

Silver of the sea

Logo

Theme trail



Embark on a journey. Immerse yourself in the history of fishing. Find out more about the history of fishing, fish-related commerce and fish processing.



"Silver of the sea"

Fish has co-determined the life rhythm of the people of Rugen and Hiddensee for centuries. The herring thereby plays a special role. There is a reason why it is called the "silver of the sea" when swarms of them lend the water a silver glitter. In the past entire villages were on their feet as soon as one came near the island.



The theme trail is dedicated to various aspects of fishing between the 17th and 20th centuries, and includes the old "Heringstraße" trade route in the western part of the island. In several stages you can learn something about the history of fishing or experience freshly processed fish: along the west side of the island, over the Schaabe, a 12 kilometre long spit of land, to the east coast of Rugen, and while on the Hiddensee island you follow the trail of the silver of the sea.

From the water to the table – *Fishing and fish processing*

During your cycling tour you will learn more about the fishing communities. It was only possible to master the herring catch through the division of tasks, the mutual assistance and communal solidarity of the fishermen. None could dispense with a helping hand.



The women were always responsible for the processing of the fish caught. In doing so it was and still is most important to make the fish as nonperishable as possible by salting, smoking or drying it.



During your journey on the trail of the silver of the sea you can become familiar with the various types of fish processing and experience the unique taste of a salted herring, kipper (smoked herring) or dried herring.

Fish as far as the eye can see

Rugen and Hiddensee comprise one of the areas with the largest fish populations in Germany. Both commercial and sport fishermen find diverse fish stocks in both the *Bodden* (bay) and the sea.



Zander, codfish, salmon or sea trout – the wealth of fish species of Rugen and Hiddensee is not only found in the water. It also distinguishes the culinary side of the two islands. The trail leads you past numerous fish smokehouses and the most important fishing port on the island, Sassnitz. Have a look at one of the traditional fish smokehouses, e.g. in the municipality of Lietzow or choose your fresh fish directly with the specialist in the municipality of Neuenkirchen. Again and again you will also be able to enjoy traditional fish dishes during your well-earned breaks. Whether delicacies or a fresh fish bun, you decide best on location according to your mood.

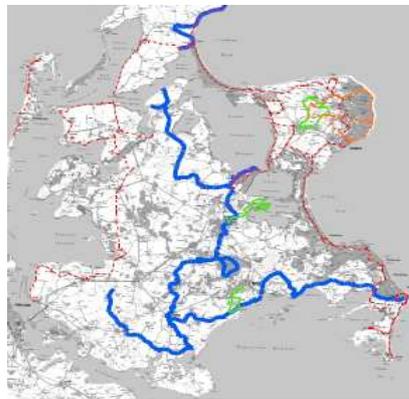


On the traces of the silver of the sea

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Follow the traces of our ancestors and immerse yourself in the history of fishing. From Stralsund on the mainland to Altenkirchen, you will discover one of the most important trade routes, the Alte Heringsstraße. The cycling tour then leads from Cape Arkona along the eastern side of the island in the direction of Thiessow. Especially recommended is also the search for the traces of the silver of the sea on the island of Hiddensee.



Brief FACTS:

Island of Rügen

Location:

- largest German island in the southern Baltic region.
- high in the north of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania

Size:

- **approx. area of 926 km²**

Island of Hiddensee

Location:

- west of the island of Rügen
- largest island in the Vorpommersche Boddenlandschaft (Western Pomeranian Bodden Landscape) National Park

Size:

- approx. area of 19.02 km²

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