

Signpost guide

- Entree Genealogy: Air raid and shelter protection in Emden.
- Room:
- Archives, conversation- and work room
 - 1 The „Bunkerwart“-room
 - 2 1933: The end of democracy
 - 3 NS-ideology, NS-goals, NS-organisation
 - 3a Sound-and-slide show
 - 4 Persecution, terror, emigration; deportation and murder
 - 5 September 1st, 1939 - Germany starts the war
 - 6 The railway in times of war „Railroad to Death“
 - 7 Shelterkitchen
 - 8 Measures of aerial defence- The illusion of protection against bombs
 - 9 Building the air-raid-shelter in Emden: The war as an architect
 - 10 A living-room in 1938
 - 11 Living in the „bunkers´ wold“
 - 12 Emden - The inferno of September 6th, 1944 „Kinderlandverschickung“
 - 12a Killed bombers
 - 13 Leaflets - psycholigical warfare, „Flak“ defence around Emden
 - 14 Resistance to the „Third Reich“
 - 15 Pictures of the war
 - 16 Life in the ruins
 - 17 Expulsion from the homeland
 - 17a The Red Cross´s tracing service
 - 17b A refugee´s suitcase
 - 18 Political restart/ Rebuilding Emden
 - 19 A kitchen in the postwar period
 - 20 School
 - 21 The „Reichsbund für Leibesübungen“- Physical education during the Nazi period
 - 22 Reappraisal and remembrance
 - 23 Forced labour- Foreign labourer and deportees
 - 24 May 8th, 1945
 - 25/26 Peace- and reconciliation - „Volksbund Deutsche Kriegsgräberfürsorge e.V.“

THE BUNKERMUSEUM

in the centre of Emden, Holzsägerstraße 6



open from May until the end of October
Tue - Fri 10 - 13 and 15 - 17 hours
Sat + Sun 10 -13 hours
ask for guided group tours

entrance-fee: 2, -- Euro (1,-- Euro)

Das Bunkermuseum e.V.

(Mitglied im Museumsverband f. Niedersachsen und Bremen)
26691 Emden / P.O. Box 1164
Phone: 04921 - 3 22 25
eM@il: Info@Bunkermuseum.de
Internet: www.bunkermuseum.de
Sparkasse Emden
(BLZ 284 500 00) Kto.Nr. 78 006

THE BUNKERMUSEUM



IN EMDEN

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN AN AIR-RAID SHELTER FROM THE INSIDE?

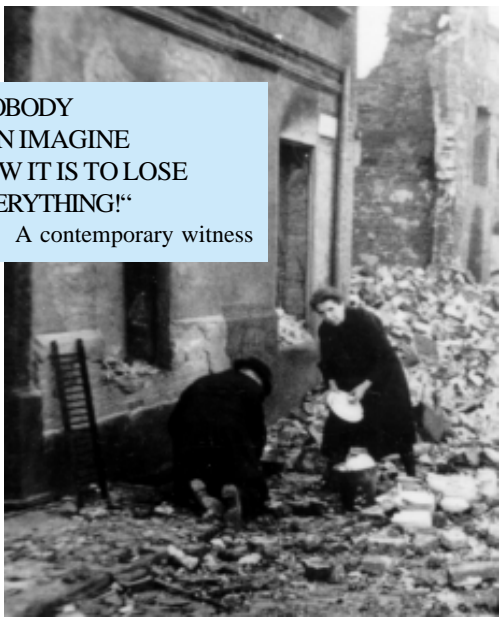
At the end of the war, Emden was one of the most heavily destroyed cities in Germany. Ever since 1940, Emden had been attacked with bombs, and had gradually become an approach path for allied bomber squadrons.

From November 1940 on a large number of air-raid shelters were built to protect the civilian population. They were mainly built through the employment of foreign workers, prisoners of war and forced labourers.

After the attack on September 6th, 1944 downtown Emden was totally destroyed and only the bunkers helped the civilian population survive. Even today 31 of those unmissable concrete-buildings characterize the townscape.

„NOBODY
CAN IMAGINE
HOW IT IS TO LOSE
EVERYTHING!“

A contemporary witness



The aim of the association BUNKERMUSEUM is to offer interested people easier access to the history of National Socialism and the reconstruction of our city.

The BUNKERMUSEUM should be a place where people of all ages, groups and origins and of different views can come together.

The bunker as an authentic place is reminiscent of the terrors of war and helps never to forget.

Constructing the BUNKERMUSEUM was only possible with the support of the Emden City Council, as well as the sponsors and the „Bundesvermögensamt“.

Special thanks to the people of Emden, who put photographs, documents and pieces at our disposal.

Thanks a lot for your help!
You are very welcome!

You can listen to this text when you watch the slide-show!
Excerpt from a speech made by Adolf Hitler on September 30th, 1942 in Berlin, Sportpalast.

Translation: “At this point I have to assure you of something else, namely the boundless bravery of our German homeland, which accepts and endures war itself, accepts and endures it where it hits with greatest severity. I know a town, a Frisian town. I wanted to evacuate it long ago because it was attacked again and again. I wanted to take the children away from there and into safety. And the women – it was impossible. They went back into their town again and again. Nothing can make them leave, even though that town has suffered so badly. They stand up for it with their lives, knowing that war are all one tight community which is fully aware of the fact that we will either be victorious or that we are all destined for extermination.”

Photography: Dietrich Janßen, Emden

„HOPEFULLY IT WILL
ALWAYS REMAINE
A MUSEUM“

Entry in the guestbook



Burnt camera (Leica II, 1936) owner: Fokuhl, Emden

A museum is built...

- March 1994 The „Arbeitskreis Bunkermuseum e.V.“ is established.
- Sept. 6th, 1994 The first exhibition is shown in the bunker. The 30 days more than 5000 visitors come to see it.
- April 1995 The artist Uwe Ochslers from Hamburg forms the facade of the bunker with the words „Innen - Außen - Welten“ (worlds inside and outside) and with destroyed and blind windows.
- May 6th, 1995 50 years after the end of the war the Bunkermuseum is officially opened. Also Canadian guests, bomberpilots of the squadrons that bombed Emden, are following invitations to converse.
- June 1995 Freelancers of the museum „1939 - 1945“ in Uithuizen, Netherlands, build a part of the exhibition in the museum. Composition of a contemporary witness file by the students of the Fachhochschule Ostfriesland.
- Aug. 1995 The Bunkermuseum receives the award „Emder Kulturpreis“ (Emden Culture Award). The museum becomes an attractive part of Emden cultural life.
- Sept. 1995 The Bunkermuseum becomes the centre of memorial celebration on September 6th, 1995 and an art project by Anna Domke-Thiemann: Installation of a „Kofferwürfel“ („dice of suitcases“, a work of art) and its connection to the bunker and to the people.
- 1996 Setup of a professional slide-show and the exhibitions: „The NS revolution becomes part of every-day-life“ and „The 50ies: Reconstruction“.
- 1997 The Bunker is equipped fit out with archives and a group-room. The „AG Museumspädagogik“ presents leaflets for the newly-designed basic exhibition.
- 1999 Special exhibition by the „Bund der Heimatvertriebenen“ (Union of refugees).
- 2000 Making of a list with the names of those who were killed by bombs in Emden during the war. A commemorative plaque is set up.
- 2002 The museum provides an audio guide in two languages. Visitors can now listen to audio files explaining the exhibits.
- 2003 Research project: “Soldiers of Emden who were killed in the Second World War”.
- 2004 10th anniversary of the Bunkermuseum.
- 2005 „8. Mai 1945“- 60th anniversary of the end of the war.