

Cultural Landscape Lower Weser



Schiffahrtsmuseum
Unterweser



Hammelwarden Cemetery
Hammelwarder Straße 3 – 26919 Brake
53° 18.359'N – 8° 29.180'E



Hammelwarden Cemetery
Hammelwarder Straße 3
26919 Brake

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During the construction of the church Friedrichskirche in the 18th century, the Duchy Oldenburg belonged to the Kingdom of Denmark. Accordingly, it was named after the Regent Friedrich V. (1723-1766). This very location reflects the rich maritime heritage of the region. Inside the church, there is a ship's model of the in Elsfleth based barque AEOLUS. The vessel was built in 1872 in the nearby Eylers-Werft in Hammelwarden. Additionally, the cemetery is dotted with numerous tombstones which attest to the maritime history of the region and its residents. Notable among them is the gravesite of Rear Admiral Carl Rudolph Bromme, known as Brommy, the Commander of Germany's first Imperial Naval Fleet. The lyricist and former honorary citizen of Brake, Georg von der Vring, also has his last place of rest here.



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CultureCall of Tourist Info Brake:
German: 04401/102-102
Low German: 04401/102-103
Station: 23 [local rate]

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Wempe

Steinstraße 33 - 26931 Elsfleth
53° 19.595'N - 8° 29.075'E



Wempe
Steinstraße 33
26931 Elsfleth

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Gerhard Diedrich Wempe opened a shop in the street Steinstraße in Elsfleth on the 5th of May 1878. Thereby, the clockmaker Wempe, who was barely 21 years old, laid the foundation for an enterprise which now has its central domicile in Hamburg, four generations later. Moreover, Wempe has offices in such prime locations as London, Paris, New York and Peking. Particularly in the shipping industry, the production of very precise timing devices, so-called chronometers, was a most significant part of the business. These were utilized to acquire an accurate determination of the ship's position at sea. Today, these instruments are eagerly desired by collectors. The Maritime Museum "Haus Elsfleth" also has additional information pertaining to the history of Wempe and the importance of chronometers for navigation at sea.



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Maritime School

Weserstr. 4/52 - 26931 Elsfleth

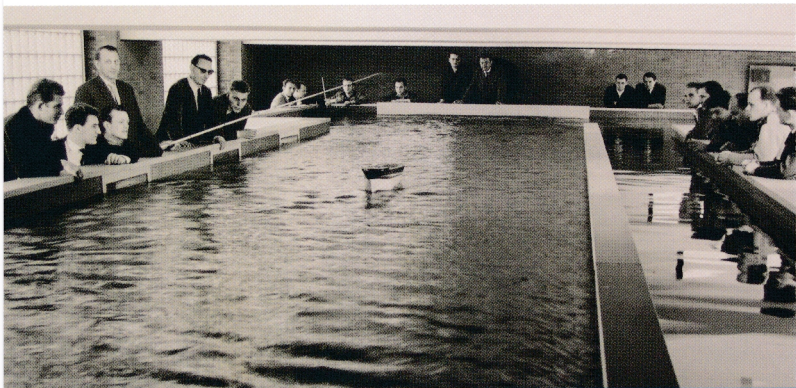
53° 14.543'N - 8° 27.979'E



Publisher: Schiffahrtsmuseum Unterweser

en.wesermarsch-maritim.de

In Elsfleth, the shipowners pressed and persuaded the Grand Duke of Oldenburg to establish a school for maritime navigation. Successfully. On the 20th of August 1832, the Grand Duke Paul-Friedrich-August founded the desired facility. Up until then, the training of prospective maritime officers had neither been binding nor uniform. Former captains and maritime pilots instructed on a private basis, the students paid tuition. In 1943, the war forced the closing of the facility. It was reopened three years later. In 1961, the school building was erected in the street Weserstraße. In 2001, the modern simulator house was opened along the pier, the Maritime Campus followed in 2009. Today, the Departement of Maritime Studies at the Jade University of Applied Sciences is the largest of its kind in Western Europe.

