Welcome to Weeze – a town with lots of diversity

Dear guests, dear readers,

First and foremost we would like to say welcome. Whether you are just travelling through, or spending your holidays here, we will do our utmost to ensure your stay here is an enjoyable one. The Municipality of Weeze lies in the heart of the County of Cleves and has a lot to offer. The following internet pages provide a first insight into our town, in writing and in pictures. Good living, working opportunities and recreational activities are all available here in Weeze. It is exactly this message which we would like to convey to you as a citizen, or as a guest of our aspiring municipality.

The regional Airport Weeze, which is located in our municipality, connects the Lower Rhine region to many regions in Europe. The airport offers a good perspective for work, the economy and for tourism in our region today and in the future. Our expansive municipality is a beloved destination for both holiday travellers and guests, who simply relish the attraction of the beautiful local countryside with its numerous woods and meadows, as well as the recreation and relaxation offered by canoeing trips, cycling, rambling and the local animal park.

Allow yourself to be won over and spoilt by the hospitality of the citizens of the Lower Rhine and come and visit us, or why not just simply set up home here and become a citizen of our municipality.

Yours,

Ulrich Francken
Mayor

The idyllic town of Weeze, located in the Lower Rhine and on the border to The Netherlands, thanks its appeal to the natural beauty of the area, the River Niers, the central location in the County of Cleves, the excellent transportation connections, its colourful history, the cosmopolitanism of its townsfolk and their love for their home town.

Picturesque castles, lovely sights of interest, to include protected buildings and natural spots of interest, an abundance of recreational activities, cultural highlights and relaxation and a host of very active clubs underline the attractiveness of the Municipality of Weeze. Young and old alike, families with children, visitors from near and far, all appreciate the sociability and hospitality they are confronted with here.
Weeze is a rural municipality which has taken up the challenges of the 21st century. Council, administration and citizens have set themselves the goal of improving the attractiveness of the municipality, underlining its cosmopolitanism, enlivening its family-friendliness and earning it the right to bear the title of an aspiring municipality in the heart of the County of Cleves.

With a number of creative marketing measures and numerous urban development projects the municipality is getting ever closer to achieving this goal.

**Weeze’s lively history**

An area in and around today’s Weeze was first-mentioned in a document from King Lothar II in 855 a.d. when the King presented the farm estate “Villa Geizefurt” in the farmstead of Kalbeck, to the east of the River Niers to Count Ansfried.

Although the area was already populated the name Weeze was first officially mentioned in a document in 1226, when the Earl to Alpen, Henry III, presented a farmhouse in the farmstead of Vornick to the ‘Zisterzienserkloster Kamp’.

The settlement with the various notations of its name as “Wezese”, “Wise” or “Veze” passed into the hands of the Count of Geldern in 1229, and in 1299 into the hands of the Count of Cleves. In 1815 Weeze was assigned to the County of Geldern. In 1928 the independent administrations of Weeze, Wissen and Kalbeck joined to form the Municipality of Weeze. The Municipality has been a part of the County of Cleves since 1975.

In the mid-nineteenth century the townsfolk lived solely off agriculture, later on it was a modest shoe-making industry which came to the fore. However, it was the development into a “carpentry and cabinet-maker’s town” which finally brought security and, of course, wealth to some of its townsfolk.

**Learn about the past**

In early 1945 the Lower Rhine region and, as a result, the municipality were the main showground for bitter fighting during the Second World War. At the end of it all, 80 % of Weeze lay in ruins. Although the citizens were worried and were suffering themselves, they rolled up their sleeves and lovingly helped to rebuild their
home town. The war dead of the Municipality of Weeze, who fell far away from their homes during the Second World War, were also remembered with the construction of the war cemetery on the outskirts of Weeze. The names of those killed during the war are etched on oak posts to the left and right of the main high cross combination, which builds the central focal point of the war cemetery.

The Weeze War Cemetery, with its final resting place for 2,000 soldiers who fell during the Second World War, lies in a woodland area near the sports complex and is open all year round.

In 2014 an audio spot was installed near the entrance to the cemetery in memory of the path taken by the Allied Forces during the liberation of Europe in the Second World War. The audio spot in Weeze is one of around 150 which are situated along the Liberation Route Europe. The audio-spot tells the moving stories of people who lived and fought here in the final years of the war.

