



CHOIR
OLYMPICS



bremen

2004 BREMIEN

GERMANY JULY 8TH - 18TH



CHOIR OLYMPICS

INVITATION
TO THE CELEBRATION OF THE

3RD CHOIR OLYMPICS

JULY 8TH – 18TH, 2004, BREMEN – GERMANY



**The Choir Olympics
overcomes all bounds and
joins cultures together!**



bremen

No other idea has moved the international choral scene world-wide as strongly as the idea of the Choir Olympics. Based on great ancient traditions, it has inspired millions of people all over the globe.

Already at its premiere in Linz/Austria in July 2000, it became the biggest international choir competition world-wide. After this successful start, the Choir Olympics will continue its success in the metropolitan City of Busan/South Korea in 2002 before coming to Bremen/Germany in 2004.

UNIQUE

... AND INCOMPARABLE IN THE CHORAL WORLD

However, it is more than just a global choir competition: it is a thousand-fold encounter of cultures. With deep respect for other people and seeing them as neighbours, the Choir Olympics goes beyond all national borders in a peaceful way.

It serves the world as an example for a peaceful coming together of the peoples. In many countries of the world, personalities of the cultural, music and public life have come together to support the spreading of the Choir Olympic idea world-wide.

They have founded National Choir-Olympic Committees or have committed themselves to the cause of giving millions of choirs in the world a global idea, the spirit of which brings them together peacefully. The Choir Olympics overcomes all bounds and joins cultures! Become a part of this community and experience the overwhelming feeling of friendship of the peoples!

The International Choir-Olympic Committee invites the choirs of the world to celebrate the 3rd Choir Olympics in Bremen, Germany, from July 8th – 18th, 2004.



Bremen is looking forward to welcoming thousands of singers from choirs from all over the world in July 2004

bremen

The Free Hansa City of Bremen, one of the most beautiful and pulsating cities in Germany, is host to the 3rd Choir Olympics 2004.

Bremen, 1200 years old, bears witness to the wealth and the pride of its citizens by presenting its splendid medieval renaissance buildings. Be it the magnificent historical town hall or the dome St. Peter in the immediate vicinity of the building or be it the numerous other historical and modern buildings: with its dignity deriving from its long history and its modern cosmopolitan

WELCOME

... IN THE CITY OF BREMEN

attitude, Bremen will be a good host to the biggest choir competition in the world. And the "Roland" - symbol for the freedom of Bremen who has always been on guard to protect the doings and dealings in the town on the river Weser – he will hold up his sword to protect the

Choir Olympics in July 2004. But also the modern Bremen invites everybody to a discovery tour. No matter whether you take a walk along the "Schlachte" – the promenade of the river Weser – with its restaurants outstanding in matters of cuisine, or you visit the Uni-

versum Science Center, the Space Park Bremen or the Deutsche Schifffahrtmuseum Bremerhaven, between Bremen and Bremerhaven you will find a modern country with opportunities for events in an attractive environment which is worthwhile discovering.

Bremen's famous figures from the Grimm brothers' fairy tale, the Town-Musicians of Bremen, donkey, dog, cat and rooster, which, in the story, chase away the wicked thieves, will be present everywhere as lucky mascot to bring good luck to the choirs and will entertain the visitors.

Participation in the Choir-Olympic Qualifying Singing – 1st round of Choir-Olympic Evaluation

Admitted to the qualifying round are all types of lay and amateur choirs¹⁾. True to the sense of the Olympic idea, "taking part is the greatest honour", all choirs independent of their current artistic level of achievement have the opportunity to present themselves at the Choir-Olympic Qualifying Singing.

The choirs will be evaluated by an international jury and according to the MUSICA MUNDI evaluation system. They will receive bronze, silver or golden diplomas depending on the scores achieved. Choirs having obtained a golden diploma in the qualifying round are admitted to the Choir-Olympic Competition.

Participation in the Choir-Olympic Competition – 2nd round of Choir-Olympic Evaluation

Admitted are all types of lay and amateur choirs¹⁾. Admission to the Choir-Olympic Competition is obtained by qualifying, direct application or delegation. The Artistic Committee will take the final decision about the admission of a choir to the Competition. The choirs will be evaluated by an international jury in accordance with the MUSICA MUNDI evaluation system. They will receive bronze, silver and gold medals depending on the scores achieved. The best choir of each category having obtained a golden medal will be the Choir-Olympic Winner.

Participation without competing at the Choir Olympics

Choirs which choose this form of participation can take part in all events that are not part of the competitions. They do not have to comply to the competition regulations and the corresponding rules for the repertoires. Professional choirs too can take part within this framework of the 3rd Choir Olympics. Orchestras are invited to apply as well.

