YOUR NEW HOME
Whether it’s a newly-built single-family home, or a timeless apartment in the Katherinen neighborhood – in Osnabrück, you can find a home that fits your lifestyle. And around it, a city that has (just about) everything.

ON THE WATER
The Hase River flows straight through the city, the Osnabrück Canal is close by, and two lakes, the Rubbenbruchsee and the Attersee, beckon to swimmers and joggers. Water is a key facet of Osnabrück’s character.

WHERE THE HISTORIC MEETS THE MODERN
The old and the new encounter each other everywhere here. A historic town hall and a modern department store (complete with indoor surfing!) – Contrasts are part of our tradition.

ENJOY A BITE TO EAT
It’s possible in (almost) every corner of the city. From fast-food chains to gourmet cuisine, it’s all here.
GREAT REASONS TO CALL THIS PLACE HOME

A green city, a cultural center, a strong business hub, a university city, and a city of peace – Osnabrück has many attributes. And deservedly so. It’s hard to believe that the city has “only” about 170,000 residents, though people have been finding out about the great living standards and the employment opportunities – the population has been continuously rising for years.

People who are born here usually stay, and people who move here do too. So what is it about this city? If you ask the people who have gotten to know Osnabrück, one aspect keeps coming up: The city is big enough for fun and culture, and small enough that you can get from Point A to Point B on your bike. In addition, the city is a transit hub, with three autobahns, a train station with numerous ICE connections, and an airport close by – but at the same time is nestled in the green open space of the TERRA.vita Nature Park. It’s a historical city, where the peace treaty ending the Thirty Years’ War was signed, and it is a university and innovation center. Osnabrück has a high percentage of international industrial companies, successful family businesses, and a dynamic start-up scene. For a change of pace, there are mountain bike paths as well as a renowned theater. Does all this sound like a lot of contradictions? Indeed – and that’s what makes Osnabrück so exciting.

INNOVATIVE, GREEN, LIVELY, UNDISCOVERED – TYPICAL OSNABRÜCK!

NATURE, CULTURE, AND A CAREER OVER 120 KM²
1240 years of history in the city means very diverse development. And that history makes Osnabrück into what it is today: a big city with short streets and a high standard of living. Things here aren’t just imagined innovatively – they get done innovatively, too. New traffic concepts, sustainability, cultural diversity, and economic development set the city apart. And these make living and working here fulfilling for people of all ages, nations, and occupations.

6,800 COMPANIES, 28,000 UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, 23% TRAFFIC BY BICYCLE, 7 MUSEUMS,
AND 2,200 ANIMALS AT THE ZOO – ALL IN Osnabrück

“In Osnabrück, you often see friends and people you know wherever you’re going. That quickly translates into feeling at home here.”

WIEBKE VOLLBRECHT, Marketing manager
Anyone who can’t find a place they can call “home” in Osnabrück have only themselves to blame. With numerous diverse neighborhoods, there is bound to be something for any lifestyle. And with fair conditions. Young families can find kindergartens, schools, and a public pool in “the Wüste” – a word that means “desert” but is one of the greenest neighborhoods in town. Students share apartments all over the city; there are also dormitories built out of old factories and new buildings, and even on the old city walls. And those who prefer sophistication often make their home on Westenberg, with its villas and spacious apartments from the Wilhelmine Era. Osnabrück has room for everyone.

GREEN OR LOTS OF COLORS?
AS A STUDENT OR AS A FAMILY?
THIS IS HOW OSNABRÜCK LIVES!

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THE WÜSTE – FAMILY-FRIENDLY FOR ALL KINDS OF FAMILIES
The Wüste is the most populous neighborhood. And loved by young and old alike.

ONE IS RIGHT FOR YOU – EACH OF THE 23 NEIGHBORHOODS OFFER GREAT LIVING.
AND IT’S MORE AFFORDABLE THAN YOU’D THINK.
FISHING, SOCCER, AND WUSHU
With 110 sports clubs in and around Osnabrück, anyone can find their favorite sport. Even sailing and rowing is available: the canal runs straight through the Eversburg neighborhood, and a lake, the Dümmer See, is close by as well.
And for those who’d rather watch than play, VfL Osnabrück’s “Stadium at the bremer Brücke” is the place to be.

