

2024 IABA Reunion Weekend

St. Gall, Switzerland

June 21 to 23, 2024

Program

as of March 6, 2024

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Introduction

Dear alumni and friends,

Welcome to the 55th annual event of IABA in St. Gall! This year, the black bear of St. Gall hosts the Golden Bear in the historic town of St. Gall (St. Gall in German) with its UNESCO world heritage site: the famous Abbey District with its baroque library and archives, containing amongst its many treasures the famous monastery plan of 820.



We propose a very attractive weekend. St. Gall is a beautiful historic town, nestled in the alpine foothills close to Lake Constance. It has not only a rich history and cultural treasures, but is also a modern university town and a center of learning, as well as the capital of the canton of the same name.

We hope you can join us from June 21 to June 23, 2024 at this special venue.

The organizers

Jean-Claude Werz
LLM '83

Eva Ziegler
LLM '88

Vera Holenstein Werz
Volunteer, Tourist Angels St. Gall

Program overview (provisional)

Friday, June 21			
Pre-Program	16:15	Meet in front of the main railway station under the large binary clock	
Visit of modern art collection of the University of St. Gall	17:00	Visit of the modern art collection guided by the President of the University Art Commission	For those of you who are arriving early, we propose a guided visit of the University of St. Gall's modern art collection.
Dinner	19:30	Restaurant National zum Goldenen Leuen («Naz»)	Schmiedgasse 30 9000 St. Gall +41 71 222 02 62 https://naz-sg.ch
Saturday, June 22			
Business meeting (members only)	09:00	IABA Annual General Meeting with coffee break Academic lecture by Prof. Vito Roberto	Parliament Chamber of the Canton of St. Gall (former throne room of the prince-abbots of St. Gall) Anti-chamber of the St. Gall Parliament Parliament Chamber of the Canton of St. Gall (former throne room of the prince-abbots of St. Gall)
<i>Program for accompanying persons</i>	11:00	<i>Guided tour of the Government Buildings</i>	<i>Main entrance of government buildings (former Abbey)</i> <i>The tour ends in the St. Gall Parliament Chamber</i>
	12:00	Talk on historical aspects of the former throne room and modern use by the St. Gall parliament	Canton of St. Gall Parliament Chamber (former throne room of the prince-abbots of St. Gall)
Lunch	12.45	Buffet lunch	Anti-chamber of the St. Gall Parliament Chamber
	14:30	Guided tour of the Abbey library and abbey plan exhibition	Abbey Library and Exhibition Space
Cocktails Official Dinner	19:00	“Schwarzer Bären” (Black Bear) on the outskirts of St. Gall	Meet at the market square (“Marktplatz”) for the short train ride to the restaurant. Speicherstrasse 151, 9011 St. Gall +41 71 223 33 44 https://www.schwarzer-baeren.ch/

Sunday, June 22 (Optional Program)			
Guided Tour of the old Town of St. Gall	10:30	The old houses of St. Gall tell many tales of a colorful town history	Tourist Information St.Gall Bankgasse 9 9001 St. Gall +41 71 227 37 37 https://st.Gall-bodensee.ch/en/
Farewell lunch	12:15	Restaurant Marktplatz	Neugasse 2 9000 St. Gall +41 71 222 36 41 https://www.restaurant-marktplatz.ch/

Program in Detail

Our Venue

The center of our activities will be the Abbey district. This building complex not only housed the monastery but also served as the residence of the prince-abbots in their capacity as secular rulers. We will also visit the old town and have dinner in the hills outside St. Gall

History of the monastery and town of St. Gall

In Roman and early medieval times the area was a wilderness between the Lake of Constance and the Alpstein mountains. Around 612, Gallus, an Irish monk erected a hermitage on the banks the Steinach stream where he lived until about 640 or 650. The hermitage attracted many disciples. In 719, Otmar, one of Saint Gallus' successors founded the abbey, which in 741 adopted the rules of St. Benedict. In its scriptorium, the monks copied books by hand, many of which are still in the abbey library. The abbey was not only a religious and cultural center, but became rich and powerful. The prince-abbots controlled large parts of eastern Switzerland and southern Germany as a territorial state and ally of the old Swiss Confederation until 1803, when the abbey's territory was integrated into the newly created canton of St. Gall. In 1805 the abbey was dissolved. Today the abbey buildings house the parliament and the government of the canton of St. Gall, as well as its Cantonal Court. The whole abbey district was declared a UNESCO world heritage site in 1983. Apart from the cathedral and abbey buildings, the site comprises the baroque abbey library and archives with their historic collections.

