

# Pleasure of NaTouring

Ministerium für Ländliche  
Entwicklung, Umwelt und  
Landwirtschaft



EXPERIENCE BRANDENBURG'S LARGE PROTECTED AREAS

# Pleasure of NaTouring

Nationale  
Naturlandschaften  
in Brandenburg





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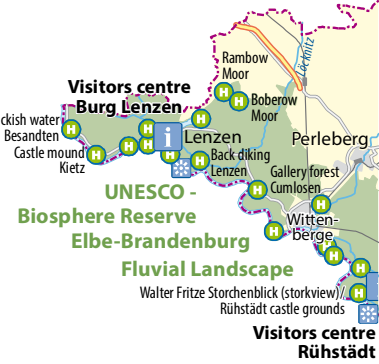
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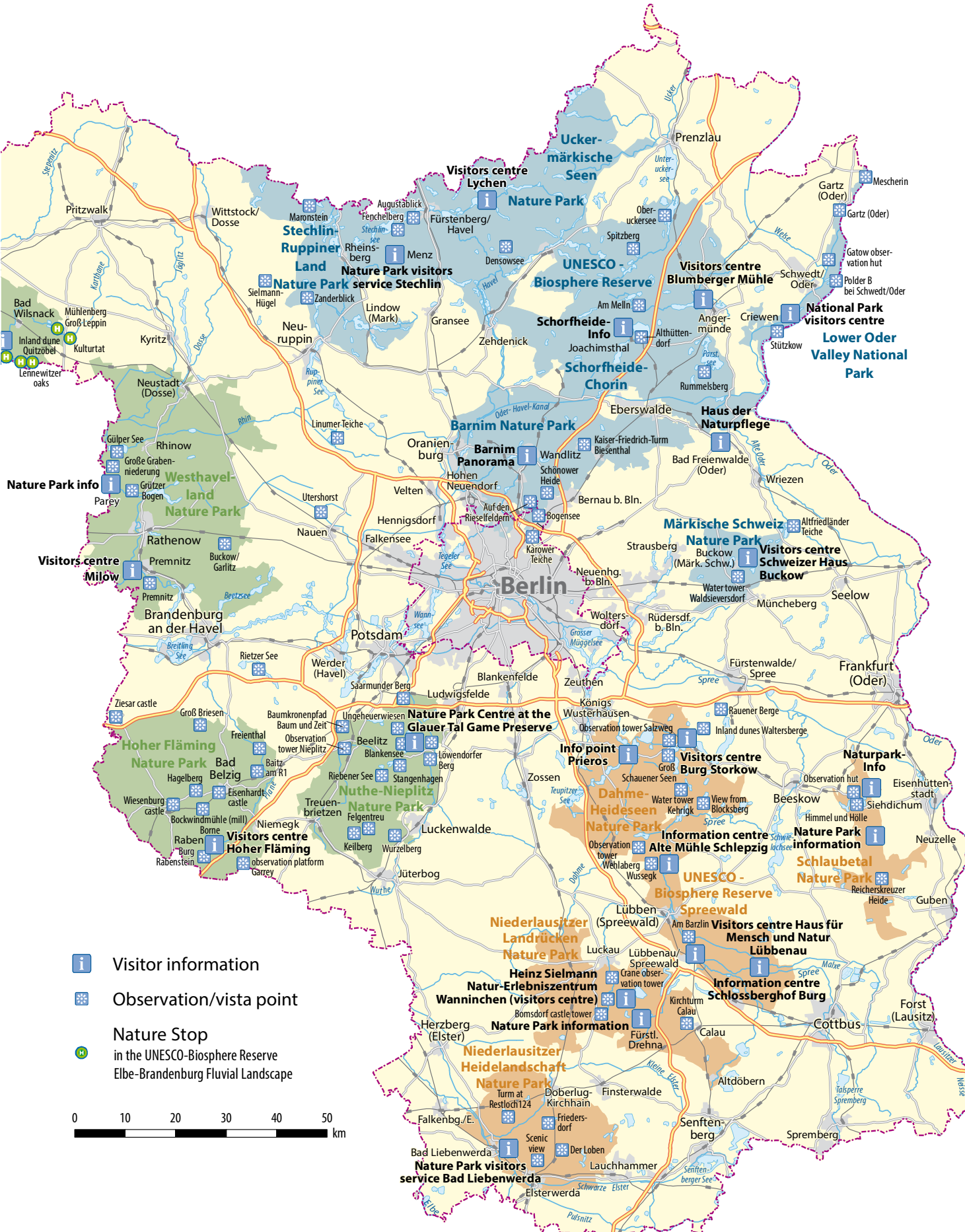
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Explanations

Since „out in the field“ you will almost always find only German names and terms we did not translate every name of the German facilities, especially in German addresses. Here are the explanations of some of the German names and terms you will encounter reading this brochure:

Naturparkverwaltung = park administration  
Naturparkzentrum, Besucherzentrum = Visitors centre  
Naturparkhaus / Nationalparkhaus = Nature park / National park visitors service  
Naturwacht = Ranger  
Schullandheim = School camp, retreat  
Waldschule = Forest school  
Heimatmuseum, Kreismuseum = local history and heritage museums  
OT = town or village precinct  
National Nature Landscapes = large protected areas (synonym)





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(p. 89 below)/ Petra Wießner (p. 90 below)/ Bernd Tanneberger (p. 91 centre and left)/ Stefan Röhrscheid (p. 92 upper)/ Archiv Tourismusverband (p. 92 left)/Archive Natouzeum Maasdorf (p. 93 right)/all other photographs: Veit Rösler

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**Hoher Fläming Nature Park:** Dirk Fröhlich (p. 104 upper, p. 108 left)/Steffen Bohl (p. 104 lower)/Jürgen Rocholl/FACE (p. 105 upper, p. 106 left, p. 107 centre and right)/Bansen/Wittig (p. 105 lower, p. 109 upper)/Uwe Tölle (p. 106 right)/Archiv VFD-Bln.-Brdbg. (p. 107 left)/Anke Braune (p. 108 centre)/ Naturparkverwaltung Hoher Fläming (p. 108 right)/Naturparkverein Hoher Fläming (p. 109 lower left)/B. Grimm (p. 109 lower right)/Sebastian Hennigs (p. 111)

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**UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Elbe-Brandenburg Fluvial Landscape:** Oliver Krause (p. 120 lower, p. 121 lower)/Dieter Damschen (p. 121 upper)/Burg Lenzen (p. 121 lower)/Richter (p. 122 lower)/Nora Künkler (p. 124 upper)/S. Meier (p. 125 centre)/T. Hennig (p. 125 upper)/all other photographs: Jan Schormann

## Welcome

# Discover Brandenburg

For many people Brandenburg means unspoilt nature and abundant wildlife. Visitors from near and far are awestruck by the wealth of bird species and wild animals, of which many are rare and therefore strictly protected. Not surprisingly, over the past two decades many nature and hiking guides on Brandenburg's natural treasures have been published. But if you prefer not to rely merely on the Internet or paper, on accident or if you simply want to discover nature in Brandenburg with those of like mind, *Pleasure of NaTouring* is your source and companion.

“Pleasure of NaTouring” is a joint initiative of Brandenburg's fifteen national natural landscapes—also called large protected areas, an overarching campaign to present the state's treasures to locals and visitors alike, to young and old, individual and group travellers, day-trippers and tourists. The Naturwacht Brandenburg performs a major part of this work.

With the support of Brandenburg's agriculture and environment ministry, nature and landscape guides have been trained, who offer their services to travellers throughout the state. They all invite you to witness the bustard courtship in spring or to admire the Adonis blossoms in the Oder Valley. Whether you want to visit the three stork villages that compete for the greatest breeding success in the state or whether you want to observe the very rare black relative of the white stork, you will find competent counsel in *Pleasure of NaTouring*.

