

# Lusatia

SAXONY!



## A Booming Economic Region with a Bright Future







DEKRA is building Europe's largest test center for autonomous driving in Lusatia

About 60,000

companies produce  
in the region.



1 million

people live in Lusatia  
on a total surface area  
of 11,750 km².



More than  
80,000

employees work in  
industrial branches.



# Your Business Location: The Economic Region Lusatia

**W**elcome to Lusatia – the dynamic economic region in the border triangle of Germany, Poland, and the Czech Republic. A region with a long economic tradition and lots of innovation, an attractive destination for technology enterprises and tourists alike. To really understand Lusatia, you need to immerse yourself into its history. Life in the region, the country and its people have been closely linked to industry and energy, to technology and innovation for many generations. More than one million people live here – and tackle their tasks every day.

**Structural development.** Lusatia has been Germany's energy region since the 17<sup>th</sup> century. And that's what it continues to be today. It's here where the energy storage technologies of tomorrow are developed, where batteries for e-mobility as well as the world's largest blades for wind turbines are produced, and where Europe's most efficient coal-fired power plants are operated.

A multifaceted business community has evolved in the region – ranging from metal processing, the plastics and chemical industries to the food industry all the way to traffic engineering and transportation technology.

**A region full of innovation.** The scientific and research environment characterizes Lusatia as well: With Brandenburg University of Technology, the Zittau/Görlitz University of Applied Sciences, or the Fraunhofer research institutions for lightweight technologies and bioplastics. The DEKRA German Motor Vehicle Inspection Association is building Europe's largest test center for autonomous driving in the region. Research has a long tradition here: Not only the drawing board and the thumb tack were invented in Lusatia, but also a groundbreaking device for AIDS diagnostics, the cable excavator, ultramodern bogie drives of trains, and the world's first traffic circle (1899 in Görlitz).

## A Brief History of Lusatia's Economy

As of 1860

The expansion of the railroad network and the invention of briquetting result in an upswing of the coal industry.

1725

Founding of the Lauchhammerwerk corporation: The foundation for the early economic upswing in the region.

1809

Production of the first steam engine in Lauchhammer. Upswing of the textile industry – Lusatia is the "German Manchester."

As of 1936

State-of-the-art chemical industry – fuel production – comes to Lusatia. Development into a key industrial region in Germany.



Trams and trains have been built in Lusatia for more than 150 years now

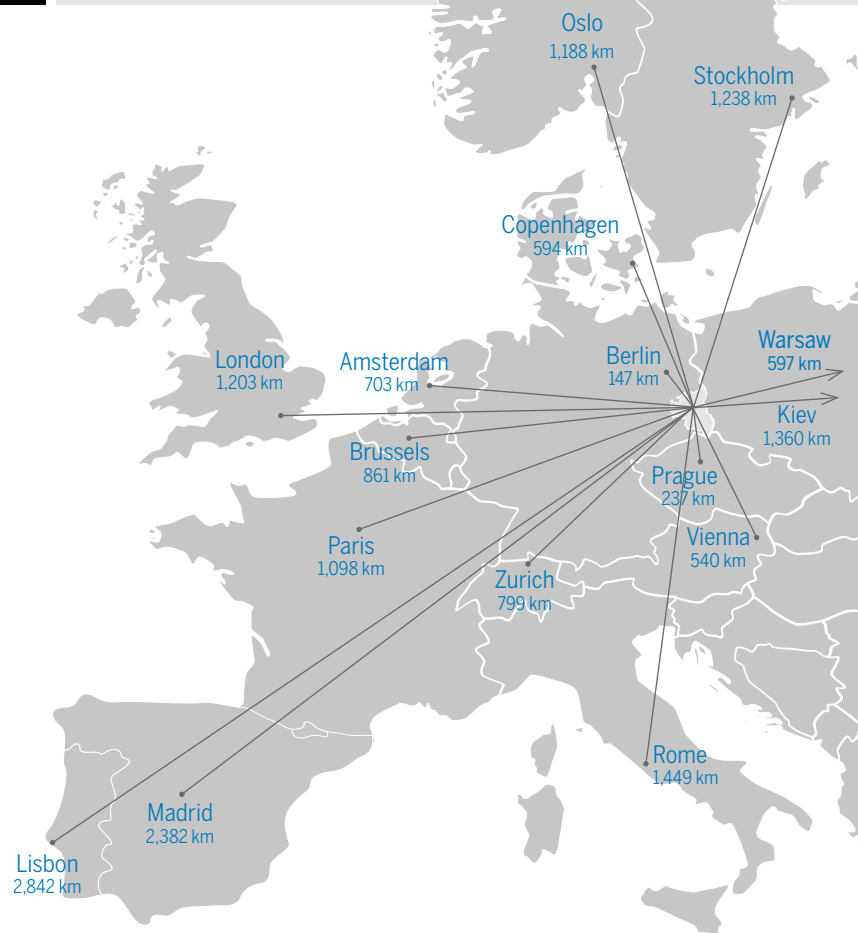
## 10 Good Reasons for Lusatia:

