

BACKGROUND INFORMATION



Dornier Museum: the pioneering spirit

Motivation

Dornier has made history. The development of the company is essentially linked to the visions of Claude Dornier, whose affection for technology, and fascination of flying, have made Dornier to one of the most innovative companies in Germany. The Dornier Museum Friedrichshafen therefore intends to focus not only on the prominent technical achievements in the fields of aviation and space technology and operations, but they also want to show how revolutionary ideas occur against the background of contemporary history. The museum in Friedrichshafen at the Lake of Constance, wants to inspire people and enable them to witness 'history'.

'The Dornier Museum is not only an emotional experience for technology lovers, we want to inspire all history fans, inquisitive people, families with children, young people with big ideas, and cause them 'to think', said Cornelius Dornier, the son of Silviu Dornier, and the project manager of the museum.

Concept of the Museum

The permanent exhibition of the Dornier Museum is divided into three categories. The core piece is the so called 'Museum Box'. The history of the Dornier Company, and the history of the development of air and space travel over the past hundred years, against the background of contemporary history, will be shown in a circuit. Countless world records, patents, and technological achievements, document the spectacular career of Dornier. Political, economical, and social frameworks show what motivated and inspired people in the past.

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You can actually feel the fascination of flying in the **hangar** at the southern runway of the airport Friedrichshafen and get a close up on the predominantly 'still flyable' originals like the Do 27, the Do 228 ,and the hulk of the first prototype of Do 31. All models are legendary classics in the history of flying and there are countless myths and stories about them. Another highlight is the Dornier Merkur, an aeroplane from the 1920's.

The main focus of the **gallery** are exhibits on data processing as well as conversion of energy which introduces the visitors to the technological background of Dornier's products. Several exhibition pieces show how technological achievements were made in other industries due to Dornier's vision and lateral thinking. A kidney lithotripter (a device for the treatment of kidney stones) shows visitors how technology from the aviation industry is deployed by the medical industry.

Architecture

The Dornier Museum is a modern, spacious building that demonstrates technological advances in an authentic surrounding. The layout of the museum is a hangar that is based on an arm of the airfield of the airport Friedrichshafen. The exhibition space with an area of around 5,000 square meters is located in a landscape garden of 25,000 square meters. The hangar with an area of around 2,500 square meters provides plenty of space for the aeroplanes.

Friedrichshafen at the Lake of Constance is the birthplace of the Dornier Company, and therefore the perfect place to have the museum.

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