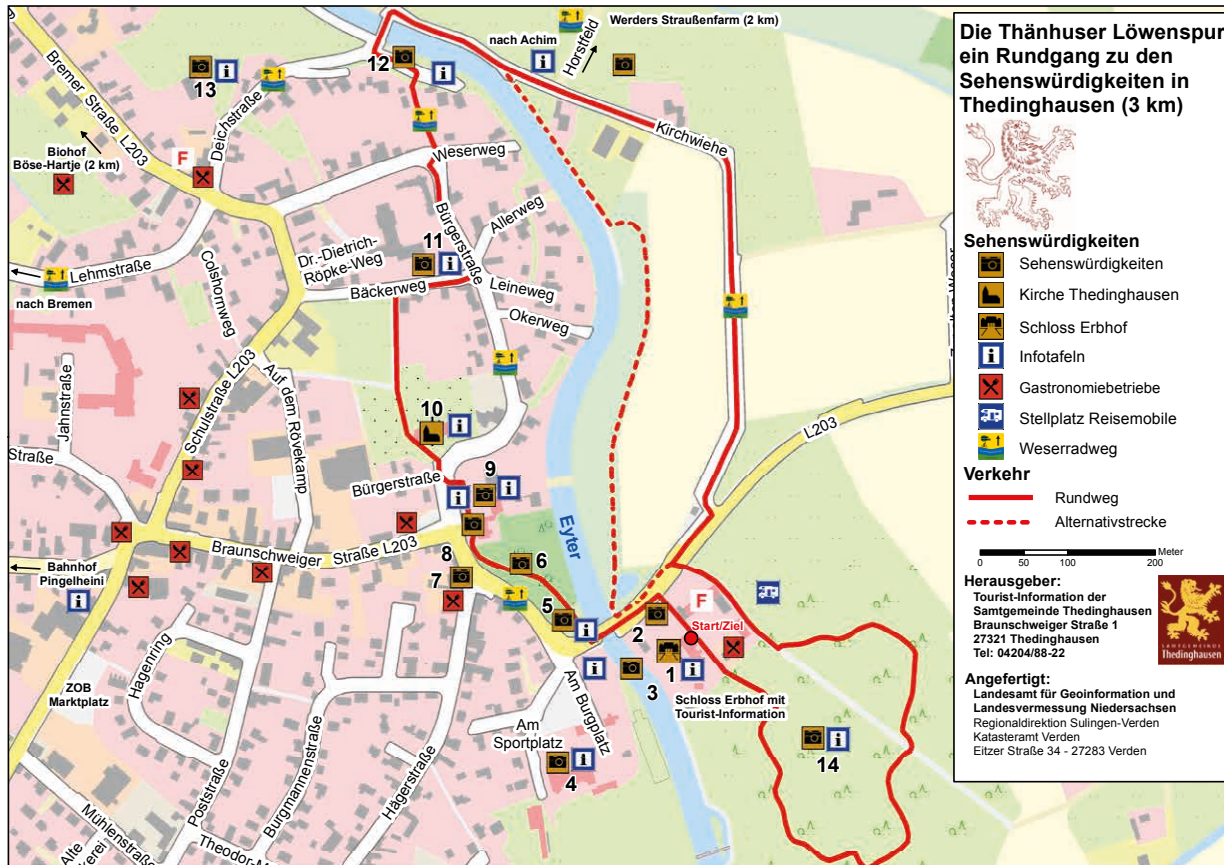


Explore Thedinghausen's sights along the 3 km walk 'Thänhuser Löwenspur', starting at the 'Erbhof' castle.

Tourist Guide

Samtgemeinde Thedinghausen



The helpful staff at the tourist-information centre are happy to answer your enquiries and to offer you guided tours, tickets, souvenirs and touristic maps

Tourist-Information in the 'Erbhof' castle

Samtgemeinde Thedinghausen
Braunschweiger Straße 1 | 27321 Thedinghausen
Tel.: 04204-8822 | touristik@thedinghausen.de
www.thedinghausen.de | www.schloss-erbhof.de

Opening hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9.00 am to 1.00 pm
Tuesday and Thursday: 9.00 am to 4.00 pm

The Samtgemeinde Thedinghausen does not accept any liability for the correctness, completeness and up-to-dateness. Photos: Samtgemeinde Thedinghausen, Published: March 2019



Information for campsite guests:

Dear guests, you are kindly asked to pay a fee of 5 € per day. This includes use of the pitch, the washrooms outside at the left side of the 'Erbhof castle' and the disposal of waste and sewage water.