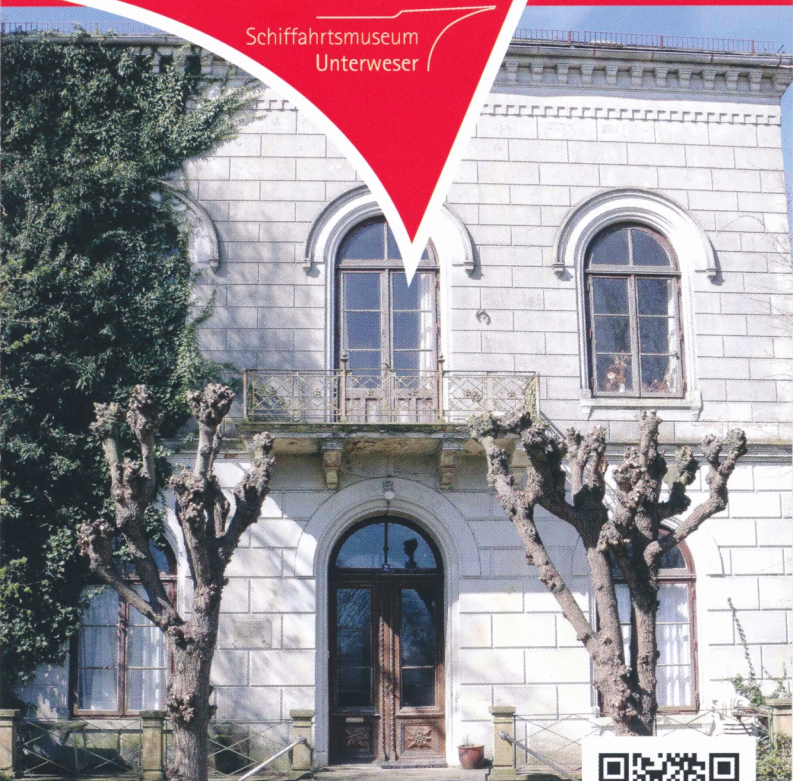


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Cultural Landscape Lower Weser



Schiffahrtsmuseum
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Oltmanns

Am Schleusendeich 2 - 26919 Brake

53° 19.715'N - 8° 29.114'E



Publisher: Schiffahrtsmuseum Unterweser

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Oltmanns
Am Schleusendeich 2
26919 Brake

Schiffahrtsmuseum
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The oldest shipyard in Brake was founded by the ship's carpenter Hinrich Oltmanns in 1791. Up until its bankruptcy in 1901, some 143 wooden sailing ships were launched here, including galiotes, schooners, brigs, barques, fully-rigged ships and Weser barges. The shipyard was also well-known outside of the region, given the high quality of services, particularly in the construction of fast vessels. Accordingly, orders were placed by customers located beyond the Weser coastline, such as Hamburg and the Netherlands. Following the death of Ide Oltmanns senior in 1856, his widow Anna Rebecka steered the company for nearly 30 additional years. The villa of the Family Oltmanns, built in 1861, is a so-called "Helgenbaas-House" and has been maintained practically unchanged until today.



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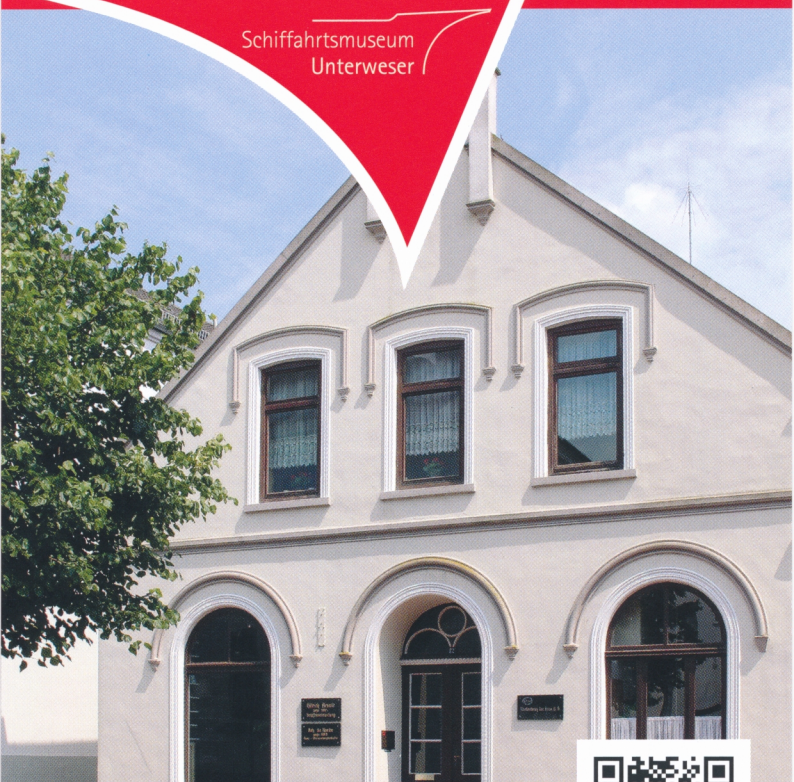
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Low German: 04401/102-103
Station: 13 [local rate]

