



IHK Schwerin



BUSINESS IN WEST MECKLENBURG SETTING SAIL TOGETHER



A photograph of a sailboat with a large white sail, racing on a blue body of water. The boat is tilted, and several people are visible on deck. The background is a clear blue sky.

WEST MECKLENBURG – A STRONG ECONOMIC REGION SETTING SAIL TOGETHER

The west of the federal state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, the eastern part of the Hamburg metropolitan region, directly on the Baltic Sea and close to the capital region of Berlin: West Mecklenburg is located in the middle of northern Germany and, as the intersection of three European transport corridors, simultaneously connects the economic areas of western and eastern Europe as well as central and southern Europe with Scandinavia. Its central location, combined with modern infrastructure, efficient transport routes and well-developed and favourable commercial and industrial sites make West Mecklenburg the ideal location for your business idea and your investment.

With the state capital Schwerin at the heart of the region, the distances between business and politics are short. A settlement-friendly environment enables quick decisions and offers attractive relocation packages. In addition to traditional industries such as shipbuilding, mechanical engineering or the food and logistics industries, the focus is on future fields such as the health industry, information technologies and renewable energy. But regardless of the industry, you will find enthusiastic people here who are amenable to your settlement project.

The slogans "a great place to live and work" and "come to where the power is" come together in an ideal way in West Mecklenburg. A well-trained and motivated workforce and renewable energy give West Mecklenburg a competitive advantage today and in the future. Whether industries, traditional family businesses or start-ups: they all find clean and crisis-proof energy here, more and more natives of the region returning with their young families and an attractive, natural and, above all, liveable environment in scenic surroundings.

This publication aims to make you curious to get to know the region and its economic structure and to provide important arguments for your decision to choose West Mecklenburg as a business location. We will be happy to answer your questions. We are your contact when it comes to networks and all sources of information.

We would be delighted if you decided to drop anchor in West Mecklenburg in your search for an investment location. So let us set sail together into an economically successful future.

Ihre Industrie- und Handelskammer zu Schwerin.
Your Schwerin Chamber of Commerce and industry.





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Schwerin Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI)

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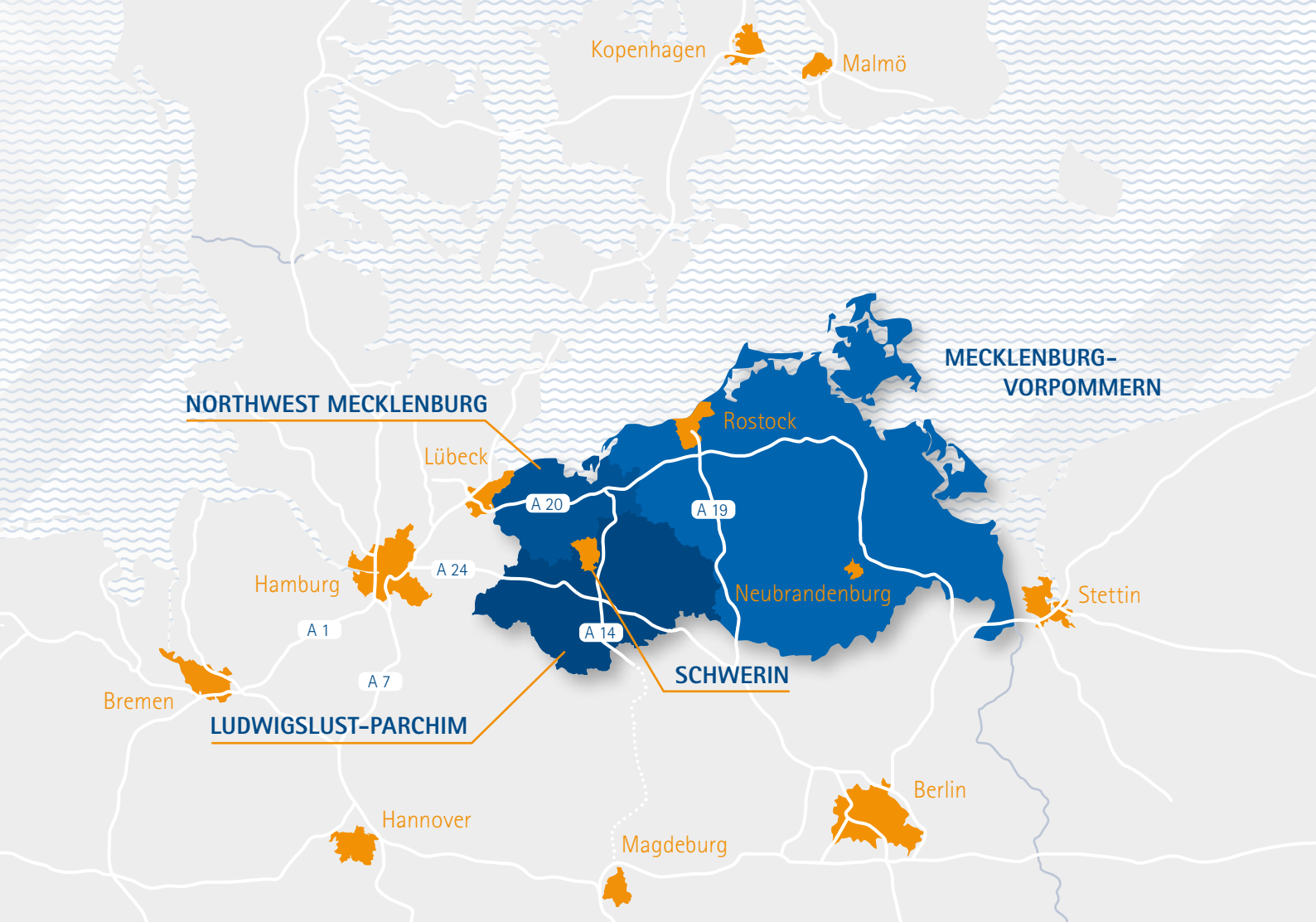
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WEST MECKLENBURG REGION: POWERHOUSE IN THE BALTIC REGION

The region of West Mecklenburg lies in the middle of the triangle formed by the metropolises of Copenhagen, Hamburg and Berlin. The approximately 7,000-square-kilometre area is the western part of the federal state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and at the same time the eastern part of the Hamburg metropolitan region and is formed by the two districts of Ludwigslust-Parchim and Northwest Mecklenburg as well as the state capital Schwerin.

The district of Northwest Mecklenburg is located directly on the Baltic coast and is economically and geographically characterised by its proximity to the Hanseatic city of Lübeck, the state capital Schwerin and the Hanseatic city of Rostock. Direct transport links to the Baltic region are ensured by the A 20 motorway via the seaport of Wismar. Economically, the district is one of Europe's top locations for the timber as well as the food industry and is visited by hundreds of thousands of tourists every year. A special attraction is Wismar, a Hanseatic, university and UNESCO World Heritage City. In recent years, a lively start-up scene has developed here that radiates throughout the entire region.





Kopenhagen

Malmö

NORTHWEST MECKLENBURG

MECKLENBURG-VORPOMMERN

Rostock

Lübeck

A 20

A 19

A 24

Hamburg

A 1

A 7

Bremen

LUDWIGSLUST-PARCHIM

Neubrandenburg

A 14

SCHWERIN

Stettin

Berlin

Hannover

Magdeburg

Central locational benefits at a glance – your reasons for choosing West Mecklenburg



Large industrial and commercial land potential

approx. 625 hectares available – conveniently located in terms of costs and transport links



Well-developed infrastructure

Congestion-free motorways, efficient seaports, intersection in the trans-European transport network



Business people are always welcome

Short decision-making processes in the administration, attractive funding opportunities



Strong workforce potential

well educated, highly motivated – support in staff acquisition as well as training and further education



Proximity to international markets

The Baltic economic region and Port of Hamburg right on the doorstep



Energy state MV

By far Germany's highest share of renewable energy in power generation



Active business development and network partners

Strong, well connected sectors, clusters and networks



Science and business

Prestigious higher education institutions, universities and research facilities



Family friendliness

Excellent childcare for all ages, attractive living conditions and affordable house prices



Outstanding quality of life

Pure nature and culture



With an area of 4,751 square kilometres, the district of Ludwigslust-Parchim is the second largest district in Germany and forms the southern part of West Mecklenburg. It is geographically characterised by its location on the Hamburg-Berlin axis. A large catchment area within quick reach via the A24 and A14 motorways as well as via the ICE line between the two metropolises, which stops in Ludwigslust. The economic landscape is dominated by companies from manufacturing industry, especially from the food sector, but also the logistics industry is strong. The district is fully committed to renewable energy and plans to establish green industrial estates. The existing pipeline infrastructure also provides the basis for the future technology of hydrogen.

The district is also an area of outstanding natural beauty, with its two Schaalsee and Flusslandschaft Elbe UNESCO biosphere reserves along the former inner-German border as well as the region around the Plauer See Lake, the western gateway to the Mecklenburg Lake District, standing out in particular.

Schwerin has a population of around 100,000 and is not only the capital of the state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern but also its political centre, housing the parliament at the castle. The 131 square kilometres of the city are embedded in a unique lake landscape; Lake Schwerin is the fourth largest lake in Germany at 61.5 square kilometres. With the residential ensemble around Schwerin Castle, which also includes the State Theatre and the State Museum, the city is applying to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The city looks back on a manifold industrial tradition. In addition to early aircraft construction, cable and plastics processing as well as mechanical and plant engineering also established themselves. Today, Schwerin's industrial park is home to companies from the food and packaging industries as well as aerospace suppliers and pharma sector companies. The latter brought a dynamic growth industry to the city. With about 180 hectares of vacant land, the industrial park offers the largest industrial land potential in the Hamburg metropolitan region - only 100 kilometres from the port of Hamburg. And thanks to the excellent ICE rail connection, the journey from Schwerin to Hamburg takes less than one hour.





