ①. Surrounded by nature: the cemetery ②. On “Schillerhöhe”, which is situated between the town center and the spa area, visitors and residents can take a stroll ③ or climb the “Kinzelmann-Tower” high above the treetops of the ancient trees ④. The murmuring of the tepid spa water stream in the spa gardens makes for a relaxed atmosphere ⑤. Designed and planned by the town planning office in cooperation with parents, the playground in “Marienpark” is enthusiastically received by the children ⑥.





A variety of blossoms and flowers near the station ①. Flower meadow near the grammar school – with plenty of buzzing and humming going on ②. Native shrubs – even the street seems to be in bloom ③. Plant containers – edible plants can be sampled and enjoyed ④. Flower meadow near the thermal spa – bathing in a sea of blossom ⑤.



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6. PERENNIAL AND SEASONAL PLANTING

As early as 1990, the administration of Bad Saulgau kicked off their biodiversity programme and started to transform the entire monotonous urban greenery within the residential area into biodiverse green spaces.

Perennial plants

Wherever possible and viable, insect-friendly, indigenous, perennial plants have replaced exotic, non-indigenous bushes and shrubs throughout the residential area (including all the villages of the municipality). Approximately 70% native and 30% non-native but insect-friendly and indigenous perennial species have been used to compensate for blooming breaks. Care is taken to ensure that there are always some plants in bloom from April to the end of the growing season.

Wildflower meadows

Likewise, most park lawns have been converted into perennial, extensively cultivated wildflower meadows. Depending on the soil, different native wildflower seed mixtures with a minimum of 30 species have been used. Throughout the entire town, the majority of the traffic islands have been greenscaped with plants of high ecological value. Rotational planting, which does not make ecological sense, has been given up. Likewise, mineral fertilisation has been discontinued and organic fertilisation reduced to a minimum.

Trees and shrubs

Biodiversity is an important aspect when it comes to selecting trees and shrubs. Almost all species of native trees and shrubs, including all domestic wild roses, have been planted all over the town. The Bad Saulgau biodiversity concept is now very much in demand throughout Germany.

Project “Edible town”

For a few years now, culinary herbs and varieties of small fruit and vegetables have been grown in 20 plant containers for the citizens to sample giving an incentive to grow their own herbs and vegetables at home. The “edible town” is not only popular with the residents but also with wild insects and honeybees.



In recent years, Bad Saulgau has made a name for itself through its broad and comprehensive range of environmental education programmes.

Bad Saulgau Nature Theme Park (NTP)

In May 2019, the tourism operating company “Tourismusbetriebsgesellschaft mbH” and the town opened a very broad-based, practise-oriented, ecological training centre, the “Bad Saulgau Nature Theme Park”. In addition to an information centre open at specific times, the NTP features a wide range of natural attractions. A “water theme and adventure trail”, 3.5 km long, leads through the NTP and includes boardwalks, beaver constructions and a number of information boards. It also includes a 3.5 km nesting box nature trail with an electronic board allowing visitors to identify bird songs. Moreover, there is a nesting box puzzle, a duck-watching station and nesting boxes with mirrors that allow a closer look inside etc.

The Nature Theme Park also features ten large interactive nature observation stations for children which allow them to experience themes like water, forest, hedges, beavers, dragonflies, wild bees and soil. Several trained guides regularly offer environmental talks and events in the NTP for schools and kindergartens as well as for groups of adults. An increasing number of towns and cities, communities, districts and authorities seek information on the NTP and the town’s biodiversity programme.

Nature trails

In Bad Saulgau, there are now eight nature trails focusing on various environmental themes, including:

- 2 nature trails featuring native trees and shrubs; nearly all of the trees and shrubs that grow naturally in our area are represented, classified by degree of relationship.
- A fruit tree nature trail with 100 old pome and stone fruit varieties (1 km circuit)
- A nesting box nature trail (see NTP above)
- A circular geographical trail with a panoramic viewing stage (43 km) including 35 information boards on the history of the earth.
- A spa water nature trail (1 km)

- A hedge show garden with 10 native clipped hedges, a large naturally grown hedge and a wild rose hedge.
- A water theme and adventure trail (see NTP above)

The town journal

The residents of Bad Saulgau are informed on a weekly basis in the “environment and nature” section of the official gazette, the “town journal”. This includes current plans and events in the field of nature and environment. The local daily newspaper also contains regular articles about local ecological and environmental topics.

