Welcome to the guided tour to the lakes of Freiburg. There is a lot of water in Freiburg. Not only the Dreisam which flows through Freiburg but also the so-called 'Bächle' which can be found in the city center and the adjacent lakes express this.

Since Freiburg is one of the warmest cities in Germany and the city with the most hours of sunshine in Germany, we want to show you with this tour places where you can cool down on warm days. But also places where it is nice to walk near the water or to enjoy sport activities.

Our recommendation is to go swimming in every lake in Freiburg. All have their advantages and disadvantages. Maybe you will find in the time you are in Freiburg which lake you like the most.

In the following we would like to give you a little insight into the lakes of Freiburg with info that is nowhere to be found and that we have learned and experienced in the years in Freiburg about the city and the lakes.

The whole tour we have made by bike. If you want to do the whole tour, plan about 3 hours for it. However, we would recommend trying every lake in the summer. Freiburg has a great cycling culture as you may have noticed. Our recommendation is to get a good bike to be mobile not only in the city but also to make day trips to the Black Forest, Kaiserstuhl or across the Rhine to France. In addition, a basic equipment with bicycle light, helmet and a good bicycle lock is mandatory. Also, always ride carefully and do not forget to look over your shoulder to avoid accidents. It is also recommended to look over your shoulder as a pedestrian to avoid collisions. Many cyclists in Freiburg are very fast on the road. Freiburg also has many bike lanes and please do not walk on them. Especially the one along the Dreisam, is very narrow and it is dangerous to walk on it. Therefore choose the right bank side along the Dreisam ;D And sometimes there is a construction side on the bikeway and you have to follow the redirection as shown in the picture.

If you don't have a bike yet, you can rent a Frelo. These are the red bicycles that you have surely seen in Freiburg. There are frelo stations all over the city. For students of the University of Freiburg, after proper registration, the first half hour is free. After that it does not cost the world either. All important places in Freiburg have such stations nearby. You can also see the stations in the app. If you lock the Frelo without being at a station, it will be expensive. Sometimes the lock of the Frelo does not open on the first try. What usually helps is to move the back wheel a little back and forth. It is possible (status 2020) to lock the Frelo at a station and then unlock it again. So you can ride longer for free. We call this Frelohopping ;)

We start the tour at the Johanneskirche. Across the street from the Johanneskirche is the SWFR. If you have problems with living, studying or even looking for legal advice, the SWFR will be glad to help you. Near the church is also one of the few stores (Rewe) in Freiburg which is still open until 12 p.m.
Now you should be able to go. Either with your own bike or a Frelo. You should also have a helmet on and be equipped for the weather. Something to drink and perhaps a small snack is recommended. All the following pictures which are shown are made in wintertime. So normally the lakes look more welcoming.
And please leave no trash on the lakes. There are always trash bins nearby. And do not go for a swim if you are unsafe in swimming or have no stamina in swimming. There are no lifeguards at the lakes.

All of the following information is written for a time without Covid-19, so always follow the given rules.
The Route of the tour. You can either follow the map or try to figure out on your own to come to the places. The route includes: Dreisam, Dietenbachsee, Opfinger See, Mudenhof, Moosweiher, the new soccer stadium and the Seepark.

With this QR-Code you can find the link to the whole Route in Google Maps.
Dreisam

The Dreisam is a river with many faces. It flows from the east of Freiburg to the west. So let us have a look at the Dreisam in Littenweiler (east) first.

There are many spots like shown in the picture, which are formidable to grill and chill as the Germans like to say. You are allowed to bring your portable grill and just enjoy the day. However please make sure you take your trash with you when you are done. Freiburg is a green and clean city.

At the height of the City Center, the Dreisam gets quite crowded. So as mentioned before: be careful which side of the river you choose. Parts of the way are restricted to either bike only or walking only. The special bicycle roads have blue signs on it.

As a Rule of thumb - coming from Littenweiler, the left side of the Dreisam is the side for bike riding and the right side for walking. But just double check by looking at the signs.

The bikeway along the Dreisam is quite long. From the city center you can be in the Black Forest by bike in around 20 minutes.

If you drive in the direction of the Black Forest along the Dreisam, you will also pass the stadium of the Sports University and some tennis courts. As a student it is possible to use or rent these facilities. You can find more information online. To meet new friends and to stay active, the university also offers a wide range of sports activities. You can also find information about this online.

