

NEWS

Isar Valley

Why Munich is one of the most important locations in the world for IT and technology companies. A tour.

4 June 2026, Tobias Engl



If you want to understand the Munich location, take the U6 to the north. In Garching, where the line ends, there is a building called UnternehmerTUM on the campus of the Technical University. The Financial Times lists it as the best start-up center in Europe for the third time in a row in 2026. Up to 100 start-ups a year emerge from its workshops, and it has supported more than 1,000 since 2002. The principle is simple. Cutting-edge research goes straight into business.

Back in the city center, in Maxvorstadt, Apple is working on wireless modems and energy chips in the Chipperfield building "Karl". Munich is Apple's largest development site in Europe and home to its European Center for Chip Design, with over 1,500 engineers from more than 40 countries and investments of around two billion euros. Google has its Munich headquarters just a few streets away. Microsoft, Amazon, Meta, Intel, Adobe, IBM ... the map of global corporations here reads like a business directory.

The special thing is the neighborhood. Nowhere else in Germany are there as many DAX headquarters as in Munich: Siemens, BMW, Allianz, Munich Re, plus the chip manufacturer Infineon on the outskirts of the city in Neubiberg. For a young technology company, this means short distances to pilot customers and first-hand capital. The idea from the lab meets the company that needs it.

Behind this is a reservoir that no advertisement can replace: around 140,000 students at over 20 universities, the second-highest university density in the country. In Munich Quantum Valley, Max Planck Institutes, Fraunhofer and the universities are building the computers of the next generation. Helsing and Quantum Systems are proving that this mix creates world class; Celonis and Flix that it endures.

Munich works quietly. Its ecosystem is considered engineer-driven and thorough, persevering with complex products for industrial customers around the world. ScreenWay is at home in this culture. Bergx2 develops from here and the platform bears the signature of the city; German engineering, European data sovereignty and proximity to the industry it serves.

The location is no coincidence. Anyone looking for research, industry and talent in one place will rarely find them so close together. In Munich, they are located within a single subway line.

LOCATION MAP - WHERE MUNICH MAKES TECHNOLOGY

Maxvorstadt Apple's European Center for Chip Design in the Chipperfield building "Karl".

Garching TUM Campus and UnternehmerTUM, Europe's leading start-up center according to the Financial Times.

Neubiberg Infineon headquarters at the Campeon.

Arnulfpark A Google's Munich location, just a few minutes from the main train station (Google has several locations in Munich. The main location is at Erika-Mann-Straße 33, 80636 Munich)

Werksviertel at Ostbahnhof WERK1, hub for digital business models.

Creative quarter Munich Urban Colab, city-sponsored innovation location.