Welcome to Osnabrück – City of Peace
Osnabrück’s political and cultural life believes in the maxim: “The task of peace – committed to peace”. After 5 years of negotiations the “Peace of Westphalia” that ended the Thirty Years’ War was proclaimed on the steps of the Town Hall in 1648. Since more than 60 years local children commemorate this event every year with a hobby horse parade.

Nowadays, people still come together where merchants used to meet in the old days: The “Markt” remains the heart of the city and hosts weddings, festivals, wine stands and Christmas markets. Its picturesque flair is formed by the Town Hall of the Peace of Westphalia, the “Stadtwaage”, the St Mary’s Church, the late Romanesque St Peter’s Cathedral and the high gables of the old merchant houses.

From 1412-1669, Osnabrück was a member of the “Hanse” (Hanseatic League), the most important trading alliance of its time that brought great stature and wealth to its member cities. These days, the old trade routes turned into pleasant streets with attractive shops. This mixture of historic quarters and modern architecture is the hallmark of Osnabrück whose status as a university city (around 20,000
students) completes its long history of Episcopal power. The young, top flight university, the technical college with its popular international study programs and the German Federal Environment Foundation (DBU), located in Osnabrück, are all important factors for the creation of an innovative climate.

Osnabrück is popular for being compact. Whether for sightseeing, shopping, strolling or studying – a good layout and short distances are a plus for all guests.

Today Osnabrück (163,000 inhabitants) is the third largest city in Lower Saxony and the only German city situated in a nature reserve. With 1,220 square kilometers the UNESCO Geo Park TERRA.vita is wide open for cycling or hiking tours or for improving your handicap on one of the many golf courses around Osnabrück. Embedded between the Teutoburg Forest and the “Wiehengebirge”, the green traces of this nature reserve stretch right into the inner city of Osnabrück.

Felix Nussbaum Museum
Market Square with Town Hall and St Mary’s Church
Shopping street “Große Straße”
Door handle of the Town Hall

Osnabrück is a member of the network Historic Highlights of Germany (www.historicgermany.com) and spans the gap between past and present.
Around 780, Charlemagne, king of the Franks, erected a stone church on the banks of the Hase River the nucleus of today’s Osnabrück. The city’s name is presumably a combination of the Low German words “Ossen” (ox) and “Brügge” (bridge).

Some time before 803, the city became seat of the Prince-Bishopric of Osnabrück which likely makes the city the oldest bishopric in Saxony. As a hub of old trading routes and as the seat of a bishop, Osnabrück developed into a thriving center for commerce in the Middle Ages. In 1157, Emperor Frederick Barbarossa granted the city its fortification privileges.

Most of the towers that were part of the medieval fortification are still visible in the city. From 1412-1669, Osnabrück was a member of the “Hanse” (Hanseatic League) as well as a member of the Westphalian Federation of Cities.

Magnificent town houses and other prestigious buildings bear witness to the power and wealth of the medieval merchants.

Osnabrück became important during the negotiations for the Peace of Westphalia that took place here as well as in Münster between 1643-1648. The Peace of Westphalia, proclaimed on Oct. 1648, finally ended the Thirty Years’ War and changed the face of Europe.

While the Catholics used Münster as a venue, the Protestants resided in Osnabrück. As a result of this time Osnabrück was alternate-
ly ruled by Catholic and Protestant bishops until 1803.

Osnabrück became widely known amongst literature lovers through the works of one of its own sons, Erich Maria Remarque (1898-1970). The Erich-Maria Remarque Peace Center dedicates an exhibition to his life and literary work.

Another of the city’s natives is Felix Nussbaum. The artist was born in 1904 in Osnabrück and died in 1944 in Auschwitz.

The renowned architect Daniel Libeskind designed the Felix Nussbaum Museum as a special place for Nussbaum’s artistic work. The architecture of the building is intended as “rooms against oblivion” and captivates visitors by its unusual interior design.

Guided city tour with the night watchman – with a beautiful view from the spire of St Mary’s Church (3 h duration)
Town Hall of the Peace of Westphalia
- Finished in 1512, the Town Hall in late-gothic style took more than 25 years to build. Just like in neighboring Münster, the Peace of Westphalia was negotiated here, ending the Thirty Years’ War (1618-1648). Inside the hall, 42 portraits show the envoys of the peace congress as well as the rulers of that time. The most valuable pieces in the treasure chamber include the Emperor’s Cup, the replica of the Treaty of Westphalia, and the Osnabrück militia’s necklace. Also to be seen on the upper floor is a model which shows Osnabrück in 1633.

Old Town
- The Market Square and the surrounding old town is definitely worth a visit with its half timbered houses and vault houses from the middle ages. Next to the historical square you will find the “Bürgerbrunnen” (fountain) illustrating important events in Osnabrück’s history.

