

ESSEN

ESSEN INSPIRES WITH CULTURE




visit
essen



**KULTUR-FÖRDERUNG GESUCHT.
GENO BANK GEFUNDEN.**

MEHR INFOS



GENO BANK

IN ESSEN MEHR ERREICHEN



“Culture is no ornament. It is the foundation on which our society stands and on which it is built.” - this is a quote from a report by the German Federal Parliament Enquete Commission “Culture in Germany”. And the city of Essen has culture in abundance. And not just since it was Capital of Culture in 2010. Essen is also a diverse city, offering, in addition to its world-renowned opera houses, theatres and museums, an equally dynamic scene of independent theatre, music, art and painting, full of passion and often thanks to committed volunteers. This diversity is also reflected in the venues: old factory workshops and industrial culture zones - relics from the steel and “black gold” era - can be found here alongside classic concert halls or converted sitting rooms. In both cases, a profound passion for art and culture is the result. With close links to the city of Essen and its cultural life, the GENO BANK has been at the heart of the Ruhr area for 130 years; the motto of the cooperative bank is “Achieve more in Essen”. For this reason it has been involved in the promotion and funding of local cultural life for many years now. Marketing the cultural location of Essen both locally and nationally and arousing the curiosity of both residents and visitors to the city are key tasks for EMG - Essen Marketing GmbH, something it has been doing since it was founded in 1996.

Be inspired by this brochure and embark on an exciting tour of discovery through the cultural landscape of Essen.

INDEX

History

Monument Trail	5
Old Synagogue	5
The Essen Cathedral and its Treasure	6
State Archive	6
Ruhr Museum	7
St. Ludgerus Treasure Chamber	7

Industrial Culture

Over the decades	8
UNESCO World Heritage Site Zollverein	8
Margarethenhöhe	9
Portal of Industrial Heritage Villa Hügel	9

Music/Concerts

Parksounds	10
Aalto Theater	10
Jazz Vision Ruhr	10
ChorForum Essen	11
ESSEN.ORIGINAL.	11
Folkwang Chamber Orchestra	11
Folkwang Music Scholl	12
Grugahalle	12
JOE Jazz Offensive Essen	12
Philharmonie Essen	13

Play/Theatre

Das Kleine Theater Essen	13
der leere raum	13
Grillo Theater	14
Katakomben Theater	14
RÜ-Bühne	15
Sago Hinterhoftheater	15
Studio Bühne Essen	15
Theater Courage	15
Theater Extra	16
Freudenhaus Theater	16
Theatre in the Town Hall	16
Theater THESTH	16

Museums/Exhibitions

Market and Showman Museum	17
Museum Folkwang	17
Policing history Collection	18
Red Dot Design Museum	18
Soul of Africa Museum	18

Dance

Tipp: Aalto Ballett Theater	19
PACT Zollverein	19

Cultural Projects and Events

Kulturpfad	20
Kunstspur Essen	20
Art Walk	21
C.A.R.	21
107 Culture Tram	21

Culture Centres

Kettwig Old Station	22
ARKA Cultural Workshop	22
Mayor's House Werden	23
Art and Architecture Forum	23
Deutsch-Französisches Kulturzentrum	23
Kreuzeskirche Forum	23
GREND Culture Centre	24
Kunsthaus Essen	24
Maschinenhaus Essen	24
Borbeck Castle	25
Unperfekthaus	25
Carl Mine	25

Literature and Education

Literatur: Lit.RUHR	26
Folkwang University of the Arts Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities	27
Media Forum of the Diocese of Essen	27
Volkshochschule Essen	27
Central Library	27

Cinema and Entertainment

CinemaxX	28
Lichtburg Essen	28
Colosseum Theater	29
GOP Variété-Theater Essen	29
Stratmanns Theater	29

Art in Public Space

Trautmann Arboretum	30
Grugapark Essen	30
Kunst am Moltkeplatz	30

ESSEN CULTURE

is the joint project between EMG - Essen Marketing GmbH and the culture office of the city of Essen.

You can find public holiday opening times on the websites of the respective institutions.

” HISTORY

MONUMENT TRAIL

A total of 35 information boards throughout the city of Essen describe in detail the fascinating architecture and history of its buildings - existing ones as well as those no longer here.

www.hv-essen.de

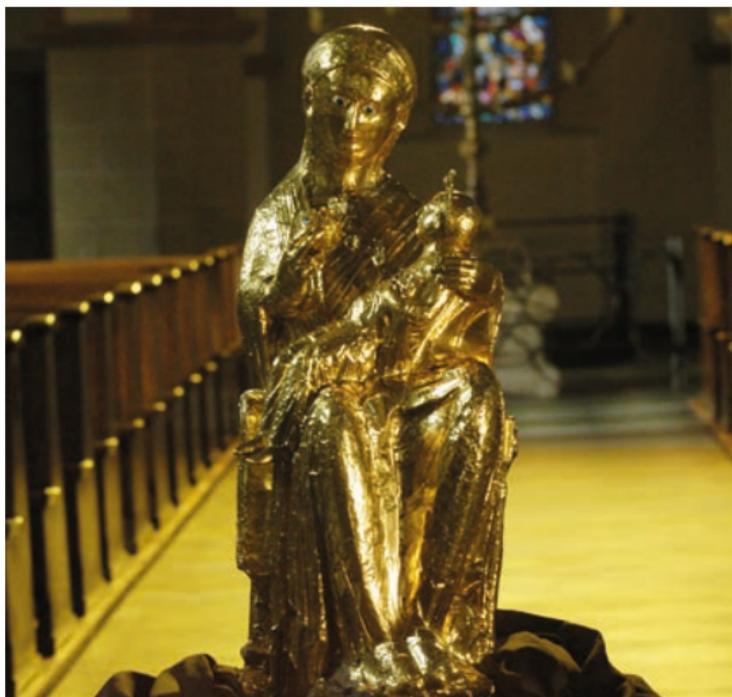


Old Synagogue

Built between 1911 and 1913, the Synagogue in Essen is one of the largest and most beautiful in Germany. Its interior was largely destroyed in the Pogrom Night in 1938. In 1980, the Old Synagogue became a place of remembrance and is used for political and historical discussions. The Old Synagogue was expanded in 2010 to include the House of Jewish Culture, with five exhibitions encompassing the history of the Jewish community in Essen, the history of the building, the origins of the Jewish traditions, Jewish festivals and the Jewish way of life.

