

Our best places and stories

Düsseldorf

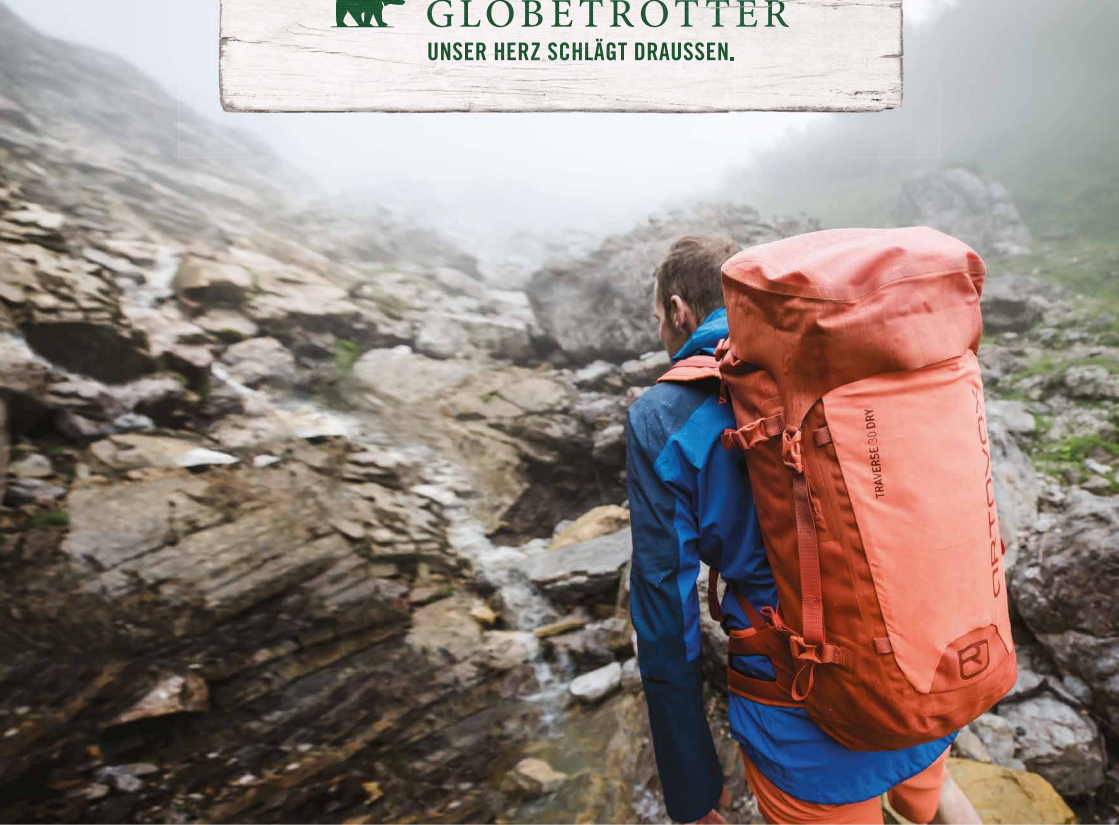
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Welcome to Düsseldorf

Everything's close together in Düsseldorf. We are the only major German city that still has the word 'dorf' (village) in its name – although it has long since become a global village. And that's entirely in tune with the tolerant and cosmopolitan way of life that is cultivated everywhere in the city.

This is why you'll feel completely at home in Düsseldorf. We Rhinelanders quickly give you a sense of belonging. Take a seat in one of our famous brewery inns or sit for a while on the steps of the Rheintreppe (Rhine Terrace Steps). You'll quickly discover that people love to chat.

Our magazine is sure to provide you with inspiration for your visit. You'll pick up some interesting facts about well-known buildings and popular spots. We also have plenty of anecdotes in store for you and will show you the best places to take photos.

We can't wait to share our city with you!
The Düsseldorf Tourism team

#VisitDuesseldorf

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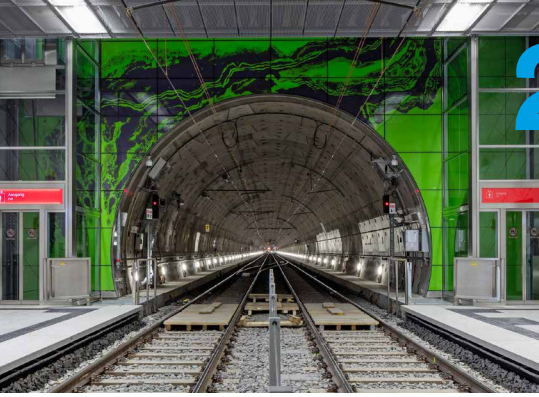


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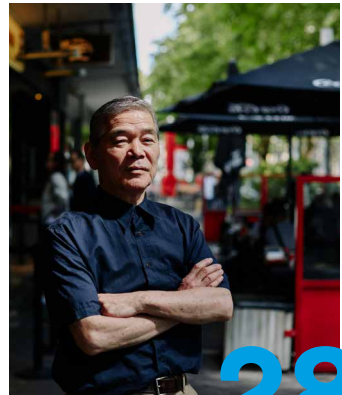
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City centre





Everything's close together in Düsseldorf. And nowhere is that truer than in the Altstadt (Old Town), known as the 'longest bar in the world' because of the 260-plus pubs, bars and restaurants – many with outdoor seating – packed into an area of around half a square kilometre.

Altstadt Old Town



So, does Düsseldorf really have the longest bar in the world?

