



European Route  
of Brick Gothic

# Medieval and Hanseatic Art and Culture

Europe's heritage in brick  
Denmark | Germany | Poland



## **Brick Gothic – timeless beauty!**

Travel to the islands of Rügen or Usedom, the seaside health resort of Heiligendamm, the Fischland-Darß-Zingst peninsula, the Polish coast near Gdansk, or enjoy a holiday in Denmark. The towns and locations with Brick Gothic architecture are among the **most popular tourist destinations** in the region around the Baltic Sea.

There are also plenty of **places to discover** in inland areas away from the coast. The route enables you to study not only all stylistic stages of Brick Gothic and the outstanding architectural workmanship, it also offers examples of all ecclesiastical and secular construction tasks such as monasteries, churches, town houses, town halls and fortifications such as castles, town walls, towers and gateways.

**The largest churches, the highest vaults, the oldest buildings in Europe – Brick Gothic offers a wide range of superlatives.**

Brick Gothic, a variant of Gothic architecture dating from the 13th to the 16th century, is very widespread in Northern Europe and other regions which were influenced by the **Hanseatic League**. The colour of the primary building material, **brick**, ranges from reddish to yellowish and gives the buildings an unmistakable visual identity, a distinctive aesthetic character and a warm atmosphere. This unique cultural landscape is now partly included in the **UNESCO World Heritage**.

Cultural monuments of international importance, brick-built landmarks, **buildings that have stood for centuries**, often **set in idyllic locations** in wonderful woodland, river or lakeside landscapes. These sites are ideal for nature lovers, culinary enthusiasts and people who simply want a peaceful holiday. Those who love towns and cities can stroll through charming old streets and harbours, admire Gothic treasures and trace the history of famous celebrities.

The impressive brick buildings reflect the splendid past of their towns and cities and the wealth which they enjoyed at the peak of their **economic prosperity** in the 14th and 15th century. They document the political importance, power and affluence of the self-assured towns and cities of the Hanseatic League in the Middle Ages.

The Brick Gothic monuments are not only **impressive architectural masterpieces**, they are also important cultural and historical symbols which embody the identity and pride of their localities.



## Joining forces to preserve Brick Gothic architecture

### The European Route of Brick Gothic (EuRoB)

The purpose of our association, which was founded in 2007 and resulted from an initiative of the German Foundation for Monument Protection, is to promote art and culture, science, education and international understanding, especially to **preserve** our joint cultural heritage of Brick Gothic architecture and to **make it known** to a wider public.

The potential of the European Route of Brick Gothic is especially seen in its **pan-Europe perspective**. Our focus is on the cultural landscape as a whole. The importance of an architectural monument results not only from the building itself as a historical artefact, it lies in the **cultural context** which the monument forms part of. This means that we see Brick Gothic in its important architectural and historical context.

The members of the association from the areas of monument conservation, science, churches, culture, tourism, marketing, administration and politics are aware of the value, the importance and the culture tourism potential of their Brick Gothic buildings. They are **pooling their resources** to create a greater public awareness of the joint cultural heritage.

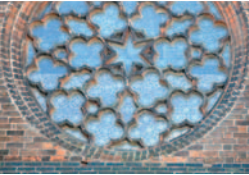
Today, the EuRoB association has about **60 members** from Denmark, Germany and Poland, so it includes hundreds of Brick Gothic buildings along the Baltic Sea coast, in inland areas away from the coast, in towns and in the countryside.

Together with its members, the association has gained many **enthusiastic fans for Brick Gothic architecture** over the last few years, because only people who know the value of this cultural landscape will be willing to take action to preserve it.



The association was awarded the **Gold Medal** at “denkmal”, the leading European trade fair for conservation, restoration and renovation of old buildings, in honour of its work to promote the memory of historical cultural regions and develop them for tourism, based on monument conservation principles.

There are now **two active working groups** which support the work of the association in subjects related to the science of brick architecture and to marketing and tourism. **Educational work** with young people is one of the next goals of the European Route of Brick Gothic.



**Supporters:** Deutscher Verband für Wohnungswesen, Städtebau und Raumordnung e. V. | Landesamt für Kultur und Denkmalpflege Mecklenburg-Vorpommern | Arbeitsgemeinschaft Norddeutscher Backsteinbasiliken | Bad Doberaner Klosterladen TORHAUS



**Cooperations:** KLOSTERLAND e.V. | Gemeinschaft der Klosterstätten in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern e.V. | Religiana (Future for Religious Heritage) | Treffpunkt-Ostsee



St. Marien, Lübeck  
 Lüneburg  
 Bardowick  
 Church district of  
 Lüneburg  
 Lüneburg convents:  
 Ebstorf, Isenhagen,  
 Lüne, Medingen  
 Neubrandenburg  
 Burg Stargard  
 Parchim  
 Pasewalk

Prenzlau  
 Ribnitz-Damgarten  
 Rostock  
 Stendal  
 Stralsund  
 Tangermünde  
 St. Nikolai, Wismar  
 Wolgast

## Poland

Chełmno  
 Gdańsk  
 Grudziądz  
 Myślibórz  
 Olsztyn  
 Płock  
 Sławno



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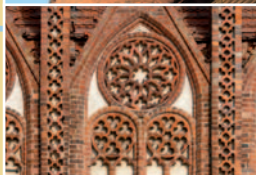
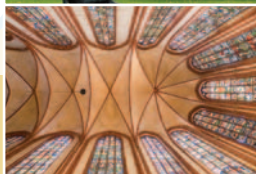
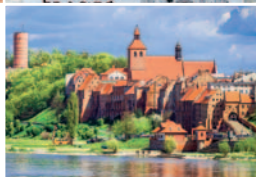


Largely undamaged by fire or war, a whole **cosmos of medieval architecture** has been preserved, including buildings that are more than 800 years old. The buildings have outlasted dozens of ecclesiastical and worldly rulers, they are older than the oldest universities and they have served as models for the work of many well-known artists.

Do you want to learn more about the Brick Gothic locations and buildings? If so, you can order our popular **cultural travel guide** free of charge under [www.eurob.org](http://www.eurob.org).

We hope that you have fascinating journeys through the Brick Gothic regions!

Your European Route of Brick Gothic



Discover and explore:  
[www.eurob.org](http://www.eurob.org)

Travel through the history of Europe and  
experience the Gothic age at first hand.  
Discover the Middle Ages in a completely  
new way – in brick!

[www.eurob.org](http://www.eurob.org)

Day of Brick Gothic

Every  
3rd Saturday  
in June



**Europäische Route der Backsteingotik e. V.**

(Association European Route of Brick Gothic)

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We invite every Brick Gothic town, city and institution and all lovers  
of Gothic architecture to contact us and join our association.

More information about the advantages of membership can be  
found at [www.eurob.org](http://www.eurob.org)