



QUEDLINBURG

View of the castle mountain and the Collegiate Church of St. Servatius.



UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE QUEDLINBURG. THE OLD TOWN WITH ITS 1300 HALF-TIMBERED HOUSES RESEMBLES A PICTURE BOOK OF THE ART OF HALF-TIMBERING. ONE OF GERMANY'S LAST REMAINING UPRIGHT STAENDER HOUSES (CA.1340) IS HOME OF THE MUSEUM OF HALF-TIMBERING. AT THE CORE OF THIS UNIQUE OLD TOWN WITH ITS UNCHANGED MEDIEVAL GROUND PLAN LIES THE CASTLE HILL WITH THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH, THE TOMB OF GERMANY'S FIRST KING HEINRICH I AND HIS WIFE MATHILDE, AND THE COLLEGIATE TREASURE.

The capitals of Colligate Church are showpieces of artful medieval masonry. The historical town hall, decorated with flowers and vines, and the wide picturesque market-place are major attractions of the old town.



Germany's book of legends

A narrow, very small half-timbered house is located at the Finkenherd in Quedlinburg. This is the place where in 919, whilst snaring birds, the Saxon Duke Heinrich I was offered the crown of the East-Franconian king by Franconian noblemen. This small, insignificant place is where in 919 German history began. Quedlinburg became the location of Heinrich's favourite palace. In commemoration of the Ottonian tradition to spend Easter in Quedlinburg the city celebrates its annual "Kaiserfrühling" (emperor's spring) with ceremonial processions on Easter Sunday and with a medieval market, "Kaisertafel" (imperial banquet) and amateur plays at Whitsuntide.

The collegiate church on castle hill is pure Romanesque in style and houses the collegiate treasure. It contains precious Byzantine artefacts given to Empress Theophanu as wedding gifts.

Substantial parts of the former Marienkloster can be seen in a private museum on the "Münzenberg". Over centuries the citizens built their half-timbered houses on top of the cellars of the monastery, which had fallen into disuse in the 16th century. The view from a recently opened café across to castle hill and the old town is simply magnificent. A little further on one can visit another building on the "Romanesque Road" – Wiperti church.

The "Zeit" journalist Christoph Dieckmann began an article on Quedlinburg as follows: "Germany is a thousand years old, and Quedlinburg is its book of legends." One can't agree more.

Quedlinburg and its collegiate treasure is one of the four highlights of the eighty sites along the "Romanesque Road". Together with the "Brühl" and "Abteigarten" (abbey garden) the town is also part of the tourist network "Garden Dreams-Historical Parks in Saxony-Anhalt".

Quedlinburg's Christmas Market attracts thousands of visitors every year.



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TIP

The **Lyonel Feininger Gallery** in Quedlinburg has one of the most important collections of Feininger's prints, as well as watercolours, drawings and some paintings. **Friedrich Gottlieb Klopstock's birthplace** is now a museum.

Events

Easter: **Kaiserfrühling Quedlinburg**; Easter Procession; Whitsun: **Kaiserfrühling Quedlinburg**; Medieval market, Kaisertafel, amateur plays; June-Sept: **Quedlinburg Summer of Music**; July: **Art festival "The Magic of Trees"**, Brühlpark; Advent: **Quedlinburg and its Christmas market**, "Advent in the Courtyards", the Magic of Christmas etc. attracts tens of thousands of visitors every year.