

MÜRITZ

Holidays on the water




HAPIMAG

WELCOME TO MÜRITZ

... and on the water. The “land of a thousand lakes” is calling with its untouched natural landscape, majestic castles, old manor houses, picturesque villages, bijoux royal residences and diverse navigation routes. Houseboat holidays at their best!

Lake Müritz, Germany's second-largest lake, forms the heart of the region. This “small sea” and the many lakes of all shapes and sizes around it are connected by rivers and canals, forming the largest lake district in Europe – a dream for houseboat drivers and for anyone looking for some peace and quiet. For even at the height of summer, you can find your own bathing spot in a bay and cool off in the crystal-clear water.

We look forward to greeting you aboard a houseboat in the port village of Müritz and wish you an adventurous and relaxing houseboat holiday!

Your Hapimag Houseboat Team



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HOUSEBOAT MÜRITZ – HOLIDAYS ON THE WATER

Water as far as the eye can see. In the midst of green forests and picturesque villages, a wonderful nature adventure awaits both old and young.

The port village of Müritz in Rechlin lies at the heart of the Mecklenburg Lakeland, approximately 150 kilometres north of Berlin and 85 kilometres south of Rostock. The Upper Lakeland extends to the north, comprising Lake Müritz, Germany's second-largest inland lake surrounded by a thousand lakes. Even the state's capital, Schwerin, can be reached via the Müritz-Elde Waterway. To the south of our houseboat base lies the Lesser Lakeland, the heart of the Mecklenburg and Märkisch Lakes. The Lesser Lakeland consists mainly of two waterways: the Müritz-Havel Waterway leads from Müritz to Priepert, while the Upper-Havel Waterway stretches from Neutrelitz, via Priepert, to Liebenwalde to the north of Berlin.

Approximately 600 of the total 2,500 kilometres can be navigated by houseboat without a license.

HISTORY AND CULTURE

The Mecklenburg Lakeland – inhabited early, but not developed into an interconnected lake district until much later – has always been a peaceful place.

Lake Müritz first emerged at the end of the Weichselian ice age around 12,000 years ago. As the ice glided forwards, deep delves were formed that filled with melted ice.

The Slavs, who inhabited the area until the 12th century, called the large lake “Morcze”, which is Slavic for “small sea”. It was from this name that the current “Müritz” was derived.

The individual lakes were not connected with canals and locks until the late 18th, early 19th century. This was when the Lenzer Canal was built, connecting the lakes to the north, as well as the Kammer Canal to the south, leading all the way to Neustrelitz.

It was not until the 30s that Lake Müritz was connected to the Lesser Lakeland to the south by a canal, making this the largest interconnected lake district in Europe.



Over the past few years, several new sunbathing areas with modern facilities have been added to the Mecklenburg Lakeland for water sports enthusiasts. You can now find protected sunbathing areas, sanitary facilities, running water and electricity, as well as waste disposal and wastewater facilities in most marinas.

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU!

How can we help?
Our base employees are always happy to help.

If you have any questions, or need information or help with requests of any kind, the houseboat base is just the place. You can always find someone there to help you out during opening hours. You can also obtain your licence here, as well as all key information on operating and navigating a boat. An instructor will accompany you on a trial run, after which you can embark on your adventure.

Services provided by the operator

- Bicycle and indoor parking space rental (please reserve in advance)
- Stand-up paddle and kajak rental (please reserve in advance)
- Captain's Inn by the port
- Technical emergency service open every day of the week
- Fishing licences

Tip

Participating in the detailed theoretical induction is crucial for any successful boat holiday. We recommend that you prepare in advance using the route planner and by consulting our recommended reading. Feel free to ask questions on the day of your arrival, too. Have the instructor explain the technical equipment on board to you in detail. Even if you have driven a houseboat before, it does no harm to brush up your knowledge.



TIPS FOR YOUR ROUTE

Drifting leisurely along the water and occasionally doing some exploring on land – organise your route however you like.

Looking for relaxation in the heart of nature, a cultural experience or even something adventurous? You're the captain here – so you decide for yourself which direction to take. But if you'd like a little inspiration, here are a few suggested routes.

If you have any questions or require further information, we will be on hand to help on your day of arrival. But you can also reach us in advance by telephone – we will be happy to give you some excursion tips, addresses of restaurants and of activities on offer along the canal. You can find information about the ports and river maps in the route planner.

Now there's just one thing left to say: ship ahoy! Make your houseboat holiday an unforgettable experience!



