

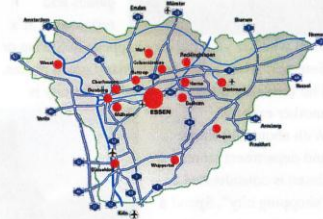


Essen is a nice and sparkling city that lies in the centre of the Ruhr region in westerly North Rhine-Westphalia, on the Ruhr River, a tributary of Rhine river.

HISTORY

Essen name's origin often creates confusion as it corresponds to the infinitive of the german verb "essen", which means "to eat" and to the german noun "Essen", in English "food".

In the end of the XVI century in Essen there were many coal mines, and the city started to become an important economic centre connected with weapon production. Essen's industrial development increased with the iron and steel industry of the Krupp family. In 1811 Friedrich Krupp created his first factory and in two decades Essen became one of the biggest European industrial poles.



Michela Tomasino - 4A erica



Come and spend a week in the city that was recently appointed European Capital of Culture for 2010, representing the whole Ruhr Area.

SIGHTS



During your visit don't miss the industrial and mining complex Zollverein. It belongs to the masterpiece of the industrial architecture and then has been declared world heritage by UNESCO and now it is used with culture purposes. For the art lovers, it is worth visiting the Folkwang museum, which offers a large collection of the XIX and XX century paintings; they differ from French painting to the contemporary. The museum is famous internationally, above all thanks to the works of Picasso, Van Gogh, Monet, Dali, etc. that are in it.



ENTERTAINMENT

Essen is not only culture, it's very cosmopolitan and vivacious. In fact the city is rich in bars, locals, discos, cinemas and theatres, to spent a nicer and livelier evening during your holiday. The most famous cinema is Lichtburg. For the music and disco lovers, instead, don't miss Baliha disco. Spend some time visiting also BC-Walkabout bar; here you can eat and drink or play billiards.



Grugapark, one of the biggest parks in Germany, offers concerts, field games and restaurants. It's ideal whether your holiday happens in Spring or Summer. Also, Essen boasts many green places. The Baldenly lake in the south of the city is another example.



With about 800 shops and department stores, Essen is considered a "shopping city". Spend a day walking among these varied shops. Essen's city centre is just about all pedestrian precinct.



BOARD and LODGING

The culinary specialities in the Essen area, and also in the whole western Germany, are the famous Vestfalia's ham, known since Roman times and then imported in Italy; Göttingen sausages, famous like the Göttingen university, wich bears the name of the city that gives it hospitality; asparagus of Rhine's area; the "Blutwurst", a tasty sausage of Düsseldorf that must be eaten with a very zesty mustard. So, don't worry neither about food nor overnight stay. The city is known for its hospitality and variety of restaurants.



Essen has always the right solution for you. Don't miss it!