

## Sögel -- From Megaliths To Sumatra In The Emsland

The town of Sögel might be a health resort town, but if you're looking for something a bit more historical — you've found it, buddy!

Sögel is famous because it lies along the *Straße der Megalithkultur* (Route of Megalithic Culture). More than 41 prehistoric graves and mounds have been found in the area, and the *Königsgrab* (King's Grave) has been called one of the most beautiful. They're all beautiful, honestly. How could they not be, they've been hanging around for a few thousand years.

Speaking of beautiful, the Schloss Clemenswerth is a sight to behold. It was once a Baroque hunting lodge, but its spoke & wheel design are truly unique.

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From the lodge's center you can see the castle's 8 outbuildings that were once guesthouses and farm buildings, there's even a castle chapel where Chaupin monks still live. The complex is now a museum where anyone can visit — not just under the invitation of Clemens I, the duke who built it.

I'm a sucker for [German castles](#), but in this case I fell in love with the *Batak-Haus*. No, it isn't medieval, it isn't Baroque, heck it isn't even European in design. It's Sumatran. A priest built this raised platform dwelling, and under its steep triangular roof is a museum.

Let's see, what else does Sögel have? Oh, how about visiting its old Water Mill and the *Hüvener Mühle* (a windmill from 1801 that replaced a mid-16th century original)? Or, maybe you'd rather see the former Sheep Barn, a true look at Sögel's agricultural beginnings.

Located in another barn is the *Hümmlinger Teestube*, or as everyone knows it: the Local History

Museum. The *Heimathof* is another farming building, and a good way to see a real 19th century countryhouse.

It's amazing how many millennia are spanned here in Sögel, and I can't really think of too many other places where you can go from prehistoric megaliths to Sumatra. Can you?