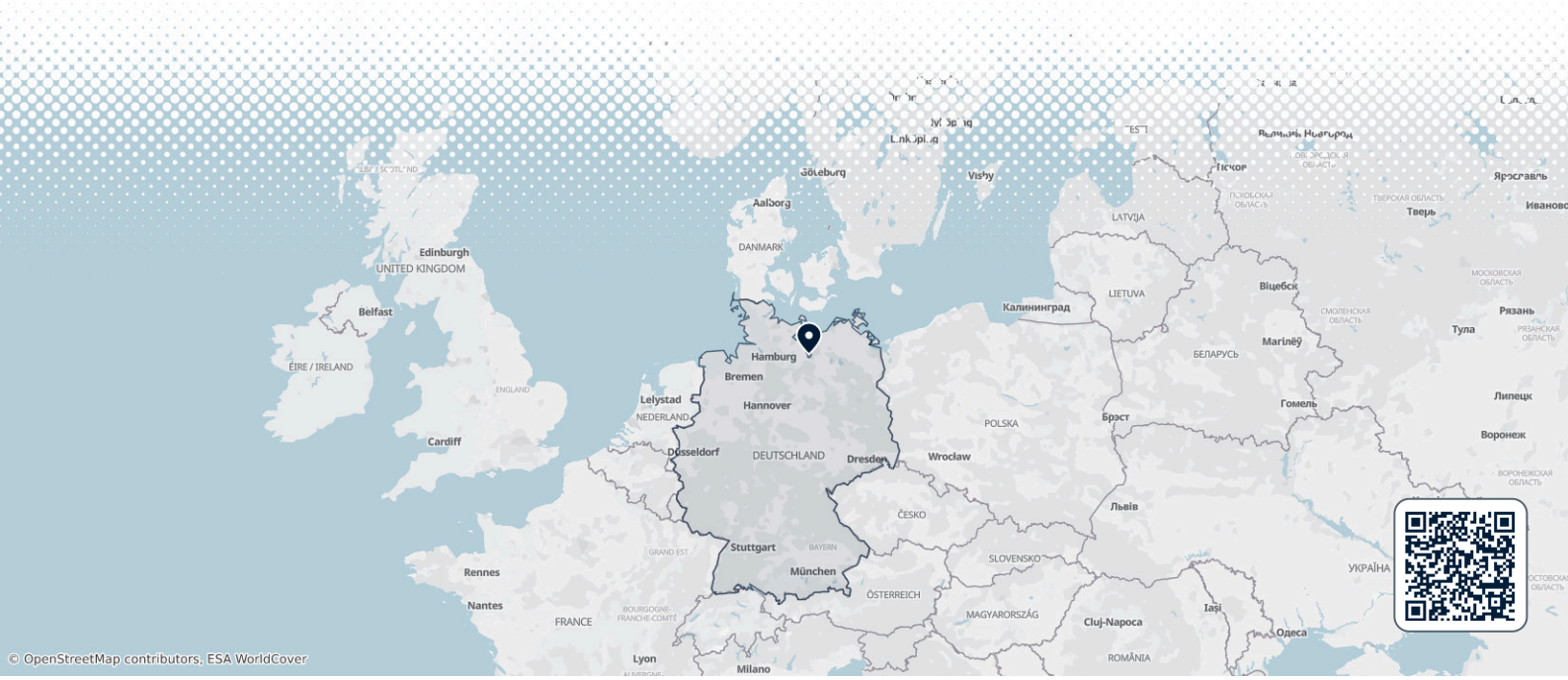


Schwerin

Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania · Germany

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Schwerin is the capital of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania. It lies on lakes, with 12 lakes inside the city limits. The old town sits between the water and the green hills around it.

The castle stands on an island in the main lake. The city suits a calm weekend of sights, lake views and a trip to the coast or to Lübeck and Hamburg.

