

Hamburg

The “Free and Hanseatic City” of **Hamburg** is the **second largest city** in Germany with 1.7 million people living here. The Hanseatic League and trade which came through the **port** have formed the city since the Middle Ages as have incidents like the **Great Fire** from 1842.

Since the World War II, Hamburg has evolved to the **German capital of press and mass media**. This is where the most creative advertising agencies have their headquarters and German publishing legends established their companies. But the city is also a **major destination for shopping and culture**.

Hamburg is very **easy to reach** from all directions and by all means of transportation as it has an **international airport** which is located in the city itself, and is a hub for the **InterCity train network**. Five important motorways lead to the city, so it is also easy to get there by bus or car.

As Hamburg is a **Hanseatic City**, the port invites for a visit. It is **Germany’s largest seaport** as well as a popular **tourist attraction**. Exploring the port and the historic Speicherstadt by boat on the so-called “**Große Hafenrundfahrt**” is one of the most typical activities as well as seeing the **Fishmarket** and the **Town Hall** and touring the lake-like river **Alster**. The Speicherstadt also hosts the Miniatur Wunderland, the world largest model railway.

Although usually associated with erotic and prostitution, the quarter of **St. Pauli** with the famous **Reeperbahn**, where so many **amusement establishments, clubs and bars** are located, cannot be reduced to only the sinful business, but is a multicultural, vivid place. A typical “**night out**” has to be spent on the “**Kiez**”, as the St. Pauli area is called by the locals.

The project “**HafenCity**” is one of the **largest rebuilding projects** in Europe and will eventually produce a **whole new city area** which is located on the old harbor areas. The completion date is **2020**, but already now many parts have been finished and shops, restaurants or cultural institutions make the area lively.

Besides offering all kinds of activities connected to water, Hamburg is also well-known for its **many museums**, especially in the art section, and is **Germany’s most important city for musicals**.

Ranging from **fresh fish to foreign specialties of all kinds** - concerning eating out and feasting Hamburg ranges in the **top league** and the city can therefore be counted as a culinary top destination.