NOT FOR THE INDECISIVE:
RECREATION OPTIONS

“Sweetheart, I’m just going to the Nature Park real quick!” It’s a sentence that you probably wouldn’t actually say, but in Osnabrück you could. Osnabrück is the only big city in Germany that lies in the middle of such an area – the TERRA.vita Nature Park. The Teutoburg Forest and the Wiehen Hills extend south and northeast Osnabrück, and the Bürgerpark, the Botanical Garden, Schölerberg, and many other areas breathe life into the city. There are also 1,900 hectares of forest within the city limits.

But life isn’t just about being outside – everyone has a chance for some culture and free time. Osnabrück is famous for the Maiwoche – ten days of music and entertainment throughout the heart of the city. There’s also the Schlossgarten Open-Air Festival, which brings major pop acts into the city – not to be confused with SchloGa Open-Air, an exciting, free outdoor festival featuring regional bands.

Sports and dining choices are apparent too. The fishing club is next door to the golf club; haute cuisine next door to street food. And everything just a few kilometers apart. In Osnabrück, the problem isn’t about a lack of options – it’s about having so many options.
The philharmonic in the OsnabrückHalle? Or drama at the theater? Or contemporary art at the Kunsthalle? Anyone who loves art and culture will find it in Osnabrück.

Five theaters, eight museums, and countless event venues offer a sophisticated cultural palette and a variety of programs. This not only includes cultural “blockbusters” such as the Municipal Theater and the Museum of Cultural History, but also a marionette theater, an industrial history museum, and numerous regionally and internationally renowned festivals such as the Morgenland Festival and EMAF – the European Media Art Festival.

In addition to these official temples of creativity, there is an active arts scene with galleries, artistic and cultural organizations, and architecture and art in public spaces. You just have to keep your eyes open and around every corner you’ll find something historically significant and artistically intriguing.

The Town Hall as the site of negotiations for the 1648 Peace of Westphalia is worth checking out, as well as the cathedral – Osnabrück has been a bishopric since 780 – and the medieval and classicist façades of the Old Town (Altstadt). But Osnabrück also can boast of more modern architecture too: the Felix-Nussbaum-Haus by star architect Daniel Libeskind, for example, or the university lecture hall known endearingly as the “Frog” on Westerberg, or the Hasehaus on Neumarkt. Art, music, architecture, and history – in this city, they all come together.

In addition to art, architecture, and history, the city has also been home to some notable names. At the top of the list is Felix Nussbaum, whose paintings are exhibited in an eponymous museum. Equally well known is Erich Maria Remarque, the author of “All Quiet on the Western Front.” Osnabrück is also proud to claim Friedrich Vordemberge-Gildewart, an important representative of neo-plasticism. And the work of Justus Möser, an 18th Century legal scholar and essayist, was widely known and valued in its day. Of course, there are a few people still alive today who trace their origins to Osnabrück, such as former German President Christian Wulff, SPD politician Olaf Scholz, and deejay Robin Schulz.
PEACE AS THE DUTY OF AN ENTIRE CITY

AN OBLIGATION INSCRIBED IN THE PAST
Can an entire city dedicate itself to the topic of peace? Yes, and Osnabrück does. With the proclamation of the Peace of Westphalia in 1648 from the steps of the Osnabrück Town Hall, the foundation was laid for Osnabrück’s role as “the City of Peace.” On the occasion of the treaty’s 350th anniversary in 1998, members of the community from all walks of life became involved with the topic of peace. Osnabrück became officially known as the City of Peace, and the Town Hall received the European Heritage Label.

Since then, Osnabrück has worked for the peaceful development of our society. Institutions, clubs, organizations, and even individuals contribute to this important work. Nevertheless, the city can utilize its municipal status to facilitate these diverse activities with a dedicated office promoting a culture of peace. Such activities include Osnabrück Peace Day (25 October), exhibitions and events at the Felix-Nussbaum Museum, the Festival of Cultures, and the annual “musica pro pace” concert series.

At the focus of all these activities is international and intercultural dialogue. For this reason, the city maintains sister-city agreements with Angers in France, Derby in England, Haarlem in the Netherlands, Tver in Russia, and Çanakkale in Turkey. City ambassadors regularly travel back and forth – with a suitcase full of culture, tolerance, openness, and willingness for dialogue. In Osnabrück, there is no lack of stimulating encounters and wide-ranging exchange. And everyone is invited to join in.

THE HOBBY HORSE RIDE
One unique Osnabrück tradition is the Hobby Horse Ride. Every year in October, children ride to the Town Hall with hobby horses and colorful paper hats to commemorate the 1648 Peace. A joyous way to celebrate peace.