- Central location in the border triangle Germany – Poland – Czech Republic
- Superb infrastructure in the trans-European transportation network
- Very industry-friendly
- The highest level of financial support in all of Germany
- Individual assistance for investors provided by regional economic developers
- Highly qualified, motivated employees
- Excellent university and scientific environment
- Attractive, well developed commercial and industrial properties at reasonable prices
- High quality of life at low cost of living
- Speedy and unbureaucratic approval procedures

Sources: [www.region-of-advantages.com](http://www.region-of-advantages.com)  
[www.oberlausitz.com/en](http://www.oberlausitz.com/en)

**Dynamic economy.** Such global players as BASF, Daimler, and Bombardier, the Theo Müller Group of Companies, and Vestas as well as many innovative small and medium-sized enterprises are all at home here. The Federal States of Brandenburg and Saxony support the regional development and create the framework for a sustainable, dynamically growing business community. Lusatia – a dynamic part of Germany.

**Lusatia – livable and lovable.** Lusatia is a region with lots of green spaces, picturesque water bodies, and a remarkable cultural heritage. The social infrastructure is superbly developed and provides the best possible conditions particularly for families. And living in Lusatia is affordable. No wonder people love to live here.



### As of 1949

Expansion of the chemical industry also in the GDR; production of light oils, phenols, and tars.

### As of 2018

By flooding a former open-pit mine, Germany's largest artificial lake will emerge – Lake Cottbuser Ostsee. With a surface area of 1,900 hectares, the lake will equal the size of 2,661 soccer fields.

### As of 1992

Establishment of such important industrial enterprises as, for example, the wind turbine producer Vestas, the paper mill Hamburger Rieger, and the tram and rail vehicle manufacturer Bombardier. Creation of Europe's largest artificial water landscape with 26 lakes on 14,000 hectares of land. Constantly increasing tourist figures.





Highly qualified, skilled employees –  
a locational advantage in Lusatia



A trademark of the region:  
Pickled Spreewald cucumbers





# Tasks Are Tackled in Lusatia

Since time immemorial, tasks have been actively tackled in Lusatia. Its people are highly motivated and hard-working: Whether it be experienced skilled workers or university graduates. The proportion of superbly trained and educated employees is above average in the region.

Lusatia's convenient location is also very efficient because it provides quick and easy access to the European and Eastern Asian markets. These are the best possible prerequisites for investors, who are also given competent advice and assistance by the economic development agencies of the district counties and the Federal States of Brandenburg and Saxony.

**Success factor skilled specialists.** Competent, committed, and superbly educated specialists form the backbone of the region. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as well as large globally active corporate groups all benefit from the extensive expertise of experienced specialists and well educated young professionals. Due to the influx of graduates from Germany and abroad, multilingual job applicants are also available to the labor market.

Year after year, numerous students successfully complete their studies in Lusatia; many of whom are engineers and business managers. Investors find ideal general conditions in Lusatia: Brandenburg and Saxony support the employment of university and college graduates. Companies can also get subsidies for qualification and training measures. And the gross value added – primarily in industry – has been continuously increasing for many years now.

➔ [www.fachkraefteportal-brandenburg.de](http://www.fachkraefteportal-brandenburg.de)

➔ [www.stellenmarkt.sachsen.de](http://www.stellenmarkt.sachsen.de)

## **Attractive venue at all locations.**

Another great plus in Lusatia is the availability of large commercial properties for the processing trade and the manufacturing industry as well as inexpensive office space for business start-ups and young technology enterprises. Investors benefit from the physical proximity to large, powerful business partners – in particular, from the energy, metal and machine construction, vehicle and energy technology branches as well as the food, plastics, glass, and textile industries. And they also benefit from the close proximity to the international centers Berlin, Dresden,

Prague, and Wrocław. The region is located directly on the thoroughfare that connects the North Sea ports with Eastern and Southern Europe. Commercial and industrial parks are available at all locations – fully developed, with direct access to major transport routes, and at surprisingly affordable prices. In Lusatia, you'll find the best possible conditions and high quality at a superb cost/performance ratio.

