



## The Lechmuseum in a historic hydroelectric power station

The Lechmuseum Bayern (Bavaria) in Langweid is the multimedia staging of the Lech – the river which has shaped the lives of people between the Alps and the Danube for millennia.

The Lechtal valley was a settlement area, as well as a border, trade route and battlefield. The river played a key role in the electrification of southern Bavaria. The first hydroelectric power station on the Lech was brought online in Gersthofen in 1901.

The Lechmuseum is located in the historic Langweid hydroelectric power station which has been producing electricity since 1907 and still supplies energy to the region today. The power station – a historic building with a historic turbine room you can walk through – is the “main exhibit” at the museum. The Lech and the Lechtal valley are presented to visitors from a huge range of perspectives across three floors of the hydroelectric power station and in the outdoor area.

The themes are not only hydropower and energy generation, as well as the origin of the Lech plants as regional energy suppliers and their more than one-hundred-and-ten-year history, but also primarily nature, culture, history and economic history.



## Offerings for children and adults

The Lechmuseum Bayern in Langweid educates adults as well as school children. In addition to the hydroelectric power station and the technological monument, you can find:

- Information and illustration panels on the topics of the river and valley, nature and geography, history, the use of hydropower and energy supply
- Exhibits on history and nature on the Lech and in the Lechtal valley
- A power station trail around the outdoor area (including an original Lech raft)
- A cinematic river journey along the Lech from its source in the upper Lechtal valley through the mid and lower Lechtal valley to the mouth
- Answers to many questions that children (as well as adults) ask
- Learning through play for the younger generation. Younger visitors can search for virtual treasures in the Lech or discover the animals of the Lechtal valley and their habitats, visit prominent figures on the Lech, accompany a traveller from the 16th century and more besides.



Lechmuseum Bayern in the Langweid hydroelectric power station  
Lechwerkstraße 19  
86462 Langweid

You can get to the Langweid hydroelectric power station by car via the B2, “Langweid Nord” exit. After coming off the B2, take the first exit on the roundabout and drive back parallel to the B2 until you reach the village of Lechwerk. At the beginning of the village, turn left onto Lechwerkstraße, which leads directly to the power station premises.

You can also get here by train. Langweid station is on the Augsburg-Donauwörth line and is only around 2 km from the museum.