Ecological gardening guide

In 2018, the administration published a free garden guide for all garden owners interested in creating and tending a natural garden. The second edition comprises 60 pages and was published in 2019. This comprehensive guide is in high demand far beyond the region’s boundaries.

Annual event “Happy Family Day”

For almost 20 years now, the town’s tourism operating company, together with the municipal administration, has organised the annual environmental and family festival, the “Happy Family Day”. On this day, each street is dedicated to a different environmental theme (e.g. garden and landscape, agriculture, energy, waste disposal, health and adventure). Companies, associations and authorities provide information about all aspects of the environment with a special pro-

gramme for children. The number of visitors who attend this popular event each year varies between 15,000 and 20,000.

Annual theme walk

Together with the local press (Schwäbische Zeitung) the administration organises a yearly hiking day. On a guided walk the participants receive plenty of information on various environmental topics such as the opening of a nature trail or the renaturation of water bodies. The Bad Saulgau Nature Theme Park was opened as part of the hiking day in 2019.

Forest kindergarten

Before the end of the year, a forest kindergarten will be set up close to the Nature Theme Park – a perfect place with an ideal range of possibilities to provide children with environmental education from the earliest childhood.

Presentations and lectures

The Bad Saulgau biodiversity programme is in the headlines all over Germany. Town representatives present the comprehensive concept on various occasions at both state and federal level. Many authorities, towns and cities and communities also visit the town to view the projects on site.



Hedge show gardens – display of native hedges as an inspiration for home gardens ①. “Happy Family Day” – explore, discover, experience ②. What grows and blossoms around here – educational trail of native woody plants ③. “InfoPoint” – starting point for our Nature Theme Park ④. Theme and adventure trail “Water” – immersion in the world of water ⑤. Guided tours – Firsthand experience of nature ⑥.





Nesting box campaign - Students build “dwelling places” for birds ①. Boy and Girl Scouts keep fields, meadows and streams clean ②. Elementary school children clean up the town ③. Volunteers take care of amphibians ④. Hard-working students planting different plants along streams and brooks ⑤.



Together with its residents, clubs and associations, the town organises many environmental campaigns every year for children and adolescents as well as for adults.

Saving amphibians

In two neighbouring districts, amphibian fences are put up every spring along roads close to ponds and pools. Many private nature lovers, “Friends of the Earth Germany”, the “NABU” (Nature And Biodiversity Conservation Union) and the “Royal Rangers” scouts support the conservation efforts. Volunteers pick up the amphibians and carry them to safety across the roads.

Garbage clean-up campaigns

Every year clean-up campaigns are organised in the woods and fields in the surrounding districts. Hunters, local administrations and many volunteers take part in the activity.

In cooperation with the administration, the “Royal Rangers” scouts clear up all kinds of garbage and waste in the “Schwarzach Valley” every year in spring.

Sponsorship of the nesting box nature trail

Bad Saulgau secondary modern school has taken on sponsorship of the more than 100 nesting boxes along the town’s nesting box nature trail. Teachers and pupils empty and clean the boxes each spring. Also, the secondary modern school has built a big insect hotel for this nature trail.

Sponsorship of flowerbeds

The administration has organised sponsorships for more than 50 flowerbeds in residential areas with local residents looking after the flowerbeds watering the plants, clearing up garbage, planting new flowers where necessary and pruning shrubs and perennials. All the flower beds contain ecologically valuable perennial, flowery shrubs and tree crops. In return for their efforts the sponsors receive small tokens of appreciation, such as tickets for events organised by the town administration.

Citizen Participation in planning processes

When it comes to planning new construction areas, playgrounds or public buildings, workshops are organised where citizens and people affected can contribute to the planning and designing process.



Visitors come to Bad Saulgau to experience and enjoy the wide variety of nature trails, biotopes, renaturalized areas and the new Nature Theme Park with its wealth of attractions and interesting information. For us, nature is a way of life. Countless bicycle trails, footpaths and forest trails invite the visitor to explore the great outdoors and discover the charming countryside around Bad Saulgau.