Cultural Landscape Lower Weser



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Ship Chandlery

Lindenstraße 12 - 26919 Brake

53° 19.674'N - 8° 29.027'E



Publisher: Schiffahrtsmuseum Unterweser

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The family Arnold has been operating its ship chandlery here in this location since 1884. In such a place of business, the residents of Brake as well as the crew members of the sailing ships laying over in the harbor were able to purchase everything they needed for their personal use, including colonial goods such as cocoa, coffee and tobacco. Above all, however, the assortment encompassed equipment required in the work onboard, such as buckets, cordage and blocks as well as lamps and oil. A good supplier of ships had to be capable of delivering provisions for 100 daily rations per crew member of a large tall ship within a single day. Today, the Hilrich Arnold GmbH is engaged not only in the ship chandlery, but also in trading mineral oil, and it owns a bunker vessel involved in under-way operations.



Hilrich Arnold
gegr. 1884
Schiffsausrüstung

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Hunte Flood Barrage
Am Yachthafen - 26931 Elsfleth
53° 14.945'N - 8° 28.386'



Hunte Flood Barrage

Am Yachthafen

26931 Elsfleth

Schiffahrtsmuseum
Unterweser

This flood barrier is located where the Hunte flows into the Weser. Having four powerful flood gates and a breadth of some 120 meters, it protects the hinterland against storm tides. The facility began operating on the 1st of October 1979 and was one of the largest coastal protection facilities of this type at the time. Each direction of travel has its own gate which has a breadth of 26 meters, and the two-part miter gates remain open as long as possible in order not to disrupt the shipping. The flood barrage will be closed only when the Weser rises to a water level of three meters above normal. On a daily basis, always at the top of the hour, the nearly vertical rolling lift bascule bridges are lowered in order to allow pedestrians and cyclists to reach the peninsula Elsflether Sand.



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Harbor Crane
An der Kaje - 26931 Elsfleth
53° 14.260'N - 8° 27.946'E



Publisher: Schiffahrtsmuseum Unterweser

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Harbor Crane
An der Kaje
26931 Elsfleth

Schiffahrtsmuseum
Unterweser

The gantry slewing crane, utilized for the loading and discharging of ships along the pier, was built in 1985 by the Krupp-Ardelt GmbH in Wilhelmshaven. It has a load capacity of 5,000 kg, its boom is 25 meters long.

The last operator of the crane was a company based in Nordenham. After this company relocated its domicile, Horst Werner Janssen, captain and ship owner from Elsfleth, acquired the crane with the aim of maintaining it as an industrial monument. In 2012, Lower Saxony's Office for the Preservation of Monuments recognized the economic, historic and technical significance of the object and listed it officially as a cultural monument.

KRUPP-ARDELT

5000 kg Trgkr. bei 25 m Ausl.

KRUPP-ARDELT G.M.B.H.

WILHELMSHAVEN

Baujahr 1958

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Maritime Museum
„Haus Elsfleth“

Weserstraße 14 – 26931 Elsfleth

53° 14.263'N – 8° 27.884'E

Publisher: Schiffahrtsmuseum Unterweser



en.wesermarsch-maritim.de

In 1890, the physician and health official Dr. Christian Ludwig Steenken (1857–1933) commissioned the construction of this villa. Steenken was closely interconnected with the maritime economy. Indeed, Steenken was a member of the board of a bank and of a maritime shipping company as well. Additionally, he was the president of the Elsfleth Herring Fishing Society and of the Elsfleth Ship and Shippers' Society "Concordia", predecessor of the Nautical Union of Lower Saxony. In 2005, Horst Werner Janssen, captain and ship owner from Elsfleth, purchased the beautiful landmark structure, a prime example of the Oldenburg gabled house. He donated it to the "Wesermarsch Civic Trust" with the requirement that it serves as a museum. Since 2010, the "Villa Steenken" is one of the three locations of the Shipping Museum of Oldenburg's Lower Weser.



Opening hours of the Maritime Museum

April – October
Tuesday to Saturday
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(10 h – 17 h)

November – March
Tuesday to Saturday
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(11 h – 17 h)

Sundays and Holidays:
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(10 h – 17 h)
Mondays: closed

Opening hours can vary on and immediately after holidays.

