

The cities *of Mecklenburg* *Western Pomerania*



Mecklenburg
Vorpommern



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www.off-to-mv.com/en/towns



The seven cities in Germany's north east extend a warm welcome to enjoy their cultural life and discover the experiences they have to offer.

Whether you want to enjoy a stroll against the backdrop of maritime flair that characterises the Hanseatic cities of Rostock, Wismar, Stralsund and Greifswald, amble through the splendid royal seat of Schwerin with its fairy-tale castle, wander aimlessly through the medieval authenticity of the city of four gates – Neubrandenburg – or through the historical city centre of Güstrow with its half-timbered houses – you will love the unspoilt nature of the cities in Mecklenburg Western Pomerania coupled with their unique cultural heritage.

Follow in the footsteps of significant painters, adventurers and seafarers, and let the charm of north German warmth and friendliness take you on a journey through the centuries.



Schwerin, state capital

Nestled in the idyllic lake district of Mecklenburg Western Pomerania, the blue of the lakes has always dominated the oldest city in the state, and it is here that the **Schwerin Palace** rises in all its glory. While its golden turrets and towers reflect in the sparkling water the old town, with its baroque character and historicising styles from the 19th century, is captivating with its tranquil idyllic nature, lovingly renovated half-timbered houses and **Schwerin Cathedral**. Incidentally, it is only about one hundred years ago that the tower, 117.5 m high, was added to the house of God, one of the loveliest, most influential redbrick churches in Germany.

Genuine cultural treasures are yours to be discovered around the fairy-tale castle in Schwerin. **Mecklenburg State Theatre** and **Schwerin State Museum**, famed for its top-rate collection of Dutch paintings, symbolise the cultural diversity of the state capital. Cul-



tural highlights include the **SCHLOSSFESTSPIELE Schwerin** (festival held in front of Schwerin Palace) which, set against a unique backdrop, demonstrates how the city is perfect for displaying great emotions.

For even more variety, exclusive boutiques, stylish cafés and charming restaurants at the water's edge and with a view of the palace invite you take a stroll and to tarry a while.

Schwerin Tourist Information Office

www.schwerin.info • info@schwerin.info • Telephone: +49 385 5925212



Barlachstadt Güstrow – surprising possibilities

The historical city centre of Güstrow impresses with its half-timbered and redbrick Gothic buildings, imposing houses and the classical Town Hall. The 16th Century castle lends the charming residential city its special attraction. It counts as one of the most beautiful Renaissance buildings in North Germany. Also the **City Museum** with its unique works of Georg Friedrich Kersting, the Nativity Scene exhibition in the **Heilig Geist Kirche**, the diverse galleries, the **Ernst Barlach Theater**, cosy cafes and picturesque courtyards turns your visit into a special cultural treat.



Besides the beautiful historical city centre, the Ernst Barlach Museum belongs to the city's cultural pearls. One of the most popular artworks of Ernst Barlach „The Hovering“ is hanging in the cathedral. The activity region around the **Inselsee** with Schöninsel and the Heidbergen makes you want to ride a bike, row, swim or take a ride on a cutter.

In the **Wildpark-MV** you will find bears, wolves, owls and many other animals to see up-close and they can also be observed at night. Just around the corner there is the **OASE** relaxation swimming pool complex which can be used by the whole family.

Güstrow is one of the most beautiful cities in Mecklenburg and because of its central location it is a good starting point for excursions into the scenic surroundings. The long-distance **bike tracks** between Berlin-Kopenhagen and Hamburg-Rügen run directly through the historic city centre of Güstrow.

Güstrow-Information

www.guestrow-tourismus.de • info@guestrow-tourismus.de •

Telephone: +49 3843 – 681023



Hanseatic city of Rostock and Warnemünde

The almost 800-year-old Hanseatic city of Rostock with its gabled houses, redbrick churches, mighty gates and its charming counterpart, the thriving **sea-side resort of Warnemünde** with its enchanting lighthouse, impressively merge modern urban living with maritime traditions.



Early in the morning, the fishermen still gather at the Alter Strom in Warnemünde to sell their freshly caught fish straight from the boat whilst, where once upon a time fishing cutters used to defy the waves, these days international cruise liners and huge ferries from Scandinavia drop anchor. Shaped by life next to the sea, the once most important member of the Hanseatic League is blessed with a great deal of space for outdoor activities – in addition to architecture, culinary delights and shopping. The millennia-old coastal forest of **Rostock Heath**, the **IGA Park** with its willow cathedral and **Rostock Zoo** with its **DARWINEUM** are always worth a visit, whatever the time of year!



