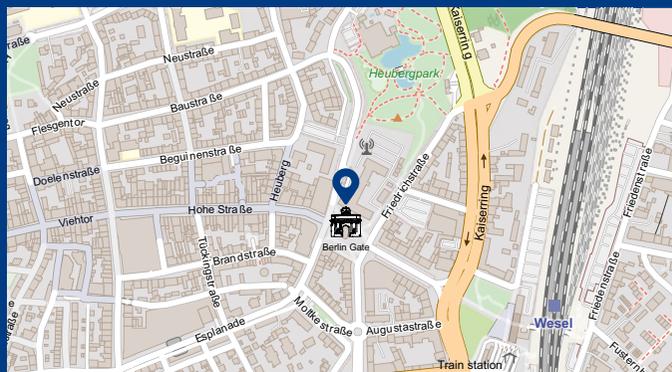




Hanseforum in the Berlin Gate



Hanseforum im Berliner Tor
Berliner-Tor-Platz 1
(Entrance under the arcades)
D-46483 Wesel
Phone + 49 (0) 281 475 534 70

Opening hours April to September:
Thursday to Sunday: 11:00 to 17:00

Opening hours October to March:
Friday to Sunday: 11:00 to 17:00

(Guided tours upon request)

Admission is free

Stadtarchiv Wesel
An der Zitadelle 2
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The Berlin Gate - A Wesel Monument

The Berlin Gate is the last surviving city gate in Wesel. It was built between 1718 and 1722. With it, the city received more than just a fortified entrance gate in the formerly broad built fortification ring. The building combines elements of Baroque palace architecture with royal triumphal gates. Its name refers to the seat of government in faraway Berlin.



Already on the field side facing outwards - today towards the railway station - the Berlin Gate defends itself less with embrasures, but more with images and words. The architecture of the outer facade of the triumphal arch was a really outstanding design back then. So-called emblematic pictures (very popular picture puzzles in the Baroque period) refer to the virtues of the sovereign. The sides of the gate are guarded by figures of gods. In the gateway itself, the architecture unfolds an even greater peculiarity: an oval room with an elaborate dome was fitted into the architectural rectangle. In addition, the original vaulted rooms with lateral musket embrasures can be visited on the upper floor.

Visit this little treasure of Baroque architecture during the opening hours of the Hanseforum!
Admission is free.



Hanseforum



www.wesel.de/hanse

 Hansestadt Wesel
am Rhein

The Hanseforum (Hanseatic Forum)

We welcome you to a walk-in monument of Wesel's city history. In the rooms of the Baroque Berlin Gate, the city of Wesel, in collaboration with the Association Hanseatic Guild of Wesel (Hanse-Gilde Wesel e.V.), presents key points from the old and new Hanseatic era. Learn more about Wesel's old trade routes and typical trade goods of the time. Alternatively, get to know the city connections of the New Hanseatic League. The rooms are accessible to the public during opening hours.



On the staircase, a timeline leads from the present to the past. Dates from Wesel's city history are thus linked to the Baroque building.

Unfortunately the Hanseforum is not barrier-free. Audio recordings are available via two QR codes, one for the Berlin Gate and the other for the Hanseforum.



Berlin Gate



Hanseforum

Hanse-Gilde Wesel e.V. (Hanseatic Guild of Wesel)

Since 1997, the Hanseatic Guild of Wesel has been focussed on the town's history, especially its prosperity in the Middle Ages, the Hanseatic period.

Immerse yourself in history on one of the numerous city and themed tours organised by WeselMarketing and the Hanseatic Guild. In addition to the city tours, lectures on the history of Wesel are held in the casemate in the main gate building of the citadel. During the annual Wesel Culture Night these rooms are freely accessible as well.

In addition, the Hanseatic Guild has a large collection of garments from far beyond the Hanseatic period. These garments can be used for historic reenactment. We welcome new members, please feel free to contact us.



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Herzog-Adolf-Straße 26
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We bring history to life.

Wesel and the Hanseatic League - A story of success

By the time Wesel fell to the Counts of Cleves at the beginning of the 12th century, it had already been developed into an important centre for goods transfers thanks to its convenient location on the Rhine and Lippe rivers. With the granting of town rights in 1241, the burghers received a number of privileges, such as exemption from customs duties.



Trade in the 13th century was limited to the buying and selling of foodstuffs and handicrafts. In the 14th century, the processing of imported raw materials and the export of finished goods led to an economic upswing. Cloth production in particular became a major source of wealth. Therefore, it was no wonder that Wesel joined the Hanseatic League in 1407, one of the most successful trade associations of the Middle Ages. The town quickly became the most important stacking and transshipment point after Cologne for imported goods from the Netherlands and Westphalia.

Trade relations can be traced to the large Dutch Hanseatic cities, to the London steel court, to Stralsund, Danzig, Reval, Riga and Bergen.

Wesel reaffirmed this tradition in 1980 when it joined the New Hanseatic League. Their city names can be discovered in the pavement of the pedestrian zone from the Berlin Gate to the market (Großer Markt)

The spirit of the Hanseatic League is still alive in Wesel.