When to visit

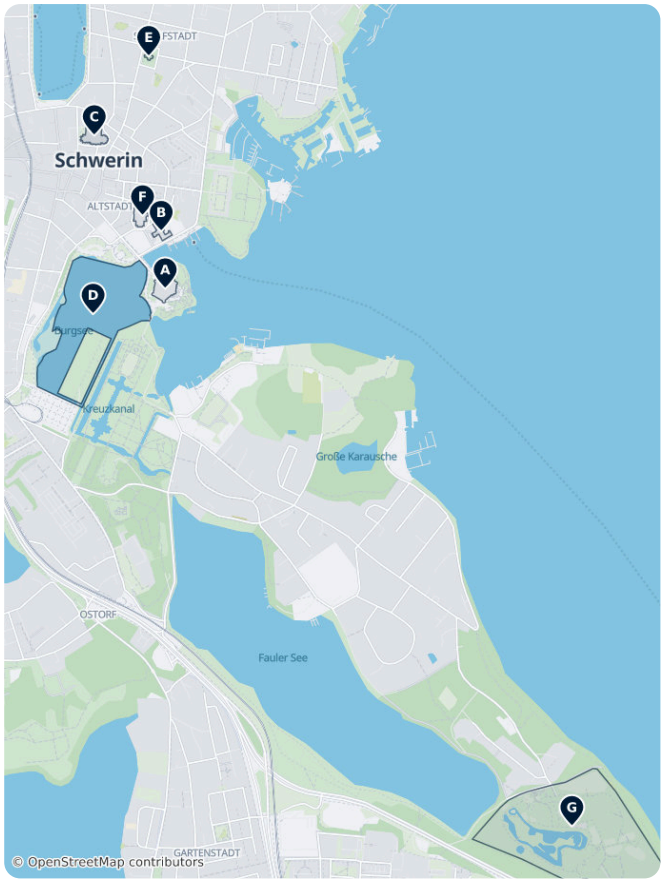
June to August is the best time for walks, boat trips and swimming in the lakes. Winters are cold and grey, with short days.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	3° / 9° Feels like -3°	-2° / -11°	13 rainy days · Dry air
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	4° / 11° Feels like -1°	-2° / -10°	12 rainy days · Dry air
March	Poor Poor for sightseeing	9° / 16° Feels like 3°	0° / -5°	Dry air
April	Fair Fair for sightseeing	14° / 21° Feels like 9°	3° / -2°	Dry air
May	Good Good for sightseeing	18° / 24° Feels like 15°	8° / 3°	Dry air
June	Great Great for sightseeing	21° / 27°	11° / 7°	12 rainy days · Dry air
July	Good Good for sightseeing	23° / 29°	13° / 10°	16 rainy days
August	Great Great for sightseeing	23° / 29°	13° / 10°	14 rainy days
September	Good Good for sightseeing	19° / 25°	10° / 6°	Dry air
October	Fair Fair for sightseeing	14° / 19° Feels like 10°	6° / 1°	12 rainy days · Dry air
November	Poor Poor for sightseeing	7° / 13° Feels like 3°	2° / -4°	12 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	3° / 10° Feels like -2°	-1° / -9°	14 rainy days · Dry air

Best months: June, August

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights



- A Schwerin Castle stands on an island and is the symbol of the city. Most of the present building dates from 1845 to 1857. Parts of it house the state parliament and a museum.
- B Staatliches Museum Schwerin is an art museum with medieval works and Dutch and Flemish art. It also has a large Marcel Duchamp collection.
- C Schwerin Cathedral is a Brick Gothic church built between 1270 and 1416. Its tower is 117.5 m high.
- D Burgsee is the lake along the castle and the old town.
- E St. Nikolai is the church of the Schelfstadt district. This quarter is quieter than the centre.
- F Mecklenburg State Theatre is the main theatre of the city.
- G Zoo Schwerin lies on the southern edge of the city. It has giraffes, rhinos and Asian lions.
- The Pfaffenteich is a small lake in the centre of the city, with a promenade around it.