Gallus and the Bear

According to legend, Gallus was sitting at a fire when a bear threatened to attack him. Gallus admonished the animal and ordered him to fetch wood. The bear obeyed and Gallus gave the bear a loaf of bread. The bear never threatened humans again. The monastery took the legendary bear into its coat of arms (on a golden background).

Outside the monastery a settlement was founded which grew into the town of St. Gall. It also prospered as a trading center and from the production of linen. In later centuries it became a center of the cotton, lace and textile industries. From the 13th century onwards it sought its independence from the abbey.

The relationship between town and monastery was not always easy, in particular after the Reformation, when the abbey was surrounded by the protestant town, which in turn was surrounded by the prince-abbot's territory.

Friday, June 21

Modern art collection of the University of St. Gall

For those of you who will arrive in St. Gall early in the afternoon, we propose a guided visit to the University of St. Gall's (HSG) modern art collection. The HSG possesses a unique art in architecture collection second to no other public university in the world, including works by Hans Arp, Georges Braque, Alexander Calder, Martin Disler, Alberto Giacometti, Joan Miró, Roman Signer, Gerhard Richter and Antoni Tàpies. In planning the campus in the mid-1950's, the university's architect wanted to create an artistic synthesis with the buildings, reflecting the goal to provide a holistic education. The works were financed by donations from companies, foundations and private individuals, as well as by the sale of lithographs, which the artists provided free of charge.

The University is about 10 min by bus from the main railway station (Bus 9 departing from Platform I). We will meet at 16:15 under the large binary clock at the entrance of the railway station.

Dinner at the restaurant National zum Goldenen Leuen («Naz»)

This traditional restaurant - nicknamed "Naz" by the locals - is located in the old town in a typical building dating from 1603 and has been a restaurant since 1861. We will meet there for dinner at 19:30.

Saturday, June 22

2024 IABA Annual Meeting (members only)

At 9:00 IABA members will meet in the parliament chamber ("Kantonsratssaal") of the Canton St. Gall for its annual general meeting. This room was formerly the prince-abbot's throne room and is a very special venue.



Parliament chamber

Academic lecture and historical exposé

The AGM will be followed by a lecture by Prof. Vito Roberto (LLM '91) Director at the Institute for Legal Studies and Legal Practice (IRP) at the University of St. Gall on corporate liability for human rights violations and pollution.

Following the academic lecture we will have a brief talk on the historical aspects of the former throne room and its modern use by the St. Gall parliament.

Program for non-members / accompanying persons

At 11:00 we propose a tour of interesting rooms in the abbey buildings used by the cantonal government. The tour will end in the Parliament Chamber, arriving there around 12:00 for the exposé on its history as a throne room.

Buffet lunch

After the morning program, we will have a buffet lunch in the anti-chamber next to the Parliament Chamber.

Guided visit of the Abbey Library and Archives

After lunch (14:30) we will have a 90-minute guided tour of the Baroque Abbey and the Archive Exhibition.



Abbey Library

The Abbey library is Switzerland's oldest library and is located in a splendid baroque hall. It has its origins in the scriptorium of Otmar and his monks. The library contains the abbey's collection at the time of its dissolution and – together with the archives – is a center of research today.

<https://www.stiftsbezirk.ch/en/stiftsbibliothek>

Since medieval times many legal and other documents were entrusted to Abbey archives for safe-keeping. The most famous document – and heart of the Archive Exhibition – is the St. Gall monastery plan. It is the oldest existing medieval building plan, drawn (or copied from an older document) by monks of Reichenau for the Abbey of St. Gall around 820-830. It depicts the ideal layout for a Benedictine monastery, but was never realized.

