

Tourist Information

Martinstraße 5, 45657 Recklinghausen

Opening times:

Monday: 12 am to 6 pm

Tuesday to Friday: 10 am to 6 pm

Saturday: 10 am to 3 pm

In the old town of Recklinghausen, the Tourist Information provides information about the cultural and touristic offerings of the city and the Ruhr area.

Whether you want to book a guided tour through the historic old town of Recklinghausen, need information about the unique museums of the city or are looking for a hotel nearby - the team of the Tourist Information will help you in a competent and uncomplicated way!

You are looking for a souvenir from the city, your bicycle has a flat tyre, you want to charge your battery or you have forgotten your umbrella – then the Tourist Information is the right place for you!

You may also visit our website www.recklinghausen-tourismus.de to find detailed information about the city's highlights.

You can start your first tour of discovery with this brochure. The marked tour will take you past a variety of interesting and historic places in the old town. The tour was developed in cooperation with the „Verein für Orts- und Heimatkunde Recklinghausen e.V.“ (Recklinghausen Local History Society).

We wish you a pleasant stay in Recklinghausen.

RECKLINGHAUSEN TOURISMUS

TOURIST INFORMATION

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10 Kirkeby Sculpture

In August 1996, a monumental brick sculpture by the Danish sculptor Per Kirkeby was inaugurated at the location of the historic Lohtor in Recklinghausen. The sculpture is 26 metres long, 4.50 metres high and 2.60 metres wide. With his brick sculptures, Per Kirkeby, who is one of the most important sculptors of the present day, extended the traditional sculpture concept. Sculpture and architecture merge together. The work is perfectly integrated into the cityscape. With its location on Herzogwall, it alludes to the historic city wall and the Old Town's city gates. Yet it also takes the shape of the behind-lying memorial dedicated to world war victims.



11 Lohtor Cemetery

After the closure of the churchyard St. Peter in 1809, the Lohtor Cemetery was opened at the crucifixion group from the year 1720. It takes its name from the Lohtor of the former city wall, with „Loh“ meaning „bush“ or „coppice“. It is the final resting place of many personalities who contributed to this city's development, e.g. District Administrator Robert Freiherr von Reitzenstein, Mayor Franz Bracht and Chaplain Theodor Kemna. In 1907, it was closed. Since its redesign in 1999, the Lohtor Cemetery has been used as a park.



12 Icon Museum

The Ikonen Museum is located in the so-called Turmschule (Tower School) at the opposite of the provost's church of St. Peter. The baroque building was constructed in 1795 for the Franziskanergymnasium by the last elector of Cologne. Until 1895, it accommodated an elementary school for boys and until 1935, it accommodated the regional-historical Vestische Museum. In 1956, the Ikonen Museum opened. Today, it is the most important museum for art relating to the Eastern Church beyond orthodox countries. More than 3,000 icons, embroideries, miniatures and wood and metal works from Russia, Greece and various Balkan States provide a comprehensive overview of the varied topics and the stylistic development of icon painting as well as the craftwork in the Christian East. In addition, several reliefs and mummy portraits are impressive witnesses of the diversity of artistic activity in Egypt from the 1st century until the early Middle Ages.



13 Provost Church St. Peter

The provost's church St. Peter with its 72 m high tower sits atop the foundation walls of earlier Romanesque buildings. The late Romanesque mother church of the Vest was built after the town fire of 1247 and expanded in the 16th century with the addition of the Gothic choir room. Especially worth seeing in the Westphalian hall church are the Gothic sacrament chest (1520), the corpus of Christ (15th century), which was destroyed in 1944 during the war, and the Baroque style high altar from the Rubens workshop. The tower houses the bells from Gerhard van Wou (1505).



The „historic cell“ around St. Peter, probably arisen from a Carolingian royal court (8th century), has been the site of the city model since 2016. It invites visually impaired people as well as all citizens to get an overview of the exciting mix of the medieval and modern urban structure as well as the tour of the historic centre. It is framed by the seal of the city (1253) and the archiepiscopal ministerials (1305).