Cultural Landscape Lower Weser



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Weser Customs
Rathausplatz - 26931 Elsfleth
53° 14.147'N - 8° 27.857'E



Amidst the confusion of the Thirty Years War, Duke Anton Günther von Oldenburg (1583-1661) achieved the impossible: He established a customs office along the Lower Weser. Indeed, in the Peace Treaty of Westphalia in 1648, the Weser Customs Office was confirmed. Much to the dismay of, above all, the Hanseatic City of Bremen, each ship which navigated in either direction along the Lower Weser was required to pay a transit fee. As a result, Oldenburg benefitted from impressive revenues until 1856. The first customs station was located in Brake-Harrien, it was established in 1624 in the current City Hall of Elsfleth. At this site, a model of the old customs station of Elsfleth and of the city center can be viewed. Further information is available in the Maritime Museum "Haus Elsfleth".



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Hier wohnte
1851–1853
Rudolf Brommy,
der ersten deutschen
Flotte Admiral.

Admiral Brommy
Mitteldeichstraße – 26919 Brake
53° 19.640'N – 8° 29.123'E



Nothing more than a simple stone reminds us of the former business and residential house of the entrepreneur, shipyard owner and restaurant owner Gerhard Gross. In this very location, he and his family housed Carl Rudolph Bromme, better known as "Brommy". Brommy was, as of 1849, a rear admiral and the commander of the very first Pan-German military fleet. The fleet headquarters were located in Bremerhaven; the city of Brake served as an additional base and as a winter berth, although the fleet was disbanded in 1852. In the same year, Brommy married Caroline, the daughter of Gerhard Gross. Caroline's brother Karl, who served under Brommy as a midshipman, founded a merchant shipping line in 1876 and a company which is now an international logistics enterprise domiciled in Bremen. As of 1881, Karl was a member and, as of 1896, the president of the State Parliament of Oldenburg.



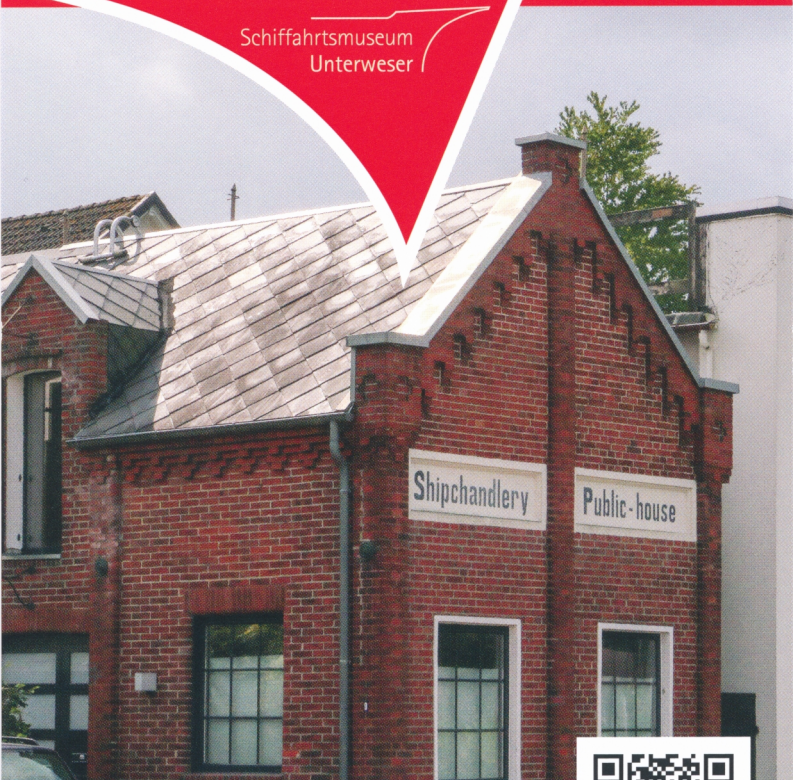
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Schiffahrtsmuseum
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Public House

Hafenstraße 9 - 26919 Brake
53° 19.664'N - 8° 28.915'E



Public House
Hafenstraße 9
26919 Brake

Schiffahrtsmuseum
Unterweser

For nearly twenty years, from 1845 to 1866, Brake was also an emigrant harbor. Thereby, the year 1854 represented the peak with more than 7,000 passengers. The "Public House" is a witness with regard to this era. Prospective emigrants often spent weeks waiting here for the chance to set sail. During that time, facilities such as the "Public House" served them as a store or a place of dwelling. Even the local ship chandlery catered to this group of people. Indeed, the "Public House" and a ship chandlery were located beneath the same roof. In 1866, a small group of emigrants commenced the last transit from Brake into the New World. Bremerhaven had already specialized in this lucrative transport business. In 1854, more than 75,000 people were transported from Bremerhaven towards America.



