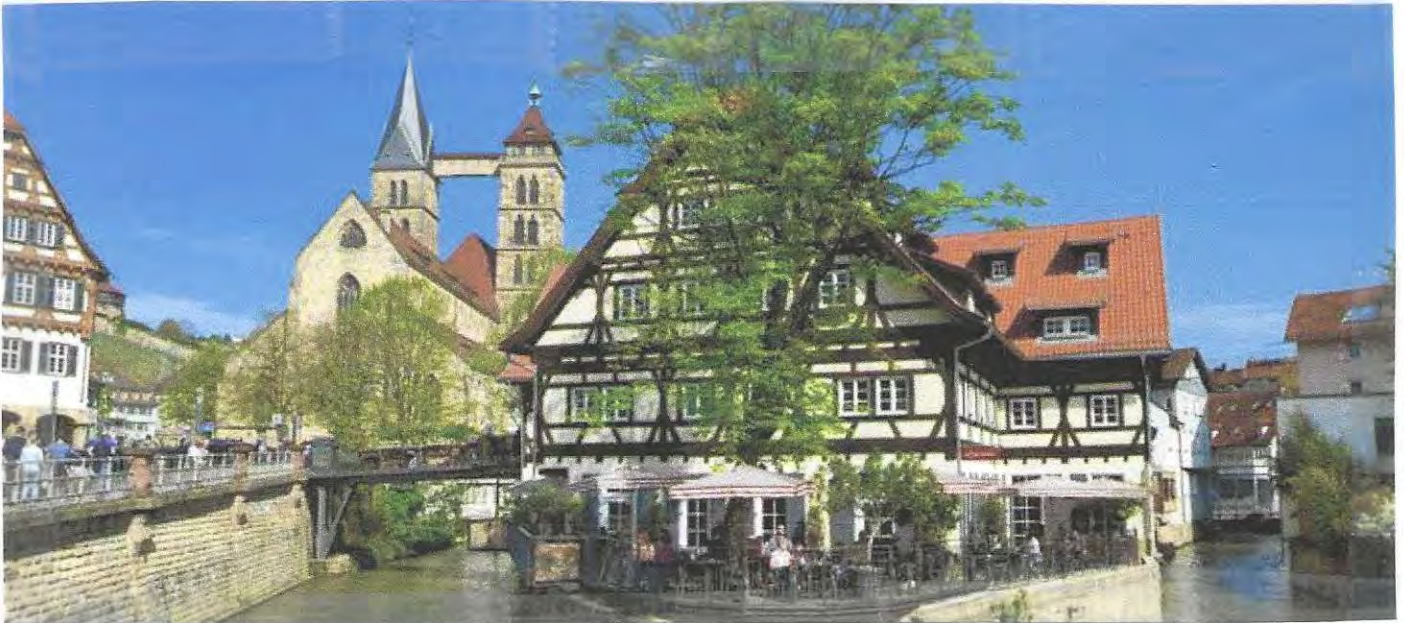


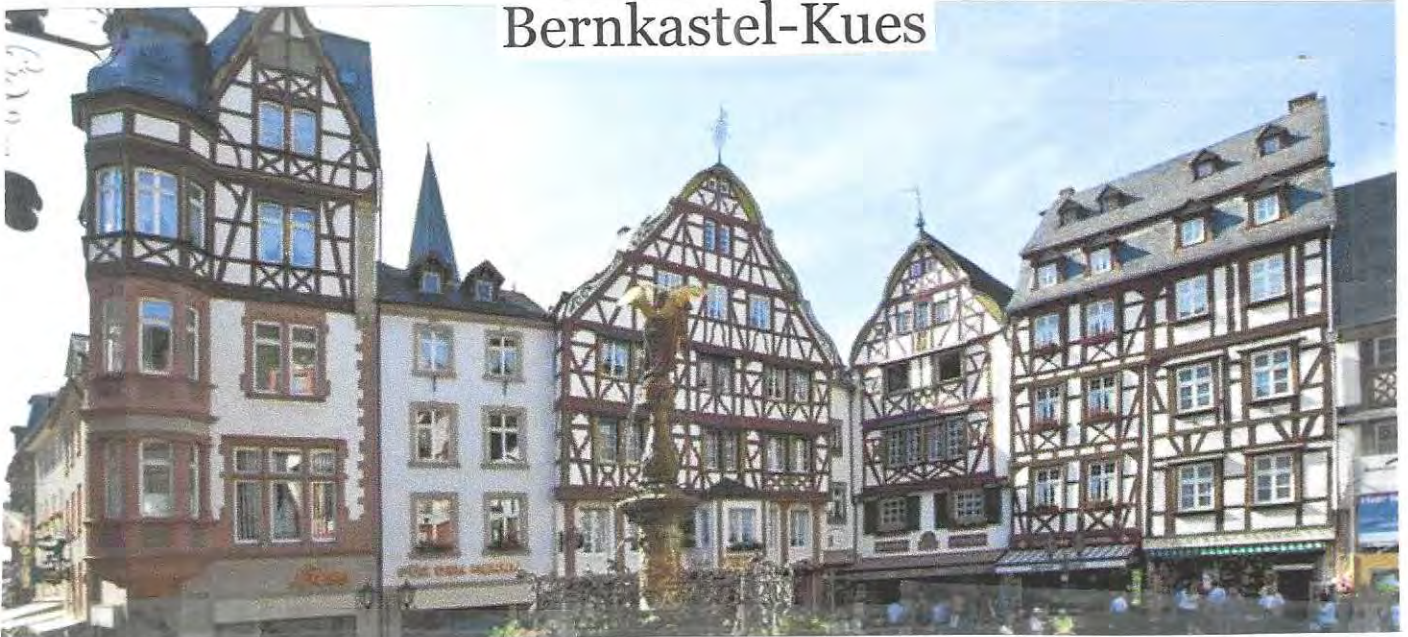
GERMANY'S PICTURESQUE HALF-TIMBERED TOWNS

Esslingen



Esslingen lies in the Neckar valley, also surrounded by vineyards. It boasts more than 200 timber frame houses dating from the 13th to the 16th centuries, and is home to the oldest connected row of half-timbered houses in Germany. The Pleghöfe, former monastic administrative buildings where the cloisters stored their wine, are typical of the town.

Bernkastel-Kues



Bernkastel lies nestled between the Moselle and vineyards. It was united with Kues on the opposite river bank in 1905. Narrow, densely built-up lanes lead to the market square, which is surrounded by magnificent timber frame buildings. The pointed roofs here are striking. Because of the lack of space, the houses were built to be as tall as possible.