Osnabrück and Europe have more to do with each other than what is visible on the surface. The peace treaty from 1648 not only ended 30 years of war and destruction throughout Europe, but also laid the cornerstone for the idea of “Europe” as such. This international treaty was the first of its kind, subjecting all other laws and regulations to it, and ushered in the religious, cultural, and political diversity that defines Europe in the 21st Century. This is how a wise agreement became a magnificent idea.

EUROPE – AN ENDURING IDEA
What does sustainability mean for a city? Essentially, nothing more or less than targeted measures to create and protect an environmentally friendly, socially fair, and secure community. But what does that mean specifically? For example, that Osnabrück is set to eliminate plastic bags. For example, that there is a “100% Climate Protection Master Plan” that is designed to reduce CO2 emissions by 95% by 2050. For example, that there is a solar-potential map designed by one of the universities to reveal all roof space that could be used for photovoltaic solar panels. The list goes on and on.

In addition to ecological goals, however, Osnabrück is also pursuing social ones as well. As the City of Peace, social peace, living among one another respectfully is a critical duty. Participation on all levels: whether it’s creating equality of opportunity, giving migrants a future, or solidifying justice between generations – in Osnabrück, we work to keep everyone involved.

And the city is hard at it. With the “2021–2030 Strategic Goals,” the city has taken the results from a poll of community members, politicians, and administration officials and used them to put together an action plan. A yearly audit (called KOSMOS) gives residents the chance to review how much closer these goals are to reality. Widespread involvement and transparency, ecological and social awareness are the factors that drive a future worth living in. In Osnabrück, that means everyone can participate!
HIDDEN CHAMPIONS AND INNOVATION DRIVERS
SMEs flourish in and around Osnabrück. But big businesses and startups have a place here, too. The scientific contributions of our universities also help drive business. These are perfect conditions for Osnabrück’s economic growth. And they are put to good use. Over 6,800 companies in the city and its surroundings know the value of locating their business in the right place.

The business culture here is distinguished by the strength of Osnabrück’s SMEs. Numerous hidden champions, innovative family firms, and courageous entrepreneurs account for the region’s above-average employment rate. This has put Osnabrück in 12th place out of 3000 cities in the “Mittelstand 10,000” rankings. Companies here produce automobiles, food, and paper products, and they process metals. They move and deliver goods, and they process data. It’s a healthy mix of industry, skilled trades, sales & distribution, and services that forms a stable economic foundation. Complete with career opportunities.

This strong economic development is powered by the research emphasis on real-world applications at Osnabrück’s universities. With over 28,000 students, firms benefit from a highly skilled labor supply; students benefit from degree programs that give them real-world experience during their study and exciting prospects afterward. And with especially innovative ideas and wide-ranging forms of support, startups can do more than just start up. That’s innovation potential that pays off for everyone.

A STRONG LABOR MARKET
Ringed by three autobahns, with a major train station in the center of town, and an airport close by, Osnabrück is a place well-connected to the rest of the country – and the world. Osnabrück’s universities bring young people from every corner of the globe to the city. Good conditions for transit, innovation, and growth. Businesses know what that’s worth. People in the region do, too.
The Universities

Research and Career

Education has always been a motor of progress — be it personal or career-related. Between UOS and HS Osnabrück, the city hosts two major educational institutions that have already turned their eyes to the future. The impact these institutions has radiates far beyond Osnabrück’s city limits to Lower Saxony and Europe. They not only offer 28,000 students the chance to lay the foundation for their careers, but also open horizons for many of these students — as employers in almost every possible field. Whether it’s as a professor for autonomous robotics, a graduate student in historical peace research, or an administrative assistant in the HR department, qualified people find ideal conditions to develop and grow in their careers.

The most exciting part is the effect science and research has on business and the wider society. Knowledge isn’t simply confined to the ivory tower here, but emphatically connected to current questions that affect us every day. High-level research with relevance for real life is conducted in Osnabrück every day — and every day, many people feel its effects.

Knowledge Shapes the Future

Research and Career

Modern and Family Friendly

In recent years, the Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences has developed into the largest and strongest university for applied research in Lower Saxony. Modern infrastructure and a family-friendly attitude also make it an attractive employer.
In Osnabrück, innovative ideas and entrepreneurial spirit encounter a wide network of support. The chambers of industry and commerce, trade associations, and the Osnabrück Economic Development Office (WFO) have advised startups on selecting locations, securing financing, and establishing networks. And it shows. In recent years, the number of incorporations have grown faster than the Lower Saxony average. And the trend is accelerating.

