

EUTIN – HISTORIC. VIBRANT

When we think of Eutin, architectural gems, beautiful gardens and cultural highlights immediately spring to mind. The "Weimar of the North", the fine-sounding nickname for Eutin, lies in the heart of the Holstein Switzerland Nature Park. Surrounded by numerous lakes, forests and hills, Eutin is "Holstein's stage for culture".

The imposing four-winged **Eutin Castle** is located right on the Eutiner See lake, and dates back to c. 1160 and the time of the prince-bishops. The whole palace with its "Mediterranean" inner courtyard, forecourt and castle-like moat is definitely worth a visit. The castle garden dates back to the 18th century. It is considered one of the most important works of garden art in the country, and a stage on the lake in the garden is the venue for the famous "**Eutin Festival**".

The **Ostholstein Museum in the former stables** also exhibits artistic works. Here we can learn about famous Eutin personalities such as the composer Carl Maria von Weber and the Goethe painter Wilhelm Tischbein, among others. High-profile special exhibitions are often dedicated to contemporary artists.

The town has retained its medieval layout with a church, castle, market square, town hall and windmill on the hill, and an impressively compact **old town centre**. Today, stylish, small independent shops and boutiques invite you to window shop and browse. The various gastronomic venues by the lake or in historic buildings characterise the culinary delights on offer. The historic **water tower** now houses a photographic exhibition of all the water towers in the country, and the view from the top stretches far across the surrounding nature park.

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In Eutin you are never far from the appreciation of culture or the enjoyment of the **beautiful natural surroundings**: it's only a few metres to the town bay and from here you can walk through the park with the lake into the forest. We would strongly recommend tours of the lake, hikes, cycling excursions and canoe trips in Schleswig-Holstein's largest nature park, which is also home to the highest mountain and the largest lake in the state. The 500-year-old "**Bräutigamseiche**" (groom's oak), a natural monument and the only tree in the world that has a postal address, serves as a point of reference and meeting point, and a mysterious legend surrounds the romantic **hunting lodge** on the Ukleisee lake.

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