- Edmund-Körner-Platz ■ 45127 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 88-45218
- www.alte-synagoge.essen.de ■ (H) Rathaus Essen
- Opening times: Tues to Sun 10am-6pm | closed Mon, public
- guided tours: 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month, 3pm





The Essen Cathedral and its Treasure

The Essen Cathedral and Cathedral Treasury safeguard its church treasure that is of European importance. It grew out of the convent founded in 850, which had its heyday in the 10th and 11th centuries under the Abbesses from the imperial house. Essen's Cathedral Treasury displays precious goldsmith works, handwriting and sculptures, among which is the world's most important collection of Ottonian-Salic goldsmith art. The Golden Madonna and the seven-branched candelabrum from the 10th century can be viewed in the cathedral.

- Burgplatz 2 ■ 45127 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 2204-206
- www.domschatz-essen.de ■  Rathaus Essen
- Public guided tours: Sundays at 3.30pm
- opening times: Tues to Sat 10am-5pm
Sundays and public holidays 11.30am-5pm



Haus der Essener Geschichte/ City Archive

The city archive is the central documentation centre for the city of Essen's history. It is actively involved in research and shares its historical knowledge with the wider public. It performs its role as a museum with its permanent exhibition "Essen - History of a large city in the 20th century" and the changing exhibitions. The Haus der Essener Geschichte (House of Essen's history)/state archive is a special, extracurricular "place of learning" for school children.

- Ernst-Schmidt-Platz 1 ■ 45128 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 88-41300
- www.essen.de/stadtarchiv ■  Bismarckplatz
- Reading room opening times: Tues/Weds 9am-3.30pm | Thurs 9am-6pm
- Ruhr Museum Weds 4pm and every 1st Sunday of the month at 3pm

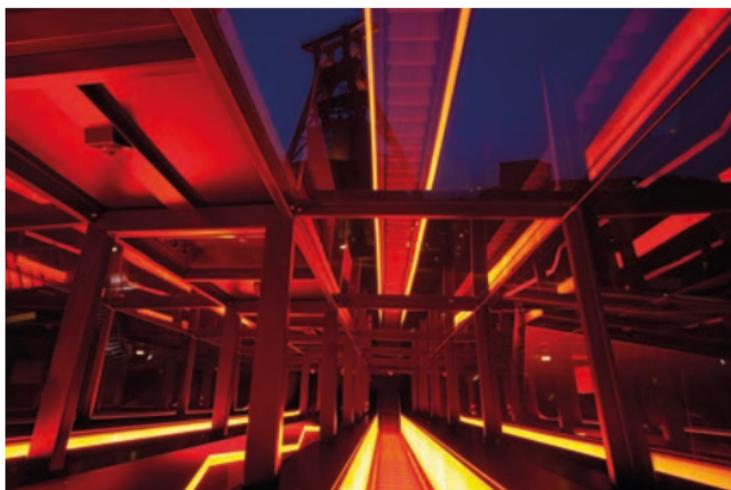
Ruhr Museum

The Ruhr Museum is the regional museum for the largest conurbation in Europe. Its permanent exhibition presents the natural and cultural history of the Ruhr region from its infancy up until the present day. Its three exhibition levels display the present day, memory and history of the region. As well as the permanent exhibition, the Ruhr Museum regularly puts on special exhibitions about natural and cultural history.

- Zollverein A 14 (Schacht XII, Kohlenwäsche)
- Gelsenkirchener Straße 181 ■ 45309 Essen
- address for route guidance systems : Fritz-Schupp-Allee 14, 45141 Essen
- Tel.: +49 201 24681 444
- www.ruhrmuseum.de ■ opening times: every day 10am-18pm
- (H) Zollverein

outside are:

- Halbachhammer ■ Altenau 12 ■ 45149 Essen
- Mineralien Museum ■ Kupferdreher Straße 141-143 ■ 45257 Essen
- Kulturlandschaft Deilbachtal/Kupferhammer/Kutschenhaus
- Nierenhofer Straße 8-10 ■ 45257 Essen
- Geologischer Wanderweg, Kampmannbrücke 37, 45257 Essen



St. Ludgerus Treasure Chamber

The St. Ludgerus Treasure Chamber safeguards the remainder of the once very extensive treasure from the former Werden Benedictine abbey founded in 800. The most significant parts of the collection are the early medieval treasures. In addition to this, there are numerous works of gold and silversmith art as well as ivory carvings, sculptures and reliefs, paintings, manuscripts and paraments. The former abbey, now the St. Ludgerus Basilica, is regarded as an important late Romanesque church building.

- Brückstraße 54, 45239 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 491801
- www.schatzkammer-werden.de
- (H) Werden S-Bahnhof
- Public guided tours: every 1st Sunday in the month at 3.30pm
- opening times: Tues to Sun 10am to 12 midday and



OVER THE DECADES

Blast furnaces, gasometers and shaft towers have left their mark on the face of the Ruhr area. Today, these bear witness to its industrial past and are attractive venues for drawing in tourists. "The Industrial Heritage Trail" opens up this industrial and cultural heritage of the Ruhr area over a 400 kilometre-long circuit of roads. 25 anchor points (highlights), 16 panoramas of the industrial landscape (viewpoints) and the 13 most beautiful settlements from different eras make up the core network of the signposted route.

www.route-industriekultur.de

UNESCO- World Heritage Site Zollverein

In its day, shaft XII at the Zollverein Coal Mine Industrial Complex was the world's largest and most modern coal-mining facility. In 2001 Zollverein was declared an industrial monument and added to the UNESCO-World Heritage List. Today Zollverein is a symbol for the successful transformation of an industrial site into an attractive cultural, leisure, event and business location. Visitors can participate in numerous guided tours and a comprehensive accompanying programme to get to know the unique industrial nature and the greater Ruhr area.

Denkmalpfad Zollverein, in English "Monument Path", brings industrial history back to life. Through guided tours visitors experience Zollverein. There are also concerts, events and exhibitions. In the summer time Zollverein offers an outdoor swimming pool and in the winter there is an 150 meter long rink for ice skating. All these events are special attractions for the community, companies and tourists alike.



■ Gelsenkirchener Straße 181 ■ 45309 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 246810
■ www.zollverein.de ■  Zollverein

RUHR.VISITORCENTER Essen / Besucherzentrum Ruhr:

■ Areal A [Schacht XII] ■ Kohlenwäsche [A14]
■ Fritz-Schupp-Allee 14 ■ 45309 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 246810
■ www.zollverein.de
■ opening times: every day 10am-18pm



Margarethenhöhe

The listed settlement Margarethenhöhe is regarded as one of the most beautifully realised examples of the garden city concept. It was donated in 1906 by Margarethe Krupp on the day of her daughter Bertha's wedding and although the settlement presents a picture of coherence according to plans made by Georg Metzendorf, no two houses are the same. The Ruhr Museum looks after a show flat here, which is modelled according to historical records, and an exhibition on the history of the settlement in the "small studio house".



