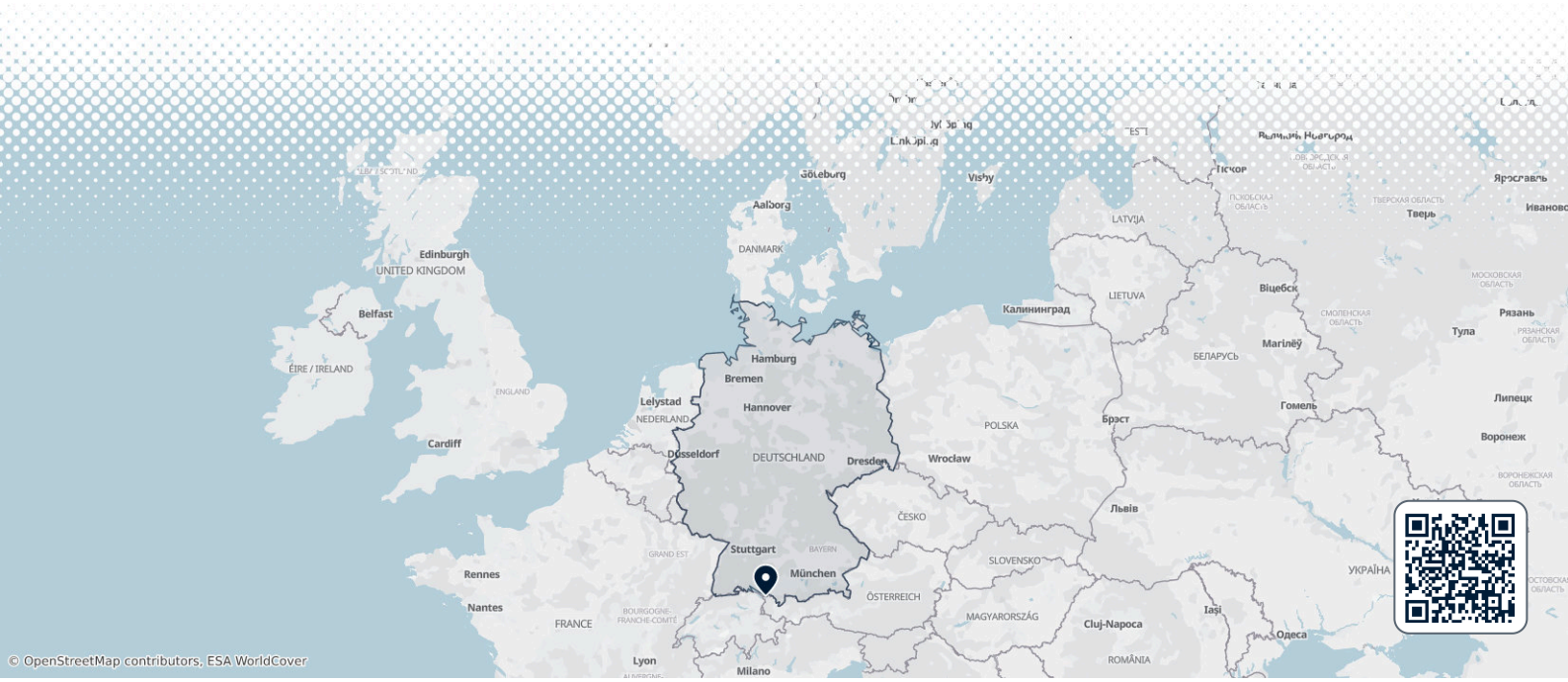


Lindau

Bavaria · Germany

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Lindau is a small town on Lake Constance, in the far south-west corner of Bavaria. The old town sits on an island in the lake. A causeway and a bridge link it to the mainland. The Alps rise on the far shore.

The island is compact and mostly car-free in the centre. It suits a relaxed stay of one to three nights with walks, boat trips and long meals by the water. Lindau also works as a base for Austria and Switzerland, which are both a short trip away.