A prisoner repatriation centre was set up near to Wissen Castle in 1945. Between 1945 and 1948 some 230,000 war prisoners were repatriated from here. A memorial with a commemorative plaque helps to mark the spot where the former repatriation centre stood. It serves as a reminder of a time of suffering and, at the same time, a time of stepping out into freedom and peace.

**Present-day Weeze**

Weeze lies centrally in the lowlands of the River Niers in the County of Cleves. The municipality borders The Netherlands (Municipality of Bergen) and county towns and municipalities: Goch to the north-west, Kevelaer to the south-east and Uedem to the north-east.

The Municipality of Weeze encompasses the town of Weeze, the village of Wemb, the area of Airport Weeze (formerly Royal Air Force Laarbruch) and 16 farming communities. The Municipality covers an area of 79 square kilometres. The highest point in the Municipality is Petrusheim, a senior citizens residence in the area of Baal, with a height of 33 metres above sea level; the lowest point with 15 metres above sea level is located in the lowlands of the River Niers in the area of Höst-Vornicker-Weg.

The A 57 motorway crosses the northern part of the municipality and connects Weeze with Krefeld, Duisburg, Düsseldorf and Nijmegen (NL). The B 9 federal road establishes the connection to Goch, Kevelaer and Geldern. The Weeze railway station lies on the Düsseldorf-Kleve (Cleves) railway line.

Fourteen recently constructed historical boards document the history of fourteen partially historical buildings in English, Dutch and German and provide a small walking tour for citizens and tourists in the town centre of Weeze.
Weeze is twinned with Watton

Weeze’s twin-town is Watton. The partnership between the Municipality of Weeze in the County of Cleves and the town of Watton in the county of Norfolk in Great Britain was sealed with the signing and exchange of official partnership documents on March 14th, 1987. The aim of the partnership is to develop and maintain a close and friendly relationship between the two towns. All social groups, especially children and youth from Watton and Weeze, are encouraged by the partnership to take part in exchange visits, in order to nurture human, cultural and sporting ties and to create a common home within the European Union.

Many official and private meetings have more than reiterated the aims of the partnership. Over the years many friendships have grown from out of the partnership. In commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the twinning partnership between Weeze and Watton the square in front of the Petrus-Canisius Primary School (corner of Kardinal-Galen-Strasse/Kevelaerer Strasse/Wasser Strasse) was officially named “Watton-Platz” and ceremoniously handed-over to the public and delegates from both towns on May 27th, 2007.

Old blacksmith’s building “Alte Schmiede”

Weeze’s citizens know exactly what they are capable of, because they have already shown their diligence once before, namely after the Second World War. Back then the townsfolk used their collective handicraft skills and energy to rebuild the town. Almost 60 years on the same citizens again showed how diligent they can be. During 2004 and 2005 the old blacksmith’s, the “Alte Schmiede”, was rebuilt with the strong support and help of numerous skilled and non-skilled volunteers, donations of money and material from private citizens and companies. Now the blacksmith’s trademarks and tools adorn the rooms of the building: Apart from an anvil, hearth and bellows, there are also blacksmith’s tools such as pliers, tongs and hammers on view. Located in an attractive spot in the town centre the old blacksmith’s, which stands like a jewel in the municipality, is also
available for changing art exhibitions, literary meetings, concerts and civil weddings.

The old and new town centre, of which the latter was redesigned between 2012 and 2015, is characterised by old and new buildings and their facades. After rebuilding work on the houses in the nineteen-fifties and sixties the old town centre was given a more modern look and made into a central forum for community life via an extensive redevelopment programme in the late sixties. Today, the old and new town centre has grown into a central venue for shopping and events such as the annual “Kirmes” (clubs festival and autumn fair), Christmas market and street party.

Guests can relax and enjoy a break with a cup of coffee, ice-cream or a typical Lower Rhine dish in the various cafes, ice-cream parlours and restaurants in and around the town centre.