Well, you won't find the 'longest bar in the world' in an actual bar. In fact, this term describes an entire microcosm that takes in over 260 pubs, bars and restaurants in Düsseldorf's Altstadt, its Old Town. A melting pot of people from all walks of life for some 350 years. But it's not just a place for socialising. There are also fashion boutiques and an art museum, and lots of brewery inns that serve mouthwatering food.

What makes Düsseldorf's Altbier different from other beers?

Altbier, which literally means 'old beer', is a traditional top-fermented dark ale. Made using long-established methods, it was a craft beer long before the art of brewing was supposedly rediscovered. It also has a distinctive dark copper colour and tastes like heaven in a glass!

Why is the waiter so unfriendly to me?

Don't be taken aback if the waiters at a brewery inn are a little brusque. It's part of their job spec but there's no malice intended. The breweries best embody the typical Rhineland way of life. The distinctive charm of the brewery inns with their long wooden tables, big servings and great conversations brings people together. Anyone can take a seat here and the Köbes (waiter) will bring over a fresh draught beer. Indeed, the

waiter will keep bringing you fresh beer until you cover your empty 0.2-litre glass with your beer mat! In summer people also stand outside, in front of the brewery inns and bars. Getting back to your accommodation? No problem! You'll find an underground station and taxis on Heinrich-Heine-Allee.

What can I expect to find on the Food Walk tour?

Nowhere else will you find so many different international foods in one place – from the famous pizza on cardboard plates and Asian street food to premium steak in the Andreas Quarter. The brewery inns focus on rustic cuisine. Rhenish sauerbraten is particularly popular.

Is there also street food at the traditional weekly market?

Welcome to Düsseldorf's beating heart! Welcome to Carlsplatz! This city square offers all kinds of places – from soup shack to patisserie – to enjoy some great food and drink, and you are more than welcome to take photos. It's a feast of colours and flavours. In recent years the market has reinvented itself. Lots of modern street food concepts have popped up and you can enjoy wine from fantastic winemakers. Meanwhile, many florists, butchers and fishmongers can still tell you plenty of anecdotes about times past when the market still had to be dismantled every evening.

Our tip

If you want to find out more about the Old Town and its stories, book a guided tour. Tradition meets modern beer brewing on a craft beer tour, for example, where you can take a look behind the scenes with brewmasters and 'beerkeepers'. For those who want to concentrate on culinary delights, there's a three-hour Food Walk that will even take you to a mustard shop and a spice emporium. Find out more at: visitduesseldorf.de



Köbes



Carlsplatz

Photo: Sabrina Weniger
© Wochenmarkt Karlplatz GmbH & CO. KG

City centre

Our tip

The Old Town has always been a meeting point for many musicians. Famous bands such as Kraftwerk or Die Toten Hosen have their roots here. The German punk scene came together on Ratinger Strasse at the end of the 1970s. 'The Sound of Düsseldorf' is a tour that explores this history and takes you to places that have defined pop culture. If you'd like to take a stroll around the 15 most historic places for Düsseldorf pop music, check out the online guide 'Sound of #urbanana': nrw-tourismus.de/soundofurbanana.

So what's really old in the Altstadt?

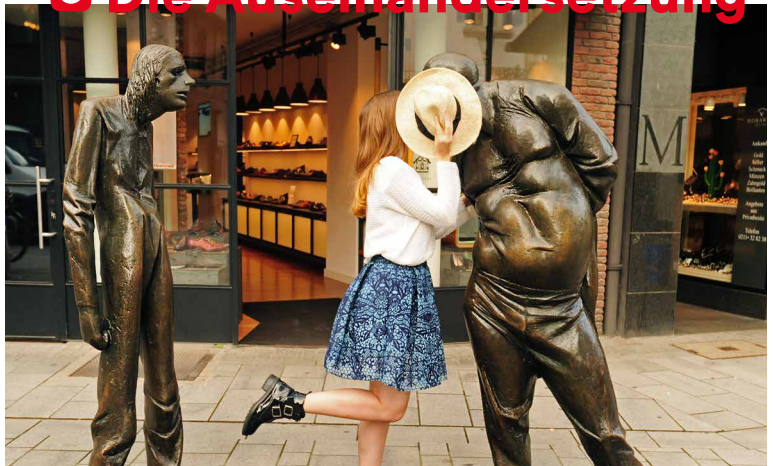
Quite a lot. Even though Düsseldorf is a relatively young city, our former fishing village still has plenty of history. Stand somewhere near the Gothic Kreuzherrenkirche – the church attached to Düsseldorf's first monastery – and you'll feel that you really are back in the 'village on the Düssel'. On nearby Stiftsplatz you will see the Church of St. Lambertus, surrounded by pretty little brick houses. The twisted church tower is one of the most striking landmarks on the Düsseldorf skyline. It is also a signpost – to the quietest part of the otherwise bustling Altstadt.

Who are the two men quarrelling?

The name of this bronze sculpture is 'Die Auseinandersetzung' (Dispute). It stands not on a pedestal but at ground level on Mittelstrasse. At the time it was made in the mid-1970s, the sculptor Karl-Henning Seemann and his milieu were exploring the conflict between

the 1968 generation and their parents and grandparents who had experienced the Second World War. The sculpture expresses their mutual misunderstanding in the shape of a quarrel. It has since become one of the most-photographed works of art in the city. One almost feels compelled to step in between the two men and make peace. But it's actually quite a common phenomenon for people who see it for the first time to want to take sides – with the 'fat one' or the 'thin one'.

📍 Die Auseinandersetzung





Killepitsch[®]
Der fein-herbe Kräutertlikör

What you shouldn't miss when you visit the Altstadt.

