Discover *Braunschweig*: a walk in the city

Allow yourself about 1½ hours for this relaxing stroll through the centre of the city. The route takes you to numerous places of interest, through narrow alleyways and enticing streets, across beautiful squares, past historic buildings and modern architecture.

Guided tours as well as trips by vintage bus or by boat, can be booked at the Touristinfo.

Touristinfo
Braunschweig Stadtmarketing GmbH
Kleine Burg 14, 38100 Braunschweig
Tel. +49 (0) 531 4 70 20 40
Fax +49 (0) 531 4 70 20 44

touristinfo@braunschweig.de
www.braunschweig.de/touristservice

Opening times
Mo. to Fr. 10am to 6:30pm
Sa. 10am to 4pm
1st May to 30th September: Sun. 10am to 2pm
Burgplatz

The Burgplatz (Castle Square) is an ensemble of immense historical and cultural importance. Since the 9th century, the Brunn one prince’s residence has been located here. In the 12th century, under Duke Henry the Lion, the Burgplatz became the central point of the Guelph power. It is bordered by the Castle Dankwarderode (museum), the St. Blasius cathedral, the classical Vieweghaus (State Museum) and beautiful timber-framed houses. At the central point of the square stands the statue of the lion. The bronze sculpture from the year 1166, once plated with gold, was erected by Henry the Lion as a symbol of his power and jurisdiction and was the first free-standing statue north of the Alps. The original and a selection of the Guelph treasures can be viewed in the Castle Dankwarderode, once Henry the Lion’s residence. The castle was reconstructed in 1887 in accordance with the original layout from 1175.

St. Blasius Cathedral

Today, the former collegiate church on the south side of the Burgplatz is an evangelic Lutheran cathedral. It was erected by Henry the Lion between the years of 1173–1195 as a triple-nave vaulted basilica. The cathedral was designated by Henry the Lion as his burial place, where he was then laid to rest in 1195 next to his wife, Mathilde. The burial place for Otto IV., German emperor and king, son of Henry the Lion, is also in the cathedral. The most important works of art include the Altar of Our Lady (1188), the seven-armed candelabrum (around 1170/80), the carved wooden crucifix from Master Imervard as well as the crypt of Henry the Lion and Mathilde.

Rathaus and Platz der Deutschen Einheit

The neo-gothic Rathaus (town hall) was originally erected by the City Building Councillor Ludwig Winter between the years of 1894–1900. The tower of the Rathaus is 61 metres high, has 161 steps and offers a wonderful view across the city rooftops. During the week, the tower can be climbed from 9am to 3pm. The entrance to the Rathaus is adorned with numerous tracery windows; these are framed by four figures which depict the fields of science, art, manual trades and commerce. On the adjoining Platz der Deutschen Einheit, a fragment of the Berlin wall can be seen. This commemorates the 20th anniversary of the reunification on the 3rd October, 2010.

Residenzschloss

The Residenzschloss (Ducal Palace) was badly damaged in World War II and was then completely demolished in 1960. The building was reconstructed using many original facade sections and was re-opened in 2007. The Ducal Palace accommodates the city library and archives, the city’s cultural institute and the Palace Museum. As with the historic palace, the portico of the Residenzschloss is crowned with a chariot and horses. It is the largest quadriga in Europe and depicts the goddess of the city, Brunonia. The bronze statue, cast in silicon bronze, is more than 9m high, 7.5m wide and 9.5m long and weighs 25.8t. The quadriga can be viewed via a visitors’ platform. The entrance to the stairs and lift can be found to the right of the portico. Viewing is possible in summer from 10am to 8pm and in winter from 10am to 4:30pm. The two equestrian statues on the stairs and lift can be found to the right of the portico. Viewing is possible in summer and weighs 25.8t. The quadriga can be viewed via a visitors’ platform. The entrance to the Rathaus is adorned with numerous tracery windows; these are framed by four figures which depict the fields of science, art, manual trades and commerce. On the adjoining Platz der Deutschen Einheit, a fragment of the Berlin wall can be seen. This commemorates the 20th anniversary of the reunification on the 3rd October, 2010.

Stadtgarten

This square was built in the 12th century and was the venue for the main and annual markets, for fairs and executions and for mediaeval tournaments, parades and processes. Today, the Martini church (12th–14th centuries), the Gewandhaus (textile trade house) and the Alstadtstrathaus (old town hall) still offer a unique backdrop for the traditional weekly market. The Alstadtstrathaus, today a museum, is one of the most beautiful Gothic architectural monuments in the city. The historic trade reference measurement "the Braunschweiger Elle" – is embedded in the wall of its portico. The Marienbrunnen fountain (1408) and the New Customs’ and Defence House (1643) are also extremely worth seeing. The adjoining Gewandhaus from 1590 served as warehouse and sales platform for Altewiek. The marketplace is surrounded by a number of interesting, widely differing buildings. To the south of the church, at street Spohrplatz 7, Braunschweig’s oldest remaining timber-framed building can be found. It was built in 1357 and was the birthplace of the composer Louis Spohr.

Magniviertel

The Magniviertel area is among the oldest quarters in the city. With its many timber-framed houses, it exhibits its own rustic charm. In stark contrast to this is the colourful “Happy RIZZI House”, on the corner of street Georg-Eckert-Straße, which was designed by the New York artist James Rizzi and is used as an office building. Around the Magni church, which was reconstructed in 1956, are numerous well-maintained houses and charming little streets, such as the Herrnordorffstrasse where the Magnit (Magni gateway) to the east of St. Magni, all of which add to the delight of a stroll through the historic quarter. The Municipal Museum on Lovenwall invites you to enjoy its comprehensive collection of exhibits from Braunschweig’s artistic and cultural history, as well as temporary exhibitions and events.

Agienmarkt

In the centre of the Agien marketplace is the Agien church. The original Romanic Benedictine church from 1115 and the monastery buildings were damaged in the great fire of 1278 and a new building in Gothic cathedral style was erected. The church is the only example of early Gothic cathedral architecture in Braunschweig. To the north of the church, the Agien market was established as a marketplace for the mediaeval district of Altwiek. The marketplace is surrounded by a number of interesting, widely differing buildings. To the south of the church, at street Spohrplatz 7, Braunschweig’s oldest remaining timber-framed building can be found. It was built in 1357 and was the birthplace of the composer Louis Spohr.

Kohlmmarkt

The Kohlm (Coal Market) played a key role in Braunschweig’s early days as a junction of major mediaeval trading routes. Today, it is a popular meeting place and location for numerous events. Its character is formed by the diversity of architecture and historic facades which document its rich history. Particularly worth seeing are the facades of the buildings “Haus zum goldenen Stern” and “Haus zur Rose” on the corner of street Schuhstraße as well as the “Haus zur Sonne” on the opposite side.

Altstadtmarkt

This square was built in the 12th century and was the venue for the main and annual markets, for fairs and executions and for mediaeval tournaments, parades and processions. Today, the Martini church (12th–14th centuries), the Gewandhaus (textile trade house) and the Alstadtstrathaus (old town hall) still offer a unique backdrop for the traditional weekly market. The Alstadtstrathaus, today a museum, is one of the most beautiful Gothic architectural monuments in the city. The historic trade reference measurement – the "Braunschweiger Elle" – is embedded in the wall of its portico. The Marienbrunnen fountain (1408) and the Old Customs’ and Defence House (1643) are also extremely worth seeing. The adjoining Gewandhaus from 1590 served as warehouse and sales platform for the cloth merchants, the most distinguished guild in the old town. The east facade is one of the most significant examples of Renaissance architecture in Braunschweig.

www.braunschweig.de/sights