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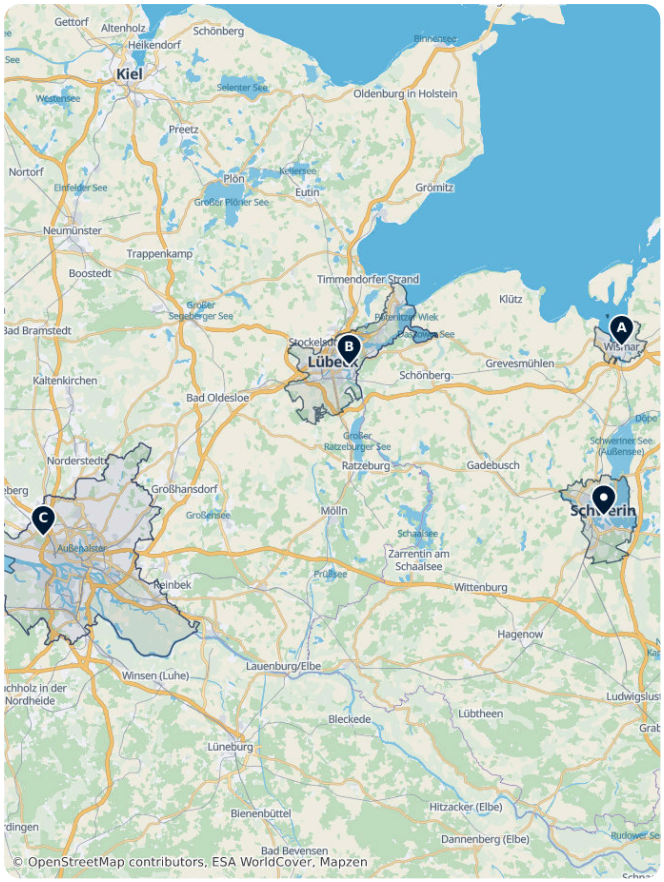
What to experience

- Take a boat tour on the lakes.
- Swim at a lake bathing site such as Zippendorfer Strand in summer.
- Cycle or paddle along the lake shores.
- See open-air theatre in the castle courtyard.

Day trips

- A Wismar is a Hanseatic port town on the Baltic coast. It has a brick old town. Allow 30 to 60 minutes by train.
- Ludwigslust has a large palace and a park with canals and a cascade. It is about 30 to 60 minutes away by car or train.
- Güstrow has a Renaissance palace and a small old town. It is about 1 hour away by car.
- B Lübeck is a Hanseatic city with a UNESCO old town. It is about 1 to 1.5 hours away by regional train.
- C Hamburg is a large port city with museums and harbour views. It is about 1 to 1.5 hours away by train.



Where to explore

- To the north-east: Rostock and Stralsund are Baltic coast cities.
- To the south-east: Müritz National Park is a lake and forest area for walking, cycling and paddling.

Getting there

- **By air**: Hamburg Airport is the nearest major airport. Continue by train via Hamburg Hauptbahnhof.
- **By train**: Schwerin Hauptbahnhof has trains to Hamburg, Rostock and Berlin. Book on Deutsche Bahn.

Getting around

- **Public transport**: Trams and buses cover the city. See Nahverkehr Schwerin (NVS) for tickets and the NVS app.
- On foot: The old town, the castle and the lake are close together. Most sights are easy to reach on foot.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The old town, castle and lake are close together.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

The terrain is mostly flat around the lakes.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Not for the city centre. A car helps for Ludwigslust, Güstrow and the lakes around the city.

Food & drink

Fish is common on local menus, from the lakes and the Baltic coast. Try smoked fish, and Rote Grütze (red berry pudding) for dessert.

Cafés and restaurants cluster around the Markt and in the Schelfstadt district.

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

- Mosquitoes can be a nuisance near the lakes in summer.
- Swim only at marked bathing sites.