14 Old Town Market Square

This is the heart of Recklinghausen. It is where many events take place such as the „Marktplatzspringen“ - an international pole vault competition - as well as the spring and wine festival and Christmas Market. Until the beginning of the 19th century, the northern part of the market ended at the Albers House, which the family acquired in 1766 and then converted into a restaurant. The characteristic stepped gable was added to the original half-timbered house in 1880.



15 Kaufmannshaus Verstege

The Kaufmannshaus Verstege was built as a three-storey half-timbered house in 1558. It is the second eldest town house in the Old Town. Thanks to its location on an old trade route to Dortmund, it became a preferred seat of wealthy merchant families. Together with its baroque elements in the rear part and the historic framework structure re-exposed between 1993 and 1995, the building embodies the respectable economic position of the farming town of Recklinghausen at the beginning of the modern era.



16 Gravemanns Hof

The Gravemanns Hof is the eldest preserved farmhouse and half-timbered house of the city, situated on the important route to Dortmund as well. The farm complex was established on the filled so-called Kampgraben, which was also the property of a much older archaeologically clearly proved farmstead. For centuries, the property was, in terms of agricultural yields, outnumbered by the noble Liebfrauenstift Essen, which formed the basis for the later development of the city of Essen. In the late 20th century, a thoroughgoing modernization and facade restoration for the establishment of salesrooms was carried out.



The route back takes you via the Schaumburgstraße and the marketplace, then via the Lampengäßchen and the Löhrrhofstraße to the city hall.

17 Town bells in the old town hall

The town bells added in 2008 remind us of the first three town halls that were built here after 1256. The depicted town seal (1253) with the Petruschlüssel was the model for today's municipal coat of arms (1908). The bells ring in a daily routine at 10:15 am, 12:15 pm, 4:15 pm and 6:15 pm playing melodies from five centuries. The southern side of the market was dominated by the department store architecture of Hettlage (1907) and Althoff/Karstadt (1911 and 1930) and is now home to the new MarktQuartier.



18 Old vicarage



This building slated with a rare decorative element is the last official church residence from the baroque period. From 1782 until the late 19th century, the house belonged to the vicarage St. Fabian and St. Sebastian and was erected in 1429 at the Gastkirche. The name „Herrenstraße“ also reminds us of the parish clergy from St. Peter that lived in this neighbourhood between the 18th and 20th century.

19 Still building

Built in 1907 as a banking house by the architect of the town hall Müller-Jena; after 1928, it became the registered office of the Still company founded in 1899, which rose to a global company for industrial plants (coking plants). With Hermes (the Greek god of trade) and the beekeeper (the symbol of hard work), the sculptured portal demonstrates with self-confidence the bourgeois world of ideas during the era of industrialisation.



RECKLINGHAUSEN BY FOOT



DIE GUTE STUBE

ALTSTADT RECKLINGHAUSEN

Welcome to the Old Town of Recklinghausen!

Take your time for a tour through the Old Town, follow your own tempo when strolling around. Discover rustic alleys, the historic and romantic city centre, cultural sights and green oases. The tour through the Old Town will give you an impression of all five quarters of Recklinghausen's Old Town. The guidance system leads you past 19 historic buildings and places, which lie alongside the 2.6 km-long route through the Old Town. At each site, an information board provides you with some interesting information. Make yourself comfortable in this nice place in the midst of the Ruhr area.

At the east facade, you can see three persons of German history (from the left): Hermann the Cheruscan, who defeated the Romans; a bishop baptizing the defeated Saxon duke Widukind; Charles the Great, who is connected with Recklinghausen's city history. The relief sculpture of the caught goose thief at the Binnenhof gate (west facade) reminds of the way to the former town jail. Above the main portal, the municipal coat of arms is flaunted in the traditional heraldic combination of green and gold. The motive of the coat of arms directly derives from the medieval city seal dating from about 1250. The key in the archway symbolizes the key of Saint Peter, Prince of the Apostles and patron saint of Cologne Cathedral, which dominated the city of Recklinghausen also politically for a period of 600 years.