**Weeze undergoes changes**

A major social and economical role was played by the airbase of the British Royal Air Force (RAF) in the Municipality of Weeze. After the closure of the RAF station and the departure of British personnel Weeze’s population went down from 14,000 to 9,200. The economic effect was felt not only by the shops and businesses, but also by the housing market, where 1,000 of a total of 3,200 housing units located centrally in Weeze suddenly became vacant. As a result, the housing and airbase conversion became a matter of existential importance to Weeze.

Politicians and administration united forces with the County and the Federal State in order to meet the challenge provided by the conversion. Weeze faced a period of uncertainty, change, demolition and renewal. Today the housing estate reflects the modern development of Weeze.

The Municipality of Weeze has continued to follow its goal of converting its urban structure
into a more regional countryside structure. Multi-storey flats have been removed and room has been created for detached and semi-detached housing, so that a culture of privately-owned housing, especially for young families, is generated. The new housing areas in Weeze, such as the estates of Grafscherweg, Marienwasserstrasse, Kapellenweg, Buchenweg, Nachtigallenweg, Kullweg in the village of Wemb and Hoogeweg are positive examples of the new housing policy which is encouraging young families to become house owners. The population of Weeze has continually grown over the last few years and there are currently 10,600 citizens registered in the town. As a result, the goal of reaching a population of 12,000 continues to draw ever nearer.

Today, Weeze presents itself with modern educational and care facilities for young and old alike, forward-looking and family oriented.

Currently Weeze boasts:
- 5 nursery schools (including an inclusive nursery and a family centre)
- 2 primary schools
- 1 comprehensive school
- An annex of the Virginia-Satir-School for children with learning deficits
- Petrusheim - residence for senior citizens and the homeless
- Social care dwellings for the disabled
- Outer annex of the Rhineland Clinic Bedburg-Hau for disabled persons
- Day care facilities run by local church communities for senior citizens
- Theresienstift (Caritasverband Geldern-Kevelaer) – residence for senior citizens and social welfare centre

**Family oriented Weeze**

The family-friendly trait of the municipality is not just underlined by the sale of building land for housing projects and investments in educational and care facilities, but also by the animal park with its educational trail and petting zoo and nearby nature-cum-sensory-cum-adventure trail on the grounds of the ruins of Hertefeld Castle and by the large playground in the park located on “Fährsteg” with its generous grass playing area. The animal park and neighbouring park attract numerous guests from near and far on sunny days. With its collection of native animal species the animal park is open to the public all year-round and entrance is free.
Together with the rambling path along the River Niers which has been converted into a cross-border path with a right of way for cyclists too, the recreational activity of canoeing on the River Niers, the nearby motor caravan site, the August-Janssen-sports-complex, the riding complex and the nature-cum-sensory-cum-adventure trail with a number of stations to test one’s senses along its 2 kilometre route, the animal park and neighbouring park offer interesting and expansive recreation to the east of the River Niers for all ages, especially for families with children.

The municipality’s “Wellenbrecher” youth centre is an open house for youth and children with a manifold programme for playing and learning. From football to intensive supervision of homework, children and youth have a perfect venue here for their leisure time interests and needs.

Living in Weeze

Former farming land is being made more accessible for housing projects and old estates in Weeze are being redesigned. The Municipality of Weeze has with the support of the government of the Federal State prepared 120 housing plots for would-be house builders as part of the redevelopment programme on “Magdeburger Straße”, on land which used to house the “British” contingent in the south-western part of the town. A rather distinguishing hallmark shared by these new houses is their superior and regionally typical design.

Supplemented by social infrastructure, integrated into newly developed streets and grass verges, the new housing offers an added attraction for those who want to make Weeze their home town.

This estate and other housing estates in Weeze are only a few minutes away from the motorway A 57, which connects Weeze to the rest of Germany, The Netherlands and other European countries by road.

The current housing development projects for new housing estates and flats can be found on the internet site of the Municipality of Weeze under www.weeze.de
Excellent transport connections into the job markets in the regions of Düsseldorf, the Ruhr Valley and The Netherlands, as well as competitive prices for building land make Weeze an attractive town to live in. The municipality’s area is crossed by motorway A 57 and the B 9 federal road. The regional railway line Kleve (Cleves) – Düsseldorf also offers a quick connection to the Rhine-Ruhr region.

