

19. KASCH – House of Culture „Alter Schützenhof“ (Bergstraße 2)
Location for performances, exhibitions, theatre, cabaret, music and movies. Found in 1990.

Hint: Baden hills at Achim-Baden

In the 19th century the slope of the Weser was terraced. This enabled wide views across the river. A unique panorama!



i Tourist-Information

Points of interest:

- 1** Rathaus mit Tourist-Information
- 2** Sparkassengebäude
- 3** Stadtbibliothek
- 4** Achimer Glockenspiel
- 5** Pforthaus
- 6** Speicher Scherf und Alter Marktplatz
- 7** Lindemannsches Schloss, Kreismusikschule
- 8** Synagogendenkmal
- 9** Clüverhaus
- 10** St. Laurentius-Kirche
- 11** Hexentreppe
- 12** „Altes Rathaus“, Amtsgericht
- 13** Amtsgericht
- 14** Fassade Riekes Honigkuchenfabrik
- 15** Gymnasium am Markt, früher Marktschule
- 16** Achimer Windmühle
- 17** Haus Hünenburg

- 18** Generationenpark/Rathauspark
- 19** KASCH – Kulturhaus „Alter Schützenhof“

Public toilets:

- 1** Toiletten Rathausplatz
- 2** Toiletten Rathaus

Hotels:

- 1** Hotel Bootshaus Uesener Weserstr. 17
- 2** Gieschens Hotel Obernstr. 12
- 3** Landhaus Wesermarsch Verdener Str. 114
- 4** Hotel Haberkamp Uphusener Dorfstr. 1
- 5** ETAP Hotel Zum Klümoor 7
- 6** Gasthaus Gerken Uphuser Heerstr. 55

----- Weser-Radweg



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Achim – at a glance

- 1091** First official mention of Achim
- 1257** First official mention of the St. Laurentius' Church at Achim. Parts of the building even be older.
- 1574** The town burns down, except for the church.
- 1626** During the Thirty Years' War the army of the Christian IV of Denmark makes camp in Achim. A wagon full of gunpowder explodes and sets the place on fire. All the buildings burn down except for the stone church and two houses.
- 1648** At the end of the Thirty Years' War (Treaties of Westphalia) Achim passes into the hands of the Swedish king, along with the Duchies of Bremen and Verden. The "Gohgrefe", a freely elected sovereign, is replaced by a Swedish government official.
- 1712** The Duchies of Bremen and Verden are occupied by Danish troops.
- 1715/** The Elector of Hanover buys the duchies from the
- 1719** Danes and the Swedes. Now Achim belongs to the Electorate of Hanover.
- 1757** The French occupy Achim during the Seven Years' War.
- 1813** Achim belongs to the Electorate of Hanover again.
- 1847** Opening of the railway line Bremen – Wunstorf. Achim gets a railway stop.
- 1852** Separation of administration and judiciary in the Kingdom of Hanover. The "Gohgericht Achim" becomes the Office of Achim.
- about** As a reaction to customs regulations cigar producers of Bremen shift their factories to within the borders of the Kingdom of Hanover. The first cigar factories are built at Achim.
- 1854** of Bremen shift their factories to within the borders of the Kingdom of Hanover. The first cigar factories are built at Achim.
- 1878** Achim gets a newspaper of its own.
- 1885** Due to the transformation of the Prussian Offices Achim becomes the county seat.
- 1929** The neighbouring community of Borstel is merged into Achim.
- 1932** Achim loses the county seat to Verden. The counties of Achim and Verden merge.
- 1949** The Ministry of the Interior of Lower Saxony resolves that Achim will be allowed to refer to itself as a "town".
- 1972** Merging of Achim and the neighbouring communities of Baden, Bierden, Bollen, Embsen, Uesen, and Uphusen into the new Town of Achim.
- 1989** Achim becomes an "Independant Town".
- 1993** The completion of the new town hall in the pedestrian zone marks an important step in the town's reconstruction.



**Achim
Visitor Information**



History of the town

With more than 30.000 inhabitants Achim is the biggest town in the county of Verden. Achim immediately adjoins the south-eastern outskirts of Bremen – the city boundary is simultaneously the border between Lower Saxony and Bremen.

Since the territorial reform of 1972 present-day Achim consists of the municipal districts of Baden, Badenermoor, Borstel, Bierden, Bollen, Embsen, Uesen, Uphusen, and the municipality of Achim which was declared a town in 1949. The first official mention of the place dates back to the year 1091. But Achim may well be much older and trace back to a Franconian establishment in the 9th century approximately. The name of the place is composed of the parts “ach” (Indo-European “ak”, cognate to the Latin “aqua”) meaning “water”, and “heim” with the meaning of “house” or “settlement” – just Achim on the river Weser.

During the Thirty Years' War Achim was badly damaged. At its end the only building still standing was today's St. Laurentius' Church, officially mentioned for the first time in 1257. In 1715 or 1719 the Elector of Hanover bought the Duchies of Bremen and Verden. Now the people of Achim were electoral Hanoverians.

In 1819 the people of Achim experienced the beginning of industrialization by the first steamship on the Weser. Because of its favourable

position Achim got a railway stop in 1847, when the railway line Wunstorf – Nienburg – Bremen was built. Achim's great economic leap of 1853/54 happened as the Kingdom of Hanover joined the German Customs Union with effect of January 1st, 1854, and the nearby Hanseatic Town of Bremen did not. Because of the customs duty the price of tobacco products



Achim – Sights

made in Bremen increased when they were exported to states belonging to the German Customs Union. Cigar producers of Bremen reacted to this disadvantage by shifting their factories to within the borders of the Kingdom of Hanover. This made Achim the stronghold of cigar making until the early 20th century.