Summer is the best time in Brandenburg for hikes or cycling tours through nature. But not only during daylight: the Havelland, one of Germany “darkest” places at night, is stargazer's paradise.

Brandenburg is the land of rivers and lakes. In autumn, bird watchers flock to the annual crane rest to see the graceful birds. Impressive in a very different vein is the hormone-driven stag rut. Wherever you are in Brandenburg's nature parks, you will find knowledgeable guides who know their way around forest and meadow. In winter, if it is cold enough, the Spreewald Biosphere Reserve can be discovered on the ice. Or how about a wolf's night in Groß Schönebeck? In Brandenburg there is a lot to be seen, heard and explored between forests and meadows. Nature tourism knows no bad weather and has no off-season. If anything there is only the wrong clothing, the wrong time and the wrong place. That is when rangers can help. The following pages ought to stimulate your Pleasure in NaTouring in Brandenburg's national natural landscapes.





Brandenburg's Large Protected Areas

## Tastes from the silver plate

Vacation in the country. Blue lakes and rivers. Rolling fields and charming villages. Eagles and storks circling in seemingly endless skies. Toads croaking and wild geese chattering at dusk. Guests, pleasantly tired from exploring nature with charabanc or handcar, raft or hydrobike, return to farmhouses and country inns where table tops bend under the weight of regional specialties. We call it Pleasure of NaTouring.

Brandenburg is a cornucopia of nature. In the "Land of a Thousand Lakes" the visitor sees an astounding number of plants and animals, many of them rare. The most beautiful and valuable Märkisch landscapes form a unique large protected area system: the three biosphere reserves, the Lower Oder Valley National park and the eleven nature parks constitute nearly one third of the total surface of this state and thus the National Natural Landscapes of Brandenburg.

### From the desert to a new Lake District

These comprise on one hand traditional recreational landscapes and other the other hand large areas of former military training grounds, long inaccessible border regions, such as the German-German border and once open-cast mining pits, where a bizarre industrial landscape of former coal mines was flooded to become a new "lake district".

Established as recreational areas in regions which tend to be economically weak or far from industry today Brandenburg's nature parks and biosphere reserves serve as models for sustainable regional development. Nature conservation and sustainable use, including sustainable tourism, are the

conceptual foundations of this modern approach – and nature tourism has become an economic mainstay for the people living there. The agencies managing the National Natural Landscapes develop and support new ideas and pilot projects for sustainable tourism. Hundreds of kilometres of bicycle and hiking trails and canoe routes as well as nature learning trails have been established and marked in cooperation with local governments and tourism associations. Campsites have been created along the canoeing routes; possibilities for tourism without barriers were explored. Tourists arrive at the nature park rail stations, at the visitors centres they can not only pick up maps, information materials, personal tips or the necessary equipment for their trip, they can also go on a "virtual flight" of their area, enjoy a "telephone call" with bullfrogs and cranes, learn to speak "moor frog", slip into the role of the dyke count or peek into the nest of an osprey pair or of the Adebark stork family without disturbing or being disturbed.

### From insider tip to bookable adventure

Nature alone, however, does not make sustainable tourism. Since the International Year of Eco-Tourism 2002 the Brandenburg Natural Landscapes have thus been compiling their own selection of nature excursions entitled "Pleasure of NaTouring". Experiencing nature without destroying it, tourism that supports the livelihood of the local population and that raises the visitors' awareness for environmental protection issues. The following pages provide an overview of the large protected areas including the tourism and natural history attractions and contact details. They invite you to a ramble through Brandenburg with its wonderful landscapes shaped above all by the people who have lived and worked here throughout the centuries. Enjoy a modern state dotted with islands of wilderness where nature reigns supreme.



Ranger Service Brandenburg

## Award-winning work for people and nature

Brandenburg's natural treasures guarantee a thrilling nature experience: visitors can follow the wolves' tracks, be enchanted by swan symphonies in winter, and witness the bustard courtship in the spring. We highly recommend the ranger tours offered by the Naturwacht annually in the "Pleasure in NaTouring" brochure. Great and small nature adventures are tailored to children and adults. And simply everybody will be delighted when the beaver's clapping tail beat breaks the nocturnal silence, when a ring snake slithers elegantly across the path or when an osprey is circling the skies in search of prey. Each of the 15 national nature landscapes in Brandenburg has its own ranger with special knowledge of "his" or "her" large protected area. And if the dates on offer don't fit, there are flyers with the ranger's "favourite tour" and a matching hiking map to help you plan your own tour.

### Mediators between people and nature

As the name suggests the Naturwacht (Nature Rangers) is charged with keeping a watch over nature—especially threatened species. They install nesting aids, secure bat quarters, maintain orchid meadows and count species. The rangers monitor sensitive areas, register the developments in nature and landscape and evaluate them. Peculiarities can be discovered early and thus serve as an early warning system. Their tasks include long-term natural historical investigations, environmental education and public relations. They enjoy working with youth groups and to instil love for nature and enthusiasm for conservation. The Naturwacht Brandenburg was recognized several times by the United Nations for their Junior Ranger Programme and "Education for Sustainable Development".

### Goosebumps—again and again

Naturwacht tours are offered in all of Brandenburg's national nature landscapes. Each one is unique, so be prepared for unforgettable moments that give you goosebumps. Explore the "Brandenburg silver plate", piece by piece: the national park, the three biosphere reserves and the eleven nature parks.

Naturwacht and NaturSchutzFonds  
Brandenburg  
[www.naturschutzfonds.de](http://www.naturschutzfonds.de)





## Stechlin-Ruppiner Land Nature Park

## Picturebook landscape – not just for lovebirds

Naturpark  
Stechlin-  
Ruppiner Land

## Nature park at a glance

## Great scenic views

- Viewpoint Fenchelberg at Stechlinsee circular tour near Neuglobsow
- Augustablick at Peetschsee
- Zanderblick at Tornowsee
- Maronstein at Großer Wummsee
- Sielmann-Hügel

## Recommended tours

- Stechlinsee Circular tour (approx. 14 km)
- Röblinersee Circular tour (approx. 12 km)
- Huwenowsee Circular tour (approx. 6 km)
- Wummsee Circular tour (approx. 10 km)
- Kleiner Wentowsee Circular tour (approx. 12 km)
- Wutzsee Circular tour (approx. 8 km)
- Torowsee Circular tour (approx. 9 km)
- Art hiking trail around the Dagowsee (approx. 4 km)

## More tips

- Neuruppin
- Fontane-Therme Neuruppin
- Glasmacherhaus (glassmaker house) in Neuglobsow
- Zoo Kunsterspring
- Gransee dedicated to Prussian queen Luise
- Bischofsburg in Wittstock / Dosse
- Rheinsberg
- Heidewanderweg (heather trail)

Lake Große Stechlin and the charming town of Rheinsberg are the quintessence of the overwhelming beauty of a whole region: they represent the fascinating forest and lake landscape in Stechlin-Ruppiner Land Nature Park. Both the lake and the town served as literary backdrops. Theodor Fontane named one of his most important novels after the large, luminescent lake: “Der Stechlin”, completed 1897. Moreover, in his “Walks through Mark Brandenburg”, Fontane dedicated almost 60 pages to the description of the castle, the park, the church and Rheinsberg itself.

It is the little castle village Rheinsberg in the Mark Brandenburg where Kurt Tucholsky's “Rheinsberg – A Picture Book for Lovers” takes place. Wölfchen and Claire, who both live in Berlin, spend three wonderful days here. Tucholsky's book is a lovely, unforgettable literary monument to this town. Today Rheinsberg is one of the cultural centres of Brandenburg.