02 Citizens support their city

Sculptor Heinrich Brockmeier called the sculpture group, which decorates the fountain on the city hall forecourt, „Bürger tragen ihre Stadt“ (meaning: „Citizens support their city“). It is supposed to embody the public spirit of Recklinghausen's citizens. So the three figures jointly carry emblematic buildings of this city: the provost's Church of St. Peter, a winding tower and the city hall. The fountain next to the sculpture and the newly designed forecourt were built on the occasion of the 750-year-ceremony of Recklinghausen in 1986.



03 Old Pharmacy



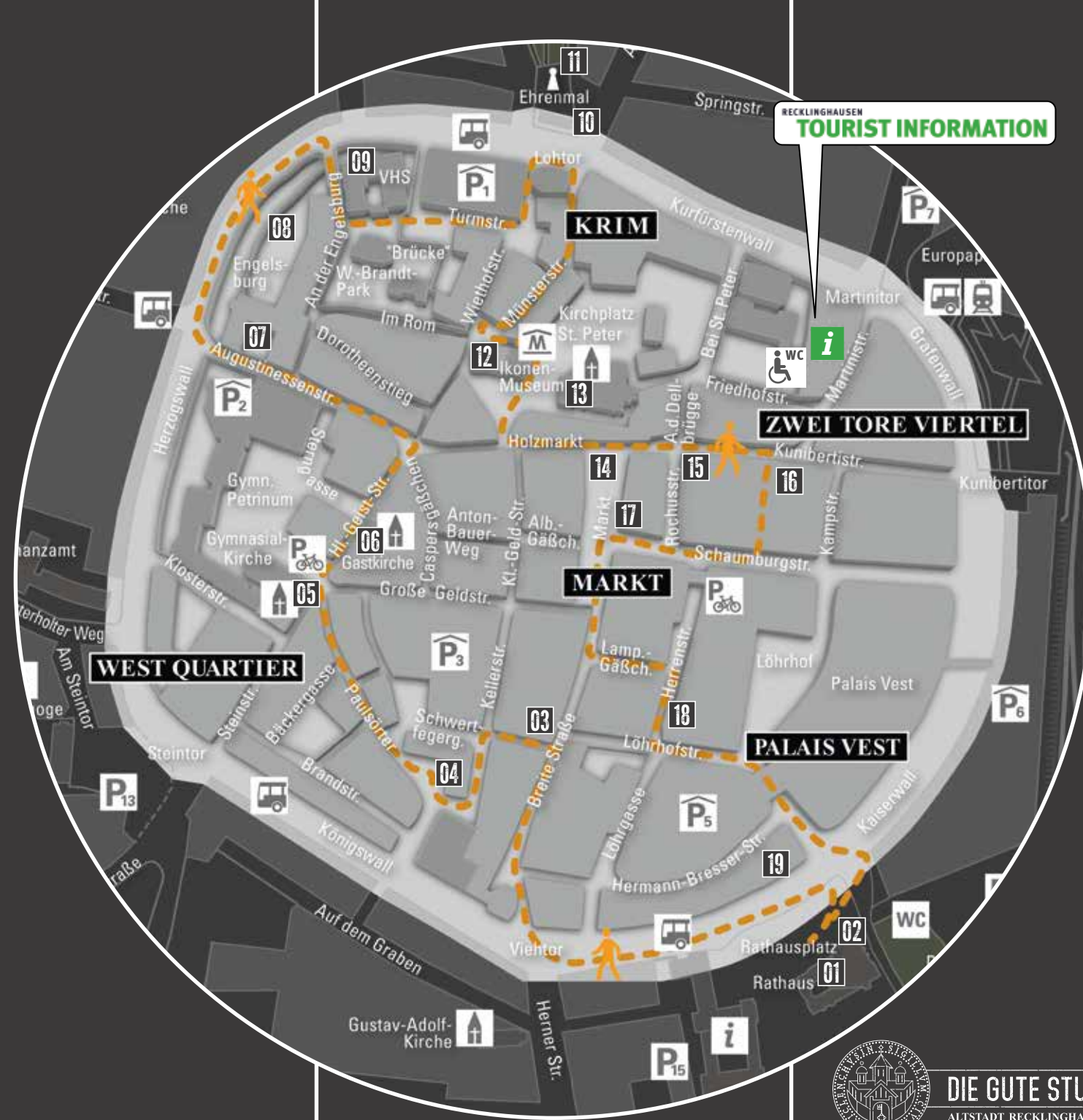
Lovingly restored with great care, the building has been in possession of the long-established Strunk family of pharmacists for almost 150 years until 2021.