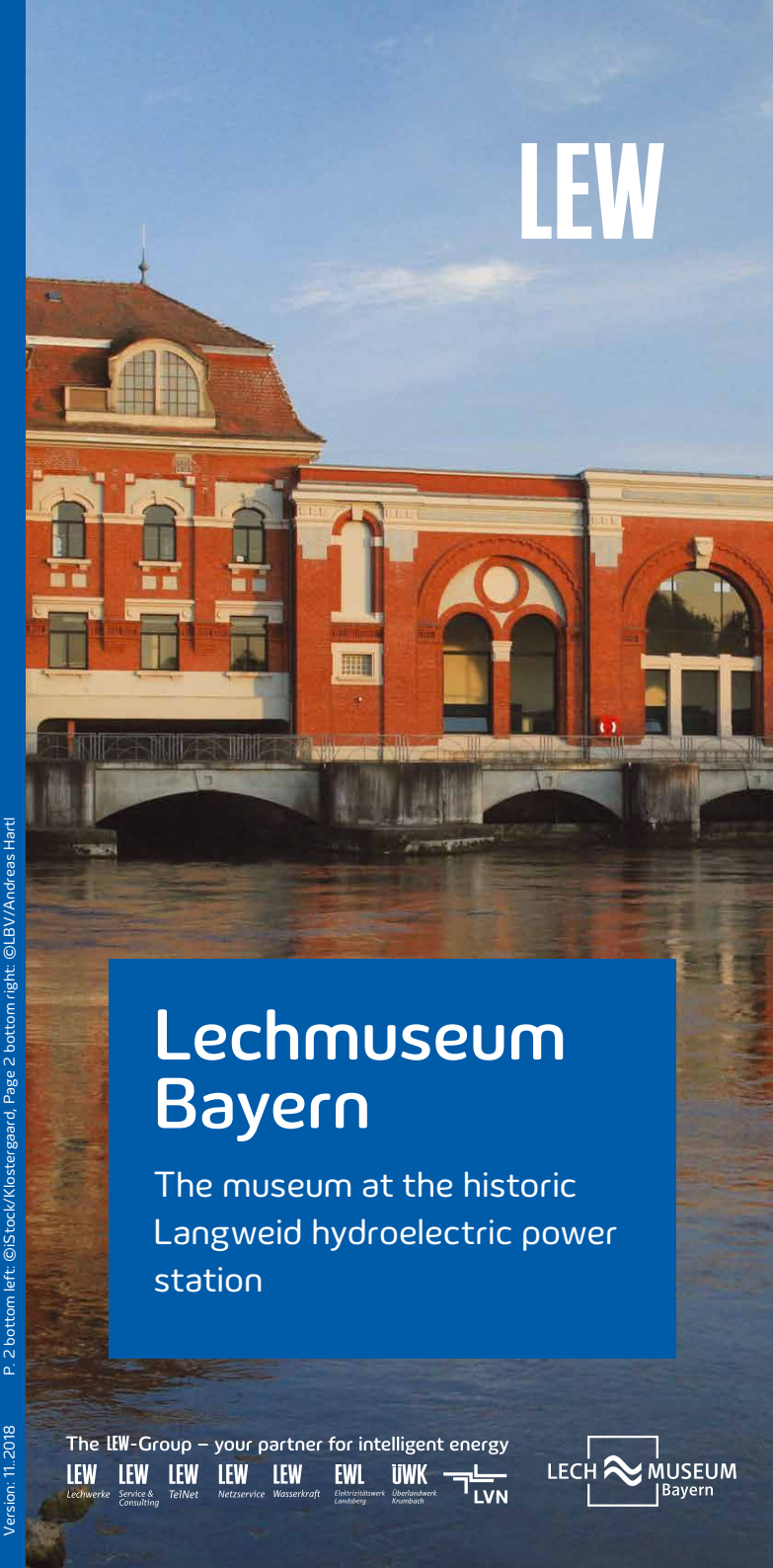
The Lechmuseum Bayern is open every 1st Sunday of the month from 10 am to 6 pm. Last admission is at 5 pm. No registration is required. Just come by! Individual guided tours are not possible during the general Sunday opening hours.

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Free entry!

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LEW



## Lechmuseum Bayern

The museum at the historic Langweid hydroelectric power station

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## A natural environment which is unique in Europe



It is probably not commonly known that the "last wild river of the northern Alps" makes a secret of its origin – and the biodiversity of the Lechtal valley is likely even lesser known. Geology and ice ages, flora and fauna, dry forests, heaths and water meadows formed a natural environment here which is unique in Europe. The Lechmuseum Bayern shows why the Lechtal valley is so worthy of protection. From the Alps to the mouth, you can find rare orchids and butterflies, endangered amphibians and reptiles, and important European habitats for birds.