The monastery plan and UC Berkeley

UC Berkeley has played a special role in the research on the St. Gall plan. In 1965 the German art historian Wolfgang Braunfels asked Professors Walter Horn (art history) and Ernst Born (architecture) of UC Berkeley, who had made a scale model based on the plan, to establish a compilation of knowledge about the parchment. Their research resulted in the three-volume work, "The Plan of St. Gall", published by the UC University Press in 1979.

<https://www.stiftsbezirk.ch/en/current-exhibitions/exhibition-space>

Cocktails and official diner at the restaurant Black Bear

In the evening we will be leaving the town at around 19:00 to go to the "Schwarzer Bären" (i.e. the Black Bear), a fine restaurant on a hill with a view down to Lake Constance. We will take the red local train from the market square of St. Gall directly to

the restaurant (10 min). Weather permitting, we will have cocktails outdoors before our official dinner.

<https://www.schwarzer-baeren.ch/>



Schwarzer Bären

Sunday, June 23 – Optional Program

Guided Tour

At 10:30 we will meet at the tourist information center just across from the Abbey District for a 90-minute walking tour of the old town. Our guide will take us to many historic houses and will tell the tales of their former inhabitants and their impact on St. Gall history, including the reformation, chocolate manufacture, medicine and other events. The tour will bring the old town to life.

Farewell lunch

To close our event we will have a farewell lunch in the well-known restaurant Marktplatz, which as its German name suggests, is very close to the market square.

Transportation

Getting to St. Gall

By train

St. Gall is located on the main railway line Geneva – Zurich – Munich

From Zurich and Zurich airport

Direct fast trains run from Zurich main station (HB) via the Zurich airport station (under the terminal) to St. Gall every 30 minutes. (IC1, IC 5 and IR 13. Time from airport 50 – 60 minutes; Time from Zurich main station: 60 – 75 minutes.

Timetable and tickets see: <https://www.sbb.ch/en/>

If you have a longer stay and want to travel all over Switzerland, you may want to consider a Swiss Travel Pass of the Swiss Federal Railways

<https://www.sbb.ch/en/tickets-offers/tickets/guests-abroad/swiss-travel-pass.html>

By car

St. Gall is located on the Swiss A1 (Europe E 60) from Geneva via Zurich to the Austrian border. There are several car parks around the inner city, mostly underground.

<https://www.pls-sg.ch>

Getting around in St. Gall

St. Gall is fairly compact and its old town and can be discovered on foot. The venues are all within walking distance of our hotels or can be reached by public transport. The restaurant “Schwarzer Bären” which is located outside of town has its own train stop directly in front.

Especially if you are staying longer you may want to consider purchasing an Oskar Guest Card from the participating hotels (minimum 2 nights stay) for CHF 17 per day. The card allows you to travel free on the train network of the cantons St. Gall, Appenzell, Thurgau, Schaffhausen and Glarus, including a number of mountain railways. It also grants entry to a number of attractions. The card can be ordered with your hotel reservation. For details: <https://www.oskarferien.ch/EN/home.html>

The following hotels in the town of St. Gall participate in the program:

Dom

Einstein

Weissenstein

Visas

Visitors from certain countries outside of the EU / EEA may require visas. US / CDN visitors do not require a visa. Schengen visas are generally valid for Switzerland.

For information: <https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/en/home/overview-einreise.html>

Additional information

If you intend staying longer in Switzerland, there are many other places of interest in St. Gall and its surroundings (e.g. nearby Lake Constance, the Appenzell country or the Alpstein Mountains). The St. Gall Tourist Information Center can provide information.

Tourist Information St. Gall

Bankgasse 9

9001 St.Gall

info@st.Gall-bodensee.ch

<https://st.Gall-bodensee.ch/en/about-us/tourist-information.html>

+41 71 227 37 37

Hotels

June is a busy time may be heavily booked in advance. Please book early!

Hotel Dom***

Webergasse 22, 9000 St. Gall

+41 71 227 71 71

<https://hoteldom.ch/en>

Located in the old town, just a stone's throw from the Abbey District. Good renovated hotel with nice rooms. This hotel is run by a foundation that provides traineeships and employment to persons with learning or other difficulties.

