

Kaltenkirchen -- The Caribbean Comes To Schleswig-Holstein

On first impressions this small town just north of [Hamburg](#) might appear to be little more than a commuter town. But if you delve a little deeper you'll quickly find Kaltenkirchen has a history dating back to the 14th Century.

But *Kaki*, as it's affectionately known by the locals, is not stuck in the past by any means.

As soon as you arrive you'll notice the new railway station, and modern shopping center, and all around are new housing developments to keep pace with the growing population.

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As well as the obvious excursions into Hamburg, or to the easily reached [Baltic](#) and [North Sea](#) coasts, Kaltenkirchen has plenty to offer you during your stay.

For example, the Holsten Therme is delightful, and promoted as the Caribbean in the North. With heated indoor and outdoor pools, you can relax under swaying palm trees, plunge down huge water slides, or just laze in the bubble pool with a cocktail! ;-)

Nearby you can also enjoy a session in the gymnasium, a sauna, or hire a bicycle. It's a good way to explore the excellent network of marked cycle paths through the surrounding countryside. There are plenty of places to hire cycles, and your hotel will be able to point you in the right direction.

Walking is also popular, and you'll feel like you've been here forever, as the many other walkers you'll meet will all smile and greet you like an old friend as you pass.

In the early part of [World War Two](#) it had a busy airfield, but following the Allied bombing it was destroyed, and later replaced with a concentration camp. Today you can visit the poignant memorial gardens, constructed to remember the 700 who died there.

Although the town is over 900 years old, you won't find many historic buildings of note. Even those that survived the War have mostly been demolished to make way for new developments. But Kaltenkirchen still has a quaint, homely feel.

You'll find the large number of inhabitants that have arrived here from other regions (many from the east after World War Two), give it a unique mix of styles. Even the large number of restaurants will offer you a superb array of different cuisine's from across Germany.