

Station One

You are standing in the backyard and see the shabby house walls where the yellow paint is peeling off. Now you close your eyes.

Can you already hear the laughter and the conversations of the visitors? You feel the grass below your feet germinating and open your eyes.

The house walls blaze now, in colourful colours and patterns. Old people have kept small memories here.

You see pictures of war with giant explosions and nature, which has been defiled by humanity. But next to it there are peaceful pictures, of free apes, which communicate and build friendships with humans. The children have embellished the paintings, with bright and explosive colours.

They glow at night. You see cars driving by on the roads and people continuously talking into their mobile phones.

You look into the sky and see the glass floor of a blue shimmering pool, in which a few people are swimming. You keep looking around and see that the pool is connecting two rooftops, on which you find additional visitors. You want to find out what is going on there and hence you go towards one of the house walls.

In front of you floats a jetpack. You are automatically belted and immediately you start floating onto the first rooftop. Sweet, floral smells waft into your nose and you discover a huge garden with all kinds of plant & flower species, which you have never seen before.

Children are hiding behind the massive trees, which are growing in a matter of seconds.

The old are amusing themselves, trying to catch the playing kids, which suddenly transform into gorillas and throw bananas around. You are afraid of being hit, as the gorillas suddenly seem aggressive, in a way as if they would want to defend themselves against humans, whom have depredated their habitat.

Now you go to the pool. You rotate once around your axis and directly wear your swimming suit and jump inside. You swim across the pool to the other side where you get out the pool and see a banner on which it says "Olympics for young and old".

"The old and young form teams of two. The old answer quiz questions and the young gorillas complete a triathlon. If the older team member answers a question wrong, the younger member has to swim a penalty lap.

Now you want to conclude your tour and a robotic eagle flies towards you landing directly in front of you. You mount the eagle – the flight is surprisingly comfortable. When the eagle puts you down you thank him after which he dissolves with a loud bang in the air.

Keep going upstairs, through the archway and turn right on the "Bogenstraße". Now follow the path along the wall.

Station Two

You stand in the centre of the backyard. Behind you there is a dull stone wall and in front of you there is an old Shell petrol station. It is completely deserted and you smell petrol. Now imagine how the smell slowly disappears and the sound of old engines changes into birdsongs.

Suddenly you realise, that the stone walls become more and more transparent. Now they are crystal clear and behind them you see water and colourful exotic fish.

Suddenly a shark jumps out of the water, right towards you, but before he can reach you he disappears.

You are fascinated but quickly distracted, by the warm sand which you feel below your feet. You breathe in a salty breeze and notice the sweet smell of Croissants.

You follow it and see a wooden ladder, which leans on a garage wall. You climb up the ladder and end up on the garage roof.

From up there you have got a good view over the backyard and start to spot the many treadmills, which are scattered around the whole place. You see that some of the treadmills are surrounded by a transparent wall. You climb down the ladder to examine the walls closer.

You wiggle through the set up equipment from which green cables lead to the petrol station. Just now you realise the writing: "Electric cars – charging station – good for your car and your environment".

Behind you, a man steps onto one of the treadmills. You blink and startle, as he suddenly has elephant legs. While you are wondering how he can walk like that, he stumbles over his own legs and falls over. Surprised you blink again and immediately the ordinary man appears again.

Around him a transparent wall starts to consolidate out of the ground. He starts to walk and the green wire starts to glow. You decide to mount one of the treadmills. On the illuminated screen in front of you there are different virtual surroundings which you can walk through.

You have the choice between a comfortable walk along a beach or an exciting hike through a desert or mysterious underwater world. You choose the underwater world. Around you, you see only fish and corals, which swim in the dark water, but you cannot feel any moistness. Again a shark rushes past you, but he does not seem to notice you. You follow the shark with your look, when suddenly a coral reef falls in your sight. Are there elephant legs behind it? Slowly the elephant man from earlier appears. You get frightened when you realise that you cannot blink him away. You try and calm yourself down and try to stay undiscovered. Your effort stays without effect. He keeps heading straight towards you. Around him, more elephant men appear. Panic fuelled you try and stop the walk, but with no success. When the elephant people come as close as half a meter, you finally find the "Stop" button. You realise you are back in the backyard, surprisingly not at all exhausted but rather energized. The scare is quickly forgotten and you start again to experience the beautiful and sunny backyard.