History

- Schwerin was first mentioned in 1018. In 1160 *Henry the Lion* took the town and gave it city rights.
- Schwerin Cathedral has a tall tower that was added from 1889 to 1893.
- The dukes and later grand dukes of Mecklenburg-Schwerin ruled from Schwerin Castle. The architects *Gottfried Semper*, *Georg Adolf Demmler* and *Friedrich August Stüler* worked on the present building.
- Since 1990 Schwerin has been the state capital, and the state parliament sits in the castle. UNESCO listed the castle and the old residence area in 2024.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Germany at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY



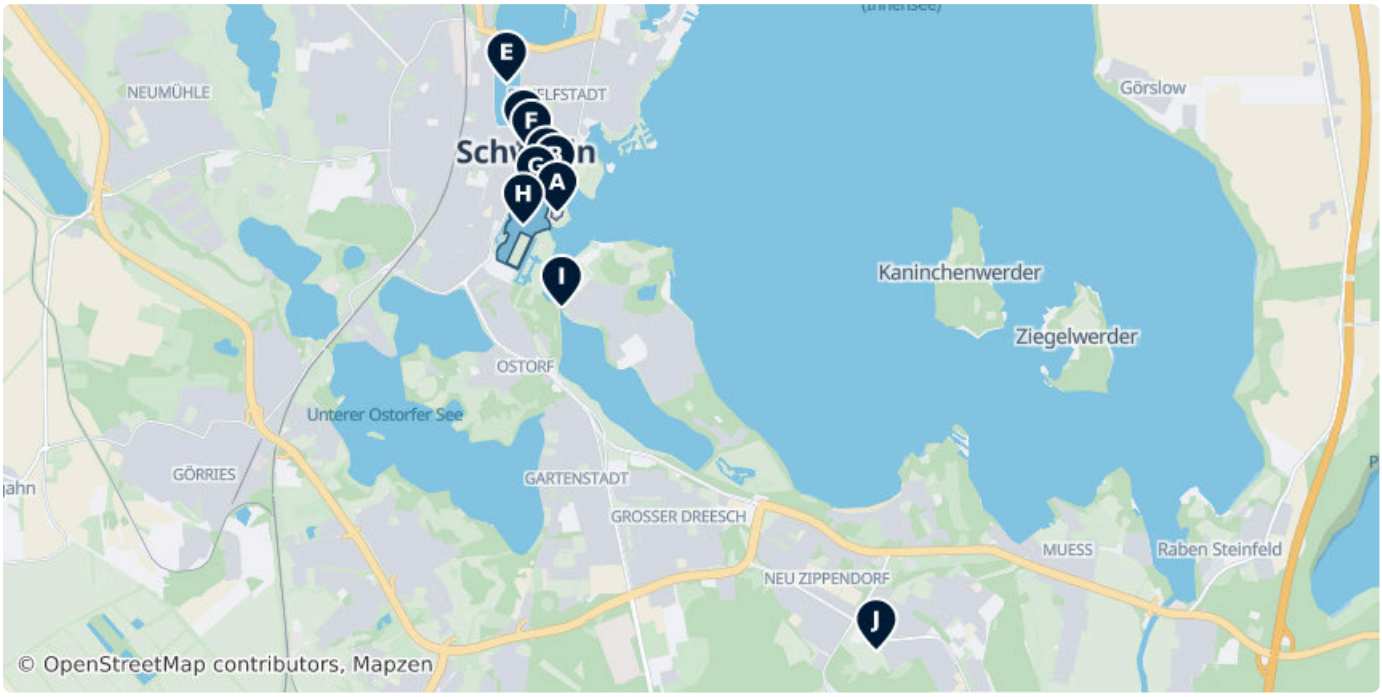
Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

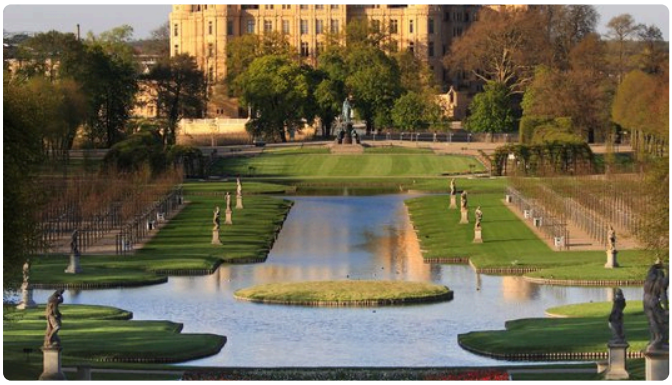
LANGUAGES
German

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Schwerin Essentials

Schwerin, the 'City of Seven Lakes,' is defined by its architectural ensemble centering on the Schweriner Schloss. This 19th-century romantic palace sits on an island between the Burgsee and Lake Schwerin. The surrounding old town features the brick Gothic Schwerin Cathedral and the historic Market Square with its Tudor-style Town Hall. Cultural landmarks include the Staatliches Museum's extensive art collections and the Neo-Renaissance State Theatre, while the 18th-century Schleifmühle water mill highlights the city's long-standing connection to its waterways.





