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When, on the 1st October 1958, a ship transporting over 1,000 US soldiers docked at the Columbus-kaje in Bremerhaven, the curiosity of onlookers and reporters could barely be contained. The reason: Elvis Presley, the ‘King of Rock ’n’ Roll’ was on board. The American superstar had been stationed in Europe on military service. His first steps on German soil were thus taken in the harbour town.
**BIRTHPLACE OF THE EURO**

In 1978, with its resolution to set up a European currency system, the conference of the European Council in Bremen’s Rathaus laid one of the cornerstones of the ECU – the predecessor of the Euro. One of the main drivers of the top secret diplomatic negotiations was the German chancellor of the time, Helmut Schmidt.

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**TAking Part Is What Counts**

Since 1358, the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen has been a member of the Hanseatic League. With accession, the city guaranteed that it would respect all decisions and rules of the Hansa. This is as much in force today as it was before and is an important part of local identity. That is why, even today, business between Hanseatic merchants is frequently sealed with a simple handshake.

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**TAking the BreMEN Across the pond**

The aircraft `Bremen`, a Junkers W33, was the first to cross the Atlantic from East to West on the 12th April 1928. It completed the stretch from Dublin to Greenly Island in Canada in around 36 hours and can still be admired today in the Bremen Hall of the local airport. What’s more, one year later North German Lloyd’s steamer `Bremen` received the Blue Ribbon for the fastest Atlantic crossing.
IT’S WHERE THE HELICOPTER COMES FROM

With his ‘FW-61’, the Bremen aviation pioneer Heinrich Focke is considered the father of the first fully-functioning helicopter. On the 26th of June 1936, the prototype’s successful maiden flight took place in what is now Bremen Airport.

HARBOUR PIONEERS

The first artificially created harbour in Europe was built in 1618 in Bremen-Vegesack. This was necessary because the Weser was gradually silting up towards its upper reaches, so that the large trading ships could no longer reach the harbour in the old town of Bremen.

WHO DARES WINS

‘Buten un binnen – wagen un winnen’, that is, ‘outside and in – to dare and to win’, remains today the slogan of the Bremen merchants. It is ascribed to the former mayor of Bremen, Otto Gildemeister (1823-1902) and hangs resplendent above the entrance of the Schütting, the seat of the Bremen Chamber of Commerce, directly on the market square.
They decorate Bremen’s ‘front room’, the marketplace, and are the landmarks of the Hanseatic city: the Rathaus (city hall), built in 1405 in Gothic and Weser Renaissance styles, and the stone statue of Roland. Since 2004, the ensemble has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

GUARDIAN OF THE CITY

From Bremen, the figure of Roland has gained worldwide renown as a symbol of freedom. He stands for emancipation from the church and the independence of the citizenry. Worldwide there are about 30 statues of Roland, whether in Brooklyn or in Brazil’s Rolândia. It is even said that Napoleon was so impressed, at the time of the French occupation, that he wanted to have the Bremen Roland disassembled and re-erected in the Louvre in Paris.
On the 6th of May 1966, the US vessel ‘Fairland’ unloaded the first shipping container ever brought onto a German dock, revolutionising maritime cargo handling in doing so. But beginnings are always tricky, and this was no exception: the second container to be unloaded accidentally crashed onto a lorry.

The Cinema im Ostertor was founded in 1969 as the first art house cinema in Germany, and remains to this day the first port of call for film buffs aside from the Hollywood mainstream.

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A HANDSHAKE IS ALL IT TAKES.
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BUILT NEAR THE WATER

Did you know? The name of the city is derived from the old Saxon word ‘bremo’ and means ‘on the edge’, referring to its position on the dunes by the Weser. The some-what antiquated term ‘verbrämen’, meaning to decorate the edge of something, and the English word ‘brim’ are also derived from this root.

LIGHT OF THE NORTH

Named Roter Sand after its location on a shoal in the Weser estuary, the lighthouse, completed in 1885, is the oldest offshore construction in the world. Today, the tower is a listed building, and visitors can even stay the night there during the summer months.

THE NAKED TRUTH

In 1905 the open-air bathing area on the Stadtwerder peninsula was extended to allow for naturist bathers. This makes this spot on the Weser one of the first of its kind in Germany.

THE FIRST IN BREMEN

On the 10th June 1950, the consortium of public-service broadcasters in Germany was founded in Bremen – that’s ARD for short.
As one of the most prominent visual exclamation marks in the city, the Cathedral of St. Peter (St. Petri Dom) was built at the highest point in the city – the Bremen dune. There is an old tradition that no other building may exceed the cathedral in height. A blind eye is turned only for functional buildings, such as the television tower and drop-tower, where technical reasons require it. Inside the cathedral, the only ‘Bleikeller’ (lead cellar) in Germany offers real fascination: it was here that centuries-old mummys, discovered during organ construction in the 17th century, found their final resting place.

