

INLAND WATER TOURISM IN GERMANY

ECONOMIC POTENTIAL AND EFFECTS

Robert Marx, President Bundesverband Wassersportwirtschaft e.V.



DEFINITION WATERWAYS & RESPONSIBILITIES



- Navigable river and/or canal in inland areas
- The waterways in Germany are predominantly owned by the Federal Republic of Germany
- The Waterways in Germany are under the administration of the Federal Ministry of Digitalization & Transport (85%)
- The rest of the waterways in Germany are under the administration of the federal states (15%)



FEDERAL WATERWAYS GERMANY



- In the regions of northern, eastern and central Germany, the waterway networks are primarily characterized by interconnected rivers, canals and lakes. This is an attractive area especially for houseboats and canoes.
- The southern states with their large lakes are more characterized for sailing boats

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FEDERAL WATERWAYS GERMANY

- Federal waterways Germany with a total length of 7.300 kilometer (4.500 miles)
- 142 locks with an average age of +100 years
- 2.800 Kilometers are primarily used by tourists
- 75% are natural rivers
- 25% are canals
- Berlin, Brandenburg & Mecklenburg Vorpommern have the highest density of waterways in germany





„BASICALLY: THE LARGER THE
CONTIGUOUS WATER AREA IN A
REGION, THE GREATER THE
RESULTING ECONOMIC POWER.“

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Wuertourism

Definition by Federal Ministry of Economics

Narrow sense

Watersports

- Sailing
- Canoeing
- Motorboating
- Chartersport
- Snorkeling / Diving
- Surfing
- Fishing
- ...

Shipping

- River Cruise
- Ocean Cruise
- Passenger shipping
- Ferries
- Traditional shipping
- ...

Extended sense

Compound Segments

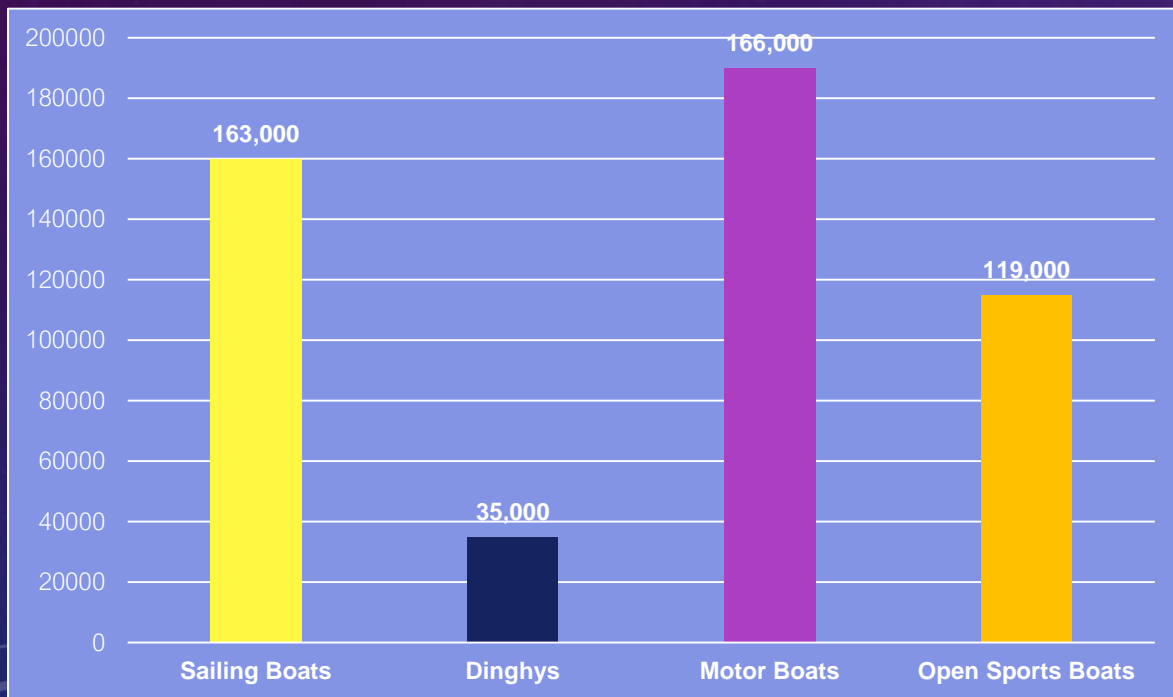
- Maritime Events
- Maritime industrial tourism (like shipyard tours)
- Maritime museums
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Extended sense

Water related Tourism

- Beach Holiday
- Camping Tourism at the waterfront
- Boat rental during holidays

BOAT STRUCTURE GERMANY (BY BVWW)



- In total we register 483.000 boats in Germany
- 163.000 Sailing boats (from 7 meters)
- 35.000 Sailing Dinghys (up to 7 meters)
- 186.000 Motorboats (from 7,50 meters)
- 119.000 Open Sport Boats (up to 7,50 meters)



WE EXPECT, THAT:

1. AROUND 191.000 BOATS
2. 1.300 CHARTERBOATS
3. 280.000 CANOES

ARE UNDERWAY ON THE FEDERAL
WATERWAYS IN GERMANY

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AVERAGE USAGE OF BOATS (BY BVWW)



- Private boats (191.000 boats*2.3 Persons*20 boating days) = 8.786.000 person days
- Charter boats (1.300 boats*3.8 Persons*120 boating days) = 592.800 person days
- Canoes (280.000 canoes*2.1 persons*9.7 boating days) = 5.703.600 person days

In TOTAL: 6.7 Million of boating days / year on federal waterways

In TOTAL: 15.1 Million personDays /year on federal waterways



„OVERALL, WE ASSUME THAT THE GROSS DEMAND GENERATED BY TOURISM ON THE FEDERAL WATERWAYS AMOUNTS TO APPROXIMATELY 4.2 BILLION EUROS / YEAR.“



AS DETERMINED BY THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS

Robert Marx, President Bundesverband Wassersportwirtschaft e.V.



“ABOUT 66.500 PEOPLE EARN THEIR
INCOME FROM WATERWAY TOURISM,
MAINLY IN STRUCTURALLY WEAK
REGIONS.”



AS DETERMINED BY THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS

Robert Marx, President Bundesverband Wassersportwirtschaft e.V.

MAIN RESULTS



- 7.300 kilometer waterways in Germany
- 142 locks
- 483.000 registered boats in Germany
- 191.000 private boats on inland waterways
- 1.300 Charter boats on inland waterways
- 280.000 canoes on inland waterways
- 4.2 Billion Gross demand generated by water tourism on inland waterways
- 66.500 jobs are given by water tourism

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENT FOR FUTURE SUCCESS



Collapse of lock „Zaaren“ in high season 2019

“The value, added of water tourism, does not decrease linearly with each closed lock. It collapses directly if only one lock on the circuit system fails.”

Robert Marx, President Bundesverband Wassersportwirtschaft e.V.



“ONLY IF AN ENTIRE REGION HAS A CONTINUOUS WATERWAY NETWORK WITH INTACT INFRASTRUCTURE, WATER TOURISM TAKES PLACE. IF EVEN ONE LOCK FAILS, THE SYSTEM COLLAPSES.”

Robert Marx, President Bundesverband Wassersportwirtschaft e.V.

CONCLUSION



“The preservation of the infrastructure is the most important thing for a successful future water tourism and secure jobs in structurally weak regions.”

Robert Marx, President Bundesverband Wassersportwirtschaft e.V.

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