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Lock

Am Schleusendeich – 26919 Brake
53° 19.735'N – 8° 29.146'E



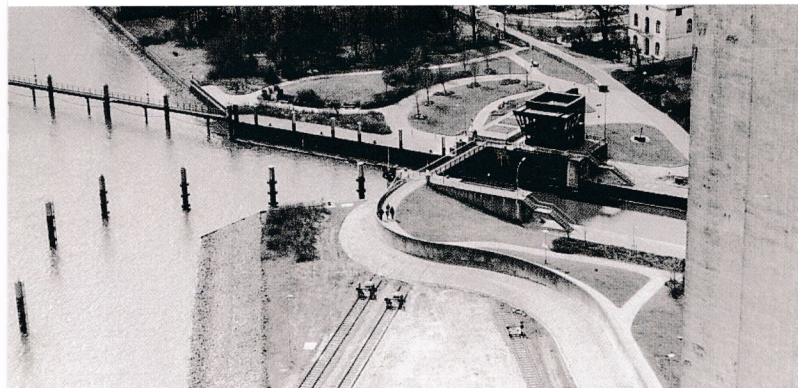
Publisher: Schiffahrtsmuseum Unterweser

en.wesermarsch-maritim.de

Lock Am Schleusendeich 26919 Brake

Schiffahrtsmuseum
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The floodgate lock of Brake connects the sea harbor – the Stromkajen – to the inland harbor. In the past, this very point served as the entry into the "Braksiel", which was utilized as a protected moorage for small vessels, prior to its subsequent use as an expanded harbor basin. Already as early as the beginning of the 19th century, the space for mooring was extraordinarily limited, given that the ships of the Imperial Navy overwintered here. On the 29th of October 1861, the first ship passed through the floodgate in Brake. In 1980, the facility was modernized to serve as a chamber lock independent of the tides and with the ability to protect against storm surges.



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Sailmaker

Lindenstraße 17 – 26919 Brake

53° 19.620'N – 8° 29.045'E



Publisher: Schiffahrtsmuseum Unterweser

en.wesermarsch-maritim.de

The street Lindenstrasse was founded in 1798, comprising the second section between the streets Breite Strasse and Mitteldeichstrasse towards the inland harbor. However, it was first built up as of 1850. In 1874, the residential house, the workshop and the warehouse of the sailmaking company „Segelmacherei Block“ followed. Even today, the sign continues to make reference to the original function of the site. Indeed, in this very location, the in part formidable sails for the brigs, barques and fully-rigged ships of Brake were cut on the drawing floor beneath the ceilings and seamed together in the workshop. The load roller beneath the gable facilitated the transport of the heavy canvasses and other materials. Currently, the house serves as an example of a typical craftsman's house in Brake towards the late 19th Century.



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Tobias

Hafenstraße 7 - 26919 Brake

53° 19.675'N - 8° 28.961'E

Publisher: Schiffahrtsmuseum Unterweser

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Tobias
Hafenstraße 7
26919 Brake

Schiffahrtsmuseum
Unterweser

Anton Tobias (1777-1849) was an extraordinarily successful personality in Brake. In 1802, he opened at the age of 25 initially a bakery. He sold his bread to the crews of the numerous ships moored in Brake. Thereby, he laid the foundation for his subsequent wealth. Shortly thereafter, he founded a brewery, a shipping line, a shipyard and a train oil distillery. Above all, his son Christian Tobias (1803-1876) was involved with a fleet of 13 ships, including the barque AZARIA, displayed as a model in the Maritime Museum, in hunting down seals and whales near Greenland as well as in the South Pacific. The inscription on the facade of the storehouse, first built in 1890, reminds us of the bygone era.



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Maritime Museum
Telegraph
Kaje 8 - 26919 Brake
53° 19.570'N - 8° 29.152'E

Publisher: Schiffahrtsmuseum Unterweser



en.wesermarsch-maritim.de

The so-called Telegraph was built in 1846 as a station along the semaphore (optical telegraph) line between Bremen and Bremerhaven. Oldenburg's administration financed the venture. Thanks to the new signalmast, the merchants and shipowners were now able to conveniently relay messages regarding ship arrivals and departures – at least during the daytime and with good visual conditions. Nonetheless, as soon as 1852, this form of communications was history. The electromagnetic telegraphy distinguished itself in terms of reliability and rapidity. The building subsequently served in various functions, including as a prison and as a firehouse. Since 1960, it has been the parent house of the Maritime Museum of Oldenburg's Lower Weser. In 2014, following an extensive period of renovation and modernization, it was reopened.