➔ [www.brandenburg-business-guide.de/en](http://www.brandenburg-business-guide.de/en)

➔ [www.business-saxony.com](http://www.business-saxony.com)

**Your commitment is very important to us.** Brandenburg and Saxony offer attractive funding options for your investment: Depending on the number of newly created jobs and the investment volume, your company could receive direct subsidies from the Joint Task Fund "Improving Regional Economic Structures" (GRW). Lusatia is the region which grants the highest subsidy rates in all of Germany – up to 20 percent for large and up to 40 percent for small enterprises. A broad spectrum of funding options is also available for innovation projects. Let's talk about it!

➔ [www.foerderdatenbank.de](http://www.foerderdatenbank.de)

➔ [www.ilb.de](http://www.ilb.de)

➔ [www.sab.sachsen.de](http://www.sab.sachsen.de)

Power plant Schwarze Pumpe – one of the most modern of its kind in all of Europe



Family business in the fifth generation:  
The Hoinkis candy factory

# The Economic Region Lusatia at a Glance

Many well-known companies are at home here – a selection



Growth core Western Lusatia: From the plastics competence of BASF in Schwarzhöhe all the way to the longest rotor blades for wind turbines made by Vestas in Lauchhammer



Purity and originality: The mineral springs of Mineralquellen Bad Liebenwerda GmbH



TD Deutsche Klimakompressor GmbH (TDDK) is a company of the two Japanese automotive suppliers Toyota Industries Corporation and Denso Corporation and a leading manufacturer of compressors for vehicle air conditioning systems in Europe.



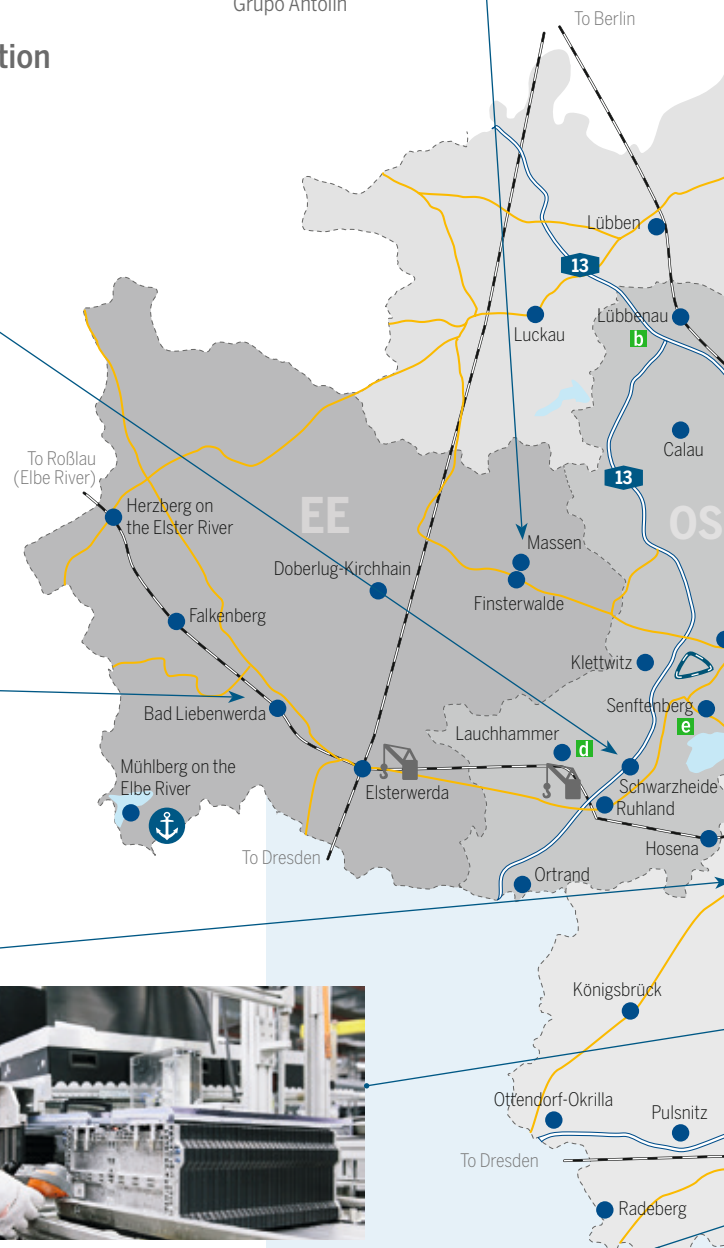
Bombardier Transportation GmbH's Center of Expertise for Light Rail Vehicles and Trams supplies customers around the globe.



