

Press information



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Press kit for PR-Event Stockholm: State Capital Schwerin

Content

- A UNESCO World Heritage City Between Palace and Lakes

Link to media database: urlaubsnachrichten.de/pressefotos

Schwerin

A UNESCO World Heritage City Between Palace and Lakes

Life moves at its own pace in Schwerin. The palace reflects in the lake, café terraces bask in the sun, and historic alleyways are just a short stroll from expansive parks and gardens. Germany's smallest state capital brings together UNESCO World Heritage, culture and nature within easy walking distance.

Since 2024, the Schwerin Residence Ensemble has been inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The designation recognises an exceptionally well-preserved 19th-century residential city, where architecture, landscape design and urban planning continue to form a harmonious whole. Yet Schwerin is far more than an outstanding cultural monument.

What makes Schwerin special is its atmosphere. Between palace, lakes and historic streets, visitors discover a city that feels relaxed, personal and closely connected to the water that surrounds it.

UNESCO World Heritage of Outstanding Universal Value

At the heart of the city rises Schwerin Palace, set on an island in the lake. Together with 37 other buildings, squares and gardens, the Residence Ensemble tells the story of Schwerin as the seat of the Dukes and Grand Dukes of Mecklenburg. The story continues to this day: the palace is home to the Parliament of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. At the same time, the Palace Museum invites visitors on a journey through courtly life, with magnificent rooms including the Throne Room and the ancestral gallery.

Yet the legacy of the former residence extends far beyond the palace island. The Alter Garten, together with the Mecklenburg State Theatre and the State Museum Schwerin, forms one of northern Germany's most impressive historic ensembles. Just a few minutes away, the towers of Schwerin Cathedral, St Paul's Church and Schelf Church rise above the rooftops of the Old Town. Between them, narrow streets are lined with independent shops, galleries and cafés. Many are still run by their owners, and there is almost always time for a friendly conversation.

Some of these buildings have histories that date back to the era of the Grand Dukes. Former court suppliers continue to preserve their heritage and invite visitors not only to discover the World Heritage Site, but also to savour it – over a glass of wine or a slice of cake.

A City on the Water

One of Schwerin's greatest charms is its compactness. Culture and nature exist side by side. From the palace gardens, the Franzosenweg lakeside path winds through avenues of old trees. Boats glide across Lake Schwerin, while the historic gardens reveal ever-changing views of the city. Whether by kayak or bicycle, the surrounding lake landscape offers countless opportunities to explore.

Schwerin's cultural life thrives throughout the year. The historic Palace Festival, the Palace Festival Performances, concerts, exhibitions and many other events bring contemporary life into a remarkable historic setting. Schwerin is a living residential city where past and present meet in a unique way.

This creates the distinctive character of Schwerin: a city where World Heritage is not merely preserved but lived – among lakes, historic streets and a vibrant cultural scene.

Schwerin at a Glance

- State capital of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
- Population: approximately 100,000
- Schwerin Residence Ensemble inscribed as UNESCO World Heritage in 2024, 38 constituent parts, including historic buildings, squares and gardens
- Schwerin Palace: seat of the state parliament and home to the Palace Museum
- Historic Old Town with short distances between culture and nature
- State Museum Schwerin with an important collection of Old Masters, reopening in 2025 after extensive restoration
- Mecklenburg State Theatre with more than 450 years of history
- Schwerin Cathedral with its 117.5-metre tower
- City of lakes with 12 lakes within the city limits
- Lake Schwerin, the second-largest lake in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and the fourth-largest lake in Germany

Images

High-resolution press images of Schwerin and the UNESCO World Heritage Residence Ensemble are available free of charge for editorial use:

<https://urlaubsmarke.tourismus.mv/d/XmUmKRmEcJQ7>

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