



PRESS RELEASE

NATUREUM

(Version: August 2026) Since 1991, Ocean Museum Germany has operated a natural history museum directly beside the lighthouse at Darßer Ort, 45 kilometres north-west of Stralsund. Situated in the core zone of the Western Pomerania Lagoon Area National Park and at the northern tip of pristine Darß West Beach, the NATUREUM is surrounded by one of Germany's most beautiful coastal regions. The nature experience already begins on the way to the lighthouse, as one travels on foot, by bicycle or by horse-drawn carriage along the five-kilometre car-free access path through Darß Forest.

The lighthouse, built in 1848, is the oldest still-operational beacon on Mecklenburg-Vorpommern's Baltic Sea coast and an impressive landmark. Its far-reaching light warns vessels of the Darß Sill, with beams visible up to 23 nautical miles away. Since 1995, the 35-metre-tall tower has once again been accessible to the public. After ascending 126 steps, visitors reach the viewing platform at a height of 28 metres and are rewarded – in fine weather – with sweeping vistas over the Baltic Sea and the Darß peninsula landscape. On clear days, the Danish islands of Falster and Møn can be seen on the horizon to the north-west. In 2009, the listed red brick façade of this colossal structure underwent extensive restoration.

The museum's exhibition presents a wealth of beach finds as well as valuable information about the Baltic Sea, coastal dynamics, and the flora and fauna of the Darß peninsula. The "Baltic Sea Lab" invites visitors to explore the natural world of the sea from a wide variety of perspectives. Microscopes allow visitors to take a closer look at tiny organisms and fascinating structures. A rotating display illustrates the interconnections within the Baltic Sea, a black-light display case reveals hidden details in natural materials, and visitors can test their knowledge at quiz stations. Each year, a special exhibition in the former petroleum bunker highlights a different aspect pertaining to the Baltic Sea region.

The museum's outdoor grounds feature a wetland habitat, a dune and beach garden, and a display explaining coastline dynamics located along the path to West Beach.

One museum – four locations:

MEERESMUSEUM

Katharinenberg 14–20
18439 Stralsund
Tel.: +49 3831 2650-210
Fax: +49 3831 2650-209

OZEANEUM

Harald-Lastovka-Platz
(formerly Hafenstraße 11)
18439 Stralsund
Tel.: +49 3831 2650-610
Fax: +49 3831 2650-609

NATUREUM

Darßer Ort 1–3
18375 Born
Tel.: +49 38233 304
Fax: +49 38233 70448

NAUTINEUM

Kleiner Dänholm
18439 Stralsund
Tel.: +49 3831 2650-355

deutsches-meeresmuseum.de/en

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Finally, Café Leuchtort offers museum visitors a quite spot to rest, relax, and recharge with a selection of food and drinks.

For more information:

www.deutsches-meeresmuseum.de/en/museum-locations/natureum/your-visit

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