

Wennigsen -- The Franks, The Deister, And Castle Ruins

The teensy 13th century old mining town of Wennigsen is actually much older since those devilish Franks took up residency here for close to three centuries (circa 500-800 A.D), but historians can debate that another time. Though they might not have had an easier time to get here like you can, since there's more than adequate rail service from places like [Hanover](#).

Once you get here you'll realize that what most people come to see is the famous Deister. History filled rolling hills that run for about 25 kilometers through [Lower Saxony](#) (but there's so much more to see once you're actually here). So go on, take your time exploring the natural rock formations, the hiking and cycling trails, as well as seriously old hill graves (think of those Franks, again) also known as tumuli.

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You'll find that the natural and cultural history associated with the Deister will only enhance your time here in Wennigsen and the chance to enjoy both history and the great outdoors all at the same time.

Before you stroll off exploring the Deister, go see Wennigsen's Local History Museum housed in the town's Upper Mill. The museum changes exhibits frequently, so you'll be more than pleasantly surprised by what you might learn.

Also, make sure to spend some time over at Monastery Wennigsen from the 12th century with its Roman military tower that only gets more beautiful with age.

There are some hidden gems scattered around Wennigsen, like beautiful churches in the municipalities of Holtensen and Sorsum. Besides the Parish Church Michaelis in the village of

Bredenbeck, there's the old glassworks building and a splendid 19th century manor house to visit.

If you're looking for some romantic castle ruins, you'll find plenty here (many are scattered throughout the Deister region). One of the most striking are the ruins of the 10th century Bennigser Castle, so try not to miss it. Explore around some more and you'll find the ruins of the 11th century Heisterburg Castle and 12th century Witte Castle.

If you're looking for a quiet town to spend some time to savor the historical and natural, then Wennigsen is the place for you. You might not hang around here for a few centuries like the Franks, but any time here will be just as rewarding.