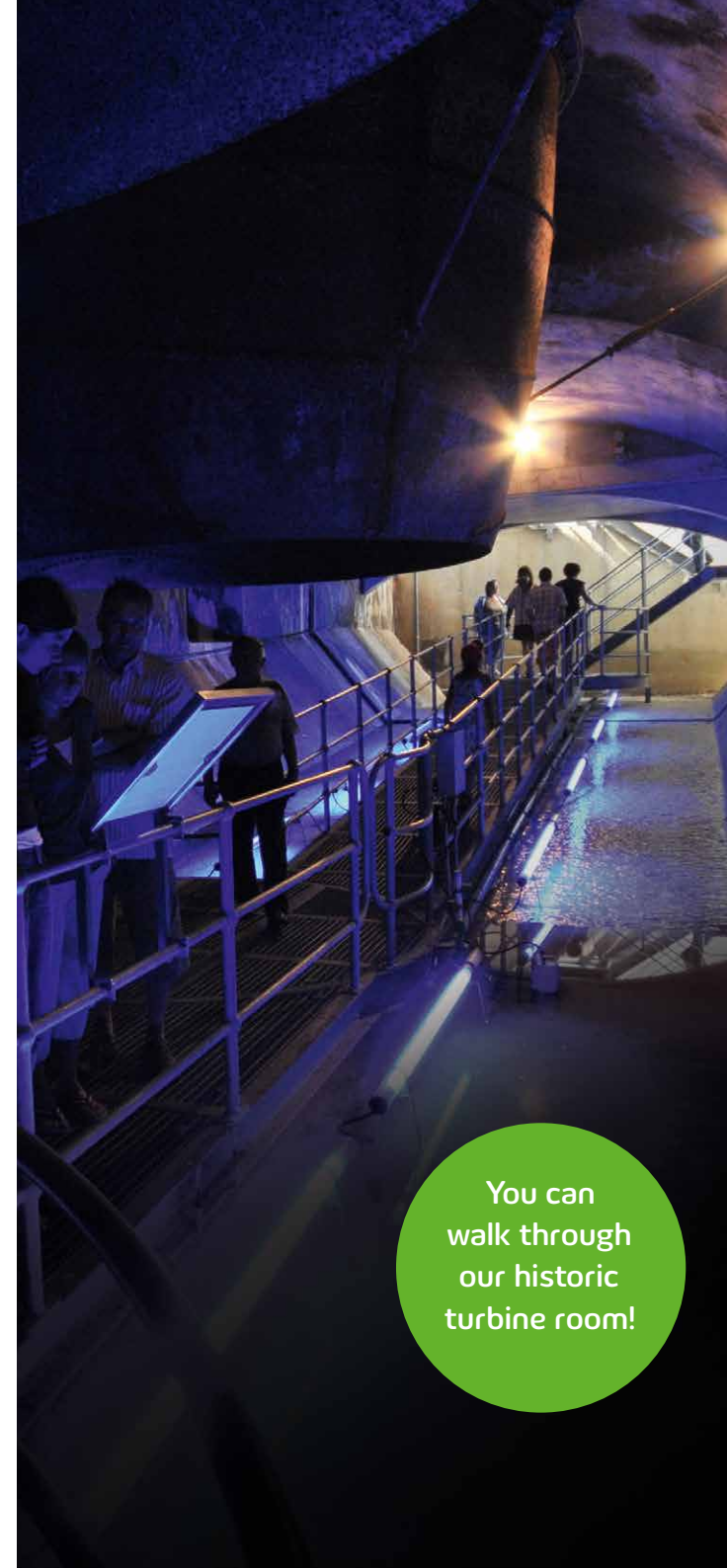
## The great history of the Lechtal valley

3000 years ago, major trade routes already passed through the Lechtal valley. With the Via Claudia Augusta Roman road and rafting, it was a traffic artery. One of Europe's major trade routes had passed through here since the Middle Ages. The Roman city of Augsburg was established on the Lech, and the alpine upland was converted to Christianity along the Lech. Battles which changed the European history were fought on the Lechfeld plain – and wars were waged over the water of the Lech. The river long formed the border between Swabia and Bavaria. The Fugger family came from the Lechfeld plain...



## Economic use of the Lech

The Lech was a busy waterway well into the 20th century, carrying rafts, people and goods via the Danube to Vienna, Budapest and Belgrade. Timber and stone from the Lechtal valley were used, the waters of the Lech in canals and millstreams drove waterwheels and turbines. The Lechtal valley was and is a drinking water supplier which supplies five major Bavarian cities today. In the 19th century, the generation of electrical energy began with the help of the power of the Lech. The Lechtal valley is a factor in international tourism: Neuschwanstein Castle lies across Forggensee lake.



You can walk through our historic turbine room!



## The river and hydropower

The first hydropower plant in the region was built on the Lech in Gersthofen, and the electrification of the region spread from here. The Lechmuseum shows you how the river became an energy supplier. Learn how hydropower is turned into electricity, how electricity works and how the electricity gets to homes. One area is devoted to electrical energy and the history of Lechwerke AG as a regional energy supplier. And it shows what energy suppliers and environmental experts are doing today in order to preserve the nature and biodiversity of the Lech.

