

People from Durmersheim emigrate

The first emigrations from Durmersheim and Würmersheim are known from the 18th century.

Around 1710 there was a first wave of emigration to the Austrian Danube countries (Hungary, Transylvania, Banat). These "Donauschwaben" (Danube Swabians) moved via Ulm mostly on the Danube with ships (Ulmer Schachtel) to their new homelands.

A second wave led people from our villages to southern Russia and the Crimea.

The first documented emigrant to the New World was Michael Ebert, single, 26 years old, fortune 164 fl. In 1763 he moved to the French colonies in North America. According to the records he was only 5 shoes tall (1.40 m).

In the 19th century the emigration from Durmersheim reached its peak. Whether political reasons were decisive also in our places by the Bavarian revolution 1848/49 is to be assumed only conditionally.

Also in the years between the world wars emigrants from Durmersheim and Würmer home are noted.

The main causes were hardship, misery and despair caused by poverty, poor harvests or unemployment. The desire for adventure or travel was certainly not a predominant reason to give up one's homeland and want to build a new life as "economic refugees".

The emigration was always connected with the hope for a better life.

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In addition to various Internet research sources, including the passenger lists from overseas ports, we refer to the work results of Birgit Weißbecher-Gerstner from Rheinstetten on emigration to the USA.