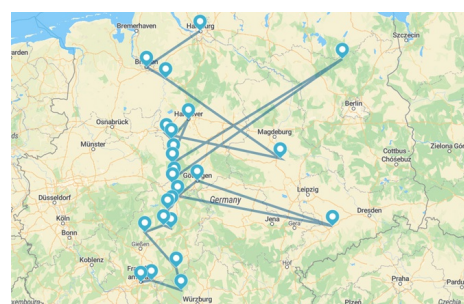




Germany, 8 Days · Tailor-made by car

Fairy Tale Route

The Fairy Tale Tour covers the main places that inspired the Grimm Brothers to write their stories. It takes in 600 kilometres and more than seventy sights related to Grimm Brothers' tales, which have been dreamt by practically every child in the world. You'll see the dwellings of each of Snow White's dwarfs, the castles of Snow White, Rapunzel and Sleeping Beauty, and even the roads where Little Red Riding Hood walked and the Pied Piper of Hamelin played his flute. This isn't only a perfect tour for children, but it will also take you back to your childhood without having to build an expensive time machine. At some points, you'll be welcomed by a character from a Grimm Brothers tale and guided through the tours, making you feel like a true protagonist of each story. You'll visit cities such as Bremen, Hamelin, Trendelburg, Höxter and Polle, among others. But there are many beautiful places where these characters were created. We'll also explore the life of the writers who gave life to these characters. From their hometown, Hanau, passing through Steinau, the city where they spent their childhood. You'll discover how they lived and how they began to investigate fables in Marburg and write them in Kassel. The Bellevue Palace in Kassel is where some the original Brothers Grimms tales were created, earning it the accolade of UNESCO World Heritage Site. A magical trip that will make you recover the fascination and joy of childhood.



CULTURAL

FAMILIES

Departure date: Departures from August 2026 till July 2027

From: London

Travel details

● DAY 1 · CITY OF ORIGIN - HAMBURG

Flight departure from the city of origin to Hamburg and rental car pick-up. Welcome to Hamburg! Germany's second largest city, only surpassed by Berlin, is famous worldwide for its historic and bustling port, which has brought prosperity to its cosmopolitan and diverse neighbourhoods where everyone is warmly welcomed.

You'll soon realise why this is the ideal city to start off on the Fairy Tale Tour.

Hamburg has so much to offer the traveller eager for new experiences. A great way to start the day is to stroll along Spitalerstraße or the parallel Mönckebergstraße, two pedestrian streets for shopping or coffees. They're always lively and starting off a holiday with a bit of shopping is always a great idea. The street runs directly into Rathausplatz, but if you prefer, you can leave your shopping in the car so you don't have to carry it around all day. That's one of the advantages of driving!

As we were saying, the street ends opposite the Town Hall building, a grandiose construction with huge dimensions. The interior is stunning and the guided tours in English are recommended, and they're also very affordable. Besides getting to see inside, they'll explain the ins-and-outs of the city's politics. Near this historical quarter is Hamburg's bustling port. It is immense and has a huge warehouse system. Declared a World Heritage Site in 2015, the best way to explore its canals and its red-brick buildings is on a fun boat trip. (Note. Tour not included). Another interesting idea is a visit to the Speicherstadtmuseum and the Miniatur Wunderland, a great plan for kids. Another of Hamburg's biggest attractions is the glass lift that will take you to the top of Mahnmal St-Nikolai, the fifth tallest religious spire in the world. Those who suffer from vertigo will have to think twice, although the reward is that it commands the very best views of the city. Another way to see Hamburg's skyline is at the Binnenalster Lake.

If you were too early to do any shopping on Spitalerstraße, don't worry because Hamburg is the capital of shopping centres, which are a great idea if the weather is playing up and outdoor activities aren't so appealing.

As for food, there's a wide range of German and international restaurants and bars serving a very diverse cuisine. And if you want to relax a bit, you can head to the Planten und Blumen park. And in the evening, you can dine in the trendy Altona district or visit the Reeperbahn.

Overnight stay in Hamburg.

