

## SCHWÄBISCH GMÜND A NEW IDENTITY

Schwäbisch Gmünd has engineered a far-reaching urban redevelopment process resulting in a new green heart for the city. This comprehensive project has structurally reoriented the inner city, including its traffic patterns. Historical urban structures were re-exposed, new urban axes were formed and expansive public spaces were built. A symbol for this new Gmünd is the reclamation of a central open area: the long overbuilt outlet of the Josefsbach into the Rems stream. This river mouth (Mündung in German) is the source of the city's name. The water junction has become a link between the new and existing open areas in Gmünd: located between the train station and the old town, it links the old baroque city garden, the Remspark, open spaces along the Josefsbach and the passages to the old town, which converge to form a new, spacious green zone. Each of these areas opens onto the river mouth, imbuing it with a rich play of various relationships to and perspectives on the water. The comprehensive spatial revaluation and urban development of the inner city – which had formerly suffered from a lack of green areas - along with the attractive open areas along the water and the broad spectrum of recreational offerings strengthens the urban core, providing healthy competition for surrounding communities and sustainably gearing the traditional town for the future.