A Schwerin Castle

Schwerin Castle (German: Schweriner Schloss, German pronunciation: also known as Schwerin Palace, is a 19th-century Schloss built in the...

Lennéstraße 1, 19053 Schwerin (53.62447, 11.41865)

schwerin.de/kultur-tourismus/sehens... , +49 385 5 925212



B Staatliches Museum Schwerin

The Staatliches Museum Schwerin is an art gallery and museum in Schwerin in Germany.

Alter Garten 3, 19055 Schwerin, DE (53.62644, 11.41841)

Apr-Oct Tu–Su	11:00–18:00
Nov-Mar Tu–Su	11:00–17:00

museum-schwerin.de, +49 385 58847222



C Schwerin Cathedral

Schwerin Cathedral is an Evangelical Lutheran Cathedral located in the town of Schwerin, Germany.

Am Dom 2, 19055 Schwerin, DE (53.62971, 11.41456)

Mo–Sa	10:00–17:00
Su	12:00–17:00

dom-schwerin.de



D Mecklenburg State Theatre

The Mecklenburg State Theatre is the principal theatre of Schwerin in Germany.

Alter Garten 2, 19055 Schwerin, DE (53.62697, 11.41734)

mecklenburgisches-staatstheater.de/star... , +49 385 53 000



E Pfaffenteich

Pfaffenteich is a pond in Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany. At an elevation of 39.2 m, its surface area is 12.3 hectares.

Schwerin 19055, Germany (53.63391, 11.41246)

F Rathaus Schwerin

Located on the market square, this town hall features a 19th-century Tudor-style facade designed by Georg Adolph Demmler. It stands as a centerpiece of the historic old town, adjacent to the cathedral.

Am Markt, 19055 Schwerin, Germany (53.62891, 11.41551)

Mo–Su	Open 24/7



G Siegessäule

A memorial column on the Alter Garten square dedicated to the Mecklenburg soldiers who fought in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870–1871.

Alter Garten, Schwerin 19053, Germany (53.62562, 11.41609)



H Burgsee

Burgsee is a lake at Schwerin, Nordwestmecklenburg, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany.

19053, Germany (53.62360, 11.41449)

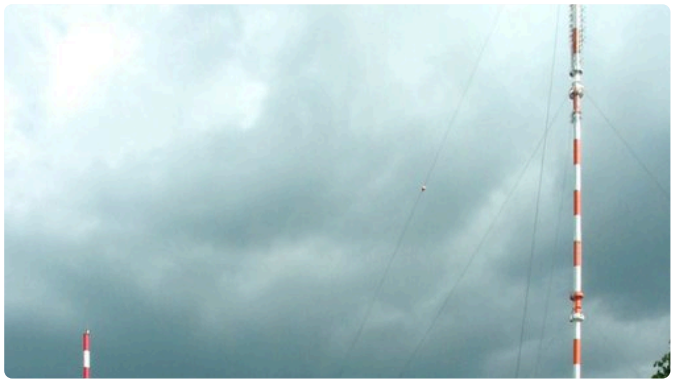


I Schleifmühle

An 18th-century water-powered mill used for processing and polishing stones. It features an undershot water wheel and demonstrates historical stone-cutting technical crafts.