The nature park is all clear lakes and old forests with lake Große Stechlin (425 ha, 69 m deep) being the largest and most important oligotrophic lake of the North German Lowlands. These nutrient-poor and oxygen-rich lakes among the more than 180 water bodies in the nature park make up half of the oligotrophic lake surface in Brandenburg. The crystal clear water with a transparency of up to 12 meters matches any mountain lake.

The typical regional cuisine includes Kleine Maräne, a tasty whitefish, which is found in such oxygen-rich lakes. Its cousin, the Fontane-Maräne is unique to the Große Stechlinsee. Rheinsberger PreussenQuelle, East Germany's first bio-certified mineral

spring, is located in the nature park—an indication of the outstanding quality of the ground water in the region.

Forests cover more than two thirds of the park area. The large beech forests with their dead wood and matured timber are perfect places for shy cave- and tree-breeding birds such as the stock dove, the black woodpecker, the spotted eagle or the goldeneye. The goldeneye is the heraldic animal of the nature park as it prefers exactly the type of habitat the Ruppiner Land provides – mature beech forests and clear lakes.

Another extremely shy inhabitant of the nature park is the European pond turtle. It quickly dives deep into the water when danger looms and also hides when it sees humans at a distance of 200 m. Stechlin-Ruppiner Land Nature Park and its neighbour Uckermärkische Seen Nature Park are a favourite habitat of the osprey: Here is the highest osprey breeding density in central Europe. In summer you can watch these elegant birds and their distant relative, the white-tailed eagle expertly catch fish in the lakes. And if you hear a hollow cry during summer nights it is a great bittern.

Visitors Centre  
NaturParkHaus  
Stechlin  
in Menz

The NaturParkHaus Stechlin in Menz houses an impressive experience exhibition for everyone who likes to get to the bottom of things and enjoys discovering nature. In the NaturParkHaus, touching, tasting and exploring are allowed. Nature, with its many secrets, is there to be discovered. Young guests have fun playing with the ant marble run, the animal voice phone and in “moor frog for beginners”. They can hear the voices of cranes, frogs, red deer and many other animals, search for the forest's treasures or spend a moonlit night in the forest.

Not only children are enthusiastic about the NaturParkHaus, adults will love it as well. Discover the peculiarities of the Nature Park Stechlin – Ruppiner Land, with its old beech stands, moors and the clearest lakes in Germany. Text boards, slides, stories to listen to via headphones and many other things, combined with activities, will excite everyone interested in nature and even adults will enjoy learning about the many interesting relationships in nature and the region in a playful way.

Moments to “wow” you are guaranteed. Or did you know how ants survive even the hardest frosts, why moths are haired or why potash was a sought-after product? The experience installation in the NaturParkHaus is unlike any other.

On winter weekends, the staff of the NaturParkHäuser will indulge visitors with a very special treat: piping hot baked apples, fresh from the house tiled stove.



Start exploring the 680-km² nature park at NaturParkHaus Stechlin with its “Garden of the Senses” in Menz.

## Enjoy in every sense

When visiting the centre make sure to explore the “Garden of the Senses”.

Taste, smell, touch and listen whatever the season has to offer: herbs, bushes, flowers. The “foot-feeling path” (with secure hand-rail) makes you feel the various soils of the nature park.

## The special tip

Continue to explore the nature park on a short forest and water trail (6 km) around Roofensee or, if you are a bit more ambitious, chose “Von Moor zu Moor”, a 12 km nature trail. So you do not miss anything exciting, borrow a rucksack with information material in the NaturParkHaus, which is also starting point for guided hikes.

A playground is located directly at the NaturParkHaus with a climbing tower, ropeway, bird's nest swing, carousel and many other playthings for guests, great and small. Access to the lake, also suited for children, is close by.

The NaturParkHaus is accessible to the disabled.

## NaturParkHaus Stechlin

Kirchstraße 4  
16775 Stechlin-Menz  
Tel. 033 082 – 512 10  
post@naturparkhaus.de  
www.naturparkhaus.de

## Opening hours

May – September: Mon – Fri  
10 am – 5 pm, Sat – Sun 11 am – 5 pm  
October – April: Mon – Fri 10 am – 4 pm  
Sat – Sun 11 am – 4 pm  
Groups by appointment

## How to get there

RE 5 stations Gransee, Dannenwalde, Fürstenberg/ Havel, continue with Bus 836 to Menz (year-round)  
RE 6 Prignitz-Express, stations Neuruppin, Wittstock/ Dosse  
RB 54 stations Lindow (Mark), Rheinsberg (only in the summer)  
www.bahn.de  
www.vbbonline.de



# Excursions and activities



## Rheinsberg The international flair of “brilliant Henry”

In 1744, Frederic II – called “the Great” – gave his brother, Prince Henry of Prussia, the sleepy peasant village of Rheinsberg as a present. In line with his reputation as an intellectual “brilliant Henry” brought international architects, artists, writers and actors to Rheinsberg. He is buried in the castle park, with its old trees and its soft transition to “natural” nature, worth a visit.

The castle of Rheinsberg, which was restored with the help of EU Fund for Rural Development, also houses the Tucholsky Literature Museum. Call to make reservations for a tour through the castle, the park and the city.

[Tourist-Information Rheinsberg](mailto:Tourist-Information@Rheinsberg.de)  
Tel. 033 931 – 349 40  
[www.rheinsberg.de](http://www.rheinsberg.de)



## Tours of Rheinsberg Following Claire and Wölfchen

The ships of the Halbeck shipping company leave only a few steps from Rheinsberg's castle. The trip across Grienericksee, Rheinsbergersee, past the island Remusinsel to Zechlinerhütte at Schlaborbensee takes about an hour. Zechlinerhütte is not only Prussia's former white glass smelting centre it was also the home of Alfred Wegener, famous polar researcher. The Alfred-Wegener-

Museum Rheinsberg is dedicated to his life and work. Right after Schlaborbücke begins the nature adventure trail Schlaborbensee. It passes enchanted forest lakes, lonely clearings and dome-shaped birch tree forests. The forest of Boberow begins after Warenthin; in May the ground is covered with sweet woodruff. Whether you choose the Poetensteig – the “Poet's Path” – or the Arboretum, both trails eventually lead back to the Knobelsdorff gardens of Rheinsberg Castle.

We recommend a bicycle tour through Boberow and Warenthin for the forest and lake tour from Rheinsberg to Flecken Zechlin. You will pass lakes Kagar, Bramin, Zermitten, Großer Zechlin and Schwarzer See on the bike path to Flecken Zechlin. Fishermen sell regional specialties along the way. A new bike path on the old railroad embankments leads back to Rheinsberg via Linow – far from the streets and flat all the way. If you want to discover the lakes in a rowboat, the way Claire and Wolf did, you will be rewarded with unforgettable nature and lovely spots to go for a swim.

[Tourist-Information Rheinsberg](mailto:Tourist-Information@Rheinsberg.de)  
Tel. 033 931 – 349 40  
[www.rheinsberg.de](http://www.rheinsberg.de)

## Water all around Fun galore

There are places to go swimming along almost all of the lakes of the nature park; in Neuglobsow at Stechlin the lake is even wheelchair-accessible. You can take steamer trips from Rheinsberg, Neuruppin, Zechlinerhütte, Lindow and Fürstenberg/Havel. If you want to go paddling, the Havel and Rhin rivers are ideal, as are the Rheinsberger lakes. There are some limitations, such as paddling at certain times of the year or if the water level is too low in order to ensure sustainable tourism in the Rheinsberger Rhin, one of the last habitats of rare species such as the brook lamprey and the thick-shelled river mussel. Popular canoe tours start at Rheinsberg for Zechlinerhütte and Flecken Zechlin, along Lindower Rhin or towards the Ruppiner Schweiz. You can go fishing in almost all of the lakes. Particularly popular is the small whitefish, which only lives in oxygen-rich lakes.