Now that you generated a good mood and feel refreshed through the beautiful atmosphere you decide to leave the backyard. You cross the yard and leave the garage on your right behind. You go through the archway through "Schlankenreie" to the underground station "Hoheluftbrücke".

Station Three

On a rainy day you stand at the crossing of "Hoheluftbrücke". On the overcrowded streets you hear loud engine noise. Looking around, you realise that there are only few people on foot. Turning left you see the worn out grey underground station which you now move towards. Slowly the rattling sound of the incoming train becomes silent. The rain becomes less and you look towards the sky. You see the sun slowly starting to appear behind the clouds.

You hear the loud laugh of an old lady and the smell of freshly brewed coffee waves into your nose. The bridge used by the underground disappears and a new apartment house takes its place. On the roof you can already see the new station of futuristic public transport. The "Hambomobil". Suddenly you realise a colourful climbing wall, which has been sprayed with graffiti by teenagers. You feel how high spirits start to arise in your body when you examine the graffiti closer. Now you climb the wall.

You turn to your left and cringe. Surprised you blink with your eyes. Is that really R2 D2 using the elevator next to you? The shouts of a young man rip you out of your thoughts.

"Keep moving, there are other people who have to be on time for work!"

Because of all the excitement you completely forgot to keep climbing. You pull yourself up the last stretch and apologise once nicely.

Suddenly you begin to feel a quiet surge and hear music in the distance. Listening closely you recognise the Star Wars music. Now you might already be able to discover the arriving train in the sky. It looks like it is flying.

You turn around and go to the ticket machine. As you get closer a voice says: "Good Day, please tell me which ticket you need or tell me your final destination and age." Astonished you say: "15 years and a small tour for tourists." "1.20 Euros please" replies the machine.

You reward yourself with a refreshing beverage from a vending machine. Suddenly you feel how your stomach starts to bubble. You feel the energy which arises in your body. You open your eyes very wide and your eardrum seems to burst, but instead of what you expect, you feel good and refreshed. You can't trust your eyes. Colourful bright rainbows descend from your ears. Completely confused you begin to think about what effects the other drinks might have. Will I soon become a unicorn?

When the ticket has been printed and the machine thanks you once again and wishes you a pleasant trip you turn around again.

You look up. Above you there floats a train and you see how a pipe deploys. The pipe has many bends and is elastic. This is why you have not recognized it before as part of the train.

When the pipe arrives in front of you, you board the train. You feel a strong draft and within seconds you find yourself, a bit confused, inside one of the waggons.

You begin to hear a melody which sounds blithely and your mood fills with joy. "Welcome, Ladies and Gentlemen on board of the Hambumobile, I wish you a pleasant journey. Enjoy the view and relax for a few moments.

"To fly the train we have used a thousand year old trick and modified it. Below the streets there are very strong magnets, which repulse the magnets which are below the train. The material of which the magnets are made off is very special. So you do not have to worry that your car of the future will stick to the ground.

You turn around again and search for a seat directly at the window. From there you have a magnificent view over the city. You look down on the roof tops and recognise the outline of the "Isebek Kanal". You are so deep in that moment that you did not notice the trays falling from the ceiling at first. Just when it stops right before your seat, you notice it. A writing in blue font illuminates and says: "Your choice of melody for landing?"

Star Wars, Pirates of the Caribbean and 4 other melodies which you know from the radio are your choices. You choose the Pirates of the Caribbean Song.

The journey is nearly at its end. The melody which will signal landing again will be Star Wars. 89% choose Star Wars. The Star Wars music sounds as you get off the train. You have reached your destination.

Now go across the traffic light and follow the path below the underground subgrade in the direction of the "Isebekkanal". Then turn left at the left site of the café and cross the bridge.

Station Four

At the moment the place below the bridge is grey, empty and pretty dirty. It is uncomfortable, no place where you want to spend a lot of time. But imagine you jump into the dirty water of the "Isebeck" and very slowly it turns clear around you.

Dimly you can see colourful boats through the water and hear the dulled voices of people above you. Now imagine you emerge from the refreshing river. It is a beautiful and sunny day and the place is filled with life.

Next to you, there are swimming colourful painted boats on a rack. You swim over there and climb out of the water onto the rack. The timber below the bridge is wildly placard and hammocks dangle from them. One look behind and you can see that on the right side of the river, there are many new facilities with big windows. Their purpose is so people can sleep, eat and wash themselves there. Next to it you can see beds with fruits, vegetables and spices. A few participants of the project are working on them.