View of the Schwerin Castle Lake with Schwerin Castle and the Ludwig-Bölkow-Haus.

WEST MECKLENBURG

AT A GLANCE

The demographic development of the state has been stabilising for more than 10 years, contrary to some forecasts. The population of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern has been around 1.6 million since 2012. In West Mecklenburg, there has already been continuous population growth since 2013. In addition to the influx from third countries, an increase in young families in particular is becoming apparent. Many of them are so-called "returnees". They are increasingly dropping anchor in their home port again and often bringing their young families with them.

CONTINUOUS POPULATION GROWTH AND INTERNATIONALISATION OF THE LOCATION

Another positive indication of the economic development in West Mecklenburg is the continuously growing amount of employment subject to social insurance contributions. Since 2013, there has been an increase of 3.4 per cent to 166,175 jobs in 2021. At the same time, the proportion of foreign employees subject to social insurance contributions has increased from 1.7 to 5.3 per cent. The location of West Mecklenburg is becoming increasingly international. Investment from companies hailing from Switzerland, Denmark and Sweden, from Austria and Italy and the Netherlands are testament to that development.

West Mecklenburg in figures

473,296 inhabitants (30.09.2022)
+1,72 per cent since 2017

22,545 euro purchasing power per capita
+15,30 per cent from 2017 to 2022

CCI associated companies:
25.000

6.6 per cent unemployment rate (average in 2022)
Reduced by half in the past ten years

29,857 employees subject to social insurance
contributions in the manufacturing sector
+3 per cent since 2017

over 114,650 employees subject to social
security contributions in the service sector
+2.3 per cent within 5 years

Mecklenburg-Vorpommern in figures

**+36.8 per cent increase in gross domestic
product at current prices
between 2011 and 2021**

Germany: 32.6 per cent, eastern German
federal states: 33.7 per cent

**+37.8 per cent real gross value added
at current prices between 2011 and 2021**

Germany: +33.5 per cent, eastern German federal states: +34.7 per cent

**+58.5 per cent gross value added at current prices in the
manufacturing sector between 2011 and 2021 and ICT in 2017**
Germany: 30.3 per cent, eastern German federal states: 40.2 per cent

**In the period from 2017 to September 2022, new
infrastructure measures were supported with
around 671.7 million euros in investment grants.**
This triggered total investments worth approximately
859.3 million euros.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPTIMAL MARKET ACCESS

West Mecklenburg offers an excellent geographic location as part of the Hamburg metropolitan region and with best connections to the Copenhagen-Malmö and Berlin-Brandenburg metropolitan regions. This guarantees optimal market access to millions of people. With high-performance infrastructure across all modes of transport, the region is the intersection of three European north-south and east-west corridors of the Trans-European Network (TEN) and thus has outstanding international links.

FAST CONNECTIONS GUARANTEED

West Mecklenburg has a very well-developed federal trunk road network that guarantees fast connections. The A 14 motorway runs from Wismar via Schwerin to Grabow and soon to Magdeburg, making the route to Leipzig the shortest connection with central and southern Germany.

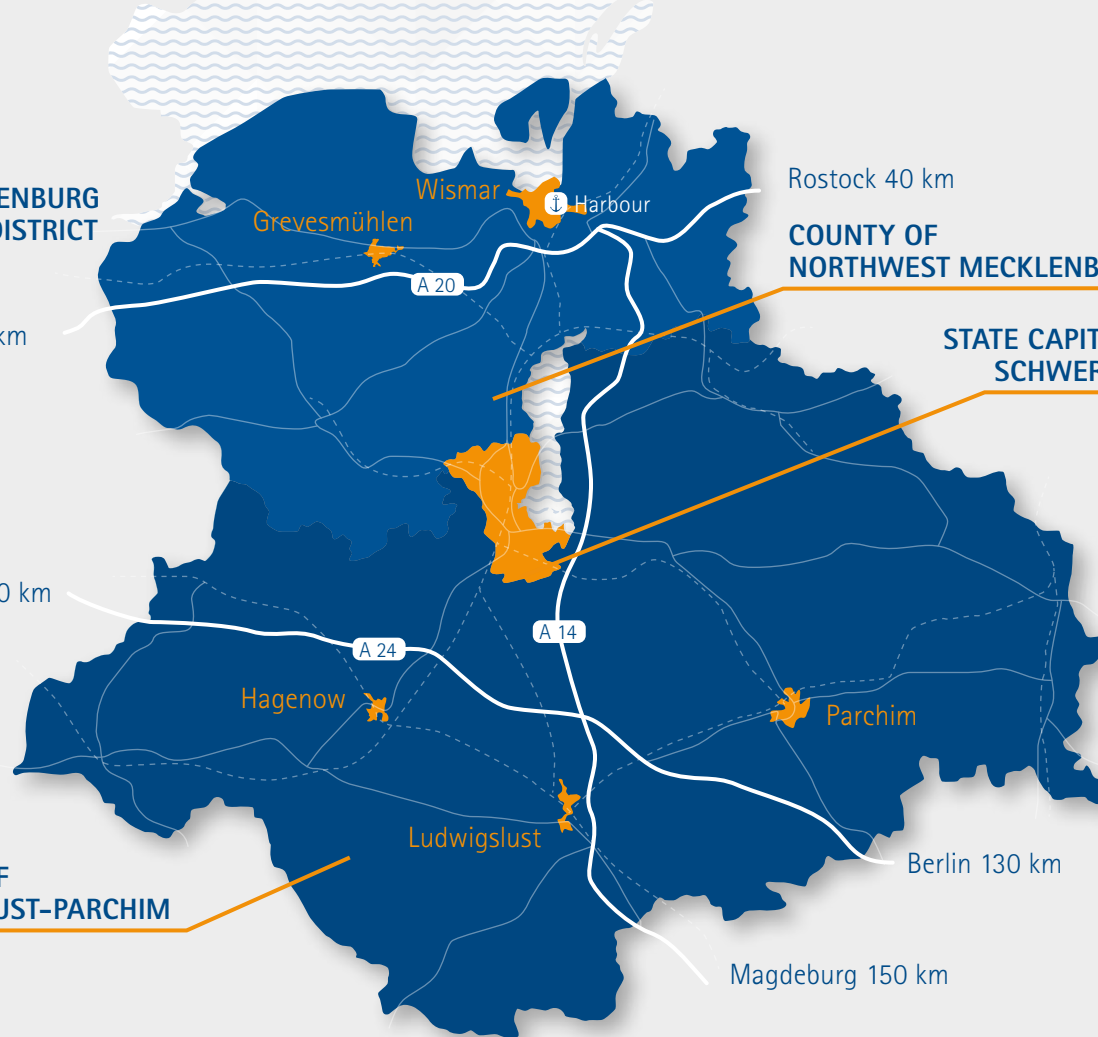
The A 20 coastal motorway provides direct access to the ports of Lübeck via Wismar, Rostock and Stralsund to Stettin. As a link between Hamburg and Berlin, the A 24 crosses West Mecklenburg from west to east. This corridor is home to a large number of attractive commercial and industrial sites, which are constantly being expanded and qualitatively developed.

**CCI
WEST MECKLENBURG
DISTRICT**

Lübeck 5 km

Hamburg 50 km

**COUNTY OF
LUDWIGSLUST-PARCHIM**



Wismar

Harbour

Rostock 40 km

**COUNTY OF
NORTHWEST MECKLENBURG**

**STATE CAPITAL
SCHWERIN**

A 20

A 24

A 14

Hagenow

Parchim

Ludwigslust

Berlin 130 km

Magdeburg 150 km

Distance to Hamburg harbour

- » approx. 60 kilometres from the state border
- » approx. 100 kilometres from the industrial estate Schwerin

The Baltic ports of Wismar and Rostock are important interfaces in intercontinental and European transport chains and bridgeheads into the Baltic region. Germany's largest overseas port, the Port of Hamburg, is a logistics interface for foreign trade in the immediate vicinity. From the state border between Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and Schleswig-Holstein on the A 24 motorway, it is about 60 kilometres to the Port of Hamburg, and about 100 kilometres from Schwerin Industrial Park.

Rail infrastructure: With the Rostock-Hamburg line via Schwerin and the Berlin-Hamburg high-speed line with a stop in Ludwigslust, West Mecklenburg has two important rail axes that are supplemented by regional lines. In recent years, there has been a continuous expansion of IC and ICE train frequencies. The direct connection from Schwerin to Lübeck and the construction of the Fehmarnbelt Tunnel will give the region new impetus for growth. West Mecklenburg will become the centre of a pan-European infrastructure from Scandinavia to Italy.

On the way to the Fehmarnbelt tunnel: The Fehmarnbelt Tunnel, which is currently under construction, is a truly major European project that will enormously reduce travel times between Scandinavia and Central Europe and strengthen connections between Germany, Denmark and Sweden. When completed in 2029, the tunnel will provide a shortcut for rail and road traffic between Denmark and other Nordic countries and Central Europe. The rail journey through the tunnel will take 7 minutes by train and the 160-kilometre diversions for trains, trucks and cars across the Danish mainland will be made redundant. With the construction of the track curve near Bad Kleinen and the completion of the A14 motorway, the West Mecklenburg region will fit even better into the increasingly connected economic and growth area between Malmö,

Copenhagen, Hamburg, Lübeck, Magdeburg, Berlin and Leipzig/Dresden in terms of infrastructure and offer companies in the region new sales markets. This will make the tunnel an essential part of a European transport corridor.