[Tourismusverband Ruppiner Seenland e. V.](mailto:Tourismusverband@Ruppiner-Seenland.de)  
Tel. 033 91 – 65 96 30  
[Touristeninformation Rheinsberg](mailto:Touristeninformation@Rheinsberg.de)  
Tel. 033 931 – 349 40  
[Rheinsberg office/ OT Flecken Zechlin](mailto:Rheinsberg.office@OT-Flecken-Zechlin.de)  
Tel. 033 923 – 704 12  
[Tourismusverein Fürstenberger Seenland e. V.](mailto:Tourismusverein@Fuerstenberger-Seenland.de)  
Tel. 033 093 – 322 54  
[Tourismus-Information Stechlin](mailto:Tourismus-Information@Stechlin.de)  
Tel. 033 082 – 702 02



Culture, Nature and Landscape  
Guides

## Tempting explorations

Visitors of the nature park can take tours on foot, by bike, boat or bus accompanied by expert guides. Flora, fauna, culture, history, architecture – the guides have developed a programme that covers many aspects of the nature park. They take you to the sights; organize exciting hiking, bike and canoe tours and peaceful charabanc trips. Visitors can choose from a broad selection and book directly with the culture and landscape guides.

[www.stechlin-ruppier-land-naturpark.de/erleben-lernen/natur-und-landschaftsfuehrer](http://www.stechlin-ruppier-land-naturpark.de/erleben-lernen/natur-und-landschaftsfuehrer)  
[Tourismusverband Ruppiner Seenland e. V.](mailto:Tourismusverband@Ruppiner-Seenland.de)  
Tel. 033 082 – 659 630



## Neuglobsow Clear as glass

The Glasmacherhaus Neuglobsow has a permanent exhibition on the cultural history of utility glass and the pre-industrial glassworks in the northern forest areas of the province of Brandenburg between 1750 and 1900.

Rent bicycles in Neuglobsow and go on a lovely bike tour to Fürstenberg/ Havel. The trail passes the cemetery in Dagow with its memorial “Meta's Ruh”. At Lake Peetsch do not miss the view at “Augustablick”. Wood sculptures are presented along the approx. 4-km long art hiking tour around the Dagow lake. They were created at international art symposia in the nature park. There is also a boat rental in Neuglobsow. We heartily recommend taking a tour by rowboat to the Sonnenbucht. Very romantic indeed!

[Tourismus-Information Stechlin](mailto:Tourismus-Information@Stechlin.de)  
Tel. 033 082 – 702 02  
[www.stechlin.de](http://www.stechlin.de)

## Menz The perfect weekend

The small town of Menz is the ideal weekend getaway. There are beautiful places to go swimming along Roofensee as well as pleasant hiking trails such as a forest and water adventure trail (6 km), a lovely walk along the biotope around the Wallberg or the new nature trail “Von Moor zu Moor”. You can obtain maps and information material and even borrow a rucksack at the NaturParkHaus Stechlin, the nature park's visitors centre.

The exhibitions and events in the church of Menz and the regional handicraft centre are also worth a visit. The Friedensplatz with its huge trees is a perfect place for children to run around and play.

The village centre of Menz and the regional handicraft centre were restored with support by the EU Fund for Rural Development.  
[NaturParkHaus Stechlin](mailto:NaturParkHaus@Stechlin.de)  
Tel. 033 082 – 512 10  
[www.naturparkhaus.de](http://www.naturparkhaus.de)



## Dollgow The fabric of stories

In the mid-1950s, the writer Erwin Strittmatter and his wife Eva moved to Schulzenhof near Dollgow. Strittmatter adored the idyllic village and became an active environmentalist. He loved to ride through the meadows along the Kleine Rhin. Strittmatter's short stories have immortalized this neighbourhood – including the starlings that plundered his cherry tree every summer. Today on Schulzenhof and the surrounding meadows you can still feel the atmosphere that made Strittmatter's stories so special. He and his wife are both buried on Schulzenhof and in the village of Dollgow a little museums offers information on the artist couple.

[Tourismusinformation Stechlin](mailto:Tourismusinformation@Stechlin.de)  
Tel. 033 082 – 702 02  
[www.stechlin.de](http://www.stechlin.de)





## Kunsterspring

## Sources and wolves

In the Kunsterspring zoo, north of Neuruppin, nature park visitors can experience about 500 animals, 100 different, mostly native species in total. It is a great place to see rare animals such as the lynx, wolf, European otter, common wildcat, European bison and capercaillie.

In "Kunsterspring", a nature reserve about 12 km north of Neuruppin, the little Kunster brook starts its route ending only a few miles further in the Tornowsee. The Kunster springs consist of several productive bowl-shaped openings. The fascinating bubbling spring is constantly swirling up sand, making the water seem at the boiling point. A 3 km nature trail leads around the springs.

[Tierpark Kunsterspring](#)

Tel. 033 929 – 702 71

[www.tierpark-kunsterspring.de](http://www.tierpark-kunsterspring.de)

## KulturGutshaus Köpernitz

## The fine arts for gourmets

South of Rheinsberg the KulturGutshaus – a former manor – in Köpernitz attracts visitors with its exhibitions, concerts, readings and cultural-culinary events with a regional touch.

The manor is open every Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and for various events.

[KulturGutshaus](#)

Tel. 033 931 – 378 55

[www.kulturgutshaus.de](http://www.kulturgutshaus.de)

## Meseberg

## Village in the limelight

In 2006, after comprehensive restoration measures funded by the Messerschmitt Foundation, Schloss Meseberg became the guesthouse of the Federal government. Although the historical building is not open to the public, the 6 km walk around Huwenowsee offers nice views of the charming castle. In spring and autumn, the birch trees put all their splendour on display.

[Tourist-Information und Heimatmuseum Gransee](#)

Tel. 033 06 – 216 06

[www.gransee-info.de](http://www.gransee-info.de)



## Neuruppin

## Southern gate to the nature park

Neuruppin is situated right on the Southern border of the nature park. Take a stroll through the old part of town and from the 700-year-old Wichmann lime tree enjoy the view across Lake Ruppiner. Worth a visit are also the well-preserved ramparts to the northwest of the city and the adjoining Temple Garden.

[Tourismus-Service Neuruppin](#)

Tel. 033 91 – 454 60

[www.tourismus-neuruppin.de](http://www.tourismus-neuruppin.de)

## Zernikow Estate

## Knightly holidays

Eating, dancing and feasting at the many events and festivals at historical Zernikow Estate attract visitors from all over Germany. Unique in Brandenburg are the old mulberry alley and the exhibition on silkworms. Guests can find accommodation at one of four vacation apartments, a hotel and a pension.

[Gut Zernikow](#)

Tel. 033 082 – 40 48 48



## Lindow

## Too pretty to take the veil

This small town of citizen farmers is an excellent point of departure for hikes around the Wutzsee (7.5 km nature trail). You can also go swimming in Gudelacksee and visit Lindow's monastery ruins and beautiful old cemetery. The monastery, dating back to the 13th century, was originally a convent and served Fontane as a model in his novel "Der Stechlin".

[Tourist-Information Lindow](#)

Tel. 033 933 – 702 97

[www.lindow-mark.de](http://www.lindow-mark.de)

## Fürstenberg/Havel

## Water town between Lakes Röblin, Baalen and Schwedt

"Water town" Fürstenberg / Havel situated between Röblinsee, Baalensee and Schwedtsee offers endless possibilities for water sports: canoe, raft, dragon boat, steamer and the historic barge lovingly called "Kaffenkahn". But it is also popular with bikers as it is located on the bicycle routes Berlin-Copenhagen, Havel-Radweg and Königin-Luise-Radweg. Forest history comes alive in the Forstmuseum (Museum of Forest History). The glassworks settlement Steinförde is an ideal point of departure for hikers. We recommend walks along the Steinhavel, the banks of the Große and the Kleine Glietensee, to the Stechlinsee (northern cove), around Peetschsee, where "Augustablick" offers fine vistas, on the Röblinsee Circular tour or a tour to Menowsee.

