

*Saxony-Anhalt, in the middle of Germany, is rich in architectural testimony of its exciting history in an old significant cultural landscape. Art, science and economy were booming and extraordinary people marked it. In the culture of their building, the spirit of the particular epoch is still reflected nowadays.*

*Parts of the country between the Harz, Fläming, the river Elbe, Unstrut, and Saale were verifiably settled already in pre- and early history. Hints to an unexpected highly developed culture are given by the spectacular discovery of the “Himmelscheibe von Nebra” as well as the discovery of the “Solar Observatory of Goseck” that visitors are able to experience along the “Sky Paths”.*

*Under the reign of Charlemagne in 775 the proselytization of the area started. Halberstadt became the bishop’s see from 800 on. Magdeburg, the state capital of Saxony-Anhalt, was first mentioned in a document in 805 and Halle, the biggest city of the state nowadays, in 806. Otto the Great, who founded the archbishopric of Magdeburg in 968, chose the city on the river Elbe as the place of his favorite imperial palace.*

*Urban development and trading had a significant influence on the development of art and building. Great testimonials like castles, imperial palaces, cathedrals, and convents can be found nowadays along the “Romanesque Road” and are an outstanding valuable cultural heritage.*

*Martin Luther, born and died in Eisleben, taught at the university in Wittenberg, established 1502 as the first university founded by a baron in Germany. In 1517 Luther nailed his world famous 95 theses at the door of the castle church, thereby initiating the Reformation. Contemporaries, like the painter Lucas Cranach the Elder and the theologian Philipp Melancton, lived and worked likewise in Wittenberg. Nowadays the Lutheran Sites in Wittenberg and Eisleben are also on the UNESCO-world heritage list, just as the old town of Quedlinburg, the Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz and the Bauhaus Sites in Dessau are. The state of Saxony-Anhalt was home of significant artists, scientists and discoverers. Otto von Guericke, who became famous because of his hemisphere experiment, was a physicist and mayor in Magdeburg. The names of the musicians Georg Philipp Telemann, Georg Friedrich Händel and Johann Sebastian Bach, the poet Friedrich Gottlieb Klopstock and the archaeologist Johann Joachim Winckelmann are closely connected with the outstanding history of the region as well as Dorothea Christiane Erxleben, who was the first female doctor in Germany that received a PhD, and Novalis, the significant writer of the early Romanticism.*



Historisches Lutherhaus mit Neubau des Lutherturms (letzteres Architekturpreis des Landes Sachsen-Anhalt 2004) | Historical Luther House with the newly built Luther Tower (the latter won the Architecture Award of the State of Saxony-Anhalt 2004)



Dom zu Halle (Saale), ein wichtiges Zeugnis der Renaissance | Cathedral of Halle (Saale), an important testimony of the Renaissance



Der Graue Hof in Aschersleben, ältester Profanbau der Stadt, vermutlich vor dem 9. Jahrhundert, mit frühgotischen Elementen | The Gray Court in Aschersleben, oldest secular building of the city, probably from before the 9th century, with early Gothic elements



Die Himmelscheibe von Nebra, ca. 1600 v. Chr., befindet sich heute im Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte in Halle (Saale) | The Sky Disc of Nebra, ca. 1600 BC, currently in the State Museum of Prehistory in Halle (Saale)



Das älteste Fachwerkhhaus in Quedlinburg – ein Ständerbau | The oldest timber framed house in Quedlinburg



Magdeburg, der gotische Dom St. Mauritius und Katharina | Magdeburg, the Gothic cathedral of Saints Maurice and Catherine



Der Domschatz Halberstadt, seit 2008 neu präsentiert | The Cathedral Treasury of Halberstadt, newly presented in 2008