





Interesting facts about

Gelsenkirchen is situated in the middle of the Ruhr metropolitan region, after Paris and London the third-largest conurbation in Europe. Over five million people live here. For around 30 million people Gelsenkirchen can be reached inside two hours. Around 40 percent of the population of the European Union live within a 500-kilometre radius of the city.

Gelsenkirchen has over **260,000 residents.**

Gelsenkirchen is easy to get to: both by car, via the A2, A42, A52, A31, A40 and A43 motorways, and by local public transport or mainline train.

Within a radius of just 100 kilometres there are four airports.

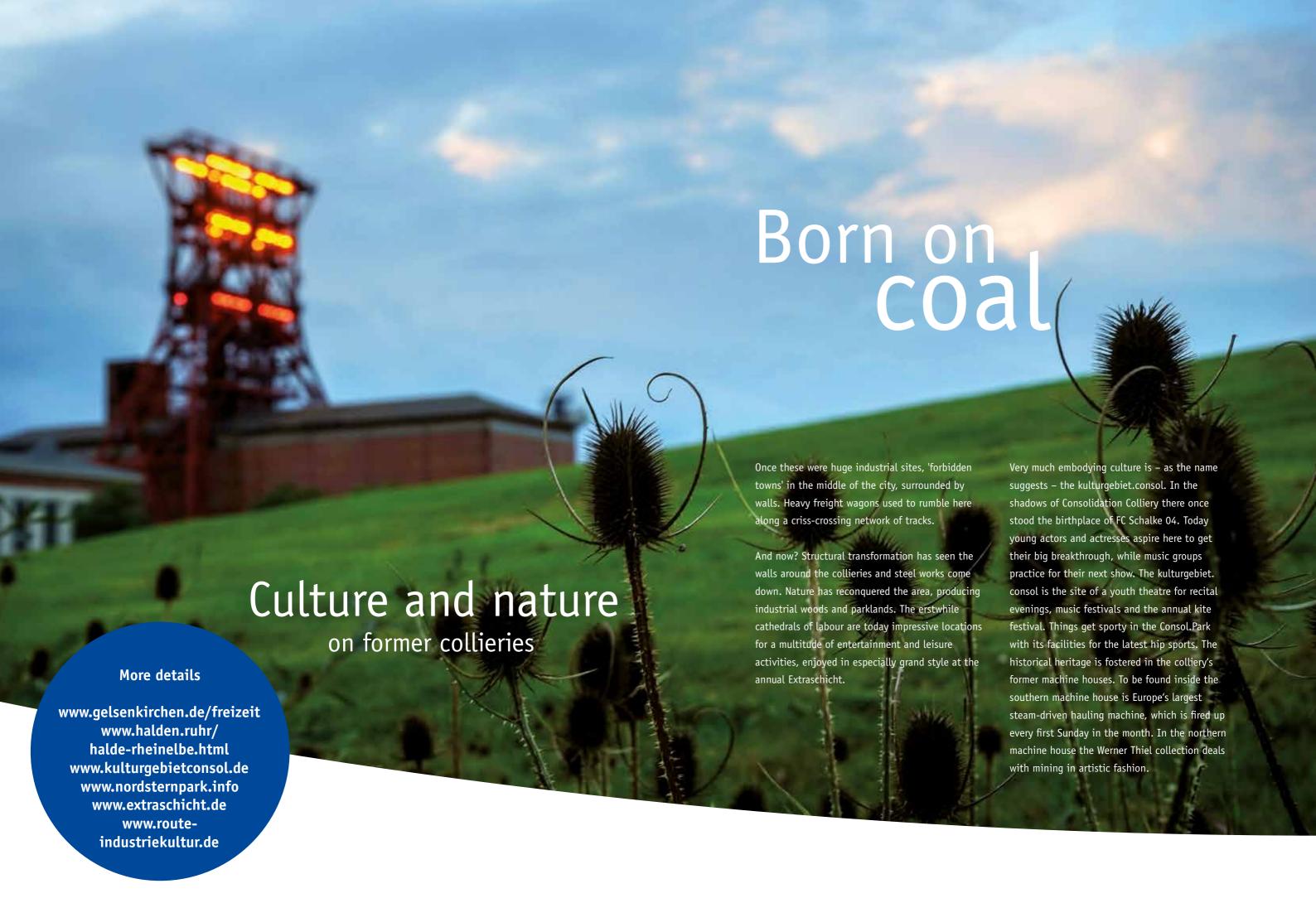
In Gelsenkirchen and its immediate vicinity you will find three golf clubs, including two 18hole courses.