With its development, production, and service portfolio, TRUMPF Sachsen GmbH is the automation specialist for laser cutting and punching machines within the TRUMPF Group.



High quality interiors for passenger cars: Grupo Antolin



Battery production for hybrid and electric vehicles at the Daimler subsidiary Deutsche Accumotive GmbH & Co. KG in Kamenz, Saxony

## LEGEND

- City
- County border
- State border
- Federal highway
- 13 Federal expressway
- Rail route
- Trasshipment center for intermodal transport
- Industrial port
- Airfields
- Lausitzring EuroSpeedway





Sustainable production of floor tiles – whether it be for airports or for the White House: Porcelaingres



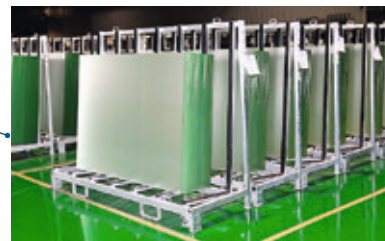
A leading supplier of fantasy products: Elbenwald  
A shop for fans, from fans.



Winner of the Innovation Award Berlin Brandenburg 2017: Professor Dr. Berg & Kießling GmbH



320,000 tons of corrugated cardboard per year:  
The Hamburger Rieger paper mill in Spremberg



From the picture tube to pioneering float glass: Glasmanufaktur Brandenburg (GMB)



Stölzle Lausitz continues the almost 130 years of glassmaking tradition at the business venue Weißwasser. Today, it's one of the few large manufacturers on the globe that produces high quality crystal drinking glasses.



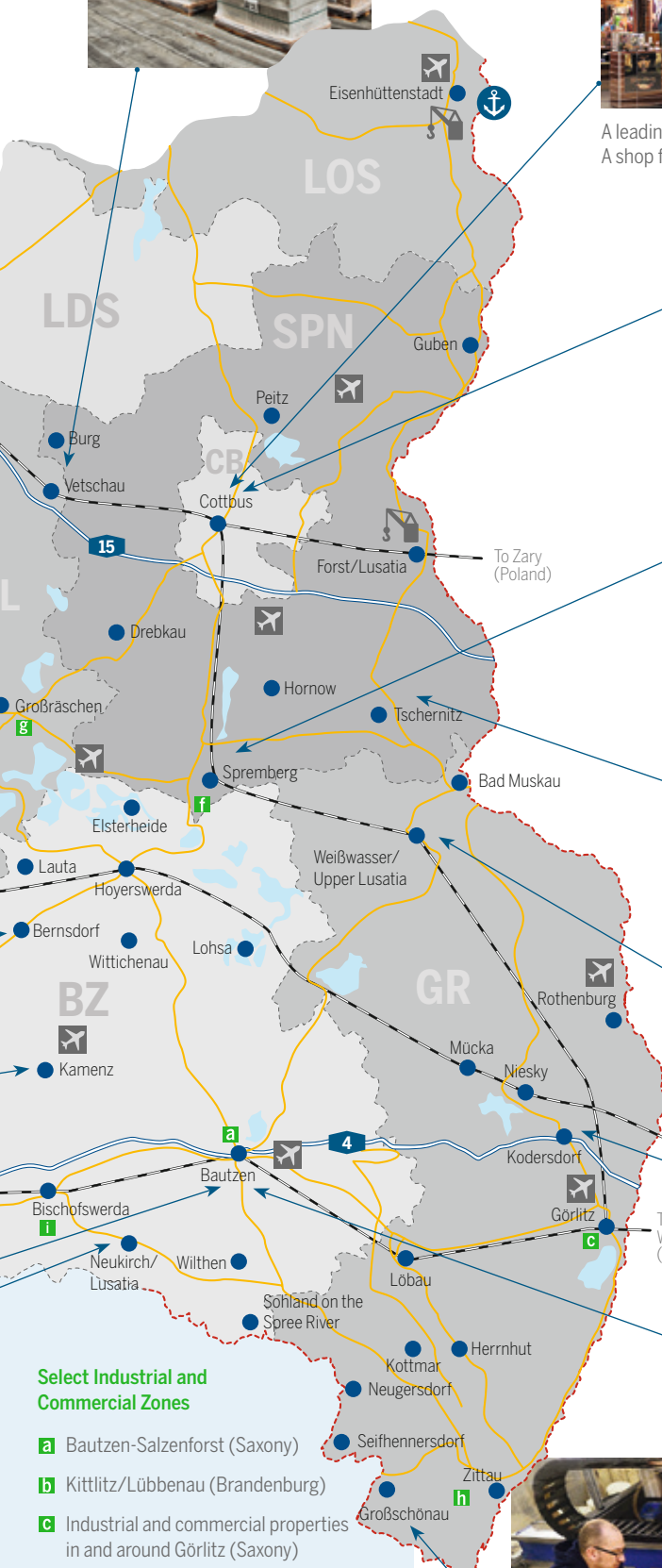
BORBET has nine production sites and is one of the leading international manufacturers of alloy wheels. With the BORBET-Sachsen plant, the family-owned enterprise expands its capacity by 2.5 million wheels to a total of 20 million alloy wheels per year.