In 1794, the USA opened one of its first European General Consulates in Bremen – at the personal request of George Washington. Since the end of the American War of Independence in 1783, the Hanseatic city has nurtured close trade relationships with the United States.
With more than 12,500 employees and about 420,000 cars rolling off the production line every year, the second-largest Mercedes factory in the world and the largest in Germany is located in Bremen-Sebaldsbrück. Daimler has built cars here since 1978. Now, in addition, the factory is to be extended into a centre of competence for e-mobility: from 2019, the e-model EQC will be released onto the market.
COTTONING ON

Bremen is the cradle of the German cotton trade and has hosted the Bremen cotton exchange for over 140 years. Already from the beginning of the 17th century, the Hanseatic city was importing the raw material that is nowadays processed into clothing, pharmaceuticals and even banknotes.

LOFTY AMBITIONS

One of the largest and most up-to-date high-bay warehouses in Europe is operated in Bremen by the BLG Logistics Group. It is located in Germany’s largest freight centre. The warehouse has a yearly turnover of two million pallets – that’s 8,000 a day.

FROM BRE TO THE WORLD

Founded in 1913, Bremen Airport was the first in Germany to have a paved runway. Nowadays, it is the region’s gateway to the world: flights take off from here to almost 50 non-stop destinations in Europe and North Africa, among them 6 international hubs. On top of this, it is also Europe’s fastest airport for departures and is only eleven minutes away from Bremen city centre.
AUTO CITY

Shipping around two million vehicles yearly, the harbour town is the automotive import and export hub of Europe. Every day, more than 5,000 new cars reach a harbour area the size of 450 football fields.

IN AND OUT

Bremen as a regional focal point: from the surrounding parts of Lower Saxony, around 136,000 workers commute daily into the city. That is about 40% of people in employment in Bremen.

CRADLE OF TRADE AND CRAFTS

The Bremen Chamber of Commerce (1451) and Bremen Chamber of Crafts (1849) are the oldest in Germany.

A BIT OF CAR FOR EVERYONE

Over 25 years ago the people of Bremen began to share cars. It was through this that the city became the first to establish a politically agreed car-sharing concept. This support continues to this day and has been accorded the European Sustainable Energy Award by the EU.

WE CAN TAKE THE HEAVYWEIGHTS

The Stromkaje, or riverside quay, of the Bremerhaven Container Terminal ‘Wilhelm Kaisen’, built in 1968 at 700 metres in length, is today the longest riverside quay in the world, at 5,000m. It offers four berths for large container ships.
With more than 12,000 employees in the aerospace industries, Bre- men is one of the most important centres for the sector. The 140 or so firms and 20 institutes in the region generate a yearly turnover together of over four billion euros.
ECONOMY

IT’S TAKING OFF

The aircraft manufacturer Airbus develops and produces the high-lift systems for all its craft and equips the wings of the A330 and A350 XWB with all vital flight systems here at its second-largest German location. Additional Airbus subsidiaries are present in Bremen as well, taking part in projects to do with the International Space Station (ISS), the manned Orion Spacecraft and the Ariane 5 launch vehicle.
DISCOVER BREMEN’S TREASURES!
Prepare to be amazed as we open the doors for you.

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The Lürssen shipyard in Bremen-Vegesack enjoys a world-class reputation in its own specialist area: it manufactures naval vessels and some of the largest luxury yachts ever built – with sumptuous furnishings from the wine-cellar to the cinema.
**BREMEN IS TASTY**

It’s the home of the gourmet: to give just a few examples, Beck’s, Melitta, Vitakraft, Nordsee, Frosta, Mondelez (formerly Kraft Foods) and Univeg either have their headquarters or large production facilities in Bremen or Bremerhaven. So many fish-fingers are produced in the harbour town every year that they would, if laid end to end, reach five times round the earth.

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**SHINING PROSPECTS**

Resident in today’s Überseestadt for over 120 years, Stroever GmbH & Co. KG is the only company in Europe to produce shellac, a product used worldwide. From sweets and fruit to medicines – shellac brings shine and durability.

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**MARITIME MILLING**

The Rolandmühle (Roland mill), located directly on the quay of the Bremen timber and factory port, is the only one in Europe with a direct harbour connection.
SMITHS OF SUCCESS

The dream of every footballer comes to life in the silverware workshop of 'Koch & Bergfeld Corpus': in this traditional Bremen firm, since 1967, trophies for the best football teams of Europe have been manufactured. Alongside the original creation of the current Champion’s League Cup, replicas are also made for DFB Cup and German Championship winners. The Goldene Kamera and several Formula-1 cups also came from Bremen’s Überseestadt.