A nightcap at Et Kabüffke, with a shot of Killepitsch, Düsseldorf's herbal liqueur. What's unusual about the bar? Patrons stand closely huddled together. The fact is, it costs more to sit than to stand at Et Kabüffke. This little 'tasting room' is easy to find – it's opposite the Uerige brewery and close to the tourist information office.



Our tip

The Kö isn't only a shopping street and a boulevard. It is also the setting for numerous events. These range from book markets and gourmet festivals to sports events such as cycle races. Find out more in our online calendar at: visitduesseldorf.de

Where does this famous street's name come from?

At one time, the Kö was known as Kastanienallee because it was lined with magnificent chestnut trees. However, in 1848 the King of Prussia, Frederick William IV, announced a visit to Düsseldorf – then a quite sleepy town. Enraged by what they saw as unjust Prussian edicts, the populace gave the king an anarchic welcome – pelting him with horse dung. One such missile is even said to have actually hit his coat. To restore the city to the

king's good graces, Kastanienallee was swiftly renamed Königsallee (King's Avenue).

Is it really true that prices here are astronomical?

Well, deep pockets are definitely an advantage. Those who love luxury brands will find everything their hearts desire here. But there's also a more affordable option. Simply take a seat at one of the pavement cafés, order a latte, and watch people strolling past. It's almost like a fashion show.





Why are there what look like green parrots flying around in the trees?

Because these smart birds live here for free. Actually native to Africa and Asia, our ring-necked parakeets took up residence in the Rhineland some years ago. In Düsseldorf, they've picked the grandest address they could find. During the day, the green birds swoop around in the neighbouring Hofgarten park. At dusk, you can see and hear a true spectacle of nature, when the parakeets return and choose their roosts in the plane trees on the Kö.

How many bridges are there on Königsallee?

Three. And with their ornate balustrades, they're the perfect backdrop for a little photo shoot. At the northern end, you will see not only beautiful Corneliusplatz and the architecturally imposing Kö-Bogen, but also Germany's oldest public park – the Hofgarten.

Shopping



📷 Kö-Graben



Medien Hafen



Our tip

The Düsseldorf window test: if you're feeling brave enough, you can lie on the tilted glass surfaces in the Rheinturm (Rhine Tower). It's worth it for the unique bird's eye view – and for the impressed looks from the less daring visitors!

Why couldn't the architects decide on a single style?

The regeneration of the old port is one of Düsseldorf's most spectacular projects. National and international 'starchitects' such as Helmut Jahn, David Chipperfield and Renzo Piano have been immortalised here over the last 30 years. What's special is that the architectural diversity produces a creative connection with the river and shipping. The buildings have distinctive names such as Wolkenbügel, SIGN! or The Living Bridge. The MedienHafen can be easily covered on foot.

What are the flashing lights on the Rheinturm (Rhine Tower)?

What looks like signal lights for the ships on the Rhine is actually the city's biggest timepiece. This is a decimal clock on which you can read the time to

the precise second – if you know how to do it. Working from top to bottom, the lights display ten-hour blocks, single hours and blocks of ten minutes. And by the way, standing at a height of 240.5 metres, the Rhine Tower is the city's tallest building. As well as a viewing platform, it also houses a restaurant.

Are the old port cranes still operating?

These days the port cranes tend to serve more as the subject of photos. But even though traditional port activities have over time been transferred to neighbouring Neuss, the rough and ready atmosphere of a port is still evident in the MedienHafen. The patina of quay walls, the cast-iron railings and the rail tracks all provide a compelling contrast to the otherwise modern and vibrant atmosphere.



Has a UFO landed at the tip of the headland?

One of the most beautiful viewing points in Düsseldorf is Pebble's Terrace, with the luxurious Hyatt Hotel visible behind it. You can take a seat here beside the UFO-like pavilion – clad with aluminium shingles – and drink a sundowner. A truly premium spot for enjoying an unobstructed view of the city and the river.

Our tip

How can I find out more about these spectacular buildings? Simply take a guided tour of the Medien-Hafen with Düsseldorf Tourismus. visitduesseldorf.de

Where are most of the selfies taken?

The Gehry Buildings are extremely popular with Instagrammers, fashion snappers and people taking adult education courses in photography. There is pretty much always someone taking a picture here. The three swaying towers in white, silver and red are the most eye-catching feature of the MedienHafen. Tilted walls, warped towers, windows canted within the walls – every detail is worth a snap. The Californian architect Frank O. Gehry, who previously designed the spectacular Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, bestowed a magnificent gift on Düsseldorf. There is not a single straight line in the three side-by-side buildings. Although popularly known as the Gehry Buildings, the ensemble – mainly home to advertisers, lawyers and architects – is actually called the Neuer Zollhof.

Pebble's



Gehry Buildings



Rhine



Our tip

Why not mix things up a little when you're in Düsseldorf?

A great way to see the city from another perspective is on a pleasure cruise, either around the MedienHafen or as far as Kaiserswerth.

Find out more at: visitduesseldorf.de

Is it true the city didn't always make the most of its location on the Rhine?

That's right. It's hard to imagine now, but some 55,000 vehicles a day used to drive right alongside the Rhine. Until someone finally came up with the idea of reacquainting the city with its river. It was a once-in-a-lifetime project for Düsseldorf. As a result, since 1995 it has once again been possible to stroll along the Rhine embankment promenade. The wavy cobbles are a nod to the Rhine's proximity. In the meantime, it is not only pedestrians and cyclists who come here: there are also lots of skaters on Joseph-Beuys-Ufer.

What makes a walk along the Rhine embankment so special?

It's special because this is where you can see how the city really lives. If you take the footpath or cycle track, you'll regularly come across boules players

doing their thing. Or you may see tango dancers twirling in front of the Johannes Rau Monument. It's a beautiful two-kilometre walk from the MedienHafen to Kunstakademie – or vice versa. Along the way, the plane trees that line the riverside embankment are a particularly pleasing sight. People just love taking pictures of their canopy of leaves.

