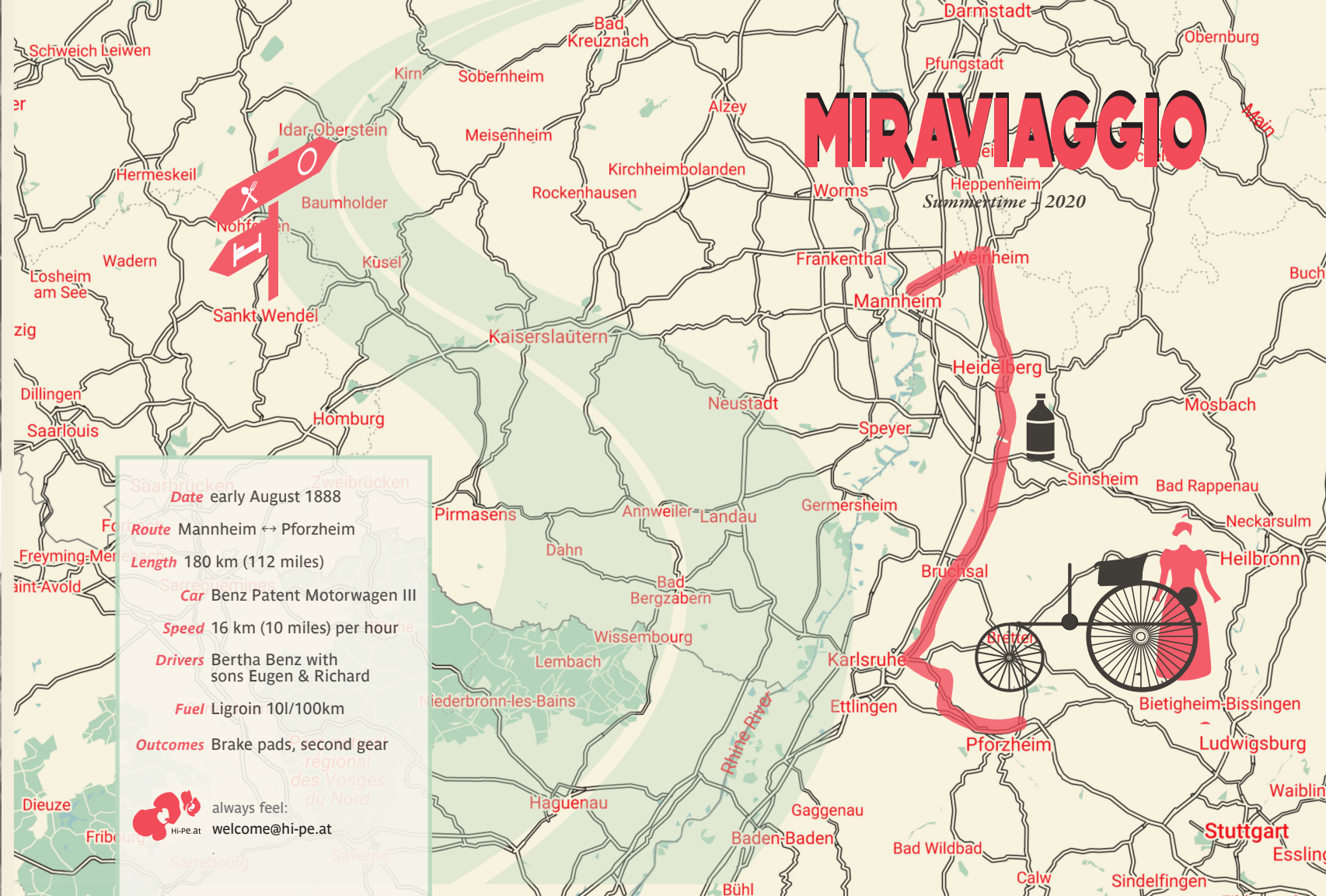


Bertha Benz
1849–1944



FIRST ROAD TRIP

by automobile

The world's first recorded long-distance road trip by automobile took place in Germany in August 1888 when Bertha Benz, the wife of Karl Benz, the inventor of the first patented motor car (the Benz Patent-Motorwagen), travelled from Mannheim to Pforzheim (a distance of 180km (112mi) in the third experimental Benz motor car (which had a maximum speed of 10 miles per hour (16 km/h)) and back, with her two teenage sons Richard and Eugen, but without the consent and knowledge of her husband.

