

## Think Holle For Art, Culture, Castles, And Fun

Not too far from the [Harz](#) Mountains are the 10 districts of Holle, a town along on what were two trade routes. Holle's geographical location in [Lower Saxony](#) is secondary to the magnificent castles that decorate the landscape.

You do get to see both at the ruins of Wohldenberg Castle, whose Keep is a 32-meter high observation tower. Its St. Hubertus Church also brings plenty of people to the 12th century ruins.

The 12th century was pretty active for the town of Holle, as this is when the nearby monks started improving on the land of the Castle Derneburg. They worked, they toiled, and when all was said and done — they had added a fish ponds, a mausoleum, and greenhouse.

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While the castle is private property, the greenhouse is now a Culture Center that hosts all sorts of events, including a Garden Festival at the end of August; and concerts, theater, and art exhibitions.

The other two castles left are the 16th century Castle Henneckenrode (in the Weser Renaissance style) and one of the most beautiful Baroque castles imaginable — Castle Soder. It's private property so you can only see the outside of this 4-storey, moated castle, but that's where you'll find its English-style Garden.

Now that you've seen those, it's time to move on to the Local History Museum (at Hollenweg 4) housed in a charming half-timbered house. Its exhibits include everything from medical instruments to fossil; from farming to home decor.

Another of Holle's museums doesn't have so much to do with history, but art & culture. The

Heersumer Museum, in case you're interested, is open on the first Sunday of the month from 2pm-5pm.

Festivals in Holle also count as culture, so I hope you enjoy the Kite Festival in September, and the Harvest and Fall Festivals that are both in October.

The puppet theater at the Kasper Holler House counts as both culture and art (don't ya think), but the swimming and tennis are just pure fun.

Don't ya think? ;-)