Families should not only live in, but also feel comfortable living in Weeze. The municipality is keen to attract young families as residents. Attractive housing prices and investments in the town’s housing market and infrastructure for educational and recreational facilities are therefore a priority which the municipality is keen to meet.

**History and Laarbruch - Weeze Museum**

The more than 45 year presence of the Royal Air Force (RAF) at Laarbruch in Weeze left its mark on the Municipality of Weeze, the County of Cleves and on the region. Approximately 4,000 to 6,000 British service members and their families lived here as “temporary citizens”. They played a major role in day-to-day life in Weeze and in the region. Partnerships, sports events, various events such as the “Freedom of the Town” parade - with the right to march through the town to music with flying flags, drawn rapiers and unsheathed bayonets – during the annual Weeze Kirmes (clubs festival and autumn fair) and friendship between Britons and citizens of the Lower Rhine was part and parcel of daily life in the region until the final withdrawal of the British forces in 1999.

A museum which opened in 2006 is busy with the task of documenting, processing and presenting the history of the Royal Air Force’s presence in Weeze and the surrounding region for future generations. The Royal Air Force Laarbruch – Weeze Museum is situated on today’s Weeze Airport. Internet: [www.laarbruch-museum.net](http://www.laarbruch-museum.net)

**Airport Weeze: Euregional Centre for Air Traffic, Logistics and Industry**

The military airbase of Laarbruch represented an important economic factor for the municipality in the past. More than 400 civilians were employed there. On top of that, there
were a further 1,500 or so employees who worked for local businesses which carried out maintenance and building work on the airbase.

The withdrawal of the British forces in November 1999 brought major economic problems with it. For this reason the municipality pursued a policy of sustainment and follow-on usage of the 620 hectares of RAF Laarbruch as a civilian airport.

In June 2001 the Düsseldorf District President approved civilian air traffic movements to and from the airport and, as a result, the go-ahead for the development of the planned “Euregional Centre for Air Traffic, Logistics and Industry”. It is hoped that many more new jobs are created by this development and that fresh economic impulses follow for Weeze, the County of Cleves and the local Dutch-German border region.

Holiday, business and destination travellers can reach more than 50 destinations in Europe when they fly from Weeze today. The airport handled around 2 million passengers in 2014. A positive result with room for expansion, considering that 35.5 million possible Dutch and German passengers live within a two hour radius of the airport.

The stationing of airlines, civilian and package flights and the setting up of logistical as well as industrial companies on its grounds are helping to promote a positive future for the Euregional Centre for Air Traffic, Logistics and Industry on the airport.

The Euregional Centre for Air Traffic, Logistics and Industry is being developed on the 620 hectares available. The park akin landscaped area around the “Airport-core” offers companies dealing in trade, manufacturing industry, logistics, services and recreation an attractive location. Since December 2011 the largest solar power station in North Rhine-Westphalia is in operation at the airport. The station has an output of approximately 14 megawatt and generates around 13 million kilowatt hour electricity. This equates to the electricity used by approximately 3,300 four-person households. At the same time more than 8,500 tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) per year is saved.
In total more than 250 hectares of business development land are available for airport-related usage. Just take a look at the travel and business development opportunities at the airport on the internet www.airport-weeze.de

The positive development has also been helped and communicated by the staging of various events on the grounds of the airport. The airport has managed to gain considerable attention by staging remarkable festivals (Q-Base, Parookaville etc.), sports events, such as the Mud Masters Obstacle Run, and other airport festivities. All events have had a positive effect on Weeze and the region.

A business location with a perspective

Agriculture and the woodworking industry were the mainstays of the economic structure in the municipality for many years. However, over the last few years Weeze has managed to free itself from this limited economic structure.

Today there are a number of economic branches, which have set themselves up in Weeze, in a location with a future. The production of synthetic materials, computer technology, chemical industry, electronics industry, wood-processing and wood-working, metal-processing, the production of precision tools, agriculture and forestry, the wholesale of foodstuffs and refrigerated foodstuffs, engineering, printing and paper processing, building companies, car dealers, tourism, hotel and gastronomy and retail sales have all made Weeze their home for their businesses and companies in the last few years.