RACE FOR SPACE

The aerospace company OHB develops top class technology. Complete satellites for the European satellite navigation system ‘Galileo’ are constructed in Bremen – the core module for the Mars probe Trace-Gas-Orbiter was also built here.

SMILE PLEASE!

The largest fashion photography studio in Europe is located in Überseestadt. In the 4,500-square-metre shed 1 at Wiethe, 140,000 items a year – from shirts to shoes – are photographed for online shops and e-commerce.

INDUSTRY 6.0

Measured by turnover, Bremen is placed 6th among the largest German industrial cities.

CHEERS!

ACTEGA DS GmbH is the world market leader for seals in packaging and crown caps. One in three bottle caps around the world contains a composite material from Bremen.
Vector Foiltec is the world market leader for building shells made of transparent ETFE foil (ethylene-tetrafluoroethylene). To date, the Bremen company has completed over 1500 international projects in the realm of stadium construction, universities, shopping centres, public buildings and spaces, zoos and government buildings. The roof they built for the U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis protected the spectators at the Superbowl 2018 from the harsh climate outside and created its own unique world beneath. In 2016, at 22,000 square metres, it was the largest synthetic foil roof in North America.
At Universum Bremen, visitors go on a voyage of discovery in the fields of technology, humans and nature. With its interactive concept, the science centre is one of the most successful science museums in Germany.
WORKPLACE OF THE FUTURE

The development of innovative light-weight construction materials is key to future mobility and energy efficiency – whether in aerospace engineering, the automotive or wind energy industries or in shipbuilding. From 2019, around 500 employees will be working on creating the materials of tomorrow at the EcoMaT in Bremen’s Airport-Stadt – an exceptional technology centre, unique in this form in Germany.

COFFEE?

Decaffeinated coffee is a Bremen discovery. The Bremen merchant Ludwig Roselius discovered and patented the process, going on to found Kaffee-Handels AG (Kaffee HAG) in 1906.

A BIG DISCOVERY

On the coast of Namibia, the scientist Heide Schulz of the Max-Planck Institute for Marine Microbiology in Bremen discovered microorganisms with a diameter of up to 0.75 millimetres – the largest type of bacteria yet found, known as ‘sulphur pearls’.

PROGRAMMED FOR VICTORY

Inventors from the Bremen University and the German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence are six-time world champions in robot football and thus the best team in the world in the so-called Standard Platform League. They most recently won the RoboCup 2017. The robots are pre-programmed but have to make all their own decisions during the game.
**COMPLETELY WEIGHTLESS**

The drop tower at ZARM, the Centre of Applied Space Technology and Microgravity at Bremen University, is a large-scale laboratory, unique in Europe, in which experiments are carried out in zero gravity.

**VITAMIN B**

Bremen scientists at the German Aerospace Centre are currently engaged in a pilot project to plant vegetables in a shipping container in the Antarctic – without daylight or soil. Over the long term, procedures are to be developed by which astronauts on long Mars-missions can be provided with fresh vegetables. In a separate project, tomato seeds are being brought into orbit by research satellite, where they are to grow at an altitude of 600 kilometres.

**THE WORLD IN A NUTSHELL**

People from over 100 countries live and learn on the campus of the international Jacobs University. The private institution in Bremen-Nord is supported by the Swiss Jacobs Foundation, which in 2006 awarded the Jacobs University with what is so far the highest ever foundation grant for education ever donated in Europe.
EVERLASTING ICE

The Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research is located in Bremerhaven but its members are very much at home in the frigid zones. Whether on board the research vessel Polarstern, the aircraft Polar 5 and 6 that fly out of Bremen Airport or on site at Neumayer Station III in the Antarctic, these scientists have dedicated themselves wholeheartedly to the exploration of the polar regions.

TIME-TRAVELLING

Here in the north, wind and rain are very much at home, from time to time. It is all the more astonishing that Bremen has the highest density of fixed sundials in the country – 120 in total.
Of the fifteen most populous cities of Germany, Bremen is the third greenest. Accordingly, for each of the approximately 566,000 inhabitants there exists 43.4 square metres of green space such as parks, playgrounds or allotments. Over 7% of the total Bremen metropolitan area are thus green recreational oases. The poster-child: the Bremer Bürgerpark, supported exclusively by donations since its foundation in 1866. With its 202.5 hectares, it is the largest privately financed urban park in Germany.
WITH HEART AND HAND

As the first establishment in Germany for the care of people with disabilities, Werkstatt Bremen, with almost forty locations across Germany, has the highest number of individual institutions. In total, 2,000 workers make use of the varied range of services provided by the Werkstatt.