Producing a wide variety of premium-quality terry products and, thus, building on a regional tradition that dates all the way back to 1856: möve frottana Textil GmbH & Co. KG.



The globally successful intelligence AG corporation already operates three state-of-the-art data centers. The SAP specialists provide top-notch 24/7 service from Bautzen and Dresden.



### Select Industrial and Commercial Zones

- a** Bautzen-Salzenforst (Saxony)
- b** Kittlitz/Lübbenau (Brandenburg)
- c** Industrial and commercial properties in and around Görlitz (Saxony)
- d** Lauchhammer (Brandenburg)
- e** Marga/Senftenberg (Brandenburg)
- f** Schwarze Pumpe (Brandenburg/Saxony)
- g** Sonne/Großbräschen (Brandenburg)
- h** Industrial zone Weinau (Saxony)
- i** Industrial and commercial zone Bischofswerda Nord (Saxony)

## Innovative and Business-Friendly

### Select Research Projects

#### The Innovation Center of Modern Industry (IMI)

is the contact point for companies when it comes to automation technology, digital factory, and Industry 4.0 as well as the initiation of joint research projects. IMI builds the requisite networks between the scientific community and commercial enterprises and simulates concrete application scenarios.

[www.imi4bb.de](http://www.imi4bb.de)

#### The Chair of Automation Technology

at Brandenburg University of Technology supports industrial enterprises with digital, pioneering, and trendsetting infrastructures. Modular bodysell cells are developed for electric vehicles with the objective of creating synergies between different production structures.

[www.b-tu.de/en/automation](http://www.b-tu.de/en/automation)

#### The Processing Pilot Plant for Biopolymers Schwarzheide

at the corporate site of BASF specializes in the advanced development of plastics and 3-D printing. One project focuses on testing the production of blister packages (flat films) which need to exhibit such specific characteristic properties for the respective product as tensile strength or temperature resistance.

[www.iap.fraunhofer.de/en](http://www.iap.fraunhofer.de/en)

#### LaNDER<sup>3</sup>

"LaNDER<sup>3</sup>" is a close cooperation between the Zittau/Görlitz University of Applied Sciences and Lusatian companies. The focus is on the advanced development of natural fiber-reinforced plastics. Renewable raw materials from the region are used for the sustainable production of plastics, and the entire product life cycle is modeled in line with an efficient energy and environmental balance.

[f-n.hszg.de/forschung/lander3.html](http://f-n.hszg.de/forschung/lander3.html)



Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg cooperates at a national and international level; for example, with the Fraunhofer Institute for Factory Operation and Automation (IFF).