We have been able to hold a number of rooms **until April 2:**

4 Design single rooms for CHF 170,00 per night

8 Design double rooms for CHF 220,00 per night

2 Superior Design double rooms for CHF 240,00 (with air conditioning)

(+ CHF 4 tax per person and night)

Arrival: June 21

Departure: June 23

This is probably the best value for money that you can get in St. Gall

Please be sure to make your reservation before April 2! Mention IABA (Offer 542221).

Other hotels we can recommend:

Hotel Vadian**

A small hotel very close to the Abbey District, originally catering to pilgrims, with a very charming annex (dependance). A limited number of parking spaces are available upon reservation.

Gallusstrasse 36, 9000 St. Gall

+41 71 228 18 78

https://www.hotel-vadian.com/english/kontakt_en.shtml

Hotel Am Spisertor**

A simple but good hotel located on a busy road just outside the Abbey District. Parking available.

Moosbruggstrasse 1, 9000 St. Gall

+41 71 228 82 83

<https://www.spisertor.ch/158/englisch>

Hotel Metropol ***

This pleasant hotel is just across from the main railway station. There are two underground car parks nearby.

Bahnhofplatz 3, 9001 St. Gall

+41 71 228 32 32

<https://hotel-metropol.ch/en/>

Hotel Walhalla****

A comfortable business hotel next to the railway station. A limited number of parking spaces are available. Poststrasse 27, 9000 St. Gall

+41 71 228 28 00

<https://hotelwalhalla.ch>

Hotel Einstein****

Probably the hotel with the highest standard in St. Gall. Very close to the Abbey District. Parking available.

Berneggstrasse 2, 9000 St. Gall
[+41 71 227 55 55](tel:+41712275555)
<https://www.einstein.ch/en/>

Sorell Hotel City Weissenstein****

A boutique hotel, about 12 minutes' walk from the Abbey District
Davidstrasse 21, 9000 St. Gall
+41 71 228 06 28
<https://sorellhotels.com/en/city-weissenstein/stGall>

Tailormade Hotel Leo****

A new hotel behind the railway station.
Grünbergstrasse 6, 9000 St. Gall
<https://www.tailormade-hotels.com/en/leo/>

Registration

Fees and Payment Instructions

Fee for the whole program including Sunday: CHF 390 or EUR 410

Fee without Sunday: CHF 325 or EUR 340

Your registration will not be complete until after the registration fee of CHF 325 or EUR 340 per person for the Friday/Saturday Program (+ CHF 65 or EUR 70 for the optional Sunday program, if applicable) has been received.

Payment to the order of Jean-Claude Werz, Thuraustrasse 4, 9500 Wil, Switzerland
Please mention "IABA 2024" as ground for payment.
All bank charges are to be borne by the participant.

Raiffeisenbank Wil und Umgebung
9500 Wil, Switzerland
SIC BC-Number: 81320
SWIFT-BIC: RAIFCH22