So, come on, tell me! Why are there sheep in the middle of the city?

From springtime to autumn, the Rhine meadows on the Oberkassel riverbank belong to the sheep. The flocks and their shepherds symbolise a slower pace of life right in the heart of the city. The sheep patiently munch the grass and they are an integral part of the Düsseldorf cityscape. Here's a fun fact: these flocks of sheep actually do an important job here. They ensure that the grass is kept short! Otherwise the

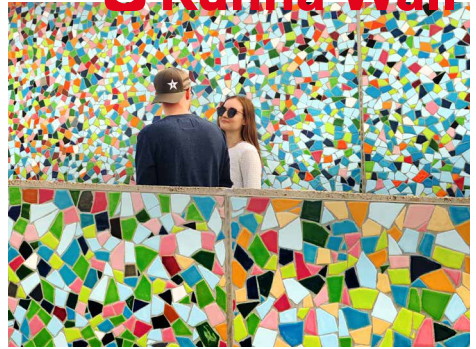


city would have to mow the meadows constantly. And they also act as a kind of living lawn roller, with their combined body weight contributing to the upkeep of the embankment.

Where can I get the best view of the river?

On the terrace of the Tonhalle, at the Kasematten (casemates), or on the steps of the Rheintreppe (Rhine Terrace Steps) on Burgplatz. The Rheintreppe is not just the best place on the Rhine to watch cargo and cruise ships. It's also a gigantic work of art. Professor Hermann-Josef Kuhna, an alumnus of Düsseldorf's Kunstakademie, and 20 of his art students spent 7,400 hours painting coloured shards of tile on the bare concrete walls here. Today, their 'Rivertime' mosaic – known as the Kuhna Wall – makes an ideal backdrop for a perfect portrait photo.

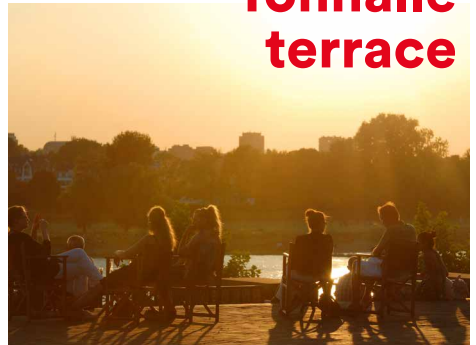
Instagram Kuhna Wall



Kasematten



Tonhalle terrace



Art and culture



Which great artists studied at Düsseldorf's Kunstakademie?

The Kunstakademie has produced many artists who went on to achieve world fame. And Gerhard Richter and Joseph Beuys were influential teachers there. The Düsseldorf School of Photography, founded by Bernd and Hilla Becher, has been particularly inspiring. Among its best known members are Thomas Ruff, Thomas Struth and Andreas Gursky. The latter's 1999 work 'Rhine II' is reckoned to be the world's most expensive photograph, having sold at an auction in New York for 3.1 million euros.

I hear you can clamber through nets 25 metres above the ground beneath a glass dome. Is that right?

Yes! Tomás Saraceno's installation 'in orbit' extends like a surreal landscape across an area of 2,500 square metres above the plaza of K21 Ständehaus. Those daring enough can climb up and explore the transparent steel nets which are spread across three levels. If there are a number of people on the nets at the same time, each can sense the presence of others from their vibrations – just like a spider in its web. This floating space thus becomes a swaying network of relationships, resonances and synchronous communication.

Why do people so often stand in front of the multicoloured wall at K20?

Why wouldn't they? This colourful, wall-length mosaic catches the eye behind the glistening black Kunstsammlung K20 building on Grabbeplatz. Called 'Hornet', it was created for Paul-Klee-Platz by British-American artist Sarah Morris. The glazed coloured tiles are an ever-popular subject for photographers.

How do I get from K20 to K21?

Conveniently, there are plenty of bikes for hire from various providers at central points in Düsseldorf. You can cycle from one museum to the other in only ten minutes.

What building is popularly known as the 'art bunker'?

That would be the Kunsthalle, a typical example of brutalist architecture. Standing opposite K20, it was made from prefabricated concrete sections. Look out for the black stovepipe protruding from the wall of the Kunsthalle. It was installed by Joseph Beuys, a vehement critic of the brutalist style, who wanted the museum to be able to breathe in the fresh air, figuratively speaking of course. An early example of activist art and you don't need a ticket to see it!

Our tip

Our HopOn HopOff bus also calls at the Kunstakademie, and this is the perfect stop if you want to visit the big museums in the Ehrenhof ensemble and in the Old Town. You can board the red double-decker at various places, including the main train station, Medien-Hafen and Burgplatz. Find out more at: visitduesseldorf.de



K21



K20

Kunstpalast



Why are people lying on the floor of the Kunstpalast, staring up at the ceiling?

Housed in the Ehrenhof, the Kunstpalast is a vibrant art space. The paintings, prints, sculptures and glass objects in the collection date from antiquity right up to the present day. As for people staring up at the ceiling – well, sometimes we need a different perspective to understand art properly. The video work ‘Fish Flies on Sky’ by Nam June Paik is applied in mosaic style to the ceiling and is best appreciated when lying down. That’s not a problem here thanks to the gigantic (and comfy) couch!

What does one do in Düsseldorf with a spare tunnel?

