

Hamburg, officially the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, is the ~~second~~second-largest city and a state of Germany, with a population of ~~over more than~~ 1.7 million ~~people~~.

The official name reflects Hamburg's history as a member of the medieval Hanseatic League, a free imperial city of the Holy Roman Empire, and one of the 16 states of Germany. Before the ~~1871 Unification~~unification of Germany in 1871, it was a fully sovereign state. Prior to the constitutional changes in 1919, the civic republic was ruled by the Hanseaten, a class of hereditary grand burghers ~~of Hanseaten~~. ~~Though~~Although repeatedly destroyed by the Great Fire of Hamburg, ~~the~~by floods, and by military conflicts ~~(including the WW2 bombing raids)~~, the city managed to recover and emerge wealthier after each catastrophe.

Located ~~On~~on the river Elbe, Hamburg is a major port, ~~and it is also~~ a global service, media, logistics, and industrial hub, ~~with housing the~~ headquarters ~~and or~~ facilities of Airbus, Blohm+Voss, Beiersdorf, and Unilever. The radio and television broadcaster NDR, Europe's largest printing and publishing firm Gruner + Jahr ~~(Europe's largest printing and publishing firm)~~, Der Spiegel, and Die Zeit are also based in Hamburg. Hamburg has been an important financial ~~center~~center for centuries. ~~It and~~ is the seat of Germany's oldest stock exchange and home to the world's ~~second~~second-oldest bank, Berenberg Bank. With the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, the EU-LAC Foundation, the UNESCO Institute of Lifelong Learning, many consular and diplomatic missions, and various international conferences, like the G20 summit in 2017, the city is also a factor in world politics and international law.

The city is a tourist destination for both domestic and international visitors. ~~It~~ ranked 18th in the world for livability in 2016. The ~~ensemble~~-Speicherstadt and the Kontorhausviertel ~~area~~were declared a World Heritage Site by ~~the~~ UNESCO in 2015.

Hamburg is a major European science, research, and education hub, ~~with home to~~ several universities and institutes. Its creative ~~industries~~ and cultural sites include the Elbphilharmonie and Laeiszhof concert halls, and numerous art venues. ~~It also draws many~~ music producers, and artists. ~~It~~The city gave birth to movements like the Hamburger Schule and paved the way for many bands, including The Beatles. Hamburg is also known for several ~~theaters~~theateres and a variety of musical shows. St. Pauli's Reeperbahn is among the best-known ~~European~~ entertainment districts in Europe.

Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hamburg> (1 October 2017)