You can either pay at the tourist information office inside the castle during opening hours or the tourist information staff will collect the money at the campsite. If the office is closed, please put the money inside an envelope into the white postbox next to the information sign, noting your arrival and departure date and the registration number of your camping vehicle on it. Thank you in advance.



An overview

The county council district of Thedinghausen with its four municipalities Blender, Emtinghausen, Riede and Thedinghausen is located in the region of the 'Mittelweser', South East of the city of Bremen and is inhabiting approximately 15.000 people on an area of 150 km². Its landscape is dominated by the river Weser and recreational areas with typical hedges and small forests.

The landscape of Thedinghausen is a paradise for cyclists, since there are several signposted theme routes to enjoy. One of the most popular cycle paths of Germany, the 'Weser-Radweg' crosses the county council district of Thedinghausen.

Culturally, the county has much to offer as well, for example there is the 'Erbhof' castle with its neighbouring park and the numerous old churches. Also nice to visit are the ancient Dutch windmills in Emtinghausen and Blender. There is even a lake where you can take a bath during a cycling tour in Blender.

Furthermore, you can explore the most important sights in the town centre of Thedinghausen on the so-called 'Thänhuser Löwenspur', which is a 3 km long walking tour. You can find it on the back of this brochure.

Other possibilities of activities are Nordic walking on different routes or a canoe tour on the little river Eyter. There is a museum railway, called 'Pingelheini', connecting Thedinghausen with the cities of Leeste/Kirchweyhe and Bremen. You can also go on a trip by ship on the river Weser to Bremen or Verden.

There are lots of possibilities to enjoy your stay.

If you have any questions, we would be glad to provide you with more information in the tourist information office inside the 'Erbhof' castle.



The manor 'Erbhof Thedinghausen' is an entailed estate, built in 1620 by Johann Friedrich of Holstein Gottorf, an archbishop of Bremen for a woman he fell in love with, named Gertrud of Hermeling-Heimbruch. This love story had a tragic ending.

The 'Erbhof' was built in the period of the Weser Renaissance and nowadays it has become an important sight to visit for many people living in the region of Verden and beyond. The 'Erbhof', also called 'Erbhof castle', is famous for its attractive appearance with its **three impressive towers** at the front side, its **re-built renaissance hall**, hosting many different events, such as concerts, wedding ceremonies and conferences and its **architecture and history**, being reported on several guided tours that can be booked in the tourist information office.



Since 1999 the community of Thedinghausen owns this monument, before that the 'Erbhof' was in private property for a long time. The former farming buildings are today hosting the local fire brigade, the association of local history with exhibition rooms, an advocate's office and there is a restaurant since 2016 close to the 'Erbhof'.

During the last 10 to 20 years, there has been built an arboretum in the neighbouring area of the 'Erbhof' castle, measuring 11 hectares and representing the living environment for 450 different species of trees, mostly broadleaf trees but also some species from overseas.

Today, the arboretum is a local recreation area, as well as an important place for experts interested in exploring different kinds of trees and wildlife. There is a playing ground for children, an area to play boules and a trail which guides you through the park.

In May 1612 the archbishop Johann Friedrich wanted to spend the night as a guest on the 'Erbhof', because the rooms of the former castle in Thedinghausen were not inviting. So he decided to sleep in the house of Heinrich Korlehake Hermeling, where he met Gertrud Hermeling-Heimbruch, the wife of his host. He was fascinated of this smart and beautiful woman and fell in love with her.



In 1613 Heinrich Korlehake Hermeling gave the 'Erbhof' to the archbishop as a present, therefore he himself was appointed administrator for Thedinghausen and Langwedel in return. Just one year later, Hermeling died. Since then, nothing was preventing the relationship of the two lovers anymore. From now on, the archbishop visited the 'Erbhof' regularly to meet his beloved mistress Gertrud.

In the years 1619/1621 the archbishop started to build a new residential building as a place to live for himself and Gertrud. Unfortunately, during the construction period, on March 16, 1620 Gertrud of Hermeling-Heimbruch died. For this reason, Johann Friedrich changed his plans: instead of a building in the style of a rustic manor house, he now wanted a precious residence for him as sovereign.

However, he immortalised his great love in the sandstone medallions decorating the building from outside. Today, Gertrud is smiling down from the building to the visitors. Johann Friedrich can also be seen in the sandstone ornaments, being united with his eternal love in the stones since 400 years.