One of Germany's biggest solar power residential estates, comprising 422 flats, is located in Gelsenkirchen. There are also other solar power estates within the city and directly adjacent to the VELTINS-Arena 'auf Schalke' the eye is caught by an enormous solar sail.











The Ruhrgebiet's

largest industrial woods

Today a district forester roams through the woods around the former Rheinelbe Colliery. Covering almost 40 hectares, it is the largest industrial woodland in the Ruhrgebiet. Nature shapes the terrain here with the remains of walls covered in moss, winding paths leading through the woods and the frequent sight of dragonflies and bats. The 'Emscher Orchid' feels at home here. Epipactis Helleborine is the botanical name of this indigenous species of orchid.

Renowned artist Herman Prigann created the artistic side of this extraordinary woodland. His sculptures evoke memories of the industrial past and give the place something of a fairy-tale, mystical feel. Towering above everything else, the highpoint in the truest sense of the word is the Himmelstreppe, the 'Stairway to Heaven'.

Have you ever seen the little sister? Nordstern Colliery in Gelsenkirchen is every bit as pretty as its big sister, the Zollverein Coal Mine Industrial Complex, in Essen.

The lovely little sister

From over 80 metres up on the visitor platform at the feet of the Hercules statue by Markus Lüpertz right next to the pithead tower, you look out over the former National Garden Show site. Today it is a huge landscaped park right next to the water.

In addition to the colliery, the red double-arched bridge is a further characteristic feature of the park, which really has a lot to offer: a climbing garden, 'children's land' and a whole lot of nature. The food and drink on offer here ranges from beer garden to candlelight dinner and fine cuisine in a 4-star hotel.

At one of the anchor points of the Industrial Culture Route you can see in a mine tunnel the way things used to be. From the panoramic terrace of the tall Nordstern tower, you enjoy clear views out across the park, the city and the entire region.

Where once coal was loaded, an amphitheatre now invites you to enjoy cultural entertainment. Just a few steps further on it's time to shout: "Cast off!" The White Fleet's passenger ship is already setting off on its trip down the Rhine-Herne Canal.









Loud sounds and soft tones

The MiR was designed by architect Werner Ruhnau. He created a building that more than 50 years ago was visionary, today feels thoroughly modern and in 50 years' time will be a classic of the 20th century.

Just a few minutes' walk away from the MiR is Gelsenkirchen's 'front parlour', the Hans-Sachs-Haus. The civic forum and atrium of this expressionist brick building provide lots of space for cabaret, music and readings. The 'Wilder Sechziger' have rocked away here, chamber concerts have set softer tones and both Jürgen von der Lippe and Bastian Bielendorfer have produced many a laugh.

A venue of a very special kind is the VELTINS Arena auf Schalke. It is not just a place of pilgrimage for football fans. Slide out the pitch, close the roof and hey presto: biathlon or boxing can be staged in this football temple. Music fans get a real treat for their ears in the Arena. From Helene Fischer and Coldplay to the international heavy metal elite, all the big names play there.

In Gelsenkirchen even the canal becomes an entertainment venue. The parade of ships at the start of the 'Kulturkanal' series of events attracts thousands of visitors. Where once cargo ships were loaded with coal, today the amphitheatre in front of the backdrop of the old Nordstern colliery is a popular location for all kinds of open-air events.



