



Menden (Sauerland)

1) Key facts about the city of Menden (Sauerland)

2) History

3) Economy

4) Events, activities and lifestyle

5) Traditions

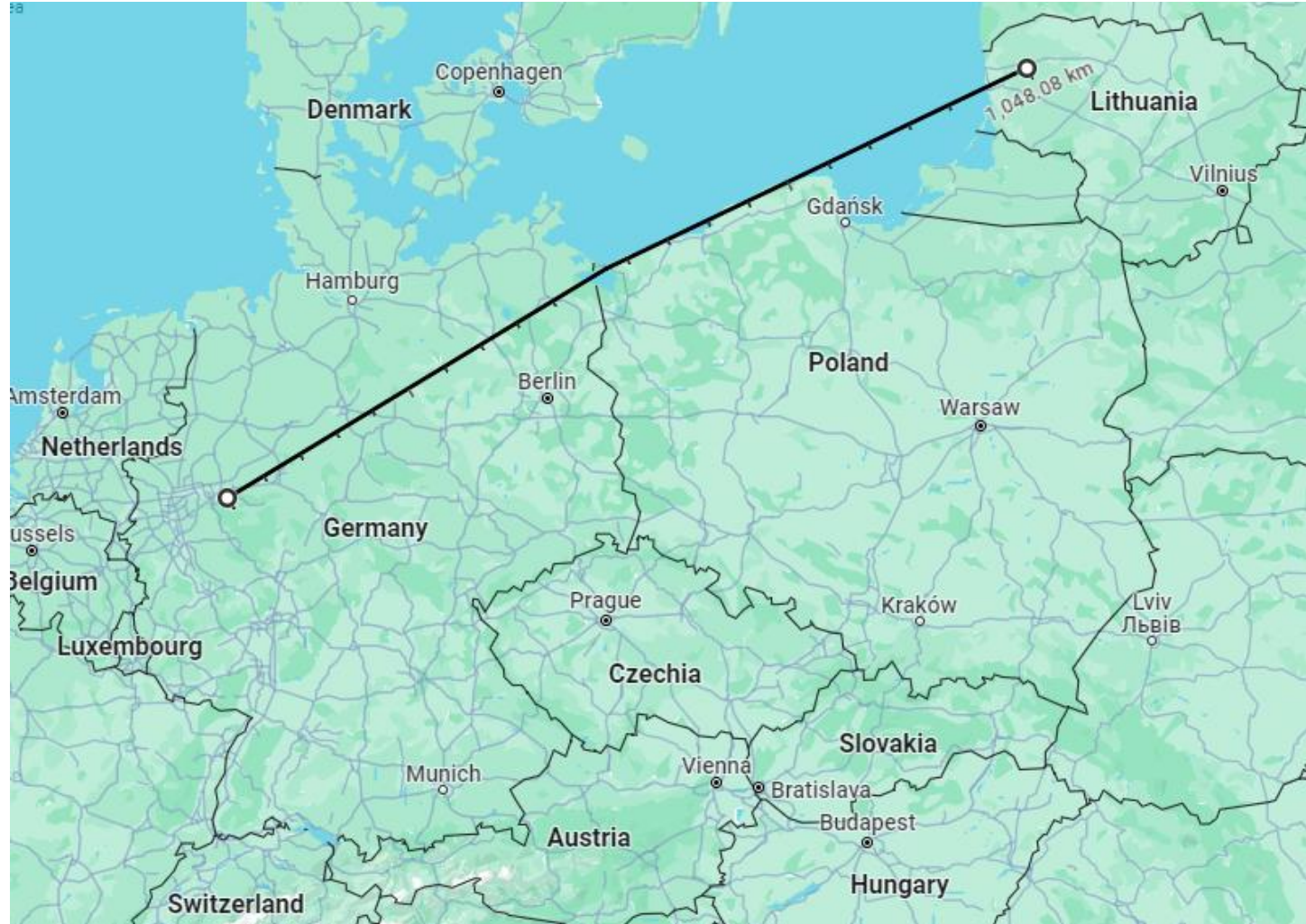
6) Important project



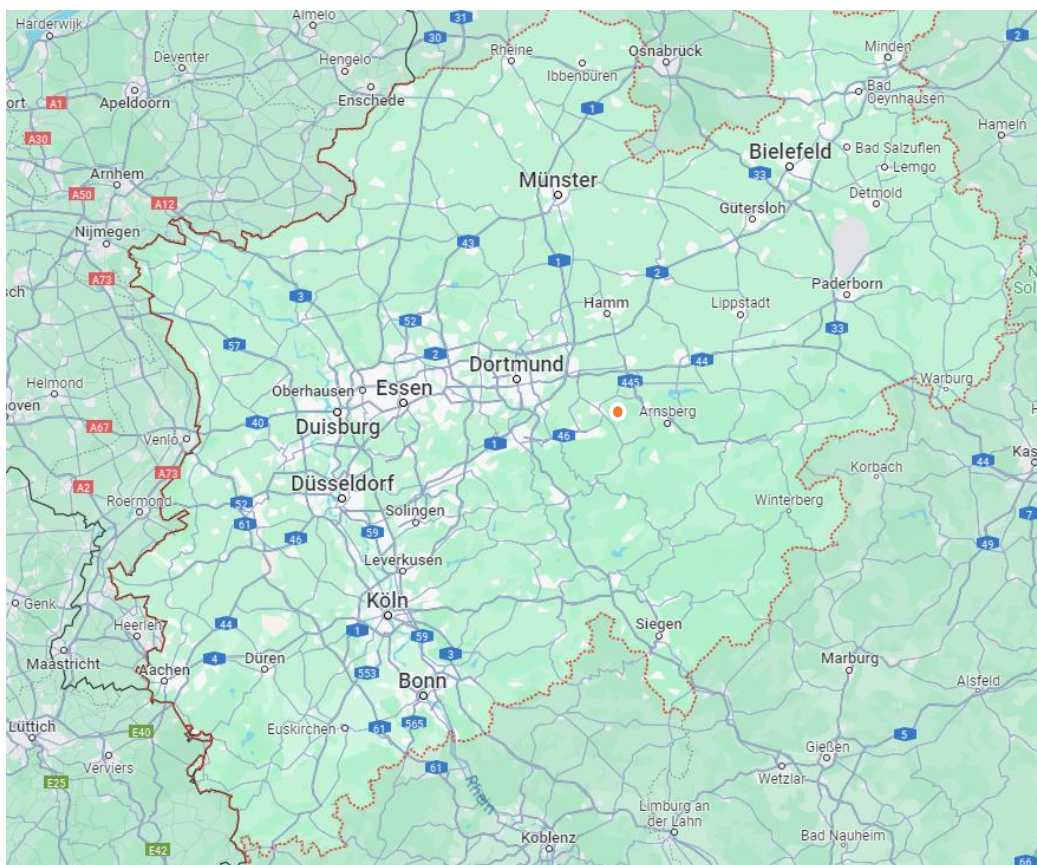
1) Key facts about Menden (Sauerland)



Coat of arms



1) Key facts about Menden (Sauerland)



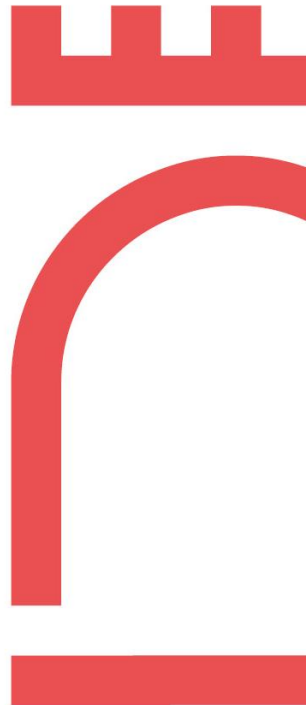
1) Key facts about Menden (Sauerland)

- Population: 52.458
- Located in the north of „Sauerland“, a hilly and heavily forested area in the south of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW), and right next to the „Ruhrgebiet“, which is densely populated und industrialized
- Population of NRW: 17,93 million



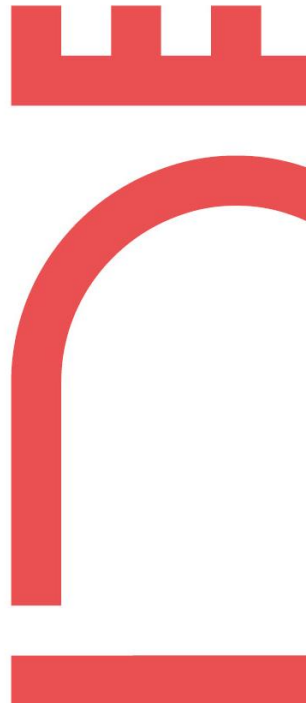
2) History

- Menden's first churches were built in the 9th century.
- From 1180 on the area around Menden was part of the Cologne region, however, as it was on the border with the County of Mark, it was often fought over. Even today the influence of this time is noticeable, as a lot of catholic practices are part of the city life.
