

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 "Theatrum 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 recreative 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. (Just closed)



10 km/6 miles to

Kassel

Europe's top art venue with its long

tradition as the focal 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 2023-25 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 Hansetown 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 2023

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

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

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!



Bodenwerder

Performance "The Baron of Munchhausen", May – October, every first 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 showtunes-Ensemble are presenting the tale in a humorous way and with a lot of music.



Hameln

The Pied Piper Open-Air Performance, May 14 - September 17, Sundays at 12 am
Traditional performance of the Pied Piper and His Entourage in the Old Town.



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

Humorous and peppy interpretation of the saga.

Open-air performance 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 12 - July 30

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 to early 18th century. His special medical treatment is performed in the historic Town Hall.



Hofgeismar

Sleeping Beauty Castle Sababurg

The castle hotel we be closed due to extensive renovations from 2023 to 2025. 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. Open daily, all year round.

Kassel-Wilhelmshöhe

Wilhelmshöher Wasserkünste (waterfall displays) May 1 - October 03

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 performance takes place amidst the ruins of the romantic castle Polle. The scenery couldn't be more fabulous. Further fairy-tale performances upon request.

Steinau an der Straße

„Theatrum 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 (river)

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

A museum with the theme of „Little Red Riding Hood“ and dollhouses from two centuries

Open: Sat. 10.30 am – 12.30 pm, 2 pm – 5 pm

Sun. 2 pm – 5 pm

(Groups by arrangement)



Bad Oeynhausen

Museum of German Fairy Tales

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

Hieronymus of Muenchhausen Museum

The museum documents how Muenchhausen's adventures turned into a world bestseller.

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



Hanau

Museum „GrimmsMärchenReich“ (Fairytale Museum)

There is a lot to discover in the new Grimms Märchenreich, an
exciting interactive museum by children for children from 4
years at Philippsruhe castle.
Open: Tue. - Sun. 11 am – 6 pm



Hessisch-Lichtenau

Museum "Holleum"

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

Mother Hulda Park

A lovely garden with different elements like a 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

An 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 permanent 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 Schwälmer 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 life and work of the Grimm Brothers. It is focused on the teenage years as well as the topic of sagas and fairy tales. In addition: changing special exhibitions. Open: every day from 10 am – 5 pm

