



Wirtschaftsförderung  
Münster GmbH

Nature, culture and a lot of fun:

# Lifestyle in Münster





Münster is the most liveable city world-wide!

### Welcome to the most liveable city world-wide!

Science and lifestyle are probably the two terms that best characterise modern Münster.

The face of Germany's third largest university city is young and cosmopolitan. And of all the many things you can say about life here – it is pleasant. A lot of greenery, an abundance of art and culture, unique opportunities for shopping and entertainment in the city's historical Old Town and, not least, the vital pulse of life among its 280 000 residents, make Münster an ideal place to live. Just how good life here can be is shown by the three awards Münster received in 2004:

The „Bicycle Capital“, „Most children-friendly city in Germany“ and „most liveable city world-wide“ (gold medal at the international LivCom Award with a population up to 750,000).



## Münster: city life for connoisseurs.

*Münster is a city with ambiance. In the restored Old Town, historic buildings, modern architecture and contemporary art blend together to create a lively city centre. Here people come to see and be seen – to shop and stroll, to chill out or let off surplus steam, to pick up ideas or quite simply to have some fun. You want some new experience? You would like to do something with your family? Try Münster!*

In Münster's Old Town, shopping, art and cultural activities can be merged into one great experience. The weekly market at Domplatz is one of the most beautiful in Germany and is a central meeting place for the city's residents. Here you can not only buy fresh produce from all around the world, at coffee stands and fish shops you can meet old and new friends and swap tips on what's going on in the city. Prinzipalmarkt and the surrounding streets are the place for more sophisticated shopping. The range on offer is enormous – from original Münster items, such as the Felix rabbit or Titus skateboards, to the leading international fashion brands and famous designers.



After you have shopped to your heart's content, you will just have to try a hearty glass of Pinkus beer in the Old Town. Or would you prefer a glass of white wine in an idyllic street café? Refreshed, you then stroll on to the Graphics Museum Pablo Picasso or any one of the almost 30 other museums and galleries in the city.

In the evening you will probably want to go out a bit. Perhaps you would like first to visit a restaurant or go on a leisurely pub crawl, before heading for the Tango-Salon or the trendy Club am Kreativkai for some dancing. Or would you prefer some more culture? 5 theatres and quite a number of cinemas – including the Cinema, which has received several national awards for its programme – await you visit.

The choice of art and culture available every day is huge. Münster, however, also regularly provides cultural highlights. Münster's national and international reputation as a centre of the arts is greatly enhanced by, for example, the large sculpture exhibitions seen here every ten years since 1977. These exhibit works of internationally renowned artists, created specially for specific points in the city. Another highlight is the biennial JazzFestival.

The city also offers a full programme of leisure activities for families with children. The Allwetterzoo offers fun for all, with its Delphinarium and Horse Museum, or the natural history museum with planetarium. During weekdays, children can attend readings in the city library or visit the children's cinema or the skating rinks. Weekends are the time for puppet shows, theatre for children and teens or special events organised by the city's museums. And throughout the year, Münster's many festivals and events attract people from all over Germany and abroad – from the Euro-City Summer Festival and the traditional Christmas market to the famous Send, the giant funfair with fireworks display.





## In Münster, local recreation begins right in the middle of the City.

*Münster is city life embedded in belts of green: Almost three quarters of the city area is landscape. In the middle of the city, parks and green belts create a perfect living environment, allowing people find space for leisure and movement just around the corner. It is also a short distance from the city to Münsterland, where the attractive park landscape offers ample opportunities for sport and recreation – a paradise for cycling and skating, for horse riding and golf.*



Beautiful residential districts from the late 19th Century and lively districts at the edge of the city provide a real home for the people of Münster. Everybody feels good here, because each gets what he or she needs: children love the many playgrounds, parents can avail of the many day-care facilities, students use the public transport and older citizens find the support they need in their daily lives.

Münster people like to hop on a bike when travelling from their homes to work, to school or to the shops. The bike is such a popular mode of transport because, firstly, distances in this compact city are relatively short and, secondly, cycling is also real fun in Germany's bicycle capital. In the city can boasts of not only a parking house and a wash facility for bicycles, but also a dense network of bicycle lanes and paths to ensure cyclists can move quickly and safely throughout the city.



Münster's most attractive bicycle path is the Promenade. The place where formerly the city walls stood is now an automobile-free green belt around the Old Town. The two-lane Lindenallee is now reserved only for bicycles, inline skaters, joggers and pedestrians. Whether you want to get into the city or get out to the country – once you are on the Promenade you are almost there. From here it is only a few minutes to Aasee with its sailing boats and bars and restaurants, or the Dortmund-Ems canal with its rowing clubs and cycling routes.



