Travel Information to the International Academy for Nature Conservation Isle of Vilm

The **International Academy for Nature Conservation** belongs to the **German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)** and is part of the BfN branch office at the **Isle of Vilm**. The small island is situated in the north-east of Germany, south of Rügen Island.

**Contact:**
International Academy for Nature Conservation Isle of Vilm
German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)
Isle of Vilm
18581 Putbus
Germany
Tel. (Reception desk): +49 – 38301 – 86 0

**Arrival by air plane:**
The closest international airports are Berlin and Hamburg. Please, choose a flight connection to Berlin, Hamburg or Rostock-Laage and continue your journey by train. The train ride from Berlin/Hamburg takes a little less than 4,5 hours. For further information see the next page “Arrival by train”.

- **If you arrive at Hamburg airport**, please take the suburban train (**“S-Bahn”** line S1. The station is located directly in front of the terminal. The suburban train operates every 10 minutes between Hamburg Airport and Hamburg’s central railway station (**“Hauptbahnhof”**). The train ride takes 25 minutes.

- **Berlin** has two airports.
  In case you arrive at **Berlin-Tegel (TXL)**, please take the shuttle bus **TXL** to Berlin’s central railway station (**“Hauptbahnhof”**). The bus runs every 10 minutes and the ride takes 20 minutes. If you arrive at **Berlin-Schönefeld (SXF)** you can use the suburban train (**“S-Bahn”** line S9 and change at Ostkreuz to **line S7**, or you can use the regional train (**“Regionalbahn (RB)”**) to Berlin’s central railway station (**“Hauptbahnhof”**). For the Berlin Tegel shuttle bus you will need to buy a ticket of the category "Berlin AB" on the bus or at the airport. For the Berlin Schönefeld shuttle trains you will need to buy a ticket of the category "Berlin ABC" at the train station.

- **Rostock-Laage (RLG)** ([http://www.rostock-airport.de/en](http://www.rostock-airport.de/en)) is the closest airport to the Isle of Vilm, but with limited flight connections. If you arrive in Rostock-Laage, please take the bus L127 to Rostock’s central bus station (**“Zentraler Omnibusbahnhof (ZOB)”**) which is situated right in front of the central railway station (**“Hauptbahnhof”**). The bus leaves according to the flight arrivals and the ride takes 35 minutes. Please check the bus timetable before you fly. Please visit for further information [http://www.rostock-airport.de/en/getting-here.html](http://www.rostock-airport.de/en/getting-here.html) or call +49 (0) 381/4056018 or +49 (0) 1805/007737.

**Arrival by train:**
- **via Hamburg**: Rostock – Stralsund – Bergen auf Rügen – Lauterbach Mole
- **via Berlin**: Stralsund – Bergen auf Rügen – Lauterbach Mole

You can check train connections and purchase tickets on the website of “Deutsche Bahn” under TravelService
Important information regarding arrival by train:

- When searching for train connections and purchasing the ticket, please state Lauterbach Mole as final destination. You may also state "Berlin Airport" or "Hamburg Airport" as point of departure. In that case, please make sure to choose the correct airport in the drop down menu.
- When travelling from Berlin we suggest booking the so-called "Ostsee-Ticket", which is valid all day long in all train types on the route Berlin – Lauterbach Mole on day of arrival and return, and costs only about 50 €.
- The train ride from Berlin or Hamburg to Lauterbach Mole takes a little less than 4,5 hours.
- In order to catch the last ferry to Vilm at 20:10 from Lauterbach your plane should not arrive later than 13:30 and your train should not leave Berlin/Hamburg later than 15:45.
- Our general advice is to use the train connections between Stralsund and Lauterbach Mole and not the bus connections. Please do not use on any account the bus connection from Stralsund via Altefähr to Lauterbach Mole.
- In case your intermediate stop in Bergen auf Rügen lasts longer than 45 minutes we recommend taking a taxi to the harbour of Lauterbach if this allows you to reach an earlier ferry to Vilm. The taxi rank is located in front of the train station. The taxi ride takes approximately 20 minutes and costs about 25 €.
- On your departure, taking a taxi from Lauterbach to Bergen could be advantageous as well, because trains depart from Bergen on hourly base, while they depart from Lauterbach sometimes only every two hours.
- Information regarding the train connection between Bergen auf Rügen und Lauterbach Mole: The train leaving Bergen at 17:40 to Lauterbach Mole is the last train connecting to the ferry to Vilm, leaving Lauterbach harbour at 18:10. In case you arrive in Bergen between 17:50 and 19:30, please take a taxi from Bergen to Lauterbach harbour. The last ferry will leave to Vilm at 20:10.
- In case your travel costs will be reimbursed by BfN, please clarify in advance whether the reimbursement of taxi costs is possible.

Taxi call:
Bergen auf Rügen: +49 – 3838 – 25 26 27
Sassnitz: +49 – 38392 – 30 30
Stralsund: +49 – 3831 – 29 20 00 or +49 – 3831 – 30 28 29 or +49 – 3831 – 49 13 13
Rostock: +49 – 381 – 68 58 58 or +49 – 162 – 10 83 910

Arrival by ferry:
- from Trelleborg (Sweden) to Sassnitz/Mukran (Rügen); continue by taxi (Please order the taxi in advance!) to Bergen (railway station); continue from Bergen by train to Lauterbach Mole
- from Gedser (Denmark) to Rostock; continue by bus L49 to Rostock’s central railway station ("Hauptbahnhof"); continue by train via Stralsund and Bergen auf Rügen to Lauterbach Mole

For further information regarding Rostock harbour visit: http://www.rostock-port.de/en/accessible-travelling/ferry-terminal.html

Arrival by car:
Using the motorways A19 and A20 from Lübeck, Hamburg and Berlin, the car ride to Lauterbach takes approximately 3 hours. You approach Rügen Island always via Stralsund. From Stralsund you can use the bridge ("Rügenbrücke") or the dam ("Rügendamm"). The destination is „18581 Putbus OT Lauterbach, Hafen“.
Especially during the tourist season in summer, we do not recommend travelling by car.

Parking:
In Lauterbach parking is available on the BfN parking lot free of charge (see site sketch below). Please note, that we are not liable for any damages of parking vehicles.

Ferry transfer to the Isle of Vilm:
The ferry transfer from Lauterbach to the Isle of Vilm takes 10 minutes. The ferry is run by BfN and is free of charge. It operates according to a fixed timetable (see below) which is coordinated with the train timetable. The pier of the BfN ferry has been relocated due to construction work in the harbour. There may always be further changes at short notice.
Ferry timetable Lauterbach – Vilm and train connections:

Monday to Friday:

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* runs exclusively upon reconfirmed request

**Note:** At departure times without direct train connection from Lauterbach a taxi can take you to Bergen on Rügen (travel time 20 min) from where trains run more frequently or to Stralsund (travel time 45 min).

**Saturday and Sunday:** During weekends the ferry transfer follows an individual schedule. Please contact the organisers for further information.