● DAY 2 · HAMBURG - BREMEN

After an intense visit to Hamburg, today you'll set out on the Fairy Tale Tour as such in the beautiful Bremen, which lies to the north. The drive takes just over 1 hour and 15 minutes. What awaits you here is the scene of "The Musicians of Bremen", as this famous Brothers Grimm tale made the city world famous. Its characters are found practically everywhere. You'll see them on key rings, mugs and T-shirts, but the most famous ones are part of a statue that was erected in their honour in front of the Rathaus. All members of the band are there: the rooster, the cat, the dog and the donkey. You can start your sightseeing tour here, and don't forget to touch the front hooves of the donkey to make a wish. They say in Bremen that it will come true. What will you ask for? To stay here forever? Since you're in the square, turn around and admire the Gothic-style Town Hall. It's a UNESCO World Heritage site, as is the statue of Roland, who shares centre stage in the square, with the permission of our four animal friends from today's fairy tale. As you'll see, in Bremen they love their animals and their statues. The protagonists of "The Musicians of Bremen" are not the only ones who have been permanently portrayed on the streets of the city. On Soeststraße, you'll find a herd of pigs marking the route that the peasants used to take from their farms to this trading place. At this point of the day, you'll have already visited several of the most interesting attractions in the city, so it's time now to go to the next one: the Am Wall Windmill. You'll have no problem spotting it, but if you want a photo of the windmill by itself, you might be in for a wait as it's perpetually surrounded by people. For food, make sure you try the culinary speciality of the city. It's called Kohl mit Pinkel, and is cabbage with a typical sausage from the area. Mouthwatering! Another interesting visit is the Markt, which is very close to the Town Musicians of Bremen sculpture. Architecturally speaking, this square is incredible. All the buildings will fascinate you, as will a trip to the fishermen's district of Schnoor and the River Weser, ideal for taking a leisurely stroll. Overnight stay in Bremen.

● DAY 3 · BREMEN - VERDEN - NIENBURG - RINTELN - HESSISCH OLDENDORF - HAMELIN - HANNOVER

Today's highlight is Hamelin, but there are several very interesting stops en route. It's up to you whether you stop at all the places we suggest or just some of them. As you're driving, you can go at your own pace and design your itinerary according to interests and times. A half-hour drive from Bremen is Verden. It's famous throughout the country for its equestrian tradition and one of its main attractions is the German Horse Museum. What you can learn here from these animals is amazing! It's a great idea if you're travelling with kids. The next worthwhile stop is Nienburg. Its Altstadt quarter is over 1,000 years old. You can take a leisurely stroll around the narrow streets before heading off to Rinteln, the "city of palaces". The most spectacular is Schaumburg, so we'd definitely recommend this one if you have to choose. Also en route to Hamelin, you can stop off at Hessisch Oldendorf to visit its abbey and have a bite to eat before reaching the town where the world's most famous piper was born. As soon as you get there, our advice is to look for the Tourist Office and find out more about the fabulous Brothers Grimm fairy tale. You'll get details about all the activities planned for today. They change according to the day of the week, although each day the 'pied piper' leads a guided tour around the town centre to explain its history. There are references to the pied piper and the rats all over the town, so a good idea is to stroll around and unearth them all. You can see them on the carillon, on many windows and even on the ground! So, pay attention and don't miss out on any of them. Besides all this, there's much more to see in Hamelin before setting off for Hannover: the town museum, the Leisthaus building, the Marktplatz and its church... We'll end today in Hannover, a major financial hub and retail paradise. If you don't arrive too late, we recommend a stroll through the old town and the Herrenhausen gardens. Here there are three gardens, although the Großer Garten is the most famous and widely considered one of Europe's most important and spectacular Baroque gardens. Before dinner, head over to see the new Town Hall and its beautiful lake full of ducks. Overnight stay in Hannover.

