

Neubrandenburg -- Town Of The Four Gates

Neubrandenburg has a charm that immediately works on you as you stroll along its cobblestone paths and absorb the tangible historicity that is all around.

From the town gates to the cathedrals, there's plenty here for the tourist to admire and learn. The delightful little cafes that border the market place afford a great way to simply soak in the local culture.

One of the first things that will attract your attention in Neubrandenburg would be the imposing Town Gates and the Town Walls. The Town Gates have undergone restoration as recently as 1984 in a bid to reinstate its medieval grandeur.

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Four tower structures — the *Neues Tor*, the *Friedländer Tor*, the *Stargarder Tor*, and the *Treptower Tor* draw visitors to the spectacular treasures within.

The *Friedländer Tor* is now an art center, while the *Treptower* is an interesting museum with artifacts dating back to the prehistoric era. You can easily spend a whole day exploring this fascinating historic venue.

To truly appreciate the historic eminence of this town, you have to check out the Town Walls (*Stadtmauer*). This medieval fortification dates back to the 13th century and has an extensive ring wall with inbuilt houses, three moats, and imposing gates. It stands about 25 feet high and is surely an impressive sight.

The churches of Neubrandenburg will surely interest tourists with their elaborate styles and

impressive façades. The pulpit of the 16th century Church of St. John is a work of art you should not miss. The ornamental screen behind the altar known as the reredos dates back to the 18th century and, is again, another impressive structure.

The 14th century St. Mary's Church was rebuilt in 1945 after it burnt down, and is now an art gallery which also does duty as a concert hall.

While in Neubrandenburg, the *Schlosspark* in Neustrelitz, the Museum in Steintor, the Otto Lilienthal Museum, and the Murtitzsee Lake and the National park are well worth a visit.