DROP A COIN IN THE BREMEN HOLE

At first glance, an inconspicuous manhole cover. But it hides much more beneath: right next to the Bremen Bürgerschaft is the Bremer Loch (Bremen Hole), an underground donation box belonging to the charity Wilhelm-Kaisen-Bürgerhilfe. Every time a coin is dropped in, the sounds of one of the town musicians of Bremen is heard from beneath the earth. In this way, thousands of euros are collected each year for charitable purposes.

POLAR BEAR, SEAL AND FRIENDS

On the 24th of June 1928, the Zoo am Meer (zoo by the sea) in Bremerhaven opened its doors (then under the name of the ‘animal grottoes’) and since then has attracted many visitors with its polar bears, seals, and penguins.
WHERE THE WESER...

...makes a wide bend. There you can find the only stadium in Germany that is completely surrounded by a photovoltaic casing and thus produces up to a million kilowatt-hours of electricity per year. With this quantity of electricity, around 300 households can be supplied over the same period. What’s more, fans can arrive at the game by boat, as there is a ferry dock directly by the stadium – also unique for Germany.
LESS TALK, MORE ACTION

The people of Bremen traditionally get involved in their city, thus showing their responsibility for their fellow citizens. The ever-growing number of charitable foundations confirms this: with over 300 such institutions, the federal state of Bremen has the second-highest density of charitable foundations in the country.

ROOSTER, CAT, DOG, BICYCLE

Bremen, city of short distances. The Hanseatic city’s proportion of cycle traffic stands out among large German cities (those of over 500,000 inhabitants), making up around 25 per cent of the total transport network. Not so remarkable, considering the long-standing Bremen cycling tradition: Germany’s first urban cycle lane was opened here in 1898. The narrow strip along the cobbles of the Linienstraße can still be admired today in its original form. And it should also come as no surprise that the ADFC, the German Cyclists’ Association, was founded here in 1979.
NO DRY-DOCKS IN SIGHT

Formerly the inner-city harbour, the ‘Schlachte’ has become Bremen’s much loved promenade for all along the banks of the Weser. Especially in the summer, the 660-metre-long esplanade is very inviting for a stroll, while its beer-gardens and bars are much frequented.
ICE, ICE, BABY

Will the Weser ‘flow’ or ‘freeze’? Since 1830, this question has been answered every year on Epiphany Day, the 6th of January, during the traditional ‘Eiswette’, or ice-wage-ring. Amid festive surroundings, a tailor tests whether the Weser is frozen or not.

THE KEY OF BREMEN AS A SIGN OF THE ‘ZEIT’

The key of Bremen from the arms of the senate is part of the emblem of the weekly newspaper ‘Die Zeit’. A curiosity, especially as the newspaper has had its headquarters in Hamburg since its establishment. There, the city government of the time forbade the use of the gate seen on Hamburg’s coat of arms, considering it a misuse of an emblem. However, the mayor of Bremen, Wilhelm Kaisen, gave free usage rights to his city’s symbol.
The Bremer Freimarkt is the fifth season in the Hanseatic city and the largest funfair in northern Germany. The 'Ischa Freimaak', as it is known in local dialect, has been held once a year since 1035. Over four million people annually visit the Bürgerweide over 17 days in October. Also a magnet for the public are the Christmas market and 'Schlachtezauber' fair. Together, they are the third most-visited Christmas markets in Germany. An English newspaper recently chose them together as the most beautiful Christmas market in Europe.
THREE TIMES IS BREMEN LAW …

... or so goes the famous saying, often used to mean ‘third time lucky’. It harks back to the middle ages, when the city had its own peculiar legal principles: for example, three stages of legal recourse, three witnesses needed for evidence to have legal force, three proclamations required for legal validity to be achieved. Aside from this, the people of Bremen were also guaranteed three special rights by the Emperor: the right to wear gold and fur for the aldermen, the city’s own legal jurisdiction and the freedom of shipping on the Weser.

GO WEST

It is one of the largest urban construction projects in Europe: the Überseestadt. In the former harbour area of Bremen’s west end, a new city quarter has arisen and continues to grow. Here, the traditional charms of the harbour meld with modern office and residential blocks, among them the 82-metre-high Weser Tower – Bremen’s tallest office building. The Überseestadt is known for its creative sector, top restaurants and unusual leisure activities like UV minigolf, a permanent old-timer exhibition, escape rooms, the GOP Varieté theatre and, by summer 2019, a beach park.
The Alexander von Humboldt, also known from the Beck’s adverts, brought Bremen worldwide fame. In 2015, the tall ship once again found a permanent home port in the Hanseatic city and now welcomes guests as a restaurant ship and boat-hotel for overnight stays and delicious feasts on the Schlachte.
A WATCHFUL EYE TO THE NORTH AND BALTIC

The maritime rescue crews of the German Maritime Search and Rescue Service (DGzRS) have operated out of Bremen for over 150 years, ensuring safety on the North and Baltic seas voluntarily, independently and supported by donations. The DGzRS Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre in Bremen Neustadt coordinates more than 2,000 operations every year among the 60 rescue units between Borkum and Usedom.