¹⁾ Amateur choir in this respect means that the participants do not make their living with professional singing.

Note: In the categories 1–15 of the competition, participation is only possible in one category only. Generally every choir is permitted to take part in a maximum of 3 categories.

The legally binding and complete regulations of the competition as well as a comprehensive description of the competition are part of the official announcement. They can be sent away for to the organizer (for address see last page) or they can be down-loaded from the internet at the following address: www.choirolympics.com



The competitions of the Choir Olympics take place in 26 different categories. The categories 1–15 are organized according to age and voicing. Categories 16–26 are organized according to the music genre of the choir.

- 1 Children's choirs
- 2 Youth choirs of equal voices
- 3 Young male choirs
- 4 Mixed boys' choirs
- 5 Mixed youth choirs
- 6 Mixed vocal ensembles
- 7 Mixed chamber choirs
- 8 Mixed choirs
- 9 Female vocal ensembles
- 10 Female chamber choirs
- 11 Female choirs
- 12 Male vocal ensembles
- 13 Male chamber choirs
- 14 Male choirs
- 15 Male big choirs
- 16 Musica Sacra a capella
- 17 Musica Sacra
- 18 Music of the religions
- 19 Musica Contemporanea (contemporary choir music)
- 20 Vocal jazz a capella
- 21 Vocal jazz with accompaniment
- 22 Gospel and spiritual
- 23 Popular choir music
- 24 Folklore a capella
- 25 Folklore with instrumental accompaniment
- 26 Scenic folklore

● in the 1st part of the Choir Olympics, July 8th–12th, 2004
 ● in the 2nd part of the Choir Olympics, July 14th–18th, 2004



Symbols that unite



Bremen

ON JULY 8TH

... THE 3RD CHOIR OLYMPICS WILL BE OPENED

On July 8th, 2004, it will be ready to start: the fanfares of the Choir Olympics will be sounded at the beginning of the opening ceremony of the celebration of the 3rd Choir Olympics 2004 in Bremen.

In a colourful parade and with the applause of the guests from all over the world the representatives with the flags of the participating nations will march into the Choir Olympics Centre where they will be welcomed warmly. During the official opening of the Choir Olympics 2004 the size of the Choir-Olympic Movement will

become manifest in an impressive way. The full sound of the Choir-Olympic Bell "CHORIBUS MUNDI", donated in honour of the choirs of the world, will be rung out into the world and - as an ambassador of peace - it will strongly herald the singing of the peoples.

A further highlight of the ceremony will be the hoisting of the Choir-Olympic Flag, which will from then on be waving above Bremen. The Choir-Olympic Hymn, sung together by all choirs and guests will close the opening ceremony.

The ceremony is integrated in an opening programme during which the host country Germany will present itself jointly with choirs from all over the world.

These colours and sounds of the world – European, Asian, American, Australian and African – will be a foretaste of the eventful days of the Choir Olympics in Bremen in 2004, during which the choirs from all continents will represent their cultures, present their skills many times, and above all form friendships and sing together.



GREAT CHORAL EVENTS:

Gala concerts

Leading ensembles of the international choir scene will render proof of their skills at outstanding concert locations in Bremen and Bremerhaven during the Choir Olympics.

A REGION IS SINGING:

Friendship- and encounter concerts

At the concert hall of the Choir Olympics Centre, friendship concerts and common singing events will take place, in each of which three to four choirs of different nations will take part.

The spirit of the Choir Olympics shall radiate throughout the whole city and region. In the city centres of Bremen and Bremerhaven, squares, churches, schools and museums will offer outstanding opportunities for smaller and bigger concerts of the choirs.

THEORY MEETS PRACTICE:

MUSICA MUNDI Choral Academy

In the framework of the MUSICA MUNDI Choral Academy interesting specialist lectures and presentations by international experts, scientists and choir conductors from all over the world are held every day in the early evening hours.