Account for payments in Swiss Francs

IBAN: CH88 8080 8004 4502 9798 5

Account for payments in Euro

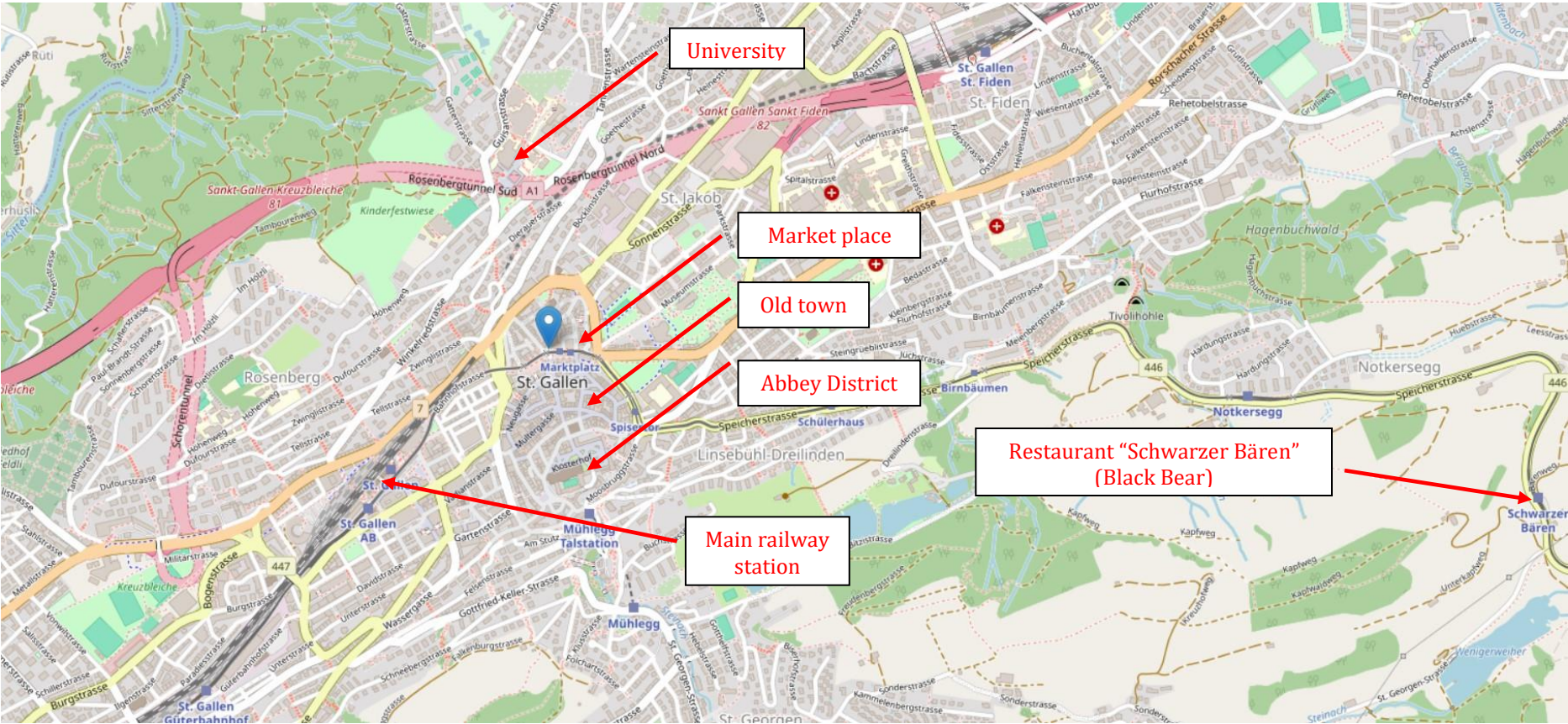
IBAN: CH81 8080 8001 0310 6266 8

We will confirm your registration by email once the registration form and the payment have been received.