Air traffic: The international airports of Hamburg and Berlin as well as the regional airport Rostock-Laage provide rapid and cost-effective access to passenger and freight air traffic.

Expansion of the broadband infrastructure: Mecklenburg-Vorpommern benefits particularly strongly from the federal funding programme for broadband expansion. The West Mecklenburg region will be equipped with fibre optic lines almost everywhere by the end of 2023 – the best prerequisites for the upcoming gigabit age and new-work concepts. Comprehensive mobile network coverage will also be provided.



Motoway access to the A24 Valluhn-Gallin business park



Harbour with a view of the Hanseatic city of Wismar



THE BALTIC AREA AND HAMBURG METROPOLITAN REGION

In many respects, the Baltic connection is an outstanding location factor for West Mecklenburg. More than 100 million people live in the Baltic region, making it economically interesting as a trading area with a long history. As logistics hubs, the Baltic ports represent an important international economic factor.

The quality of life associated with the sea attracts around 6,500 young students to Mecklenburg-Vorpommern every year. Attractive jobs ensure that a large number of graduates, as well as the more than 13,000 school graduates each year, remain in the state. Commuters, who have to leave the region every day to reach their workplace, and returnees, who are drawn back to their old home, both form another large potential pool of skilled workers.

In addition, the white Baltic beaches act as magnets for thousands of visitors every year. The well over 100 kilometres of beach in the district of Nordwestmecklenburg alone attract Baltic lovers in particular to the 37 square kilometre island of Poel and to the traditional Baltic resort of Boltenhagen.

Hamburg Metropolitan Region in figures

- » 17 rural and urban administrative districts, 3 urban municipalities and the Hanseatic City of Hamburg
- » Area: 28,500 square kilometres (almost as big as Belgium)
- » Population: 5.4 million (more inhabitants than Norway)
- » Gross domestic product: 234,400 billion euros in 2019 (similar GDP to Portugal or the Czech Republic)

Through co-operation in the Hamburg Metropolitan Region you can tap into and explore the opportunities of the various synergies. The Hamburg Metropolitan Region is one of the most competitive regions in Germany and Europe. 5.4 million people live and work here. West Mecklenburg benefits in particular from the strengths of the Hamburg metropolis and the even closer co-operation in this economic integration area since 2017. Hamburg's function as an international logistics hub is obvious. But West Mecklenburg also benefits from its proximity to world-leading universities and research institutions and last, but not least, to the cultural offerings in the metropolis on the Elbe with its international profile. As part of the Hamburg metropolitan region, the business location of West Mecklenburg has a part in all these strengths in international competition.



metropolregion hamburg





Beach access in the Baltic resort of Boltenhagen

A REGION WORTH LIVING IN

NATURAL. RELAXING

The West Mecklenburg region is characterised by its unique natural potential for recreation, holidays and leisure. Thousands of locals and visitors every year are enamoured with its green meadows and fields, deep forests, numerous lakes and rivers with clean and clear water, old avenues, long white Baltic beaches and large, unspoilt nature reserves. A quarter of the area is protected because of its unique landscape and nature. Well over 100 kilometres of white sandy beaches attract Baltic Sea lovers to the coast of West Mecklenburg. The 37-square-kilometre island of Poel and the traditional Baltic resort of Boltenhagen are particular attractions here. A wide variety of leisure activities ensure that this special natural environment can be explored and combined with recreational benefits. Modern cycling and hiking trails offer the best conditions for a sporting nature experience in a largely untouched landscape. All kinds of water sports are possible in the Baltic Sea and on the many lakes in West Mecklenburg. Modern golf courses offer outstanding standards.

**WITH 1,648 HOURS OF SUNSHINE PER YEAR
MECKLENBURG-VORPOMMERN
IS GERMANY'S SUNNIEST FEDERAL STATE**



Nature in West Mecklenburg in figures:

- » Over 1/4 of the area is covered by nature and landscape conservation areas
- » over 100 kilometres of Baltic beach
- » 2 recognised UNESCO biosphere reserves
- » Germany's fourth largest lake – Lake Schwerin
- » Germany's largest contiguous meadow landscape – Lewitz

Tourism as an economic factor in MV in 2019

- » 34 million overnight stays, including 400,000 foreign visitors
- » 7.8 billion euros in turnover
- » 7,8 Milliarden Euro Umsatz
- » 5.1 billion euros in tourism value added, 12 per cent of total value added
- » 173,000 people employed in tourism, 18 per cent of the labour force

Schaalsee UNESCO Biosphere Reserve: Today, the former border area along the inner-German border is a conservation area. The former no-man's land with crystal-clear lakes and unspoilt forests has become a 30,000-hectare retreat for orchids, otters and fire-bellied toads – and a popular region for nature tourism.

UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Elbe River Landscape: the transnational UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Elbe River Landscape lies on the border to Lower Saxony. Due to the long-standing isolation of the area on the inner-German border, the pristine nature of the flood plains has been preserved. Today, these original habitats are home to rare plants and animals..

Lewitz European Bird protection area: Formed during the Ice Age some ten thousand years ago, the approximately 16,800-hectare water-rich area to the southeast of the state capital Schwerin is considered Germany's largest contiguous meadow landscape. There are four nature reserves within Lewitz. Since 1992, large parts of it have been designated as a European protection area.



View of Zarrentin Monastery and Schaalsee Biosphere Reserve





View of St. Marien Church in Parchim from the River Elbe

A REGION WORTH LIVING IN

FAMILY-FRIENDLY

Childcare in MV (2022)

- » 115,078 children under the age of 14 are cared for in day-care facilities in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.
- » 58 per cent care rate for under-3s (federal government: 35 per cent)
- » 95.4 per cent care rate for 3- to 6-year-olds (federal government: 92.5 per cent)
- » 15,721 persons working in day-care facilities for children
- » 12,544 of whom have a vocational training qualification in special education
- » 24-hour and out-of-hours day-care centres ensure care around the clock - 365 days a year

Companies that promote the compatibility of work and private life can have themselves certified as family-friendly companies in the district of Ludwigslust-Parchim by the Southwest Mecklenburg Economic Development Agency and thus clearly position themselves in the competition for good skilled workers.

Great emphasis is placed on family-friendliness as one of West Mecklenburg's qualities. With its comprehensive network of childcare facilities and extensive opening hours, the region has very good conditions for reconciling family and work. State funding for day-care facilities, but also for day-care places, plays an important role here. The wide range of off-peak and 24-hour daycare facilities ensures care around the clock, 365 days a year, and is particularly valuable for shift workers. Crèches, kindergartens, day care and after-school care in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern have been free of charge since 2020. The state has invested more than 350 million euros per year in day care for children since 1 January 2020. 97 per cent of all girls and boys between the age of three and when they start school are cared for in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern in day care centres, which have increasingly developed into early childhood education institutions in recent years. In contrast to the western German states, most places involve all-day care. The average working week of women in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern is about 34 hours, which is about four hours above the national average and is another indication that the compatibility of work and family in West Mecklenburg works and that the parallelism of raising children and working is a lived normality.

Living space for the whole family: Another important factor in the family-friendliness of a region is the availability of affordable, high-quality housing. Families who dream of owning their own property will find excellent conditions and affordable building land in West Mecklenburg. Proximity to nature and culture with optimal infrastructure included! Living directly on the water is not uncommon either.

Family-friendly land acquisition – municipal building subsidies for young families: To make it easier for young families to settle in Ludwigslust, there is a subsidy for a plot of land up to a maximum of 700 square metres. For one child, the subsidy amounts to 10 per cent, and from the second child onwards, it is 15 per cent of the price of the land.

Rental price index (2022) – rents per square metre:

- » Germany: 8.92 euros
- » Mecklenburg-Vorpommern: 7.10 euros
- » Schwerin: 7.88 euros
- » Wismar: 7.58 euros

Land prices (2022) per square metre:

- » Germany: 460 euros
- » Mecklenburg-Vorpommern: 167 euros
- » Ludwigslust-Parchim: 77 euros
- » Northwest Mecklenburg: 174 euros
- » Schwerin: 171 euros



LIVEABLE REGION

CULTURAL

Numerous castles, manor houses and stately homes, museums and theatres, gardens and parks, countless testimonies to brick Gothic in churches and historic town centres characterise the cultural landscape of the West Mecklenburg region. The mighty churches and magnificent town halls and town houses still tell of the flourishing Hanseatic era in northern Germany. With its original charm, the entire West Mecklenburg region is a magnificent stage for glittering cultural events of every kind. Castles and stately homes are transformed into enchanting concert halls and castle parks serve as breathtaking backdrops.





Ludwigslust palace



Residence ensemble of the state capital Schwerin



Schwerin Castle – nestled in the beautiful Schwerin lake landscape, it resembles a true fairytale castle. Once the seat of the dukes of Mecklenburg, it now houses the state parliament of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and the impressive castle museum. The castle and palace gardens offer masterful horticulture and wonderful promenades, and both the castle café and the orangery invite visitors to linger after an exciting tour.

Schwerin Cathedral is the seat of the regional bishop of the Protestant church between the North Sea and the Baltic in the federal states of Hamburg, Schleswig-Holstein and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. At 117.5 metres, the cathedral is one of the 30 tallest sacred buildings in the world.

