



↑ Schuhmarkt

Pütt, as Parchim is affectionately referred to in Low German, is a county town with approx. 18,000 inhabitants situated in an area of outstanding natural beauty. With its 62-hectare Wockersee (lake), Parchim stretches across a flat valley traversed by the river Elde (Müritz-Elde Waterway) and is embedded in extensive forest and meadowland (approx. 2,500 ha of forest with an excellent system of walking trails, making it the most forested city in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern after Rostock). Canoeists enjoy resting at one of Parchim's newly built waterway rest stops located both in and outside of the city. The lakes Plauer See and Schweriner See, as well as The Müritz and Elbe rivers, can be reached from here by boat.

Over its 825-year history (first mentioned in 1170; town charter granted in 1225/26) Parchim has never lost its historic charm, characterised by streets that widen into squares with several beautiful half-timbered houses.

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European Route of Brick Gothic

Parchim

Pictures: © Stadt Parchim | St. Marien: © Frau Warnke-Stockmann

European Route of Brick Gothic

Experience the diversity of Europe! Your hosts on the European route of brick Gothic are Denmark, Germany and Poland. Get to know the historical and cultural facets of the individual countries and cities as well as their similarities which are reflected in their architecture of the medieval brick Gothic and the Hanseatic League.

With our current guide and our selection of cycle maps you can discover several hundreds of fascinating brick buildings that are located in idyllic landscapes and in picturesque old towns.



City of Red-Brick Gothic and Half-Timber Architecture



St. George's Church

St. Georg's Church



↑ St. Georg's Church



↑ Südportal

↓ St. George's Church with the Wockersee in background



The St. Georg's church is located in the very heart of Parchim that received its town charter in 1220. In 1229, the church was mentioned for the first time. Its style was late-Romanesque, without tower or transept. It burnt down completely in 1289, but the new replacing Gothic church was sanctified already in 1307. In the same century, it was complemented by the ambulatory and extensions in the South and North. The last comprehensive restoration was carried out in 1898.

Between 1979 and 1983 the building shell and roof, and afterwards all windows were renewed and secured as well as the Friese organ restored. In St. Georg's church one bell cast in 1613 is preserved. Also worth to look at: The west wall with remains of the basilica, the pulpit from 1580 and the councillor's chair from 1608.

St. Mary's Church



↑↓ St. Mary's Church



The St. Mary's church was consecrated in 1278. In these years, the New Market was built as well as the brick church St. Mary's with its tower of 54 metres finished in the 14 century. Nowadays, St. Mary's church is the oldest preserved building in Parchim, and it is one of the most impressive examples of late Romanesque sacral architecture in Mecklenburg with clear early Gothic influences. It has been built as a three-nave hall church in which the transition from the Romanesque to the Gothic era becomes visible. The northern extension as well as the church exterior appear in Gothic style. The church's interior has valuable equipment, such as the valuable bronze baptismal font (1365), the carved winged altar (15 century), the Renaissance pulpit and the carved organ loft taking up the entire church width (1601). Worth to mention are the medieval Jewish gravestones that were immured.

St. Georg's Church

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St. Mary's Church

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City Hall

Schuhmarkt 1 | 19370 Parchim
Visits during opening hours.



City Hall



↑ City Hall



↑ Cellar of the City Hall

With the core of its structure, the city hall Parchim dates back to the 14th century. Its today's appearance was achieved only in 1818 by a profound reorganization by the country and court master builder J. G. Chr. Barca who also designed the impressive portal on the church side of the building. While the repeatedly jointed three-sided show gable at the market side had to be pulled down due to dilapidation, the side to the Waagestraße with the stairs gable and the fivefold blank faceplate group still has well the original appearance. Even the impressive Gothic cellar has been well preserved, with its cross-ribbed vaultings which are supported in the room middle by massive octagonal pillars. The clock at the city hall gable on the side towards the Old Market became attached in 1869 as a synchronized clock for the town.