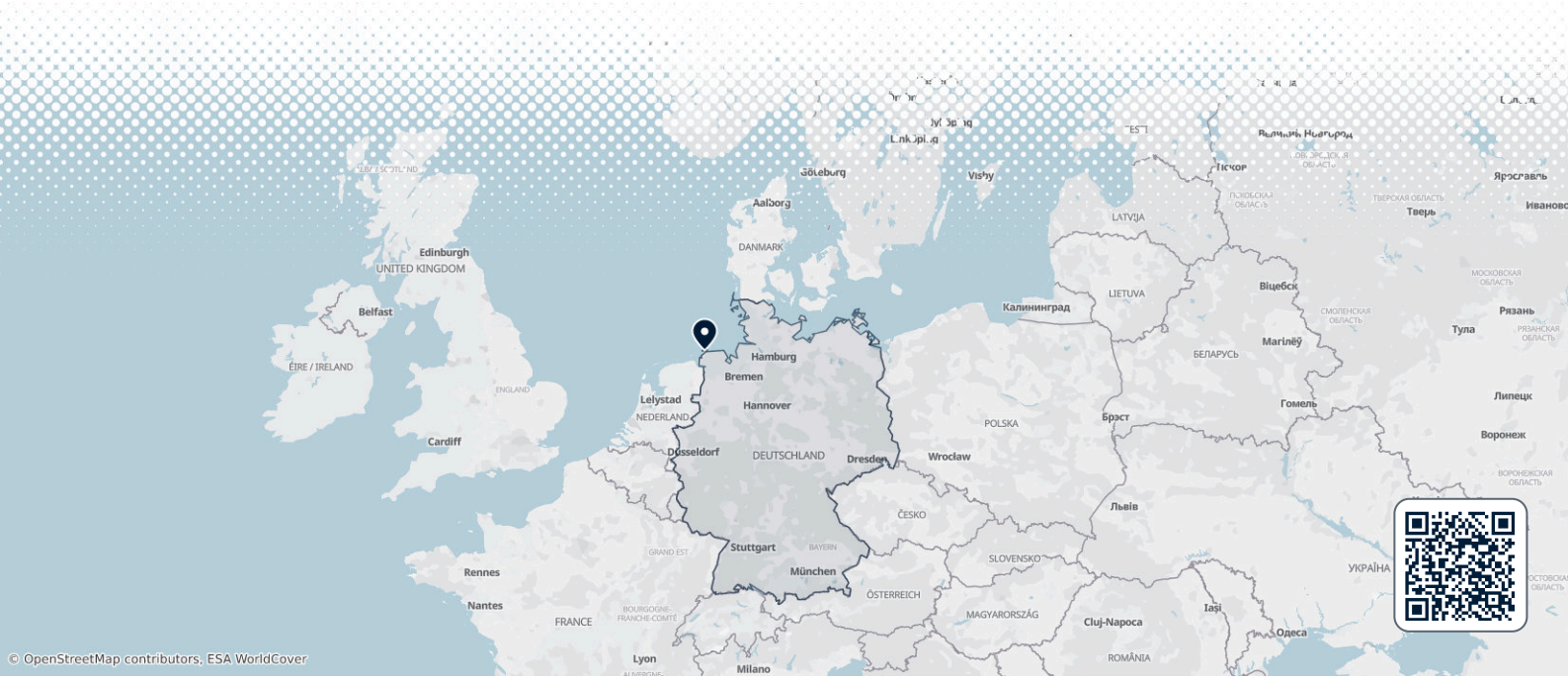



# Norderney

Lower Saxony · Germany

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



## Overview

Norderney is a car-light island in the Wadden Sea, off the coast of East Frisia. It is about 14 km long and 2.5 km wide. A long sandy beach runs along the north side. Dunes and mudflats cover the east.

It suits walks, cycling, beach days and quiet trips in any season. Most of the island's life is in the town in the west.

The poet *Heinrich Heine* stayed here in the 1820s. His stay inspired his poem cycle *Die Nordsee*.