When to visit

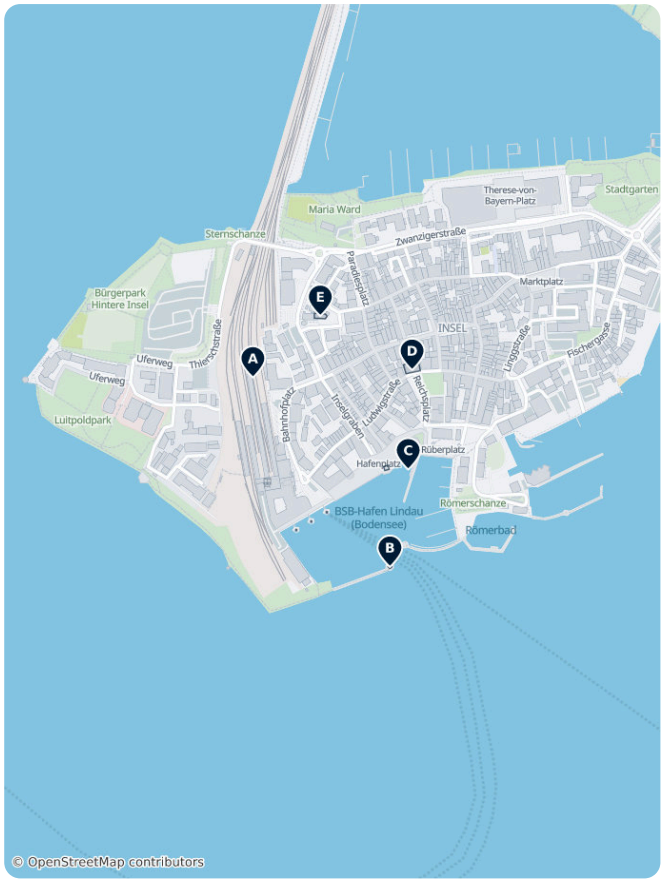
Late spring to early autumn is the best time. Boats run most often, the harbour cafés are open and the lake is warm enough for swimming in summer. Summer can be busy on weekends. Autumn is calm and often clear. Winter is quiet and many seasonal services run less often.

Plan around the Bregenz Festival in nearby Austria. It stages opera on a floating lake stage in July and August. Book early.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for watersports	4° / 10° Feels like 1°	-4° / -12°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
February	Poor Poor for watersports	6° / 13° Feels like 2°	-3° / -11°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
March	Fair Fair for cycling	9° / 17°	0° / -5°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
April	Good Good for cycling	14° / 22°	4° / -1°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
May	Good Good for sightseeing	18° / 25°	9° / 4°	19 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
June	Good Good for sightseeing	22° / 29°	13° / 9°	17 rainy days · Calm winds
July	Good Good for sightseeing	23° / 30°	15° / 11°	18 rainy days · Calm winds
August	Good Good for sightseeing	23° / 30°	15° / 11°	16 rainy days · Calm winds
September	Good Good for sightseeing	19° / 25°	11° / 7°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
October	Good Good for cycling	15° / 22°	7° / 2°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
November	Fair Fair for cycling	9° / 16°	2° / -5°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
December	Poor Poor for watersports	5° / 11° Feels like 2°	-2° / -10°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds

Climate data: NASA POWER + Copernicus ERA5-Land · 1996–2025

Top sights



- A Lindau is the old town on the island. Its lanes, squares and lakeside promenade are the main reason to come.
- B Leuchtturm Lindau stands at the harbour entrance next to the Bavarian lion statue. It is the only lighthouse in Bavaria.
- C Mangturm is a medieval tower on the harbour. Together with the lighthouse and the lion, it frames the classic view of Lindau.
- D Altes Rathaus is the old town hall on the island. It holds an archive of old books.
- E Peterskirche is one of the oldest churches on the island. It is small and quiet.
- The Münster Unserer Lieben Frau and St. Stephan stand side by side near the main square. Both are worth a short look inside.
- The Cavazzen Museum is a baroque house on the Marktplatz. It holds the town's art and history collection.

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What to experience

- Take a boat trip from the harbour. Some routes cross the lake to Switzerland.
- Swim or sunbathe at a lakeside beach in summer.
- Cycle along the lake shore on the Lake Constance cycle route.

Day trips

Boats from the harbour reach many lakeside towns, and trains run along the shore.