A road – Rheinuferstrasse – was put underground in 1993 to make way for the Rhine embankment promenade. What remained between the tunnel tubes was an around 140-metre-long elliptical space. It was simply too big and interesting to let it go to waste. After various events were initially staged there as an experiment, the site became a place for young, contemporary art in 2007. ‘KIT – Kunst im Tunnel’ hosts

around four to six temporary exhibitions per year. These focus on sculpture, painting, photography, video and installation art. Access is via the above-ground café pavilion, where events with live music are regularly staged. The café also has a terrace which gives visitors a fantastic view of the Rhine.

Why were six of Düsseldorf’s underground stations worth a story in the New York Times?

Next stop: art! The six stations on the Wehrhahn Line are more than just transit spots for travellers. They were jointly developed by engineers and artists. Each station has a distinctive character with pictorial, sculptural, interactive, aural or geometrical qualities. Those who want to find out more can immerse themselves in the underground on the Wehrhahn Line guided tour. Private guided tours in English are also available for groups. Find out more at: www.visitduesseldorf.de

What are sharks, penguins and crocodiles doing in the Nordpark?

The Nordpark, with its Japanese Garden, is one of the city’s most

beautiful green spaces. It contains not only beautifully kept flower beds, fountains and treasured trees, but also houses over 500 animal species. Sharks, penguins and crocodiles are as much at home there as are bird-eating spiders and snakes. But don't worry – the animals aren't running wild! You can see them in the middle of the park at the Aquazoo Löbbecke Museum.

What are those figures standing on advertising pillars all over the city centre?

A kissing couple, a woman with a child in her arms and a man taking a photograph. Are they real people? No, they are stylites: sculptures made from polyester and acrylic paint, created by Düsseldorf artist Christoph Pöggeler. Pöggeler's works – scattered around the city centre – exemplify different characters in society. Tracking down the stylites throughout the city has become something of a sport. Once people have started to photograph the sculptures, they don't usually stop until they've snapped all ten of them.

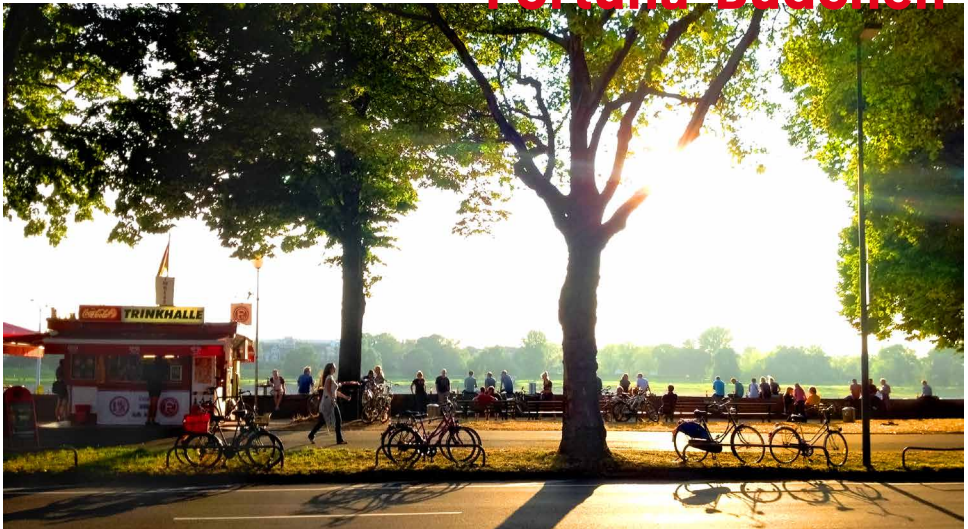
Why has a humble refreshment kiosk become a place of pilgrimage?

It all started when fans of Fortuna Düsseldorf football club who were cycling to the Merkur stadium chose the kiosk – conveniently located on the Rhine – as their meeting point. And as an opportunity to grab a 'quick one for the road'. These days you'll see a cross-section of society there when the weather's fine, sitting on the wall, enjoying a cold drink and a view of the sunset. Today, everyone knows the kiosk simply as the Fortuna-Büdchen. It serves fast food such as frankfurters, rissoles and the 'Fortuna roll', which is unique to Düsseldorf. What is it? Just order one and see for yourself!

Our tip

If you would like to know more about cultural events and other goings-on in Düsseldorf, just take a look at our online calendar at visitduesseldorf.de

Fortuna-Büdchen



City district





ts

The districts close to the city centre of Düsseldorf are like their own little worlds. You'll find lots of young families out and about in Unterbilk, for example. In Flingern you'll come across fashion designers and street artists, and Düsseldorf's high society can be found strolling around Oberkassel.

Oberkassel



Our tip

From Oberkassel you have an unobstructed view of the city skyline with its famous landmarks such as the Schlossturm (palace tower), the Altstadt (Old Town), the Rheinturm (Rhine Tower) and the Gehry Buildings.

Why does Oberkassel have so many old residential buildings?

Nowhere else in Düsseldorf are there as many art deco houses as in Oberkassel. And why? Although around 90 per cent of Düsseldorf's housing stock was damaged or destroyed during air raids in the Second World War, the bombs did little harm to the district on the left bank (western side) of the Rhine. With one architectural gem after the other in evidence, the properties directly overlooking the Rhine are particularly well preserved. Coupled with the flocks of sheep which can often be seen grazing on the meadows on the opposite side of the Rhine, they are a popular subject for photographers.

What happens on the expansive Rheinwiesen meadows?

Depending on the weather and the season, the Rheinwiesen meadows

are used for active pursuits – from kickabouts and kite flying to hardcore marathon training. But there are more relaxed options too! People like to meet here for a picnic or simply sit and enjoy the sun. There are also lots of cyclists on the embankments. And, last but not least, this is where the 'biggest funfair on the Rhine' is set up every year. Think rollercoasters, rides and beer tents!