- In 1276, Menden received city rights.
- Industrialization started early: In 1695 needle production was the first industry, later followed by limestone products such as cement.



2) History

- In 1975 the city was merged with several previously independent municipalities



3) Economy

- Economy in Menden is diverse. The spectrum of companies and traders ranges from large global companies to one-man shows.
- Over 3,500 entrepreneurs help drive Menden's economy forward.
- Worldwide acting companies include OBO Bettermann (electronic installation) and Kludi (bathroom and kitchen fittings)



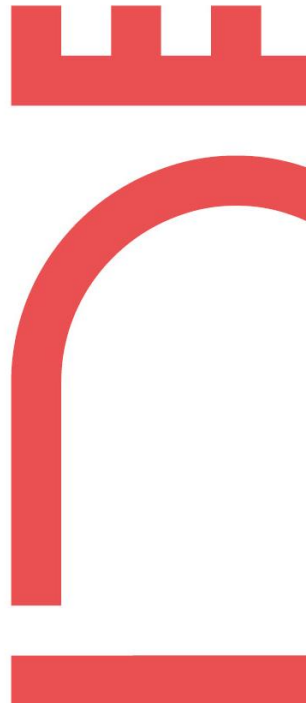
3) Economy

The currently developed industrial park “Hämmer” will be the most modern industrial area in South Westphalia, characterized by sustainable and future-oriented infrastructure such as modern LED street lighting, a mobility hub, electric charging stations etc.