Schwerin's music and theatre history began more than 450 years ago. Today's Mecklenburg State Orchestra is the third oldest orchestra in Germany after Dresden and Kassel. With the Mecklenburg State Theatre and its Great House as part of the Schwerin Residence Ensemble, the region has a multi-part theatre which, with the Low German Fritz Reuter Stage, also has the only professional Low German ensemble in Germany besides the Ohnsorg Theatre in Hamburg.

The UNESCO World Heritage Hanseatic City of Wismar was the important trading centre during the Hanseatic period and has managed to preserve its medieval layout almost unchanged to this day. It was placed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2002. The authenticity of the medieval harbour basin has been preserved to this day. Within the historic town centre, three monumental brick churches represent a unique testimony to the famous sacred architecture in the southern Baltic region.

The former residential palace of Ludwigslust, which belonged to the dukes of Mecklenburg, is the centre of a baroque town complex that is still completely preserved today. The Golden Hall in the central section of the palace is a splendid sight. It extends over two floors and its large windows, mirrors and crystal chandeliers radiate courtly splendour. In addition, the Ludwigslust Palace Park with its water features and garden architecture is one of the most beautiful in northern Germany.





Brick Gothic of the Church of St. Nikolai in the Hanseatic City of Wismar

LIVEABLE REGION

EXPERIENCE-ORIENTED

Cycling routes in West Mecklenburg:

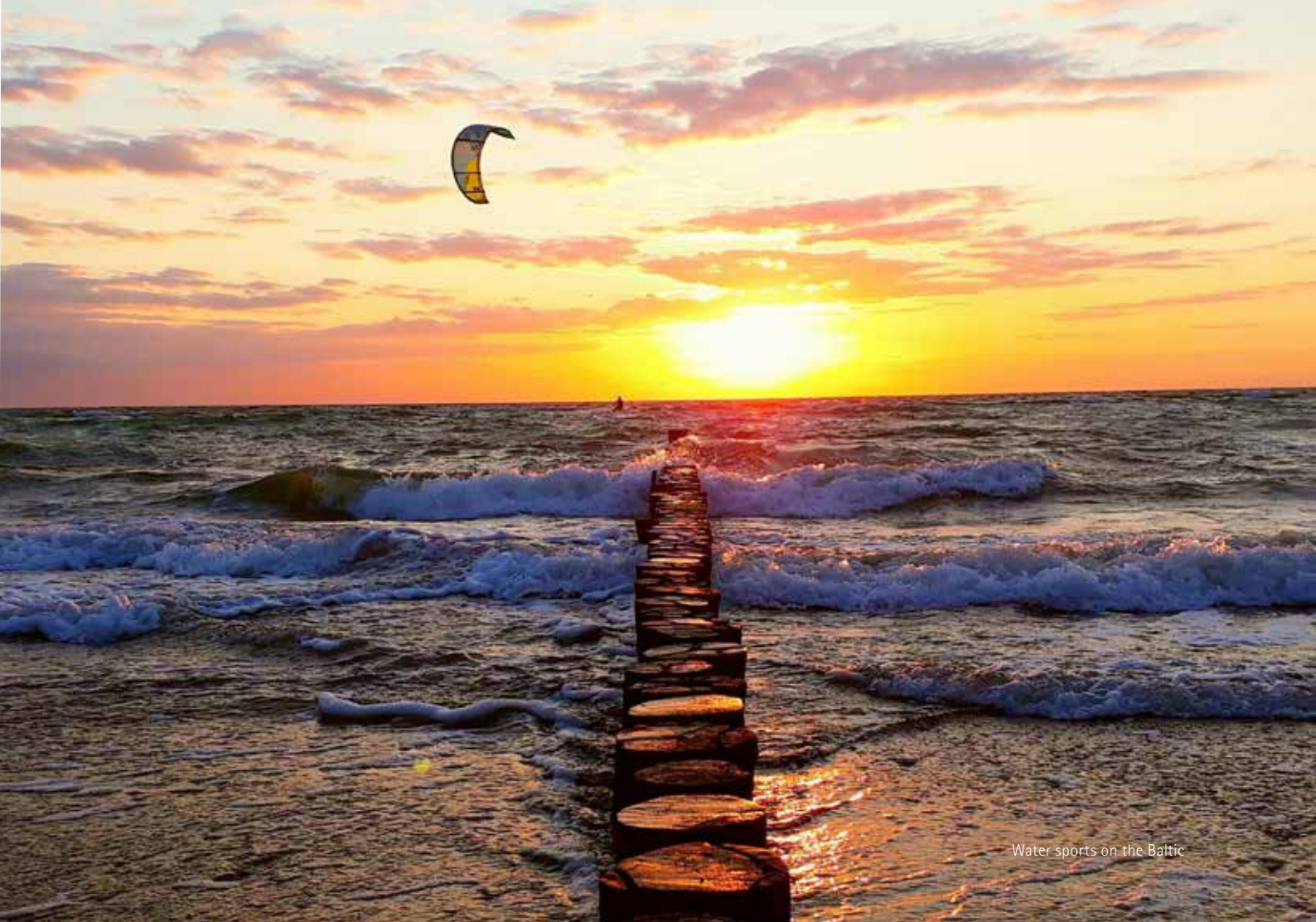
- » 2,130 kilometres

Water areas in the region:

- » 113 kilometres of coastline on the Baltic Sea
- » 180 kilometres of continuously navigable waterway from the Elbe to the Müritz

Whether kite surfing off the island of Poel, the water ski lift in Zachun, sailing on Lake Schwerin or stand-up paddling on the Elde – the Baltic coast, Lake Schwerin and the numerous inland waters of West Mecklenburg offer ideal conditions for water and leisure sports enthusiasts. But winter sports enthusiasts also get their money's worth all year round at the Alpincenter Wittenburg – as do cyclists on the many beautiful cycle paths in the region.

The sports-mad city of Schwerin doesn't just host annual dragon boat competitions. The women's volleyball team regularly competes for the German championship, as does the men's boxing team, which for some years now has been continuing the great tradition of boxing at the Schwerin Olympic Training Centre.



Water sports on the Baltic



Schwerin Castle Festival



The Schwerin Castle Festival stages opera and theatre performances in a stylish setting and creates unique cultural experiences. The backdrop of Schwerin's fairytale castle attracts thousands of visitors from all over Germany and abroad to the Schwerin Castle Festival every year. Every year, tens of thousands of guests are captivated by the Mecklenburg State Theatre's summer productions in the Old Garden, one of the most beautiful historic squares in northern Germany.

The Pirate Open Air in Grevesmühlen has taken place from the end of June to the beginning of September since 2005. It is one of the most successful open-air theatres in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. The auditorium has a capacity of 1,500 seats. Daredevil fencing fights, special effects, breathtaking stunts, real muzzle-loading weapons and cannons, more than 60 actors and a stage set that changes every year are the hallmarks of the elaborate productions.

Festivals in the region are also becoming increasingly popular. With Airbeat One, Neustadt-Glewe hosts one of the largest electro festivals in northern Germany with up to 65,000 spectators. The music at "Airbeat One" is as diverse as the festival itself. Stars of the scene such as Paul van Dyk, Klangkarussell and Fritz Kalkbrenner perform here.

The Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Festival is also the third largest classical music festival in Germany. Around 120 concerts throughout the state and the "Small Festival in the Big Park" in Ludwigslust attract visitors to Mecklenburg-Vorpommern from June to September. Every year, up to 85,000 classical music fans experience young up-and-coming artists as well as the great stars of the classical music scene, whether in old manor houses, barns, factory halls, castles and churches or in the open air.

"Jamel rockt den Förster" near Wismar, which has been taking place since 2007, is also one of Germany's best-known festivals for democracy and tolerance, featuring star acts such as Die Ärzte, Beatsteaks and Marteria. The region is musically already quite prominently represented worldwide. For example, two members of the band Rammstein come from the Schwerin area and the popular DJ Felix Jaehn grew up only a few kilometres from the Baltic resort of Boltenhagen.





Airbeat One Festival







Production Ypsomed AG in Schwerin



FOCUS SECTORS IN WEST MECKLENBURG

West Mecklenburg is a region for living and working. Whether classic industry such as shipbuilding, the food industry or plastics processing: West Mecklenburg's industries have undergone major changes in recent decades and have successfully adapted to new challenges. They have been on a solid growth course since 2005. The logistics and health industries in particular have recorded strong growth rates. But an efficient owner-managed economic structure that characterises West Mecklenburg today has also developed in mechanical engineering and metal construction. By focusing on selected industries, we want to highlight their importance for the region, provide insights into the diversity of the corporate landscape and present particular beacons.

Tip: The newly published brochure "Industrial Location with a Future: West Mecklenburg" from the Schwerin Chamber of Commerce and Industry offers a detailed presentation of many interesting manufacturing companies in the region: <https://www.yumpu.com/en/embed/view/TS4WkLzK1lyMQnBA>



FOCUS:

AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY

Mecklenburg-Vorpommern looks back on a long agricultural tradition. Since reunification, companies in the food industry in particular have increasingly settled along the well-developed infrastructure axes and have become an important industrial economic factor. The natural resources found in West Mecklenburg can thus be used profitably. Agriculture provides valuable raw materials for modern food products. The industrial processing of these raw materials into finished foodstuffs increases the depth of production.

A total of about 17,000 people are employed in the food industry in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. The companies in this sector generate a turnover volume of around 5 billion euros. The share of the food industry in the total turnover of the manufacturing industry is about 33 per cent. Within the manufacturing industry, the food industry is therefore the largest industrial sector in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, both in terms of the number of employees and in terms of turnover, and has been recording continuous growth for years.