CHOIR OLYMPICS PART 1						CHOIR OLYMPICS PART 2						
Wed 07	Thurs 08	Fri 09	Sat 10	Sun 11	Mon 12	Tues 13	Wed 14	Thurs 15	Fri 16	Sat 17	Sun 18	Mon 19
Arrival for part 1						Departure or prolongation of stay Arrival for part 2						Departure
Rehearsals		Choir-Olympic Qualifying CATEGORIES [1 2 3 4 5 6 9] [12 18 20 21 24 25] Diploma presentations				Rehearsals		Choir-Olympic Qualifying CATEGORIES [7 8 10 11 13 14 15] [16 17 19 22 23 26] Diploma presentations				
			Choir-Olympic Competition CATEGORIES [1 2 3 4 5 6 9] [12 18 20 21 24 25] Prize presentations						Choir-Olympic Competition CATEGORIES [7 8 10 11 13 14 15] [16 17 19 22 23 26] Prize presentations			
Encounter and friendship concerts in Bremen, Bremerhaven and surroundings												
	Gala concerts				Concert of the Choir-Olympic Winners		Gala concerts				Concert of the Choir-Olympic Winners	
Opening Choir-Olympic Ceremony											Closing Choir-Olympic Ceremony	
Opening Ceremony I					Choral Fireworks		Opening Ceremony II				Choral Fireworks	
Specialist lectures and workshops by international experts						within the framework of the MUSICA MUNDI Choral Academy						
Musikexpo												
Meeting at the Choir Olympics Centre meetings with composers and choir experts from all over the world meeting point of the jury						concerts, performances, rock concerts dance, fun and entertainment catering						
individual tourist programmes												

This programme is subject to change.

EVERYBODY WILL BE A WINNER:

Presentation of the prizes

The great hall at the Choir Olympics Centre will be the venue of the presentations of the prizes and diplomas, which will take place after the Choir-Olympic Qualifying Singing and the Choir-Olympic Competitions and where certificates, diplomas and Choir-Olympic Medals will be handed over. At official ceremonies including fanfares, playing of the national anthems and the hoisting of the national flags, the Choir-Olympic Winners of the respective categories will be honoured in a festive way.

GALA OF THE WINNERS:

Concerts of the Choir-Olympic Winners

After the competitions and the prize presentations the winners will present themselves once more to the participants and guests at the concerts of the prize winners.

SCORES, MUSIC AND MORE:

Musikexpo (Music Fair & Exhibition)

During the whole period of the Choir Olympics, an exhibition of international music publishers and dealers will take place its fringe. In addition to well-established choir literature, numerous new productions and recordings will be presented and will raise the interest of the visitors.



**Choirs of the world
united in singing**



As a premiere the participants will experience inspiring singing of thousands of singers in the Choir Olympics Centre in Bremen. Accompanied by the Choir Olympics Orchestra a fireworks of melodies from all over the world will fill the choirs with enthusiasm. Choral works from oratorios will be heard as well as hymns, folk songs of the nations and top hits from the popular music scene. The closing concerts will demonstrate in an impressive way the power of music to unite the peoples and will be the musical highlight of the Choir Olympics.

THE NIGHT

CHORAL FIREWORKS – THE MAGIC NIGHT OF VOICES

With the aim of enabling all choirs to sing along with the others the organizers will publish a choir book with the titles sung at the event. The Choral Fireworks will be an integral part of future Choir-Olympics.

Thank you Bremen! – And looking into the future: as part of the Choral Fireworks on July 18th the festive closing ceremony of the 3rd Choir Olympics 2004 will take place. At the end of the ten eventful days the Choir-Olympic Fanfare shall be sounded once more for the last

time. The Choir-Olympic Bell will sound its message of peace to the world for the last time. Before the Choir-Olympic Flag will be handed over to the representative of the host of the 4th Choir Olympics, all flags of the participating countries will take part in a parade proceeding into the Choir Olympics Centre in Bremen. Eventually, the Choir-Olympic Hymn unites at the end of the Choir Olympics thousands of singers from all continents, who will carry the great Choir-Olympic idea with them to their countries.

LOCATIONS AND COMPETITION VENUES:

Being a city with an attractive medieval old part in the centre, Bremen will become the Choir-Olympic City of "short distances". The most important competition venues are all located close to each other within a radius of 1km. They can be easily reached on foot.

The pulsating heart of the 3rd Choir Olympics 2004 will be the Choir Olympics Centre at the Stadthalle Bremen.

Here you can meet other people, sing and dance, get into contact with others and form friendships. Choirs and artists will be performing, and no matter which diploma or medal you have received, you can party here until late into night.