There are cultural highlights to discover and experience throughout the year too: the spectacular "Warnemünder Turmleuchten" laser show, the Warnemünder Week, the **Hanse Sail** regatta and **the biggest Christmas market in the north of Germany** promise unforgettable times for

all, young and old alike.

Rostock & Warnemünde Tourist Information Office

www.rostock.de • touristinfo@rostock.de • Telephone: +49 381 3812222



University and Hanseatic Town of Greifswald

Greifswald is located right next to the Baltic Sea, between the islands of Rügen and Usedom and is the birthplace of the prominent Romantic painter **Caspar David Friedrich**. Following a circular route through the town visitors can trace his life and work at original locations such as his former family home. The art gallery of the **Pomeranian State Museum** exhibits several well-known paintings of Greifswald's most famous son.

Founded in 1250, the town soon became a member of the Hanseatic League. The traces of this heritage can be found in the historic town centre with its medieval town wall and its Brick Gothic buildings such as the **redbrick churches**, the

residential buildings around the marketplace and the **Ruins of Eldena Abbey**. The Abbey in particular, is vitally important to the history of Greifswald and a recurring feature within the works of Friedrich.

The river Ryck connects the historic town centre with the Baltic Sea and is home to the **largest museum harbour** in Germany. More than 45 historic ships are moored here and set sail on a regular basis. Greifswald's flagship is the **training ship GREIF**, a majestic brigantine. Visitors can join the old lady for one of her voyages on the Baltic Sea.

Apart from the rich Hanseatic heritage, visitors will encounter a young, dynamic and creative atmosphere due to the more than 10 000 students. Greifswald's **university** was founded in 1456 and is one of the oldest academic institutions in Europe.



Greifswald Tourist Information Office

www.greifswald.info • stadtinformation@greifswald-marketing.de •

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Neubrandenburg, city of four gates

Neubrandenburg is a city of contrasts. The completely preserved city wall and its **four medieval gates** enclose a lively and pulsing inner city with more than 200 shops and cafes.

Inside the venerable **Marienkirche** with its hundreds of years old redbrick walls, a modern concert hall made of glass, concrete and steel is hidden. The **Concert Church** is an optical and acoustic jewel and is the home of the Neubrandenburg Philharmonic Orchestra.

Actors and singers still appear on the stage of the **Schauspielhaus**, once a comedy theatre house and the oldest theatre in Mecklenburg.

The **Franziskanerkloster**, the oldest building in the city, houses a contemporary multimedia exhibition of the history of the region.



The colour of Neubrandenburg is green. The city lies in the midst of a picturesque landscape on **Tollensesee**, one of the most beautiful and cleanest lakes in the north. The lovingly designed **Kulturpark** directly on the lake provides an oasis atmosphere for locals and visitors alike.

Neubrandenburg Tourist Information Office

www.neubrandenburg-touristinfo.de •

touristinfo@neubrandenburg.de • Telephone: +49 395 19433



UNESCO World Heritage and Hanseatic City of Stralsund

Irrespective of how you approach the queen of redbrick on the Strelasund – by water or land – one look at Stralsund's silhouette and you will be stuck for words. The Hanseatic League stands proud – even from afar! Tall gothic churches rise up like huge lighthouses against the vast sky and the sea. This is especially true of **St. Marien**, with its tower in excess of 100 m. With its unique location between the islands of Rügen, Usedom and Hiddensee, the Hanseatic city attracts visitors from the four corners of the earth.

The flair in the port is unique. The ships' masts dance in time to the waves, the whiteness of the **Gorch Fock** shines brilliant, the fragrance of smoked fish is everywhere, and the seagulls seem to be singing sailors' songs. Just a stone's throw away is the **town hall** unique to the whole of the Baltic region, with its decorative façade, fascinating **Maritime Museum and Oceanographic Museum** including its breath-taking aquariums, the **Stralsund Museum** with its Viking golden treasure awaits, and the small island of **Dänholm** relates great adventures.



Fans of the fine arts will feel at home in the Art Nouveau theatre boxes, known as the "swallows' nests", whereas lovers of historical architecture will feel at home in the **UNESCO World Heritage Exhibition** in Olthof-sche Palace. And then there are all the splendid gabled houses and medieval monasteries to view. And the **Rügenbrücke** which, like a rainbow, connects the mainland with Germany's largest island. Don't forget all the maritime extras just crying out to be discovered ...

