

PRESSEINFORMATION

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Baltic Sea, Bodden and much more in between: Holidays on Germany's most beautiful peninsula

A unique natural landscape, old traditions, a rich cultural heritage and plenty of fine sandy beaches delight more than a million guests every year.

About 800 years ago they were still islets - today Fischland, Darß and Zingst, Germany's largest peninsula, enchant more than half a million tourists every year. They are attracted by a water-wrapped landscape that not only consists of lush meadows, pretty cane-roofed villages and idyllic Bodden harbours but is also home of the Vorpommersche Boddenlandschaft National Park. A pristine forest, marshes, heaths and wide fields that disappear into the water on the horizon - perfect conditions for cranes, which have been heading for Fischland-Darß-Zingst for centuries on their flights north or south to gather strength. Speaking of tradition: thanks to its maritime history, Fischland-Darß-Zingst has developed numerous traditions and customs that are still lived in many places today - and can be experienced by our guests. The most popular point of interest, however, is and remains the Baltic Sea: in spring, endless walks on the wildly romantic Darßer Weststrand, in summer swimming adventures on the powder-white waterline of Prerow and in autumn fast-paced horseback rides on the sandy shore of Dierhagen are inviting holiday experiences. Whether young families, trendy water sports enthusiasts or couples in search of their own personal holiday happiness - Fischland-Darß-Zingst has the right offer ready.

Beach chairs, surfboards, and swaying reeds: adventures on dream beaches

With its 60 kilometres of sandy beaches, Fischland-Darß-Zingst offers best conditions for a successful summer holiday. While parents enjoy the sun and the sound of the sea in a beach chair, children get happy by building sandcastles or splashing around in the Baltic Sea. Furthermore, there's no need to worry because the water quality is excellent along the entire coast of Fischland-Darß-Zingst. This also pleases windsurfers and stand-up paddlers, who, not least thanks to numerous water sports schools, can find suitable equipment everywhere on the peninsula to enjoy the wind and waves. Whether you are active on water or prefer relaxation - there is one thing that unites: The chance to find a real treasure. There are only a few places on the German Baltic coast where the probability of finding amber, the gold of the north, is so high.

Sailing Zeesboats or knocking down buoys: fascinating traditions and customs

To this day, the inhabitants of the Fischland-Darß-Zingst peninsula preserve traditions, quite a few of which stem from their eventful maritime past. Thanks to many associations and communities, holidaymakers can also experience the customs and gain unique insights into the history of the peninsula's inhabitants. For example, by taking a ride on old Zeesboats - small fishing and cargo vessels that sailed through the Bodden for hundreds of years with their characteristic reddish-brown sails and flat wooden hulls. Several times a year, a competition can be marvelled during the so-called *barrel-launching*, which is carried out on horsebacks. The custom dates to the Swedish occupation of the Pomeranians after the

Thirty Years' War. The handicraft of the ornate Darß front doors and the Barth Children's Festival are also experiences that cannot be found anywhere else in the world. Reason enough for UNESCO to declare some of the traditions as intangible cultural heritage in December 2018.

A village full of artists, a seaside resort full of photographers: diverse cultural experiences

Where famous artists such as Paul Müller-Kaempff, Louis Douzette or Max Esser found inspiration 130 years ago, holidaymakers are now following the footsteps of artists and creatives. In the past as well as today, the very special light moods and the unique nature of the Fischland-Darß-Zingst peninsula attract visitors. Their wonderful motifs can be experienced in the former artists' colony of Ahrenshoop, among other places. The characteristic village invites visitors with its art museum wrapped in architectural bronze, blue-spotted art cottages and many charming little galleries. Amateur photographers should pay a visit to Zingst in particular - the Baltic resort is home to the Max-Hüntten-House, a venue of remarkable photo shows. In addition to many other cultural experiences, such as hikes on photo-trails, visits of the Klockenhagen open-air museum or dives into the history of the sunken city of Vineta in the museum of the same name in Barth, open-air events invite visitors all year round. Highlights include the "Ahrenshoop Jazz Festival" (annually in June), the "Horizonte Zingst" photo festival (start May), the "Darß Festival" in Born a. d. Darß (annually July to September) and the "Naturklänge" concert series (annually June to September), which promises performances by outstanding virtuosos in front of spectacular natural backdrops.

Where deer growl and cranes trumpet: intoxicated by nature

Fischland-Darß-Zingst is constantly reinventing itself - and that also applies to its nature. At Darßer Ort, for example, holidaymakers can observe how new land is constantly being created. Nowhere else along the Baltic Sea coast, land erosion and land formation take place so dynamically, in such a short time and in such a confined space as in the "lagoons of the Baltic Sea". The hub of the nature experience, however, is the Vorpommersche Boddenlandschaft National Park. The largest national park in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania in terms of area and the third largest of its kind in Germany covers an area of 786 square kilometres from Darß to Zingst and from the island of Hiddensee to the island of Rügen. While it is an eldorado for red deer or rarely spotted eagles, holidaymakers can enjoy endless walks between wild beaches and wild forests - or boat trips, which regularly have guides on board. Fischland-Darß-Zingst is particularly famous for its crane visits. Up to 70,000 of the majestic migratory birds rest in spring and autumn on the marshy shores and fields of the extensive region - many of the trumpeters are even staying in this area all year round. They can be spotted particularly well during hikes on eastern Zingst and from the *Kranorama*, a new crane experience station, not far from the Barther Bodden.

New highlight emerged

In October 2024, the longest pier in the German Baltic Sea region, with 720 meters, was opened with an island harbor in the Baltic Sea resort of Prerow. The horseshoe-shaped harbor replaces the former emergency port in the main zone and offers a safe place for lifeboats, sports boats, fishing boats as well as a viewing platform for visitors.

Arrival and mobility: how to get to the peninsula

Fischland-Darß-Zingst can be reached by train from Hamburg/ Rostock or from Berlin/Stralsund via Ribnitz-Damgarten station. From here, buses (line 210) run regularly around the Fischland-Darß-Zingst peninsula - bicycle transports are offered for free as well. All larger Baltic Sea resorts can also be reached directly by a long-distance bus: From Berlin, for example, it takes about three hours to get to Dierhagen, Ahrenshoop, Prerow or Zingst. If you are travelling to the peninsula by car - regardless of which direction you are coming from - you will be guided along federal road B105, which in turn connects to the most important route on the peninsula, the country road L21.

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