

## Berne -- Creative Juices With Or Without Dieter Bohlen

If I ran into German writer, producer, musician, and all-around creative dude Dieter Bohlen, I'd ask him if his hometown of Berne inspired his creativity in any way.

It sure did inspire mine.

Located right at the border of [Bremen](#), Berne is found along in what's considered a Geest Landscape. Oh, isn't that a "creative" way for saying marsh lands? ;-)

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Call it what you want, doesn't change the fact that Berne is criss-crossed by a myriad of hiking and biking trails (there's a 200km circuit of these). This is great for bird watching or quiet leisurely walks. The Weser Cycle Path winds through Berne's landscape, giving you the chance to see a Stork Nursing Station.

Great, another creative phrase — a simple way of saying that would be "a nest where storks raise their babies."

Euphemisms and creative language skills don't mean a thing when there's a festival going on. Say what you want; a party is a party.

Come the second weekend of September, there's a Market that's been going on here for more than 400 years. And every other June (odd-numbered years), the Olle Festival is a wild ride of dragon boat races and canoeing events.

Then there are the *Lammwochen* (Lamb Weeks). It's a month of lamb dishes, camping events,

and everything in between pertaining to the lamb from mid-July to mid-August.

Easter kicks off a fun time with its Easter Bonfire, then on May 1st it's the annual Maypole festivities.

With all this excitement, I'm bound to have missed something. No, it wasn't the obligatory *Heimatmuseum* (Local History Museum) or the Museum of Ship Building. No, it wasn't the 13th century Gothic Church of St. Giles. Nor was it the two churches of St. Mary (one in Warfleth, the other in Neuenhuntrorf, built in 1500). Um, no it wasn't the town's drawbridge.

What was it that I possibly could've missed?

Oh yeah, to look out for Dieter Bohlen. Doesn't matter... I found my creative juices flowing without him. ;-)