● DAY 4 · HANNOVER - POLLE - HÖXTER - FÜRSTENBERG - TRENDELBURG - HOFGEISMAR - KASSEL

Yet another destination on our fascinating "Fairy Tale Route". Our first stop today is Polle. It's just over an hour away on the B217. Cinderella is said to have been born here. It's located in the midst of the Weser Valley. A place for relaxation among the eleventh-century ruins of the castle of Count Everstein, where Cinderella, her stepmother and her stepsisters are said to have lived. In the summer months, festivals are held that recall the country's most popular fairy tales. Its historic quarter, like many of those included in the tour, is adorned with classic German timber façades, which give it an even more authentic medieval feel. Take advantage of the visit to look for Cinderella's slipper and try it on... maybe you could become a fairy princess too. Just a twenty-minute drive away is Höxter, where you'll find a sculpture of Hansel and Gretel, just before they reached the witch's candy house. A tale that is performed every summer in the Marktplatz and which will delight the little ones. Höxter is well worth a stroll through along its streets lined with 16th- and 17th-century houses, including the Kiliankirche, a church with several historical treasures inside, including a Renaissance pulpit from 1597 and a Baroque organ from the 16th century. The Rathaus dates from the same period, with a style typical of the Weser Renaissance. You'll probably hear the chime of the Temple of the Consistory ringing in honour of the poet Hoffmann von Fallersleben, whose remains lie in the Corvey Abbey. And if here the protagonists are Hansel and Gretel, in Trendelburg the tale of Rapunzel takes centre stage. But before arriving, we advise you to make a quick stop in Fürstenberg, 15 minutes from Höxter. From above the River Weser you can see the image of the beautiful palace, where Germany's first ever porcelain factory was opened. It dates back to the 18th century, and its museum showcases the history of porcelain production. Now, we'll get back on the road en route to Trendelburg. We'll take the L550 and then the B83 to get there. The highlight of this medieval village is its 13th-century castle. It is perched on a rock on the banks of the River Diemel. Rapunzel is said to have dropped her long braided hair from this tower into the hands of the prince. You can now go up the tower and imagine how the princess felt watching her beloved saviour from above. Here, if you have time, you can make a detour and head over to Gieselwerder and Oedelsheim. It will only take twenty minutes on the L763, but it's definitely worth discovering Gieselwerder, the setting for Snow White, and Oedelsheim, the home to Puss in Boots. If you don't want to take a detour, then drive along the B83 for fifteen minutes until reaching Hofgeismar. This town is home to the castle of Sleeping Beauty, where the princess waited 100 years for a kiss from her beloved prince. Also known as Sababurg Castle. It dates from the fourteenth century and the Brothers Grimm occasionally stayed here. Perhaps for this reason, embraced by its mysterious forest with oaks tree of more than 1,000 years old and its romantic gardens, the brothers were inspired to create this fairy tale. Today it is a hotel open to everyone. From Hofgeismar, you can also access the enchanted forest of Reinhardswald. Enjoy looking for your other half. There's still one last stop for today and it's just over half an hour away. We're talking about Kassel, considered the capital of the Fairy Tale Route, as the Grimm Brothers first wrote their famous tales in this city. Overnight stay in Kassel.

● DAY 5 · KASSEL - GÖTTINGEN - HESSISCH LICHTENAU - KAUTUNGEN - KASSEL

Take advantage of the early morning start and discover the symbol of Kassel, a huge fountain with different cascades within the Wilhemshöhe park. If you want to know more about the whole Brothers Grimm story, then you should really visit Bellevue Palace. The inside of the museum was designed to let you see the originals of some of the stories created by them. Some are so old that they have been declared UNESCO World Heritage Site. If you go to Kassel in summer, you're in luck. Between July and August, there's a festival where their stories are staged in musical format. But if you're there in winter, you can also enjoy the Fairy Tale Christmas Market, featuring characters created by the Brothers Grimm. Pure magic! Less than an hour away on the A7 is Göttingen, a university town where the Brothers Grimm worked until 1837. You'll be surprised to hear that they were forced to stop working because their ideas were too liberal for the time. The typical thing in this city is to head to the Marktplatz. It's home to the statue of Gänselesel, known as "the girl of the geese". She is the lead character in a tale about a lost princess who lived in poverty looking after a gaggle of geese and who would cover her beautiful face under a terrible mask. This monument is much loved by the locals, who decorate it with fresh flowers all year round. They say that the tradition is that all students have to kiss her before presenting their doctoral theses. Afterwards, take the A7 and then the B7 until you reach Hessisch Lichtenau, the town of Frau Holle (Old Mother Frost), a very popular fairy tale from Germany. If you want to find out more about its history, head to the Frau Holle Museum in the seventeenth-century Alten Rathaus. Venture into an underground world full of fantasy and nature and let yourself be embraced by the magic of this fairy tale. Very near here, about 10 minutes by car, we'll reach Helsa and the neighbouring Kautungen. These are two perfect villages to stroll around, savour their medieval atmosphere and admire their half-timbered houses. Overnight stay in Kassel.

