

## Buxtehude -- Friendly Fairy Tale Capital Of The World

Buxtehude can be found in [Lower Saxony](#) and is a short distance away from popular tourist hot spots [Hamburg](#) and [Bremen](#). But this growing city is becoming a fashionable destination in its own right.

There is an eclectic mix of businesses to be found in town. Several major companies have branch offices in Buxtehude. You can find the aviation giant Airbus, maker of alcoholic beverages Bacardi, lime sand brick maker *Nord Kalksandsteinwerke*, and shipping company *Niederelbe Schifffahrtsgesellschaft* (NSB) to name only a few.

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The population is also quite varied. Although 90% of the residents are (obviously!) German, there are a few large immigrant communities as well. The Filipinos are the biggest group but the Turks and Poles are also well-represented in Buxtehude.

Its placement along the Este River means that there's a wonderful harbor to check out in the town. While these days its small size means that it is inaccessible for larger cargo ships, it provides the town with a maritime charm and some great snapshots for your camera. (The large [Elbe River](#) is also nearby if you're after those huge cargos.)

Buxtehude is known as The Friendly Fairy Tale Capital Of The World. One might wonder at this nickname, but it is the Brothers Grimm who helped to form this reputation. Their story of "The Hare and the Hedgehog" took place here, and many other German folk tales use Buxtehude as their setting.

Because of its mythical status in these tales, many people think of Buxtehude as a faraway,

imaginary place. In fact, there is a German proverb that says "...nach Buxtehude jagen." This means that someone has been sent to nomans land. ;-)

But before you go too far away from this enchanting town, be sure to hit all the highlights it has to offer. The Old Town is quaint and charming, and holds an annual festival with live music and flea markets. The Sankt Petri Church is the most important in Buxtehude and well worth a stop. And there's plenty of water recreation, like boat tours and swimming pools to keep you cool and relaxed.