We highly recommend reading the following literature before your houseboat holiday (in German):

Klaus Neumann
Charterfibel: Hausboot-wissen für Einsteiger (handbook: Houseboat know-how for beginners)

Robert Tremmel
Hafenführer für Hausboote: Müritzt, Havel, Seenplatte (The houseboat port guide: Lake Müritzt, River Havel, the Lakeland)

Dagmar Rockel
TörnAtlas: Mecklenburgische und Märkische Gewässer (Route atlas: The Mecklenburg and Märkisch Lakes)



ROUTE 1: RIVER HAVEL

You have a week to spend and would like to visit charming castles and royal residences in addition to experiencing nature at its best? Take to the River Havel.

Drive southwards across the Lesser Müritzt and pass through the first lock before Mirow. Dock on the castle island of Mirow. We highly recommend climbing to the top of the tower of the Church of St. John – your efforts will be rewarded with a picturesque panoramic view.

Then steer towards the Rheinsberg Lakes. The former royal residence, complete with castle, chamber opera and Tucholsky Museum, is certainly worth the trip. Enjoy the evening in one of the two marinas in the area: the port village of Rheinsberg or the Wolfsbruch marina.

Carry on to the lakeside town of Fürstenberg. Along with the Neo-Gothic church in the centre, the town offers numerous historic fisherman's houses and good shopping facilities.

Former royal residence Neustrelitz is a sight to be seen and makes for an excellent destination. In summer, you can enjoy a lavish theatre and opera programme in the castle's gardens here.

Suitable for 1 week
Return: Müritzt port village–Mirow Rheinsberg–Fürstenberg–Neustrelitz
Locks: 18
Distance: 170 km



ROUTE 2: LAKELAND

This route alternates between rural and urban backdrops, and between canals and lakes.

Follow the Upper-Havel Waterway southbound until you reach Zehdenick. The town is renowned for its roof-tile manufacturing and is home to the largest natural clay deposits in Europe. It is also known for being one of the most attractive, family-friendly holiday regions in Germany.

The whole family will enjoy visiting the Ziegeleipark open-air interactive museum in Mildenberg, the Elisabethmühle, a mill that dates back to 1281, the Havelschloss maritime museum from the 13th century as well as the computerised drawbridge.

Take a break at the natural thermal baths in Templin and relax in the three saunas and the wonderful bathing facilities.

Since the addition of the Templin lock, the lakes to the north of Templin can also be accessed by houseboat. The ideal place to spend a night at anchor in one of the small bays.

Suitable for 1 week
Return:
Müritz port village
Zehdenick–Templin–
Fürstenberg–Mirow
Locks: 21
Distance: 194 km

ROUTE 3: THE SILVER STRIP

With its well-established infrastructure in the villages and small port towns, this route will be popular with the whole family.

Start at our Rechlin base and traverse Lake Müritz until you reach Waren. Visit the famous “Müritzeum” while you are here.

Continue on to Lake Kölpin, which is excellently suited for bathing – particularly with small children – thanks to its remarkably flat shores. There are beautiful places to dock on the adjacent lakes and in the port on Lake Jabel.

From Lake Fleesen, continue on to Lake Malchow, which is split by a swing bridge. The bridge opens on the hour every hour during high season. We recommend paying the old monastery town of Malchow a visit.

From here, your next destinations are the port of Lenz and Lake Plau. The beautiful bays are ideal for an overnight stay. You will also find a dock with its own fish smokehouse here.

Your final destination is the town of Plau am See, where, on the first weekend of July every year, the spectacular bathtub race takes place.

Suitable for 1 week
Return:
Müritz port village–Plau
Locks: 0
Distance: 86 km





MÜRITZ AREA PLAN SOUTHERN ROUTE

● Hapimag Houseboats Müritz
Müritz port village

ROUTE 4: RECHLIN–SCHWERIN

Follow the Müritz-Elde Waterway until you reach Schwerin – you will encounter cultural, architectural and culinary delights along the way.

Once you have passed the lifting bridge and the lock in Plau, you will enjoy a beautiful journey along the River Elde, before soon arriving in Lübz. Be sure to treat yourself to an unforgettably delicious Lübzer Pils – why not combine it with a tour of the brewery?