● DAY 6 · KASSEL - GUDENSBERG - FRITZLAR - NEUKIRCHEN - SCHWALMSTADT - MARBURG

Departure from Kassel heading south. We'll take the A49 for about twenty minutes until reaching Gudensberg, southeast of the Hawk Forest Nature Park. It's well-known for the ruins of Obernburg, a castle located at 306 metres above sea level. There's also a huge natural monument that brings in many tourists to Gudensberg. We're talking about Scharfenstein, a massive basalt rock that has become a magnet for climbing enthusiasts. A further fifteen minutes along the L3150 will take us to Fritzlar. This town is home to the castle used as a refuge by Saint Boniface after cutting down Thor's Oak, a sacred tree dedicated to this German god. It's worth heading over to the Cathedral to see a scene of this history turned into a monument in front of the building. The apostle is said to have used part of the wood from the tree to create the origins of this church in the year 732. The oak tree supposedly stood in the Geismar district of the town. Make sure you stroll through the lively Marktplatz, which is characterised by beautiful wooden houses from the fourteenth and seventeenth centuries, and watch out for the doors that bear the image of a sword-wielding knight. It symbolises the freedom and independence of local citizens. After 45 minutes on the A49, you'll reach Neukirchen. A must-visit here is the House of Fairy Tales. What better way to remember all the tales of this tour? Remembering their morals, their stories and their characters will help us to enjoy our itinerary to the fullest. Very close to Neukirchen and to the east of Marburg is Schwalmstadt, a town linked to Little Red Riding Hood, that sweet girl who walked through the woods to deliver food to her sickly grandmother, but came face to face with the Big Bad Wolf. In Schwalmstadt, the red dress of this character is still part of the traditional costume. You'll see it if you coincide with a public holiday or if you visit Schwalm Museum. Back to the car now for an hour on the B454 to Marburg, famous for being the birthplace of German Romanticism and also for being chosen by the Brothers Grimm to research the country's fables. This university town has some beautiful winding streets and ancient houses. Get ready to explore one of Germany's best-preserved medieval cities! Among its must-see buildings are the Gothic-style Town Hall, the Elisabethkirche church and the castle, the first ever construction in Marburg and residence of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary. Throughout the city, there are eleven hidden symbols that depict some of the most popular tales. Open your eyes and start looking for Cinderella's glass slipper, Little Red Riding Hood's basket or Hansel and Gretel's house. Overnight stay in Marburg.