4) Events, activities and lifestyle

- Volunteering is very important in Menden. There are dozens of societies and charities working to create a great community.
- Cultural life is enhanced by amateur theatre groups, choirs and musical ensembles.
- The city of Menden hosts big events like „Menden summer“ with free concerts and „Menden winter“, a christmas market.



4) Events, activities and lifestyle



- In 2026, Menden celebrates its anniversary: 750 years!
- To celebrate, we are organizing a year full of fun activities involving all the citizens of Menden.
- In September 2026, there will be a festival with all societies, institutions and – of course – our partner cities will also be invited.

**Save
the
Date**

**28. August bis
6. September
2026**

5) traditions

Carnival

On November 11 of each year the „Karneval“ season in Menden starts. The carnival society „MKG Kornblumenblau“ organizes several parties, meetings and other activities.

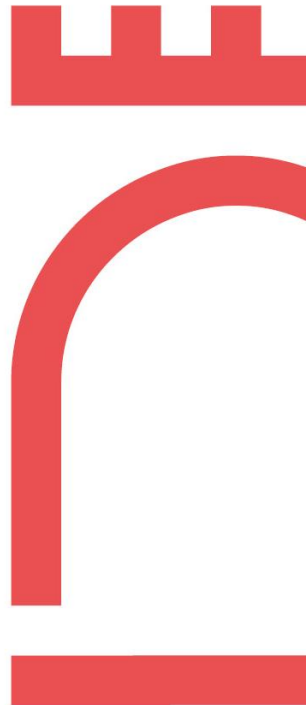
Each session there is a prince and princess (2023/2024: Stefan and Silke)



5) traditions

Pentecost fair (Pfingstkirmes)

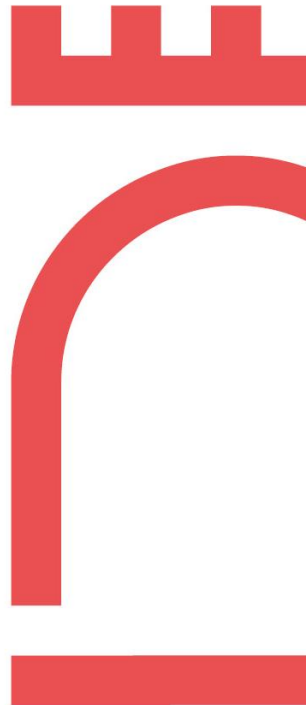
Since 1726 Menden is home of a fair during pentecost. Today, the fair is one of the biggest inner city fairs of the area with hundreds of rides and stands, as well as over 100.000 visitors.



5) traditions

Kreuztracht

Since 340 years citizens of Menden worship the Way of the Cross. Starting on the night of Holy Thursday, each hour (until Holy Saturday) one person carries the cross from St. Vincenz church to the mountain „Kapellenberg“ and back to St. Vincenz. In total there are 32 people bearing the cross.



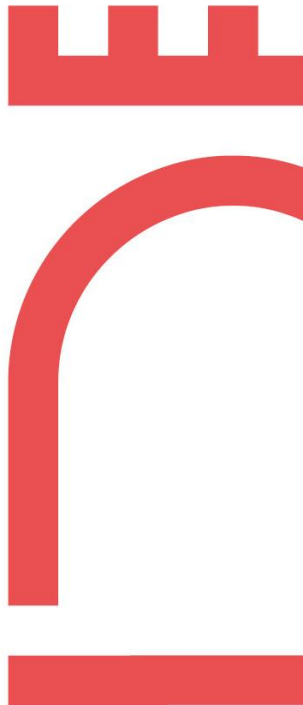
6) Important project

Flood prevention



6) Flood prevention

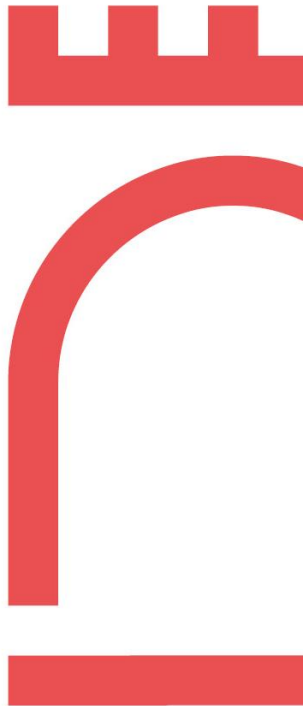
2012



6) Flood prevention

2018

volume of retention:
20,000 m³





Thank you for listening!