

The Classical Garden Route **Tuinen en Tuinkunst** between Rhine and Maas **tussen Rijn en Maas**

Tour Tipp 7 Krefelder Lords of Castle and Textile Barons

Burg Linn and private villa parks des 19th century

On this tour you will experience the luxurious lifestyle of the Krefelder Textile Barons in the 19th century.

You start in the Castle Park Linn, the oldest residence on this tour. Commissioned by Philip de Greiff, the landscape architect Maximilian Friedrich Weyhe designed a picturesque landscape garden. Gently rolling hills, wide meadows and solitary groups of trees soften the fortified character of the so-called "Trutzburg" (def.: a castle built in order to lay siege to another castle). In the yard, roses and lavender exude their fragrance in the summer. On the fruit tree meadow and on trellises local varieties grow.



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Before the great landscape architect designed the park around 1830, trenches and rigid paths were predominant. Weyhe gave the paths sweeping curves and converted the trenches into waters with islands and soft banks. By the

way, Castle Linn (first mentioned in 1299) at that time was a romantic ruin. Burnt down in the Spanish succession wars, it had not been rebuilt. Instead the Prince Elector and Lord of the Land from Cologne Clemens August had a new hunting lodge built in the outbuilding. The silk manufacturer Isaak de Greiff bought the residence in this condition in 1806 and passed the castle on to his son Philip.

The reconstruction of the castle lasted until the 1950s. It is now used for cultural events, the Niederrhein-Museum is situated in the hunting lodge. The park is freely accessible, admission fees apply for entrance into the museum.

Info: Tel. +49 (0)2151 570036, www.krefeld.de

The silk baron Isaak de Greiff had a further son named Cornelius. Around 1840, he commissioned the construction of a new summer residence not far from the former ruin, the classicist Haus Greiffenhorst. With its octagonal middle section over three floors and two-storey rooms all round it is, until today, a special eye-catcher. At the same time, Cornelius and Philip de Greiff again commissioned Maximilian Friedrich Weyhe. He was asked to design the interesting tubular grounds, which were crossed lengthwise by the Linner millbrook. This assignment was one of Weyhe's later work, who obviously used his vast experience and art to give the park depth and breadth. He dammed the little brook to create ponds and gave the flow of the water sweeping shores. Hills and groups of shrubs allow



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you to see only a short distance. Carefully selected trees structure the park and at the same time frame various "landscape windows". They invite you to look into the distance towards fields, meadows and woods. The observer has the illusion that these areas fit in harmoniously and virtually belong to the park. The Greiffenhorst Schloss is opened during temporary exhibitions.

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Now you drive to the Sollbrüggenpark which was built at the same time in the part of town called Bockum. Isaak de Greiff's nephew, velvet manufacturer Peter de Greiff settled down in the Uerdinger Straße in 1836. He had bought the then dilapidated medieval castle Burg Sollbrüggen and built a classicistic country residence on the front wing. In 1840, he asked Maximilian Friedrich Weyhe to design the 6-hectare park, who constructed a grass circus and a pleasure ground with many small elements next to the Manor. At the rear brook he designed a landscape garden with ponds and meadows which has a private and secluded air. If you take a break on a park bench between mighty sycamore trees and other trees you can find the peace and quiet to imagine how life for the rich textile barons in the 19th century must have been.

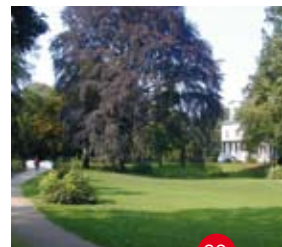
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The neighbouring Schönhäuserpark seems like a happy, playful younger brother to the Sollbrüggenpark. You will soon find out why it is the treasure chest among the parks in Krefeld: its lovely structure with many small elements, the varied planting, its white Italian-style villa and its elevated location give it a light feel. Its pond leaves a strong impression, gently modelled in wide loops and bays. In 1865 the Krefelder knitwear manufacturer Carl Hügel commissioned the construction of the villa and park on four and a half hectare grounds. So many views could be impressionist postcard motives: the white bridge, the pond with water lilies... It will probably remain a secret who designed the garden.

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Directly on your route are the Krefelder Zoo with its Rhino baby Davu and many other attractions.

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It is also not clear which landscape architect designed the Schönewasserpark (and the neighbouring botanic garden). It is clear that the textile manufacturer Scheibler first commissioned its design around 1845 next to his three-storey villa in English Landscape Style. In 1900, the Schönewasserpark was a popular destination with a public garden tavern. The 1920s were significant for the current face of the park with its wide ponds and old trees. In the course of emergency jobs the then Lord Mayor Johansen gave the unemployed payment and bread. They extended the park with a meadow to the east and built the first proper public park for the town. An interesting path links it with the castle park Linn, the starting point of your tour.