● DAY 7 · MARBURG - STEINAU - LOHR AM MAIN - HANAU - FRANKFURT

Early departure today because our first stop is two hours away. It is Steinau, a medieval town famous for being where the Brothers Grimm spent their childhood. In fact, the main street takes their name and here you'll find the family home - now a museum - of these writers who have made so many children around the world explore a fantasy world. It's imperative to see the Fairy Tale Fountain (Marchenbrunnen) for a photo with famous characters it portrays. If you have time and you're there between September and November, make sure you see some of the Puppet Festival held in the former royal stables and where puppeteers from all over the country perform some of the most international fairy tales. Back to the car for an hour's drive to Lohr am Main. This is not just a beautiful medieval city, but (according to a historian) also the home of Snow White, a young woman who was born in 1729 in the Erthal family's castle. It's now a museum where you can look into her stepmother's mirror and still see who is the "fairest one of all". An hour away on the A3 is Hanau, the city where the Brothers Grimm were born. Between May and July, there's a "Fairy Tale Festival" here. So, it's the best time to revisit your childhood. If you go to the Marktplatz, you can also take a photo at the fairy tale monument. Half an hour away on the A3 is Frankfurt. Depending on the time of arrival, we suggest starting off with a stroll around the old quarter. Get lost as many times as you want because all the roads will take you to Römerberg, the city's bustling main square. This is home to the Town Hall which in turn is the seat of Der Römer, aka the Lord Mayor. A few minutes from here, the Dom St. Bartholomäus cathedral stands alongside other beautiful lay buildings. The first things that will strike you is its colour, as it was built in red sandstone, and its gigantic spire. It stands at 96 metres and commands incredible views of most of the city... but only for those brave enough to climb the stairs all the way up! From here you'll be able to admire the Frankfurt skyline like nowhere else. With such a bird's eye view, it's easy to understand why it is known as the city of skyscrapers. Once you've admired the panorama, head back down for a dose of culture. This is another of the city's strong points, as there are lots of museums and many of them are the best of their kind in Europe. The Jewish Museum of Frankfurt is remarkable, but the most outstanding is the Städel Museum, where you can admire works by some of history's most renowned artists. There's no shortage of Picassos, Renoirs or Rembrandts. Obviously, you can't visit the city without eating a Frankfurter sausage. Although it sounds very touristy, it's practically mandatory. And there are also two classic drinks: either a good German beer or an Apfelwein, a low-alcohol drink made from apples. You could always head to the Zeil for some retail therapy before dinner. Overnight stay in Frankfurt.

● DAY 8 · FRANKFURT - CITY OF ORIGIN

Arrival at the airport with enough time to drop off your rental car and flight back to the city of origin.

Arrival. End of the trip and our services.

Your trip includes

Your trip includes

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| ✓ Return flight. | ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Hamburg. | ✓ Selected meal plan in Hamburg. | |
| ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Bremen. | ✓ Selected meal plan in Bremen. | ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Hanover. | |
| ✓ Selected meal plan in Hanover. | ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Kassel. | ✓ Selected meal plan in Kassel. | |
| ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Marburg. | ✓ Selected meal plan in Marburg. | | |
| ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Frankfurt. | ✓ Selected meal plan in Frankfurt. | ✓ Rent-a-car. | |
| ✓ Insolvency protection. | | | |
| ✓ Amount of the supplement for collection and return of the vehicle in a different office. | | | |

Your trip doesn't include

✗ Accommodation taxes in Hamburg direct payment in facility.

✗ Accommodation taxes in Frankfurt direct payment in facility.

✗ Possible toll charges.

Destinations Visited

Hamburg



Bremen



Verden



Nienburg



Hessisch Oldendorf



Hamelin



Hanover



Polle



Höxter



Fürstenberg/Havel



Trendelburg



Hofgeismar



Kassel



Gottingen



Lichtenau



Gudensberg





Fritzlar



Neukirchen



Schwalmstadt



Marburg



Steinau an der Straße



Lohr



Hanau



Frankfurt



Important remarks

- Triple rooms in Europe are generally rooms with twin beds or a double, in which a folding bed is installed to accommodate the third person. Due to the inconvenience this causes, we advise against using this option as far as possible.
- Check-in time at the hotel on the day of arrival depends on each establishment, but in no case will it be before 3:00 p.m., unless otherwise indicated.
- The proposed excursions and tours for each day are purely suggestions, as you can tailor the trip to suit your

times, tastes and needs.

- A credit card is considered a guarantee, so sometimes you will need one for check-in at hotels.
- Hotels usually have cots available. Otherwise, babies will have to share a bed with an adult.
- To pick up your rental car, you'll need a credit (not debit) card in the name of the person who made the booking, who must also be the named driver of the vehicle.
- Consult the necessary documentation to enter the destinations visited and for transit in the countries where air stopovers are made.