

> New Berlin-Oder waterways tour



The development of the Berlin-Oder tourists tour has joined together several travel regions, even beyond state borders. All the relevant journey information is also updated daily and can be viewed via the internet on PCs or smartphones.

Whether for a romantic holiday for two, an adventure holiday with the family or simply a relaxing holiday with friends, 340 km of waterway recently became available to boat holidaymakers for a unique tour, offering an exciting blend of the big city charm of Berlin and the calming natural river landscape of the State of Brandenburg. Supplemented by a multitude of impressive monuments from industrial history such as the ship lift in Niederfinow, numerous residential cities along the route, including Eisenhüttenstadt und Frankfurt (Oder) entice tourists to step onto the land and to discover the sights and places of interest. www.berlin-oder-umfahrt.de

> A12: Renewal completed



Following five years of intensive construction work, the A12 motorway is now fully opened to traffic again. On 16 kilometres in total from the Berlin ring road to the border with Poland, partial sections have been reconstructed accordingly. The entire road surface has been replaced and five bridges rebuilt. During the construction work, traffic was kept moving on one side accordingly. The section is part of the most important east/west corridor in the trans-European traffic network.



**GROWTH AREA
FRANKFURT (ODER)
EISENHÜTTENSTADT**

Growth Area News 2/2018



First-class conditions for business and families

A modern and attractive region with huge future potential awaits companies, employees and families in the growth area of Frankfurt (Oder)/Eisenhüttenstadt:

- Fully-developed industrial areas, including sites for large-scale projects
- Prices on industrial estates from 10 euros/m²
- Multiple redundancy electricity supply for 380 kV, 110 kV or 20 kV
- High-pressure and medium-pressure gas lines (84 bar or 4 bar)
- High-capacity water supply and waste water disposal (installed capacity approx. 500–750 m³/h).
- Direct motorway connection (A12/E39), rail connection via Terminal for Combined Transport Frankfurt (Oder), harbour connection at inland port Eisenhüttenstadt
- Trade tax coefficient: 395% to 400%
- Direct cash-back incentives for labour or investment costs
- Credit sureties and subsidies for R&D projects
- Established educational institutions (European University Viadrina, Sixth Form College, bbw, DAA, Gauß High School etc.)
- Sophisticated business and research competence
- Proven family-friendliness, numerous kindergartens
- Comprehensive cultural and recreational opportunities (Kleist Forum, Brandenburg State Orchestra, Friedrich-Wolf-Theatre, cabaret, trade fairs)
- Plethora of lakes and forests, dense network of cycle paths and waterways
- Express trains to Berlin every 30 minutes
- Airport Berlin (SXF/BER) reachable by car in 45 minutes

Need more information?

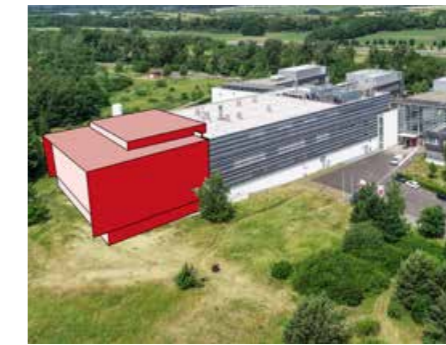
The Investor Center Ostbrandenburg gives you helping hands on all matters related to investments in the growth area of Frankfurt (Oder)/Eisenhüttenstadt – free-of-charge, professionally and in strict confidence.

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> IHP: Ground-breaking ceremony for new clean room



The IHP institute - Innovations for High Performance Microelectronics was newly constructed in the Technology Park in Frankfurt (Oder) in 1999. In 2013, an initial extension was carried out to the building, which provided 70 additional workstations. The building's distinctive front section houses the around 1,000 m² class-1 clean room, which is now also undergoing an extension (shown in red).

The IHP institute - Innovations for High Performance Microelectronics in Frankfurt (Oder) is investing around 15 million euros in an extension to its clean room. Together with Brandenburg's Secretary of State for Science, Research and Culture, Ulrike Gutheil (top right) and Lord Mayor of Frankfurt (Oder) René Wilke (centre) Prof. Dr. Bernd Tillack, Scientific Director of the IHP, performed the symbolic ground-breaking ceremony. Due to the investment, the existing 1,000 m² class 1 clean room is to be extended by a further 500 m². The clean room is the technological heartpiece of the IHP. It is a strictly controlled environment where the number of dust parti-

cles and germs is reduced as much as possible via a filter, so that no more than one foreign particle per cubic foot is present in the room air. The clean room is used both for basic and applied research. Apart from this, customer projects from all over the world are conducted here within the context of pilot or small series production. "We need more clean room space to ensure technical competitiveness. Our investment will strengthen Frankfurt (Oder) as a research location in the long term," explains Mr Tillack. It also reflects the number of 320 highly-qualified workstations that are already present at the IHP. www.ihp-microelectronics.com