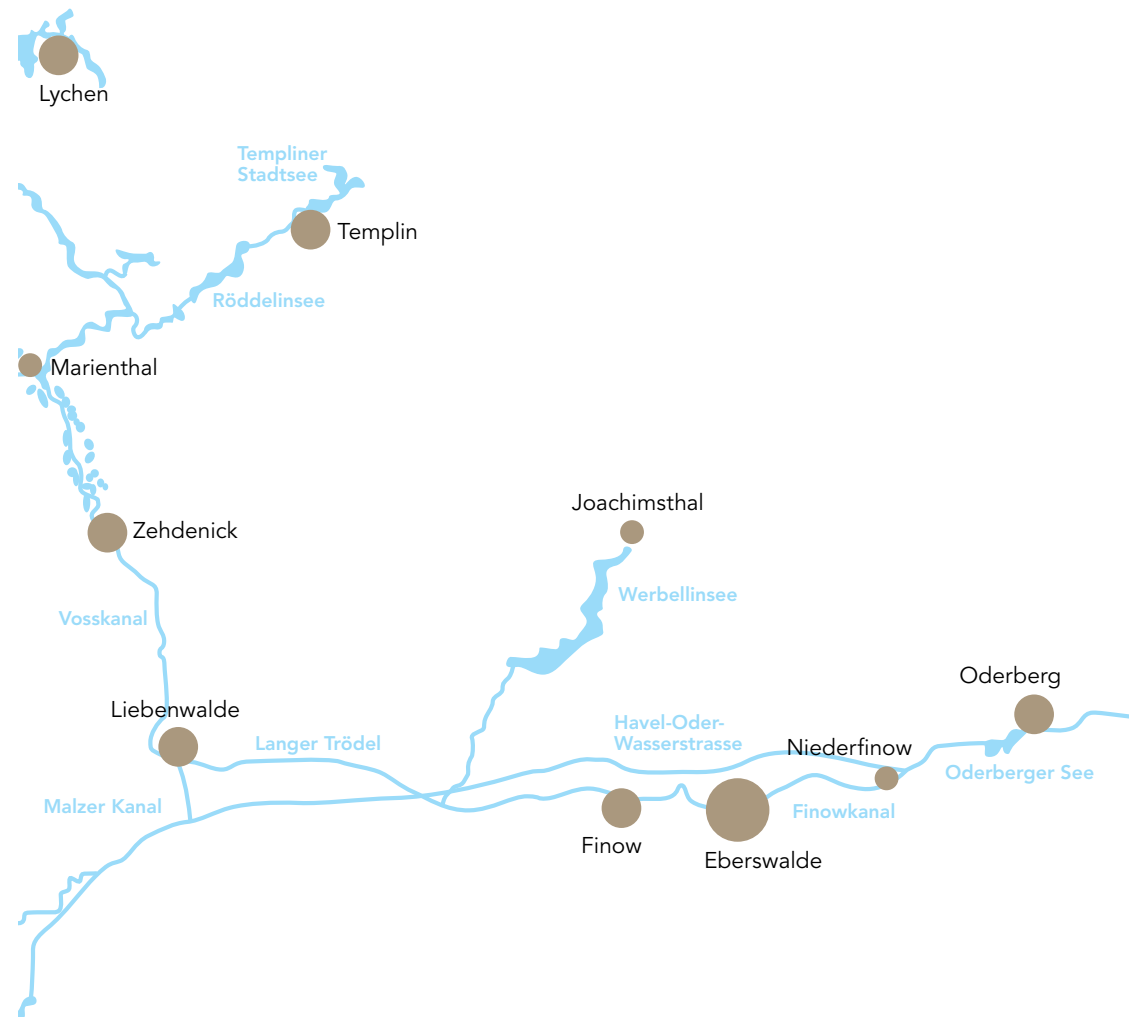
Four hours later, you will arrive at your next destination: Parchim. The timber-framed houses in the old town and the 14th century town hall are its hallmarks.

Approximately 16 km further to the west, the Stör Waterway, straight as a die, takes you to Schwerin. It is worth the effort:

once you have arrived at Lake Schwerin, your endurance will be rewarded with an impressive view of the stately castle as you approach Schwerin. Schwerin's old town lies only a few minutes away from the yacht port, featuring countless monuments and a rich range of cultural activities. Boutiques and cafés provide you with many an opportunity to take a leisurely stroll through the town.

Suitable for 2 weeks
Return:
Müritz port village –
Plau – Schwerin
Locks: 8
Distance: 135 km

Tip
Turn off after Garwitz at the Elde Triangle into Lewitz, one of the European Environment Agency's protected bird sites. Nature photographers and birdwatchers will enjoy taking lots of beautiful pictures in these unique flatlands – white-tailed eagles, ospreys, kingfishers, penduline tits, great white herons and lapwings will be happy to pose for you.