The food industry in figures

- » 17,000 employees in MV
- » 5 billion euros turnover
- » 1/3 of the total turnover in the manufacturing industry
- » more than 50 per cent of the sector's turnover is generated in West Mecklenburg

The bilingual CCI publication "Agricultural and food industry in West Mecklenburg" (German/English) is available online: www.ihkzuschwerin.de



The most important production areas include the bakery industry, meat processing, milk processing, fish processing and beverage production. The majority of the companies are medium-sized enterprises,. important subsidiaries of international corporations are also located in the state, such as Dr. Oetker Tiefkühlprodukte GmbH in Wittenburg or Carl Kühne KG in Hagenow.

In addition, in recent years there have regularly been further settlements and investments by companies in the food industry. These include in particular the construction of a plant for food additives by SternMaid GmbH in Wittenburg, the construction of an Edeka meat plant in Valluhn, the settlement of the confectionery manufacturers Toffee Tec GmbH and Sweet Tec GmbH in Boizenburg as well as Trolli in Hagenow or the Nescafé Dolce Gusto plant in Schwerin.

Almost 15 per cent of all food and beverages from Mecklenburg-Vorpommern are exported. More than 50 per cent of the state's industry turnover is generated in West Mecklenburg.

Due to the long tradition of this economic sector in West Mecklenburg, there is also a large pool of skilled workers with specialist knowledge, skills and abilities that are closely linked to the industry and the region. In addition, the favourable logistical conditions, the well-developed research and education infrastructure and also the industry-specific networks and, last but not least, broad political support offer a decisive advantage.

For the food industry, there are numerous future fields, especially due to the growing market for organic food and vegetarian/vegan products. The companies in the region are positioning themselves or adapting accordingly. In Severin, for example, around 2,000 woodland turkeys are allowed to roam freely on 20,000 square metres of meadow and 7,500 square metres of forest at Mecklenburger Landpute GmbH - guaranteeing high meat quality. The company has concentrated entirely on organic products since 2022. And Ludwigslust Fleisch- und Wurstspezialitäten GmbH & CO. KG is also focusing more and more on animal-friendly and environmentally friendly products.

The companies in the food industry are also becoming increasingly networked. With the Food Academy, there is a network in Southwest Mecklenburg that bundles capacities and needs, ensures an exchange of experience between companies and implements strategies to make the industry attractive as an employer. Today, 21 companies with over 3,500 employees are already involved in the Food Academy.



Production of fruit gums
at Trolli GmbH Hagenow

FOCUS:

LOGISTICS INDUSTRY

Due to increasingly branched value chains, the logistics industry is the backbone for opening up global markets and, measured by turnover, one of the largest economic sectors in Germany. Almost all companies in the fields of production, distribution and trade are directly dependent on efficient logistics. Therefore, the expansion of the West Mecklenburg logistics location forms the basis for the stable economic development of the past years.

The West Mecklenburg region is an excellent platform for logistics companies in a wide variety of key sectors. Among other things, logistics services providers use the region as a starting point for transports to Northern and Eastern Europe.

Mecklenburg-Vorpommern was the federal state with the least traffic jams in 2022. There were only two hours of congestion per kilometre of motorway. Unique in Germany.





Modern infrastructure for contemporary logistics in West Mecklenburg (motorway)



Logistics performance at Seehafen Wismar GmbH

Above all, the infrastructural advantages of the location open up a great deal of potential for value creation. Compared to other economic centres in northern Germany, there is also a supply of commercial space that is constantly being developed and expanded. A high number of employees and a significant share of the local economic output underline the overall economic importance of the industry.

The transport and logistics sector in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern has more than 40,000 employees subject to social insurance contributions. This is a share of about 7.4 per cent of total employment in the state. The development of absolute employment is increasing at an above-average rate. Especially in the district of Ludwigslust-Parchim, the share of the logistics sector in total employment is above average at 11 per cent. Numerous wholesale logistics companies have settled here. They include DS Produkte GmbH and EDEKA Nord-Service- und Logistikgesellschaft in Businesspark A24, the JYSK distribution centre in Zarrentin, or Finitex GmbH & Co. KG in Hagenow.

Logistics industry in figures

- » over 40,000 employees in MV
- » 7.4 per cent share of total employment in MV
- » 11 per cent of all employees in Ludwigslust-Parchim and 9 per cent in Northwest Mecklenburg

FOCUS:

RENEWABLE ENERGIES

Mecklenburg-Vorpommern has become one of the leading federal states in the field of renewable energies and offers excellent growth opportunities in this area. It was already the first federal state to be able to cover 100 per cent of its electricity demand from locally produced renewable energies back in 2013. The federal government's expansion targets will lead to a considerable need for investment in renewable energies in the coming years in the area of onshore and offshore wind energy plants, photovoltaics and the hydrogen industry. The state's locational advantages are perfectly natural: fresh wind from the Baltic, the most hours of sunshine in Germany, favourable geothermal conditions and free space for ideas and investments.

The sector already employs a total of around 15,000 people in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and generates an annual turnover of around 3.7 billion euros. Ecology is a real economic factor in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern!

Renewable energies in figures:

- » 15,000 employees in MV
- » 7,500 in the wind energy sector
- » 3.7 billion euros in annual sales
- » In 2021, around 25,900 wind, solar, hydropower and biomass plants produced a total of 8,661 megawatts of electricity.



Wind turbine in the district of Nordwestmecklenburg

The installed wind energy capacity of by now 1,900 wind turbines has risen to more than 3,500 megawatts by the end of 2020. More than 7,500 people are employed in the wind energy sector. 2,700 megawatts come from the use of solar energy plants. With approximately 1,100,000 hectares of arable land, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern also offers vast biomass potential. There are currently 565 biogas and biomass plants in operation in the state. In West Mecklenburg, companies such as KGW Schweriner Maschinen- und Anlagenbau and Sonnenstromfabrik Wismar are using their know-how to boost Germany's energy transition.

ECOLOGY IS A REAL ECONOMIC FACTOR IN MECKLENBURG-VORPOMMERN

There is special potential for Mecklenburg-Vorpommern in further establishing itself as an attractive energy location. The existing regional resources are key to the change in our energy policy. Especially for energy-intensive industries, this represents a clear advantage and supports the decision for West Mecklenburg as a business location. "Come to where the power is" – an important factor for investment in this region.

WEMAG battery bank: Europe's largest commercial battery storage facility was built in Schwerin in 2014. It compensates for short-term grid fluctuations that can occur with wind and solar energy. In November 2021, the extension to the battery storage facility was also completed. This will double the output from 5 megawatts to 10 megawatts and almost triple the capacity from 5 megawatt hours to 15 megawatt hours.



WEMAG AG's largest commercial battery storage facility.

FOCUS:

MARITIME INDUSTRY

The maritime industry in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern combines tradition and future. Over the past 30 years, the transformation processes in the industry have resulted in a diversified corporate structure – from large-scale enterprises and efficient, export-oriented medium-sized companies to small enterprises with strong specialisation. Potential investors can rely on excellently trained specialists in the fields of shipbuilding and boatbuilding, maritime supplies and marine and offshore technology.

In addition to shipbuilding, the state is home to maritime suppliers and service providers that focus on the development and production of innovative system solutions. These relate not only to the final product, the ship, but also to maritime equipment and systems for port management and logistics, maritime environmental and safety technology as well as offshore technology and other areas of marine technology.





Wismar shipyard



The shipyards, suppliers and boat builders in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern provide industrial value creation and have the potential to further expand innovative capacity and create more knowledge-based jobs. By choosing Mecklenburg-Vorpommern as a location for the realisation of ambitious plans in military shipbuilding, the locations on the Baltic take account of the changed security situation in Europe and bear witness to the mutability of the maritime industry in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.

Wismar Shipyard: Shipbuilding has a unique tradition in the Hanseatic city of Wismar: hundreds of fishing, container, expedition and research vessels, the world's largest double-decker ferries, tankers and cruise ships have already been launched in the Hanseatic city or left the dock here.

New landmarks: Since 2019, a 125-metre-high assembly crane from the Eberswalde-based company Kocks Ardelt has been enthroned on the quay walls of the port, capable of handling a lifting load of up to 75 tonnes. With the 164-metre-high TCC 78000 Liebherr, the Rostock seaport even has the world's most powerful harbour crane. It can lift three fully fuelled Airbus A 380s or 1,000 VW Golfs at once.

Founded in 1946, the Wismar shipyard was extensively modernised in the 1990s to become the "Compact Shipyard 2000". The 395-metre-long, 155-metre-wide and 72-metre-high dock hall is one of the largest shipyard halls in Europe. Ships can be assembled here in the subdividable 340-metre-long, 67-metre-wide and 13-metre-deep building dock, regardless of the weather. The integration of steel shipbuilding and equipment already in the panel production, a high degree of

pre-fitting of the volume sections (up to 320 tonnes) and block sections (up to 750 tonnes) and the fitting out of the deckhouses in the dock hall are striking technological features of the shipyard.

In June 2022, thyssenkrupp Marine Systems announced that it would take over the site and use the hall for the construction of military ships and submarines from 2024 on. thyssenkrupp Marine Systems is one of the world's leading naval companies with around 6,500 employees and is active as a system provider in submarine and surface shipbuilding as well as in the field of maritime electronics and safety technology. More than 180 years of history and the constant striving for improvement allow the company to set new standards again and again. The company's plan (fore-) sees up to 1,500 employees/members of staff working in Wismar.