Kaffee Extrablatt has special offers for Students. On Sundays you can have Breakfast-Buffet here for 6.10€ (status 2020) if you have your Student-ID with you. And it is a very trendy place near the Riverside.
Dietenbach

Dietenbach-See is the perfect alternative if you do not want to go to the “Seepark” again. It's not far off, it has a different flair and it's definitely worth a try.

One side of the lake is pretty quiet while the other side has a wide grass turf to offer. Slacklining or picnicking is both nice here. There is also a Volleyball field where you can just join a match or go there with some friends to play. In summertimes you have to be patient because the field is popular. Near the Dietenbach lake it is also possible to go to the Bike-park, the new build Skate-park or the parkour training facility. And if you haven't heard of Disc-Golf you can try it as well nearby the lake. More information about that you can find online by the Disc-Golf Club Freiburg. Be careful at the lake. There is a ‘famous’ goose family which is very aggressive. So keep distance from geese and don’t try to pet them :D
Moosweiher

The Moosweiher is probably the most underrated lake in Freiburg. The quality of the Water is quite high so it is perfect for swimming. In general, the water quality in the lakes are very high. You only have to be careful at the end of the summertime. Some lakes get bad, but you will smell it. In the middle of the lake there is a secret and hidden ‘island’! You can stand there but you can’t see the island from outside of the lake. It is right at the white buoy.

The legends say that going there with a person you like - especially under the moonlight - will lead to the beginning of wonderful friendship. Sometimes there are some fishermen at the lake. Just avoid them and try not to swim in their fishing lines.

Around the lake there is also a playground, a fireplace and a soccer and basketball field. There is also a very steep Halfpipe. Try not to go on it without any experience in riding a halfpipe.

In summer evenings mosquitoes are a serious problem at this lake. But they online appear in the evening when the sun comes down.

Near the Moosweiher there is the Mooswald. It is a little nice Forest where you can go for a walk for example. You might also find a good place to discover the airfield, the exhibition center and the new stadium bordering the Mooswald.
Opfinger Baggersee aka. Opfi

There are different ways you can go to the Opfinger Baggersee. But you will always drive to the Rieselfeld. The Rieselfeld is a part of the city Freiburg but if you go there it is more like a little modern village. Nearby the Rieselfeld there is the Mundenhof. It is like a zoo but with not so many exotic animals. You do not have to pay a few to go in there but you can donate some money which helps to keep this nice place running. They sell a really good and locally produced ice-cream there. It is the so called ‘Hof-Eis’. But you can find it as well in the city center to buy.

At the area around the Mundenhof there is the location where the ZMF (Tent-Music-Festival) takes place in the summertime. If you want to see famous musicians or some unknown you can go there. Some of the performances are free to watch. And if you are a musician by yourself you can apply and maybe you will get a stage to perform.

At the Mudenhof there is a Frelo station. But at the Opfi there is none. Keep this in mind.

There are different places where you can go for a swim at the former quarry pond. All around the lake side you can find nice spots to spread your towel. The following map shows the most famous ones market with arrows.
A: The way back to the city center
B: A quasi island but it is prohibited to go there because of nature protection
C: Nice place to go easy into the water. But sometimes there are nudists. Nudists you can find all over the lake. If you are not comfortable to be with them then try the shore at point E.
D: There is a place you can make your own fire and have a barbecue.
E: There is a little beach where it is not so steep to go in the water. It is recommended also to just put your feed inside the water. In the surrounding area there is also a beach volleyball field and a little kiosk where you can buy drinks and little things to eat. Here is also a lifeguard station here. But it is only rarely occupied.
F: There is another place to have a barbecue and there is a madow which is always occupied by nudists.
G: Here is the Mundenhof located. You can see it has plenty of space for the animals and the ZMF.

If you want to visit the lake by car keep in mind that there are only a few parking slots available. So it is highly recommended to go by bike or to walk there. Do not make a fire at the lake. There are some special places around the lake where you can enjoy a barbecue without causing a wildfire.
You can see there are many people at the lake performing different kinds of sport activities. As a swimmer you are only a head in the water. So keep distance from canoes, surfboards and other floating devices to avoid an accident. And do not underestimate the size of the lake. There is no place to stand beside the shore and if you do not have enough stamina or do not feel safe swimming try not to swim too far out.
Flückinger See aka. Seepark

You now arrived at the last lake of the Tour. The name of the lake is Flückinger Baggersee. But everybody calls this area Seepark. The area around this former quarry pond was built because of a country garden show 1986. There are some bigger meadows where you can just chill or you can do some sports like throwing a frisbee. There are some major sights around the lake like the tower, the bridge, the japanese garden and the wooden viewing platform. And do not mix up the bridge with the blue spheres at Seepark with the blue bridge (blaue Brücke) at the railway station ;)

The area around Seepark is a very good place to meet with friends or have a date. There is also a festival over a weekend in summertime which starts with good music and ends with a big firework.