BREMEN BRINGS HOME THE BACON

The people of Bremen like to call their flag the ‘bacon flag’. The reason is its red and white stripes and the way they break down into squares – lardons, perhaps – next to the flagpole.

A TOP EXPORT

In the USA there are in total eleven cities called Bremen. In 2003, passengers and crew of the cruise ship MS Bremen discovered a previously unrecorded island, which since then has been officially known as ‘Bremen Island’. It is separated from its neighbouring island by the ‘Bremen Canal’.

The people of Bremen like to call their flag the ‘bacon flag’. The reason is its red and white stripes and the way they break down into squares – lardons, perhaps – next to the flagpole.
Around 3,000 bottles of Beck’s are drunk worldwide every minute. This makes the Hanseatic firm the producer of the most-consumed German beer in the world. But an excellent craft beer scene has also become established in Bremen: whether it’s varieties by the Union Brauerei, Grebhans, Hopfenfänger or Schüttinger – hand-crafted beer with a love for detail and the courage to experiment can be found in many places. This great brewing tradition has even managed to get all the way to Costa Rica: there, the Florida Brewery sells a light beer called ‘Bremen’.
WINE BY THE BARREL.

The cellar of the Bremen Rathaus (Ratskeller) houses the largest collection worldwide of high-quality German wines – around 650 different vintages. Among them is the oldest German cask wine, from 1653. One area of the cellar is named after the poet Wilhelm Hauff, who in 1827 wrote the wine novella ‘Fantasies in the Bremen Ratskeller’.

WANDERING IS THE BREMER’S JOY

In north-west Germany, going on a ‘Kohlfahrt’, or kale-walk, in the period between the start of November and the end of February, is a must. Traditionally, the excursion is done through the countryside in the bitter cold with a handcart full of drinks, warming up again afterwards with a shared meal of kale, Kassler gammon, Bregen and Pinkel sausages. But don’t get confused: Braunkohl (in Bremen) and Grünkohl (in the surrounding region) may sound like two completely different kettles of cabbage, but mean the same thing.

MAGIC BEANS

The first coffee-house in the German-speaking region was in Bremen. The brown gold was poured here from 1673, even earlier than in Vienna. In the former HAG factory, today Lloyd Coffee, the famous HAG marble room is to be found. Built in 1914 and now with scheduled monument status, the room is a reminder of the flourishing coffee trade in Bremen. Today too, Bremen is playing a large part in the sector: the beans in every other cup of coffee drunk in Germany are traded through the Hanseatic city.
Bremen’s Schaffermahlzeit is the world’s oldest ‘Brudermahl’, or fraternal feast, still in existence. Since 1545, merchants, sea-captains and invited guests from the worlds of politics and business have met in the Rathaus of Bremen for a five-hour banquet.

**EAT IN OR TAKE-AWAY?**

Bremen is the birthplace of the beloved rollo, a type of kebab. Resourceful fast-food stall owners started offering it in the 1970s. Since then it has shared the menu alongside the classic doner.

**OUR HAMBURGER IS CALLED A BREMER**

Instead of beef, in Bremen you get a roll with a fresh patty made of various white fish, such as pollock or hake, coated in crispy bread-crumbs and garnished with a mix of herbs, mustard and fried onions.
Mercedes-Benz Plant Bremen: Production facility with global responsibility

The Mercedes-Benz Plant in Bremen is one of Daimler AG’s largest passenger car plants. With ten different models, its more than 12,500 employees are building a broad product variety and in its role as leadplant the site supports the global production of the C-Class and the GLC. In 2019, Bremen will celebrate another important milestone: the start of production of the EQC, the first all-electric model of the EQ brand.

www.mercedes-benz.com
The Town Musicians of Bremen, by the Grimm Brothers, are known across the world – a musical has even been made about them in South Korea. The fairy tale celebrates its 200-year anniversary in 2019. It is one of the few tales whose title refers to a city – despite the fact that the animals never actually got to Bremen. And another thing, for when you visit the statue next to the Rathaus: the customary belief to this day is that if you clasp the legs of the donkey firmly in both hands, a wish will be granted!
FESTIVAL ON THE WESER BANKS

The Breminale brings culture, music and good food together on the Osterdeich. Over five days in the spring or summer, around 200,000 visitors dance to international musical performances and relax on the meadows along the Weser.