New Lord Mayor of Frankfurt (Oder)

René Wilke is the new Lord Mayor of Frankfurt (Oder). The 34-year old sees further regional economic growth as a prerequisite for successful urban development:



"We need new companies at this location so they can act as an impetus for growth. At the same time, as a municipal council, we shall be offering ourselves as a partner to the existing companies in the city more consistently," says Mr Wilke. Following the voice of the voters, he convinced many people due to his transparency in the election campaign and his ambition to get as close as possible to the people to discuss their needs and wishes. In "living room talks" he visited potential voters in their homes to discuss matters with them in person. He also publicizes his day-to-day life as Lord Mayor via social media: "Frankfurters ought to be able to see the topics and priorities that concern us to understand why we make the decisions we make," says Mr Wilke. www.frankfurt-oder.de



Growth area Frankfurt (Oder)/Eisenhüttenstadt:

Stadt Frankfurt (Oder)
Der Oberbürgermeister
Marktplatz 1
15230 Frankfurt (Oder)
www.frankfurt-oder.de

Stadt Eisenhüttenstadt
Der Bürgermeister
Zentraler Platz 1
15890 Eisenhüttenstadt
www.eisenhuettenstadt.de

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Stadt Frankfurt (Oder), UniCaps GmbH



> UniCaps: On course for growth with great goals



The start-up is investing around 4.5 million euros in its new production site in Frankfurt (Oder) in order to revolutionize the tea drinkers' market. The capsules used are made neither of aluminium nor plastic but rather of lignin, a bio-degradable product left over from paper production. The tea leaves used by UniCaps also originate from strictly monitored organic cultivation.

At its new headquarter in Frankfurt (Oder) production systems at the company UniCaps GmbH have been running since the start of the year. Bio-degradable tea capsules are currently produced for 16 types of tea here under the brand name "My TeaCup" for usage in conventional Nespresso® and Dolce Gusto® machines. "Production start went very well indeed. By the end of the year our goal is to have produced 10 million tea capsules", explains company founder and CEO Dirk N.

Tillmann. By 2019 the aim is to increase production volume to 50 million tea capsules. Also the demand is growing: As well as German retailer Metro, Rewe/ Edeka regionally and the Swiss wholesaler Coop, UniCaps staff have been able to acquire a range of further retailers for the sale and distribution of their organic products. The company is also present with its own organic coffee capsules in all 1,900 dm stores across Germany. www.unicaps.eu | www.my-teacup.de

> Green Hightech



The Propower thermal power plant supplies the Propapier PM2 paper mill with steam and energy. The very latest technology means all emission limit values can be easily adhered to here.

"We try to improve each year," explains Heiko Wolf, Plant Manager of the Propapier PM2 GmbH paper mill in Eisenhüttenstadt. The company was successfully recertified according to the Eco Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS), regarded as the most sophisticated environmental management system worldwide. Back when the factory was built, Progroup already paid great attention to the reduction of energy and conservation of resources. www.progroup.ag

> Final spurt at WEFO-tec Deutschland



The first two production halls of WEFO-tec in the Markendorf II industrial estate in Frankfurt (Oder) are already easily visible from the air. The front production hall accommodates the company's administration too. A special feature is concealed under the solar-panelled roof construction: For, rather than being mounted on steel girders, it is mounted on wooden girders due to the large construction width.

The two production halls of WEFO-tec Deutschland GmbH are growing continually and are highly visible to inhabitants and guests to Frankfurt (Oder). Around 25 million euros are being invested here in an ultra-modern production location in total, which will cover the entire value added chain for the production of industrial injection-moulded parts, from project management to production of ready-to-use products, components of assemblies and tools. "Not enough

that the machines are becoming larger and larger, instead of the ten we planned, we are now installing already 14 machines," explains Frank Schollmayer, one of the managing directors of WEFO-tec. The company has thereby a clear focus on the automotive supplier industry, including plans for pilot series production. The production site is constructed observing sustainability, energy and eco-production across the entire workflow. www.wefo-tec.de

> New university president



Julia von Blumenthal during her appointment ceremony as university president. The appointment certificate was handed over to her by Claus Dicke, President of the Viadrina's Foundation Council.