■ Guided tours of Margarethenhöhe, the show flat and small studio house

■ Tel.: +49 201 712455 and +49 201 24681444

■ www.ruhrmuseum.de

■ (H) Laubenweg

Portal of Industrial Heritage

In the former coal washing plant on the UNESCO World Heritage Site Zollverein, the Portal of Industrial Heritage provides information about what the Ruhr area and North Rhine Westphalia has to offer from an industrial and cultural point of view. Multimedia productions and innovative information stations display the highlights of the Industrial Heritage Trail in their former and present-day use. The impressive combination of pictures, text and sound shows the monuments of the industrial era of the past, present and future.

■ UNESCO-Welterbe Zollverein ■ Gelsenkirchener Straße 181

■ 45309 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 24681-0

■ opening times: every day 10am-18pm ■ www.zollverein.de

■ (H) Zollverein

Villa Hügel

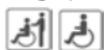
The magnificent property testifies not only to the wealth of the industrial Krupp family, but also the economic importance of Essen in the age of industrialisation. Alfred Krupp had the Villa Hügel built with its 269 rooms from 1870 to 1873 in a large park covering 28 hectares. Today, chamber concerts and high-quality international art exhibitions regularly take place on its premises.

■ Hügel 15 ■ 45133 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 616290

■ www.villahuegel.de ■ (H) S-Bahnhof Hügel

■ opening times: Tue to Sun 10am-18pm

Hügelpark every day 8am-20pm



Carl Mine

See Culture Centres, page 25

” MUSIC/CONCERTS

PARKSOUNDS

For one week in early summer, the Essen City Garden is transformed into a quite special oasis of sound. At "Park Sounds", music enthusiasts on deckchairs, beanbags and picnic blankets, can allow themselves to be carried away by the fascinating sounds of the musical avant-garde. Alongside their professors, students from the Folkwang composition class showcase changing programmes specifically geared to the acoustics of the park.

www.philharmonie-essen.de



Aalto Theater

The Aalto Theatre, a masterpiece of the Finnish architect Alvar Aalto, captures the hearts and minds of its audience with its modern and harmonious lines. When it opened in 1988, the opera house was extolled as the most beautiful theatre building of the post-war period. With its award-winning, often spectacular opera and ballet productions, it is today - for critics and audiences alike - one of the most important German music theatres

■ Opernplatz 10 ■ 45128 Essen
■ (H) Philharmonie ■ TicketCenter Tel.: +49 201 8122-200
■ www.theater-essen.de



JAZZ VISION RUHR

In the civic centre Villa Rü, the BSE Jazzclub regularly presents film screenings and concerts.

■ Bürgerzentrum Villa Rü ■ Girardetstraße 21 ■ 45131 Essen
■ www.facebook.com/villarue ■ (H) Martinstraße

ChorForum Essen

In Essen, you can find some good examples of the cultural repurposing of a sacral space. Since 2011, the former St. Engelbert Church has been used under the name "ChorForum Essen" as an event, rehearsal and work space for various choirs, orchestras and cultural associations from the city of Essen, including, the junior choirs of the Aalto Theatre, the Essen Symphony Wind Orchestra and the Dance department of the Folkwang Music School.

■ Fischerstraße 2-4 ■ 45128 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 63461500
■ www.chorforum-essen.de ■  Kronprinzenstraße

ESSEN.ORIGINAL.

Free and outdoors - that's the motto of the large open-air city festival ESSEN.ORIGINAL., which traditionally takes place in late summer. The musical spectrum ranges from pop, rock and German "Schlager" hits, jazz and classical to electronic and heavy metal. In addition to nationally and internationally renowned musicians, up-and-coming artists from Essen and the surrounding area are also given the opportunity to demonstrate their talents here.

■ EMG - Essen Marketing GmbH ■ Kennedyplatz 5 ■ 45127 Essen
■ Tel.: +49 201 88720-19 ■ www.visitessen.de
■  Hbf, Rathaus Essen

Folkwang Chamber Orchestra

The Folkwang Chamber Orchestra Essen's programme is aimed at an audience that values the performance of both new and old works of chamber music by a young and ambitious ensemble. Villa Hügel is the traditional performance venue for these subscription concerts. Since the first performance in 1958, the ensemble has been the only orchestra to regularly play in these historical rooms.

Other venues: UNESCO World Heritage Site Zollverein, Lichtburg Theatre Essen, Lighthouse Essen, Erlöserkirche (Church of the Redeemer), Kray Town Hall.

■ Office: Fischerstraße 2-4 ■ 45128 Essen
■ Tel.: +49 201 230034
■ Mo 13pm-18pm | Tue to Fr 10am-13pm
■ www.folkwang-kammerorchester.de
■  S-Bahnhof Essen-Hügel, Zollverein, Essen Hbf, Alfred-Krupp-Schule, Philharmonie, Kray-Nord



MUSIC/CONCERTS

Folkwang Music School

With over 8,000 students and its many events throughout the whole city area, the Folkwang Music School is one of the largest and most active music schools in Germany. Children, young people and adults are taught music, song, dance, drama, and music theory by experienced teachers. The headquarters of the FMS is based in the Weststadthalle, a former Krupp industrial warehouse, cased in glass, giving it a rather opulent façade.

- Thea-Leymann-Straße 23 ■ 45127 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 88-44106
- www.fms.essen.de ■  Berliner Platz
- opening times: Mon to Thu 8am-15pm | Fr 8.00am-14.30pm



Grugahalle Essen

For over 50 years, the Grugahalle has guaranteed top entertainment and a good time. Music legends like the Beatles and the Rolling Stones have performed here and even political giants like Willy Brandt and Franz Josef Strauß came to the striking event hall for their election campaigns. In addition to concerts and political events, the Grugahalle is also used for sports events and large corporate conventions.

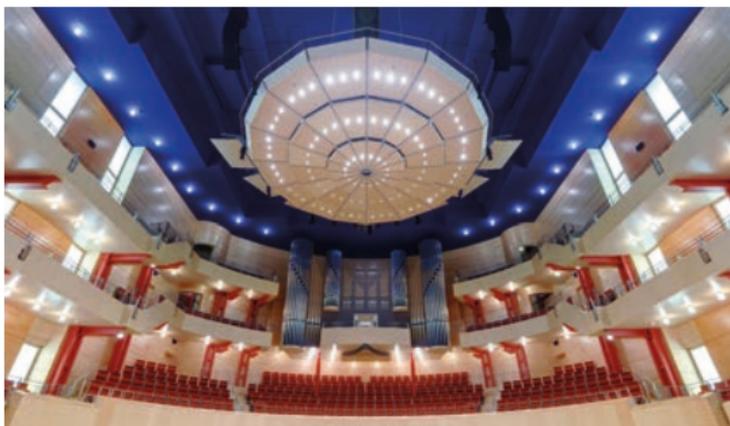
- Messeplatz 1 ■ 45131 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 7244-0
- www.grugahalle.de ■  Messe Ost/Gruga
- advance booking: Mo bis Fr 10:00am-18:30pm
- box office: Mo bis Fr 10am-18pm | Sa 10am-13pm



JOE Jazz Offensive Essen

In the summer of 1995, jazz musicians and enthusiasts from different disciplines came together and formed the "Jazz Offensive Essen e.V." (JOE). Gradually more and more events were added in addition to the regular sessions in the Filmbar at the Lichtburg, the workshops in the Grend with renowned musicians and the "free essen" series.