One thing that you realise is that you haven't seen any sockets or other electronic gadgets. Hence you start to have a close look around.

Suddenly you notice a sign next to the rack that says: "Boats for Rent".

Next to it, you can see a small sales stand, where fresh fruit, vegetables, water and passports are being sold.

The salesman of the stand looks a bit frightening and frowning. Despite that, you go to him and start a conversation.

He tells you that his name is “Günther” and that this place is a project for people with social disadvantages, refugees and ghosts. You are confused thinking that the salesman is a bit crazy but you keep listening.

Günther himself has spent 10 years living on the street before he came to Hambutopia. He himself helps growing and selling crops, but his passion is to repair old instruments to play them. He invites you to listen to him this evening, and you obviously accept thankfully.

You go on to find a small square with a few of the local people who are painting on linen or talking to voluntary workers. Time is leaning towards evening and the lights and lanterns hanging below the bridge are lit up to glow in the dark.

All people that work here now come together and talk to each other whilst listening to the sounds of music. Now keep going along the bank of the “Isebek” canal in the direction of “Hoheluft”.

Station Five

You are leaning against the handrail, looking onto the grey brown water of the canal which does not look to inviting. There are a few single leafless trees at the river bank and you are standing on a gravel path.

You can hear screams of joy from playing kids and the sounds of rippling water. But very quietly you can hear a frightening growling out of the depth of the canal.

You feel the sand below your feet and the shafts of sunlight which tickle your skin.

Open your eyes again. It is a warm day of summer. Over the canal there are taut ropes. A small girl staggers over the rope, to reach the other river bank dry. But just before she reaches it she loses balance and falls into the water.

She dives up and starts laughing loudly. Suddenly a crocodile swims past her and joins the laughter. At first she looks surprised but the Lifeguard shouts to her: “Do not be afraid, he will not do you harm. He is a vegetarian and one of the most peaceful animals in the world. He will probably be happy if you play with him.” The girl is still a bit shy but relieved and starts to stroke the crocodile.

There is something swimming on the water. Looking closely you realise that there are deck chairs that float in the water. At the place where you usually place your feet, there are two pedals with which you can accelerate the deck chairs like a paddleboat. After a while you motivate yourself to mount a deck chair and navigate it through the canal.

From your point of view onto the water, you have a good oversight over the river bank.

A Jogger passes you, stops and looks around. Then he slowly wades through the water to one of the many pieces of Sport equipment, which are placed everywhere in the water.

He starts working on one of the bicycle like machines, fighting the resistance of the water.

It begins to dawn. The people on the deck chairs navigate towards the bridge where social disadvantaged people, refugees, volunteers and residents all come together to talk and listen to the sounds of music. But still you could hear the frightening growling noise in the depth of the canal.

You close your eyes and sum quietly in rhythm with the music.

Slowly you navigate back to get of your deck chair. You follow the Isebeck canal in the direction of Hoheluft, till you reach the next bus station.

Station Six

You are standing at a very busy street. You are being passed by cars and people which agitate from one place to another. You smell the exhaust fumes and hear an unbearable noise. A mixture of car engines and the chatter of people who are in rage because the bus is late. You can feel the people pushing you whilst passing.

After a while you stand in a more quite corner in a conversation with a young women, in her twenties, who is taking her green horse out for a walk.

She asks you what is your perception of a Utopia is.

You can still see in front of you, a worn out, ugly bus station where you do not want to spend more time at then necessary. To have a closer look at the bus station, you go over there.

On your way to the bus station, your environment changes from a stressful atmosphere to a relaxed and positive mood. Instead of hearing the unsatisfied people you hear music, which gets louder and louder with every step you get closer to the bus station.

The bus station is made of sand stone and glass and has two storeys. You enter through the open Glass door into the bus stop and see people which originate from many different cultures. They are sitting in armchairs in a half circle and wear neon coloured shoes combined with wool hats.

On your left side you discover a stairwell which you go up. Now you are on the second floor.

Suddenly you remember that you wanted to figure out where the music is coming from. Having arrived on top of the bus station you are being welcomed by a band, which is presenting its music. The band is playing their music using tools like rubbish bins and pots. Apparently every band of the city is allowed to sign up to play on top of the bus station.

A double decker bus reaches the station below you. Now you understand that the second floor was built to make the second floor of the bus more accessible.

Relaxed you dedicate yourself to the return journey. You go down.

