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Museums and Galleries

Hotels in Cologne City Centre are close to a vast number of museums and galleries, which are remarkable in their variety and scope. A MuseumsCard is an excellent investment for a family, allowing entry for two adults and two children to any of the municipal museums over a two-day period. It can also be used, on the first day, to travel on the cityâ€™s buses and trams. The Museum Ludwig is a modern art museum with an excellent permanent collection as well as a regular series of temporary exhibitions. The Museum fur Angewandte Kunst (Museum of Applied Arts) shows a wide variety of decorative arts, ranging from the Middle Ages to contemporary pieces. The Wallraf-Richartz Museum is a fine art museum with more traditional works on display, while the Romisch-Germanisches Museum explores Cologneâ€™s Roman history. There are a number of other museums, which are not municipal, including one dedicated entirely to chocolate.

Other Attractions

Cologne Zoo is rightly famed for the wide range of animals on display. As well as mammals and birds, there is an aquarium and there are special exhibits aimed particularly at children. Phantasialand is an amusement park just outside of Cologne with a good variety of rides for all ages. The Claudius Therme is a huge thermal pool complex with both indoor and outdoor pools, freezing cold plunge pools and saunas. Several parts of the complex are naturist and clothing cannot be worn, so if you are not keen on nudity, make sure you read the signs properly.

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