Quite an attraction for canoeists is the canoe and fish pass near the Havel (Bahnhofstraße).

A turbine tunnel of a former water power station underpasses a residential home.

Equipped with brushes, the pass allows fish and canoeists alike to master the height difference of 1.6 m of the Havel. The 50 m long pass is the largest of its kind in Brandenburg.

[Tourismusverein](#)

[Fürstenberger Seenland e. V.](#)

Tel. 033 093 – 322 54

[www.fuerstenberger-seenland.de](http://www.fuerstenberger-seenland.de)



## Zempow

## Natural cornucopia in the North

To the north of the nature park, at the border to Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (West Pomerania) you will find "Bioland Ranch Zempow" with mother cow husbandry, horseback riding, village tourism, eco-architecture, fuel wood cultivation, farm shop, environmental education and land-scape management. Eco-management is par for the course for all areas. You can purchase beef from organically raised cattle here. This is the ideal place to spend your vacation on a farm.

The farmer's garden Zempow contains a large herb collection and old crops. And the uninitiated will be amazed at the many objects you can create from wicker.

The nature trail in Zempow covers three different subject areas: experiencing nature with all senses, flora and fauna, organic farming including animal welfare.

The following trails have information stations: Pilzweg (Mushroom trail) – 4.4 km, Eulenweg (Owl trail) – 2.7 km, Schmetterlingsweg (Butterfly trail) – 3.1 km and Schneckenweg (Snail trail) – 1.6 km.

[Bio Ranch Zempow](#)

Tel. 033 923 – 769 15

[www.zempow-bio-ranch.de](http://www.zempow-bio-ranch.de)

## Naturetainment: Get out and learn!



## Adventure trails

## Waldzentrale and Forester Zander

In Alt Ruppiner the Waldzentrale offers an exhibition in forest learning. Visitors can learn about work in the forest and even try their hand at the tasks the make up the role of forester or forest worker.

Starting at the newly designed Waldmuseum in Stendenitz one can explore the Ruppiner Schweiz along Zanders forest adventure trail. At nine stops along the 2.3 kilometre route, the old forester Zander challenges his daughter Waldtraut and the visitors to solve puzzles; recognise animal traces in the mud or to hear a sad story on the lake.

[Oberförsterei Neuruppin](#)

Tel. 033 093 – 906 58

Mobile: 0172 – 319 19 23

## Environmental education programme

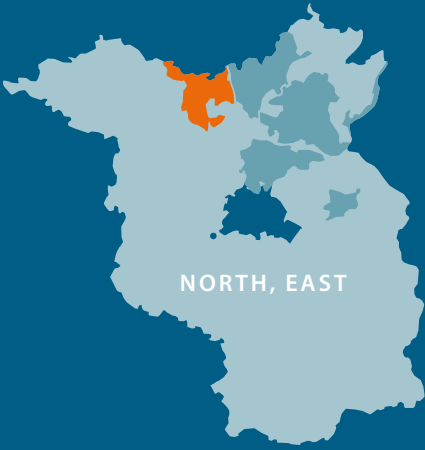
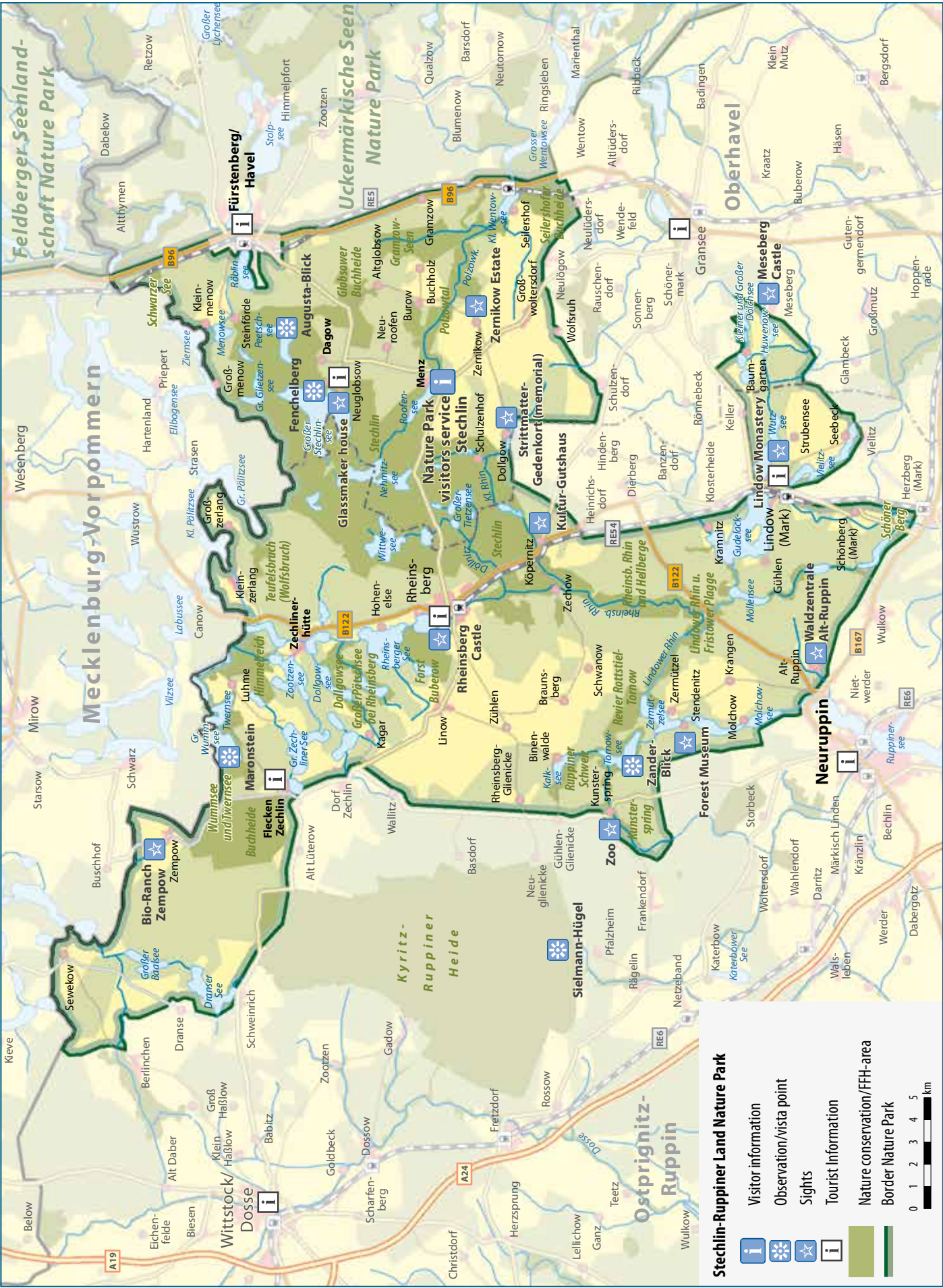
## Nature park with open eyes and open ears

## Special offer for school groups:

Environmental education programme in the nature park Stechlin-Ruppiner Land. Food chain, energy flows, nature conservation, cycles, ecosystems—knowledge often remains abstract when confined to the classroom. The aim of the environmental education programme conducted in natural surroundings is to allow students to experience what interaction and relationships between humans and nature really mean. Knowledge is conveyed through the experience of nature. The students discover and are encouraged to apply their knowledge in everyday life. For groups of up to ten persons. Trained instructors and professionally prepared materials. Nature first hand will make for a memorable field trip.