Even the Canal is a place of culture

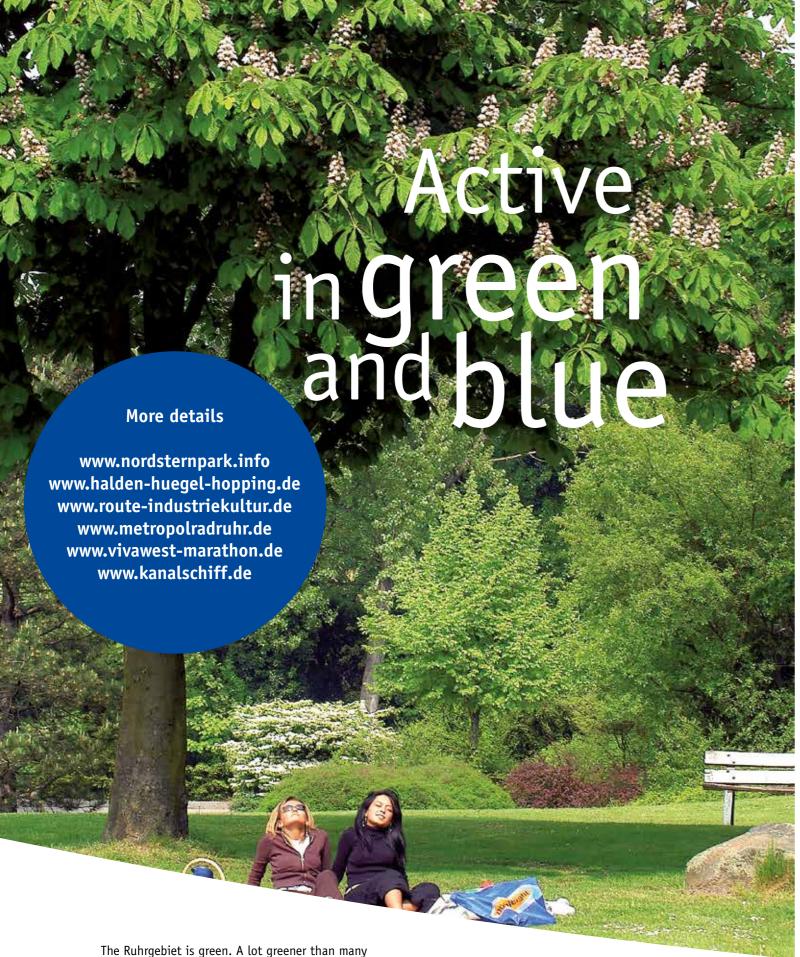
The kite festival at Consol, chivalric games, story-telling festivals, jazzy sounds in the 'stadt. bau.raum' of the former Oberschur colliery or at the International Jazz Festival in the city centre and at SummerSound, which repeatedly provides new acoustic surprises – in Gelsenkirchen there is always something going on.

Culinary delights alongside music are regularly on offer at the market next to the cathedral. Just one of many offerings that puts a swing into everyone's step in the city centre.

Gelsenkirchen, you see, knows only one kind of programme: a packed programme!







The Ruhrgebiet is green. A lot greener than many imagine. Right in the heart of this large European conurbation Gelsenkirchen in particular has a remarkable variety of parks and green spaces on offer. A quarter of the city is an area of natural or landscape conservation and there are numerous

open spaces and green touches as a result of the old workers' estates laid out as garden cities. Perfect conditions, therefore, for outdoor activities.





From climbing

to golfing

Admittedly, the former Ruhrgebiet slag piles are not a patch on the Alps, however anyone who likes things a bit more energetic is nevertheless well catered for in Gelsenkirchen. Facilities on offer such as a climbing wall in the Nordsternpark and two golf courses provide for sporting diversion aside from the beautiful game. Every spring the VIVAWEST Marathon is a special highlight for all running enthusiasts. Passing colliery settlements, old pithead towers and industrial culture, the marathon leads from Gelsenkirchen out through Essen, Gladbeck and Bottrop and shows the region from its sporting side.

Water in sight

Wherever there is so much green, there is also generally blue not far away. In Gelsenkirchen that is primarily the Rhine-Herne Canal, which crosses the city halfway along its course. Whether by canoe or passenger boat, Gelsenkirchen has lots to offer from the water, too. While swimming in the canal is not allowed, anyone looking to cool off in summer will find ample opportunity to do so in Gelsenkirchen's indoor and outdoor pools.

Out and about

on two wheels

There are new discoveries to be made elsewhere in the region as well: along the routes of closed-down railway lines cycle paths criss-cross the Ruhrgebiet, freeing cyclists from the busy roads as they take them from one city to another and to the Industrial Culture Route sites. At the heart of it all: Gelsenkirchen. The Emscher Park cycle path, for instance, which covers 230 kilometres, connects the open spaces of the Emscher countryside park.



Blue blood

Smoke-stack barons and coke-fire counts is what industrialists like Thyssen used to be called, because they liked to maintain an aristocratic lifestyle. It was not, however, the arrival of heavy industry that first brought the 'aristrocracy' to Gelsenkirchen. There was blue blood flowing in the city long before Thyssen, Grillo and co. And truly aristocratic 'blue blood' at that.