The gable and the richly ornamented portal of the late baroque building are particularly striking. Behind the facade, the original half-timbered building is hidden.



01 City Hall

Recklinghausen is envied for its city hall. It „looks“ proudly and confidently across the forecourt at the Old Town. There, in the Old Town's marketplace, the three former city halls were located. Built in the typical Wilhelminian style of the so-called German Renaissance and inaugurated in 1908, it offers viewers many interesting details. With the surfaces built of Eifel limestone with outlines made of Medard sandstone, the building stands on a strong base made of basalt lava and interspersed with Anröchter dolomite. It has a complexly designed roof and a large copper-made middle tower located on Kaiserwall.



04 Tree Trunk Fountain

In 1985, the bronze cast of the Baumstammbrunnen was erected at Paulsörter. The original is placed at the Institute for City History. The Nachbarschaftsbrunnen (Neighbourhood Fountain) was built in the 13th century and created by a hollow oak trunk which, according to dendrochronological studies, stems from the 8th century.



05 Gymnasialkirche



It was built as an order church in 1658 and is dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The simple four-bay hall was the centre of religious life for local Franciscan brothers who lived in the 1676-built monastery next to the church. The choir room and the altars are from the 18th century; in the 19th century, the church was replenished with classicist elements. Since secularization, the church has been connected with the Gymnasium Petrinum.

06 Gastkirche

The city's smallest catholic church emerged after 1403 from a hospital or a poorhouse, formerly called „Gasthaus zum Heiligen Geist“ (guesthouse of the Holy Spirit). Today, it still stands for active charity. The church has three altar blocks from the early 15th century. The superstructures of the altars of Sebastianus, Mary and Crucifixion derive from the Baroque period. In the „Gasthaus“ belonging to the Gastkirche, a community as well as several volunteers still work not only for help-seeking, elderly, poor and homeless people in Recklinghausen but also for the needy in the Third World.



07 Engelsburg

The Engelsburg is the most beautiful and important secular building of Recklinghausen. Built in 1701 for a kurkölnisch judge based on the model of Münsterian nobility courts, the Engelsburg now accommodates a renewed four-star superior hotel. Especially remarkable is a baroque chimney inside the old building. From 1803 to 1904, the Engelsburg accommodated the head office of the possessions of Duke of Arenberg, who was also the sovereign of the Vest from 1803 to 1811.



08 City Wall

Recklinghausen was formerly surrounded by a city wall, a rampart and a ditch. Today, the former route of the city wall along the streets surrounding the Old Town - the Königswall, Herzogswall, Kurfürstenwall, Grafenwall and Kaiserwall - can still be seen. The city wall built in 1347 was secured by 17 fortified towers and had five city gates: Kunibertitor, Martinitor, Lohtor, Steintor and Viehtor. The last remaining piece of the wall with the Stephans Tower and the fortified tower is found on Herzogswall. It is about 200 metres long and separates the small park of the Engelsburg from Herzogswall.



09 Willy Brandt House

From 1905 to 1980, the house on Herzogswall was the administrative centre of the district of Recklinghausen. The building was put into operation in 1905 and reflects the self-confidence of the formerly Prussian district of Recklinghausen around 1900, which was then among the economically and demographically strongest administrative bodies in the German Empire. Since 1980, it has been the domicile of the education centre (Volkshochschule). In the park, there are still the former Landratsvilla (today home of the local music school) and the coach house.