Where will I find the city's smallest cinema?

Souterrain is one of the last classic art house cinemas. Hidden away below ground, you only discover it at second glance. You enter it through Café Muggel, a popular meeting place for the Oberkassel in-crowd. A staircase behind the counter leads down to the cosy basement cinema, which has its own bar. Uniquely, patrons watch the films on café chairs at little bistro tables.

How did the Gulasch Alt brewery at the Alter Bahnhof get its name?

The owner of this still young brewery inn, Klaus Unterwaining, is often asked whether his Gulasch Alt beer really does taste like beef goulash. But only by people who haven't tried it! In fact, it comes from his nickname, "goulash", which he earned because he is such a fan of the dish. Beer has been served here at Düsseldorf's seventh brewery inn since 2011.

Who has made contemporary video art an integral part of district life?

Julia Stoschek is a patron of the arts, a collector and the founder of a private museum. She shows time-based media art at her over 100-year-old art repository at Schanzenstrasse 54. Stoschek's collection, which opened in 2007, focuses on video pieces, installations and photographs by artists such as Nam June Paik, Bruce Nauman and Ólafur Elíasson. Admission to the annual exhibitions is free of charge.

Our tip

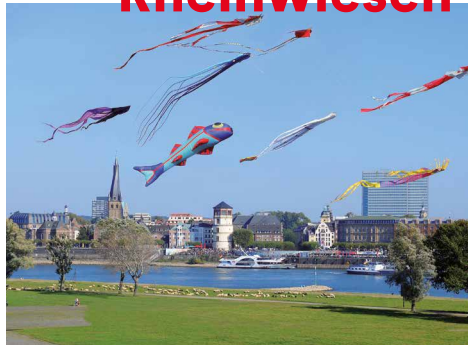
Düsseldorf is home to numerous little coffee roasteries, most with their own café. They are all great places to experience modern coffee culture. In Oberkassel, coffee lovers gather at Kaffeeschmiede and Die Röstmeister. The 'Around Oberkassel' private group tour takes you to the prettiest parts of Oberkassel and explains why the area is so popular with Japanese people. Find out more at: visitduesseldorf.de



Art deco



Rheinwiesen



Flingern



Our tip
Nightlife in this district differs from that in the Old Town. Much of it revolves around live music and dance. There are numerous event venues such as tanzhaus NRW, Capitol Theater, Stahlwerk and zakk, as well as smaller ones like AK47 and Weltkunstzimmer.

What's the story behind the famously colourful Kiefernstrasse?

In the 1980s housing was in very short supply in Düsseldorf and squatters occupied several houses on Kiefernstrasse. The new residents decorated their houses with graffiti art extending right up to the roofs. The roots of political art can still be seen here. And though this street is today about so much more than street art, it remains a model for an alternative lifestyle – with creative spaces, an art gallery in the 'cultural office' and a punk rock club.

There was once a time that tourists were advised to avoid Kiefernstrasse altogether. But nowadays, the street is akin to an open-air gallery and is one of the city's top cultural attractions.

Why is Flingern so popular with fashion designers and gallery owners?

Around the turn of the new century, a large number of students and artists started moving into Flingern because of the affordable rents. The trendy bars, pubs and shops that opened up as a result attracted more and more people

tanzhaus nrw



approx.
10 mins. by
public
transport

● Flingern
● Hauptbahnhof
(main train station)

Photo: Katja Illner



City districts

with money to the district. But it's not your usual transformation from working-class district to hipster haunt. Flingern is actually continuing to put up the fight against gentrification. The gallery scene is incomparable. And the fashion designers are still here, in the properties to the rear. Among the most exciting exponents of this field are Marion Strehlow, Tina Miyake and Laurence Leleux. And other creatives are still searching for (and finding) their urban niches – at live-in studios, old industrial buildings and backyard workshops.

Where can I buy clothes and other hand-made items?

The best boutiques and independent shops are centred around Ackerstrasse, where you'll find characterful clothes, pop-culture art prints, Scandinavian designer furniture and vinyl records. Numerous cafés and restaurants have become established in and around Ackerstrasse and on Hermannplatz and Birkenstrasse. A true veteran in this creative district is Café Hüftgold, famous for its cakes.

Our tip

Flingern is a veritable playground for graffiti artists. Most of the work is freely on view. You just need to stroll along and look up! One particularly prominent mural features artist Joseph Beuys glaring back at observers from a wall on Erkrather Strasse, reminding them: "He who does not want to think will be expelled!"

Vinyl



Unique pieces



Photo: Ronny Hendrichs

Little Tokyo



Düsseldorf is home to the largest Japanese community in Germany. More than 8,400 Japanese people live here in the state capital. And the vibrant district of Düsseldorf where they have really made their mark has become known as Little Tokyo. There's nowhere in Europe quite like it. In fact, this is about the most authentic experience of Japan you can get on the continent without actually going to the country itself!

Superb restaurants and izakayas (Japanese pubs) serve authentic Japanese cuisine, which was declared part of the world's Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2013. Ramen snack bars, bakeries, bars, hotels, supermarkets and bookshops offer a unique Japanese atmosphere along Immermannstrasse and Klosterstrasse between the main train station and the city centre. Locals, Japanese business people, young manga fans and foodies from all over the world come

together here to enjoy noodle soup, sushi, sake and, yes, even Düsseldorf's very own altbier. It's easy to see why the Japanese quarter is one of the liveliest places in Düsseldorf.

But Japanese culture in Düsseldorf is not confined to Little Tokyo, of course. For example, you can stroll through Nordpark's Japanese Garden to the EKŌ-Haus in Niederkassel to marvel at the Buddhist temple there.

