

“The best kind of travel opens your eyes to incredible experiences you never imagined existed. Düsseldorf is just that kind of destination: surprising, enriching, and exciting in all the right ways.”  
- MARIO LÓPEZ-CORDERO  
VERANDA Travel Editor

IN 2011, VERANDA EDITORS TRAVELED TO DÜSSELDORF, GERMANY TO UNCOVER THE BEST DESTINATIONS IN THIS FLOURISHING EUROPEAN CITY.

Inspired by Düsseldorf's hidden treasures, *Veranda* partnered with premier tour provider Valerie Wilson Travel to create a luxury travel experience showcasing the very best of Düsseldorf, Germany. *Veranda* invites you to experience Düsseldorf's unique blend of tradition and modernism with a special itinerary, curated by the editors of *Veranda*.



#### VERANDA'S TOP DESTINATIONS INCLUDE:

- **LANGEN FOUNDATION** | This former NATO military installation-turned art museum is set amid rolling hills flecked with wildflowers and features a luminous glass-and-concrete pavilion by Tadao Ando. Inside, a rotating selection of pieces from the Langen family's collection—which includes an impressive roster of Japanese art and works from modern masters such as Mark Rothko—are displayed in lofty and hushed galleries that set off the pieces with just the right dose of reverence.
- **ART ISLAND HOMBROICH** | This sprawling complex of gardens is cultivated to look as if they've fallen back to nature. There are ponds strewn with logs, a babbling stream, and gravel lined paths that weave through a series of outbuildings in which a small and eclectic collection of art is housed. Volunteers at the lovely open-air café lay out a simple but lush spread free to all visitors: homemade raisin bread, farm-fresh butter and boiled eggs, just-plucked apples.
- **SCHLOSS BENRATH** | The summer residence of the Elector Palatine, completed in 1770, is a pink Roco wedding cake of a palace. The main building is an elegantly proportioned jewel that enjoys views of a manmade pond. Acres of gardens—part of the palace's garden museum—stretch behind it, one half designed in a naturalistic English style, the other in a formal French.
- **MONKEY'S WEST** | Amid the elegant décor of this dapper restaurant—tufted toffee-colored leather banquettes, floor-to-ceiling French windows, rich velvet curtains—there is a scattering of major contemporary art. Works by the likes of Thomas Struth, Nam June Paik, and Martin Danker set a high visual bar that are more than matched by the inventiveness and flair of such dishes as foie gras with passion fruit and cocoa or escargot with braised endive.
- **UNNA LIGHT CENTER** | Hidden in the basement of old brewery, visiting the Unna Light Center feels like stumbling onto a treasure. It contains installations by major contemporary light artists. A work by Olafur Eliason turns dripping water into a stunning, glittering tunnel. Another, by James Turrell, makes art of the moody German sky. The effect is at once graceful, moving, and beautiful.

FOR TOUR INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS, CONTACT VALERIE WILSON TRAVEL AT 212.592.1228

VERANDA



# VERANDA

## Düsseldorf

### ITINERARY

EXPERIENCE DÜSSELDORF'S UNIQUE BLEND OF TRADITION AND MODERNISM WITH A SPECIAL ITINERARY, CURATED BY THE EDITORS OF VERANDA



#### DAY 1

##### Morning

Private transportation to the Intercontinental Hotel Düsseldorf, located on the famous Königsallee "Kö" shopping street and a short walk from OldTown.

##### Afternoon

Meet your personal city guide for an afternoon private tour of Düsseldorf and visit to the Rheintrium observation, followed by lunch at a local Media Harbour restaurant.

##### Evening

Begin your first evening in Düsseldorf with cocktails at Pebbles Terrace overlooking Düsseldorf's Media Harbour.

Continue to dinner in Old Düsseldorf. Following World War II, this historic area was meticulously renovated to resemble its original layout and has expanded to include 240 bars and breweries offering a selection of Germany's top beers.

#### DAY 2

##### Morning

Depart by chauffeured car for a tour of Art Island Hombroich and Langen Foundation.

Art Island Hombroich is a sprawling complex of gardens cultivated to look as if they've fallen back to nature. There are ponds strewn with logs, a babbling stream, and gravel lined paths that weave through a series of outbuildings in which a small and eclectic collection of art is housed. Volunteers at the lovely open-air café lay out a simple but lush spread free to all visitors: homemade raisin bread, farm-fresh butter and boiled eggs, just-plucked apples.

Langen Foundation: This former NATO military installation-turned art museum is set amid rolling hills flecked with wildflowers and features a luminous glass-and-concrete pavilion by Tadao Ando.

Inside, a rotating selection of pieces from the Langen family's collection—which includes an impressive roster of Japanese art and works from modern masters such as Mark Rothko—are displayed in lofty and hushed galleries that set off the pieces with just the right dose of reverence.

##### Afternoon

###### Private tour at Benrath Palace

The Schloss Benrath is a pink Rococo wedding cake of a palace, the summer residence of the Elector Palatine, completed in 1770. The main building is an elegantly proportioned jewel that enjoys views of a man-made pond. Acres of gardens—part of the palace's garden museum—stretch behind it, one half designed in a naturalistic English style, the other in a formal French.

##### Evening

###### Dinner at Monkey's West

Amid the elegant decor of Monkey's West—tufted toffee-colored leather banquettes, floor-to-ceiling French windows, rich velvet curtains—is a scattering of major contemporary art. Works by the likes of Thomas Struth, Nam June Paik, and Martin Danker set a high visual bar that are more than matched by the inventiveness and flair of such dishes as foie gras with passion fruit and cocoa or escargot with braised endive.

#### DAY 3

##### Morning

Explore the city's elegant and trendy fashion shops on the "Kö" with a private shopping guide.

##### Afternoon

###### Unna Light Center Tour

Hidden in the basement of old brewery, visiting the Unna Light Center feels like stumbling onto a treasure. It contains installations by major contemporary light artists. A work by Olafur Eliason turns dripping water into a stunning, glittering

tunnel. Another, by James Turrell, makes art of the moody German sky. The effect is at once graceful, moving, and beautiful.

##### Evening

Enjoy dinner at one of Düsseldorf's Michelin starred restaurants - options include the nearby Victorian or Im Schiffchen in Düsseldorf-Kaiserswerth

#### OPTIONAL TRIP ADDITIONS

##### Day Trip to Cologne

**Tour of Cologne Cathedral:** Built between 1248 and 1880, this UNESCO World Heritage site is a monument to German Catholicism and Gothic architecture, featuring towering spires, stained glass windows and celebrated works of art dating from the 13th century.

**Visit to Imhoff-Stollwerck Museum (Chocolate Museum):** Located in a glass and metal building constructed to look like a ship in the Rheinau harbor, the Imhoff-Stollwerck delves into the rich history behind chocolate, beginning with its origins in America and continuing with its cultivation into a finished product.

Enjoy lunch at the Früh Restaurant, just steps from the Cologne Cathedral. Cologne has a deep-rooted tradition of brewing "Kölsch" (brewed only in Cologne and rival to Düsseldorf's "Alt"). Früh is a very historic Kölsch brewery house that has been transformed into a restaurant with various levels containing a combination of the modern restaurant "Hof 18", the traditional brewery cellars and a seasonal beer garden.

##### Day trip to Kaiswerth

Located about 30 minutes from Düsseldorf's city center, the neighborhood of Kaiserswerth offers old town charm as well as the ruins of one of Emperor Barbarossa's castles, built between 1174 and 1184.

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