- A variety of venues
- E-Mail: post@jazz-offensive-essen.de
- www.jazz-offensive-essen.de



Philharmonie Essen

The Philharmonie Essen, opened in 2004 in the traditional concert hall right in the heart of the city gardens, is one of the best concert halls in Europe thanks to its top-class programme comprising fascinating artists, excellent acoustics and state-of-the-art technology. The impressive Alfred Krupp Hall, which seats 1,906 guests, and the RWE Pavillion, with 350 seats, are attractive stages for all genres from classical to jazz

■ Huysseallee 53 ■ 45128 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 8122-200
■ www.philharmonie-essen.de ■  Philharmonie



”PLAY/THEATRE

Das Kleine Theater

“Right at the heart of things” is the Kleine Theater (Small Theatre) motto. Whether it is comedy, children’s theatre, cabaret or murder mysteries, the ensemble - comprising professional actors and talented amateurs - offers its guests a wide variety of smaller-scale entertainment every Friday and Saturday from October to June in comfortable surroundings.

■ Gänsemarkt 42 ■ 45127 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 5209852
■  Limbecker Platz ■ www.kleines-theater-essen.de

der leere raum

“I can take any empty space and call it a bare stage.” This quote by the director Peter Brook inspired the name of perhaps the smallest theatre in Essen, der leere raum (“the empty room”). According to the quote, productions can manage with little set design, few actors and few props. In addition to the plays, Claudia Maurer also offers regular actor training sessions and systematic coaching.

■ Frankenstraße 215 ■ 45134 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 20607025
■ www.der-leere-raum.de ■  Stadtwald



Grillo Theater

In the heart of Essen is the Grillo Theatre. The neoclassic building was named after the industrialist Friedrich Grillo, who gave the house to the city in 1887 and in so doing founded a very successful theatre tradition in the Ruhr area. Today, the Grillo Theatre's programme includes works by contemporary authors as well as the great classics of world literature. The studio stages CASA and BOX also provide suitable space for plays and topics that require an intimate atmosphere.

■ Theaterplatz 11 ■ 45127 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 8122-200
■ www.schauspiel-essen.de
■ (H) Hirschlandplatz and Hauptbahnhof



Katakomben Theater

The Katakomben in the basement of Giradet Haus, a service and culture centre, has taken a prominent place in the local area's free theatre scene. Its programme - a mix of cabaret and comedy, jazz and children's theatre, prominent as well as up-and-coming artists - appeals to an enthusiastic audience. There is also world music, global player parties and Turkish theatre.

■ Girardetstraße 2-38 ■ 45131 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 4304672
■ www.katakomben-theater.de ■ (H) Martinstraße
■ opening times (office): Mo bis Fr 10am-14pm



RÜ-Bühne

Whether it be theatre classics, contemporary productions or theatre of the absurd, productions by the RÜ-Bühne company in Girardet Haus in Essen-Rüttenscheid always offer one thing: sophisticated entertainment for all generations. The programme is augmented by guest plays in the form of children's theatre, improvised theatre matches or integrative plays. RÜ-Bühne also provides acting lessons for children, adults and senior citizens at its theatre school.

■ Girardetstraße 2 ■ 45131 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 87786865
■ www.ruebuehne.de ■  Martinstraße

Sago Hinterhoftheater

Hidden away in a back alley of Rüttenscheid, culture vultures can experience and enjoy singing evenings and other events up close. The artist duo Isabel Katharina Sandig and Ralf Gottesleben - also known as DuoSago - have been based there since 2002. In an intimate atmosphere, the duo creates a fascinating fusion of theatrical ease and frivolous singing. The Backyard Theatre, which seats up to 39 people, can also be hired by other artists as a venue.

■ Reginenstraße 12 ■ 45130 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 8068801
■ www.sago-kultour.de ■  Rüttenscheider Stern



Studio-Bühne Essen

With consistently outstanding diversity, the programme ranges from turbulent comedy to refined and intimate plays, from poetic children's theatre to creative youth projects, from fast-paced improvisation shows to gripping plays. Each performance promises a special experience because, with just 50 seats, spectators and actors always experience theatre right up close!

■ Korumhöhe 11 ■ 45307 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 551505
■ www.studio-buehne-essen.de ■  Wendelinstraße
■ Box office: 30 minutes before the start of the event

Theater Courage

Since its foundation in 1987, the Courage Theatre has established itself in the free theatre scene under the direction of professional actors Gabi Dauenhauer and Peter-Maria Anselstetter. Whilst in previous years critical and demanding topics determined the programme, comedies are now the audience's firm favourite. Funny, ironic in-house productions or musical revues are long runners in the Rüttenscheid theatre with its friendly, cosy atmosphere.

■ Goethestraße 67 ■ 45130 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 791466
■ www.theatercourage.de
■  Gemarkenplatz or Rüttenscheider Stern



Theater Extra

The Extra Theatre has been around since 1987 and can be found in an outbuilding at Borbeck Castle. The theatre's repertoire spans a broad programme comprising murder mysteries, comedies and dramas. Performances here take place every weekend from the end of September to the start of May. A semi-circular stage, good technical equipment, props, wardrobe and a stage direction room all offer plenty of space for creativity.

- Schloß Borbeck/Wirtschaftsgebäude ■ Schloßstraße 101
- 45355 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 623515 ■ www.theater-extra.info
- (H) Schloß Borbeck

Theater Freudenhaus

The Freudenhaus Theatre is the mother of all Ruhr area comedies. The "Freunde der Italienischen Oper" came to the stage here in 1996 and have continued to maintain their cult status to the present day. The charming, cosy theatre in Essen-Steele, offers refined comedies "aussem Pott", just like it is: bright, diverse, quirky and, above all, endearing.

- Westfalenstraße 311 ■ 45276 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 8513230
- www.theater-freudenhaus.de
- (H) Grendplatz und S-Bahnhof Steele

Theatre in the Town Hall

The Theatre in the Town Hall (Theater im Rathaus) offers the best entertainment. Here, the programme includes turbulent comedies and captivating musicals where audience favourites from both television and film can be experienced live on the stage. The theatre's hall in Essen's Town Hall, with its 280 red theatre seats, is the perfect place to forget everyday life and be humorously entertained.