Along with the railway the first tourists arrived at Achim, Baden, and Uphusen. Nice big restaurants were built in the three towns to accommodate the visitors. With its precipitous slope to the river Weser and the wide view into its valley, Baden especially grew into a popular destination.

Today many cyclists reach Achim by the Weser cycleway, one of the most popular long-distance cycle paths in Germany.



1. The new town hall with the tourist information (Obernstraße) Construction of the town hall started in spring 1991. In the “Bürgerhalle” with its vaulted glass roof art exhibitions, concerts, and other cultural events are staged.

2. Building of district savings bank (Obernstraße)

Built in 1891. The slightly projecting annex on the right hand side dates from 1912 and displays elements of the neo-Classical style.



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3. Municipal library (Am Marktplatz)

This building from 1784 used to be the stables of the former Sheriff's Court, dismantled in 1976.

4. Chimes (Am Marktplatz)

Built in 1997. With its 24 bells it is one of the biggest chimes in northern Germany. The bells chime daily at 10 a.m., 12 a.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7 p.m., on Saturdays also at 11 a.m. - concert during weekly market (about 10 minutes).



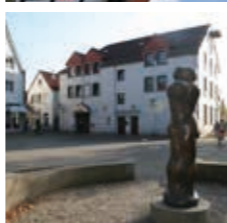
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5. "Pforthaus" (Am Marktplatz)

Built in 1789, this building served as a prison and simultaneously as the home of the prison guardian and gate-keeper of the court-house.

5a. Weekly market (Obernstraße)

Wednesday 7 a.m. – 1 p.m., Saturday 7 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.



6/6a

6. Warehouse „Scherf“ (Alter Markt): Built in 1987. Fertilizers, seeds and fuels used to be stored in the original warehouse.

6a. Old marketplace (Alter Markt)

During the 18th and well into the 19th century the traditional livestock market took place here.



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7. „Lindemannsches Schloss“

Built in 1873 in the neo-Gothic style. Today it houses the district's music school.

8. Memorial of the synagogue

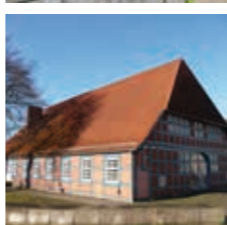
Built in 1874. On November 9th, 1938, the interior features of the Achim synagogue were completely destroyed. Since 1990 a memorial with a bronze board and a centre-cracked Star of David reminds of it.



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9. "Clüverhaus" (Große Kirchstraße)

The former farmstead was one of the 14 farms most of which were in operation until the 20th century. Today's "Haus Clüver", a typical Lower-Saxon half-timbered farmhouse, was built in 1824 – as we are informed by an

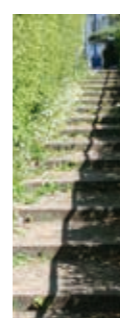


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inscription in the beam across the “Grootdöör” (big door). The previous building was destroyed by fire in 1823. The farmstead belonged to the Clüver family for several centuries.

10. St. Laurentius' Church (Pfarrstraße)

This building, officially mentioned for the first time in 1257, is the oldest construction in the town. The clock in the steeple, mentioned in writing in 1574, today is operated electrically of course, but there still is the ready for use clockwork, made by Furtwängler in 1864.



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11. Witches' Staircase

This stairway formerly used to be a church-way, leading from the church to the “upper” farmers' quarters. At the foot of it there used to be a farmhouse. Whoever passed the house in previous days was often greeted by an extended “Hee-haw! Hee-haw!” This braying came from a donkey, that was said to have descended from the donkey that belonged to the Musicians of Bremen.

12. Former Town Hall (Obernstraße 75/Am Rathauspark) This beautiful villa was built in 1829 and used to be the town hall from 1930 till 1993.

13. Inferior Court (Obernstraße)

Construction of this building finished in 1864.

The entrance is a beautiful old wooden door with simple ornaments. On the left of the building there is a well from 1793 (“Hungerbrunnen”) which was uncovered and restored by contributions.



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14. Rieke's Honey-Cake Factory (Obernstraße)

This lovingly restored façade of a bakery, established by Peter-Heinrich Rieke in 1862, is situated in the pedestrian precinct. Over time this bakery grew into an industrial plant that was well-known far beyond the Achim city borders, until it closed in 1978.

15. Grammar School (Am Marktplatz)

This school was built in north German brick Gothic style by the young architect Meislahn in 1894.

16. Achim Windmill (Mühlenstraße)

In 1651 a German post windmill was erected on this site. In 1761 it was replaced by the Dutch smock windmill which still stands there. It is 29 metres high, two-storied and has got a thatched cap. Each of the four vanes is 11 metres long. Closed down in 1965.



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17. "Hünenburg" (Schwedenschanze 39)

This stately old villa in Art Nouveau style lies right in the middle of a historic ring fort. Rumour has it that about 1400 the infamous pirate Claus Störtebeker used the “Hünenburg” as cover for his ships.

18. Generationenpark/Rathauspark (Obernstraße/Am Rathauspark)

A public park for all generations – old trees, lawn and memorials, benches for taking a rest,



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playground for children, boule-court and gym equipment for the elderly.