At the Choir Olympics Centre there will also be:

- Catering areas
- Meeting point for choral directors
- Composers' Corner
- Meeting point of the jury
- Musikexpo (Music Fair & Exhibition)
- Administration of the Choir Olympics

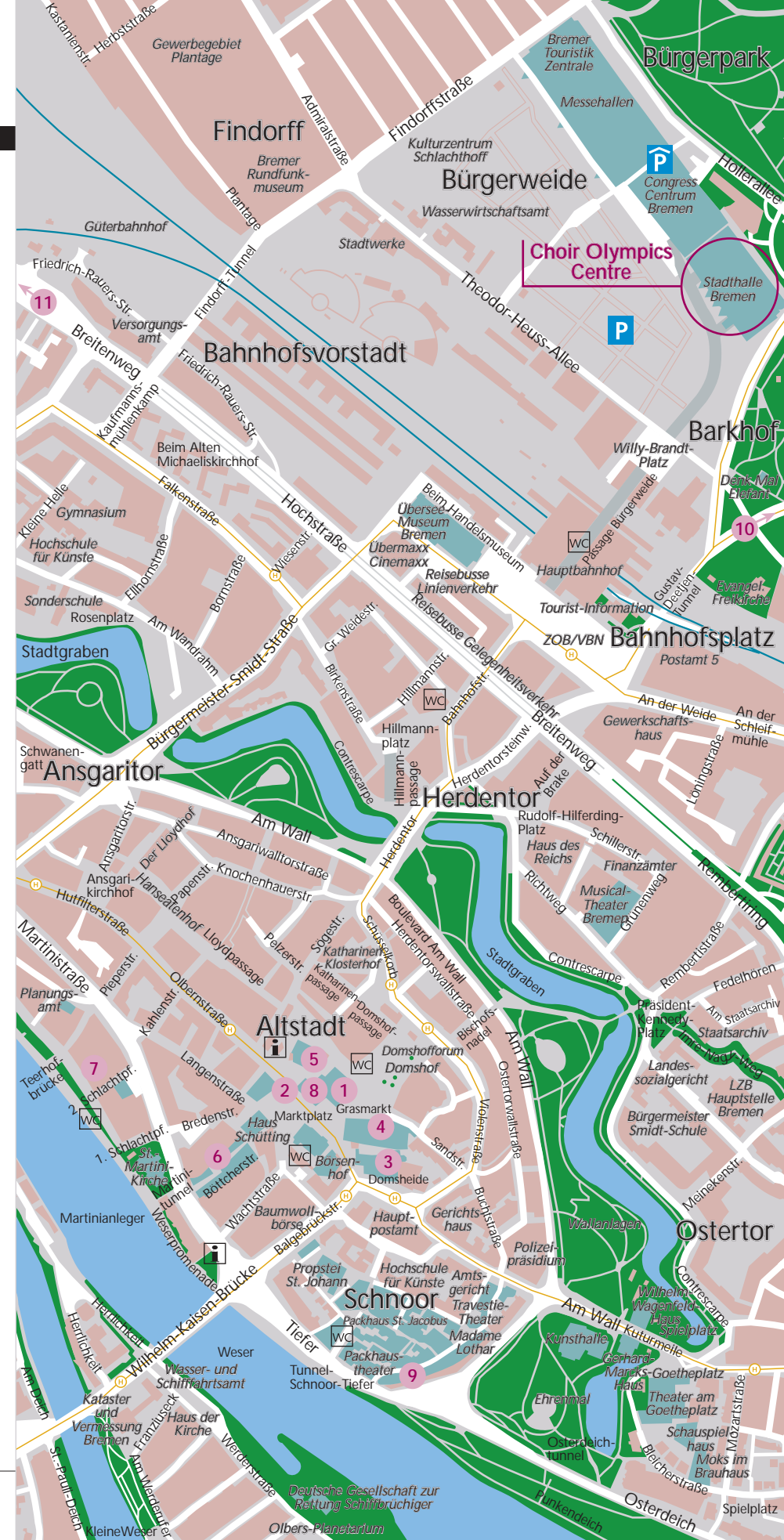
The Choir Olympics Centre is certainly the main location for the most important events and for some competitions of the Choir Olympics and the MUSICA MUNDI Choral Academy:

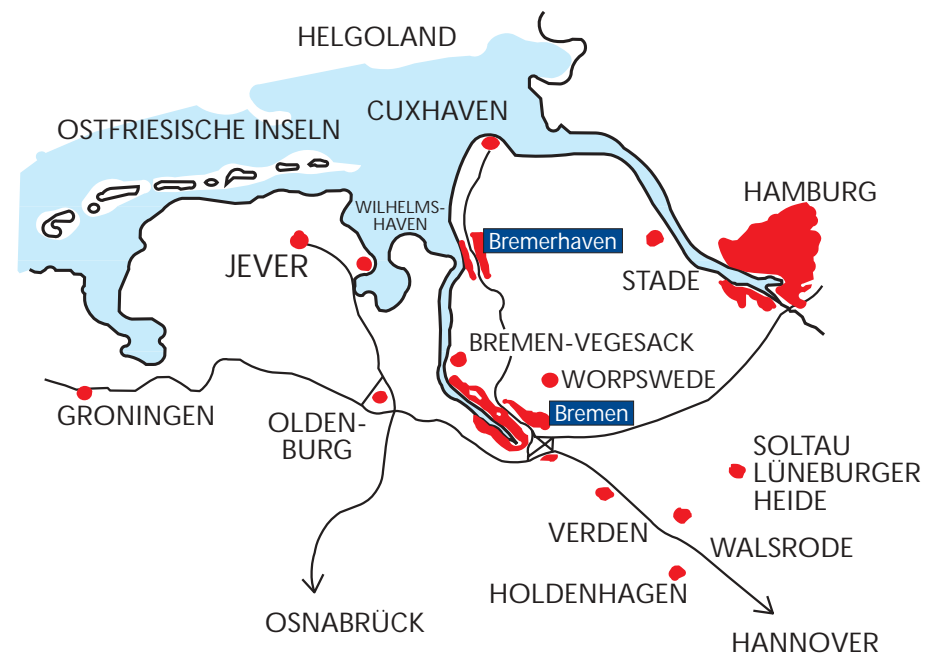
- Opening and Closing Events,
- Choral Fireworks
- Diploma and Prize Presentation Ceremonies
- Concerts of the Choir-Olympic Winners



CITY OF SHORT DISTANCES:

- 1 Town Hall: built between 1405 and 1410, impressive Renaissance exterior with the "Ratskeller"; famous wine cellar, more than 500 years old, in which more than 600 different German wines are stored
- 2 The Market Square with the "Roland" -statue: The "Roland" was erected in 1404 as a sign of the city's rights and freedoms.
- 3 Die Glocke (the bell): Bremen Concert Hall
- 4 Dome St. Petri: Gothic-style building, 13th century, precious organs
- 5 Church "Unser Lieben Frauen": 13th century hall church in Westphalian style with glass windows with intensive colours by Alfred Manessier (born 1911).
- 6 Böttcherstrasse: Brick-stone architectural ensemble, house of the trader Roselius (inventor of the decaffeinated coffee), carillon
- 7 Schlachte, the promenade
- 8 The monument of the Town-Musicians of Bremen at the western side of the town hall, symbol of the City of Bremen, well-known from the fairy tales by the Grimm brothers, bronze statue by Gerhard Marcks
- 9 Schnoorviertel: old part with very small and narrow houses in a style typical of the region, and with narrow streets full of corners, small cafés and galleries
- 10 Universum Science Center: Excursion into the universe: the human being, the earth, the universe. Scientific phenomena can be experienced live.
- 11 Space Park Bremen: Galactic entertainment park – a journey into unknown galaxies and virtual worlds /Entertainment Center





Recommendations for tourist activities

Among numerous opportunities in the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen itself, outstanding tourist trips ranging from Hamburg to Helgoland can be offered:

Outside Bremen and Bremerhaven (60 km)

Bremerhaven (60 km), Deutsches Schifffahrtsmuseum (German Marine Museum), Nordseemuseum (marine biology collection), Container port tower (enrapturing view of the harbour)

Horse-riding town of Verden (35 km), horse-breeding and riding centre in the north of Germany, Dome St. Maria and Caecilia, town hall, horse museum

Artists' colony Worpswede (25 km)

Wümmedorf Fischerhude (25 km)

Delmenhorst (20 km), Nordwolle (Industry Museum)

Teufelsmoor (Devil's Moors) (30 km) Scenic landscape with bogs and moors east of Bremen

Emden (120 km), Kunsthalle

Stade Medieval trading town with fortress rampart, old harbour, half-timbered houses

Island of Neuwerk day-trips, e.g. hike or ride on a horse carriage through the mud-flats

Helgoland – German island in the open sea day trip from Cuxhaven by boat

Cosmopolitan cities of Hamburg and Hanover can be reached within one hour by car or train (120 km)

Accommodation of and catering for the participating choirs will be exclusively organized by the partner agency of the MUSICA MUNDI event series, M&C Music Contact GmbH, in co-operation with Bremen Touristik-Zentrale. The selection of hotels of different categories is made on the basis of the requirements of the choirs.

Organizer:

International Choir Olympic Committee
INTERKULTUR Foundation

in co-operation with

the Senate of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen
the Stadthalle Bremen Veranstaltungsgesellschaft mbH

with kind support by

numerous national and international
boards and organisations

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The terms Chorolympiade® and Choir Olympics® as well as the symbol used in the brochure are registered trademarks.

**Deadline for application for participation in the Choir Olympics 2004:
December 15th, 2003**

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