- Porscheplatz 1 ■ 45127 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 2455555
- www.theater-im-rathaus.de ■ (H) Rathaus Essen



Theater THESTH

Since 1982, the THESTH Theatre has become a firm part of Essen's cultural scene and is regarded as a lively amateur theatre offering professional quality. Guest directors and "new members" refresh the theatre work and give the ensemble a new impetus. The diverse, changing programme offers theatre for any age and taste, and includes classics, Ruhr area plays, comedies and children's plays, as well as contemporary pieces.

- Venue Haus Grotehof ■ Raumerstraße 74
- 45133 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 9229929 ■ www.theater-thesth.de
- (H) Kieler Straße

Market and Showman Museum

In the only Market and Showman Museum (Markt- und Schaustellermuseum) in Germany, visitors can discover around 5,000 exhibits from the 18th and 19th centuries. They were put together by the showman legend Erich Knocke, who died in 2011. Alongside carousels, illustrated moral tales and barrel organs, personal documents and photographs of the showmen families from the turn of the century form the main focus of the exhibition.

- Hachestraße 68 ■ 45127 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 179 2093054
-  Hauptbahnhof ■ Guided tours by arrangement
- www.schaustellermuseum.de



Museum Folkwang

The Folkwang Museum is one of the most important art museums in Germany. It owes its reputation to the prominent collections of German and French paintings and sculptures from the 19th century, collections of various art forms of the 20th century, such as cubism, abstract art and expressionism, as well as post-1945 art, photography and graphics. A specific feature is the collection of old and non-European artworks, as well as the collection from the German Poster Museum comprising over 350,000 sheets. Regular large public and temporary exhibitions make up the museum's programme. The museum's new building was designed by the well-known architect David Chipperfield.

- Museumsplatz 1 ■ 45128 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 88-45444
 - www.museum-folkwang.de ■  Rüttenscheider Stern
 - Opening times: Tue/Wed 10am-18pm | Thu/Fr 10am-20pm
Sa/Sun 10am-18pm
- Free entry to the collection!

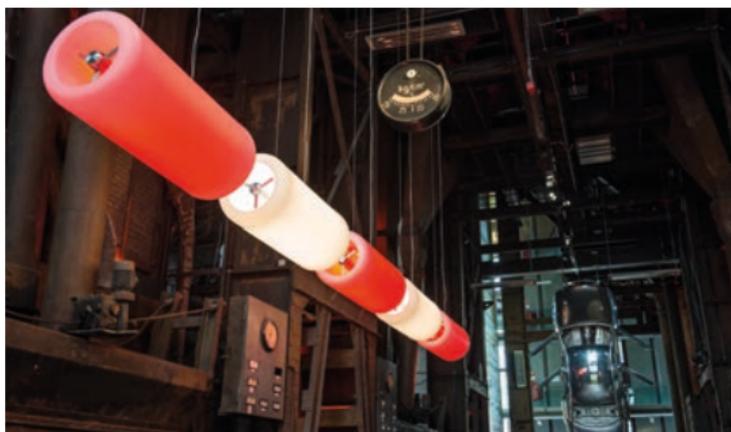


MUSEUMS/EXHIBITIONS

Policing History Collection

Since 2010, the liaison office in Essen of the International Police Association has run the Historical Collection of the Police with numerous exhibits and rare pieces from the history of the police since the Imperial Era. The Police Commissioner Rainer Wittka and the former state criminal investigation office employee Heinz Zengler collated around 5,000 exhibits, including Prussian spiked helmets, police uniforms from the Weimar Republic, and the largest "wanted poster" collection in Nord-Rhine Westphalia comprising 150 pieces.

■ Norbertstr. 165 ■ 45133 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 175 4534700
■ by arrangement ■ (H) Messe, Gruga



Red Dot Design Museum

Current product culture in the middle of old industrial architecture: With around 2,000 exhibits, the Red Dot Design Museum houses the world's largest exhibition of contemporary design. In an area covering around 4,000 square metres, beautiful products are on display in a former boiler house at the UNESCO World Heritage Site Zollverein. They were all awarded with the internationally renowned Red Dot quality seal in one of the world's largest design competitions.

■ Gelsenkirchener Straße 181 ■ 45309 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 3010460
■ www.red-dot-design-museum.de ■ (H) Zollverein
■ Opening times: Tue to Sun and holidays 11am-18pm, last entry at 5pm



Ruhr Museum

See page 7

Soul of Africa Museum

The museum is just as exotic as the exhibits themselves: In Germany's only Voodoo Museum, the photo journalist and ethnologist Henning Christoph displays the altar of the water goddess Mami Wata, who is surrounded by a whole myriad of deities, masks and sculptures. An adjoining room is dedicated to the ancestors; another area of the small whimsical collection deals with magic and natural medicine.

■ Rüttenscheider Straße 36 ■ 45128 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 787640
■ www.soul-of-africa.com ■ (H) Rüttenscheider Stern
■ Opening times: Sa/Sun 14pm-18am | Do 14pm-18pm | Fr 18pm-22pm

AALTO BALLETT THEATER

The theatre designed by Alvar Aalto is not just home to musical theatre, it is also home to the city ballet company as well. In addition to productions of classic works, like “Othello” or “Carmen/Boléro”, popular plays such as the “Tanzhommage an Queen” (Dance tribute to Queen) also take to the stage. Since 2008, the Belgian Ben Van Cauwenbergh has been the ballet’s artistic director. As well as offering premiere events and selected revival productions, they also introduce new works.

■ Opernplatz 10 ■ 45128 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 8122-200
■ (H) Aalto-Theater ■ www.aalto-ballett-theater.de



PACT Zollverein

PACT Zollverein in the former pithead bath of the UNESCO World Heritage Site Zollverein links the concept of an international theatre, an artist’s house and an institute for research and development. It gives artists and the public alike the possibility to engage with current trends in contemporary art (with a focus on dance and performance). The public programme consists of high-value in-house productions, international collaborations and guest performances.

■ Bullmannaue 20a ■ 45327 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 2894700
■ www.pact-zollverein.de ■ (H) Zollverein



” CULTURAL PROJECTS AND EVENTS

KULTURPFAD



In Essen, many roads lead to culture. One of them leads directly to it and connects it: On the culture trail, there are no signposts; rather there are small, blue square lamps embedded between the cobble stones that light up the way. It runs for four kilometres, leading you on foot to places that are worth seeing in the city, directing your eye to unusual architecture, art in public spaces and light-art objects. And now it would be impossible to imagine life without the Culture Trail Festival, where actors put on a diverse, and largely free, cultural programme on the blue stones.