[www.umweltbildungsprogramme.de](http://www.umweltbildungsprogramme.de)





NaturParkHaus Stechlin Visitors Centre  
Kirchstraße 4  
16775 Stechlin-Menz  
Tel. 033 082 – 512 10  
post@naturparkhaus.de  
www.naturparkhaus.de

Nature park administration  
Friedensplatz 9  
16775 Stechlin / OT Menz  
Tel. 033 082 – 40 70  
np-stechlin-ruppin-land@lfu.brandenburg.de  
www.stechlin-ruppin-land-naturpark.de

Naturwacht (Ranger)  
Outpost Menz  
Friedensplatz 10  
16775 Stechlin / OT Menz  
Tel. 033 082 – 502 14  
menz@naturwacht.de

Naturwacht (Ranger)  
Outpost Banzendorf  
Tel. 033 933 – 87 95 21  
Mobile 0175 – 721 30 53  
zippelsfoerde@naturwacht.de

www.naturwacht.de

MAPS

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinformati-  
on Brandenburg (Editor), Topografische Frei-  
zeitkarte 1:50.000 Naturpark Stechlin-  
Ruppin Land Nord, 2. Edition 2010  
ISBN 3-7490-4164-4

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinformati-  
on Brandenburg (Editor), Topografische  
Freizeitkarte 1:50.000 Naturpark Stechlin-  
Ruppin Land Süd, 2. Edition 2010  
ISBN 3-7490-4165-2

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinformati-  
on Brandenburg (Editor), Topografische Frei-  
zeitkarte 1:25.000, Rheinsberger Seengebiet,  
edition 2011, ISBN 978-3-7490-4053-7

Klemmer-Verlag (Editor), Rad- und Wander-  
karte 1:50.000, Rheinsberg Obere Havel,  
2. Edition 2012, ISBN 978-3-940175-02-1

TOURIST INFORMATION

Tourismusverband Ruppin See-land e. V.  
Fischbänkenstraße 8  
16816 Neuruppin  
Tel. 033 91 – 659 630  
www.ruppin-see-land.de

Tourismus – Service BürgerBahnhof GmbH  
Karl-Marx-Straße 1  
16816 Neuruppin  
Tel. 033 91 – 454 60  
info@tourismus-neuruppin.de  
www.tourismus-neuruppin.de

Tourist-Information Rheinsberg  
Remise am Schloss Rheinsberg  
Mühlenstraße 15A  
16831 Rheinsberg  
Tel. 033 931 – 349 40  
tourist-information@rheinsberg.de  
www.rheinsberg.de/tourist-information

Außenstelle Tourist-Information Rheinsberg  
OT Flecken Zechlin  
Rheinsberger Straße 15  
16837 Flecken Zechlin  
Tel. 033 923 – 704 12

Tourismusverein Wittstock/Dosse  
Walter-Schulz-Platz 1  
16909 Wittstock/Dosse  
Tel. 033 94 – 433 442  
touristinfo@wittstock.de  
www.wittstocker.de

Tourist-Information Lindow (Mark)  
Mittelstraße 33  
16835 Lindow (Mark)  
Tel. 033 933 – 90 01 13  
tourist-info.lindow@t-online.de  
www.lindow-mark.de

Tourist-Information des Tourismusvereins  
Fürstenberger Seenland e. V.  
Markt 5  
16789 Fürstenberg/Havel  
Tel. 033 093 – 322 54  
info@fuerstenberg-havel.de  
www.fuerstenberger-seenland.de

Tourist-Information Stechlin  
Stechlinseestraße 17  
16775 Stechlin / OT Neuglobsow  
Tel. 033 082 – 702 02  
info@stechlin.de  
www.stechlin.de

Tourist-Information im Heimatmuseum  
Rudolf-Breitscheid-Straße 44  
16775 Gransee  
Tel. 033 06 – 216 06  
museum@gransee-info.de  
www.gransee-info.de





Uckermärkische Seen Nature Park

# Between Havel and Strom

Naturpark  
Uckermärkische Seen



## Nature park at a glance

### Recommended tours

- Water tour Lychen – Himmelpfort – Templin resp. Fürstenberg / Havel – Himmelpfort – Templin – Lychen resp. Fürstenberg/Havel
- Hiking tour Boitzenburger Tiergarten
- Nature park bike tour Templin – Zehdenick – Himmelpfort – Lychen and Lychen – Feldberg – Fürstenwerder – Boitzenburg – Templin – Lychen

### More tips

- Templin: old town and complete town wall, NaturThermeTemplin and Westernstadt ELDORADO
- Handcar on the former railway track Fürstenberg/Havel – Lychen – Templin (approx. 30 km)
- Lychen: log driving museum, canoe, hydrobike and rafting tours
- Mildenberg: Ziegeleipark (brick yard) – a technical monument in the middle of the forest
- Fürstenberg/Havel: 18th c. baroque castle, neo-Byzantine church, forest museum and Ravensbrück Concentration Camp memorial
- Remains of Cistercian monasteries in Zehdenick, Himmelpfort and Boitzenburg with diverse cultural offerings
- Little church under the linden trees in Alt Placht

Gently sloping hills between the rivers Havel and Strom, eerie water holes and moors, beech forests, heath, old parkways, romantic villages: this is the land of three hundred lakes, rivers and streams. The Uckermark, Germany's most famous insider tip. Visitors can enjoy nature's wealth around the Uckermärkische Seen; you will see ospreys, white-tailed eagles and spotted eagles and if you are lucky even beavers and their stunning constructions. Beautiful lakes are hidden in magnificent forests, inviting for a swim in crystal clear water. 150 km of water trails of great and natural beauty want to be explored by boat.

This is an ever-changing water landscape with lakes small and large, mill ponds and brooks, rivers and streams of all shapes and sizes. Fascinating example: Küstriner Bach. The brook, due to its flow velocity and good water quality, developed a unique animal diversity with thick-shelled river mussels, river nerites and brook lampreys. On the banks you can see kingfishers and the grey wagtail.

This magnificent old cultural landscape 80 km north of Berlin offers peace and quiet and a contemplative rural rhythm far away from all that is oversized and overdone and overhyped. Visit pretty little towns and idyllic villages whose charm is simple and down to earth.

Visitors to the nature park will come across impressive signs of Uckermark's settlement history. Many towns have fieldstone churches dating back to the 12th century. The town walls of Templin were initially built in the 13th century and are still almost completely in their original condition. The picturesque ruins of the Cistercian monasteries of Himmelpfort, Zehdenick and Boitzenburg seem to have merged with the surrounding nature.

The north-eastern region of the nature park, particularly Boitzenburg, Kröchlendorff, Arendsee, Warbende as well as in Wolfshagen and Krumbeck, still shows the influence of the premier garden architect and landscape designer of the 19th century, Peter Joseph Lenné. This alone makes hikes in the nature park region a pleasure. It is a landscape that speaks to the romantic streak in us, which may be the reason why it has long been popular with artists and intellectuals. Studios, workshops and galleries are open to visitors along the artist trail, which crosses Barnim, Oberhavel and Uckermark.



## Nature park exhibition

The nature park's exhibition in Lychen is located right next to Zenssee. It features a vivid description of the northwestern Uckermark through the times.

Geology, settlement history and the current situation of the landscape are all covered. Embedded in huge photo displays a slide-sound show and a film about the nature park provide many suggestions for hikes and other activities. You want to know how the Rinnensee developed after the last ice age, who Albrecht the Bear was, how to make wooden shingles or hornbeam jam? Find out at the visitors centre! And afterwards relax listening to the cranes in flight at dusk.