St Peter’s Cathedral
- Since its foundation by Charlemagne, the “Dom St. Peter” (St Peter’s Cathedral) has been the religious center of the bishopric Osnabrück for more than 1225 years. The current architectural style dates back to the late Romanesque period in the 13th century. Exhibits that cover a period of more than one thousand years are preserved in the cathe-

The City card is a ticket for all buses within the city, including free admission to six museums in Osnabrück plus a voucher booklet for other interesting cultural activities. www.osnabrueck.de/73579.asp

Sightseeing in the midst of Osnabrück
The bronze font (1225), which has been used for christenings for almost eight centuries, the Romanesque triumphant cross and the tranquil cloister are especially worth mentioning.

**Felix Nussbaum Museum**
- The museum, designed by the New York architect Daniel Libeskind, is home to the internationally renowned Felix Nussbaum collection. Like no other painter, his impressive works record the stations of his life, from the “happy childhood” in a Jewish merchant family, via initial artistic success in Berlin, to the despair of a persecuted Jew living in Belgian exile. The creative tension between architecture and painting encourages us never to forget the Holocaust in Europe.

**Further museums**
- **Museum of Cultural History**
- **Diocesan Museum** contains liturgical instruments, relics and precious jewels from 1,200 years ago
- **Art Gallery Dominican Church** presenting contemporary art
- **Museum of Industrial Culture** shows the history of the industrialization in Osnabrück
- **Erich Maria Remarque Peace Center** offers insights into the life, works and global impact of Erich Maria Remarque
- **Schölerberg Museum for Nature and Environment / Planetarium** conveys the ecological connections of the regional environment
Osnabrück is a haven for all gourmets. This is not only because Thomas Bühner of the restaurant “la vie” was awarded with his third Michelin star. Those who like it more rustic will enjoy one of the breweries, and the confectionery “Leysieffer” has been the first address for sweet treats for more than 100 years. Speaking of tradition: The restaurant Walhalla is Osnabrück’s oldest inn. You will find culinary delights of every kind and for every taste in Osnabrück.

The restaurant “la vie” – in the heart of Osnabrück’s Old Town – boasts three Michelin stars as well as 19 Gault Millau points. Thomas Bühner and Thayami Kanagaratnam have been running the restaurant since 2006.

The strict testers certify Thomas Bühner’s “perfectly arranged creations which satisfy highest standards of enjoyment.”

Another refined address in the city is the restaurant “Vila Real” at “Steigenberger Hotel Remarque”. Maitre d’ Andreas Klatt runs the small, very stylishly furnished restaurant that has been awarded several prizes.

Those who prefer plainer cooking will relish the fresh local ingredients which make a typical Osnabrück meal. In spring, there is “Spargel” (asparagus) in every conceivable variety, in winter there is “Grünkohl”, served up with “Kasseler” or “Grützwurst”. Both are popular specialties from the regional cuisine.

Where everyone meets everyone: The Saturday Farmers Market next to the cathedral.
Shopping with flair
◆ Stores and boutiques at the “Neumarkt”, modern shopping arcades on “Große Straße” and “Krahnstraße”, exquisite small shops in the Heger Tor quarter: The mixture of Old Town and modern shopping streets next door makes Osnabrück attractive for city strolling. Cafés, bistro and pubs are nearby and always good for a little break.

Events
◆ **May Week Festival** Northern Germany’s unique inner city festival. 10 days of music, comedy and open-air show. Every year during the 2nd week in May.
◆ **Osnabrück Wine Days** In vino veritas – a local wine tasting session for wine buffs next to the Town Hall in the Old Town. In late summer.
◆ **Morgenland Festival** Since 2005, the Morgenland Festival Osnabrück has devoted itself to the fascinating world of Middle Eastern music: An important venue for musicians and music enthusiasts from East and West. Every two years in late summer.
◆ **Cultural Night** Experience the cultural diversity of the city – a night of outstanding cultural entertainment. Last Saturday in August.
◆ **Christmas Market** Simply enchanting and one of the most beautiful of the North is the historic Christmas Market in front of Town Hall and St Peter’s Cathedral. Atmospheric bright lights illuminate the Old Town. From end of November to December 22nd.
Ideas for a stopover

**Osnabrück – at first glance**
Just try a little piece of Osnabrück. Includes one overnight stay, the city card that helps you find your own way through our city. A nice little cappuccino break is also included. From 69 € p.P. in a double room.

**Culinary delights**
Osnabrück is famous for its culinary diversity. In three days (two overnight stays), you get to experience the cuisine of the award-winning restaurant “la vie” and the rustic brewery “Rampendahl”. From 229 € p.P. in a double room.

**Christmas time in Osnabrück**
The Osnabrück Christmas Market with its cozy atmosphere, historic setting and magical lighting of the town is truly inspiring and regarded as one of the most beautiful Christmas Markets in the North of Germany. Enjoy a hot cup of mulled wine and join the night watchman on his tour. From 69 € p.P. in a double room.