# Hand-in-Hand with Science and Research

Regional universities cooperate closely with companies on site from the energy, mining, plastics, chemical, metal, and machine construction branches. And in turn, the companies benefit from the students' knowledge. About 10,000 students in more than 50 academic fields, primarily in engineering sciences, conduct research and study hands-on: Highly qualified specialists for the region. Internationality plays a key role. More than 100 nations are represented in the lecture halls. Nearly every fifth student comes from abroad. And just Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg alone maintains more than 250 scientific cooperations around

the globe. The universities in Lusatia are broadly diversified and superbly positioned on their way towards Industry 4.0. The State Governments of Saxony and Brandenburg promote networks between business and science in a very sustainable manner. Because a vibrant, knowledge-based economy forms the backbone of Lusatia's innovative power. And potential company founders get the requisite support from the Founder Academy at the Zittau/Görlitz University of Applied Sciences. Another plus point is the fact that the regional scientific network is closely linked to the universities and institutes in the nearby metropolises Berlin and Dresden.



## Universities, Colleges, and Research Institutes



### Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg (BTU)

The BTU with its approximately 8,000 students from 111 nations educates the professionals of tomorrow whose knowledge is highly coveted by regional companies. BTU students conduct research, and they cooperate not only with small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), but also with globally active companies from the region. The BTU pursues the objective of meeting the regional and national challenges local companies face in such future sectors as energy and IT through innovations and knowledge transfer.

[www.b-tu.de/en](http://www.b-tu.de/en)



### Fraunhofer Plastics Technology Center Upper Lusatia

Located in Zittau, the Fraunhofer Plastics Technology Center Upper Lusatia is working as a project group of the Chemnitz-based Fraunhofer Institute for Machine Tools and Forming Technology (IWU) on the development of lightweight construction technologies and products. A specific focus is on the processing, modification, and application of plastics and fiber-reinforced plastics.

[www.iwu.fraunhofer.de/en.html](http://www.iwu.fraunhofer.de/en.html)



### Zittau/Görlitz University of Applied Sciences

Embedded in the border triangle, the Zittau/Görlitz University of Applied Sciences maintains close contacts to regional, national, and international companies. In fact, most of its around 3,000 superbly educated graduates in electrical engineering, computer science, industrial engineering, and mechanical engineering get a job here. The university sees itself as a "regional supplier" of scientific knowledge who wants to further advance Lusatia's economic development. That's why it initiated a project that is designed to expand the applications of commodity and recycling products together with the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). The university also supports and advises potential company founders.

[www.hs-zg.de/en](http://www.hs-zg.de/en)



### Research Institute for Post-Mining Landscapes (FIB)

The activities at the FIB are future-oriented: Here, students are working meticulously on recultivation solutions for Lusatian landscapes affected by open-pit lignite mining – a cooperation between universities and commercial enterprises across diverse networks. When it comes to application-related recultivation research, the region sets an example: One project addresses the extraction of biomass as a source of energy.

[www.fib-finsterwalde.de](http://www.fib-finsterwalde.de)

## Vocational Training Centers/Academies



### Bautzen University of Cooperative Education

The Bautzen University of Cooperative Education focuses on market-integrated professional education: Together with stakeholders from the world of business and true to the dual education principle, students acquire their degree in 40 specialized programs revolving around the sectors business, engineering, social affairs, and health care. The knowledge transfer between instruction and practice benefits, above all, regional SMEs. Within the scope of the "Solar Test Facility" project, a data bank concept was developed to investigate those factors which influence solar power production – something photovoltaic plant operators need to know.

[www.ba-bautzen.de/1](http://www.ba-bautzen.de/1)



### Secondary Level School Center Lusatia

Dual education programs in pioneering industrial branches are offered by the vocational schools which have 700 pupils at three locations: Process mechanics for plastics and rubber technology, chemical technicians, chemical lab technicians, construction mechanics, machine and plant operators, mechatronics technicians, and IT specialists. Theory is applied in close cooperation at the BASF production site.

[www.oszlausitz.de](http://www.oszlausitz.de)





Beach and bathing fun at the newly created Lake Senftenberg



Recreation just around the corner: Paddling on the Spreewald waterways

# Livable and Lovable Lusatia

26

lakes have evolved in former open-pit lignite mines. 14,000 ha of landscape were renaturalized.

More than  
100,000

tourists spend their vacation in the Lusatian Land of Lakes every year.



830 ha

is the total surface area of the World Heritage Site Fürst Pückler Park in Bad Muskau.