Professor of Political Science Julia von Blumenthal has taken up her function as President of the European University Viadrina, which is home to more than 6,500 students from over 100 countries. The 47-year old professor comes from the Humboldt University in Berlin, where she was Dean of the Faculty for Cultural, Social and Educational Sciences. An ancestor of hers was Rector of the University of Frankfurt (Oder) back in 1513. www.europa-uni.de

> New Silk Road and Rail Baltica represent opportunities



The New Silk Road and Rail Baltica are two future-oriented projects for intermodal logistics between east and west, both of which cross over or touch upon the city of Frankfurt (Oder). The city aims to profit from these, thereby establishing its reputation as a gateway and hub even further. 130,000 standard shipping containers were handled at the site in 2017, twice as many as the previous year.

The New Silk Road is a symbolic name for container rail traffic between China and Western Europe. Initial tests with container trains via the Eurasian Land Bridge were already carried out in 2011, since which container traffic via rail has developed rapidly. According to estimates by specialists at the expert conference "InterLog 2018" in Frankfurt (Oder), which was organised by the Investor Center Ostbrandenburg, more than 100,000 containers are to be transported on the Silk Road between east and west in more than 5,000 trains by 2020. On the Chinese side, there are even forecasts of 500,000 containers for this period. As both – a source and destination country – Germany will account for more than 50 percent of these. Whereas so far transactions have been

primarily handled using purely company trains, mixed trains with various goods and shippers/recipients are now increasingly in transit. With its Intermodal Terminal for Combined Traffic (Road/Rail) it is precisely here that Frankfurt (Oder) sees new opportunities for increase its presence as a gateway and hub on the New Silk Road even further. Also the numbers underline the potential: 130,000 standard containers were handled at the site in 2017, twice as many as the previous year. Yet it is not just transport via the Silk Road from which Frankfurt (Oder) can benefit however. With the North Sea-Baltic Corridor, a project is being planned with Rail Baltica that will also speed up transport of goods by rail in Poland, and consequently in Germany too. www.kv-terminal.de | www.gvz-ffo.de

① Rail Baltica

Rail Baltica is a railway connection scheduled to lead from Warsaw via Kaunas and Riga to Tallinn – with a connection to Helsinki via ferry or tunnel. Together with the EU, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia will assume responsibility for planning and funding of this 870 km long route. Whereas in Baltic countries, the track gauge widespread in Russia (1.520 mm) is used, the Rail Baltica section uses the conventional European gauge (1.435 mm). This is intended to guarantee an unobstructed connection to the Polish railway network. Construction costs for this will provisionally amount to 5.9 billion euros.

① New Silk Road

Since 2013, China is bundling together its interests and goals for the construction and expansion of intercontinental trading and infrastructure networks in the "Belt and Road" project. The countries aim is to foster trade between the People's Republic of China and around 70 further countries in Africa, Asia and Europe. The focus here is on two main transport routes: Firstly on the Silk Road Economic Belt, a land route from China via Central Asia and the Middle East to Europe. Secondly on the maritime Silk Road of the 21st century, a sea route from South China via South East Asia, India, Sri Lanka and past Eastern Africa to Europe. Total costs of the project: 1,000 billion US dollars.

> Snapshots: Logistics conference InterLog 2018 in Frankfurt (Oder) **InterLog** 2018

Baiba A. Rubesa CEO Rail Baltica



"Rail Baltica is a unique railway construction project in Europe connecting the Baltic countries with Central Europe. After its planned completion in 2026, we envisage a volume of 16 million tons on the route by 2030."

Steffen Nestler Managing Director Deutsche GVZ-Gesellschaft



"In China, Hamburg and Duisburg in particular are renowned as starting and destination points for intermodal connections. It is however important that there are corresponding access points along the route such as Frankfurt (Oder)."

Carsten Pottharst Managing Director InterRail Europe



"After joining the project in 2011, it took us three-and-a-half years to attain the mark of 1,000 trains in total between China and Europe. Compared to that, we managed the latter 1,000 trains within just three months."

Stefan Schröder Managing Director LogisticNetwork Consultants



"In 2016, around 2,400 trains travelled between China and Europe, for more half of these, the departure and destination location was Germany. That year 90% of the quantities transported originated from China. Now just 60%."

Dariusz Stefanski Chief Executive Officer PCC Intermodal S.A.



"On a global basis, it doesn't make good economic sense to have single direct destination trains on the New Silk Road just because funding is available for this. All companies involved need to improve their collaboration to better utilisation."

Ralf-Charley Schultze President Union for Rail-Road Combined Transport



"We don't need irregular marketing trains. Regular trains are important for the loading industry – ideally one departure per day – and trains that arrive at their stopping destinations within the participating countries on time en route."