MÜRITZ AREA MAP NORTHERN ROUTE

● Hapimag Houseboats Müritz
Müritz port village



TREAT YOURSELF TO A SHORT BREAK

It doesn't always have to be one or two weeks – discover the charm of a relaxing weekend away in your very own houseboat.

Short breaks from three nights can be organised at short notice upon request during the low season. Take the opportunity to gain a first impression of what it's like to drive a houseboat and spend some relaxing days on the water with family or friends.

Three days suffice to drive your houseboat from the port village of Müritz to Rheinsberg and stay overnight in the town centre's bay. Meander through the castle's grounds the next morning, take a break in a good restaurant by the shore and speak directly to the artist about his works on a trip to the gallery.

Would you like to enjoy a weekend full of nature and relaxation, and finally take some time out and unwind? In that case, head across Lake Müritz towards Lake Fleesen, tie up in natural surroundings and go swimming in the lakes. Wonderful!

To organise your short break, please contact our Service Line on 00800 3030 8080.

Paradise for fishing enthusiasts

Be the first to fish for pike using spoon lures at dawn from the comfort of your boat or fish for carp from the shore – the Mecklenburg Lakeland makes any fisherman's dream come true. Crystal-clear lakes full of healthy fish set in a wondrous natural landscape invite you to truly indulge in your hobby. Collect your fishing licence at the base port.

YOUR HOME ON THE WATER

The holiday apartment with a difference: The Hapimag houseboat is a means of transport and a comfortable home in one.

The Hapimag houseboats are extremely comfortable and ideally equipped. In the pantry, you'll find a sink with hot and cold running water, a fridge, a gas stove with three hobs, a gas oven and a grill. The well-equipped living area has an interior navigation station, a dining table and comfortable furnishings.

The boats have two (Venus 34) or three (Venus 42) sleeping cabins. The beds in the cabins are intended to be used as double or single beds. Each cabin has its own en-suite bathroom with toilet, shower and towel dryer.

You don't need to worry about freezing on board since the boats also come equipped with a heating system. The 230-V on-shore power supply means that you need not go without your Nespresso coffee while travelling.

On the sundeck there is an outdoor control station, a direction indicator, corner seating with a table and a bimini (sun canopy). The houseboats also have a stern platform with outdoor shower (hot and cold water), a landing stage that can be folded out and a ladder for climbing aboard.



Household accessories:
Crockery, cutlery, glasses,
pots and pans, kitchen
utensils

Linens:
Blankets, pillows, hand
towels, bed linen

Deck equipment:
Lines, anchors, boat hooks,
fenders

Rescue equipment

THE "VENUS 42" HOUSEBOAT

Comfortable and easy to control, this cruiser is ideal for three couples, three to four friends, or families of six to eight people.

Technical details:

Manufacturer: Haines Marine, Norfolk

Year of construction: 2013

(Total) length: 12.90 m

(Total) width: 4 m

Clear height: 2.74 m

Draught: 1.07 m

Interior height: 1.90 m

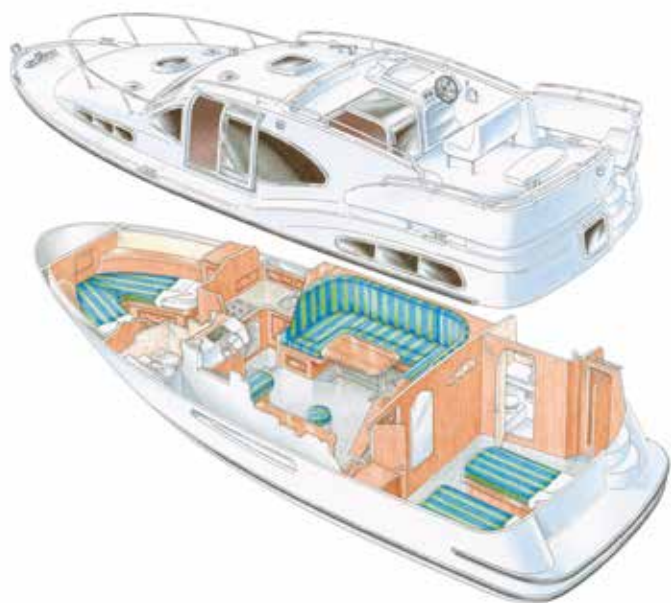
Motor: Nanni diesel motor, 50 PS

Drinking water tank: 480 l

Diesel tank: 360 l

On-board electrical system: 3 x 125 AH, 12 V
230 V for shore connection or with inverter





THE "VENUS 34" HOUSEBOAT

Comfortable and easy to control, this cruiser is ideal for two couples or families of four to six people.

