

Left to right: The old Town Hall, one of the most beautiful medieval architectural buildings. View of Dankwarderode Castle



The Lion's Residence

Heinrich der Löwe, duke of Saxony and Bavaria, was one of the mightiest imperial princes in the 12th century. In 1166 he started building Dankwarderode Castle as his residence. The imposing building served as a symbol of power. The original castle was badly damaged in a fire, but was rebuilt to the original floor plans as a neo-Romanesque castle in 1885 – 1906. The Knights' Hall with its columns, 10 candelabras and mural paintings depicting scenes from Henry the Lion's life, was destroyed during the war, but then restored and reopened in 1995. Since 1963 the Squires' Hall has been used as an exhibition room for medieval artefacts, some of which are parts of the Guelph treasure.

In 1173 the duke founded St. Blasii Cathedral as a part of his residence. Together with his second wife and their successors he is buried in the cathedral. Now it is one of the ten most frequently visited Protestant churches in Germany. Emperor Otto IV was laid to rest here as well. The castle, the cathedral and the bronze sculpture of the Braun-

schweig Lion, the first free-standing big sculpture north of the Alps, are the most outstanding symbols of the Lion City.

Several medieval churches and sites reflect the importance of the town, which was also a member of the Hanseatic League from the 13th century. St. Giles' Church (St. Aegidien) is an impressive example of a Gothic hall church.

The residential castle of the Guelphs was severely damaged in WW II and dismantled in 1960. In 2007 it was reconstructed according to the old plans, using as many of the original parts as possible.

The centre of Braunschweig is a modern, bustling city with inviting shopping areas, cosy cafés and excellent national and international restaurants.

Today Braunschweig is one of the most active research regions in Europe.



Castle Lion in the castle courtyard, bronze cast, 1166, originally gold plated, erected by Heinrich der Löwe

INFORMATION

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TIP

Braunschweig Cathedral St. Blasii

Heinrich built a cathedral – St. Blasii. From the death of his second wife it became the mausoleum of the Guelphs. It contains a number of magnificent Romanesque works of art.
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OTTO IV



iacet hunc us quondam dux conditor huius
rtie dignus nobilitate pius
ribus ornata tibi contemnit
peribus larga simplicitate bona
ita misericordis anglorum filia
triat anglis hos dux ipse
iacet obitatus rex horum
o coronatus verbibus tra
nus erat sponsa philipi
a spmola nuncius dux
hermetra meritorios
vita quid res nisi mors eius ubi

Memorial plate of Henry the Lion, Otto IV with their wives, 1st quarter of 15th century, oil/tempera on wood (Cathedral of St. Blasii)