### Nature Park Exhibition Uckermärkische Seen

Zehdenicker Straße 1  
17279 Lychen  
Tel. 039 888 – 645 30  
Fax: 039 888 – 645 55  
np-uckermaerkische-seen@  
lfu.brandenburg.de  
[www.uckermaerkische-seen-naturpark.de](http://www.uckermaerkische-seen-naturpark.de)

### Opening hours

Please make an appointment  
to see the exhibition

### How to get there

Rail / Bus: Regionalbahn hourly  
to Templin or Regionalexpress  
hourly to Fürstenberg / Havel,  
Bus 517 (Templin-Fürstenberg) usually  
every 2 hours to the stop  
Naturparksitz in Lychen  
[www.bahn.de](http://www.bahn.de)  
[www.vbbonline.de](http://www.vbbonline.de)  
[www.WirbewegenSie.de](http://www.WirbewegenSie.de)



No matter which way you turn: in Lychen all roads lead to the water. Six lakes surround the island village, "Interlaken of the North" it is also called.





## Excursions and activities



### Paddling across the watershed A canoe trip to the Renaissance castle Boitzenburg

The Hardenbecker Haussee is unique: one part of the water in its catchment area flows into the North Sea, the other into the Baltic Sea. The waterways leading to the North Sea are man-made – they were created in the 16th century to control water levels. The eastern waterways on the other hand are leftovers from the ice age. They are perfect for a canoe tour from Hardenbecker Haussee to Boitzenburg (and back). The starting point on the north-western shore of the lake, the Rosenower Badestelle (swimming area), can be reached from the Lychen-Boitzenburg road. From there you paddle along the southern lakeshore towards the east. Wild swamps with bizarre weather-beaten trees border the connection to Schumellensee and from there to Küchenteich. Boitzenburg Castle is situated on the east shore of the Küchenteich and is the largest renaissance castle of the Uckermark. Visit the castle and the stables, the coffee roastery and the Früchtezauberfrauen – the “fruit magicians”. You’ll enjoy it. Boitzenburg Tiergarten (zoo) is right around the ruins of the Cistercian convent Marienpforte. Europe’s largest remains of pasture woodland, covered with oaks between 600 and 1000 years old, is

close by. On your way, stop at Mokka-Milch-Eisbar for a cold drink. The nature park’s multi-faceted lake and river landscape can also be explored by boat on a 65 km tour. Plan for four days and start/end at Eichwerder on Templiner Stadtsee, which can easily be reached by train (Templiner Stadtbahnhof) or car. Other recommended points of departure are Lychen, Himmelpfort or Bredereiche. Canoes are available for hire at several locations. Please note the Küstriner Bach between Feldberg and Lychen with a canoe is only allowed if the water level is at least 30 cm. Downstream paddling only! The Pegel-Telefon (water level hotline) and the Pegel-infoscheiben (water level disks) provide information on current water levels.  
[Pegel-Telefon  
Tel. 039 888 – 645 42](tel:03988864542)  
[Fa. Treibholz, Boote und Führungen  
Tel. 039 888 – 433 77](tel:03988843377)  
[www.treibholz.com](http://www.treibholz.com)



### Alt Placht Little church under the linden trees

In 1990, the little church in Alt Placht, a former estate northwest of Templin, was about to be torn down. Today, its Norman timber-framing architecture first designed around 1700 by Huguenot settlers is restored to its modest rural glory. The little church has become an intellectual and spiritual meeting place in the nature park. Concerts, talks and church services take place here and visitors can obtain information on the nature park. Every year, on the last Sunday in April, International Earth Day is celebrated. The church and the 500-year-old lime trees, the old fieldstone wall and the surroundings form an ensemble of harmony and beauty, a symbol of the unity of nature and culture.  
[Kirchlein im Grünen \(Alt Placht\)  
Tel. 039 888 – 520 63  
www.kirchlein-im-gruenen.de](http://www.kirchlein-im-gruenen.de)



### Railroad handcar Fun on the tracks

Imagine cycling through a forest without having to hold on to the handlebars and to pay attention to the road – instead you can fully enjoy the beautiful world around you. This is not a dream, but reality in Uckermärkische Seen Nature Park. Railroad bicycle handcars cover the 30 km of tracks between Templin and Fürstenberg/Havel. You want to stop for a picnic or a nice cool swim in the lake? No problem, just lift the bright red car off the tracks. This is a wonderful tour for everyone! There is a half-day tour from Fürstenberg/Havel to Lychen and back and a day-tour from Templin to Lychen and back.  
[Templin-Information, Tel. 039 87 – 26 31  
Erlebnisbahn Templin-Fürstenberg  
Tel. 033 77 – 330 08 50  
www.erlebnisbahn.de](http://www.erlebnisbahn.de)



### Driftwood raft More than gurgling below your feet

A tour with a driftwood raft allows you to discover the romantic side of the centuries-old Uckermark raft tradition. The driftwood rafts bring their guests the history of an almost completely forgotten craft, safely navigating across lakes lined with water lilies and free of motorboats. Along with public traffic, individual trips are offered for groups

between 10 and 100 persons, with food and music as desired—ideal for family, company or club excursions. In July and August there is a Music Raft once a week—a very special kind of concert. The raft turns into a stage afloat with nature as the setting.

[Treibholz, \(Lychen\)  
Tel. 039 888 – 433 77  
www.treibholz.com](http://www.treibholz.com)



### Naturtherme Templin Wellness à la Cleopatra

With its sloping green roof NaturTherme-Templin blends right into the hilly landscape. In the pools of the thermal bath iodine water at 32 °C and 36 °C is good for your health. Be pampered like Cleopatra in the spa’s relaxing milk and oil baths. Outdoors you can get a move on in the park with a skater track, bicycle paths, nature play grounds and other sports facilities. Tired after all this physical activity? Enjoy the view at the observation point. The park is a lovely link between the spa, downtown Templin and the open countryside, thus creating a harmonious transition from man-made park to nature. A show orchard presents all apple varieties of the Uckermark. The Therme can be reached from the Templin train station by foot, bus or bicycle. Holders of a Kurkarte (spa pass) can use Templin’s municipal buses free of charge.

[NaturThermeTemplin  
Tel. 039 87 – 201 200  
www.NaturThermeTemplin.de](http://www.NaturThermeTemplin.de)



### Annenwalde A village makes history

In 1991, the future of the little village of Annenwalde, 10 km west of Templin, looked grim. Hotels closed down, farming had almost disappeared. The hamlet situated on the outskirts of an enormous military training area was about to sink into obscurity. This is when the sculptor Werner Kothe opened his gallery “Waldhus” – a risky venture but it marked the turn-around. Soon, the Alte Dorfkrug inn reopened. Some members of the Annenwald Glashütte Association organized indoor and open-air concerts and village festivals. In 2000, the association managed to put the Annenwalde glassworks, abandoned since 1865, back into operation. Visitors can watch glass being manufactured here (except on Mondays). More and more artists moved to Annenwalde and today painters, potters, weavers and wood carvers can be visited in their workshops. Annenwalde, the green gate to the Uckermärkische Seen Nature Park can be reached easily by bus or by train departing Berlin for Templin or Fürstenberg/Havel every hour and by bus to Templin-Fürstenberg/Havel.  
[Glashütte Annenwalde  
Tel. 039 87– 200 250  
www.glashuette-annenwalde.de](http://www.glashuette-annenwalde.de)





### Brickyard park Mildenberg Technology in midst of nature

The clay deposit around Zehdenick is what made the Havel basin the largest brickyard area in Europe 100 years ago. Since clay is no longer produced, around 3,200 hectares with 50 water-filled clay pits have once again become home to beavers and the European otter and a resting place for thousands of migratory birds. The Mildenberg brickyard, the "Technology museum in midst of nature" houses the old industrial plants and steam engines, historical workshops, brickyard museum and annular kilns. Not only its beautiful location, but the adventure playground, picnic area and restaurant, gallery and multivision are fun. Visitors can take the clay lorry railway to tour the fascinating clay pit landscape. The nature education trail or guided tours explore the surroundings. The brick park is connected to the bike path Berlin-Copenhagen. Water hikers on the Havel can head right for the port with its bivouac site.