Having arrived below, you discover an art display, with strange artwork. Covering the artwork there are men with blue beards which are standing in a half circle holding hands.

You feel rested and nearly forgot that you are standing at such an annoying bus stop.

You keep on going, turning left at the bus stop continuing your journey alongside the “Grindelberg” into the park to the “Grindelhäuser”.

Station Seven

We are standing in front of the “Grindelhäuser” and see to our right the park in which our project will be developed.

The traffic noise transmutes slowly. In the background sounds a quiet swoosh which slowly increases in volume. At some point, it gets so loud that you have to cover your ears. You risk a look behind and to your horror you can see all the trees falling over with massive bangs.

You open your eyes. You reside in a small, cosy room with a glass roof through which you can see the blue sky.

You turn around slowly and begin to discern the whole room. It smells like wood and freshly mowed lawn. Slowly the scent of freshly baked bread crawls up your nose.

On the wall you notice a huge deer antler under which you can see a rifle. In the corner you can see a big cage in which a colourful bird is flying around. You see how the parrot pulls out a pistol, which makes you run outside onto the platform.

Now you see the small hut, which is placed on the tree, from the outside.

All tree houses on the surrounding trees are painted in colourful bright colours, which has its origin from a social projects with the residents. You climb a rope ladder down onto the clammy grass. You follow the path which guides you in a Zick – Zack fashion through the grass.

You have reached the entrance of the dining room which is completely build out of wood. On the walls there is a huge placard, displaying the meals being served for the next few weeks. Every day there is a different culture day on which there is traditional cooking.

You notice a big flag of France above the counter, which has huge amounts of croissants, baguettes and Crepes on it. Surrounding you is the laughter of people chatting, whilst eating their meals.

The accommodation in our Outdoor Hotel offers a possibility to spend time with nature to all the inhabitants of the city.

After having taken a few courses and meeting a few new people it's beginning to dawn and the day is turning towards its end. You join the camp fire which is taking place every night. At the fire there are stories being told and music being played.

On top of that there are also sausages, marshmallows and "Stockbrot". A guided night hike for children is just leaving the camp fire. You let the day fade away staying at the fire.

The traffic noise transmutes slowly. In the background sounds a quiet swoosh which slowly increases in volume.

After everybody slowly starts leaving the fire you also decide to head up to your tree house which is high in the crown of the tree. You look forward to visit the next station in the morning. Now go to the last Station in front of the district exchange "Eimsbüttel".

Station Eight

Slowly you crest the hill until you stop on the small green lawn in front of the district exchange "Eimsbüttel". Do you see the bold, dull windows? Do you see how the house wall blurs and changes bit by bit?

The windows fall out, like dominos. A quiet melody over sounds the noise of the cars. More and more people start to assemble around you.

On the screen, you can slowly see the portrait of Mona Lisa appearing, painted by Leonardo da Vinci. Suddenly you discover something nobody else seems to see. In the left eye of the Mona Lisa you can see a reflection of a tiny red rocket. You turn around to search for the rocket behind you, but there is none. Confused you turn back to the screen.

Around you there are padded, comfortable benches. They are floating in the air. You see, that a young woman, on one of the benches is holding a steering wheel in her hands with which she can control the navigation of the bench. Slowly she floats towards the screen. Your look follows her and ends on the screen, on which you notice the first movement.

A small stickman is letting himself down on a rope from the top of the screen to its middle. It has a hammer in its hand and starts to hit the painting with it. Piece by piece all the squares turn.

It is starting to get dark. The music hushes away.

It is late, but to your surprise, there are still more and more people assembling on the meadow. Suddenly rockets appear on the screen which explode in colourful colours. A girl next to you starts to dither in excitement. An older man on your side smiles.

A rocket leaves the virtual space on the screen and you turn around just in time to see how it impacts into a car. But the car does not explode or go up in flames but it turns, through the colourful explosion into an autobot. What is an autobot? It is a human like robot made from car parts. Every person you can see has got an own autobot who helps them. You see how the autobot just created helps an old lady across the street. You startle for a short moment,

but then face the screen again to see what is happening next. You realise that everything is over. The screen goes dark and the people start to leave the meadow.

For a short moment, let all the Utopias which you have seen today, pass through you inside. Now turn back into reality. Open your eyes.

Can you see it? The wall is not as bold and dull anymore. A bit of colour still shimmers in the dark.

Now you leave Hambutopia. We wish you an inspired evening. Extend your imagination and come visit us again shortly.