Where can you get the best ramen in Düsseldorf?

Düsseldorf offers a whole range of ramen restaurants. The best known are Takumi and Naniwa in Little Tokyo. Just like during rush hour in Japan, you may see queues in front of the restaurants. But don't worry about having to wait a long time! Noodle soups are fast food and the waiters are not only quick but also extremely friendly.



● Little Tokyo
● Hauptbahnhof
approx. 5 mins. (main train station)
walk

Where can I buy Japanese food?

Düsseldorf's Little Tokyo has more to offer than just restaurants and souvenir shops. Japanese people and connoisseurs of Japanese cuisine actually buy their groceries here in the supermarkets. We recommend the Shochiku on Immermannstrasse for the fresh food and sushi counter and for tofu, miso paste and Japanese soft drinks. And if you can't find what you want here, then just go a few steps further to the next Asian supermarket.

How do you say "Enjoy your meal" in Japanese?

"Itadakimasu!" But what is more important, after eating, is to say "Gochisousamadeshita", which means something like: "Thank you for the good food".

Where can I go and sing karaoke?

Karaoke is a very popular pastime in Japan and like Shōchū, a part of the night-life. Düsseldorf's Little Tokyo also has some karaoke bars. 'Lime Light' in the basement of the Japanese Hotel Nikko on Immermannstrasse stands out among the crowd. In an authentic atmosphere, you can sing English and Japanese classics in the private karaoke booths. Sake and Japanese beer will soon loosen those vocal chords!

Takumi



ANMO Art/Cha



Unterbilk



approx.
10 mins. by
public transport

Haupt
(main)

Unterbilk

To what does Lorettostrasse owe its distinctive charm?

Independent businesses offering a truly personal service, creatives who love what they do, and restaurants that make you instantly feel at home. The area in and around Lorettostrasse conveys a very special feeling. It's a place to belong. It's a place to drift. It's a place to chill out.

What does this district have to do with Frida Kahlo?

"Oh, Diego, let's just forget everything around us and while away the day with tapas and wine." The Frida tapas bar in Unterbilk has taken this quote from Frida Kahlo as its motto, and promptly built a shrine to the Mexican painter. And this motto fits perfectly with the rest of the district, which is colourful, life-affirming and down to earth.

Seifen means soap. So, why isn't there any soap at Seifen Horst?

Soap was indeed sold here for half a century. The subsequent owner retained a great deal of the furnishings, and cake and coffee are now served in

a setting that is the epitome of shabby chic. The café has not one but two terraces – one in front so patrons can observe the hustle and bustle, the other in the cosy backyard.

When is the café in Florapark open?

You can take in the view of the over 100-year-old Florapark and enjoy fab food and drink from 14:00 during the week and from noon at weekends. The owners set great store by good ingredients, so they serve Fair Trade tea and coffee, home-made wholefood cakes and organic juices. Our tip is to try the spelt flour waffle – yummy!

How do I get from here to the MedienHafen?

Easy! Just go in the direction of the Rheinturm (Rhine Tower). Reaching nearly 250 metres towards the heavens, this television tower constantly pops into view above the rooftops. Once you've reached the Rheinturm, you'll be looking straight at the MedienHafen.

Our tip

If you want to feel like a real resident of this district, pay a visit to the Rhenish Farmers' Market on Friedensplätzchen: Tuesdays from 8:00–13:00 and Fridays from 10:00–18:00. All of the products on sale come from within a radius of no more than 80 kilometres.

Seifen Horst

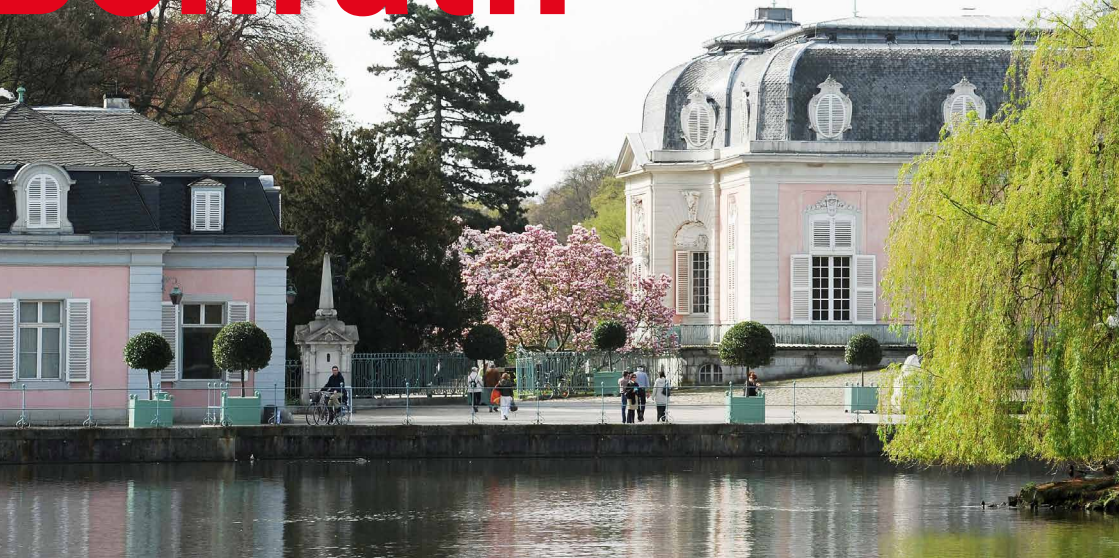


Loretto district



t
bahnhof
(train station)

Benrath



Our tip

The palace regularly provides a distinctive setting for events such as its own Christmas market. In summer, classical concerts – often accompanied by light shows or firework displays – frequently take place in the palace park. A particularly popular combo is the open-air concert and picnic.

