A trip to Fairy Tale Land

Hanau – City of the Brothers Grimm

Hanau is the centre of business and culture in the east of the Rhine-Main-Region. The Rhine-Main Airport is only 25 km away from Hanau. In Hanau is where it starts: the German Fairy Tale Route. Along more than 600 km, it demonstrates the stages in the life of the brothers Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm who were born in Hanau and spent their early childhood in Hanau. This fabulous journey between Hanau and Bremen runs through the places and landscapes in which their fairy-tales are based. Every year between May and July, the old times – when making a wish did really help - come to life again: Hanau rejoices – The Brothers Grimm Fairy-Tale Festival, one of the most frequented open-air festivals in Germany.
50 km / 31 miles to

**Steinau - Home Town of the Brothers Grimm**

Once upon a time …
In Steinau fairy-tale feelings materialize. From 1791 – 1796 the father of the Brothers Grimm worked and lived here with his family, among them Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, world famous by their fairy-tales. Today there is a museum, the “House of the Brothers Grimm”

Directly in front of the big castle the market place is surrounded by historical buildings. The centre is the fairy-tale fountain, designed for the bicentenary of Jacob Grimm’s birthday. Steinau is lovely, dreamy small village with framework houses, fairy tale performances “Theatrium Steinau”, the historic castle, the devils cave with stalactites and stalagmites, Family adventure park and natural environment. For nature lovers the hills of the Spessart are an idyllic location.

65 km / 41 miles to

**Alsfeld**

Once upon a time there was a town along the route for commerce from Frankfurt to Leipzig. Until the middle of the 13C, Alsfeld was administratively incorporated. It brought prosperity in olden times. Today the charm of the town lies in the half-timbered houses grouped around the picturesque old market place. Don’t forget to visit the unique museum of the fairy-tale “Little Red Riding Hood”.

45 km / 28 miles to

**Marburg**

Marburg offers historic sites of interest as well as attractive shopping in its town centre with a medieval backdrop to a future-oriented set. Cultural facilities such as museums, galleries and exhibition halls underline this unique blend of the historic and contemporary, keeping time with theatre, concerts, festivals and events. On a stroll through the quaint and ever novel lanes you will come upon a number of traces and documents left by renowned figures such as the Brothers Grimm, Martin Luther and the Nobel laureate Emil von Behring.

80 km / 50 miles to

**Baunatal**

The city of Baunatal in the heart of Germany is situated at the Autobahn intersection of A7, A44 and A49, benefiting from excellent transport links. Thus it offers many interesting possibilities for an eventful and recreational stay. One rewarding outing is offered by the restaurant Brauhaus Knallhütte, where every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month at 5:30 pm guests will be entertained with the Brothers Grimm fairy-tales, told by Fairy-Tale Lady Dorothea Viehmann.

10 km / 6 miles to

**Kassel – Europe’s top art venue**

With its long tradition as the facial point of
contemporary art. The documenta has made Kassel the centre of the most important exhibition worldwide. The city of Kassel, with its central location in the heart of Germany, has much to offer visitors. The Bergpark Wilhelmshöhe is the world’s most unique hillside park, containing more than 600 different types of trees and bushes. Its most striking features include the mighty Hercules monument, the ornamental water landscapes, Löwenburg castle ruins. Castle Wilhelmshöhe is home to one of the biggest and most important Rembrandt collections. Kassel is the capital of the German Fairy Tale Route, where visitors can immerse themselves in the world of the Brothers Grimm, by visiting the many different museums the area has to offer.

35 km / 22 miles to

**Trendelburg**

Trendelburg castle stands on a rock and rises above the idyllic Diemel valley. Today the massive building is used as a hotel. An overnight stay promises to be a fairy-tale night of romance. Trendelburg is a quiet small town of half-timbered frame buildings. Cycle paths, hiking trails, bridle ways and canoe tours in this varied landscape are an attraction for the visitor.

10 km / 6 miles to

**Sababurg – Sleeping Beauty Castle**

Dornröschenschloss Sababurg in North Hesse’s Forest of Reinhardswald was founded in 1334. It prides itself in being the “Sleeping Beauty” castle of Brothers Grimm fame. **In 2020/21 the hotel is closed due to extensive renovations.** At the base of the castle hill lies “Tierpark Sababurg”, Europe’s oldest zoological garden. Nearby is “Urwald Sababurg” – an extensive area of uncultivated forest and the oldest nature reserve in Hesse.

20 km / 12.5 miles to

**Hann. Münden**

Alexander von Humboldt is said to have once described Hann. Münden as “one of the seven most beautifully situated towns in the world”, between the three rivers of Weser, Werra and Fulda. Thanks to intensive efforts on restoration it ranks as one of the finest half-timbered towns in Europe. Several times a day Doctor Eisenbart, a famous doctor of the baroque era, comes to life when the doctor Eisenbart chimes with its revolving clockwork figures takes place. In summer the Doctor Eisenbart play is performed in which he tells of his skills in treating ailments.