Tours along the cultural trail can be booked upon request at:

EMG-Touristikzentrale ■ Am Hauptbahnhof 2

■ 45127 Essen

■ Tel.: +49 201 8872333

■ Opening times: Mon to Fri 9am–17pm | Sa 10am–13pm

www.visitessen.de

Kunstspur Essen. Offene Ateliers

Since 1999, the city's culture office has put on an annual event called "Kunstspur Essen. Offene Ateliers" (Art Trail Essen. Open Studios). And each year, the numbers of artists opening up their studios and workshops for the weekend and letting visitors come and look over their shoulder is on the rise. Last time, around 320 artists in 150 studios got involved from across the city.

■ www.kunstspuressen.de

ART WALK

Anyone wishing to experience the positive contribution made by the established network of artists and creatives in the development of the City Nord.Essen should come to the ART WALK, which has taken place every year since 2012. A consortium of actors from the areas of culture, creative business and gastronomy present a diverse programme ranging from design and photography, music and theatre to street and body art.

■ www.kq-essen.de

C.A.R.

In just a few years, the contemporary art ruhr (C.A.R.) and the two annual fairs - the media art fair in the summer and the fair for every type of contemporary art in the autumn - on the World Heritage Site Zollverein has become a successful and popular fair for contemporary art on a national and international scale. The aim of the fair is to develop the Ruhr's own art market and give participants a platform for finding contacts and networking beyond the period of the fair itself.

■ www.contemporaryartruhr.de



107 Culture Tram

Along the stretch of the 107 tramline, which runs from the Essen city district of Bredeneu to Gelsenkirchen, there are 60 cultural highlights. Unique in the Ruhr area, the culture tram links two opera houses, a cathedral, a concert hall, two large museums and the UNESCO World Heritage Site Zollverein along approximately 17 kilometres. Signposts on the tram stops and in the trams ensure they are easy to find.

■ www.kulturlinie107.de

” CULTURE CENTRES



Kettwig Old Station

130 years after it was opened and 25 years after it was decommissioned, the empty station building, in the late round-arch classic style, was converted into a civic, sport and cultural centre. Today, throughout the week there are courses in sport, relaxation, creativity, dance and languages for all ages groups. At the weekend, there are concerts, talks, dance evenings, as well as seminars and creative markets. There are rooms available for private parties and there's even a restaurant there for good measure.

■ Ruhrtalstraße 345 ■ 45219 Essen-Kettwig

■ Tel.: +49 2054 939339

■  S-Bahnhof Kettwig

■ Opening times: Mon, Wed, Thu 10am-13pm and 16pm-18pm
Fr 10am-13pm

■ www.bahnhof-kettwig.de

ARKA Cultural Workshop

For over 30 years, the ARKRA Cultural Workshop has been making an active contribution to the cultural life of the city of Essen. The Association for Education, Art and Culture (ARKA), which is based in the UNESCO World Heritage Site Zollverein Shaft XII, is a consortium of visual artists who regularly offer and present exhibitions, courses, workshops, academies, projects and publications.

■ UNESCO-Welterbe Zeche Zollverein Schacht XII, Halle 12

■ Gelsenkirchener Str. 181 ■ 45309 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 30 61 40

■ www.arka-kulturwerkstatt.de ■  Zollverein

Mayor's House Werden

Built in 1833 by the industrialist F. Vogelsang, the neo-classical villa was used as the place of residence for the mayor of Werden. In 1985, it became a place of culture with stylish chamber-music evenings with an intimate atmosphere. The programme also covers readings, cabaret, jazz, singing and children's concerts.

- Heckstraße 105 ■ 45239 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 493286
- www.buergermeisterhaus.de ■  S-Bahnhof Werden
- Opening times: daily 9am–15pm and from 30 min. before the start of the performance

Art and Architecture Forum

The Art and Architecture Forum consists of the "Association of Artists from the Ruhr", the "Working group of Visual Artists" and the "Association of German Architects". The forum was founded in order to promote dialogue between artists, architects and Essen citizens. Temporary exhibitions and various cultural events take place every month.

- Kopstadtplatz 12 ■ 45127 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 616198-85
- www.forumkunstarchitektur.de ■  Rathaus Essen
- Opening times: Thu–Fr 12am–18pm | Sat and Sun 14pm–17pm



German-French Cultural Centre

The Deutsch-Französisches Kulturzentrum e. V. (German-French Cultural Centre) is a French cultural agency. Its main task is to organise events in the French language. These include author readings, talks, theatre guest performances, singing (chanson) evenings, exhibitions, original-language films and concerts. Twice a year, it brings out a culture calendar. In the French library/city library, there are around 18,000 books, comics, magazines, CDs, audio books and DVDs available.

- Brigittastraße 34 ■ 45130 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 776389
- www.institutfrancais.fr ■  Rütterscheider Stern
- Opening times: Wed 10.00am–16.30pm
Mon/Thu 14.30pm–18.30pm

Kreuzeskirche Forum

The Kreuzeskirche Forum is an initiative by the citizens of Essen in collaboration with the university, the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities, the Folkwang University of the Arts and the church congregation of the old town. It was formed to help promote cultural, business and church encounters in the city centre. The event series is dedicated to current, socially relevant topics. The forum contributes to the maintenance of the listed Kreuzeskirche (Church of the Cross) as a cultural site of cross-regional importance.

- Office ■ Zwinglistraße 28 ■ 45127 Essen
- Tel.: +49 201 2486-547 ■ www.forum-kreuzeskirche.de
-  Rathaus Essen



CULTURE CENTRES.

GREND Culture Centre

When rock, pop and music concerts are announced in Steele, the walls in GREND start to shake. Quieter, but no less popular, are the workshops and seminars in the GREND Bildungswerk. Art exhibitions, projects for children and young people, festivals and numerous other events complete the diverse programme. The GREND has always been the home of the nationally renowned Freudenhaus Theatre.



■ Westfalenstraße 311 ■ 45276 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 85132-0
■ www.grend.de ■  S-Bahnhof Steele



Kunsthaus Essen

The Kunsthaus Essen (arthouse) is run by the association of the same name as an art association, studio and gallery building. Visual artists as well as designers, musicians and dancers work in 13 studios. The exhibition programme shows the current artistic items. There are regular district cultural projects, workshops and artist conversations, concerts and dance performances.

■ Rübzahlstraße 33 ■ 45134 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 443313
■ www.kunsthhaus-essen.de
■  Finefraustraße or Annental
■ Opening times: Thu-Sun 15pm-18pm and guided tours available upon request.

Maschinenhaus Essen

The Maschinenhaus (engine room) on the premises of the Carl Mine, in which former steam engines generated energy from coal production, has made a name for itself as an unusual and innovative production location for art. Unlike museums or theatre stages, artists have access to both presentations and space for developing their artistic ideas. Here, temporary projects in theatre, dance, music and visual art are presented to the public.



