



# Historic Heidelberg Hike

## Requirements

Hello and welcome,

Heidelberg, Germany is a gorgeous city. Earning the Historic Heidelberg Hike patch is a fantastic way to make the most of your visit and get a fun and unique souvenir. During the process of earning this patch you will have the chance to explore Heidelberg, to enjoy hiking through some of our scenic locations, and to learn more about the city's history.

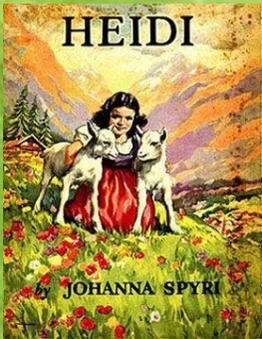
After earning the patch, follow the link on [www.hdpatchprogram.weebly.com](http://www.hdpatchprogram.weebly.com) to demonstrate that you completed the requirements. Patches can be paid for using PayPal. Patch sales serve as a fundraiser for Heidelberg Girl Scouts.

Please email [heidelbergusagso@gmail.com](mailto:heidelbergusagso@gmail.com) with any questions or concerns.



# 1. Getting to Know German Youth

Select and read one of the following books in order to learn more about what it was like to be a child in Germany during a time period of interest to you.



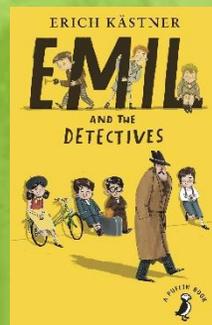
1929  
*Emil and  
The Detectives*  
by Erich Kästner



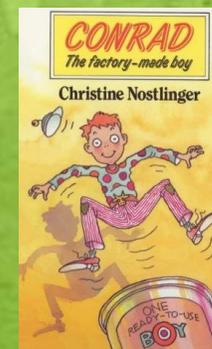
1975  
*Conrad the Factory  
Made Boy*  
by Christine Nostlinger



1881  
*Heidi*  
by Johanna  
Spyri



1949  
*Lisa and Lottie*  
by Erich Kästner



1993  
*The Summer Gang*  
by Cornelia Funke

*Note: We have selected what we consider to be youth appropriate literature; however, parents are ultimately responsible for ensuring they approve of the material their child reads.*

## 2. Philosophenweg

Bring a pencil and paper and hike some along the Philosophenweg. It is an easy trail which winds up to look out over the city. Its name translates to 'philosopher's way'. Professors and students of Heidelberg University have long appreciated the opportunity to walk this path in order to find peace and seek inspiration while taking in amazing views of the Old Town below.

Take a moment somewhere along the way to stop and sketch or write for a while. Work on a drawing, a poem, a piece of a novel, song lyrics, a comic, whatever appeals to you. Reflect that other creators have made the same journey you just did and sat in the same spots for centuries now.



Engraving of Heidelberg as seen from the Philosophenweg done by Mathäus Merian in 1620.

### *Social Media Moment*

Take a picture of your work or type up the results. Share using the hashtag #GSHistoricHeidelbergHike.



# 3. Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg

Universität Heidelberg was established in 1386, making it Germany's oldest university. The university sprawls across much of the city and its surrounding area, but the central buildings can be found in the heart of Heidelberg's old town. Enjoying walking around some of these beautiful old buildings.

We recommend visiting the Marstall for a quick snack. This building used to be the university stables and now is a cafeteria. It is open to everybody, though students of the university have slightly reduced prices.



Students dining in the Marstall.

# 4. Schloss Heidelberg

Visit the Schloss Heidelberg, which simply means Heidelberg castle. We recommend hiking up to the castle, but a funicular is also available. Choose the option that is best for your group. The castle was originally built sometime between 1294 and 1303. Since then it has been damaged by wars or fires and partially rebuilt multiple times. French author, Victor Hugo summarized its history in this way after a visit in 1838:



Painting of the Heidelberger Schloss made in 1885 by Carl Rottmann.

“ But let me talk of its castle. (This is absolutely essential, and I should actually have begun with it.) What times it has been through! Five hundred years long it has been victim to everything that has shaken Europe, and now it has collapsed under its weight. That is because this Heidelberg Castle, the residence of the counts Palatine, who were answerable only to kings, emperors, and popes, and was of too much significance to bend to their whims, but couldn't raise his head without coming into conflict with them, and that is because, in my opinion, that the Heidelberg Castle has always taken up some position of opposition towards the powerful. Circa 1300, the time of its founding, it starts with a Thebes analogy; in Count Rudolf and Emperor Ludwig, these degenerate brothers, it has its Eteocles and its Polynices [warring sons of Oedipus]. Then the prince elector begins to grow in power. In 1400 the Palatine Ruprecht II, supported by three Rhenish prince electors, deposes Emperor Wenceslaus and usurps his position; 120 years later in 1519, Count Palatine Frederick II was to create the young King Charles I of Spain Emperor Charles V.

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# 5. Neckarwiese

Take a while to relax or play at the Neckarwiese, a long grassy park with a few playgrounds that stretches along the north side of the Neckar River. It's been a popular location for locals and tourists of all ages throughout Heidelberg's history and still is today.

## *Social Media Moment*

See if you can find the spot where the fisherman is standing and take your own photo there. Share to the HD Patch Project Facebook page and using the hashtag #GSHistoricHeidelbergHike.



A young person fishes while at the park.

# Bonus Fun

Visit the Heidelberger Zuckerladen. This is not required to earn the patch, but is highly recommended. The Zuckerladen, translates to 'sugar shop', is a quirky Heidelberg favorite. This candy shop has been owned by the same couple for several decades now. The Heidelberg Girl Scouts say that it seems like a candy shop off of the Harry Potter series' Diagon Alley.

