



# Hamburg & the North

POP 6.3 MILLION / AREA 39,728 SQ KM

## Includes ➔

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Hamburg .....      | 646 |
| Lübeck .....       | 674 |
| Schleswig .....    | 683 |
| Sylt .....         | 688 |
| Schwerin .....     | 692 |
| Wismar .....       | 703 |
| Stralsund .....    | 705 |
| Rügen Island ..... | 709 |

## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Anna Sgroi (p662)
- ➔ Söl'ring Hof (p691)
- ➔ Restaurant (p665)
- ➔ Freustil (p710)
- ➔ Speicher 8 (p708)

## Best Beaches

- ➔ Sylt (p688)
- ➔ Darss-Zingst Peninsula (p705)
- ➔ Warnemünde (p701)
- ➔ Göhren (p711)
- ➔ Usedom Island (p714)

## Why Go?

Head to Germany's north because you love the water: from the posh pleasures of Sylt in the west, to the fabled Baltic heritage of historic towns like Lübeck, Wismar, Stralsund and Greifswald. Here, you can sense the legacy of the Hanseatic League in beautiful old quarters created with iconic black and red bricks.

Even inland there is water. Mecklenburg's lakes are a maze of places to paddle. But really, most visitors will be happiest right at the edge of the sea. There are beaches everywhere, and while the temperatures aren't tropical, the drama of the crisp sea crashing onto the white sand is irresistible.

Finally, there is Hamburg, a city with a love of life that ignites its fabled clubs, and where proximity to the water has brought the city both wealth and vigour through the centuries.

## When to Go

Summer seems the obvious time to hit northern Germany but let's be honest, just because it's August it doesn't mean you won't be wrapped up in a blanket on a Baltic beach. So free yourself from bikini-clad fantasies and go to the coast anytime to enjoy its often breathtaking beauty.

The best reason to go in summer is for the days that go on and on and on. Sitting outside a Hamburg cafe and enjoying the passing pedestrian parade in daylight at 10pm is a delight.



## Hamburg & the North Highlights

- 1** Having a hard day's night – like the Beatles – in **Hamburg's innumerable places of pleasure** (p665), no matter what your taste
- 2** Discovering a world of enormous ships on a **Hamburg harbour tour** (p658)
- 3** Enjoying Hanseatic drama at Lübeck's **Europäisches Hansemuseum** (p674)
- 4** Cycling past Schwerin's **palace** (p692) and the beautiful surrounding lakes