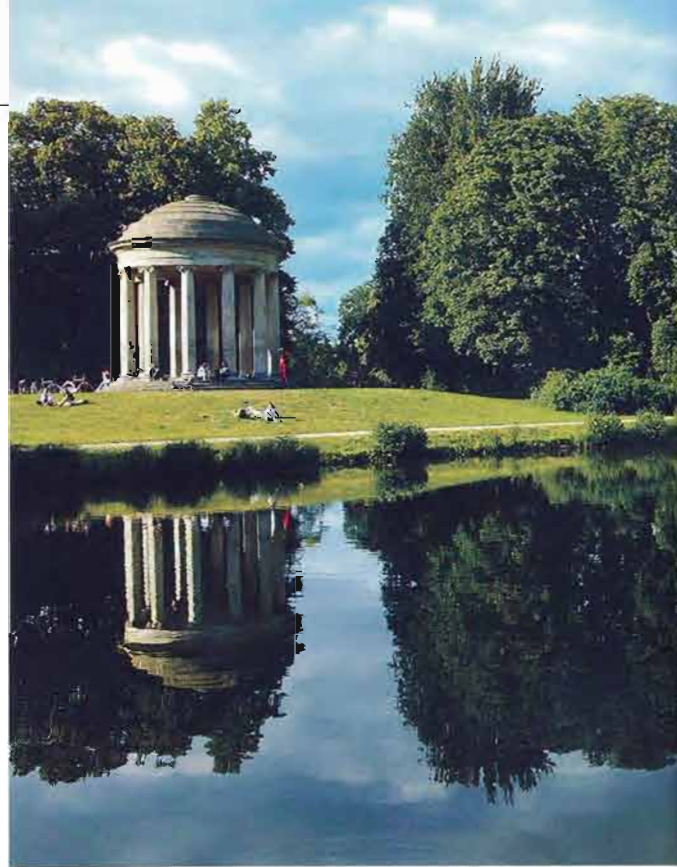


Compact yet big on history, Hanover is an appealing city for both young and old. *Knut Diers* picks the city's best hang-outs.

# 48 hours in Hanover



## Don't miss ...

**CITY WALKS** Don't be afraid to follow the **Red Thread**, or Roter Faden ([roterfaden-hannover.de](http://roterfaden-hannover.de)), painted on the ground - it won't take you to the red-light district but, starting at Ernst-August-Platz 8, will lead you to some 36 attractions, including the truly spectacular **Hanover Adventure Zoo** (Adenauer Allee 3, +49 511 280 74163; [zoo-hannover.de](http://zoo-hannover.de)). A brochure of the route is available in the tourist office near the main station and in the impressive New Town Hall (Trammpplatz 2). Or, download the app "Roter Faden".

**THE GREAT OUTDOORS** You'd be forgiven for thinking you're in Italy on the shores of the man-made **Maschsee Lake**, all palm trees and cafés. This July 30 to August 17, some million visitors will turn out for its annual festival - lots of food and drink stalls, and live entertainment. Also,

there's plenty to enjoy at the baroque **Royal Gardens of Herrenhausen**, from the whimsical grotto designed by artist Niki de Saint Phalle to the botanical gardens (great in the winter to warm up!). Here, find out more about the Hanoverian monarchy on Britain's Throne (1714-1837) or at the Landesmuseum ([royals-aus-hannover.de](http://royals-aus-hannover.de)).

**SHOPPING** Germany's oldest **Flea Market** takes place every Saturday from 8am until 1pm on the banks of the river Leine, in the historic town centre. And the nearby market hall is the perfect place for lunch or a glass of prosecco. A great spot to meet locals.



This page, clockwise from above, the sylvan **Royal Gardens of Herrenhausen**; gorgeous sunsets from **Pier 51**; Germany's oldest flea market; a polar bear photobombing a vista of Hanover Adventure Zoo from **Yukon Bay**.



## Eat at ...

Gourmets will have a wonderful time - the city is full of places with healthy, regional food. Dip in.

**TRADITIONAL** Cozy and old-fashioned - its foundation stone was laid during the Middle Ages - **Broyhan Haus** offers real German food and beer. (Kramerstrasse 24, +49 511 323 919; [broyhanhaus.de](http://broyhanhaus.de))

**WATERSIDE** **Pier 51**, beside **Maschsee Lake**, offers great food and is famous for its delicious cakes. Gorgeous sunsets also! (Rudolf-von-Bennigsen-Ufer 51, +49 511 807 1800; [pier51.de](http://pier51.de))

**HOT!** Love spicy Thai soups and curries? Try **Thai Food in the Box**, a tiny place lucked away, not far from the Schauspielhaus. Authentic and cheap. (Alexanderstrasse 7, +49 511 169 2245)



This page, clockwise from right, the city-central Kastens Hotel Luisenhof; the majestic New Town Hall, whose 97-metre high dome has a curved lift with a glass roof, at the top of which are amazing views of the city; Brauhaus Ernst August's own-brand beer; rooftop hotspot 6 Sinne Skybar.

## Sleep at ...

Luxury accommodation is quite affordable in Hanover, compared to other cities in Germany.

### **SUPERIOR** Kastens Hotel

**Luisenhof** is one of the city's leading hotels, with fantastic suites, an excellent spa, restaurant and bar. The €20 breakfast is also available to the public. Double rooms from €130 (Luisenstrasse 1-3, +49 511 30440; [kastens-luisenhof.de](http://kastens-luisenhof.de)).

**CENTRAL** A luxurious, quiet place in the middle of Hanover, **Grand Hotel Mussmann** offers a variety of rooms, all, unusually, with a picture on the ceiling above the bed. Double rooms from €149 (Ernst-August-Platz 7, +49 511 36560; [grandhotel.de](http://grandhotel.de)).

**CREATIVE** The **Avalon Hotel** is an



Art Nouveau house in the heart of the lively quarter of List. Rooms are individually designed and themed – choose from "Paris", "Afrika", "Rose", and more – and phone calls are free within Germany. Double rooms from €90. (Ferdinand-Wallbrecht-Strasse 10, +49 511 626 26338; [avalon-hannover.de](http://avalon-hannover.de)).



## Drink at ...

German beer is a must, of course, but the city has even more to offer.

**HIGH-END** **6 Sinne Skybar** is a rooftop restaurant with the longest bar in town. The drinks are spectacular, as is the view from the sixth floor – hence the name. (Heiligerstrasse 16, +49 511 473 88038; [6sinne-hannover.de](http://6sinne-hannover.de))

**VIBRANT** The recently renovated **Mezzo** is a favourite with young locals and students, and is only

a few steps away from the main train station. Have a drink, or enjoy their non-nonsense but tasty food. (Lister Meile 4, +49 511 314 966; [cafemezzo.de](http://cafemezzo.de)).

**SINGLES** An ideal destination if you're travelling on your own,

### **Brauhaus Ernst August**

is a rustic pub that sells its own beer called **Hannöversch**. Happy Hour is from 4pm-6pm. Fun guaranteed. (Schmiedestrasse 13, +49 511 365 9520; [brauhaus.net](http://brauhaus.net))



**AER LINGUS** FLIES FROM DUBLIN TO HANOVER FOUR TIMES WEEKLY FROM MARCH 30.