Bad Saulgau is also a town renowned for its sports facilities and events. A remarkable number of sports clubs offer all kinds of activities. Nine sand courts are available for tennis enthusiasts. No wonder, Bad Saulgau is the venue for the “Knoll Open” women’s world ranking tennis tournament every year. An 18-hole golf course operated by “Green Golf” lies sheltered from the wind in an attractively landscaped setting and provides ideal conditions for both ambitious and recreational golfers. Several idyllic bathing lakes provide fantastic opportunities for swimming in summer. If, however, the weather does not allow bathing outdoors, a light-flooded indoor swimming pool is available all year round. Those who seek the extra kick may try a tandem jump on the aerodrome with “Sky-dive”, the largest skydiving company in Southern Germany.

Culture

High-profile musical, theatre and cabaret performances as well as regular guided theme tours of the town are part of our packed event schedule. Three major venues offer the perfect setting for small celebrations as well as large-scale events: the “Stadtforum” [town forum], the “Altes Kloster” [old monastery] and the “Stadthalle” [municipal hall]. Visitors regularly marvel at the exhibits in the town gallery “Die Fähre” [The Ferry], which is invariably associated with 20th century art. The changing exhibitions never cease

Nature Theme Park – natural landscape – leisure activities. In the federal state capital of biodiversity, nature is also becoming increasingly important in the tourism sector.

to amaze. The municipal museum provides a journey back in time through Bad Saulgau’s eventful history. With special exhibitions on the town’s history and museum festivals, the municipal museum is an attractive institution for both local residents and visitors.

Customs

Customs and traditions have always been held in high esteem in Bad Saulgau. During the “Bächtlefest”, one of the major historical children’s and regional festivals in Upper Swabia, children are the focus of events, particularly in the magnificent traditional parade. Another custom, and a feast for the eyes, is the so-called “Palm Procession” on Palm Sunday (Sunday before Easter), when lavishly decorated so-called “palm fronds” are carried into St. John’s Church. The Feast of St. John, the church’s patron saint is also the main festival for the “City Guard on Horseback”. It is celebrated in June and starts with the performance of the great military tattoo in the market square.

Health resort

Bad Saulgau is officially recognised as a medical spa and the “Sonnenhof-Therme” thermal spa has been awarded five wellness stars by the German Spa Association. The

sulphurous spa water feeds seven indoor and outdoor pools. Not far away from the “Sonnenhof-Therme” and the adjacent park, four specialist clinics cater for rehab and other patients, focusing on different key areas of treatment. In addition to these healthcare competence centres, medical treatment is provided by numerous specialists and a modern hospital.

Accommodation

For spa guests and holidaymakers, a wide range of delightfully furnished holiday apartments and private rooms is available in Bad Saulgau’s hotels, inns and private homes.



Enjoying water in the spa garden ¹ and nature on Segways ². Children exploring nature ³. Theme and adventure trail “Water” – a great adventure for young and old alike ⁴. The “Old Monastery” – Bad Saulgau’s cultural centre ⁵. The thermal spa “Thermalbad” – dip in and relax ⁶.





Residents of Bad Saulgau were overjoyed when it was announced that the town had been nominated for the “Entente Florale Europe” competition. The whole town was proud to be part of it.

The first articles about the “Entente Florale Europe” competition appeared in the national press with headlines such as, Bad Saulgau represents Germany in the “Entente Florale Europe”.

This was followed by announcements on the town’s website and on social media. Apart from that, banners, boards, t-shirts, beer mats, hats and caps, which carry the campaign logo, have been produced. Also, another logo for the campaign, which carries the words “obacht: natur” (Watch it: nature), has been designed. Groups of adults and children who are involved in the campaign contributed actively with creative ideas. Also, commercials for the competition and for sustainability are placed on regional TV and in the cinema.



The new Bad Saulgau environmental group “Waldschreck” (Shrek of the Woods) is committed to keeping the woods clean ①. Opening of the “Nature Theme Park” on May 17, 2019 ②. Bad Saulgau presents itself with its campaign logo on regional TV ③ and in the cinema ④. The Boy Scouts “Royal Rangers” cleared the “Schwarzachtal Valley” of illegal waste and garbage ⑤. Advertising material with the campaign logo ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨. All place-name signs have been marked with the logo of “Entente Florale Europe” ⑩.

STADT
BAD
SAULGAU



A very warm welcome!



Please feel free to contact
us if you have any questions
about sustainability and
biodiversity – **we will be
delighted to help you.**

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