Lüttinghof castle originates from the 14th century. Surrounded by moat and avenues of longestablished trees, it is a popular destination for cyclists and walkers. From April to September the pastry garden tempts visitors with all sorts of home-made delights, while from October to March coffee and cake is served inside under the vaulted ceiling. Here in this waterside castle music lovers can also enjoy jazz and chamber concerts.

Submerge yourself in bygone times

Schloss Berge is known way beyond the city's borders for its summer festival and much more besides. In particular the stately home's gardens in English and French styles, which enthral both keen gardeners and visitors looking for a spot of rest and recuperation. Alternatively, you can really put your back into it rowing on the nearby Berger See.

Schloss Horst is one of Westphalia's most important Renaissance stately homes. The museum inside enables not only children to delve deep into bygone times, but leaves adults astounded as well. The Schloss has also made a name for itself as a backdrop for splendid chivalric games and festivals in the very heart of the Ruhrgebiet.



www.gelsenkirchen.de/freizeit www.luettinghof.de www.schloss-berge.de www.schloss-horst.de



Worthy of a

Paris has the Louvre, London the largest civic museum in the world. And Gelsenkirchen? It movingly sets art in motion. The city's Art Museum exhibits a collection of kinetic art unparalleled in museum Germany. Motion becomes here an aesthetic part of the art object - with the visitors right in the middle of it. Many of the objects can be touched or pushed, causing them to change. Optical illusions create the impression of movement. The visitors thus become an active part of the exhibition. Also well worth seeing is the collection of classic and modern art, including, for instance works by by

Another area of focus is the design-led concrete art centred on the work of Anton Stankowski, a designer and graphic artist born in Gelsenkirchen. His works made a lasting mark on graphic design. The Gelsenkirchen Art Museum has since 2010 been one of the RKM Ruhr Art Museums.

Within the imposing industrial setting of the Nordstern pithead tower a further special museum experience awaits the visitor. Set against the backdrop of the historic machinery, you see illustrated on six floors the stages of transformation that the site has been through during its history up to the



present day – from the days of coal mining, via the 1997 National Garden Show, all the way to the prospering country and business park, which is still continuing to grow today. The listed tower and the surrounding buildings of the former surfacemining plants are the work of famous architects Fritz Schupp and Martin Kremmer. They also built the Zollverein Coal Mine Industrial Complex, now a UNESCO world heritage site, in neighbouring Essen. The way to the museum is indicated by the monumental 'Hercules' sculpture that rises high above the Nordstern tower. For panoramic views, a visit to the terrace at his feet is a must.

Where football passions run high

The city's mining history is the central theme of three museum-like sites and an art installation. A steam-driven hauling machine can, for instance, be seen in the southern machine house of Consol Colliery, history is brought to life through accounts told by experienced miners in the 'Little Museum' and at the Rotthausen mining collection, and art and contemporary history are combined in the collection of Werner Thiel.



The museum at Schloss Horst takes visitors way back to pre-industrial times. It is a genuinely interactive museum. On a journey through time to the castle construction site in 1565 the focus is on seeing, hearing and trying things out. Visitors are able to experience with all of their senses life and work in the Renaissance era in one of Westphalia's most important buildings from that time.

In Gelsenkirchen there is, of course, no escaping the beautiful game. Football fans and especially fans of FC Schalke 04 are totally in their element in the Schalke Museum. From the birth of the 'Schalker Kreisel' short passing game to the Champions League, it is all here for football enthusiasts to see and hear. And all in the heart And it is all in the heart of one of Europe's most modern football temples: the VELTINS Arena auf Schalke.

13 museums – differing fields

High-class art, mining history, long forgotten times and football legends – yet in Gelsenkirchen there is still more to see: architectural and engineering art, an exhibition of the city's history in the Hans-Sachs-Haus, an icon of brick expressionism, and a museum that deals with the history of Polish immigration. Visitors can retrace the trail of Jewish life in Gelsenkirchen and a documentation centre tackles the era of National Socialist dictatorship.

In total there are 13 museums that cover off a very varied spectrum



Gelsenkirchen's range of eateries is as diverse and varied as the city's population. The influx of people from Poland, Turkey, the former Yugoslavia, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Italy and many other countries is reflected in the city's array of places to eat. From Mediterranean to Asian-inspired fusion cuisine, there is simply everything. Sometimes simple and down-to-earth, sometimes upmarket and refined. Or perhaps you would prefer one of the many burger variations accompanied by a so-called 'GEsöff' or 'GEbräu', which are revitalising Gelsenkirchen's beer-brewing tradition?