60 km / 37.5 miles to

**Fürstenberg**

Fürstenberg is perched on a cliff nearly 300 feet high above the river Weser. From this dominant position, the castle offers spectacular views over the Weser valley. The famous Fürstenberg manufactory was founded more than 250 years ago. Since then, it is not only the manufactory in Lower Saxony with the richest tradition, but also one of the oldest and most renowned porcelain manufactures in Europe.
25 km / 16 miles to **Polle**

The home of Cinderella, is located within the valleys of the Weser Mountain region. The ruin of Earl of Everstein's castle is a beautiful scenery high above the Weser river. The view over the countryside is amazing and always invites for a rest. Different fairy-tale festivals take place from May to September.

35 km / 22 miles to **Hameln**

With its population of 60,000, Hameln is the economic, cultural and touristic centre of the Weser Mountain area. The legend of the Pied Piper made Hameln world-famous. Yet the city’s wealth was obtained due to its convenient position as a trading centre on the river Weser. Such prosperity resulted in the emergence of splendidly decorated houses erected by well-to-do merchants as evidence of their affluence. Thus, Hameln evolved into a jewel of Weser Renaissance architecture. Sunday for Sunday – between mid-May and mid-September some 80 actors in historical costumes show the crowd of circa 3000 visitors from all over the world just how the loss of the Hameln children came to pass.

50 km / 31 miles to **Bad Oeynhausen**

Bad Oeynhausen is a spa town and health resort. The spa gardens, which were designed as an English country garden, and the magnificent buildings are a document of the Royal Prussian epoch. Let yourself be enchanted from the Magical Water Park, the stories in the fairy-tale museum, by the variety show artists or simply by good music in the enchanting atmosphere of the park theatre.

120 km / 75 miles to **Bremen**

Begin or end your trip by this wonderful Hanse town and consider staying in Bremen for a few days. The city of Beck’s Beer and football team Werder Bremen includes many attractions like the Schnoor – Bremen’s oldest quarter, the Weser river promenade, the unusual architecture of quaint little Böttcherstrasse or the cathedral. It is also famous for its venerable figure of Roland on the historical market square which is, as well as the Weser-Renaissance-style town hall, part of UNESCO world heritage. And last but not least, enjoy the Bremen Town Musicians from the Brothers Grimm fairy-tale.
Yearly Fabulous Performances 2020

Please note: Due to the regulations to contain the corona pandemic, many events will not take place as planned this year and many cultural institutions are temporarily closed.

You can find current information on the websites related to the event and in our calendar of events (German web page) at:

https://www.deutsche-maerchenstrasse.com/de/veranstaltungen/veranstaltungskalender/

Get inspired! - We are looking forward to welcoming you back on the German Fairy Tale Route soon!

**BAD OEYNHAUSEN**

**Fairy-tale days November**
Numerous events of fairy telling for children as well as for adults, culinary fairy-tale evening, theatre for children, handicraft workshops and films.

**BAD SOODEN ALLENDORF**

**Fairy-Tale Week April**
Young and old alike will experience a varied programme with theatre for children, fairy-tale narrations, evenings full of music, humorous speeches, fabulous hikes and guided tours. Mother Carey is plucking her goose for you every day!

**BAUNATAL**

**Brewery Knallhütte**
Brewery and restaurant, birthplace of the Brothers Grimm “Fairy-tale woman: Dorothea Viehmann”. Storytelling by “Dorothea Viehmann” every third Saturday of the month, from 5.30 pm

**BODENWERDER**

**Performance "The Baron of Munchhausen" May – October, every Sunday of the month**
2 pm concert of the Münchhausen musicians
3 pm Münchhausen performance
The Baron of Münchhausen and his company of table invite you to see the Munchhausen performance in front of the town hall.
**Bremen**

**Open-Air Fairy-Tale Performance "The Bremen Town-Musicians"**

**May – September, every Sunday at 12 am**

The Bremen Town-Musicians themselves are telling their story in the open and in front of an historical background of the old part of the town, next to the Liebfrauenkirche (church). The actors of Bremen’s Waldau-Theater are presenting the tale in a humorous way and with a lot of music.

**Hameln**

**The Pied Piper Open-Air Performance May – September, every Sunday at 12 am**

Traditional performance of the Pied Piper and his cortage in the Old Town.

**Pied Piper Musical "Rats" May – September, Wednesday, 4.30 pm**

Humorous and peppy interpretation of the saga.

Performances live at the Weddinghouse terrace in the middle of the colourful timbered houses of the Old Town, every Wednesday at 4:30 pm.

**Hanau**

**Brothers Grimm Fairy-Tale Festival May – July**

Every year the fairy tales are performed embedded in a romantic scenery in front of the Castle Philippsruhe using inventive costumes.

Activities nearly every day.

**Hann. Münden**

**“Doctor Eisenbart Performance”**

**May – October, sundays 1.30pm-1.45pm**

The short performance presenting the life of the travelling Physician of the 17th/early 18th century. His special medical
treatment is performed in the historic Town Hall.