BREMEN CLASSICS

Since 1992, The Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie has had its base in the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen. The chamber orchestra has become world famous in the past years thanks to performances, among others, of the complete Beethoven symphonies. But it also takes an interest in local affairs: as part of the ‘Melody of Life’ project, musicians and pupils at the Bremen-Ost comprehensive school come together. The young people bring thoughts, ideas and feelings from their school day, which are then made into music and presented on stage.
CULT(URE) ALLEYWAY

Böttcherstraße, near the marketplace, is home to museums, art collections and arts and crafts workshops, alongside shops and cafes. What’s more, a glockenspiel of Meissen porcelain rings every hour while picture-panels tell the story of the crossing of the Atlantic. One particular architectural highlight is the Atlantis House, with its famous ‘sky room’.

LISTEN...

Because of its unique acoustics and elegant art-deco ambience, the Glocke (‘bell’), which opened in 1928, is today one of the most renowned concert-halls in Europe. The original chapter house on this site, initially part of a monastery, existed since the 9th century. Then, in 1869, it was repurposed as a concert-hall.

TAKE ONE, ACTION!

In 1974, Radio Bremen started the first talk show in Germany, ‘3nach9’. The programme airs every four weeks late on Friday evening and is still produced in Bremen.
The rhododendron park in the Bremen district of Horn-Lehe spreads over an area of 46 hectares. Within this area, the botanika – a nature experience centre with many different plants and animals – is to be found. Together, the park and the science centre have the second-largest collection of rhododendrons in the world, with over 3,000 cultivars and nearly 600 different species. A special highlight: the Dalai Lama is presenting every continent with a 2.4-metre tall golden Buddha. The European statue stands in the botanika’s Japanese garden and is a symbol of peace and understanding between peoples.
Since 1989, around 23,000 lovers of classical music have flooded every year into Bremen from across the entire north-west for the three-week music festival in Bremen. Taking place in late summer, the festival puts on nearly 40 events in well-known concert locations in the region.
SCHOOL SHIP GERMANY – BERTHED IN BREMEN

The three-master, built in 1927, was used as a sailing training ship for the merchant navy and is the only full-rigged ship left in Germany. With a sail area half the size of a football field, it continues to make a lasting impression on young and old. It its berthed today in Vegesack north Bremen.

BE POLITE!

The supposed defender of good manners Adolf Freiherr von Knigge – his name equivalent in German to ‘Debrett’ – spent the last years of his life in Bremen. He is buried in the Cathedral of St. Peter. His book ‘On Human Relations’ is still falsely seen today as an etiquette guide. Knigge’s approach was, in fact, directed less towards good behaviour and more towards sociological aspects.

CABARET

The international street circus festival La Strada transforms the squares around Roland, the Rathaus and the Town Musicians into a giant arena every summer. For several days, clowns, performers and dancers from across the world give an al fresco taste of their art.
Europe’s largest samba and masked carnival parade takes place every year in Bremen. One week before Shrove Tuesday, friends of the exotic dance from across Germany and the neighbouring countries bring a breath of Brazil into the Bremen streets and onto the open-air stages.
**ON A STRING**

Schnoor is a quarter of mediaeval alleys. In its winding passage-ways, the aura of past centuries can still be sensed. It is possible that the name of this handsome old-town quarter derived from the shipbuilding handicrafts predominantly practised there in former days – the making of ropes and cables – because ‘Schnoor’ is the Old Low German word for ‘Schnur’, string. A different explanation holds that the houses are lined up like pearls on a string.

**SUMMER FOR THE EARS**

Every summer, culture vultures flock to the musical picnic in the Knoops Park in north Bremen. At the ‘Summer in Lesmona’ they listen to open-air concerts by The Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen in the midst of the park’s lush greenery.

**THEATRICAL POWERHOUSE**

The Bremen Theatre on the Goetheplatz lets in about 170,000 audience members a year. In 2007, it was selected as the ‘Opera House of the Year’, going on to be honoured a year later by the ‘Germany – land of ideas’ initiative.
HOUSE-BUILDING, HANSEATIC-STYLE

They define the cityscape in many places: two to three-storey buildings with a cellar, front-gabled rather than side-gabled, with high ceilings inside, often standing in rows. Since the middle of the 19th century, this architectural type has been known as the ‘Altbremer Haus’ or old Bremen house – even beyond the walls of the Hanseatic city.

OVERSEAS IN 100 STEPS

With its unique collection, encompassing ethnology, trade and natural history, as well as its extensive exhibitions from across the world’s oceans, the Übersee-Museum, or Overseas Museum, directly by the main station of Bremen, is one of the most important museums on this continent. It has already been nominated several times for the European Museum Prize and was honoured as a ‘Select Location in the Land of Ideas 2010’.

