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Architekturführer Hamburg

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What makes a city and gives it an independent profile is its architecture, in Hamburg associated with names like Fritz Schumacher, Gustav Oelsner, Fritz Höger and Karl Schneider, architects who gave the city its Hanseatic identity and its outstanding architectural character. But it is not just the buildings of the past that make Hamburg what it is. Even most of the buildings of the last ten years have an excellent quality.

Thirteen tours of the city convey the complexity of a particular image of development. Of course none of the tours suggested could be managed at one go. Individual sections should be sought out, building up a series of areas that are different and not least attractive in terms of landscape, e. g. the route from the late-19th century industrial quarter of Ottensen through the villa suburb of Othmarschen to the picturesque fishermen's and pilots' village of Övelgönne on the bank of the Elbe. Or a thematic focus could be chosen, e. g. the large housing estates and urban development of the Schumacher era in Winterhude and Barmbek. And if you have very little time for a visit to Hamburg, and would like to devote it to information about current development in the city centre, then you should start at the Alsterarkaden and explore the shopping arcades between Neuer Wall and Gänsemarkt. Then you could continue your tour with the Deutsch-Japanisches Zentrum, from which you proceed over the Fleet island to Gruner & Jahr's spectacular publishing house and finally to the Hanseatic Trade Center at the western end of the Speicherstadt.

The author, who has a doctorate in art history and is a proven connoisseur of Hamburg, has been known to a broader public for years through the popular city tours organized by the Museum der Arbeit. His publications include *Die Hamburger Speicherstadt* (with photographs by Hans Meyer-Veden, an introduction by Manfred Sack and descriptions by Ralph Lange) and *Hamburg – Wiederaufbau und Neuplanung 1943 bis 1963*, a book that has been acclaimed as a seminal analysis of post-war architecture in Hamburg.

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