

Situation, Climate and Divisions of the Town.

Dresden, the capital of Saxony, and the largest and finest city of the country, lies in a wide and fertile valley, on the two banks of the river Elbe which sweeps here in a large curve towards the South-west; and receives in and near the town the small tributaries Weisseritz, Priessnitz, and Kaitzbach.

According to the latest measurements it is 340 feet above the level of the sea, under the $51^{\circ} 3'$ North latitude, and 31° East longitude (Faro isles).

Few towns in Germany are, like Dresden, favoured by so charming a situation and so many natural beauties. The right bank of the river is hilly, and presents a picturesque aspect of tasteful villas, plantations, gardens, and vineyards. The eminence affords a fine view of the town, as well as of the rocky chain which rising about 5 miles from Dresden stretches far into Bohemia, and forms, by its variety of bold, gigantic piles of rock, wild solitudes, narrow passes, woody hills, lovely dales, and romantic waterfalls, that singular tract of country which on account of its picturesque beauty has acquired the name of Saxon Switzerland; in the same way as Dresden itself has won the flattering epithet "Elb-Florence" through its pleasant situation and its far-famed art-treasures. The town itself is by no means distinguished by buildings of grandeur, or magnificent architecture, though some houses recently