

A market town in the 16th century
15th and 16th Mai, 2027



Historisches Kivelingsfest

in Lingen Whitsunday 2027

In the year of our Lord 1372, the town of Lingen on the River Ems established and armed a militia of young men in times of need. They owed allegiance to their sovereign and the authorities of the town, had to do military service and to defend their hometown to protect life and limb, goods and chattels of the inhabitants in times of war. Hence they enjoyed certain privileges. From the age of sixteen on members of the militia were conscripted from the unmarried sons of the town. They referred to themselves as "Die Kivelinge" ("Little Warriors").

Excerpts from the chronicles
of the company of the "Kivelinge".

The „Kivelinge“

Every third year the parade of the sons of the citizens has been celebrated for centuries to remind people of the willingness of the young people of Lingen to risk their lives for the freedom of their hometown. Thousands of visitors come to Lingen to witness how it changes into a 16th-century medieval market town, to watch the historical parade and to cheer the King and the Queen. Honouring a 600-year-old tradition and celebrating with the Kivelinge visitors will have an unforgettable and memorable stay in Lingen.



The sons of the citizens' parade

What has been the purpose of the association of the Kivelinge for centuries, today finds its focus in its community work and cultural commitment. Nowadays approximately 300 young, unmarried sons of the citizens of Lingen and their sutlers do volunteer work for their town and bring its history to new life. During the festival on Whitsunday a medieval spectacle with jugglers and buskers, presentations of medieval craftsmanship and sundry entertainment for young and old await visitors on the market place.



The festival

Admission to the historical
"Kivelinge" festival is free for citizens
and visitors.

We look forward to welcoming
you in Lingen, our hometown,
on Whitsunday 2027.