

# German Fairy Tale Route

“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 a.d. Straße - 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 bi-centenary of Jacob Grimm's birthday.



Steinau is lovely, dreamy small village with framework houses, the puppet play „the Holzköpfe“, the palace, the devils cave with stalactites and stalagmites, the recreational 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, situated along the A49, where every Saturday 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 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. The SabaBurgTheater is



a local cultural centre, concerts and lectures are held in the medieval cellar vaults. 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 Humbold 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.