- A Bregenz is in Austria, just across the border. Ride the Pfänder cable car for views of the lake and the Alps.
- Friedrichshafen is a lakeside town in Germany with a Zeppelin museum.
- Konstanz is a historic university town at the western end of the German shore.
- B Meersburg is a small town with a medieval castle above the water and a steep lane of old houses.



Where to explore

- Lake Constance covers the whole lake and its shores in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.
- Allgäu is the hilly region east of Lindau, with villages, meadows and mountain walks.

Getting there

- By air: Zurich Airport is a main gateway for international visitors. Friedrichshafen has a small regional airport. Munich and Memmingen are other options. All connect onward by train.
- By train: Lindau-Insel station is on the island near the harbour. Lindau-Reutin is on the mainland. Direct trains link Lindau with Munich, Zurich, Friedrichshafen and Bregenz. Book at Deutsche Bahn.
- By boat: Passenger boats reach Lindau from Bregenz, Friedrichshafen, Konstanz, Meersburg and other lake towns.

Getting around

- Lindau island is small. Walk between the station, the harbour and the old town.
- Bikes are a good way to reach the villages along the shore.
- Visit Lindau Tourismus for tourist information, events and visitor services.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The island old town is small and mostly car-free in the centre.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

High

The Lake Constance cycle route runs along the shore.

Food & drink

Fish from the lake is the local speciality. Whitefish (Felchen) and perch (Egli) are common on menus. Look also for Swabian dishes such as Kässpätzle, a cheesy noodle dish. Local wine and fruit spirits come from farms around the lake.

For eating out, walk along the harbour promenade and the lanes of the old town. Terraces with lake views fill up quickly in summer.

What to eat & drink

LUNCH

Doner Kebab · Döner Kebab
A sandwich of roasted meat, salad, and sauce in flatbread, invented by Turkish immigrants in Berlin and now a national staple.

DINNER

Schnitzel
A thin, breaded and fried cutlet, usually pork, served with potatoes or fries and a lemon wedge.

Sauerbraten
A pot roast marinated for days in vinegar and spices before slow cooking, served with red cabbage and dumplings.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Bratwurst
A grilled or fried pork sausage, often served in a bread roll with mustard, sold at stands nationwide.

Currywurst
Sliced sausage topped with curry-spiced ketchup, a Berlin invention now popular across the country.

Pretzel · Brezel
A large, chewy salted bread pretzel, especially common in Bavaria, often eaten with butter or cheese.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Black Forest Cake · Schwarzwälder Kirschtorte
A layered chocolate sponge cake with cherries, cherry liqueur, and whipped cream.

DRINKS

Beer · Bier
Germany brews hundreds of regional styles, from Bavarian Weissbier to Cologne's Kölsch, each tied to its home city.

Gluhwein · Glühwein
Mulled, spiced red wine served hot, a staple of winter and Christmas markets.

Apfelschorle
Apple juice mixed with sparkling water, the everyday non-alcoholic drink of choice.

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Safety & health

In summer, watch your bags in crowded harbour areas and on boats.

Carry a passport or national ID card when you take a boat or train to Austria or Switzerland. Switzerland is not in the EU, so you may meet a customs check there.

History

Lindau was first mentioned in 882, when a convent stood on the island. In the 13th century it became a free imperial city. Merchants traded across the lake and over the Alpine passes.

The city lost its free status in 1802 and later became part of Bavaria. In 1853 a causeway linked the island to the railway from Munich. The harbour with its lighthouse and lion followed in 1856. After the Second World War the town was part of the French occupation zone. It returned to Bavaria in 1955.

Since 1951, Nobel Prize winners have met young scientists in Lindau every summer.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Germany at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY



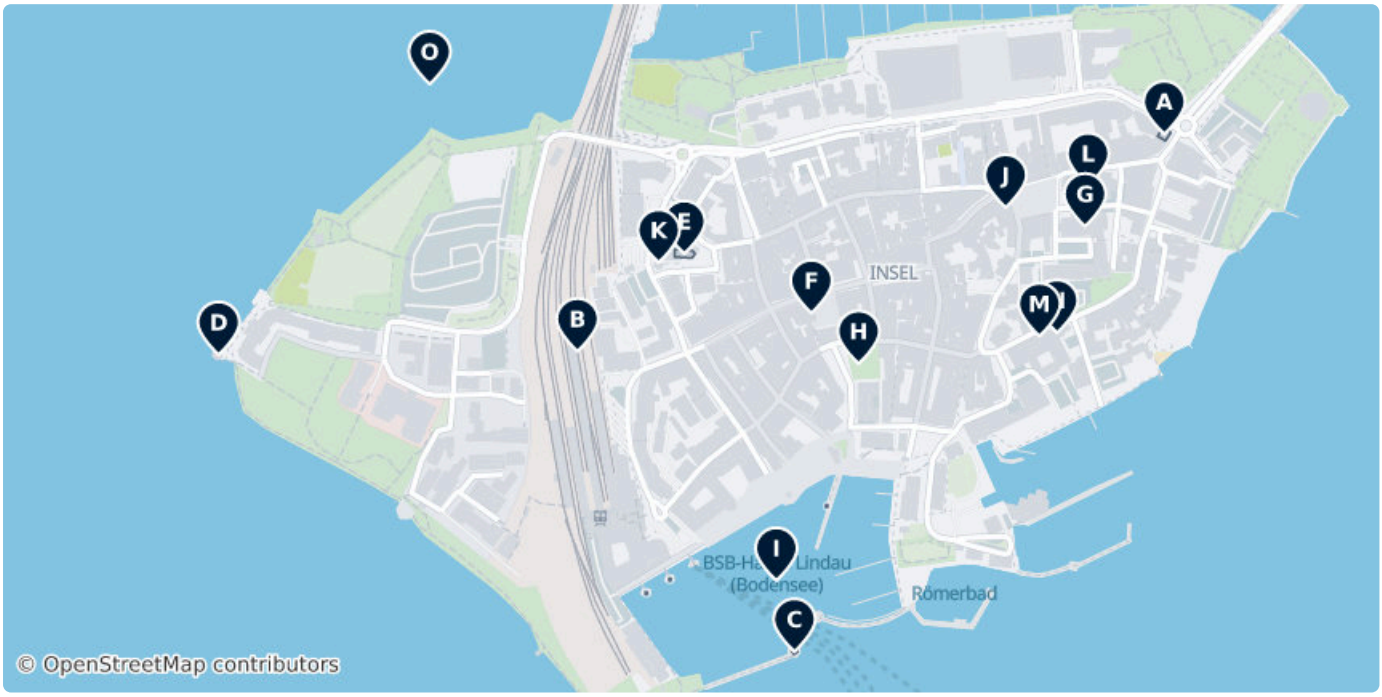
Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
German

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Lindau Essentials

Lindau, situated on an island in Lake Constance, is defined by its medieval layout and significant maritime history. This selection highlights the town's defensive architecture, including the 14th-century Diebsturm and the ancient Heidenmauer. The list covers the iconic 19th-century harbor entrance, featuring the Bavarian Lion and Germany's southernmost lighthouse, alongside historic religious sites like the frescoed Peterskirche and the Rococo-style Münster Unserer Lieben Frau. Cultural landmarks such as the puppet opera and the town's distinctive Baroque museum are also included.



A Heidenmauer

A remnant of the town's ancient defensive fortifications, also known as the "Heathen Wall."

2 Schmiedgasse, Lindau Insel 88131, Germany
(47.54789, 9.68885)



B Town of Lindau

Lindau is a major town and island on the eastern side of Lake Constance in Bavaria, Germany.

52 Maximilianstraße, Lindau Insel 88131, Germany
(47.54580, 9.68050)

+49 8382 9180



C Leuchtturm Lindau

Germany’s southernmost lighthouse, standing 33 meters tall at the harbor entrance. Built in 1856, it features a clock in its facade and provides panoramic views of the Swiss Alps and Lake Constance.

88131, Germany (47.54292, 9.68359)

Mo–Su 09:00–12:30, 13:30–17:30



D Ammunition tower

A defensive tower built in 1434 at the western tip of the island. It originally served as a gunpowder storehouse and remains a key component of the medieval city walls.

Schützingerweg, 88131 Lindau (Bodensee), Germany (47.54577, 9.67539)



E Peterskirche

Lindau's oldest church, dating back over 1,000 years. It is dedicated to St. Peter, patron of fishermen, and houses the "Lindau Passion," a series of 15th-century frescoes.