More business development space covering an area of 11.5 hectares on land leading towards Wissen Castle is also available to interested companies. The new development site ”Herrlichkeitsfeld-Süd” offers business plots in an exclusive location, directly on the strongly-frequented B 9 federal road.

The village of Wemb

Anyone who visits Weeze’s village of Wemb, bordering on The Netherlands, and sees the nicely decorated houses, the expansive fields and meadows will hardly believe that not too long ago a cultivated landscape replaced the swampland and wasteland that was once present here.
Wemb with its 1,000 inhabitants has developed into a very attractive village of the Municipality of Weeze. The character of the village, which has been starkly influenced by agriculture, can be best described as idyllic.

The heart and central focal point of the village of Wemb is the parish church “Heilig-Kreuz”, built between 1889 and 1893 as an elaborate brick-building with three aisles. Precious works of art, which originate from the old Weeze cloister “Marienwater”, secularised by the French in 1802, are harboured in the church.

History and present-day can be seen everywhere in Wemb. The new sports club house in the communal sports complex lies in the shadow of the windmill which was built in the first half of the 19th century.

Club activity is of special importance in Wemb. The Wemb Association of Clubs stages a number of events in the village, such as the annual fair. The variety of events is so widespread, that a new community centre had to be built. It was built with the help of the club members in Wemb and is operated and managed by them too. Today the community centre is very popular among the clubs and youth from the local and regional area.

Decorative hanging flower baskets, the shooting range, a boccie playing area, a pergola, park benches and a playground, which have all been lovingly built and arranged around the community centre by the village folk of Wemb, attract visitors from near and far.

One thing is for certain, Wemb’s villagers are very proud of their little village.

Four recently constructed historical boards document the history of four buildings – church, former school, windmill and civic centre – in English, Dutch and German and provide a small walking tour of the village.

**Lovely manor-houses and picturesque castles**

With Hertefeld Castle in the vicinity of the town centre, Wissen Castle to the south and Kalbeck Castle to the north, the Municipality of Weeze can boast having three castles. They have played a very strong role in its history over the last few centuries and are very definitely worth seeing.
**Hertefeld Castle**

Hertefeld Castle lies hidden behind the old trees of a generous garden park. The historically important manor (first mentioned in the year 1317) and later baroque castle Hertefeld has been in the possession of the Eulenburg and Hertefeld family for almost 700 years. The castle has been redesigned on a number of occasions during its eventful existence, especially around 1700 and 1900. In 1945 the castle was burnt down to its foundations. In 1998 the castle ruins were secured and conserved. Between 2004 and 2005 the complex was partially rebuilt with a main bell-tower. Today, it offers culture-interested visitors a main tract, guard-houses and neighbouring 14th century “Rentei” (administration building) as stylish accommodation, which has been realised via the “Culture & Castles” cross-border project, which opened up historical manor houses and estates to the public.

**Wissen Castle**

Wissen Castle first appeared in a document in the 14th century and lies to the south of the municipality. The picturesque moated castle was officially mentioned in 1372. The castle has been owned by the von Loë Family since 1461 and represents one of the most distinguished stately homes in the Lower Rhine. In the 19th century the late baroque style of the castle was replaced by a new gothic look. The significant new gothic chapel (built between 1876 and 1886) of the castle survived both world wars without damage. The garden with its former orangery building, the former flour mill from 1545, together with the other buildings of the “Boye” (servants quarters), which complete the quaint picture of Wissen Castle were restored and rebuilt for conferences and as accommodation within the guidelines of the ‘Culture and Castles’ cross-border project.

**Kalbeck Castle**

Today’s castle building in the “Kalbecker Wald” (Kalbeck Wood) was built in the historism style between 1906 and 1910 by Baron Friedrich von Vittinghoff-Schell. The original location of the castle was about 1 kilometre from today’s actual location. The castle was first mentioned in a written document in 1326. It was completely destroyed by two separate fires.
Even the new-built castle was severely damaged by a fire in February 1945, but was partially restored during the post-war period.

