



Friday

To get the festival in the mood, Bretten's battle-ready forces line up to defend the imminent invasion of the town. Bars, hot food stalls and sales booth in the style of the Middle Ages invite visitors to enjoy this unique historical experience.

Saturday

After the lavishly staged "Battle of Brettheim" with around 400 participants in the "Simmelturm arena", the vigilantes gather there at dusk for the Grand Tattoo. Throughout the day, the historical hustle and bustle in the town centre invites visitors to marvel and join in. The brilliant fireworks display over the rooftops of the city centre closes the end of the day – but not really ...

Sunday

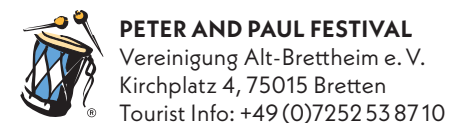
The highlight of the day takes place in the early afternoon when over 70 groups of more than 2,500 members dressed in period costume parade through the town. Let the Middle Ages pass by as well as colourful fanfare processions and vigilantes. In contrast, the nightly plague procession: a reminder of the scourge of this time.

Monday

Highlights today are the "Schwartenmagen Parade" (lit. Brawn Parade) and the children's festival: Here, the young visitors could be knighted, once they have completed a test of various skills. When the evening falls over the town, there's roaring rock and pop on the marketplace stage.



Official festival partners and sponsors:



Photography: Thomas Rebel, Translation: Barry Dobson

A town relives its history.

PETER AND PAUL FESTIVAL BRETTEN



Eintrag im Bundesweiten Verzeichnis

Peter-und-Paul-Fest Bretten

The Peter and Paul Festival Bretten has been included in the Nationwide Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage.



The Peter and Paul Festival

Every year the town of Bretten dives into four days of history: More than 4,000 women, men, and children in historical costumes with groups from all over Europe come together to present episodes of the town's history. They orientate themselves thereby on the actual events: the siege of the Electoral Palatinate town of Bretten by Duke Ulrich von Württemberg in 1504, the "Peter and Paul Open Shoot" in the 16th century, as well as the "Shepherds' run" in the 17th century, a running contest. The Peter and Paul Festival is an annual event with around 120,000 visitors and has become known as an exceptional cultural event far and wide. From 2014 onwards, it has been listed in the German "Nationwide directory of intangible cultural heritage".

Living history

Dancing under the open skies draws young and old to take part each day. Sounds from historical instruments ensure a unique ambience on Kirchplatz (Church Square). Historic local militia bands draw people through the streets with the sounds of march music. Dance professionals show how feet must keep time with the beat of the music. The sound of natural trumpets and the beating of the drums of the fanfare marching bands fill the streets. Everyone celebrates through the evening hours – a diverse program for the whole family.



Please notice:

Photographs and videos of visitors and participants are taken and published where appropriate. Please refer to the data protection notice on our homepage:

<https://www.peter-und-paul.de/datenschutz>



A Festival for the entire family

This unique festival has something to offer everyone: Historical activities in the town centre invite you to take a stroll to view, admire, take part as well as to learn. What takes place here over the four days is an education in history, with lessons to see and touch. Scenes portraying the lives of lansquenets (mercenary soldiers), farmers, town guards, shepherds and many more, embellished by more than 50 group scenes of camp life as it was in 1500. Hand-working crafts, medieval cookeries, minstrels, jugglers, and fire-eaters embellish the old town. Living history also includes the time of the fanfare marching bands and vigilantes, which cultivate their tradition with marches, the Grand Parade and the Grand Tattoo. Medieval market hustle and bustle alongside a gruesome plague procession, the "Children's Festival in the Festival", the "Brawn Parade" and a magnificent firework round off this unique folk festival with its varied gastronomic offerings.



The Peter and Paul Festival: Once a year, the whole town can virtually let their hair down. Thomas Rebel captured the town's flagship in countless photographs. He has put 250 of them into a small paperback with 228 colorful pages. It is available for 5 Euros at the Bretten Tourist Information Centre or can be ordered from any bookshop (ISBN 978-3-88190-659-3).