Opening hours of the Maritime Museum

April – October
Tuesday to Saturday
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(10 h – 17 h)

November – March
Tuesday to Saturday
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(11 h – 17 h)

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10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
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Cultural Landscape Lower Weser



Schiffahrtsmuseum
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Großherzogin Elisabeth
An der Kaje - 26931 Elsfleth
53° 14.148'N - 8° 27.896'E



Publisher: Schiffahrtsmuseum Unterweser

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Großherzogin Elisabeth

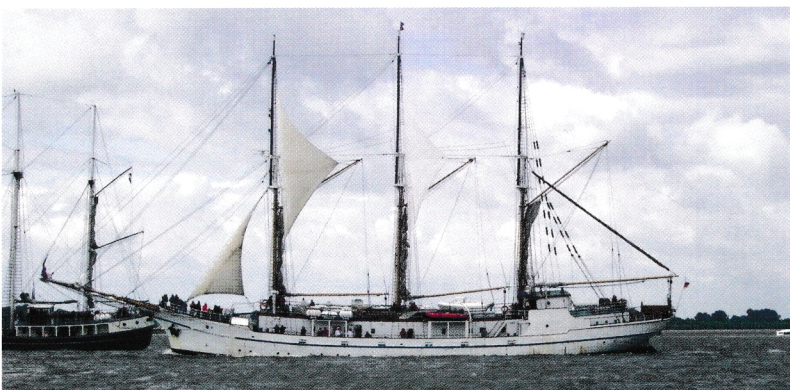
An der Kaje

26931 Elsfleth

Schiffahrtsmuseum
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The GROSSHERZOGIN ELISABETH (Grand Duchess Elisabeth) started her life as the SAN ANTONIO. The gaff-rigged schooner was launched on the 19th of August 1909 in Ablasserdam (Netherlands) and was worldwide the first cargo sailing ship which was equipped with a diesel motor. In 1982, the ship, known as ARIADNE at the time, was purchased by the "School Ship Society Grand Duchess Elisabeth", her current owner. She is warmly referred to as the "Lissi". Moreover, she reminds us of the fully-rigged ship of the same name, a vessel built in 1901 and which served in a training capacity for a long period of time. The latter vessel is the DUCHESSE ANNE, now located in the French harbor of Dunkirk.

Apart from the summer season, the vessel serves the Departement of Maritime Studies at the Jade University of Applied Sciences as a training ship.



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House Suhren

Schulstraße 14 - 26919 Brake

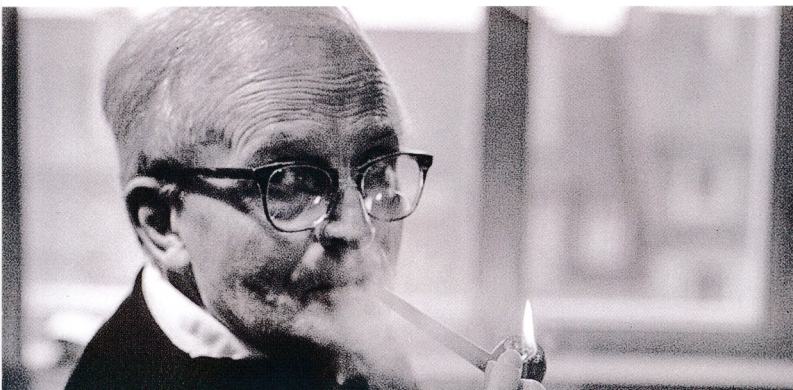
53° 19.545'N - 8° 28.886'E



House Suhren
Schulstraße 14
26919 Brake

Schiffahrtsmuseum
Unterweser

Georg von der Vring (1889–1968), until this day the only honorary citizen of Brake, was a writer and a painter. He grew up at the house of his grandfather Georg Suhren in the Schulstrasse in Brake. Georg von der Vring attended the Evangelical Educational Seminar in Oldenburg and subsequently the Royal Academy of Arts in Berlin. In addition to his merit as a painter, he also gained recognition as an author. In 1927, his book "Soldier Suhren" was regarded as the first German anti-war novel. Already at the age of 14, Georg von der Vring left his city of birth, but he remained true to Brake throughout his life. His grave is located in the cemetery Kirchhammelwarden. The Maritime Museum Lower Weser honors the artist with a small exhibition.