The student residence StuSi is located directly at the Seepark. The StuSi residence is the biggest area for students living in Freiburg. New buildings are still in construction. Near the Seepark there is the Westbad. It is a really nice swimming pool for performance oriented swimming.

One way around the Seepark is around 2km long. It really helps to know this if you are into jogging. And be careful, there are many joggers around the lake. It is not allowed to grill in the whole Seepark area!
Now you are at the end of the tour. We hope you enjoyed it and maybe you found some new places in Freiburg which you didn't have seen before. In addition to this we want to give you some other advice and hints for how to survive in Freiburg. But please keep in mind that it is our opinion and you should try all of the stuff on your own. And again all those hints are for a world without the rules for Covid-19.

**How to not survive but thrive in Freiburg**

- If you want to drink the best beer, you have to go to Feierling. You will pay around 5 Euros per 0.5l but it is worth it! And in the summertime they have the opportunity to sit outside in a Biergarten which is very recommended but also very popular so be there early, to get a place to sit. Another option is to buy a so-called 'Krug'. It is a vessel which they fill with beer and it is cheaper than the normal beer in a glass. But it is not allowed to drink this beer inside the Feierling or the Biergarten.
- In the summertime there will be a lot of people relaxing in the evening and even in the night at the place of the old synagogue. The ground on there is heated up during the day time so it is warm to sit on the ground during night. And it is a good opportunity to meet with friends before going to a Club or Disco. There are a lot of trash bins around the place. So do not leave you waste on the ground as some others do.
- Every wednesday there is a special offer at a Biergarten at the Schlossberg. You can drink 2 beers for the price of one as a student (with Student-ID). Be aware, the places to sit are rare and the place is very popular.
- If you want to eat fresh, regional vegetables and other groceries you have to go to the Münstermarkt. It is a farmer's market in front of the Münster. They offer a lot like the famous Cheescake which is made in Freiburg or mushrooms which are grown inside an old bunker at the Schlossberg.
- Freiburg and the region is very famous for their vines. There are as well some vine fests during the year. They are mostly very crowded but worth it. You should also try different vines from the region to find your favorit.
- Check out the music festivals around and in Freiburg like the ‘ZMF’ or ‘Freiburg stimmt ein’ or the ‘See you festival’. Go check the dates online. We would recommend going there if you like music and being outside to enjoy it.
- In the last few years bouldering became a big part of the famous sport activities in Freiburg. So maybe you should try it as well :D
- There is always a big discussion about which Mensa is the best one in Freiburg. After years of investigation we can't tell any difference between the Mensa Remparstraße or Institutsviertel. So try them all to figure out the best one for you. There is also an App where you can look up the meals for every Mensa for the entire week.
- If you want to study and the library at your institute is not the best, then go to the University library (UB). It is the big black cubus in the inner city. Especially in the summertime it is recommended to go there because of the air-condition. But be aware, during the examination time the places to sit are very rare so you have to go early or really late to find a place to study in there. And don’t be one of the people who just go there for 10mins to place their stuff on the table and then leave for the rest of the day.
• If you want to go partying, there are many places you can go in Freiburg. We can’t recommend one place because everybody has a different taste of music. So just try them all. But always try to go to house parties. Those are in general the best ones. There are also some very nice bars in each of the student residences. Each student residence offers a big party during the summertime. Very recommended to go there! All the information you can find online on facebook or on other social media platforms

• Freiburg is a very green city. Most of the people here try to live as sustainable as possible. You will get very fast into this. Maybe to live plant based and only ride a bike instead of a car would fit for you as well. And to be part of the culture try not to waste food. If you have some leftover bread or stuff like that which is still edible, try to use one of the ‘Fairteiler’. It is a place where people can put still edible stuff in it to offer them to other persons for free. You can find the locations for the ‘Fairteiler’ online. Sometimes there is really good stuff inside because the bakeries put their leftovers from the day in there. One famous Fairteiler location for example is the colorful bicycle in front of the UB.

We hope you had fun. And maybe we will meet us at a Studitour at a given time.

Cheers,
Freddy and Maxi