

ADVENTURES IN HAMBURG

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Self-styled 'Urban Explorer', travel writer and photographer [Duncan J. D. Smith](#) has spent much of 2009 preparing the sixth volume in his unique 'Only in...' series of guidebooks. And what an adventure it's been so far! As with previous volumes – Vienna, Budapest, Prague, Berlin and Munich – "Only in Hamburg" will tell the story of the city using locations that are less well known. Since such places attract fewer tourists they offer independent travellers that rare opportunity of 'discovering' a place for themselves, and thus taking away a more indelible memory.

As Germany's second-largest city, as well as its "Gateway to the World", Hamburg is both workaday and cosmopolitan. The book reflects both aspects, with chapters detailing an English sewer system, a floating church, an Afghan Hindu temple, abandoned Cold War shelters, urban sand dunes, a shop selling traditional safari suits, the world's largest carpet, a Swedish seamen's mission, and the grave of an Arabian princess. The result is a heady mix that should be of interest to both visitors and natives alike.

"Only in Hamburg" will be published by Christian Brandstätter Verlag (Vienna) in April 2010 (ISBN: 978-3-85033-368-9).