Schleifmühlenweg 1, 19061 Schwerin, DE (53.61760, 11.41920)

schleifmuehle-schwerin.de, +49 385 562751



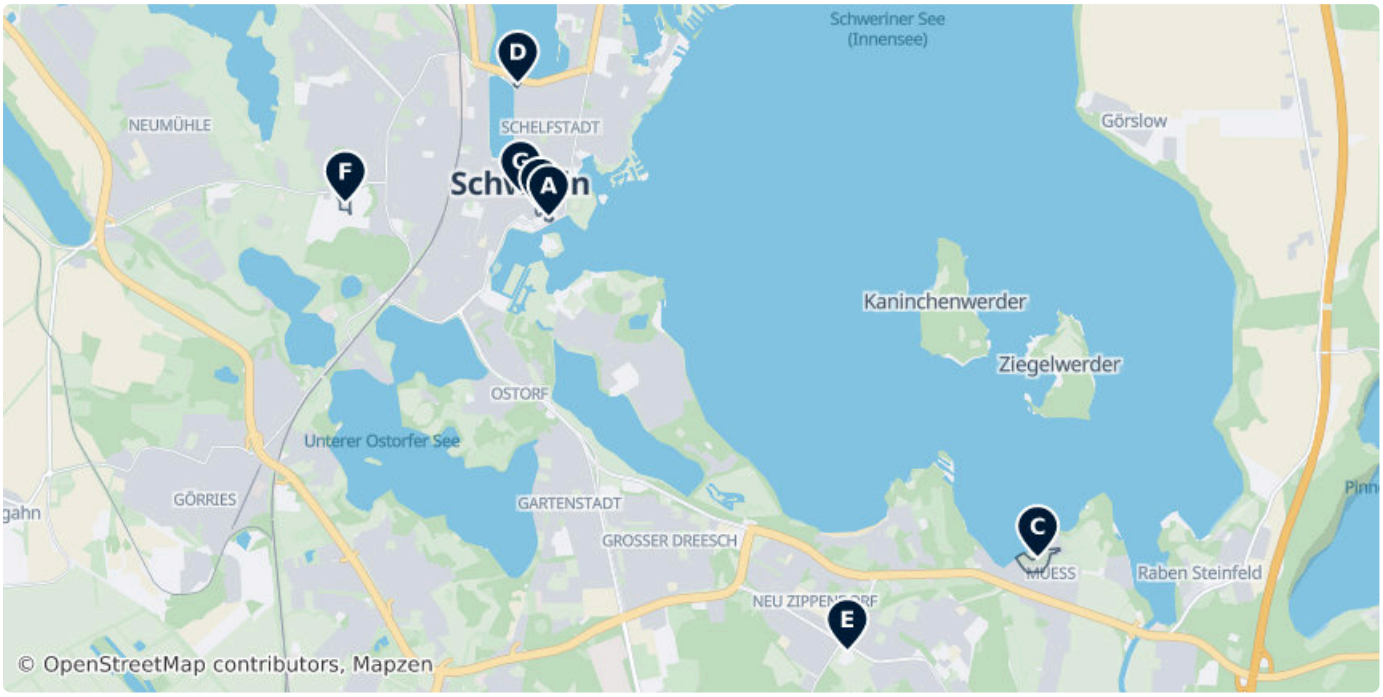
J Schwerin TV tower

The Schweriner Fernsehturm is a 136.5-metre-tall communications tower built of steel-concrete between 1960 and 1964 in Schwerin, Germany.

(53.59262, 11.45782)

Editor's Choice

Schwerin's cultural landscape features the Staatliches Museum, home to a significant collection of Dutch and Flemish masters, and the neoclassical Mecklenburg State Theatre. The city preserves its history at the Schwerin-Mueß Open-Air Museum, a former fishing village on the lake, and the International Fire Brigade Museum, the largest of its kind in Germany. Performance venues range from the repurposed 1904 E-Werk power plant to the 8,000-capacity Sport- und Kongresshalle, while the Welterbe Schwerin center details the city's UNESCO World Heritage ensemble.





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museum-schwerin.de, +49 385 58847222



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Alter Garten 2, 19055 Schwerin, DE (53.62697, 11.41734)

mecklenburgisches-staatstheater.de/star... , +49 385 53 000



C Freilichtmuseum für Volkskunde Schwerin-Mueß

An open-air museum located in a former fishing and farming village on the southern shore of Lake Schwerin. It preserves traditional rural buildings and showcases regional folklore and historical village life.