You can, of course, also get the classic Ruhrgebiet 'Currywurst' in the city and practically every snack bar has its own secret recipe for the curry sauce.

Regardless of whether by bike or on foot, coming from a concert or an exhibition, the perfect place







to eat or drink is, as it were, just around the corner.

Gelsenkirchen's stately homes provide the fitting
ambience for appropriate occasions, as do the inns
where the chat is all about football.

Right next to FC Schalke 04's legendary
former stadium, the Glückauf Kampfbahn, is the inn where Schalke
legend Ernst Kuzorra supped
his beer. Sparkling wine, beer
or soda – in Gelsenkirchen no
problem!

All aboard, please!

From April to October on every second Tuesday and every fourth Sunday in the month there are open-top city tours around Gelsenkirchen. In around 100 minutes the key tourist sights are visited and explained.

Special football fan tours

Gelsenkirchen, that's Schalke 04, obviously. But the city's football history is much richer still. Don't forget, for instance, the Emscher Hussars. If that has made you curious, climb aboard!

Summer night's dream special trips

Relaxed, open-top bus rides at pleasant summer temperatures – that is what's promised over a good three hours by the summer night's dream trips. Going all around the city, the trips go this year for the first time to some well-known and also hidden public works of art. A summery tour for cultivated connoisseurs.

Information on other offerings, such as crime thriller tours and themed trips is available from the City and Tourist Information Office in the Hans-Sachs-Haus

Gelsenkirchen City and Tourist Information Office Hans-Sachs-Haus

Ebertstraße 11 · 45875 Gelsenkirchen
Tel.: +49 (0)209 169-3968 or -3969
E-Mail: touristinfo@gelsenkirchen.de
www.gelsenkirchen.de/touristinfo
Monday to Friday: 8:00 - 18:00
Saturday: 10:00 - 14:00
Sunday closed

All information is available here



Gregarious Gelsenkirchen

Out and about

on a hired bike or by bus and rail

Onto your bike, ready, go! Here's how it's done: www.metropolradruhr.de

Mobile by bus and rail: www.vrr.de (Service-Hotline 0180 6504030 *)

or www.bogestra.de (Service-Hotline 0180 6504030 *)
* €0.20 per call from a German landline. Max. €0.60 per call from a mobile.

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Overnight accommodation options for weary explorers

Hotels, guesthouses, bed and breakfast and motorhome sites

Hotels

COURTYARD by Marriott****s Gelsenkirchen

Parkallee 3 · 45891 Gelsenkirchen-Erle Tel.: + 49 (0)209 8600 Fax: + 49 (0)209 860111 www.marriott.com info@cy-gelsenkirchen.de

Heiner's Parkhotel****

Am Bugapark 1d 45899 Gelsenkirchen-Horst Tel.: + 49 (0)209 1772222 Fax: + 49 (0)209 1772175 www.heiners.info info@heiners.info

Hotel Maritim***

Am Stadtgarten 1 45879 Gelsenkirchen-Mitte Tel.: + 49 (0)209 1760 Fax: + 49 (0)209 1762091 www.maritim.de reservierung.sge@maritim.de

Hotel-Restaurant Schloss Berge****

Adenauerallee 103 45894 Gelsenkirchen-Buer Tel.: + 49 (0)209 17740 Fax: + 49 (0)209 1774299 www.schloss-berge.de info@schloss-berge.de

Ambient Hotel***

Zum Schwan Urbanusstraße 40 45894 Gelsenkirchen-Buer Tel.: + 49 (0)209 318330 Fax: + 49 (0)209 3183310 www.schwanhotel.de

info@schwanhotel.de

Hotel Buerer Hof***

Hagenstraße 4 45894 Gelsenkirchen-Buer Tel.: + 49 (0)209 933430 Fax: + 49 (0)209 9334350 www.buerer-hof.de anfragen@buerer-hof.de

Hotel Ibis***

Bahnhofsvorplatz 12 45879 Gelsenkirchen-Mitte Tel.: + 49 (0)209 17020 Fax: + 49 (0)209 209882 www.ibishotel.de info.gel01@grandcityhotels.com

InterCityHotel***

Ringstraße 1 - 3
45879 Gelsenkirchen-Mitte
Tel.: + 49 (0)209 92550
Fax: + 49 (0)209 9255999
www.intercityhotel.de
gelsenkirchen@intercityhotel.de