Another strong sign of the shipyard's ability to transform is the settlement of the traditional Hamburg-based Eppendorf company. From May 2023, Eppendorf SE will produce laboratory consumables for biomedical research and diagnostics on a former MV Werften Fertigung Property GmbH production site in Wismar. The site comprises more than 20,000 m² of usable space with production and storage areas as well as office and ancillary buildings. Depending on the order situation, the plant will be designed for up to 500 employees.



Wismar harbour crane



FOCUS: HEALTH ECONOMY

The main drivers for growth in the health industry are demographic change and medical and technical progress. As a federal state with an intact natural environment, tourist attractions and a health industry that has been growing steadily for years, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern has set itself ambitious goals that are being pursued with great commitment. Strong networks and good infrastructure offer ideal conditions for these projects. The expansion of existing companies as well as the settlement of new players in recent years confirm this path. RoweMed and BMP in Parchim, Euroimmun and AqVida in Dassow, the investments of the Swiss Ypsomed company in Schwerin and, most recently, the settlement of an Eppendorf Group high-tech production site in Wismar are just some of the success stories of this industry in West Mecklenburg. The state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern's "Health Industry Master Plan 2030" describes the path to becoming one of the leading health states in Germany. Natural conditions such as landscape, sea, chalk, moor, brine and lakes are excellent for a health state.

Precision pumps of the company
HNP Mikrosysteme GmbH

Medical technology: With an average increase in gross value added of about 2.7 per cent per year since the year 2000, medical technology has recorded a growth dynamic that is far above average. This is almost four times as high as that of the entire sector. In Schwerin, innovative companies such as TecMed Deutschland GmbH, HNP Mikrosysteme GmbH or Ypsomed Produktion GmbH are on course for growth.

SUB-SECTOR WITH PARTICULAR GROWTH POTENTIAL

Health tourism: With a value added share of 4.0 per cent of the entire sector, the contribution of health tourism in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern is more than twice as high compared to the rest of Germany .

Health-promoting food: This sector has a particularly high impulse effect. The production of health-promoting foods generates another approx. 352 million euros of value added from other sectors of the economy in addition to the approx. 137 million euros of direct value added.

Health services: West Mecklenburg is an important health location that offers numerous services. The Schwerin Clinic is a maximum care provider and the university campus of the MSH Medical School Hamburg. 330 doctors are on duty here every day. Innovative ideas meet fertile ground. arztkonsultation ak GmbH, founded in Schwerin, has carried out more than one million video consultations with its arztkonsultation.de platform in just two years.

Health economy in figures:

- » Around 12,300 companies
- » 156,000 employees in MV
- » 20.8 per cent of the workforce
- » over 6 billion euros in gross value added in MV
- » 4.4 per cent of the total GVA in the state
- » More than every 7th euro is generated in the health economy

FOCUS:

WOOD AND PLASTICS INDUSTRIES

Just under a quarter of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern's land area is forest land, 41 per cent of which is now even PEFC-certified. In the future, the proportion of sustainable forest management is to increase even further. The timber and forestry industry in MV accounts for more than 5 per cent of the total economy, and also more than 13 per cent of the manufacturing industry.



Wood processing of Egger Holzwerkstoffe Wismar GmbH & Co. KG

A local cluster has developed around the wood industry in the Hanseatic city of Wismar. This wood cluster has developed into the largest and most modern wood processing centre in Europe. The direct proximity of the settlement area to the seaport enables the worldwide export of wood commodities to the international ports. The proximity to the Baltic offers competitive advantages due to favourable costs for importing and exporting wood and wood pre- and finished products. Approximately 1,000 employees work at Egger Holzwerkstoffe Wismar GmbH & Co. KG. 400 people work in one of the most modern single sawmills in Europe at Ilim Nordic Timber GmbH & Co. KG. Here, 80 million boards are manufactured annually and exported all over the world.

The plastics industry is also experiencing dynamic development in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. Double-digit sales growth and rising employment figures are proof of the enormous potential of this future-oriented industry. Mecklenburg-Vorpommern is characterised by small and medium-sized plastics companies. These cover the entire value chain from mechanical engineering and a lively research and development landscape to the production of finished plastic products. Around 100 companies in the state employ approximately 3,500 people and generate around 1.6 billion euros annually. Plastics are a material of the future. The numerous players in the state offer a wide range of preliminary, intermediate and finished products made of plastics. All players are continuously working to increase the supply of recycled products and reduce the energy requirements of manufacturing, thus becoming true pioneers in sustainability.

Wood Industry in figures

- » about 3,000 employees in West Mecklenburg
- » about 2,000 of them in the Wismar wood cluster
- » about 13 per cent share of all industrial sales and thus the third largest industrial sector in MV
- » in 18 companies with more than 50 employees in MV: 2,700 employees, 1.7 billion euros in annual sales

Plastics Industry in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern in figures

- » around 100 companies
- » around 3,500 employees
- » approx. 1.6 billion euros in annual sales

FOCUS:

AUTOMOTIVE AND AEROSPACE

Automotive in figures

- » 100 companies in MV
- » 5,000 employees
- » Annual sales of 1.5 billion euros

A dynamic and successful automotive supply industry has developed in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. For example, high-quality vehicle air conditioning and heating systems, components for reliable passenger protection and modern vehicle information systems are manufactured here. In addition, companies in the state produce precision hydraulic components, equip commercial vehicles with four-wheel drives and are active in the field of light metal forming. Around 5,000 people now work in this (in some cases cross-industry) segment in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, generating annual sales of around 1.5 billion euros in around 100 companies.

Aerospace Industry in figures

- » 30 companies in MV
- » 800 employees

The German aviation pioneer Otto Lilienthal was as much a son of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern as the aircraft engineer and entrepreneur Ludwig Bölkow. Following on from this tradition, the state has once again developed into an attractive location for the aerospace industry after reunification. As part of the Hamburg metropolitan region, one of Europe's leading centres for civil aviation, a modern supplier industry is developing with high-performance companies in the aerospace sector. Engineering service providers, manufacturers, product developers and companies involved in collaborative research for targeted product development find the best conditions here to respond to the requirements of aerospace industry customers. Currently, about 30 companies with around 800 employees are active in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern in the production of supplier parts and in the



Production of components at Mubea Aviation GmbH

engineering sector, mainly for the European aircraft manufacturer Airbus. The industry also benefits from co-operation with the mechanical and engineering technology departments of the University of Rostock, the University of Applied Sciences in Wismar and the University of Applied Sciences in Stralsund.

Mubea Aviation GmbH in Schwerin with 330 employees produces assembled, formed, surface-treated components and milled parts on 17,000 square metres as a supplier for Airbus in Hamburg.

FOCUS:

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND METAL PROCESSING

The metal and mechanical engineering sector is the manufacturing sector in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern with the highest turnover and the largest number of employees after food production. Together, both sectors have about 10,000 employees and an annual turnover of about 4.3 billion euros. The companies are characterised by a high level of innovative strength and distinctive competences in the areas of manufacturing, automation and process technology. 35 companies with more than 50 employees currently employ around 4,600 people and generated a total turnover of around 1.1 billion euros in the area of metal production and processing and the manufacture of metal products.

Small and medium-sized companies account for the majority of employees and turnover. The global trend in the industry is towards sophisticated special machinery so that the state's mechanical engineering sector also has positive development opportunities in the long term due to its technological know-how. The production focus in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern is on special machinery. Companies are increasingly focusing on future-oriented sectors such as renewable energies, biotechnology, medical technology and microsystems technology. There is also still a lot of potential in the construction of machines and plants for the food industry and in the environmental and energy sectors. Industry in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern co-operates closely with universities, technical colleges and other

Mechanical engineering and metal processing in figures (2022)

- » over 10,000 employees
- » about 22 per cent of the workforce in the manufacturing sector
- » over 4.3 billion euros in annual turnover
- » about 20 per cent share of manufacturing turnover

A close-up photograph of several interlocking metal gears, likely made of steel, showing their teeth and circular profiles. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and shadows, emphasizing the precision of the manufacturing.

Precision gears from the company Fertigungstechnik Nord

research institutions in the state. Innovations and the latest scientific discoveries thus find their way directly into production.

You can find a number of innovative companies in West Mecklenburg. Dockweiler AG, for example, has its headquarters in Neustadt-Glewe. The global supplier of stainless steel piping systems and custom-made products for plants in the semiconductor and pharmaceutical industries, biotechnology, analytics and all high-tech sectors employs 660 people worldwide. With SME GmbH in Dömitz, MEBAK Metallbau GmbH in Schönberg and SHA GmbH in Ludwigslust, to name just three, further efficient and highly specialised companies operate in the region. And at VARIOVAC PS SystemPack GmbH, a packaging machine manufacturer based in Zarrentin, 280 people work for the number two in the industry in Germany.





The faculties of engineering and design at Wismar University of Applied Sciences.

SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Higher education in MV in figures

- » 7 state colleges and universities
- » 39,041 students
- » 11 high-ranking non-university research institutes

Wismar University in figures (academic year 2021/22)

- » 8,403 enrolled students
- » 1,025 foreign students
- » 3 faculties: Engineering, Economics, Design
- » 5 diploma programs
- » 46 Bachelor's degree programs
- » 33 Master's degree programs

Mecklenburg-Vorpommern has a total of seven state colleges and universities in Wismar, Rostock, Greifswald, Neubrandenburg, Stralsund and Güstrow, that offer a wide range of opportunities for research co-operation. In addition, the University of the Federal Employment Agency (Schwerin), several branches of external private universities of applied sciences (Schwerin and Rostock) and a design school (Schwerin) have recognised Mecklenburg-Vorpommern's locational quality and settled there. In addition, 11 high-ranking non-university research institutes and other federal research institutions are located in the state. 39,041 people studied at the state's seven public institutions in the winter semester of 2021/2022. The attractiveness of MV as a place to study is demonstrated by its future-oriented degree programmes, long academic tradition, good student support and, last but not least, the location of the universities in one of Germany's most beautiful regions.

