



European
Joint
Support Unit

Activities

Munster





LOCAL AREA INFORMATION

Shopping

Whether you have lots or a little money to spend, whether chic classics or top-fashion accessories, whether culinary delights or antiques, you will find things in Münster that you'd never find elsewhere. That's what makes shopping a real pleasure.

From Monday to Saturday, Münster's shops in the city centre are open until at least 7 pm. However, the big department and chain stores open their doors until 8 pm.

Cinema

<https://www.cineplex.de/>

<https://www.cinema.de/kino/kinoprogramm/muenster/open-air-kino-am-hawerk>

Swimming and Sauna

<https://www.stadt-muenster.de/sportamt/baeder>

Indoor swimming pool Ost

Mauritz-Lindenweg 101

48145 Münster

More information and prices can be found on the website.

Supermarkets

Supermarkets in Münster range in price as in the UK. Lidl and Aldi are names you may recognize. However, REWE, Netto and Bonus are all worth a visit.

Theme parks

Allwetterzoo

The all-weather zoo was reopened in 1974 as the successor to the old zoo in Münster. Back then, the zoo architects had the idea of connecting all the large animal houses with covered paths, the so-called all-weather walkways. This became the name "Allwetterzoo". But these corridors are not the only special feature in the all-weather zoo. With us you can experience animals "up close"! For example, when visitors are feeding elephants.

<https://www.allwetterzoo.de/>

Amusement park Sommerrodelbahn Ibbenbüren

Entry to the park grounds is free. "Collective entry" is not charged. You only pay for the individual attractions that you use (fairytale forest, summer toboggan run, trip around the world, bumper cars, oldtimer express). You always pay this directly on site at the respective attractions. <https://www.sommerrodelbahn.de/>





Quiet days

Germans take their days off quite seriously and one example of this is the law that assures no unnecessary noise is made on Sundays and public holidays. It is recommended that you don't wash your car, cut the grass, make repairs or even hang up laundry. Most Germans still regard Sunday as a day of rest and with that all shops are closed except perhaps a bakery or two for Sunday Frühstück (breakfast). Quiet hours are stipulated as between 2200-0700 every day and all day on a Sunday.

Public Holidays

As a predominantly Catholic country Germany observes various holidays throughout the year. In NRW there are 11 days set aside as public holidays, 2 of which always fall on a Thursday. This then enables a 4-day weekend with the Friday known as Bridging Day (Brückentag) It is worth noting that different regions in Germany may have different public holidays

Recycling

All glass bottles, recyclable items and paper waste are to be separated, dustbins and crates are provided for refuse disposal as follows:

Brown bin: Garden waste and vegetable peelings

Blue bin: Paper and cardboard

Yellow bin: plastic and tins – washed out

Black bin: all other waste

Green Bins/Crates: glass bottles and jars must be separated by colour.

Pfand system

The Pfand system in Germany means that consumers pay a deposit on glass and plastic bottles Don't throw away your empty bottles if they have the signal of "Pfandflasche" which means bottle deposit. This sign means that you paid an amount in advance, which is usually 25 cents per drink, which you can get back in every supermarket through a machine.





TAX FREE INFORMATION

Tax Free Shopping

There are two options for tax free shopping.

Through NATO, your sponsor will take you through this process.

UK via the NSE, upon arrival, the HNLO will discuss this process with you.

The full document on how to claim tax free goods is available from the NSE.

Tax Free Vehicles

Each entitled person is permitted to register only one new tax-free vehicle within any one-year period. In addition to one tax-free vehicle, one tax-free motorcycle/quad bike, moped or bicycle with auxiliary motor, may be registered within any one-year period. However, only one vehicle per 'Entitled person' per year can be exported to the UK free of tax.

Companies who offer tax free car sales:

www.forcescarsdirect.com

www.emctaxfree.com

www.griffintaxfree.com

Postal Services

Mail from the UK is received through the British Forces Post Office (BFPO). The BFPO system has been known to be very slow.

Standard address format:

Service number, Rank, Name

Unit and Subunit

PO Box 2034

BFPO 105

If you need a UK postcode for BFPO as some companies do not recognize BFPO addresses the format is:

Name

Unit

PO Box 2034

BFPO 105

BF1 0AX

www.deutschepost.de

Münster has a number of post offices.

The main one being:

Veestherrnweg 12 29633 Munster Service Point Stadtwerke Munster Bispingen GmbH

They offer counter service, postage stamp machine and parcel collection. An efficient way of sending mail to the UK.