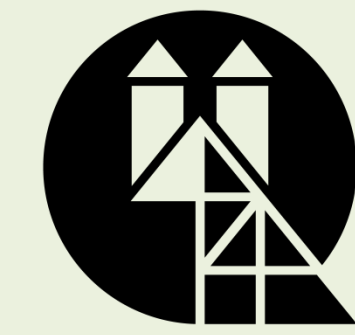




# City of Quedlinburg

## Saxony-Anhalt, Germany



Quedlinburg is a middle-level centre in Harz rural district in the federal state of Saxony-Anhalt and presently has a population of 24.000 inhabitants. The city is situated some 10 km to the north of the Harz Mountains on river Bode, a tributary to river Saale.



Quedlinburg is situated in the middle of Germany

The outstanding universal value of Quedlinburg is based on its equal importance as an influential site of German history and an outstanding monument of the history of urban development. Its temporary role as capital of the East Franconian German Empire at the time of the Ottonian ruling dynasty is verified by numerous sources and reflected in its urban structure and buildings. A widely visible testimony to the historic significance of the prebendary rule is the mighty Collegiate Church St. Servatius with castle standing in solitary size and splendour above the old town.



Stifftsberg Hill with Collegiate Church towering above the city

Quedlinburg's historic urban core – in contrast to many other towns in Germany – was largely spared from destruction, large-scale demolition and irremediable changes of structures in the 19th and 20th centuries. The medieval town layout and an unusually high percentage of medieval structures have been authentically preserved to date. UNESCO acknowledged in equal measure the unique stock of timber-framed buildings from several centuries which exemplify in a unique manner urban development in this part of Northern Europe.

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Stifftsberg Hill with „suburbium“ – Westendorf quarter. One of the greatest challenges in saving the World Heritage was to stabilize the sandstone cliff building the foundation for church and castle. This was made possible only by large public funding programmes.



A street named „Hell“ – a name deriving from medieval German meaning „a dry place within a swampy ground“



Half-timbered house, ca. 1560, in „Hell“; elaborate fan rosette carvings after refurbishment



Market place seen from the town hall with restored surface, based on historical patterns



One of the oldest timber-framed houses in Quedlinburg; built in 1347 in the so called „post and beam“ construction. The posts reach from the bottom sill to the roof in one piece.



Comprehensive modernisation measures created new apartments and helped develop the Old Town into an attractive residential location. The former barn to the right is now in use for cultural purposes.

In contradiction to its significance, the World Heritage area was severely threatened almost in its entirety when the title was bestowed in 1994. A decade-long neglect of maintenance and modernisation deteriorated the condition of many buildings and open spaces. At the same time, this preserved their authenticity. Nevertheless, it took an enormous effort of municipal authorities and citizens, supported by various public funding programmes, to preserve the historic site.



Former merchant's building as part of a courtyard ensemble of urban design significance before...



...and after refurbishment. Rich fan rosette carvings on three sides

„Only a monument in active use will have a lasting future“. All participants committed themselves to this guiding theme. The positive collaboration between municipal authorities, the monument conservation authority, architects and of course the sites' owners has led to a sensitive approach to refurbishment and new construction in the neighbourhood of historic buildings. Accepted conservation practice in combination with comprehensive refurbishment measures induce compelling options of putting former commercial or industrial establishments into new uses such as living quarters. Sensitive refurbishment not only preserves, but also aims to meet requirements of modern living standards such as leading sunlight into crouched dwellings.



In accordance with monument conservation authorities; generous lighting on the far side of the street allows modern living standards in historic framework houses



Gap closure: refurbishment in combination with contemporary new construction



Brühl park on river Bode: nowadays being very much frequented for recreation and festivities – after refurbishment of pathways and lawns and reconstruction of historic planting patterns

Why don't you come to Quedlinburg to see everything with your own eyes ?!

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The redesign of the Abbey Garden takes up the original baroque structures: highly ornamental central part surrounded by beds for fruit and vegetable cultivation. The produce harvested there can nowadays be bought at the Quedlinburg weekly market – this agricultural production in historic grounds closes the circle of heritage preservation and was made possible by private funding.