■ Wilhelm-Nieswandt-Allee 100 ■ 45326 Essen
■ Tel.: +49 201 8378424 ■ www.maschinenhaus-essen.de
■  Altenessen-Mitte



Borbeck Castle

Borbeck Castle is situated in the middle of a beautiful park whose changeable history stretching over a thousand years is closely interwoven with the Abbey and the city of Essen. In 1744 and 1764, the Abbess Franziska Christine extended the Renaissance building with the addition of baroque elements. In 1941, the City of Essen bought it. Today, the castle is a meeting place. You can go to concerts, exhibitions, seminars and conferences, participate in art, dance and music courses, dine and even marry there.

■ Schloßstraße 101 ■ 45355 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 88-44219

■ www.schloss-borbeck.essen.de ■  Schloß Borbeck

■ Opening times: Galerie im Schloss Borbeck,
permanent exhibition: Tue-Sun 14pm-18pm



Unperfekthaus

A creative and artists' village like this can only be found in Essen. Stages, studios, workshops, a great restaurant, open WLAN. One of the major meeting points of the Ruhr city's creative scene and perhaps the best opportunity to "immerse" yourself, as a visitor, into a world they are in danger of losing in their everyday professional lives. Unperfekthaus does you good.

■ Friedrich-Ebert-Straße 18 ■ 45127 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 470916-0

■ www.unperfekthaus.de ■  Berliner Platz



Carl Mine

Popular today throughout Germany, the socio-cultural centre Carl Mine (Zeche Carl) was developed from an initiative established in 1977 to maintain the coal mine, which dates back to 1855. The group of buildings has since been listed. The Carl Mine is a meeting point for groups of all ages with its diverse cultural and entertainment programme, stars from the scene and up-and-coming talent, dance parties, creative courses, workshops and ambitious gastronomy.

■ Wilhelm-Nieswandt-Allee 100 ■ 45326 Essen

■ Tel.: +49 201 83444-10

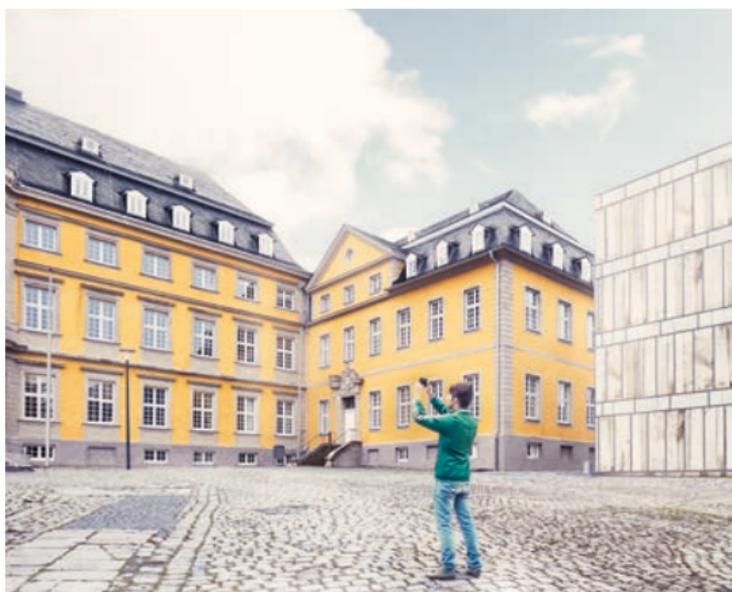
■ www.zechecarl.de ■  Altenessen-Mitte

” LITERATURE AND EDUCATION

LITERATURE: LIT.RUHR

In October 2017, the lit.RUHR in the Ruhr area celebrated its opening night and has since established itself as a successful institution which is sure to enrich the cultural programme in the Ruhr area over the coming years. The international literature festival was established by the creators of the lit.COLOGNE and showcased international literary giants from Nick Hornby to Donna Leon as well as German-language literary stars. The focus of the festival was the UNESCO World Heritage Site in Essen; other events took place in Duisburg, Bochum and Dortmund.

www.lit.ruhr



Folkwang University of the Arts

The Folkwang University of the Arts is based in the former Benedictine abbey in Essen-Werden and other locations in Essen, Bochum, Duisburg and Dortmund. Students and teachers from all over the world make the college of music and art an place of inspiration, where the Folkwang idea of unity in art has been lived out since 1927. Students showcase their outstanding artistic talents at over 300 events each year.

■ Klemensborn 39 ■ 45239 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 4903-231
■ www.folkwang-uni.de ■  S-Bahnhof Werden

Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities (KWI)

The Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities in Essen is a research centre at the University Alliance Metropolis Ruhr. Its task is to promote interdisciplinary research in the humanities, social sciences and cultural studies and is currently focusing on the topics of collective memory, cultural diversity of global society, social responsibility and cultural aspects of climate change.

■ Goethestraße 33 ■ 45128 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 7204-0
■ www.kwi-nrw.de ■  Gemarkenplatz

Media Forum of the Diocese of Essen

The media forum is an institution for the promotion of media-related educational work, religious education, literature and the promotion of reading. As a public institution, it is open to anyone interested in its wide range of media, literature and film events.

■ Zwölfling 14 ■ 45127 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 2204274
■ medienforum@bistum-essen.de ■ www.bistum-essen.de
■  Rathaus Essen

Volkshochschule Essen

The Volkshochschule Essen (Community College) can be found in the heart of the city, at Burgplatz. Anyone interested in taking a course, no matter how old they are, will find the right programme for them in its new building, constructed in 2004, whether that be courses in "society and culture", "languages", "work and career", "IT", "computer science", "environment and health", or naturalisation courses, academic further education and special programmes for young people and senior citizens.

■ Burgplatz 1 ■ 45127 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 88-43100
■ www.vhs-essen.de
■  Hauptbahnhof, Hirschlandplatz, Rathaus Essen



Central Library

The focus of Essen's literary life is an ultra-modern city library with a total of 810,000 media in 16 branches throughout the city area. In addition, there are over 40 bookshops offering a wide range of media from general interest to subject-specific topics. The largest of them hold regular book readings.

■ Zentralbibliothek ■ Hollestraße 3 ■ 45127 Essen
■ Tel.: +49 201 88-42420 ■  Hauptbahnhof und Hollestraße
■ www.stadtbibliothek.essen.de
■ Opening times: Tue-Fri 10am-19pm | Sa 10am-14pm



CinemaxX

The CinemaxX Essen at Berliner Platz is the largest multiplex cinema in Germany with 5,370 seats and 16 cinema screens. On five screens, you can watch films in 3D and in auditorium 13, leather seats and hospitality at your seat make for a rather special first-class experience. Before and after the film, visitors can enjoy delicious snacks and drinks in the cosy atmosphere of the xXLounge.