Find out more at: visitduesseldorf.de

How come there's a fairytale palace like this in Düsseldorf?

Electeur Karl Theodor had this hunting lodge and garden palace built in Benrath in 1755. It is a little gem. No other European monument from this period is so well preserved. The attempt to produce a synthesis of architecture, garden art and sculpture is typical of the late baroque period just before the transition to Neoclassicism. The architect was the 'Intendant of the gardens and waterworks' at the Mannheim royal court, Nicolas de Pigage.

Why do I have to put on oversized felt slippers before entering?

Those taking a tour of the palace are asked in the vaulted cellar to cover their shoes. That is why they put on roomy felt slippers with which they can glide elegantly around the palace. There's a very good reason: the smooth floors are extremely valuable and wear-and-tear

has to be avoided. And let's not forget the fun factor of slippers on these surfaces! What will I see as I slide around? The rooms are richly ornamented with parquet, wall panelling and stucco. Please note that the palace can only be viewed on one of the guided tours. Lasting around one hour, they take place at 30-minute intervals.

What crowned heads have visited the palace?

In 1965 Queen Elizabeth II was given a suitably royal welcome to Düsseldorf South, travelling in an open-top Mercedes 600. Queen Silvia of Sweden has visited not once but twice. The Shah of Persia came too, and the most recent royal guest was Prince Albert II of Monaco.

Why should I explore the palace park?

The palace park is open to the public, and the palace and its park uniquely



Schloss Benrath Benrath Palace

● Hauptbahnhof
(main train station)

approx. 10 mins. by
public transport

● Benrath

Palace café

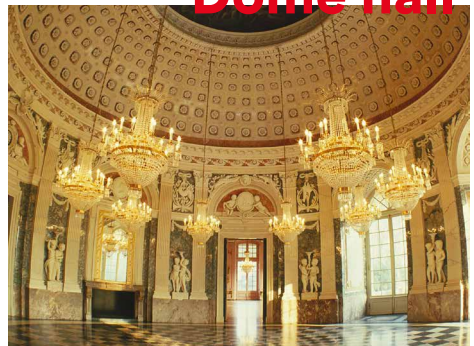


illustrate the history of European garden art because all styles are represented at Benrath. In fact, the world's first Museum of Garden Art was opened here in 2002 in the palace's elaborately restored east wing. The inner courtyard, with its collection of ancient lemon trees, is a lovely place to relax for a while, particularly in summer.

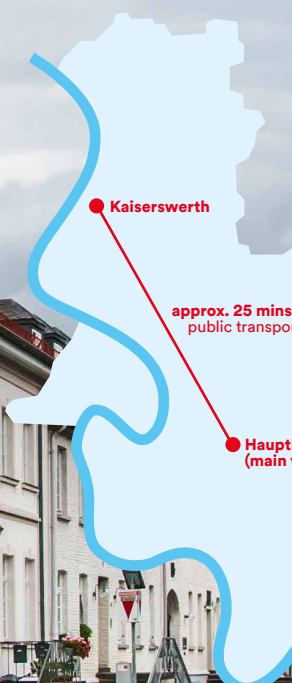
What else does the palace have to offer?

The Naturkundemuseum – the Museum of Natural History – in the west wing focuses on the fish of the Rhine and on birds. The famous bird clock announces the time with the voices of indigenous songbirds. Excursions later in the day are strongly recommended and the best way to round off your tour is with a visit to the palace café.

Dome hall



Kaiserswerth



Why should Kaiserswerth be a must for my itinerary?

This district in the north is much older than Düsseldorf itself and provides a fantastic contrast to the modern city centre. The historic heart of the town, with its 17th century baroque houses, and the imposing ruins of the former imperial palace – the Kaiserpfalz – are the perfect setting for a relaxed stroll.

Why does Düsseldorf have an imperial palace in the first place?

In the Middle Ages, rulers reigned not from a capital city, but from their saddles. That is why they needed spacious accommodation for themselves and their retinues as they constantly travelled around. In 1174, Emperor Frederick I, known as Barbarossa, ordered that the Rhine toll station be moved to Kaiserswerth and he had the Kaiserpfalz palace built shortly afterwards – surrounded by four-metre-thick walls. The ruins that stand here today bear witness to the eventful history of the palace, which was stormed and rebuilt several times. From Easter to the end of October, visitors can explore these picturesque ruins from 9:00 to 18:00.

Is the strawberry cake at Alte Rheinfähre really the best in the city?

It's certainly delicious – as Ralf Hütter, lead singer with legendary band Kraftwerk, revealed in an interview with Zeit magazine. By time the interviewer arrived, Hütter had already polished off his first slice. The secret is in the thin pastry base. The best thing to do is go there yourself and order a slice – with a big dollop of whipped cream, of course! Another place worth a visit is the hugely popular Burghof beer garden right beside Kaiserpfalz. It's a great place to watch the sunset.

What's the most convenient way of getting to Kaiserswerth?

From the end of March until October, the best way is by boat. Enjoy the river breeze on the hour-long cruise north along the Rhine from the Old Town. Enjoy a cold drink and watch the museums, exhibition centre and Rhine meadows slip past – the most relaxing way of sightseeing ever!

Our tip

If you don't want to travel by boat to Kaiserswerth, you can hire one of the bikes that you'll find everywhere in Düsseldorf city centre. Starting at Burgplatz, you cycle north along the Rhine for twelve kilometres.

by
rt

bahnhof
(train station)

Rhine view



Kaiserpfalz



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