Kalbeck Castle has been lived in by the current owner Baroness Antoinette von Elverfeldt-Ulm and her young family since 2001. Her mother, Baroness M. J. Spies von Büllesheim, née Baroness von Vittinghoff-Schell, had taken over Kalbeck from her uncle, Baron Dr. Felix von Vittinghoff-Schell (Mayor of Weeze between 1949 and 1969). The main building was extensively renovated in 2001 and 2002. It is planned to renovate the rest of the buildings bit by bit and then to rent them out.

**Culture & Castles**

The idyllic castles of Wissen und Hertefeld lie approximately 5 kilometres apart directly on the River Niers and offer visitors stylish accommodation in historical surroundings and with a personal flair. Visitors can look forward to individual accommodation in the rebuilt baroque tower, in the Rentei (administration building) and in the guard-houses of the ruins of Hertefeld Castle, or a breakfast in the former flour mill of Wissen Castle with a view of the castle complex and night accommodation in the tower suite. The rooms of both castles are open to guests for private functions, registrar weddings and exclusive company outings. To top it all, the stylish and exquisite accommodation is sure to guarantee slumber and dreams that come true.

Wissen Castle’s “Edmond” apartment or the former guard-houses “Erich and Erika” in the gardens of Hertefeld Castle will guarantee you an eventful and relaxing rest in the countryside.

Find out more about “Culture & Castles” by visiting the following internet sites:

[www.schloss-wissen.de](http://www.schloss-wissen.de) or [www.schloss-hertefeld.de](http://www.schloss-hertefeld.de)

The castles in the Municipality of Weeze offer an excellent surrounding for young and old, for connoisseurs and newcomers and for all who want to be infected by their individual flair. They are delightful settings for cultural events, boasting unique flair for functions and an
unforgettable experience for guests staying overnight.

**Animal park, educational trail, petting zoo and nature-cum-sensory-cum-adventure trail**

The animal park with its educational trail and petting zoo and nature-cum-sensory-cum-adventure trail for toddlers, children, kindergarten and school children and grown-ups is a favourite destination for families from Weeze and the local region. Open the whole year round and with free entrance the animal park is also an interesting destination for summer walks and rambling excursions, which take you along the River Niers or along the Jacob’s pilgrims path. With a bit of luck you are guaranteed coming face-to-face with families of ducks, swans and herons along these paths.

Enjoying a rest in an idyllic natural setting is an almost consummate pastime in the Municipality of Weeze in the Lower Rhine.

**Recreation – a holiday paradise for cyclists and canoeists**

Weeze is a beloved destination for day-trippers and mini-vacations. The wonderful countryside of the Lower Rhine, the unlimited recreational activities, the diversity of events and the characteristic citizens of the Lower Rhine help among other things to convey the attractiveness of the Municipality of Weeze and County of Cleves to visitors. Visitors can relax and recuperate here without any ‘ifs and buts’.

Cycling along the cross-border cycling route “Herrensitz-Route an Maas und Niers” (Manor houses cycling route along the rivers Niers and Meuse), rambling along the Jacob’s pilgrims and Niers rambling paths, horse-riding, indoor-karting and playing football in an
indoor soccer-arena are attractive activities, not just for individuals, but also for school classes, company and group outings. Combined with an overnight stay in the local hay-hotel, in the group accommodation of “Gruppenhaus Weeze”, these activities can become great experiences for all involved. The typically Lower Rhine countryside offers peace, relaxation and also great diversity.

Motor caravan owners can also get their money’s worth when they head for the motor caravan parking area, which was completely renewed and relocated in 2007, near the animal park. All the recreational activities on offer in the municipality can easily be reached from here. Whether it is the adventure playground, the animal park, the town centre or the starting point for canoeing on the River Niers, the distance is short so that all attractions can be reached on foot.

Canoeing on the River Niers is enjoying a never-ending boom among recreation enthusiasts in the Lower Rhine.

Different tours with a choice of distances are on offer for canoeing. All you need to do is to seat yourself in a canoe and float on down the river. The canoe rental organisers will bring the boots to the arranged starting point along the river, and after the trip they will also collect the canoes. If you want to cycle back through the woods and meadows of the local countryside, rental cycles can also be arranged for your outing. En route you can enjoy a breakfast or barbecue, or even arrange the trip with your own programme for the day. Just let the recreational organisers know and they will be more than pleased to arrange an individual day’s outing for you.