2 Zum Alten Bauernhof, Mueß 19063, Germany (53.60112, 11.47968)

Tu–Su 10:00–17:00

schwerin.de/kultur-tourismus/kunst-kul... , +49 385 20841-0



D E-Werk

A former municipal power station built in 1904 on the banks of the Pfaffenteich. The industrial heritage building now serves as a secondary venue for the Mecklenburg State Theatre.

Spieltordamm 5, 19055 Schwerin, DE (53.63636, 11.41453)

mecklenburgisches-staatstheater.de/kontakt.html



E Feuerwehr-Museum

Germany's largest fire brigade museum, featuring an extensive collection of historical firefighting equipment, vintage vehicles, and technical exhibits spanning several centuries.

Hamburger Allee 68, 19063 Schwerin, DE (53.59421, 11.45582)

Tu–Su 10:00–18:00

ifm-schwerin.com, +49 385 20271539



F Sport- und Kongresshalle

Sport- und Kongresshalle is an indoor sporting arena located in Schwerin, Germany. The capacity of the arena is 8,000 people.

Wittenburger Straße 118, 19059 Schwerin, DE (53.62749, 11.39293)

stadthalle-schwerin.de/de/sport-und-ko... , +49 385 761900

Welterbe Schwerin

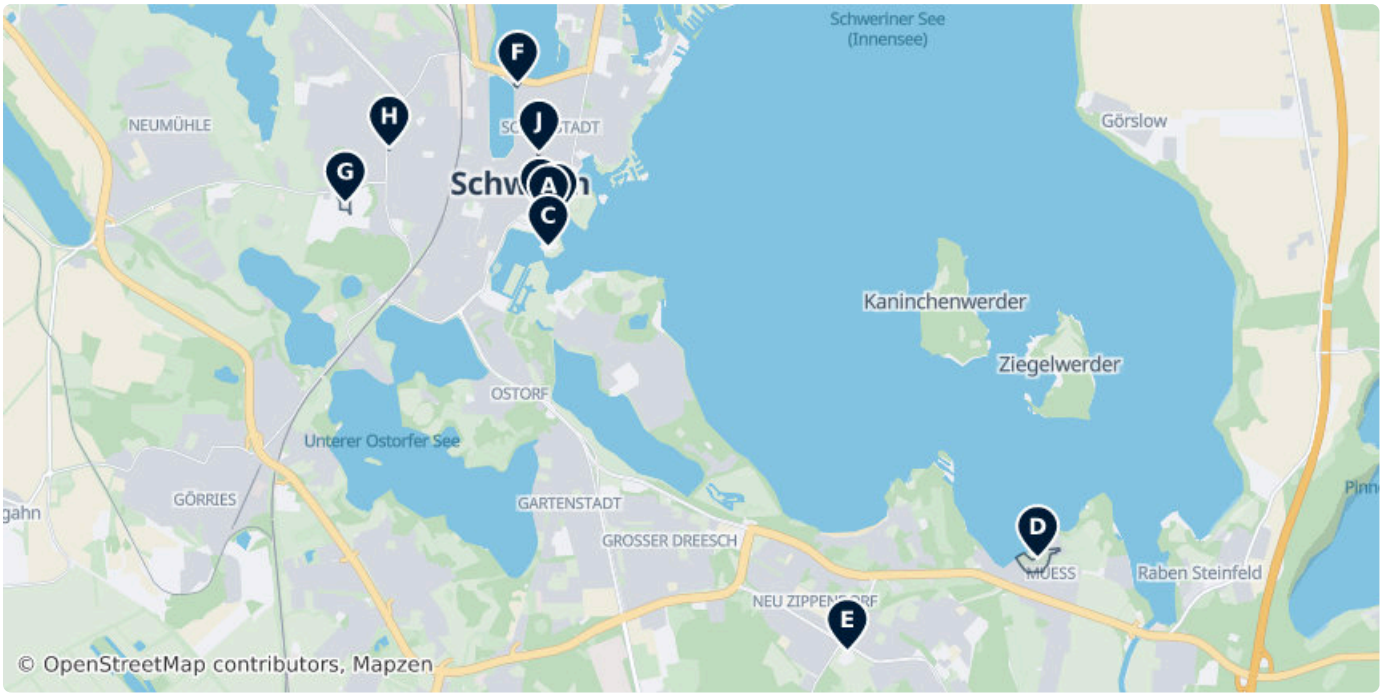
An information center dedicated to the UNESCO World Heritage nomination of the 'Schwerin Residence Ensemble,' highlighting the city's 19th-century architecture and cultural landscape.