Tourist Information Centre of the Hanseatic City of Stralsund

www.stralsundtourismus.de • info@stralsundtourismus.de •

Telephone: +49 3831 24690



UNESCO World Heritage and Hanseatic City of Wismar

The old towns of Stralsund and Wismar have been on UNESCO's world heritage list since 2002. Monumental redbrick churches and smart merchants' houses characterise the fabric of the town, which has hardly changed since the Middle Ages. Wismar has, with its 76 hectares, the largest preserved historical city centre in the southern Baltic Sea area. Visitors to Wismar can experience cultural diversity in the exhibition at the **world heritage visitor centre** and in the **St. Marien-Kirche**. The historic building stock is testimony of the political and economic importance as well as the exceptional wealth of Wismar during the Middle Ages. Cultural monuments such as the redbrick gothic of the churches, lovingly restored town houses, the "Wasserkunst", a **fountain** built in the Renaissance style, the impressive classical town hall, and the baroque fortress buildings dating back to Swedish times, are fascinating.



An integral part of the cultural life in Wismar are the ever-changing exhibitions in the **Baumhaus** on the Alter Hafen, performance events of the **Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern** and the **NDR-concerts** in St. Georgen. In August, the city of Wismar relives the era when it was part of Sweden in the form of a festival. In December, the Christmas market attracts visitors from far and wide to the market place which, with the illuminated town hall, boasts a magnificent backdrop.



Wismar Tourist Information Office

www.wismar-tourist.de • touristinfo@wismar.de •

Telephone: +49 3841 19433

Our introductory offer

See the incomparable beauty of the cities which make up Mecklenburg Western Pomerania for yourself, and get to know the state from perhaps its best side. Simply take advantage of our introductory offer, and choose your favourite from the seven cities. We'll do the rest!

Get-to-Know

Barlachstadt Güstrow

- 2 overnight stays incl. breakfast (subject to availability)
- 1x Güstrow experience card (including 9 x 10 % discount for entrance fees and hire costs)
- 1 x city tour (April – October)
- 1 glass of wine in "Weinhaus im Hof" (Winehouse in the Courtyard)
- 1 x combination ticket for the Ernst Barlach Museums
- 1 x 2-course set meal Mecklenburg Style

City of four gates Neubrandenburg

- 2 nights' accommodation including breakfast
- Guided tour of the city including a visit to the CONCERT CHURCH
- Admission to the city's museum mile
- Boat trip on Tollensesee
- Bicycle rental for one day
- Dinner in the heart of the city

Hanseatic City Rostock

- 2 overnight stays incl. breakfast (subject to availability)
- 1 guided city tour
- 1 RostockCARDsmart (incl. among other things, free entry to various museums as well as discounts for shopping and gastronomy)
- Harbour tour (April – October)

Hanseatic City Wismar

- 2 nights' accommodation including breakfast
- Guided tour of the city
- Coffee and cake in Wismar's old town
- Trip around the harbour and the city
- Combi-ticket for a guided tour of the tower and showing of a 3-D film in St. Marien church, a visit to the viewing platform of St. Georgen church and an exhibition in the Rathauskeller
- Dinner in Restaurant Reuterhaus

Information and reservations:

Telephone: +49 385 5925271 • www.schwerin.info/kurzreisen
kurzreisen@schwerin.info • Prices available upon request

Hanseatic City of Stralsund

- 2 nights' accommodation including breakfast buffet
- 1 combi-ticket for the Oceanographic Museum and the Maritime Museum
- 1 guided tour of the city (May – October) or 1 tour of the city with audio guide (November – April)
- 1 three-course dinner

Hanseatic City Greifswald

- 2 nights' accommodation including breakfast
- Guided tour of the city
- Coffee break in the old town of Greifswald
- Admission to the Pommersches Landesmuseum
- Admission to the Caspar David Friedrich Centre
- Guided tour of the ruins of Eldena monastery
- Dinner set against the maritime flair of the Hanseatic city

State capital Schwerin

- 2 nights' accommodation including breakfast
- Guided tour of the city
- Admission to and guided tour of Schwerin Palace
- Admission to the State Museum
- Visit to Schwerin cathedral
- Boat tour with the WEISSE FLOTTE
- Dinner on Lake Schwerin
- Guide to Schwerin

Further information available from:
www.off-to-mv.com/en/towns

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