

Sassenberg Has An Adroit Balance Of History And Fun

Sassenberg has found a perfect balance of old historical sightseeing and recreational fun.

Besides, Sassenberg is asparagus country and the little appreciated veggie has been grown here for “only” about 3000 years.

There’s a big celebration here in town at the end of April, celebrating the start of asparagus planting season. If you miss the big festival, that’s all right, there are plenty of other locally grown goodies to be found at the weekly Farmer’s Market.

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If you’re not shopping at the market, here’s your chance to see any number of the historic old buildings.

The Parish Church Maria Ascension has stood on the church square since 1251. It actually stood here longer, since it was built over an older existing one. Parish Church Johannes, an ornate Baroque style church, is a few hundred years younger built in 1678, and most definitely worth your time.

There are a couple of old mansions here that are worth a picture or two, like Schloss Kettler and Schloss Korff. In case you’re interested, there are ruins of a 14th century castle nearby.

If you need more of a castle and lock fix, rent a bicycle and follow along the “100 Castle Route” that will take you through much of the gorgeous Westphalia countryside. Or, just simply enjoy one of the many Nordic Walking trails that stretch through the protected nature reserve (don’t worry there are a few fitness levels).

Also nestled in the countryside is the popular Mark Lake and Bird Sanctuary Island. It's here that everyone enjoys "beach" swimming and even a game (or two) of tennis. The kids will just love the beachside playground. There's also camping nearby if you want to stay the night to get more in touch with nature.

And, if all that's not enough, there are plenty of festivals and special market days in town for even more fun (and shopping). The kids are the center of attention at the Kid's Carnival held every February, and flowers take center stage in March at the annual Flower Market.

All in all, Sassenberg has found a brilliant blend of history and culture mixed within a fantastic landscape. You'll find so much to do here that you won't sit still. ;-)