## When to visit

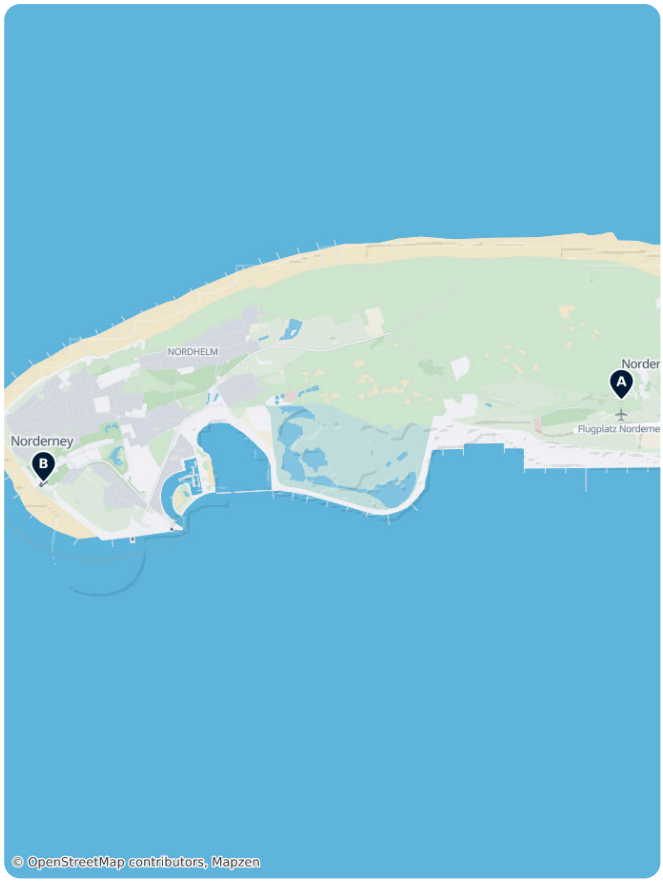
Summer is the main beach season. The sea stays cold even then, and the wind is steady all year. Spring and autumn are quiet and good for long walks and bird watching. Winter is mild for the north, but it is grey, wet and windy.

| MONTH | CONDITIONS | DAY °C avg / max | NIGHT °C avg / min | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| January | Poor<br>Poor for watersports | 5° / 10°<br>Feels like -1° | 2° / -5° | 15 rainy days · Dry air |
| February | Poor<br>Poor for watersports | 6° / 10°<br>Feels like -1° | 2° / -5° | 13 rainy days · Dry air |
| March | Poor<br>Poor for wildlife watching | 8° / 13°<br>Feels like 3° | 3° / -3° | 12 rainy days · Dry air |
| April | Good<br>Good for hiking | 12° / 18°<br>Feels like 7° | 5° / 1° | Dry air |
| May | Good<br>Good for hiking | 15° / 22°<br>Feels like 11° | 9° / 5° | 13 rainy days · Dry air |
| June | Good<br>Good for cycling | 18° / 25° | 12° / 9° | 14 rainy days · Dry air |
| July | Good<br>Good for cycling | 20° / 27° | 15° / 12° | 16 rainy days |
| August | Fair<br>Fair for cycling | 21° / 27° | 15° / 12° | 17 rainy days |
| September | Good<br>Good for cycling | 18° / 23° | 13° / 9° | 14 rainy days · Dry air |
| October | Fair<br>Fair for hiking | 14° / 18°<br>Feels like 9° | 9° / 4° | 16 rainy days · Dry air |
| November | Poor<br>Poor for wildlife watching | 9° / 14°<br>Feels like 4° | 5° / 0° | 16 rainy days · Dry air |
| December | Poor<br>Poor for watersports | 6° / 11°<br>Feels like 0° | 3° / -4° | 15 rainy days · Dry air |

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

## Top sights

- A Leuchtturm Norderney stands in the middle of the island, east of the town. It is a landmark you can see from far away.
- B bade~museum norderney is a museum about the history of Norderney as a seaside resort.
- The Nordstrand is the long sandy beach on the north side of the island. The Weststrand is on the west side, close to the town.
- The Cumberland monument was put up in 1866. It remembers King *Georg V* of Hanover, who spent summers on the island from 1851.
- The Inselwindmühle is a windmill on the south side of the town. It dates from 1862.
- The Nationalparkhaus is an information centre about the Wadden Sea, at the harbour. It is a good stop on a rainy day.
- Stella Maris is a Catholic church in the town. The Inselkirche is the Protestant church.




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## What to experience

- Walk or cycle along the north beach and the dunes to the east of the island.
- Join a guided mudflat walk at low tide. The mudflats are part of the Wadden Sea National Park.
- Look for seals. Larger groups rest on sandbanks at low tide, near the Wichter Ee and the Busetief.
- Hear live music at the island's events. The tourism website lists concerts, festivals and film events.

## Where to explore

The ferry port lies on the East Frisian mainland coast.

- Eastern Friesland is the mainland region of the ferry port.

## Getting there

- **By ferry**: Ferries run from Norddeich Mole, near Norden, to Norderney. The operator is Reederei Norden-Frisia.
- **By train**: Take a train to Norddeich Mole. The station is next to the ferry terminal. Check connections on Deutsche Bahn.
- By air: The island has a small airfield. The ferry is the usual way to arrive.

Ferry tickets and the island's events are listed on Norderney tourism.

## Getting around

- On foot: The town is small and compact. Most sights are within a short walk.
- By bike: Bike rental shops are in the town.
- Cars: Car traffic on the island is strictly regulated. A car is not needed for a normal visit.

### Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

**High**

The town is small and compact.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

**High**

The island is flat and bikes can be rented.

