



## **Fairy Tale, Castle, Forest - World Heritage**

### **History and Stories along the German Fairy Tale Route**

It is 200 years ago since the Brothers Grimm first published their Children and Household Tales. In the meantime they have been translated into 170 languages and are as widespread and popular around the globe as the Lutheran bible. Subsequently in 2005 the so called personal copies of Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm were listed on the Unesco Memory of the World Register.

Since 1975 the German Fairy Tale Route invites fairy tale lovers and people interested in the Brothers Grimm from all over the world to follow the traces of the famous brothers and their fairy-tale characters. The journey starts at Hanau, birthplace of Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, includes stages of their lives at Steinau and Marburg and reaches one of its peaks at Kassel. This was where the brothers spent, by their own account, their most productive period. Everybody who visits Kassel, the capital of the German Fairy Tale Route, ought to explore Wilhelmshöhe hillside park: Only recently declared Unesco World Heritage Site it represents a part of the town, a part of the "GrimmHome NorthHesse" as the Grimms themselves knew it. From their home at the Guard House they always had a view of the hillside park and the castle, where Jacob worked as a librarian.

From Kassel, the main itinerary of the German Fairy Tale Route runs through Reinhardswald forest and the fabulous Weser Uplands to the sea. Fairy tales, myths and legends can be discovered in dark forests and massive ruins, in romantic castles and the winding alleys of small towns with timber-framed houses. In many places you will be able to experience the stories and their characters on walks, guided tours and on stage.

However, you can also follow the marvellous route from Kassel to the west until Kellerwald forest in order to discover another Unesco World Heritage: The truly fabulous and unspoilt beech forest. The Fairy Tale Route, steeped in history, also invites you to make a detour to the east: Take a trip through Meißnerland with Mother Hulda's mountain in direction to the Wartburg Castle World Heritage Site.

Your "fabulous World Heritage tour" ought to find a worthy conclusion at the Bremen Townhall: Likewise declared World Heritage, and with the Bremen town musicians directly in front of it, daily admired, touched and asked for good luck by hundreds of visitors from all over the world.

Deutsche Märchenstraße

German Fairy Tale Route Association

Kurfürstenstraße 9, 34117 Kassel

Phone: 0049 561 9204 79-10, fax: 0049 561 9204 79-30

Email: [info@deutsche-maerchenstrasse.de](mailto:info@deutsche-maerchenstrasse.de) Internet [www.deutsche-maerchenstrasse.de](http://www.deutsche-maerchenstrasse.de)