Anyone in Münster wanting to get out into the open countryside does not have to travel long. You can cycle quickly along quiet side routes all the way from the centre to the lush greenery of Münsterland. Whether you prefer a challenging run on your racing bike or a comfortable cycling excursion with all the family – the 4 000-kilometer long, perfectly developed network of bicycle paths brings young and old into surrounding countryside, with its moated castles and quaint restaurants and inns.

Münster and its environs also offer a wide range of unique leisure opportunities, whether you are riding high or a horse or holding a golf club in your hand. The Münsterland park landscape after all looks almost as if it were created with long rides and challenging golf tournaments in mind: An expansive network of riding routes and no less than 24 golf links are waiting to be discovered.



## University City of Münster: Knowledge creates the future for all.

*Münster as a city of education and science offers its residents great prospects for the future. This starts at kindergarten age and certainly does not end in the university lecture room.*

*From music-based upbringing of children to study programmes for senior citizens, from continuing training in a craft to research projects in nanotechnology – in the university city of Münster, education is a way of life.*



Children are our future. And because that is so, Münster is especially committed to supporting the family. Even before it became law in Germany, each child over three years of age had a right to a place in kindergarten. To give parents the assurance that their children are being well looked after while they are at work, the city has expanded the day-care service provided by primary schools and drew up a nationally recognised quality management system for day-care facilities for children. It was not least due to this engagement that the “A Heart for Children” initiative gave Münster the award of the most children-friendly city in Germany in 2004.

To help children develop according to their skills and interests, Münster offers them a wide spectrum of services and facilities: from integrative basic primary schools all the way to programmes for advancing specially gifted children, from the Episcopal comprehensive school to the Free Waldorfschule, from chess clubs to the skateboarding project.





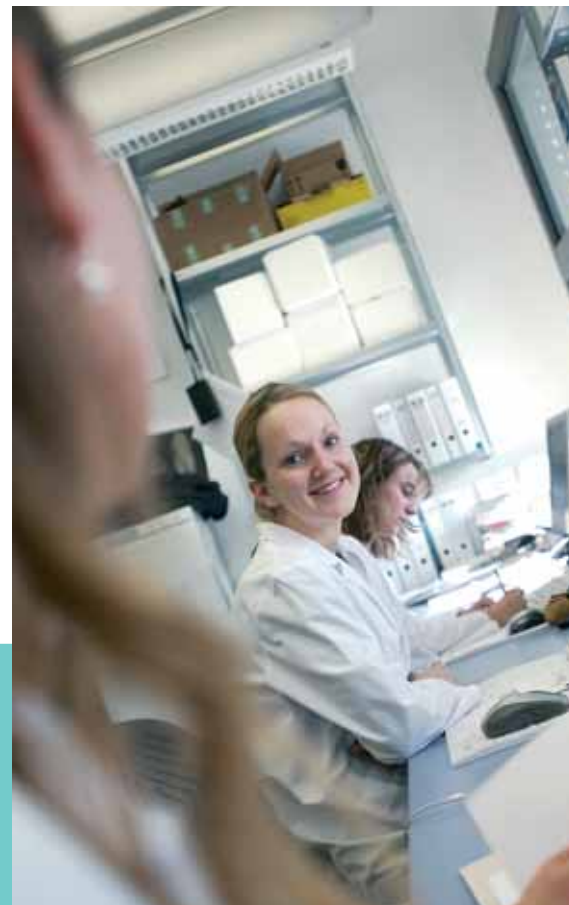
Münster also offers an extremely sound base for vocational and further training. For young people starting a career, for those wishing to return to a career after a parental break or receive further training in their chosen or some other profession – a wide range of courses support young people and adults in achieving their professional and career dreams. Numerous educational and training facilities, vocational schools and no less than 181 professional development centres offering around 5 600 courses prepare the people of Münster for the challenges of tomorrow.

Münster is Germany's third largest university city, and the colleges here naturally play a vital role in the city's life. Around 50 000 students give Münster the special flair of a young, mobile and international city. They not only obtain their university and college education here – they also greatly enrich the city, not least by providing a lively cultural, musical and pub scene.

It is impossible to imagine the social life of Münster without its seven universities and colleges, including the art academy Kunstakademie and Musikhochschule. These seats of learning also fulfil an important function as employers and motor.

Münster is, for example, a leading centre in Germany for future technologies, such as the life sciences or nanotechnology and biotechnology. Research projects at the university very often result in profitable enterprises. The sciences thus not only improve the lives of individuals, they also make a vital contribution to the future of the entire city.

There is a lot happening in Münster. Here, where future technologies and the historical Old Town complement each other so well, life and work and family and career can also be harmonised easily. And this is not only because Münster is relatively small as cities go. The most important reason is that the people of the city are committed to preserving and improving the living and working conditions for all in the most liveable city of the world.



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