One showcase project in the area of knowledge and technology transfer has been the ICO – the InnovationsCentrum Osnabrück. Here, young businesses as well as technology and knowledge-based startups receive an affordable place to rent, coworking spaces, and – importantly – wide-ranging innovation advice. The ICO justifiably counts as Osnabrück’s startup incubator, and it looks like it too!

Another catalyst for startups has been the German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence, which has two locations in Osnabrück. It is one of the leading research institutes in the field of AI – and as an incubator for spinoffs. Successful ideas can find excellent conditions for growth in this city.

FROM STUDENT TO CEO

IDEAS AND COURAGE BRING ABOUT TRUE STORIES OF SUCCESS

OSNABRÜCK, AN ENTREPRENEUR’S PLAYGROUND
Networking, cooperation, specialization – those are the keys to success for the “entrepreneur’s playground” of Osnabrück. Lots of institutions working together to help startups get their feet on the ground – that’s how a great idea becomes a true success story.
8:30 AM
WELCOME TO OSNABRÜCK!
The best way to start the day in Osnabrück is with a decent breakfast. Perhaps in Sophie’s, which serves up pastries and other treats à la française – as well as regional, seasonal, and organic goods. www.tantesophiesbackstube.de

10:00 AM
SPORTS AND SHOPPING
At L&T, Northern Germany’s largest owner-operated department store, both are possible. In addition to fashion, it’s home to the “Hasewelle,” a pool with 14-meter-high waves for surfing.

12:30 PM
LUNCH ON MARKET SQUARE
At Marktplatz (Market Square) in front of the historic town hall, various restaurants offer Italian, French, or traditional German cuisine. In the sunshine, you can enjoy the city’s gorgeous façades – and the people walking by.

11:30 AM
REDLINGER STRASSE
In the last few years, the little street next to the Big Street (“Großen Straße”) in the pedestrian zone has carved out a niche for itself for eco-shops, with eco-friendly fair-trade apparel at “34/19” and vintage second-hand goods at “Die Möllering.”

2:00 PM
A GLIMPSE OF HISTORY
Even for non-historians, a look at the town hall is worthwhile. The site where the Peace of Westphalia was negotiated is still impressive almost 400 years later. With a little luck, a wedding party or two will come out of the old weighing house next door.

3:00 PM
MUSEUM OR (BEER) CULTURE?
If you’re still hungry for culture, you can make your way to MQ4, the Museum Quarter, with pieces by Felix Nussbaum and Albrecht Dürer, or with exhibited pieces from the city’s history. And then to Rampendahl, Osnabrück’s traditional brewery, for a beer (and something to eat) on Hasestraße.

THE FIRST STEP
Well, we’ve reached the end of our little trip through Osnabrück. But that’s OK, you’ll see much more when you come here in real life. So how about a fact-finding trip? In the end, nothing would be more convincing than Osnabrückers themselves. Go ahead – discover this town… your town?

COMPLETELY TYPICAL
A big city in green open space; agriculture, history, and cosmopolitanism; three autobahns and a city full of bicycles. These contrasts are breathtaking. And typical: Osnabrück and the people living here bring it all together.

A CITY OF CHANCES
The great German dramatist Friedrich Schiller knew that “Wer nichts waget, der darf nichts hoffen.” In English, “Nothing ventured, nothing gained.” If a chance arises, it’s important to take it. And in Osnabrück, opportunities to shape your life are knocking every day. Open that door!

A GOOD FIT
You can prepare your date with Osnabrück exactly how you want. For example, on the web at www.typisch-osnabrueck.de. There you’ll find many tips for your trip to Osnabrück. If you want to know if you and Osnabrück really belong together, there’s also a page to help you figure out if you’re a good match.

YOU HAVE ARRIVED

GETTING DOWN TO BRASS TACKS
Jobs, housing, a future – Osnabrück offers it all. Now it’s up to you to do your own thing. Here, in this city. With great coworkers, neighbors, and friends. To start your own business, or to bring your talents to someone else’s. Single, or with the whole family. We know exactly what the good life is here. And we’re looking forward to you being here with us.

DO YOUR OWN THING IN OSNABRÜCK!
SEE YOU SOON IN OSNABRÜCK

WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?
www.typisch-osnabrueck.de