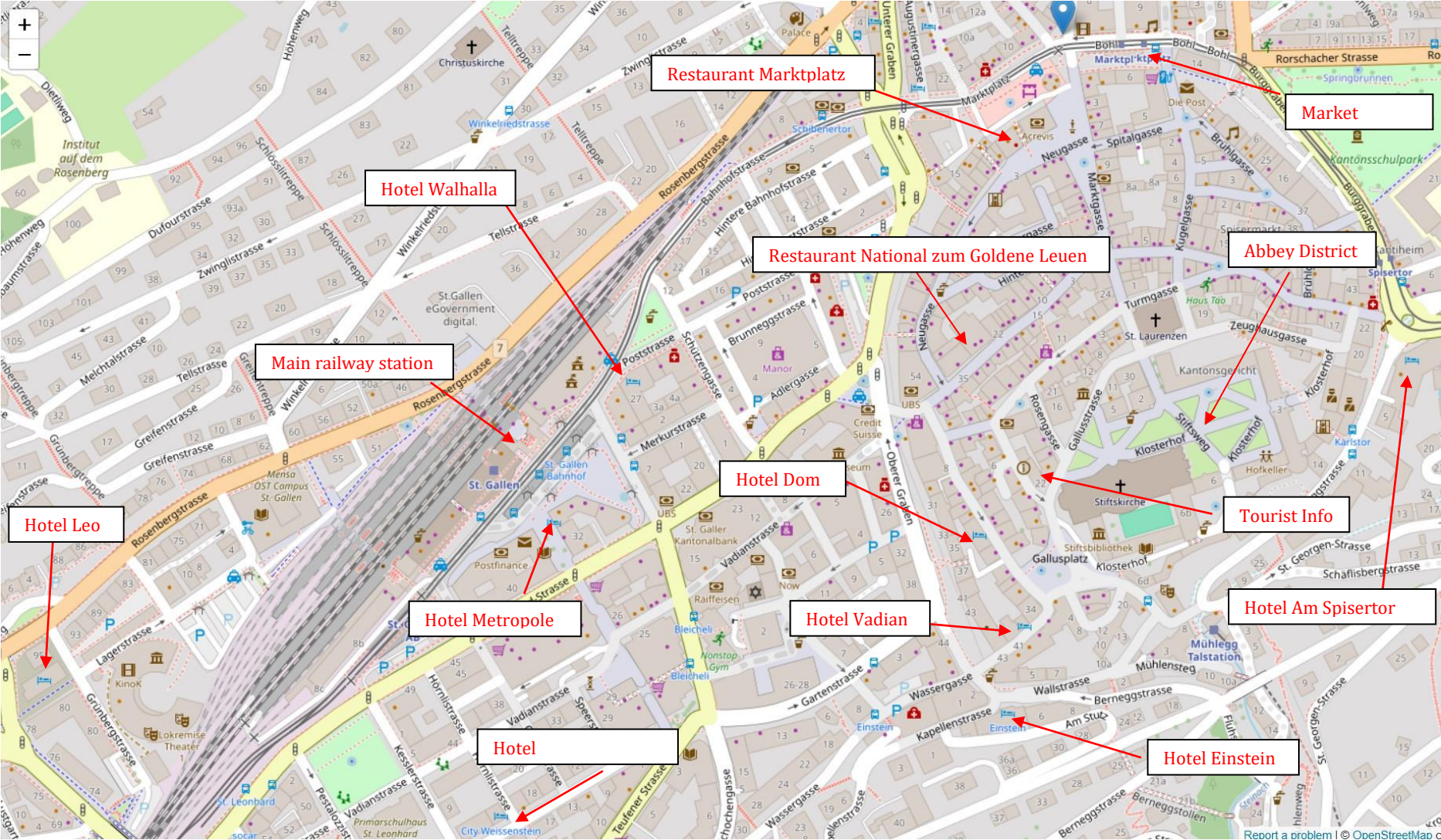
International Association of Berkeley Law Alumni in Europe

Maps

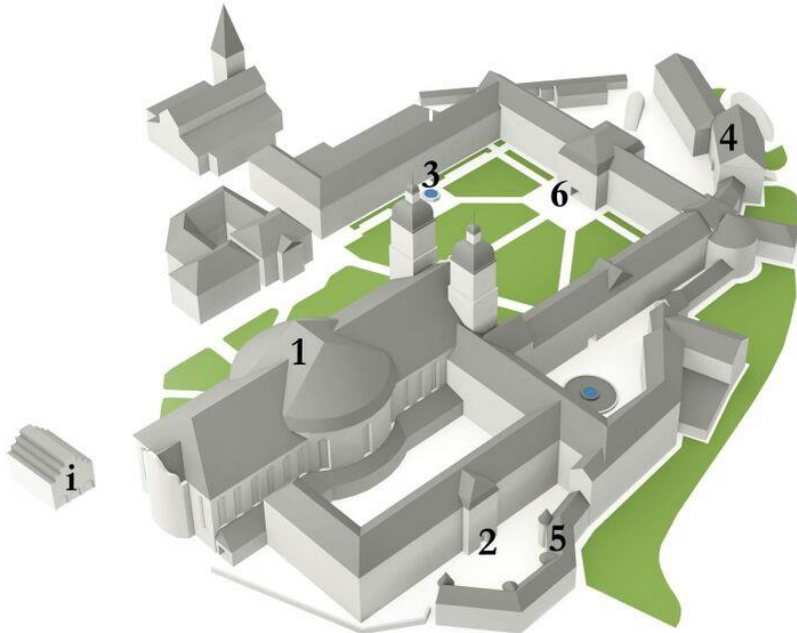
St. Gall overview



St. Gall center



The Abbey District



Legend

- 1 Cathedral
- 2 Abby Library
- 3 Abby Archives
- 4 Gate ("Karlstor")
- 5 Bistro
- 6 Main Entrance
Parliament Chamber ("Kantonsratssaal")
Anti-Chamber
- i Tourist information