With Wismar University of Applied Sciences, West Mecklenburg has an institution with a long academic tradition. Founded in 1908 as the "Ingenieurakademie Wismar" (Wismar Academy of Engineering), the university today offers more than 70 courses of study distributed among the three faculties of economics, engineering and design. Wismar University of Applied Sciences sees itself as an innovative and entrepreneurial university, for which the balance of education, research and innovation is a priority. With this orientation, the university addresses global



Laboratory for Process and Environmental Engineering at Wismar University of Applied Sciences

Enormous university graduate potential in the immediate vicinity (2021/22):

- » 120,000 students in Hamburg
- » Adjacent to West Mecklenburg 15,000 students at the Universities of Lübeck and Lüneburg with a focus on medicine and technology

developments: education, research and innovation are no longer isolated fields of activity for individuals; the focus is increasingly shifting from individual scientists to groups and networks between universities and companies.

With a total of 15,000 students, the universities of Lübeck and Lüneburg have enormous academic potential in the immediate vicinity of the West Mecklenburg region. The Leuphana University of Lüneburg, located only 30 kilometres from Boizenburg on the Elbe River, focuses its research mainly on the areas of management and technology and sustainability. The University of Lübeck, which directly borders the district of Nordwestmecklenburg, has a clear medical and scientific-technical profile. The growth industry of healthcare with its medical technology particularly benefits in West Mecklenburg from the graduates and research initiated in Lübeck.

With more than 42,000 students, the University of Hamburg is the largest research and educational institution in northern Germany. Less than an hour by ICE from Schwerin, the university of excellence with seven faculties offers a broad portfolio of subjects and research focuses. The Technical University of Hamburg also has 7,500 students and has made "developing technology for people" its guiding principle and the focus of its research, teaching and technology transfer.

SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Companies looking for skilled workers with different levels of education will find a good and stable pool of skilled workers in West Mecklenburg thanks to cluster formations in various industrial sectors. In five regional vocational training centres in Schwerin, Wismar and Parchim and their branch offices in Zierow, Ludwigslust and Hagenow, growing and newly settled companies develop their own junior staff. In addition, qualification is possible through educational partners in the region in conjunction with the employment agency.

A well-developed network of general education schools in private or state sponsorship forms the basis for an education-oriented environment for employees and their children. All-day programmes contribute to the care of children, and daycare facilities have an above-average childcare ratio. After a sharp decline, the number of school graduates has been steadily increasing again since 2011. The number of new training contracts is stable. In 2022, the CCI will have more than 3,000 apprenticeships in its companies. At the same time, training is becoming increasingly international and companies in the region stand out for their welcoming culture: Trainees from more than 35 countries are currently learning a trade in West Mecklenburg.

As a special accompaniment in the start-up phase of a settlement or company expansion, the Employment Agency offers:

- » intensive consulting by a personal advisor for each company, depending on the scope of the project also expansion to a team of advisors
- » Assistance with personnel selection and application management advice
- » financial support in case of possible obstacles of the applicants if required
- » organisation and participation in group events with potential employees



New RBB Technik building in Schwerin



A particularly diverse landscape of secondary vocational schools has established itself in Schwerin. Three regional vocational training centres educate the skilled workers of tomorrow in the fields of business, technology and healthcare. Together, they have 4,500 students.

In Ludwigslust-Parchim, the district's own LUPOMAT training portal (lup-o-mat.de) supports companies in the acquisition of new trainees. The portal operated by Wirtschaftsförderung Südwestmecklenburg, provides students with comprehensive information about training opportunities in the district.

SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIVE

The West Mecklenburg region has an efficient, technology-oriented infrastructure and a number of interdisciplinary technology and competence centres that co-operate as an innovation network. Research and development in companies of all sizes, as well as the establishment of business and science networks, are specifically supported by the Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the Chambers of Crafts and the state administration of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. Co-operation between knowledge-intensive companies, business-related research institutions and universities generates innovative ideas for modern technologies. This collaborative research helps companies with their product or process innovations. Innovative products for the world market emerge from the networking between science and business in the region.

According to the European Commission's "Regional Innovation Scoreboard", Mecklenburg-Vorpommern now belongs to the group of so-called medium technology fields, placing it in the upper midfield in the innovation rankings of European regions. The share of R&D expenditures by universities in the state is above average and was well over one-third in 2019.





Clean room production of special pipe systems at Dockweiler AG in Neustadt-Glewe

PERFECT LOCATIONS FOR FOUNDERS, ENTREPRENEURS AND INVESTORS

Technologie- und Gewerbezentrum e.V. Schwerin/Wismar: TGZ e.V. offers favorable market conditions for technology-oriented companies and is also the contact address for company start-ups, company growth, relocation and technology promotion. TGZ Schwerin/Wismar, with its locations in Schwerin, at the old wooden harbour in Wismar and on the island of Poel is the perfect location for start-ups, entrepreneurs and investors. A total of 110 companies are currently represented at both locations. The connected technology parks in Wismar and Schwerin also offer the possibility of setting up your own company headquarters.

With 12,900 square metres of rental space directly by the sea and in the middle of the city, TGZ in Wismar offers the best conditions for young start-ups and innovative companies. Six buildings offer office, laboratory, storage and production space with a view of the Baltic Sea or close to the university.

In Schwerin, around 9,000 square metres are available in five buildings in the middle of the state capital. Extensions are currently under construction. Special conditions for company founders also create the best conditions for start-ups here. The 16-hectare technology park in Schwerin is already home to 48 innovative technology companies which employ over 600 people. Another 4 hectares have been developed and are ready for settlement in a second construction phase: www.tgz-mv.de





Technology and Trade Centre in the Hanseatic City of Wismar

With Wismar Innovation Port and Schwerin Digital Innovation Centre, there are also competence centres at both locations whose services are aimed at digital and innovative startup enthusiasts, people with ideas and companies seeking knowledge exchange in the digital strategy shift. The close connection of the Innovation Port to Wismar University of Applied Sciences offers excellent conditions for co-operation between business and science. The two centres are integrated into the "MV digital innovation space" and co-operate in this network with other innovation locations such as DeveLUP in Ludwigslust, which opened in 2022 as the first start-up and founding centre for the European Green Deal. Located on the axis between Hamburg and Berlin, DeveLUP offers the ideal space and infrastructure to implement ideas for the economy, society and our environment. DeveLUP focuses on sustainable innovations. This is where the solutions for the challenges of today and tomorrow are created:
www.deve-lup.de/



ipt – Institute for Polymer Technologies e. V.: The Institute for Polymer Technologies is a research and development partner for industry. It accompanies and supports product and process development projects from conceptualisation to pre-series maturity. ipt was founded as a legally and economically independent research institution at the University of Wismar. The structural integration into an efficient network of partners makes ipt highly flexible, which benefits the clients and research partners.
www.ipt-wismar.de



The CIM–Technologie–Zentrum Wismar e.V. was founded in 1993 and since then provides comprehensive support in the field of information integration as well as manufacturing technology and contributes to technology transfer between research institutions and companies. The network is traditionally represented with its own joint exhibition stand at the Hanover Messe trade fair.
www.cim-wismar.de



DeveLUP coworking spaces and start-up center in Ludwigslust

HIAT – Hydrogen and Informatics Institute of Applied Technologies gGmbH:

HIAT has been based in the Hydrogen Competence Centre of the Technology and Business Centre in Schwerin since 2004. With 5,000 square metres of space, it offers young companies, especially those in the field of hydrogen and fuel cell technology, an ideal basis for research, development and marketing.

www.hiat.de



Technology and Innovation Consultant: The TIB's task is to initiate knowledge and research transfer between companies in the region and research institutions. A TIB acts as a contact at all university locations in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.

Co-operation between companies, research institutions and universities:

Scientific expertise can be provided from the state's universities as well as from non-university research institutions. In order for the TIB to operate successfully, they are not only closely integrated with the universities but also with the Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Chambers of Crafts.

www.tib-mv.de



Thanks to the close networking in the Hamburg metropolitan region, research institutions in neighbouring regions are also available to companies as partners. Information on all research institutions in the Hamburg metropolitan region is available in the "Best of Science" brochure published by the Chambers of Commerce and Industry on the MRH website:

www.metropolregion.hamburg.de/forschungseinrichtungen



**COUNTRY OF
NORTHWEST MECKLENBURG**



College/university/
university of applied sciences



Vocational training centre



Technology centre

**COUNTY OF
LUDWIGSTLUST-PARCHIM**

Zierow



Wismar



**STATE CAPITAL
SCHWERIN**



Schwerin



Hagenow



Parchim



Ludwigslust

WEST MECKLENBURG

INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL SITES IN WESTMECKLENBURG

The commercial land information system of the Hamburg Metropolitan Region (GEFIS in German for short) provides potential investors with an excellent overview and up-to-date information on the commercial and industrial land available in the West Mecklenburg region: <https://gefis.metropolregion.hamburg.de>



The availability of industrial and commercial sites is one of the most important location factors of a region. In West Mecklenburg, numerous attractive industrial and commercial sites are available for investors, expansions of existing companies and start-ups. No matter what your requirements are – attractive land prices, high space requirements, port or motorway access or special emissions requirements – suitable commercial sites are available for almost all needs in West Mecklenburg. Sites ranging from less than one hectare to 100 hectares of contiguous land and locations on the quayside or directly on the freeway axes are possible. Attractive trade and property tax rates, extensive investment subsidies and short decision-making processes are further advantages. Once again, the location in the Hamburg metropolitan region also plays an important role. While there is a shortage of vacant industrial and commercial land in the core city and in the immediate surrounding area, there are still sufficient sites available in West Mecklenburg with perfect connections to Hamburg and its seaport as the “gateway to the world”. There are still 625 hectares Available in total.