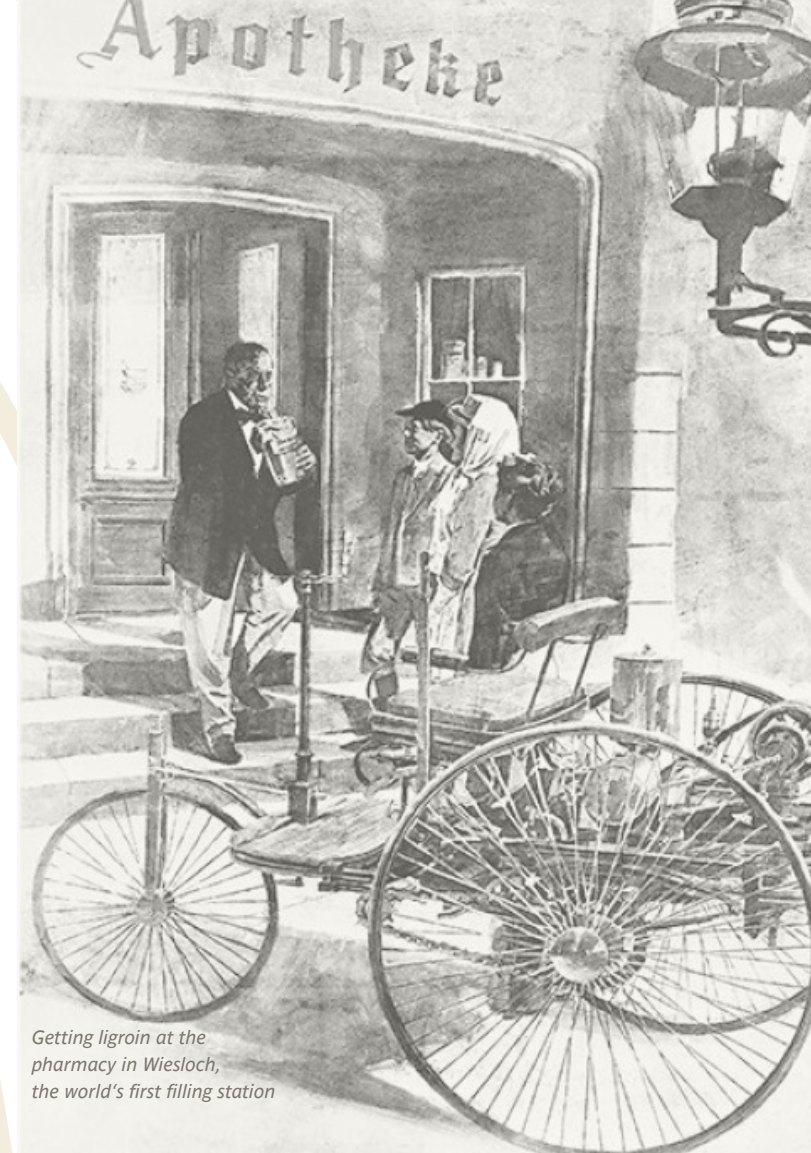
Her official reason was that she wanted to visit her mother but unofficially she intended to generate publicity for her husband's invention (which had only been used on short test drives before), which succeeded as the automobile took off greatly afterwards and the Benz's family business eventually evolved into the present day famous Mercedes-Benz company.



REVIVAL 2020

of the good-old-fashioned road trip

We are ready to, in fact, hit the road and get back to feeling like we have that freedom to travel how we want and when we want. The immediate desire is to keep those trips short, to keep them regional, to keep them easy, and to keep them affordable. Fall will be "the new Summer" when small towns, local restaurants and hotels with great hospitality and high standards can expect to see a boom. (Gabe Saglie L.A.) It may follow the "Grand-Tour", an idea of travelling for the sake of curiosity and learning in the 17th century.



Getting ligroin at the pharmacy in Wiesloch, the world's first filling station