■ Berliner Platz 4/5 ■ 45127 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 40 80806969
■ www.cinemaxx.de ■  Berliner Platz



Lichtburg Essen

The legendary Filmpalast is Germany's largest cinema with 1,250 seats. Since opening in 1928, the red carpet has been rolled out for German and international film stars at premieres ever since. Completely refurbished and equipped with the latest technology, still today it is resplendent in its former glory. The Sabu is the second auditorium in the Lichtburg - furnished with 150 seats.

■ Kettwiger Straße 36 ■ 45127 Essen
■ Programmansage Tel.: +49 201 231024
■  Hauptbahnhof, Hirschlandplatz, Rathaus Essen
Regular tours on the last Saturday in the month
■ www.lichtburg-essen.de



Colosseum Theater

The Colosseum Theatre Essen is a prime example of industrial culture and regional changes: Once Krupp's 8th workshop and the workplace for around 2,000 employees, the now listed building was from 1996 just used as a place to play music for a few years. Since 2010, the theatre has been rented out for various different events by its owners, Stage Entertainment GmbH.



■ Altendorfer Straße 1 ■ 45127 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 2402-0
■ www.colosseumtheater.de ■ (H) Berliner Platz

GOP Varieté-Theater Essen

Situated in the heart of the city, the GOP Varieté thrills audiences with its spectacular programmes in modern surroundings. Twice a month, temporary shows are put on - skilfully, artistically, humorously, spectacularly and poignantly. Fantastic ambience, fascinating shows, excellent cuisine - that is the interplay that makes the GOP such a special place.



■ Rottstraße 30 ■ 45127 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 24793-93
■ www.variete.de
■ (H) Viehofer Platz und Rheinischer Platz



Stratmanns Theater

Stratmanns Theatre cures the blues... The programme is a "tour de force of cabaret", featuring highly acclaimed cabaret artists, comedians, local plays and successful productions like "Caveman" and "Männerhort". Doctor Stratmann remains at the forefront with around 100 performances a year. His new show "Pathologisch" opens the doors to the "largest and most entertaining waiting room in the Ruhr area".

■ Kennedyplatz 7 ■ 45127 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 82040-60
■ info@stratmanns.de ■ www.stratmanns.de
■ (H) Hirschlandplatz and Rathaus Essen

” ART IN PUBLIC SPACE

Trautmann Arboretum

Over the last three decades, a secret little paradise has developed on the former Kirchmannshof stretching over five hectares. The Trautmann Arboretum invites you in for a very special type of garden visit with its various themed gardens, 100-year-old beech, oak, chestnut and ash trees, the sculpture park and rhododendron valley, as well as habitat with wells, a pond and marshy meadows.

- Aktienstraße 177 ■ 45359 Essen ■ Tel.: +49 201 8656832
- arboretum@trautmann-essen.de
- www.trautmann-essen.de/arboretum
- (H) Abzweig Aktienstraße
- Guided tours available upon request.

Grugapark Essen

Opened in 1929 and stretching over 65 hectares, the "Große Ruhrländische Gartenbauausstellung" (Gruga) is one of Germany's largest and most beautiful city parks. There are themed gardens, such as the Mediterranean Sea, farmer or rose gardens, tropical houses in glass pyramids, an open-air sculpture park, an animal enclosure, a Hundertwasser House, concerts, plant world and art exhibitions, the spa house with a thermal spring, a huge open-air enclosure for birds and an adventure playground.



- Main entrance Alfred/Norbertstraße ■ Tel.: +49 201 88-83106
- www.grugapark.de
- (H) Messe Ost/Gruga
- Opening times: all year-round until dusk
- guided tours available upon request.

Kunst am Moltkeplatz

The "Kunst am Moltkeplatz" (Art at Moltkeplatz) association was set up in 2006 by a group of committed district residents. Its aims included safeguarding, promoting and developing public art at Moltkeplatz in Essen, maintaining the sculptures and art objects on display and, with this in mind, exerting influence on the changes to the visual appearance. The association also provides guided tours of the sculptures, organises festivals and gatherings on the sculpture meadow and is also carrying out the "young art at Moltkeplatz" project.

- Tel.: +49 201 261366 or 271770 ■ www.kunst-am-moltkeplatz.de
- (H) Moltkestraße or Helbingstraße
- Guided tours available upon request.

ESSEN.SERVICE.

Simply arrive - and we'll look after everything else; the hotel, the tickets, the table reservation. A variety of fixed travel packages make it possible. Tailored to whatever takes your fancy - and your interests. Because Essen is simply everyone's cup of tea, whether you are an art lover, sportsperson, a gourmet or a clubber. Combine, for example, a visit to the Folkwang Museum with an evening in the concert hall. Or a night in the GOP Varieté Theatre with a city tour on a double-decker bus. Discover the city by bike, on your own, with a companion or in a group. Have an adventure in Essen. Because Essen is different. Arrive, feel good, get going. It's great, when you have everything you need.

BOOKING/CONTACT

EMG - Essen Marketing GmbH | Tourist information

■ Am Hauptbahnhof 2, 45127 Essen

■ Tel.: +49 (0) 201 8872333 ■ touristikzentrale@essen.de

■ Mo-Fr 09:00am-17:00pm | SA 10:00am bis 13:00pm



suitable for visitors with impaired mobility who depend at times on a non-motorised wheelchair or a walking aid



suitable for wheelchair users who have difficulty walking and who are permanently in a wheelchair



suitable for sight-impaired and blind visitors



suitable for hearing-impaired and deaf visitors

The website www.ruhr2010-barrierefrei.de also provides information - over and above the culture capital year - on accessible institutions and tourist attractions in Essen and the Ruhr area



EMG – Essen Marketing GmbH
Touristikzentrale
Am Hauptbahnhof 2
45127 Essen
T: +49 201 8872333
F: +49 201 88720-44
E-Mail: touristikzentrale@essen.de
www.visitessen.de



EMG – Essen Marketing GmbH
Kennedyplatz 5
45127 Essen
T: +49 201 88720-0
F: +49 201 88720-22
E-Mail: info@essen-marketing.de

Vi.S.d.P.:
Dieter Groppe, Richard Röhrhoff
Titelfoto: Thorsten Kleine Holthaus
Fotos: Archive der Institutionen,
EMG/Peter Wieler,
Folkwang Kammerorchester,
Grend Kulturzentrum, Grugapark Essen,
Sven Lorenz, Maschinenhaus Essen,
Emscherkunst/Roman Mensing,
Museum Folkwang/Robert Bayer,
Stiftung Zollverein/Jochen Tack,
Theater im Rathaus, Stadtbildstelle Essen.
Stand: May 2018

