

Münster Is The Land Of 100 Moated Castles

Münster, an urban district in the federal state of [North Rhine-Westphalia](#) in Germany, is considered the “Land of 100 Moated Castels.”

It further serves as the **Bicycle Capital of Germany** due to the fact that there are mathematically **two bikes per resident**. You know what that means, don't you? Bikes all over the place, really. You step out of main station and what do you get to see first? Bikes, bikes, and bikes.

Oh yeah, a couple cars, too. ;-)

Countless bikes also means countless students. Yes, Münster is also a University City.

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Münster has a rich past. The original medieval **town wall** was replaced by a tree-lined bicycle highway (what else, huh?) called the Promenade, which still surrounds Old Town (*Altstadt*). Almost all important sights are within this area.

And nearly 60 major works of sculptures are scattered throughout the city, giving the city that extravagant and artistic touch. (Some folks also speak of the Sculptures' Exhibition here.)

St-Paul's Cathedral (*St.-Paulus-Dom*), which was started to built in the 13th century, is a must see. Its astronomical clock, a mechanical device from the late middle Ages, puts on a daily show at noon. This cathedral was seriously dented in [World War II](#). There are photos of the ravaged building as it looked before it had been restored in the 1950s.

Münster has plenty of other very interesting spots. For example, the cobblestone streets are a

unique blend of historic culture with modern art. And while you stroll through Old Town, a whole bunch of sidewalk cafés and restaurants give you quite enough chances to watch other people and enjoy your time here.

If you love water riding you must see the Lake Aa (*Aasee*), which is a narrow urban lake southwest of Old Town. It generally offers boat rides in summer; and a park along the lake contains the open-air museum, a natural history museum, and a Planetarium.

And visit the harbor, which is a warehouse district with clubs, restaurants, and trendy businesses such as publishing houses and advertising agencies.