We introduce you to five locations with special advantages!

Advantages of our commercial areas at a glance:

-  **around 625 hectares**
of net available area
-  **all layouts possible**
largest contiguous area 100 hectares
-  **favourable land prices**
Prices from from 7 euros per square metre
-  **attractive trade tax rates (2017)**
from 200 per cent, average 355 per cent
-  **low property tax B (2022)**
from 300 per cent
-  **low-restrictions**
on emission requirements
-  **Investment promotion**
up to 35 per cent of the investment sum via GRW
-  **business-friendly**
Co-operative authorities – fast approval processes

SCHWERIN

INDUSTRIAL PARK

With an area of 350 hectares, Schwerin Industrial Park offers the largest industrial site potential in the Hamburg metropolitan region. A further 180 hectares are available for the settlement of a wide range of industries. The industrial park is located on the southern outskirts of Schwerin, eight kilometres from the A 14 to Wismar or Magdeburg and 15 kilometres from the A 24 to Hamburg and Berlin. Dedicated freeway access to the A 14 is under way and will make the site even more attractive. The site is fully developed and is owned by the state capital Schwerin. The entire area is designated as an industrial site, with the nearest residential development 800 metres away.

More than 1,000 jobs have now been created in the industrial park. A new settlement dynamic has emerged especially since the opening of a coffee capsule plant by the global corporation Nestlé in 2014. In addition to existing producing companies from the food industry, metal construction, packaging and aviation (Mubea Aviation GmbH employs 330 people on site), the most recent settlements from the healthcare industry in particular speak for Schwerin's location qualities. With the Swiss company Ypsomed, a global player in the field of medical technology was convinced of Schwerin's location qualities. Since 2019, the company has invested more than 100 million euros in new plant construction and machinery for highly automated production. In addition, the Swiss company TecMed is setting up a production facility for insulin pumps in Schwerin.

Motorways

- » A 14 (Wismar-Karstädt, after completion Wismar-Leipzig via Magdeburg): 8 km
- » A 24 (Berlin-Hamburg): 15 km
- » A 20 (Szczecin-Lübeck): 30 km

Federal highways

- » B 321: 2 km
- » B 104: 8 km

Airports

- » Rostock-Laage: 90 km
- » Hamburg: 100 km
- » Berlin: 200 km

Seaports

- » Wismar: 30 km
- » Rostock: 100 km
- » Hamburg: 100 km



Schwerin Industrial Park



Businesspark A24

LUDWIGSTLUST–PARCHIM

BUSINESSPARK A24

The largest business park in the Ludwigslust–Parchim district is the Businesspark A24 in Valluhn/Gallin. It has a net area of 200 hectares, of which an area of over 5 hectares is still available. The area is located directly on the A 24, the most important traffic artery between the metropolises of Hamburg and Berlin, and thus offers the best logistical conditions. The markets of northern Germany, Poland and the Scandinavian countries in particular are very easy to reach due to the excellent location,. Short travel times to the German North Sea and Baltic ports as well as the proximity to Hamburg's international airport make the industrial park in this central location a convincing investment location. The industrial park has its own motorway access in the direction of Hamburg. Many hundreds of millions of euros have been invested and more than 4,500 jobs have been created in recent years.

Motorways

- » A 24 (Berlin–Hamburg): own motorway access in the direction of Hamburg
- » A 1 (Lübeck–Cologne): 45 km
- » A 14 (Wismar–Karstädt): 50 km
- » A 20 (Szczecin–Lübeck): 70 km

Federal highways

- » B 195: 0,5 km
- » B 5: 17 km
- » B 207: 20 km

Airports

- » Hamburg: 65 km
- » Rostock-Laage: 150 km
- » Berlin: 220 km

Seaports

- » Hamburg: 60 km
- » Wismar: 80 km
- » Rostock: 150 km

INTERMUNICIPAL INDUSTRIAL PARK

WISMAR-HORNSTORF

The 140-hectare industrial park in the east of Wismar, in the immediate vicinity of the seaport, offers ideal conditions for further settlements. The industrial park is designated in the state's spatial development programme as a large-scale industrial site for port-related settlements. The industrial park is located in the immediate vicinity of the Wismar-Ost junction of the A 20 motorway, which provides fast access to cities such as Rostock and Szczecin in the east and Lübeck and Hamburg in the west. To the south, the A 24 motorway and Schwerin can be reached via the A 14 motorway. Trade with the entire Baltic region, among others, is possible via the port of Wismar, which is only a few kilometres away. Currently, about 110 hectares are still available for settlements, the largest contiguous area being 80 hectares.

Motorways

- » A 14 (Wismar-Karstädt): 0.1 km
- » A 20 (Szczecin-Lübeck): 2 km
- » A 19 (Rostock-Wittstock): 50 km
- » A 24 (Berlin-Hamburg): 60 km

Federal highways

- » B 105: 0,5 km
- » B 106: 8 km
- » B 192: 8 km
- » B 208: 9 km

Airports

- » Rostock-Laage: 65 km
- » Hamburg: 130 km
- » Berlin: 260 km

Seaports

- » Wismar: 10 km
- » Rostock: 58 km
- » Hamburg: 135 km





Wittenburg commercial park

WITTENBURG

COMMERCIAL PARK

Wittenburg commercial park, currently covering an area of 140 hectares, is located directly on the A 24 motorway (Hamburg-Berlin axis). This allows the companies already located here to attract attention with effective advertising. The quick accessibility of Hamburg further highlights the advantages of the location. Companies such as Dr. Oetker, SternMaid and Mecklenburger Fischfeinkost are already located here. The food industry is complemented by companies from the mechanical engineering, printing, services and other manufacturing sectors. Globally active companies include Evonik Real Estate GmbH (specialty chemicals), EHL AG as a subsidiary of the CRH "Cement Roadstone Holding" Group (building materials manufacturer), Deutsche Logistik Holding as a subsidiary of ZECH Group Bremen (project development for customers operating regionally and globally) and Kühne + Nagel (AG Co.) KG (global logistics centre for onshore and offshore wind turbines).

New development of additional commercial sites is planned for the coming years. New investors are welcome here. In addition to the creation of new commercial areas, the city and its surroundings are particularly concerned with the future-oriented expansion of the existing infrastructure and the development of new living values to make newly created jobs more attractive. The "Wittenburg Village" vacation and leisure complex with an indoor swimming pool and accompanying outlet centre is being built on the approximately 50-hectare area of van der Valk alpincenter Hamburg-Wittenburg. The town of Wittenburg thus continues to grow.

Motorways

- » A 24 (Hamburg-Berlin): 0,2 km
- » A 14 (Wismar-Karstädt): 30 km
- » A 20 (Lübeck-Szczecin): 70 km

Federal highways

- » B 195: 12 km
- » B 321: 12 km
- » B 5: 14 km

Airports

- » Hamburg: 70 km
- » Rostock-Laage: 100 km
- » Berlin: 235 km

Seaports

- » Wismar: 65 km
- » Hamburg: 80 km
- » Rostock: 150 km

Rail passenger transport

- » Hagenow country: 12 km

INTERMUNICIPAL COMMERCIAL PARK

UPAHL-GREVESMÜHLEN

The town of Grevesmühlen and the municipality of Upahl are currently establishing an inter-municipal commercial site located directly at the exit of the A 20 motorway. Plots of 1 ha to 14 ha will be made available for industry, logistics and trade. According to Mecklenburg-Vorpommern's regional development programme, the commercial area, which covers a total of approx. 41 hectares, is classified as significant for the development of the state. The planned commercial site will be sustainable from the outset, i.e. in accordance with the G3 criteria of the state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. The goal is a 100 % independent power and heat supply from regenerative energy sources in a network.

Situated between Lübeck and Wismar, the project offers investors several advantages: Low, reliable energy costs, a green network and, last but not least, fast access to the A 20 motorway. But there is also this to consider: Grevesmühlen has modern daycare centres and schools, shopping facilities and also a hospital, and Upahl has attractive residential and recreational opportunities to offer in its suburbs in a typical Mecklenburg hilly landscape. Modern housing construction goes hand in hand with this project. The Baltic seaside resort of Boltenhagen can be reached in a few minutes by car and public transport. And Wismar and Lübeck are also only 15 and 45 minutes away respectively.

Further information at: <https://www.grevesmuehlen.de/wirtschaft/gewerbegebiete/interkommunaler-grossgewerbebestandort-upahl-grevesmuehlen.html>

Motorways

- » A 20 (Szczecin-Lübeck): 0.2 km
- » A 14 (Wismar-Karstädt): 26 km
- » A 24 (Hamburg-Berlin): 49 km
- » A 19: 82 km

Federal highways

- » B 105: 5 km
- » B 208: 10 km
- » B 104: 17 km

Airports

- » Rostock-Laage: 90 km
- » Hamburg: 110 km
- » Berlin: 260 km

Seaports

- » Wismar: 23 km
- » Rostock: 90
- » Hamburg: 110 km

Rail passenger transport

- » Grevesmühlen: 3 km



Planned area of the commercial park Upahl-Grevesmühlen

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