BREMEN’S MEMORY

For over 100 years, the Focke Museum has collected and preserved interesting, weird and unique objects from Bremen’s history. Numerous exhibits, peppered with finds from family collections and Bremen handicrafts, have made the state museum for art and cultural history famous across the country.
Bremerhaven’s diversity right on the Weser estuary: shop in the Mediterraneo, discover in the Klimahaus meteorological centre and experience history in the German Maritime Museum (Deutsches Schiffahrtsmuseum) or in the German Emigration Centre (Auswandererhaus), which is also dedicated to current topics such as immigration into Germany. Those who are also looking for a place to stay the night can find a bed in the neighbouring hotel, which has graced the skyline of the city since 2008 and was inspired by the famous Burj al-Arab in Dubai.
NOT YET SWEPT AWAY?

If you see a young man in front of the cathedral, busily sweeping bottle-caps from the steps, you can be sure he is a genuine bachelor. Traditionally, men who are still unmarried on their 30th birthday, have to sweep the cathedral steps, only being released on receiving a maiden’s kiss. Their counterparts are young women who clean the door handles.

GRAND ART

Whether it’s Picasso, Monet or van Gogh: the Kunsthalle Bremen has always united many different artists beneath its roof. With its special exhibitions every year, it captivates a public drawn from far beyond the borders of the city. This is made possible by the Bremer Kunstverein who is still today the private supporter of the art gallery.
Sheds and garages have always been the cradle of IT innovation.

Bremen - hotspot of the digital future

Team neusta unites numerous subsidiary companies and startups into one big “digital family” at Schuppen Eins. The spirit of innovation is everywhere in the historic building at the Überseestadt – this is not least brought about by qualified young talents from local universities. Using agile processes, our experts develop customised software, mobile and eCommerce solutions and offer services including concept, communication, design, usability and human resources.
The German radio and TV host, entertainer and satirist Jan Böhmermann comes from north Bremen. He began his career in 1997 at Bremer Tageszeiten AG. In 2015 and 2016, he achieved international fame for his provocative satires, on the show ZDF Neo Magazin Royale, of the then Greek finance minister Yanis Varoufakis and Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.
JÜRGEN TRITTIN

Born in 1954 in Bremen-Vegesack, Jürgen Trittin became known as Environment Minister representing the political party Bündnis 90 / Die Grünen (1998 to 2005).

VICCO VON BÜLOW

Bernhard-Viktor Christoph-Carl von Bülow became renowned across Germany as Loriot: from 1976 to 1978, he produced the eponymous television series at Radio Bremen. There is much in the Hanseatic city to remind one of the unique author, parodist, actor and comedian: a square named after him, a bronze replica of the Loriot sofa, with pug, on the forecourt in front of Radio Bremen and the famous green sofa itself in the foyer of the broadcasting studios.

HEINO FERCH

The German actor Heino Ferch was born in Bremerhaven in 1963. He became well-known in the 1990s through the films ’Comedian Harmonists’ and ’Winter Sleepers’. Ferch first trod the boards in the main theatre of his home town at the age of 15.
JAMES LAST

Hans Last, one of the most famous German musicians, was born in 1929 in the Bremen district of Sebaldsbrück. In the mid-1960s, he achieved world fame with his forty-piece orchestra and was awarded the Federal Cross of Merit in 1978. The legend died in June 2015.

RUDI CARRELL

The Netherlander was the first to combine the roles of compère and comedian on German television. He made his first steps in the business right here at Radio Bremen. He became famous through programmes such as ‘Am laufenden Band’ (the German original of ‘The Generation Game’), ‘Herzblatt’ (a dating show) and ‘Lass dich überraschen’ (based on ‘Surprise Surprise’). He lived near the Hanseatic city until his death in 2006.

BERNHARD ‘BERT’ TRAUTMANN

During the Second World War, this Bremer ended up in British captivity and remained in England after the end of the war. Already at that stage he loved playing football. In 1949 he was discovered as a goalie by top-league team Manchester City. Experiencing initial hostility as a German, his performance quickly made him a crowd favourite. The high-point: at the cup final in 1956, he played to the end despite five broken vertebrae in his neck. Bert’s team won. In 2004 he was honoured by Queen Elizabeth II for his services to German-British relations.
KATJA RIEMANN

The actor, born in 1963 in Bremen, took her first steps as an artist in the Hanseatic city: as a ballet pupil, aged five, on the stage of the Goetheplatz Theatre, and later in a theatre group of the Gymnasium am Barkhof. Her acting breakthrough came in the mid-1980s with the six-part television film ‘Summer in Lesmona’.

