

## Stuttgart Shopping With Both Traditional And Offbeat Items

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Stuttgart shopping offers the usual designer wares and fashion boutiques. But there are some hidden gems on offer in the more unusual shops. Browsing through these streets is an essential experience for the shopping lover.

### Stuttgart Shopping Tip

Sundays are non-shopping days for the Germans. Most stores will be closed. Typical hours run from 9:30 am to 8:00 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, and 9:30 am to 8:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Many small shops and boutiques will close even earlier.

### Königstraße

The main artery of Stuttgart shopping, Königstraße, is a thriving commercial — and artistic — center. As you window shop for souvenirs and the latest fashions, you're sure to be entertained by the multitude of street performers lined up and down this 1 km (0.6 mi) stretch. The big, high fashion shops are also here: Valentino, Hugo Boss and Cartier, to name a view.

### Bohnenviertel

The Stuttgart shopping district, *Bohnenviertel*, features some hidden treasures. The Bean Quarter, as it's translated to English, is the historically poor part of town, where the staple of the residents diet consisted of beans. These days, it's not as posh as Königstraße but you're likely to find unusual shops. Second-hand bookstores, crafts, jewelry and antiques are all on offer.

## **Königsbaupassagen**

This shopping passage is one of the newer additions to the retail world in Stuttgart. If you want one-stop shopping, then don't miss this large and versatile shopping center.

## **Markthalle**

Check out the popular Stuttgart shopping spot *Markthalle* (Dorotheenstraße 4) that is filled with the freshest fruit and vegetables in town. There's a large array of exotic spices all located in a lovely, imposing building constructed in the Jugendstil architectural style.

## **Calwer Straße**

If you're looking for leather goods, then *Calwer Straße* is a mandatory shopping stop. However, there's plenty else to enjoy in this picturesque little quarter, such as beautiful gabled buildings and traditional timber houses.

## **Karlsplatz Flea Market**

Another unique Stuttgart shopping experience, the flea market on Karlsplatz is a great place for bargains. Collectibles, old books and other antiques are just a few gems that you may find here.