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Harriersand
Inselstraße - 28790 Schwanewede
53° 19.852'N - 8° 29.825'E



The riverine island Harriersand is eleven kilometers long and is located directly adjacent to the center of Brake. It received its current form as a result of the so-called "Weser correction". Thereby, the Lower Weser was straightened and deepened from Bremen down to the estuary, as it flows into the North Sea near Bremerhaven. In the course of this technical masterpiece, a revolutionary achievement under the direction of Bremen's Chief Construction Officer, Ludwig Franzius (1832-1903), Harriersand was formed by uniting seven riverine islands along Brake's coast. Harriersand is now home to 150 holiday cottages, a campsite and many small sand beaches. The ferry GUNTSIET travels regularly between Brake and Harriersand.



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Fisher House
Mitteldeichstr. 34 - 26919 Brake
53° 19.658'N - 8° 29.091'E



Publisher: Schiffahrtsmuseum Unterweser

en.wesermarsch-maritim.de

Fisher House
Mitteldeichstr. 34
26919 Brake

Schiffahrtsmuseum
Unterweser

In the middle of the 18th century, the first steps were made towards a municipally oriented settlement structure in Brake. In 1746, some 28 residential houses were documented in Brake. Craftsmen, merchants, fishermen, barge shippers and maritime pilots lived here. Among the latter was a man named Addick Addicks. In 1731, he and his wife Elisabeth commissioned the construction of the building now known as the "Fischerhaus" ("Fisher House"). It is one of the oldest houses in Brake, a so-called Low German Hall House. At the beginning of the 1990s, the house was painstakingly restored. In the meantime, the atmospherically charming rooms are often the settings of weddings. Additionally, Brake's Heritage Society and the Association "Culture in the Fisher House" host concerts, small presentations and readings in the house.



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German: 04401/102-102
Low German: 04401/102-103
Station: 16 [local rate]

Cultural Landscape Lower Weser



Schiffahrtsmuseum
Unterweser



„Duckdalben“

Kaje 8 - 26919 Brake

53° 19.576'N - 8° 29.154'E



„Duckdalben“

Kaje 8

26919 Brake

Schiffahrtsmuseum
Unterweser

The term „Duckdalben“ refers to mooring dolphins for ships in harbors, and these non-swimming dolphins are rammed into the ground and arranged in groups of three. Duke Peter Friedrich Ludwig von Oldenburg (1755-1829) commissioned the first „Duckdalben“ along the Weser waterway parallel to Brake, offering the numerous ships a chance to tie up along the pier. In 1790, as many as 138 vessels made use of the dolphins. Indeed, these dolphins served as the basis for the subsequent upturn in maritime traffic and cargo handling in Brake, with the expansion of the harbor and the Stromkaje following in the wake of these developments. This museum exhibit showing significant traces of usage is an example of such a dolphin, and it is often an object in artistic presentations.



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Schiffahrtsmuseum
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Mayor's House

Breite Straße 10 - 26919 Brake

53° 19.596'N - 8° 29.080'E



Publisher: Schiffahrtsmuseum Unterweser

en.wesermarsch-maritim.de

Mayor's House
Breite Straße 9
26919 Brake

Schiffahrtsmuseum
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In 1856, Brake received the official designation as a city, along with Varel and Elsfleth, and this move forward was accompanied, at least for some years, by an economic upturn. The Mayor's House ("Bürgermeisterhaus") is a city mansion in the late classical style and serves as an architectural articulation of wealth. It was built in 1862 by Johann Friedrich Schumacher, a captain from Elsfleth. Between 1881 and 1909, it was the residence and office of his son, Friedrich August Schumacher, who served for some 28 years as the mayor of the city of Brake and died on 27 May 1909, shortly after retiring from that office. He took care of all official business from his private home, the name of which recalls these days. Today, several rental apartments are located within the house.