**Time for best friends**
The day for best girlfriends – time for a stroll, a chat, shopping or just browsing. Includes a small French breakfast, sparkling wine in a fashion boutique and a cocktail in the evening. One or two overnight stays. From 75 € p.P. in a double room.
1,400 days of negotiations in the Peace Treaty of Westphalia shaped Osnabrück’s career start as a conference venue. Today, you will experience Osnabrück as a modern convention city which can be reached easily by car, train or plane.

Along with this there is a professional, free of charge conference service. The experienced team of the City Convention Bureau supports organizers in planning and arranging their business events. We provide you with insider tips and creative ideas from one source. From a small seminar up to a large congress, from a modern conference hotel up to a castle – you will certainly find the right location for your event.

In addition, we offer individual supporting programs and incentives which are tailored to your participants and aims. Workshops in a cloister, culinary culture in the museum, dinner in a former nave or a guided tour with the night watchman where food is served at various places in the Old Town – all of this makes Osnabrück a perfect convention venue.

Just take a seat! We will take care of the rest.

Our free conference service:
- one-source planning and organization of your events
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Contact:
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+49 541 323-3074
kongressbuero@osnabrueck.de
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Recreation in the countryside

Osnabrück is surrounded by a charming countryside that offers many recreational activities. Whether you enjoy walking, cycling, jogging or mountain biking – with around 2,300 km of long distance and circular footpaths in a romantic landscape and 1,500 km of bike paths, you’re sure to find what you’re looking for. The ridges of the Teutoburg Forest and the Wiehen Hills shape Osnabrück’s surroundings. Most of the region is part of the nature reserve TERRA.vita, a European network of nature parks.

The Varus Battle – Museum and Park Kalkriese

The devastating defeat of the Roman legions under Varus in the year 9 AD against the Germanic tribes is legendary. The victory of Arminius was supposed to be the beginning of the end of the long-lasting Roman Empire. Where and how exactly Arminius succeeded offered a lot of speculations and myths.

In 1989, the site near Kalkriese was discovered by archaeologists and the excavation is still continuing. Nowadays, Kalkriese is one of Europe’s most important excavation site and experiences international recognition. In 2002, the new museum opened with an observation tower standing 40 meters (43.7 yards) high. The museum was awarded with the European Heritage Award in the category »Archaeological monuments« in 2005. It is to date the only archaeological institution in Germany awarded with this prize. Far known are Kalkriese’s spectacular events such as light and sound productions or Northern Germany’s unique Roman Days.

1 Varus Museum in Kalkriese
2 Famous roman mask
2,500 kilometers cycling experience

Ten attractive cycling tours with varying themes, four long distance bike trails and a total of 2,500 kilometers marked routes: We present you three selected tours:

**Lower Saxon Mill Tour**
- The “Lower Saxon Mill-Tour” takes you on 405 kilometers by bike from mill to mill. The longest cycling tour introduces visitors to the different landscapes of the nature reserve TERRA.vita in the Osnabrück region: the gorgeous, flat Artland region and the diverse routes across the Wiehen Hills and the Teutoburg Forest.

**Garden Dream-Tour**
- This tour is something truly special: 38 private gardens invite flower and plant lovers for a visit. The route with a total of 165 kilometers can be shortened individually. The exchange with garden enthusiasts on all kinds of gardening topics goes without saying.

**Artland Cycling Tour**
- In the 18th century, the competition between wealthy farmers resulted in this unique farm culture. On 150 kilometers you can experience magnificent half-timbered houses with elaborately carved gables in a park-like landscape. On some farms, a small café invites the bikers for a break or a “hay hotel” offers rustic lodging.

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① “Schelenburg” in Bissendorf
② Historic mill in Bippens
Souvenirs

Delicious gift ideas

Energetic and the perfect memory of an active day: the **multicolored noodles** in shape of a walking shoe or a bycicle.

Salt for gourmets: the world’s best natural sea salt is made from Bad Essen’s brine.

“**Stadtschreiber**” – the liqueur made of herbs tastes especially fine after a good meal.

The “**heavenly**” chocolates of the confectionery Leysieffer have seduced all generations for more than 100 years.

Typically German – beer. Served in a **glass with Osnabrück’s skyline** as a backdrop, it simply tastes great everywhere.
Always worth a visit.

The gourmet hotel with its two restaurants and modern rooms is located on the outskirts of the picturesque Old Town.

Book your gourmet-weekend.
Double room including breakfast buffet from € 116,--.

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1. Town Hall of the Peace of Westphalia
2. Market square / St Mary's Church
3. Felix-Nussbaum-Museum / Museum of Cultural History
4. St Peter's Cathedral and Diocesan Museum / Forum Dom
5. Art Gallery Domenican Church
6. Erich-Maria-Remarque Peace Center
7. Museum of Industrial Culture
8. Schölerberg Museum for Nature & Environment/Planetarium
9. St Catherine's Church
10. St Johann's Church
11. Baroque Palace (17th century) / University
12. Ledenhof (14th century)
13. Congress Hall
14. Theatre
15. Tourist Information
16. Pedestrian area
17. Advena Hotel Hohenzollern
18. Romantikhôtel Walhalla
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