HOFGEISMAR

Sleeping Beauty Castle Sababurg
In 2020/21 the castle hotel is closed due to extensive renovations. Castle as well as fairy tale fans can still visit Sababurg castle. From April until the end of October, the grounds, including the wall-walk and the terrace, are open to visitors. Visitors can also look forward to an interesting program of cultural events. Information: www.erlebnis-sababurg.de/en

Deer park Sababurg
Oldest European zoo with forest and hunting museum, raptor show, natural forest Sababurg, trips with coaches and fairy-tale pottery. Open daily, all year round

KASSEL-WILHELMSHÖHE

Wilhelmshöher Wasserkünste (waterfall displays) May – October
Europe’s biggest and unique hill park the Bergpark Wilhelmshöhe offers romantic nature and fascinating play of water (UNESCO-World Heritage). Waterfall displays: Ascension Day until the beginning of October, every Wednesday as well as sundays and on holidays at 2.30 pm, illuminated play of water: every first Saturday of the month from June to September starting at the beginning of the dusk.

KNÜLLWALD

Deer park
All year round
40 different animal species are located here. Marked paths lead through the park. Open daily, all year round

POLLE

Cinderella-Performance May – September, every third Sunday of the month
The play takes place amidst the ruins of the romantic castle Polle. The scenery couldn’t be more fabulous. Further fairy-tale performances upon request.

STEINAU A. D. STRABE

„Theatrium Steinau“ All year round
Playing in the former royal sheds of the Renaissance castle Steinau the different fairy-tale performances like puppet-theatre are not only enchanting the children but also the adults. Closed on Mondays
**WESER AND FULDA (RIVERS)**

**River navigations March – October**
Delightful river navigation through the rural idyll of the Weser Uplands the Fulda valley.
Liner trade and extra trips for groups.
Fabulous Museums

**ALSFELD**

**Alsfeld Fairy Tale House**
Exhibition with theme “Little Red Riding Hood” and dollhouse
Open: Sat. 10.30 am – 12.30 pm, 2 pm – 5 pm
Sun. 2 pm – 5 pm
(Groups by arrangement)

**BAD OYNHAUSEN**

**Museum of German Fairy Tales and Weser River Sagas**
The museum collects a wide range of visual fairy tales such as book, pictures, puppets and the image processing of fairy tales in modern arts.
Open: Wed.- Sun. 10 am – 12 am, 2 pm - 5 pm

**BAD WILDUNGEN - BERGFREIHEIT**

**House of Snow White**
Originally a miner’s cottage with multimedia applications to the historical background of the story. You see Snow White & Dwarfs always on the second Sunday of the month.
Open: April – October, Sat.- Sun. 3 pm – 5 pm
(Groups by arrangement)

**BODENWERDER**

**Munchhausen Museum**
The exhibits of the lovely museum the tourist of the “Lügenbaron” or “Tall Tales Baron”.
Open: daily from Eastern until October, 10 am – 5 pm
Fürstenberg

Porcelainmanufactory Fürstenberg

Porcelain Painting in the Porcelain Manufactory all year round, Museum and Shop, changing special exhibitions
Open: Tue.- Sun. 10 am – 5 pm

Hamelin

Museum of local history

The saga of the Pied Piper of Hamelin is domiciled at that place and represented in a technical way.
Open: Tue.- Sun. 11 am – 6 pm

Hessisch Lichtenau

"Holleum"

Museum of Mother Hulda. Four different worlds present the legends, myths and fairy tales of this fascinating lady.
Open: Sun. 2 pm – 5 pm

Mother Hulda Park
Different elements like gate, bridge, sculptures and plates of bronze with fairytale quotes.

Hessisch Oldendorf

Schillat Stalactite Caves all year round

The Schillat Cave has a length of 180 m and is situated 45 m below earth. The Cave displays imposing stalactites and stalacmites as well as a large exposition.
Open: April – October, Tue. - Sun. 10 am – 2 pm
**KASSEL**

**GRIMM WORLD Kassel**

A new exhibition about the Brothers Grimm in a purpose-built centre. It is aimed at all kinds of visitors, whether children or senior citizens, families or school groups, experts or lay people, and covers all interests, from art and language to fairy tales. Open: Tue. - Sun. 10 am – 6 pm / Fri. 10 am – 8 pm

**POLLE**

**Cinderella Room**

Sculpture of Cinderella in front of the stove surrounded by pigeons.
Cinderella path around the ruin castle Polle

**SCHAUENBURG**

"Märchenwache" Schauenburg

A fixed exhibition in honour of Friedrich Krause and Marie Hassenpflug, two narrators of Grimm fairy tales, showing books, woodcuts and etchings. Changing concerts, lectures and special exhibitions. Open: Sun. 3 pm – 6 pm

**SCHWALMSTADT**

**Museum of the Schwalm**

Exhibition of the picturesque Schwäler Tracht (traditional local costume), reminding of the fairy-tale: Little Red Riding Hood.
Opened: Tue. – Sun. 2 pm – 5 pm
(Groups by arrangement)
STEINAU AN DER STRAßE

Brothers Grimm House

A permanent exhibition showing the life and work of the Brother’s Grimm focuses on the teenage time spent on the main and Kinzig river as well as the topic of sagas and fairy tales. In addition: changing special exhibitions
Open: every day from 10 am – 5 pm