**The “Free Imperial City” Schweinfurt**

As the city became a base of occupation for the Franco-Prussian army in the middle of the 19th century Schweinfurt suffered in the military occupation, which is known as the “Free Imperial City” Schweinfurt. After the revolutions of 1848/1849 Schweinfurt received the rights of a city. The Prussian occupation lasted until 1871. Schweinfurt was an important city during the Franco-Prussian War, as it was the seat of the army command. The city was occupied by the French army in 1870 and remained under French occupation until 1871, when it was returned to Germany. Schweinfurt was occupied by the French army again in 1871, when it was returned to Germany.

**Philipp Moritz Fischer** came up with an invention that would change the world of manufacturing. In 1883, he invented the ball bearing industry. Fischer was a Swiss inventor who lived in the Free Imperial City of Schweinfurt. The invention of the ball bearing industry was a huge accomplishment, as it allowed for the production of more efficient and longer-lasting machinery.

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Sights and Tours

1. St. Peter's Church
   The church was built between 1229 and 1269. The tower (1521) was added in the following years. It has a high spire and a rich facade. The church is famous for its beautiful stained glass windows, especially the Adoration of the Magi and the Annunciation.

2. Reformation Tower (Pfurtscher Turm)
   The tower was built in 1516 and is one of the oldest towers in Schweinfurt. It was used as a prison during the Reformation period.

3. St. Kilian's Church
   The church was built in the 13th century and is one of the oldest churches in Schweinfurt. It has a beautiful facade with a mix of Gothic and Romanesque elements.

4. Otto Schäfer Museum
   The museum is dedicated to the history of the city and the region. It has a collection of historical artifacts, including medieval weapons and tools. The museum is located in the former city prison.

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