(53.62825, 11.41490)

Mo–Su	11:00–16:00

Museums & Culture

Schwerin's cultural scene centers on the grand Schwerin Castle, housing the Schlossmuseum and neighboring the Staatliches Museum Schwerin with its renowned Dutch and Flemish collections. The city offers diverse historical perspectives, from the open-air folk museum in Mueß to the documentation center for victims of political dictatorships. Performing arts are represented by the Neo-Renaissance Mecklenburg State Theatre and the industrial E-Werk venue, while the International Fire Brigade Museum stands as the largest of its kind in Germany.





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mecklenburgisches-staatstheater.de/star... , +49 385 53 000

C Schlossmuseum

Located within Schwerin Castle, this museum showcases the opulent residential rooms and throne rooms of the Grand Dukes of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, alongside collections of porcelain, silver, and ceremonial weapons.

Lennéstraße 1, 19053 Schwerin (53.62422, 11.41834)

Apr 15-Oct 14 Tu–Su	10:00–18:00
Oct 15-Apr 14 Tu–Su	10:00–17:00

mv-schloesser.de/de/location/schloss..., +49 385 588 41 572



D Freilichtmuseum für Volkskunde Schwerin-Mueß

This open-air museum preserves the structures of a traditional 18th and 19th-century fishing and farming village, featuring historic timber-framed houses, a village school, and traditional gardens on the shore of Lake Schwerin.

2 Zum Alten Bauernhof, Mueß 19063, Germany (53.60112, 11.47968)

Tu–Su	10:00–17:00

schwerin.de/kultur-tourismus/kunst-kul..., +49 385 20841-0



E Feuerwehr-Museum

Germany's largest fire brigade museum features over 4,500 square meters of exhibition space. Its collection includes historical fire engines, equipment, and uniforms tracing the evolution of firefighting technology.

Hamburger Allee 68, 19063 Schwerin, DE (53.59421, 11.45582)

Tu–Su	10:00–18:00

ifm-schwerin.com, +49 385 20271539



F E-Werk

A former municipal power station built in 1904, this industrial heritage site now serves as an alternative venue for the Mecklenburg State Theatre, hosting modern drama and experimental performances.

Spieltordamm 5, 19055 Schwerin, DE (53.63636, 11.41453)

mecklenburgisches-staatstheater.de/kontakt.html



G Sport- und Kongresshalle

Sport- und Kongresshalle is an indoor sporting arena located in Schwerin, Germany. The capacity of the arena is 8,000 people.

Wittenburger Straße 118, 19059 Schwerin, DE
(53.62749, 11.39293)

stadthalle-schwerin.de/de/sport-und-ko... , +49 385 761900

H Dokumentationszentrum des Landes für Opfer der Diktaturen in Deutschland

Located in a former detention center, this memorial documents political persecution during the Nazi era and the GDR period, focusing on the history of the site and the fates of those imprisoned there.

(53.63161, 11.39842)

lpb-mv.de/cms2/LfpB_prod/LfpB/de/dz/

I Kunstsammlung Schwerin

This art center hosts rotating exhibitions of contemporary and classical works, complementing the permanent collections of the nearby Staatliches Museum with a focus on regional and international artists.

(53.62660, 11.41946)

museum-schwerin.de/orte/kunstsammlungen-schwerin/

J Kulturforum Schleswig-Holstein-Haus

Set in a restored 18th-century building, this cultural forum hosts temporary art exhibitions, literary events, and concerts, serving as a hub for the city's artistic and intellectual community.

Puschkinstraße 12, 19055 Schwerin, DE
(53.63126, 11.41720)

schwerin.de/kultur-tourismus/kunst-kult... , +49 385 555527

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