**Clubs and events**

There is a lot to celebrate in and around Weeze. It all begins very early in the year with the children’s carnival parade and ends generally with the Christmas market. The events are published on the Weeze internet site at [www.weeze.de](http://www.weeze.de)
Street party
The Home Town Heritage Association and the Culture and Tourism Office of the Municipality of Weeze jointly organise the annual street party, which is held on the 3rd weekend in July, in order to provide a fun event during the summer holidays. Live bands, games and information stalls, flea market stalls, merry-go-rounds and a diverse offer of catering help to create a festive atmosphere during the annual street party in the town centre.

Kirmes – club festival and autumn fair
The highlight of the year in the event calendar is without a doubt the 4-day Kirmes (clubs festival and autumn fair) which is organised under the umbrella of the Home Town Heritage Association on the first weekend in September. Nearly all the clubs and associations in Weeze participate in the festival’s traditional parades and events in the festival marquee. The organising club, which has the honour of providing the chain-bearer for the event, is always very proud of being bestowed with this honour for the Kirmes.

Accompanied normally by good weather during the event, people generally enjoy the change from daily routine offered by the Kirmes, which has enjoyed a more than 65 year tradition in Weeze.

Christmas market
A Christmassy mood created by the Christmas lighting, an abundant variety of products from stallholders and musical entertainment attract visitors from near and far to the Christmas market on the first Saturday before the first Advent Sunday. The Association of Weeze Traders and the local clubs work together with stallholders from Weeze and the local area in order to create a broad offer of goods for sale during the Christmas market. The Advent period here begins with decorative Christmas trees, music and entertainment provided by local music and percussion clubs, schools and kindergartens, stalls with hot mulled wine and Christmas cakes and biscuits.

Club life is of great importance in Weeze
Over 70 clubs and associations ensure a diversity of events in the Municipality of Weeze. The Home Town Heritage Association, as the umbrella club for more than 40 clubs, and the Culture and Tourism Office of the Municipality of Weeze work hand-in-hand when sporting,
cultural and other events are organised. Shooters, carnival enthusiasts, dialect lovers, sportsmen, historians and many many other groups do their utmost to organise and enjoy successful events and festivals in Weeze.

The clubs offer a widespread choice of hobbies and recreational activities, whether it is physical fitness or simply enjoying one’s favourite pastime. Whether it is in the Weeze historical group, the local group of the German life-savers, in the horse-riding club with its new riding complex, in the local sports club or in the senior citizens club, young and old are guaranteed to find the appropriate club activity in Weeze. Everything you need to know about Weeze’s clubs is listed in a special brochure (available from the Town Hall), which gives you further information on the activities of nearly all the clubs.

Joint interests, interesting activities and friendly companionship within a club are just some of the reasons why membership in a club is so popular and enjoyable in the Municipality of Weeze.

Facts & Figures

Gemeinde Weeze, Postbox 12 65, Cyriakusplatz 13 – 14, 47652 Weeze
Area covered: 7,945 hectares
Inhabitants: 10,617
Postal code: 47652
Telephone prefix: +49 (0) 28 37

Religious structure:
72 % roman-catholic
17 % protestant
11 % other religious denominations

Municipal area:
The Municipality encompasses Weeze, Wemb, the area of the former airbase Laarbruch (now Airport Weeze) and 16 farmsteads

Height above sea level:
Average 18 metres above sea level

Land cultivation:
Farming 4,533 hectares, Woodland 1,904 hectares, rest 1,508 ha

Commercial and employment structure:
67 craftsman’s guilds, 14 industrial firms, 161 trading businesses, 2 banks, 27 restaurants and pubs, 154 other businesses (insurance agents etc.)

Road, rail and air links:
Near the Dutch border, rail link Cologne-Krefeld-Kleve, Federal autobahn 57,
Travel to Weeze

The Municipality of Weeze lies centrally in the heart of the County of Cleves, between Goch and Kevelaer, directly on the border to The Netherlands.