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Flax market on Castle Linn

Lively goings-on with jugglers and knights

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German Textile Museum

Varied exhibitions on the Andreasmarkt

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Animal encounters

Rhino Davu was born in the Krefelder Zoo

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Königstraße in the city centre

A roofed shopping experience

© Krefeld Stadtmarketing

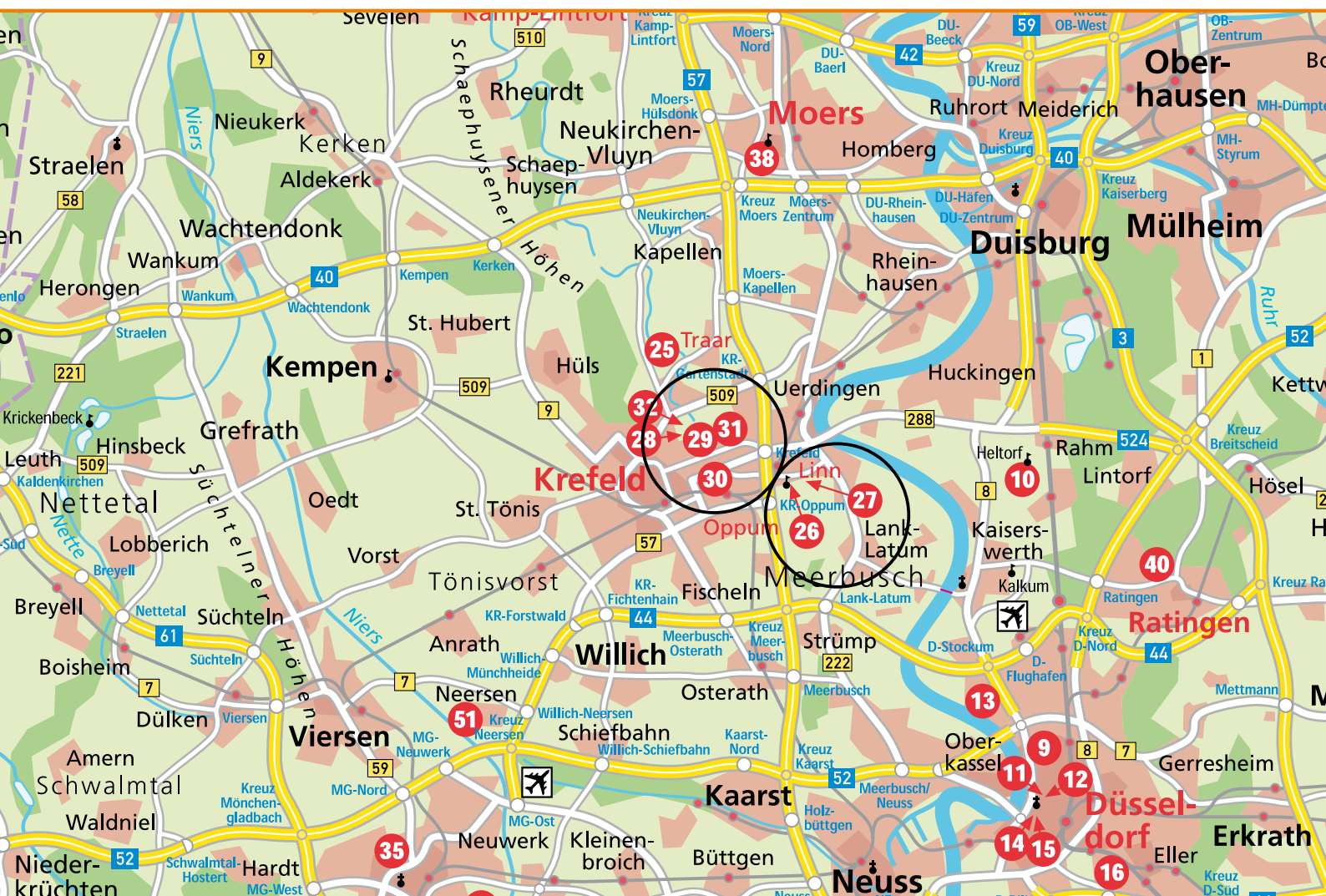
- 26 Burgpark Linn, Rheinbabenstraße, 47809 Krefeld-Linn
- 27 Greiffenhorstpark, Greiffenhorst, 47809 Krefeld-Linn
- 31 Sollbrüggenpark, Uerdingerstraße 500, 47800 Krefeld-Bockum
- 29 Schönhausenpark, Uerdingerstraße 430, 47800 Krefeld-Bockum
- 30 Schönwasserpark, Schönwasserstraße, 47809 Krefeld-Oppum

This map is an excerpt from the general map
„The Classical Garden Route“

promoted by:



Ministerium für Bauen und Verkehr
des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen



0 10 km

Straße der Gartenkunst
zwischen Rhein und Maas e.V.
Survey map can be obtained from:
info@strasse-der-gartenkunst.de
www.strasse-der-gartenkunst.de

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Tip

This 10 km long route (without park tours) is perfectly adequate for a cycling tour or a walk,
Info: www.radroutenplaner.nrw.de. If you take the train, you start and return from Linn station.

Recommended travel season

All parks are freely accessible and worth seeing in all seasons. The Museum Burg Linn is closed on Mondays, open in the summer between 10.00 and 18.00 hrs, in the winter between 11.00 and 17.00 hrs. In the spring the daffodil bloom in the Schönwasserpark is spectacular. The Botanic Garden at the Schönwasserpark (entrance is free) is opened in the summer between 8.00 and 18.00 hrs, opening times are restricted in the winter.