People love to live in Lusatia. No wonder, because such beautiful natural landscapes as the Spreewald region, the Lusatian Land of Lakes, and the Zittau Mountains all offer multifaceted recreational options just around the corner. Towns with historic city centers characterize the region. And the social conditions for families are perfect as well.

**High quality of life.** The region has done a lot to ensure a superb quality of life: Investments into the infrastructure; the restoration of such historic city centers as Bautzen, Görlitz, Lübbenau/Spreewald, Senftenberg, and Hoyerswerda. Hospitals, public swimming pools, and countless museums characterize and define the regional culture. And for those who are attracted by big cities: Leipzig, Dresden, and Berlin are only an hour away by car. When it comes to the balance between family and career, Lusatia provides excellent opportunities as well: 95.5 percent of all children under age five have access to full-time child care programs which is much higher than the German average. And sufficient day care places are also available for the supervision of primary school kids after school.

**Low cost of living.** When it comes to the cost of living, Lusatia is one of the most attractive regions in Germany. Rentals and real estate are inexpensive even though the investments into the construction of new residential buildings and into the maintenance and modernization of old ones have continuously increased over the past few years. In 2016, the average net base rent was below five euros per square meter.

**Tourist attraction.** But Lusatia doesn't just score points with its family-friendly environment: For the tourism industry, the prerequisites in the region are particularly favorable as well. Over the past few years, the figures have increased significantly: About 1.5 million guests arrived in 2016, which increased the number of overnight stays to more than 3.5 million – this equals an annual growth rate of about eight percent. The biggest and most popular tourist attraction continues to be the Spreewald region while the newly evolving Lusatian Land of Lakes is on the rise. Here, the number of overnight stays increased by an above average 9.5 percent: Cycling, hiking, and water sports – this is an attractive combination for tourists.





A hallmark for a new way of living: Floating homes in the Lusatian Land of Lakes



Living their traditions, loving their home country: The Sorbs



An architectural gem: The old town of Görlitz

**New landscapes:** The Lusatian lakes are a new and very spectacular landscape. The 26 lakes have emerged as a result of the flooding and recultivation of former open-pit coal mines. A new environment for exciting projects has been created on more than 14,000 hectares of land. Ten lakes will be navigable for passenger ships and connected through canals. A water runway for airplanes is also being planned. And floating homes are used as permanent residences or vacation homes. The small water communities were established with the help of Brandenburg University of Technology, and they aptly demonstrate the possibilities of renaturation in the former lignite mining district. In particular, engineering firms, architects, and landscape designers in and beyond the region benefit from the extensive expertise of Lusatian researchers.

**Movie city.** Görlitz has gained a superb reputation as Europe's best film location over the past few years. With such Hollywood productions as *Around the World in 80 Days* and *The Reader*, the city gained fame and renown around the globe. *The Grand Budapest Hotel* was filmed here as well. The historic old town which is free of any construction sins and neon signs is particularly popular among film directors.

**World Heritage Site.** The UNESCO World Heritage Site Fürst Pückler Park in Bad Muskau promotes its "spacious meadows and grasslands, majestic trees, winding paths, meandering rivers, and picturesque lakes." The premises, Central Europe's largest landscaped park in the English style, can be explored on foot, by coach, bike, or boat. For those who prefer rock climbing, hiking, or winter sports, the Zittau Mountains are the right place: The mountains along the German-Czech border reach heights of up to 792 meters. A dense network of trails and paths provides many scenic lookout points on both sides of the border. Deeply rooted in Lusatia are the Sorbs. This ethnic group with a very eventful history has been living in the region since the 6<sup>th</sup> century. Many Sorbs have maintained their traditional customs and culture until today.

**Delicious Lusatia.** Lusatia has also gained an excellent reputation with its large variety of culinary delights: The food industry, which employs about 11,000 people, is one of the key branches here. More than 30,000 tons of pickled cucumbers from the Spreewald region are processed every year. Mineral spring water from Bad Liebenwerda, Kunella gourmet oils, Bauer fruit juices, Bautz'ner mustard, or Sachsenmilch dairy products have established themselves as top brands and achieve high sales volumes.

Approx.  
**4,000**  
restored single monuments  
are found in Görlitz.



Already in  
**1991**,  
the Spreewald region became  
a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.



In  
**1908**,  
the Cottbus State Theater  
was officially inaugurated.



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