KARL CARSTENS

The CDU politician was born in Bremen in 1914. From 1979 to 1984, he was the federal president and thus head of state of the Federal Republic of Germany.
The musical number 'Lili Marleen' made Lise-Lotte Helene Bunnenberg, alias Lale Andersen, world famous in 1939. Born in Bremerhaven-Lehe in 1905, she moved to Berlin at the beginning of the 1930s, where she achieved her breakthrough at the Kabaret der Komiker (Cabaret of Comedians).

The founder of the publishing house of the same name was born in 1887 in Bremen. Here he finished an apprenticeship in the Carl F. Plump & Co. banking house, then took a traineeship in a printing works in Leipzig, founding the Rowohlt Verlag there.
**LUDWIG QUIDDE**

Bremen’s Ludwig Quidde was a driving force in the German pacifist movement during the years of the Weimar Republic. For this, he received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1927.

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**JÖRG WONTORRA**

The sport journalist began his career at NDR and Radio Bremen. From that time onwards, he presented numerous sports programmes, like ‘Doppelpass’ or his current ‘Fußball-Talk’ on the subscription channel Sky. His daughter, Laura Wontorra, born in Bremen, is walking in his footsteps as a TV football presenter.

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**JOHANNES STRATE**

The son of a pianist and a guitarist, Strate was born in Bremen in 1980. Already at ten, he was taking guitar lessons and founded his first band four years later. Nowadays, he rocks the stages of Germany with the gold and platinum band ‘Revolverheld’.
CELEBRITIES

**SVEN REGENER**

The German author and member of the band 'Element of Crime' was born in Bremen in 1961 and grew up in the district of Neue Vahr. Regener became famous in 2001 through his novel, 'Berlin Blues'.

**BEN BECKER**

This multi-award-winning, strong-willed actor was born in Bremen in 1964. Growing up in Berlin, he achieved his big break in 1995 with the film 'Brother of Sleep'. His sister Meret Becker, also from Bremen, can be seen too on the small screen – among other roles, as a Berlin police inspector on Tatort.

**BÄRBEL SCHÄFER**

This Bremen native became famous as a TV presenter and producer through her eponymous afternoon talk-show in the 1990s. Today she is mostly to be heard on the air at radio station hr3.

**HAPE KERKELING**

If the German police had been more alert just before the Dutch state visit to the German president in 1991, the comedian Hape Kerkeling would never have become so famous in his role as Queen Beatrix. It was then that, for a Radio Bremen production, Kerkeling had himself chauffeured by limousine, as Beatrix, into the square in front of Bellevue Palace, the German presidential residence – using Bremen number plates.
HANS-JOACHIM KUHLENKAMPFF

The favourite of German television viewers from the 1960s to the 1980s was born in Bremen in 1921. It was here, at the age of 22, that ‘Kuli’, as he was known, made his stage debut in the Bremer Schauspielhaus. With wit and charm, he captivated the audience and twice won the Goldene Kamera for the most popular German showmaster. To this day, he remains an inspiration for many presenters.
It’s not just in Bremen and the region that the football club SV Werder is in people’s hearts. Fan clubs exist in Hong Kong, the Arabic-speaking world and many neighbouring European countries. Now as before, Werder is positioned at number 2 on the all-time Bundesliga tables. Also, the first goal ever in the Bundesliga was scored on Bremen’s Osterdeich.
NOT A SCREW LOOSE

In August 1949, the shoemaker Alexander Salot, from Bremen-Blumenthal, applied for a patent: He had developed the screw-in stud system for football boots. The Bremen inventor got there three years earlier than the famous Adi Dassler (Adidas). To this day, screw-in studs are used in football.

FIRST-CLASS

If you want to see great sport in this federal state, you don’t have to go to the football – the Eisbären Bremerhaven (basketball) and the ice hockey team Fischtown Pinguins/REV Bremerhaven, play at the highest levels.

SAILOR’S HAVEN

‘Sail in Bremerhaven’ is one of the largest Windjammer regattas in Europe. Every five years it unites the largest sailing ships in the world in the harbour city on the Weser estuary.
LET’S DANCE

The Grün-Gold-Club Bremen and TSG Bremerhaven are world leaders in competitive dance. Both clubs together have over 20 world championship titles – having drawn for the win, even, in 2007’s Latin formation.

THE SIXTH SEASON OF BREMEN

The cycle race, Sixdays of Bremen, is one of the most popular events of its type, with around 60,000 spectators per year. For over 50 years, the Sixdays have managed to combine parties and sport together in January.
‘I’M NOTHING HERE, AND LONG TO BE WORTH MORE, BECAUSE THIS TOWN IS REAL, AND REAL IS RARE.’

Writer and poet Joachim Ringelnatz in his ‘Travel Letters of an Artist’ about Bremen.