3 Oberer Schrannenplatz, Lindau Insel 88131, Germany (47.54674, 9.68202)

F Neues Rathaus

An 18th-century Baroque building located on Bismarckplatz, serving as the city's administrative center alongside the Old Town Hall.

Bismarckplatz, 88131 Lindau (Bodensee), Germany (47.54617, 9.68383)



G Münster Unserer Lieben Frau

A former monastery church rebuilt in the 18th century. It features a rich Rococo interior with ornate stucco work and ceiling frescoes by Franz Joseph Spiegler.

2 Stifts Platz, Lindau Insel 88131, Germany
(47.54700, 9.68773)

H Lindaviabrunnen

A red marble fountain inaugurated in 1896. It features a bronze figure of Lindavia and four statues symbolizing the town's historical industries: fishing, shipping, agriculture, and viticulture.

(47.54568, 9.68450)

I BSB-Hafen Lindau (Bodensee)

The central docking point for Lake Constance passenger ships. It is framed by the town's most famous landmarks: the six-meter-tall Bavarian Lion statue and the stone lighthouse.

(47.54360, 9.68333)



J Cavazzen Museum

Housed in a beautiful Baroque mansion with a painted facade and a large mansard roof, this museum displays local historical artifacts and art.

Marktplatz 6, 88131 Lindau (Bodensee), DE
(47.54718, 9.68660)

Mo	Closed
Tu–Su	10:00–18:00

kultur.lindau.de/cavazzen-museum/, +49 8382 918810



K Diebsturm

A medieval watchtower with four distinctive corner turrets, built around 1380. It once served as a prison and is part of the island's historic defense system.

1 Oberer Schrannenplatz, Lindau Insel 88131, Germany
(47.54665, 9.68166)

L St. Stephan

A three-aisled Protestant church with origins in the 12th century. The interior features 18th-century choir stalls and a notable Rococo pulpit.

(47.54739, 9.68777)

lindau-evangelisch.de/st-stephan-christus..., +49 8382 6751

M Lindauer Marionettenoper

A specialized puppet theater that stages classic operas and ballets using elaborate string-controlled marionettes and professional musical recordings.

Fischergasse 37, 88131 Lindau (Bodensee)
(47.54595, 9.68708)

marionettenoper.de, +49 8382 942446



N Stadttheater Lindau

Stadttheater Lindau is a theatre in Bavaria, Germany.

(47.54598, 9.68733)

