

## Aspects of Nuremberg

### A Walking Tour past the Historic Bridges over the Pegnitz



**The Hallertor Bridge**”, rebuilt in 1697, gets its name from the local family Haller von Hallerstein, owners since 1766 of Schloss Großgründlach, in the village of that name to the north of Nuremberg. Next to it, upstream of the bridge, is the famous **Kettensteg** built in 1824, the oldest chain bridge on the European continent. Although it doesn’t move or sway as much as it used to, it is still a fun place to cross over the Pegnitz.

The next bridge, continuing upstream, is the very old **Max Bridge** (formerly known as the “Stone Bridge”) and constructed in 1457. The bridge was renamed in 1810 in honour of the Bavarian king Maximilian 1 but was largely rebuilt in 1852 after damage caused by a fire in the wooden water tower at the adjacent Nägeleinsmühle. Close to it are several historic buildings such as the Weinstadel and the corn granary known as the Unschlitt House. The word Unschlitt might be translated as “tallow”, an important substance made of animal fats and having a variety of uses (candles, soaps, lubricants).

Our next site of interest is the covered **Henkersteg** leading, as the name suggests, directly to the Executioner’s house. It was once part of the penultimate city wall surrounding the city, explaining why it was precisely here that the executioner had his abode, as far away from the town centre as possible!

The **“Fleischbrücke”**, close to where butchers had their “shambles”, was built between 1596 and 1598 and took people directly to the market square and the castle beyond. It was for its age a great technical accomplishment. For its foundations, some 2000 wooden posts had to be hammered into the riverbed below.



### **“Untere Karlsbrücke and “Obere Karlsbrücke“**

This sandstone bridge was built in 1486. It was once known as the “pig bridge” for the simple reason that close to it, on what is now the “Trödelmarkt, a pig market took place.



In 1728 the “upper” bridge was built, replacing an earlier wooden construction. And it was dedicated to the emperor Charles VI. On the bridge there are two obelisks, one bearing a dove of peace with an olive branch in its beak, the other an eagle. They are references to the Austro-Turkish Wars in the 18th century.

I’m afraid I have run out of the space available in this particular Newsletter, but if you can join me on the Bridges’ Walking Tour you are sure to learn a lot more.

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