

## From Gothic to Gehry

Discover Herford







## From Gothic to Gehry

Herforders knew 1,200 years ago how female leadership qualities could make history; one of the oldest convents in Europe is also one of the most important original sites in Herford.

The town grew up around this spiritual centre from A.D. 851. Historic buildings such as the Minster or the mediaeval manor house bear impressive witness to the power and splendour of bygone days.

Sancta Herfordia – blessed Herford – is the home of the mediaeval hall church. There are three of them inside the ancient city wall and a fourth only a few steps outside the city gates.

Herford Minster, built in the late Gothic style with high and late Gothic additions, is the oldest large-scale construction of a hall church in Germany.

The nearby Marta Herford – Museum of Contemporary Art, Architecture and Design – documents the courage, willingness to change and cosmopolitanism of the present time.

In this unique sculptural space, designed by top US architect, Frank Gehry, the everyday is re-examined in an artistic light, and the future brought into the present. The exhibitions that have been staged against this artistic background since the building opened have taken spectacular, unconventional and extraordinary directions, achieving frequent recognition in the international press.





# Culture is in the air



It is not only the Marta Museum that draws culture enthusiasts to Herford. The Daniel Pöppelmann Building offers a further cultural treat. The museum complex enjoys a picturesque setting on the town's moat comprising the former mansion of the entrepreneur Heinrich Schönfeld and the exhibition hall which was added later by the renowned architect Dieter Oesterlen. The Herford Art Association exhibits a changing selection of the classical modern and contemporary art. Following a period of extensive restoration, the Villa Schönfeld emerged in May 2013 as a listed building and is now an

accessible exponent of many aspects of the town's history.

The Nordwestdeutsche Philharmonie is the musical flagship of the region, enchanting audiences with its many concerts.

Events such as the popular Hoeker-Fest, the Herford Organ Summer or Christmas Light shine out well beyond Herford itself and provide visitors with a new reason to visit every year.





## We are Hanse

What does a typical Hanseatic town look like? Thoughts turn automatically northwards. Stop a minute – right here!

Did you know the heartland of the German Hanse is Westphalia? There are more Hanseatic towns here than anywhere else. And Herford itself was one of them. From the Middle Ages to the 17th century, Herford was a Hanseatic town.

There is a strong tradition of trade and handicraft in Herford. Thanks to furniture manufacture, heavy engineering, clothing manufacture and the plastics industry, a wide range of business interests thrive here. Names like Herforder Brauerei, Humana Baby foods, Sulo and Poggenpohl provide the strong commercial back-

bone of Herford. Textiles play a vital role today just as they always did. Well-know brands such as bugatti, Pierre Cardin and Brax are all based in this town on the Werre. Dedicated shoppers are particularly attracted by the offers in the various outlet stores.

The oldest and longest pedestrian precinct in Germany invites visitors to linger, browse and shop. After all the shopping possibilities have been exhausted, traditional cuisine tempts the visitor to recover and relax.





## **Active relaxation**

The foothills of the Teutoburg Forest and the Aa and Werre rivers form part of an attractive landscape that has much to offer cyclists, canoeists and ramblers.

Cycling tours along the Soleweg or the Wittekindsroute, an escorted canoe trip on the local rivers or an extended walking tour along the Hansaweg or the Jakobsweg offer the perfect antidote to a fastmoving everyday lifestyle.

H20 Herford, with its generous sauna and wellness world refuge is the perfect place to relax.

In the sauna, the wellness centre or the swimming pool, body and soul are brought into equilibrium.

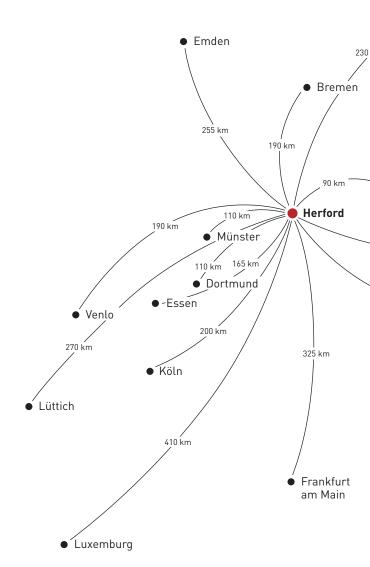
On the 400 m<sup>2</sup> jungle island of Tabokin, children can have exciting adventures in a unique water park.

Herford Zoo is another attractive day trip destination for little visitors. The inner city wall which provides the green belt around Herford, the Aawiesenpark and the area around the Bismarck Tower on Stuckenberg are all popular places to retreat to and to enjoy the benefits of nature.

Curious? Discover the diversity of the town on the Werre and experience for yourself the treasures of Herford from Gothic to Gehry.









Hamburg

km



Berlin

• Hannover

\_\_\_ 380 km <sup>\_\_</sup>

` 250 km \_\_\_\_\_ ● Leipzig



H20



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#### **Tourist-Information Herford**

friendly, helpful and competent Linnenbauerplatz 6, 32052 Herford

We are the central contact point for residents and visitors alike:

- Information on hotels and holiday apartments
- Package deals for groups and independent travellers
- Information about events and sights
- advance ticket sales for regional events
- agent for city guided tours
- Souvenirs

#### Opening hours:

Tuesday to Friday 11:00 – 18:00 Saturday 10:00 – 14:00

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