

Steinfurt Is A Charming Spot Where History Comes To Life

Take your first steps into this scenic Steinfurt and feel as if you have been transported in time. From the ancient castle to the centuries-old Borghost quarter, this town has many charms.

Steinfurt Castle is undoubtedly one of the main — and most unusual — attractions. The architecture is an interesting potpourri of styles, mostly because the structure was repeatedly destroyed, altered and expanded. This perpetual building (and re-building) has resulted in a very unique blend of classical, Romanesque and Rococo and makes Steinfurt Castle an unforgettable and distinctive monument.

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Members of the Royal Family still live in the castle to this day but intrepid travelers are encouraged to visit. However, the drop-in may be a bit frowned upon. A little courtesy and one or two day's notice are much appreciated by the residents who are happy to offer a 45-minute tour of the premises.

In another taste of history, Steinfurt boasts two old mills, Hollich from 1859 and the over-500-year-old Lower Mill. The Hollich Mill is a traditional Dutch design and looks straight out of the Frankenstein movies. You almost expect to see a torch-bearing mob descend upon it.

And a trip to Steinfurt isn't complete until you have experienced the Borghorst Folk House. Once again, you can experience history with this House's on-going exhibitions. The Borghaus Local History Society sponsors song and poetry performances in Low German, as well as demonstrations of local crafts. If you want to see how clogs and clocks are made or see a weaver and spinner at work, you have come to the right place.

It's interesting to note that while the foundations of this town have been around for a thousand years, its name has been around only since 1975! Prior to this time, there were two towns, Burgsteinfurt and Borghorst. The name was changed when the towns merged together to become the unique and memorable town of Steinfurt.