

Calden -- From The Airport Straight To The Wilhelmsthal Castle

When you find yourself in the [Hessian](#) town of Calden, likely coming straight from the Kassel-Calden Airport [KSF], there's (probably) two things on your mind: Castle Wilhelmsthal and archaeology. What you'll find is a whole lot more.

Since I brought up Castle Wilhelmsthal first, let's start there. Don't let the moniker castle fool you, this ain't no medieval building. It's a palace (built 1743), and thought to be one of the most magnificent in Germany.

Within this grandiose Rococo palace is a fantastic museum with all sorts of permanent art collections. Its gardens are on the European Garden Heritage Network (as if Germany doesn't have enough [scenic routes](#), right?), and to visit is free.

— Top Areas Of Interest

- [History](#)
- [Webcams](#)

- [Gunzenhausen](#)
- [Sigmaringen](#)

However, if you want to get married in the castle it will cost you. Ahh, a small price to pay for these digs. ;-)

If you're following the archaeology side of Calden, there's the *Steinkiste von Calden*. This is a megalithic grave for forty prehistoric souls (and thought to date around the 4th millennia B.C.). And the *Erdwerk Calden* is an archaeological site from around the third millennium B.C. Yeah, that's pretty darn old.

Now that you've got these two items checked off your must-see list, here's a chance to hike around the countryside to see the *Kopfsteine*, a natural basalt rock formation; or the *Naturpark Habichtswald*.

OK, even if you're not into the whole "nature" thing, you'll find something to do. On Saturdays the Observatory is open to visitors looking to gaze at the stars (8:30pm in winter, 9:30pm in summer), and the Preacher's Cottage is a lovely building from the late 17th century (if you want to gaze at architecture instead).

Calden also has a Jewish cemetery since it had a Jewish community from as far back as the 14th century right up until the 20th century.

Calden might relish its history, but it's also a modern day town (get a gander at its *Waldschimmbad*), where you'll have come for a castle & found more.