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Plan Street C
Breite Straße - 26919 Brake
53° 19.592'N - 8° 28.986'E



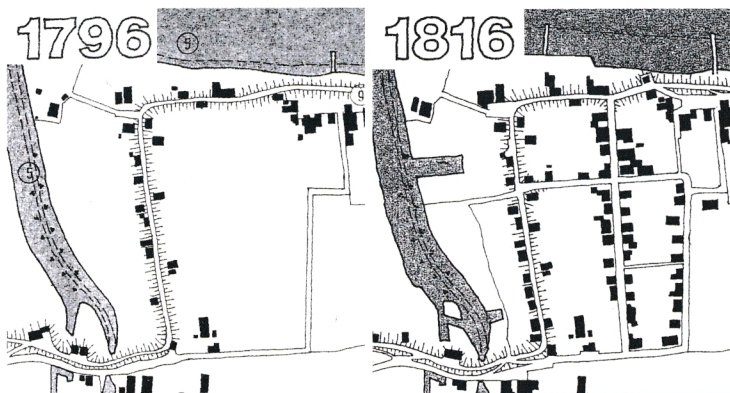
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Plan Street C Breite Straße 26919 Brake

Schiffahrtsmuseum
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Between 1780 and 1803, the regional economy boomed. The upturn caused by harbor business offered many new opportunities for earning money. The high price of real estate properties, on the other hand, discouraged many people from settling in the area. As a result, Duke Peter Friedrich Ludwig von Oldenburg (1755-1829) decreed that land parcels between the Middle Dyke and the old street Heerstrasse be publicly purchased, and this led to the presence of more affordable properties along the so-called "Plan Street C" which led from the pier straight into the hinterland. This "Plan Street C" evolved into the "Breite Strasse" (literal "Wide Street"). Simultaneously, the "Plan Street G", the later "Lindenstrasse", came into being. The properties were enormously popular. In 1793, Brake had a population of 850 residents. In the following 20 years, this figure was doubled.



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Brake Harbor
Am Binnenhafen - 26919 Brake
53° 19.753'N - 8° 29.177'E



Publisher: Schiffahrtsmuseum Unterweser

en.wesermarsch-maritim.de

Brake Harbor Am Binnenhafen 26919 Brake

Schiffahrtsmuseum
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The modern, multi-functional special ship harbor Brake with the international call sign DEBKE has been operated by the Lower Saxony Ports GmbH & Co. KG since 2005. The owner is the State of Lower Saxony. Ships coming from the North sea and having drafts slightly exceeding twelve meters can reach Brake's „Stromkaje" (riverside quay) which has a length of 2.5 kilometers. A railway connection and modern truck terminals provide for an ideal traffic infrastructure. In particular, bulk products such as grain, animal feed, sulphur, minerals and wood products, but also iron, steel and project / heavy lift goods are handled in Brake. The imposing silos of the company J. Müller, founded 1821, have been part of the harbor ambience of Brake for a long time.



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Plassmann's Villa

Mitteldeichstraße 39 – 26919 Brake

53° 19.662'N – 8° 29.127'E



Plassmann's Villa
Mitteldeichstraße 39
26919 Brake

Schiffahrtsmuseum
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The art nouveau villa with the crest above the impressive gateway belonged to the wood trader Wilhelm Plassmann (1852-1931). In 1907, he commissioned its construction by the architects Hans and Heinrich Lassen from Bremen. Actually, it was his second residential house in Brake. Wood trading was a flourishing industry. Plassmann supplied above all the numerous shipyards of wooden ships with his highly desired construction material – such as, for example, the shipyard of Ide Oltmanns in the immediate vicinity. However, even the suppliers of the shipyards as well as many building and carpentry businesses were among his customers.

Around 1900, the affluent class in Brake began copying the British style of living with great enthusiasm. Even today, the villas document the wealth once prevalent in the maritime city of Brake.



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Maritime Museum
„Haus Borgstede and Becker“
Breite Str. 9 – 26919 Brake
53° 19.595'N – 8° 29.075'E

Publisher: Schiffahrtsmuseum Unterweser



en.wesermarsch-maritim.de

The packing house was built in 1808 by the ship broker and the subsequent shipyard owner Hinrich Oltmanns. It served as an interim storage facility of the company "Oltmanns & Seeman", allowing freight and commercial goods to be temporarily kept until their further transport by ship. On the ground floor, a ship's chandler store was opened from early on.

As of 1818, the British Vice Consul and an agent of the North German Lloyd, John Saville MacNamara, lived here with his wife, who became entwined with countless legends. Following MacNamara's death in 1845, Johann Hinrich Borgstede and Julius Ludwig Becker, two businessmen from Brake, purchased the building, and this became the exclusive property of Becker a year later, remaining in the family until 1979. In 1985, this house became the second site of the Maritime Museum.



Opening hours of the Maritime Museum

April – October
Tuesday to Saturday
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(10 h – 17 h)

November – March
Tuesday to Saturday
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(11 h – 17 h)

Sundays and Holidays:
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(10 h – 17 h)
Mondays: closed

Opening hours can vary on and immediately after holidays.