German Railnetwork line ‘Düsseldorf-Krefeld-Kleve’, Autobahn (motorway) A 57 (with exits and slip roads in the municipal area), federal road B 9, Airport Weeze

Travel from the Rhineland: Düsseldorf via A 57, exit Uedem/Weeze

Travel from the Ruhr valley/Westphalia: A 40 or A 42 onto A 57 heading towards Nijmegen (NL) until exit Uedem/Weeze

Travel from the Netherlands From Eindhoven on the A 67 to Venlo and then onto the A 73 towards Nijmegen (NL), continue on the A 77 and then onto the A 57 towards Goch/Köln (Cologne), exit Goch/Weeze

From North Holland via Nijmegen on the A 73 (towards Venlo) and then onto A 77 onto A 57 (towards Köln/Cologne) until exit Goch/Weeze

Accommodation in Weeze:

The following accommodation is available in Weeze, which is approx. 6 km from the airport:
Hotel Jägerhof
117 beds
Price: EZ (single): 40,00 €, DZ (double): 65,00 € (incl. breakfast)
Tel. 0049-2837-664955
Internet: www.jagerhofweeze.de

Gästehaus Alt Weeze
6 beds
Price: EZ (single): 35,00 €, DZ (double): 65,00 €, 3-Bett-Zimmer (triple): 90,00 € (incl. breakfast)
Tel. 0049-2837-2030
Email: alt-weise@web.de

Gästehaus Kevins Pub
12 beds
Price: EZ (single): 35,00 €, DZ (double): 65,00 €, 3-Bett-Zimmer (triple): 90,00 € (incl. breakfast)
Tel. 0049-2837-8570
Internet: www.kevins-pub.de

Ferienwohnung (apartment) Macherey
2 to 4 persons
Price: 25,00 to 35,00 € per night
Tel. 0049-2837-1382
Internet: www.familie-macherey.de

Apartment am Bruch
1 to 7 persons
Price: 16,00 to 20,00 € per night
Tel. 0049-2801-987300
E-Mail: info@wanderreiten-niederrhein.de

Apartment Bioland-Hof Neubauer
1 to 4 Persons
Price: 65,00 € per night (children: 20 €)
Tel. 0049-2825-535428
Internet: www.bio-neubauer.de

Apartment „Am kleinen Graf“ (4-star-category)
1 to 2 persons
Price: 50,00 € per night
Tel. 0049-2837-664467
Internet: www.viersterne-ferienwohnung.de

Apartment Schmalz family
4 beds
Price: From 45 €
Tel. 0049-162-6145011
Internet: www.ferienwohnung-weeze.de

Apartment „Inge“ Krebber family
2 beds
Price: From 55 €
Tel. 0049-2837-6630889
Internet: www.ferienwohnung-inge.eu

Apartment „Isermannshof“ Francken family
1 to 4 persons
Price: 40 € for 1 person, 55 € for 2 persons, 15 € for every extra person
Tel. 0049-2837-7146
Internet: www.fewo-niederrhein-weeze.de

Bed & breakfast Derksen
2 beds
Price: Single-room 40 €, Double-room 65 € (incl. breakfast)
Tel. 0049-162-6145011
Internet: www.ferienwohnung-weeze.de

Apartment “Heideweg” Vaughan family
2 beds
Price: Single-room 35 €, double-room 65 € (incl. breakfast)
Tel. 0049-2837-664733, Mob. 0049-162-6145011
Internet: www.pensionheideweg.de

Culture & Castles, Bed & Breakfast in noble and historical surroundings:
Wissen Castle
15 apartments and suites with 53 beds
Price: From 109,50 €
Tel. 0049-2837-9131-0
Internet: www.schloss-wissen.de

Ruins of Hertefeld Castle
24 apartments, suites and rooms with 60 beds
Prices: From 112,00 €
Tel. 02837/2035
Internet: www.hertefeld.com

Group accommodation „Gruppenhaus Weeze“
(For clubs, associations, school trips etc.)
60 beds
Prices: 9,90 € per person per night
Tel. 0049-173-6717654
Internet: www.gruppenhaus-weeze.de
Self-catering
For further accommodation in the local area visit the following internet address: www.niederrhein-tourismus.de

Further information:
Municipality of Weeze
Culture and Tourism Office
Cyriakusplatz 13 – 14
47652 Weeze
Germany
Telephone: 0049-2837-910116
Email: tourinfo@weeze.de
Internet: www.weeze.de