# Food & drink

Fish and shrimp are common on menus. Try a fish roll at a harbour or beach kiosk. East Frisian tea is the local tradition. It is served strong, with rock sugar and cream.

## 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

Swim only at beach sections with lifeguards. Currents can be strong. Tides change fast on the mudflats, so walk there only with a guide or after checking the tide table.

## History

The island was first mentioned in 1398. Storm floods have changed its shape many times.

In 1797 Norderney became the first North Sea resort in Germany.

## 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**

# Norderney Essentials

Norderney, the oldest seaside resort on the East Frisian Islands, blends Prussian history with North Sea nature. This selection features the 1874 red-brick lighthouse, the 1862 'Selden Rüst' windmill, and the classicist Conversationshaus. It covers cultural sites like the bade~museum and Kurtheater alongside natural landmarks such as the Weiße Düne and Monte Müll nature reserve. From Neo-Gothic churches to New Objectivity architecture, these landmarks define the island's transition from a royal retreat to a modern natural paradise.






## A Leuchtturm Norderney

Active 60-meter-high red-brick lighthouse built between 1871 and 1874. It serves as a navigational landmark and offers a viewing platform with panoramas of the Wadden Sea.

1 Am Leuchtturm, Am Leuchtturm 26548, Germany
(53.70924, 7.22964)

Mo–Su 14:00–16:00

wsv.de/wsa-emd/schifffahrt/Schifffahrtszeichen/Feste_Sc...

## B Kap Norderney

A 13-meter-high historic navigation mark and daymark made of wood and stone, originally constructed in 1848 to assist shipping.

16 Am Kap, Norderney 26548, Germany
(53.71021, 7.15656)



## C bade~museum norderney

Housed in a former outdoor seawater pool building, this museum documents the history of sea bathing and island culture, including the Hans Trimborn art gallery.

Poppe-Folkerts-Weg 3b, 26548 Norderney, DE
(53.70203, 7.14405)

| | |
|---|---|
| Tu–Fr | 11:00–17:00 |
| Sa–Su | 14:00–17:00 |

## D Conversationshaus

Classicist building from the 19th century that served as the social center for royal spa guests. It now houses the visitor center, library, and event spaces.

(53.70434, 7.14521)

## E Inselwindmühle Norderney

Built in 1862, this 'Selden Rüst' Dutch-style windmill is the only one of its kind on the East Frisian Islands. It currently houses a restaurant.

Marienstraße, 26548 Norderney, Germany
(53.70616, 7.15636)

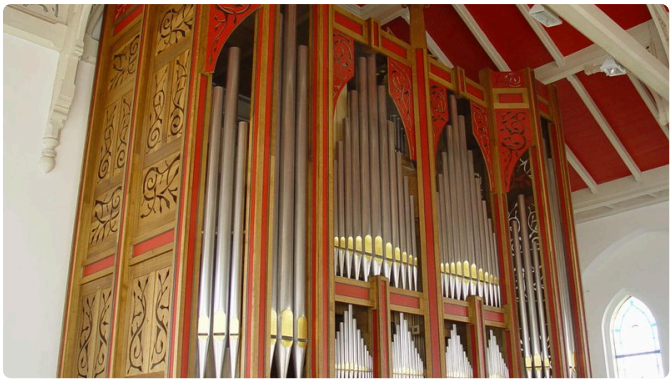



## F Kurtheater

Historic theater built in 1894, modeled after the opera house in Hanover. It hosts film screenings and stage performances in a refurbished Neo-Baroque interior.

4 Am Kurtheater, Norderney 26548, Germany
(53.70573, 7.14649)

norderney.de/events/kino.html



## G Inselkirche

Protestant church completed in 1879 in the Neo-Gothic style, featuring a characteristic spire that serves as a prominent town landmark.

11A Kirchstraße, Norderney 26548, Germany
(53.70626, 7.14256)

## H Weiße Düne

Coastal restaurant and landmark situated among the sand dunes on the island's northern shore.

(53.72060, 7.20795)

weisseduene.com, +49 4932 935717



## I Cumberland Denkmal

Obelisk memorial erected in 2002 to commemorate the historical ties between the island and the House of Cumberland.

6 Birkenweg, Norderney 26548, Germany
(53.71130, 7.17029)



## J Stella Maris

Roman Catholic church built in 1931, representing a notable example of the New Objectivity architectural style on the island.

1 Goebenstraße, Norderney 26548, Germany
(53.70951, 7.14518)

## K Fürst Bismarck

Former iron rowing lifeboat of the German Maritime Search and Rescue Service, preserved as a technical monument near the harbor.

(53.70333, 7.14110)

## L Monte Müll

A former landfill converted into a scenic viewpoint and nature reserve, offering elevated views over the island's landscape.

(53.70743, 7.17608)

## DATA SOURCES

| | |
|---|---|
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