kultur-lindau.de/theater/, +49 8382 9113911



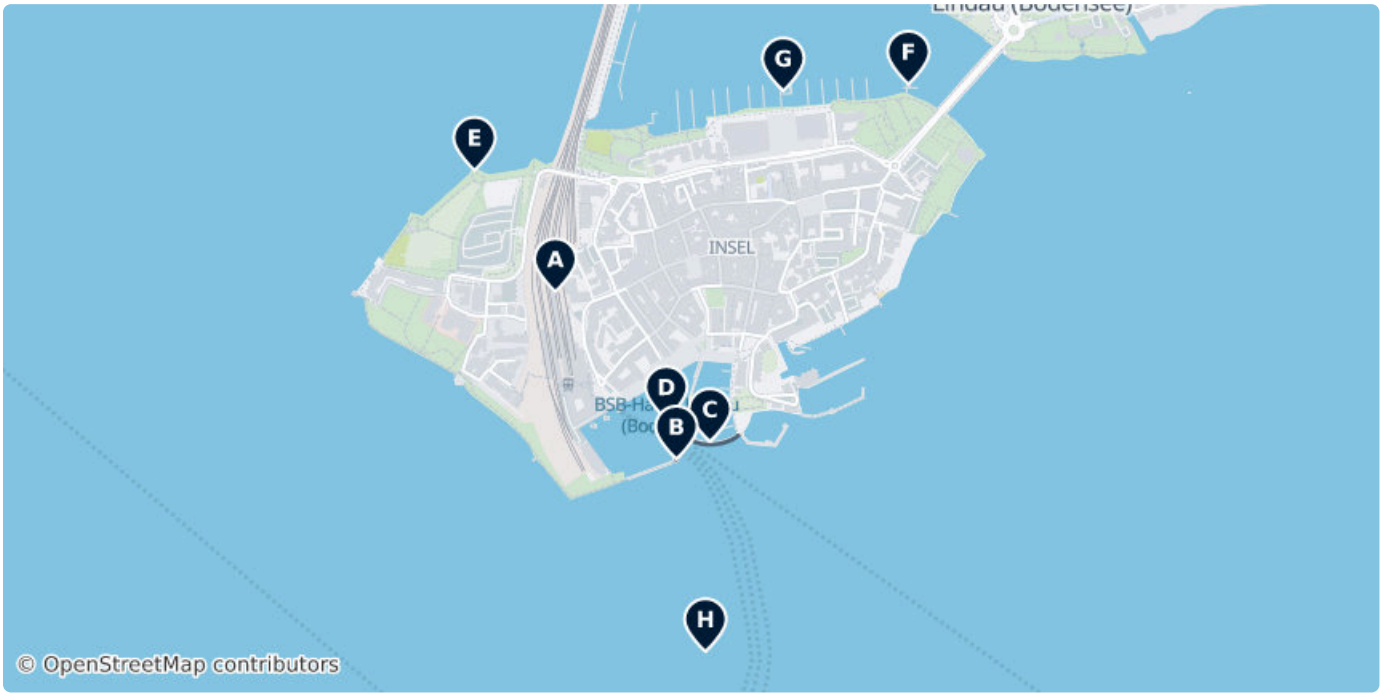
Hexenstein

A large glacial erratic boulder located in the water near the island's shore, transported by the Rhine glacier during the last ice age.

88131, Germany (47.54837, 9.67840)

Lindau Lakeside Highlights

Lindau's lakeside is defined by its 19th-century harbor entrance, framed by the 36-meter New Lighthouse and the massive Bavarian Lion sculpture on the Löwenmole pier. This historic waterfront serves as the main hub for Lake Constance passenger ferries. Beyond the harbor, the shoreline features the 12th-century Mangturm tower, the Nobel Laureate Pier, and various viewpoints offering panoramas of the Swiss and Austrian Alps across the water.





A Town of Lindau

Lindau is a major town and island on the eastern side of Lake Constance in Bavaria, Germany.

52 Maximilianstraße, Lindau Insel 88131, Germany (47.54580, 9.68050)

+49 8382 9180



B Leuchtturm Lindau

Completed in 1856, this 36-meter structure is Germany's southernmost lighthouse. It features a unique clock in its facade and offers 360-degree views of Lake Constance and the Alps from its observation platform.

88131, Germany (47.54292, 9.68359)

Mo–Su	09:00–12:30, 13:30–17:30

C Löwenmole

This pier forms the eastern side of the harbor entrance. It is topped by a six-meter-high sandstone statue of a seated Bavarian Lion, sculpted by Johann von Halbig in 1856 to face the Swiss shore.

88131, Germany (47.54322, 9.68444)

D BSB-Hafen Lindau (Bodensee)

The central docking point for the Bodensee-Schiffsbetriebe ferry fleet, connecting Lindau to Bregenz, Konstanz, and Friedrichshafen. The terminal is equipped with wheelchair-accessible ramps for passenger boarding.

(47.54360, 9.68333)

E Blick über den Bodensee

A scenic vantage point on the island's western shore, situated near the historic Pulverturm. It provides unobstructed views across the lake toward the Swiss mountain ranges.

(47.54789, 9.67844)

F Bootsverleih Daniel Sandau

A rental facility located on the northern shore of the island, providing electric boats, pedal boats, and motorboats for self-guided tours around the Lindau waterfront.

Oskar-Groll-Anlage, Lindau Insel 88131, Germany
(47.54937, 9.68951)

bootsvermietung-lindau.de, +49 8382 5514

G Nobelpreisträger-Steg

A commemorative pier honoring the Nobel Prize winners who visit the town for the annual Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings. It serves as a symbolic connection between the scientific community and the public.

(47.54926, 9.68631)

H Glockenschlagwerk

Located within the 12th-century Mangturm, this historic bell-striking mechanism is part of one of the lake's oldest lighthouses. The tower served as a signaling post and fortification until the mid-19th century.

(47.53960, 9.68433)

DATA SOURCES

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