Technical details:

Manufacturer: Haines Marine, Norfolk

Year of construction: 2011–2013

(Total) length: 10.55 m

(Total) width: 3.81 m

Clear height: 2.69 m

Interior height: 1.90 m

Maximum draught: 0.97 m

Weight: 7 t

Motor: Nanni diesel, 50 PS

Drinking water tank: 400 l

Diesel tank: 360 l

230 V for shore connection or with inverter

CORRECTLY USING A LOCK

An engineer will explain to you how to correctly use a lock during the demonstration to ensure that nothing stands in the way of your safe journey.

Using the locks will then quickly become routine.

Locks connect stretches of water of different levels and are to be found in abundance along the southern route. You will have to operate some of the locks yourself, while others are operated for you by a lock-keeper. Navigating a lock is simple and risk-free, provided you adhere to a few basic rules.

It takes 10 to 15 minutes on average to pass through a lock. Most locks can accommodate multiple boats at any one time. If the gates are closed when you approach, stop around 150 metres away from the lock and secure the boat if necessary. The lock is probably occupied. Wait until the other boat has left the lock – or has driven past you. Then enter the lock. You can find the exact lock operating hours in the route planner.

Please also take note of the information on lock procedure in the folder on board the houseboat as well as the information in the canal guide.

There are no locks on the northern route until you join the Müritz-Elde Waterway.

On the southern route, some locks form bottle-necks through which all houseboats must pass. In the summer, therefore, you may incur somewhat longer waiting times at the locks. In such cases, you need some patience and a good mood. Use the time to take a walk on shore or to enjoy a relaxed meal on deck. Alternatively, you can ask your instructor about the most popular times to pass through the locks and bear these in mind when you plan your route.



SHIP AHOY IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE

Discover the sunniest parts of France on your next houseboat holiday – on the historic Canal du Midi.

The most popular route for houseboats worldwide is the Canal du Midi, which connects the city of Toulouse with the Mediterranean town of Sète over a stretch of over 240 kilometres. Europe's oldest artificial waterway is considered an engineering marvel of its time.

The Hapimag fleet awaits you in the Argens-Minervois port. Argens-Minervois is a historic winegrowing area and there's a lock in front of the Grand Brief, a 52-kilometre-long stretch of canal that winds its way around the extensive landscape of the Languedoc region and is entirely absent of locks.

Countless highlights are just waiting to be discovered on your journey, both on land and on the water. Drop by a French bistro and try cassoulet, the regional specialty; enjoy the party atmosphere at a local festival or stroll through the historic narrow streets of Narbonne, Carcassonne and Béziers. In summer, you can even cycle to the Mediterranean beach at Vias and enjoy a refreshing dip.



Did you know that the winegrowing area of Languedoc-Roussillon is one of the oldest in the world and produces wines belonging to some of the greatest vintages? We will be happy to recommend well-known vineyards along the canal that are well worth a visit for their full-bodied wines.





Hapimag Resort
Tonda, Italia



Hapimag Resort
Punkaharju, Finland



Hapimag Resort Edinburgh,
Great Britain



Hapimag Resort
Marrakech, Maroc

DISCOVER THE HOLIDAY WORLD OF HAPIMAG.

More Hapimag to suit your needs.

Whether shopping and sightseeing in Europe's cities, swimming in the sea or hiking and skiing in the mountains – Hapimag Houseboats Müritz is just one of some 58 Hapimag resorts offering holidays tailored entirely to your needs.

Did you enjoy your stay on your Hapimag Houseboat Müritz and would you like to have more unforgettable experiences?

Our staff will be happy to provide you with further information.

Discover all that Hapimag has to offer.

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We will be happy to help you and advise you individually.

You can reach us by telephone at 00800 3030 8080.

or by e-mail to info@hapimag.com

THE HAPIMAG APP

Download our free Hapimag app for iPhone and Android to your mobile phone. The app contains the latest information and recommendations on activities and opportunities at and around our Hapimag resorts.



KEEP IN TOUCH

Share your experiences with us and other guests on our Facebook page. Post photos of your stay on the houseboat at the Müritz and find out what's new.

www.facebook.com/hapimagmueritz

We hope you have an unforgettable stay and enjoy special moments on Lake Müritz.

Your Hapimag Team Müritz





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