Hotel-Restaurant La Scala***

Schlesischer Ring 3 45894 Gelsenkirchen-Buer Tel.: + 49 (0)209 3809185 Fax: + 49 (0)209 3864099 www.hotel-lascala.de info@hotel-lascala.de

ARENA-Hotel

Willy-Brandt-Allee 54
45891 Gelsenkirchen-Erle
Tel.: + 49 (0)209 3616620
Fax: + 49 (0)209 361662333
www.arena-hotel.de
info@arena-hotel.de

Art Hotel Monopol

Springestraße 9 45894 Gelsenkirchen-Buer Tel.: + 49 (0)209 930640 Fax: + 49 (0)209 378675 www.hotel-monopol.de info@hotel-monopol.de

Hotel-Restaurant Balkanhof

Horster Straße 182 45897 Gelsenkirchen-Buer Tel.: + 49 (0)209 592656 Fax: + 49 (0)209 5909925 www.hotel-restaurant-balkanhof.de infoline@hotel-restaurant-balkanhof.de

Hotel St. Petrus Restaurant Dubrovnik

Munckelstraße 3
45879 Gelsenkirchen-Mitte
Tel.: + 49 (0)209 25000
Fax: + 49 (0)209 1782520
www.hotel-gelsenkirchen.com
hotel_stpetrus@yahoo.de

Hotel zur Post

Goldbergplatz 6 45894 Gelsenkirchen-Buer Tel.: + 49 (0)209 38068090 Fax: + 49 (0)209 376697 www.hotelzurpostge.de info@hotelzurpostge.de

Guesthouses

Jugendgästehaus Grimberg (Youth Guesthouse)

Grimberger Allee 10a 45889 Gelsenkirchen-Bismarck Tel.: + 49 (0)209 86677 Fax: + 49 (0)209 873163 www.haus-grimberg.de haus-grimberg@gelsennet.de

Gästehaus Heege

Heegestraße 10 45897 Gelsenkirchen-Buer Tel.: + 49 (0)209 59973 Fax: + 49 (0)209 598706 www.hausheege.de info@hausheege.de

Gästehaus Schacht III

Koststraße 8
45899 Gelsenkirchen-Horst
Tel.: + 49 (0)209 57975
Fax: + 49 (0)209 513875
www.schacht3.info
ABZ-Gelsenkirchen@t-online.de

Naturfreundehaus (Friends of Nature House) Fritz Bohne

Holbeinstraße 25 45879 Gelsenkirchen-Mitte Tel.: + 49 (0)209 43813 oder + 49 (0)179 6322727 kontakt@nfh-ge.de

B&B rooms, holiday flats and apartments

Are you looking for a B&B or holiday flat in Gelsenkirchen? Then you will find what you want on our website. At

www.gelsenkirchen.de/touristik we maintain a constantly updated overview of providers for you.



Reisemobilstellplatz Nienhausen (motorhome site) in Gesundheitspark Nienhausen (health & fitness park)

- · 22 births
- · Water supply and effluent disposal station
- $\cdot \text{ Shops about 1 km away}$
- · Café on site at Feldmarkstraße 201
- Public transport on the doorstep
 Birth per night inclusive of 2 people. Each
 additional person costs extra. Exclusive of
 electricity and fresh water.

Revierpark Nienhausen GmbH

Feldmarkstraße 201 · 45883 Gelsenkirchen

Tel.: + 49 (0)209 95705275 · Fax: + 49 (0)209 94131-99

E-Mail: info@nienhausen.de www.nienhausen.de

The Nienhausen Health & Fitness Park also offers attractive sauna and salt water hot tub facilities, plus during the summer months two open air swimming pools, one with a wave machine. The spacious park complex offers diverse options, including going for walks, jogging, power walking, mini-golf and tennis.



Your leisure time begins here!

Tickets for the really big names - from the City and Tourist Information Office



City and Tourist

Information

Hans-Sachs-Haus, Ebertstraße 11

© 0209 169-3968 or -3969

Mon-Fri from 8am to 6pm

Sat. from 10am to 2pm

Opening hours:

Dickampst

touristinfo@gelsenkirchen.de



The Mayor
Public Relations Unit
in collaboration with
Stadtmarketing Gesellschaft Gelsenkirchen mbH

Photographs: Gerd Kaemper, Pedro Malinowski, Thomas Robbin, Martin Schmüderich, Caroline Seidel, Franz Weiß, City of Gelsenkirchen