[Ziegeleipark Mildenberg](#)  
Tel. 033 07 – 310 410



### Templin Old town shining bright

The train ride (RB 12) from Berlin to Templin lasts an hour – 60 minutes to do nothing but look forward to this little spa town in the Uckermark. A well-preserved 1,735 m long wall featuring three imposing gates and two towers protects the old town. The market square, Maria-Magdalenen-Kirche and St. Georgenkapelle are nicely restored. The tourist information centre is located in the historic city hall. The name of the city goes back to the word templyn—meaning pointed hill near the water – the water being the lakes around Templin. Again, this is sheer paradise for boaters and swimmers. Two trails, the Uckermärkische Radrundweg circular tour and the Märkische Landweg cross the town. They are perfect for excursions in the immediate countryside and they lead you to the National Natural Landscapes Schorfheide-Chorin Biosphere Reserve und Uckermärkische Seen Nature Park.

[Templin – Information Historisches Rathaus](#)  
Tel. 039 87 – 26 31  
[www.tourismus-service-templin.de](http://www.tourismus-service-templin.de)



### Boitzenburger Tiergarten Of nuns, oaks and bison

The name "Tiergarten Boitzenburg" – animal garden – dates back to the 18th century when the area was the hunting grounds of the von Arnim family. European bison was bred here until the Second World War, and you will see pendunculate oaks, some of which are 600 years old and among the oldest cultivated oak tree populations in Europe.

Two bike trails lead through the harmonious ensemble with monastery ruins, a comfortable restaurant and a museum in the water mill to the story book oak tree forest and the romantic valley of the Strom river.

We also recommend a guided tour, which can be booked at the Tourist Service in Templin. You are sure to see and experience many things you would have overlooked without the expert nature guide.

[TourismusService Templin](#)  
Tel. 039 87 – 26 31  
[www.tourismus-service-templin.de](http://www.tourismus-service-templin.de)



### Rafter City Lychen "We stand for water"

Already in the middle ages fishermen and raftsmen strongly influenced the development of the island city of Lychen. The

surrounding forests provided the wood that the raftsmen transported towards Berlin and Hamburg. The last raft was put together and hauled towards Berlin as late as the mid-1970s. Today Lychen is proud of its past and keeps the very special feel of the town

alive with raft rides for tourists, the raftsmen museum and the annual raftsmen fest. Do not miss a raft tour – they are offered from May until the end of September on the Oberpfuhlsee and Zenssee. Solarboats, hydrobikes and tourist accommodation make sure that the city surrounded by seven lakes is attractive for boaters of all ages and persuasions. Campgrounds, numerous places to swim, bivouac places, boat rentals and pedal boat rentals, hiking paths and cycling trails complete the offering of this state-certified recreation area.

[Tourismusverein Lychen e. V.](#)  
Tel. 039 888 – 22 55  
[www.lychen.de](http://www.lychen.de)

## Naturetainment: Get out and learn!

### Thomsdorf Adventures in Sommerland

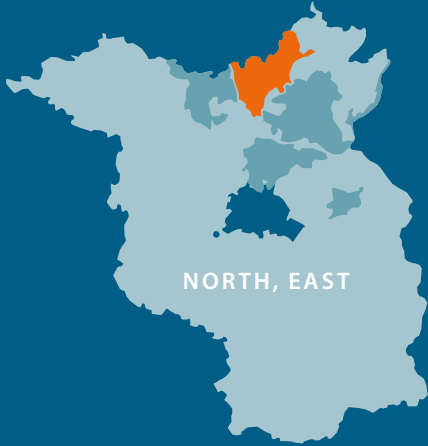
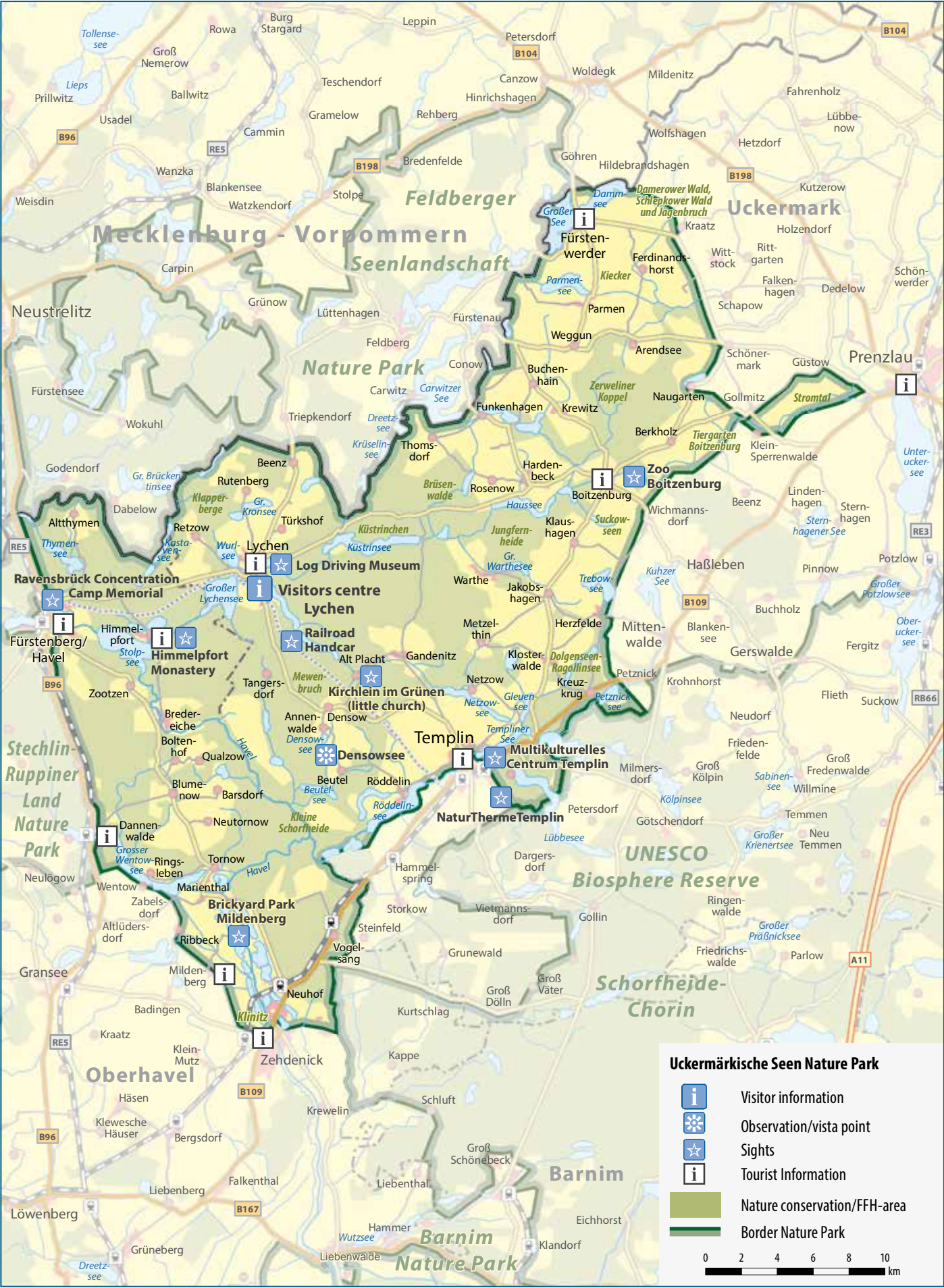
Learning through fun and adventure – this is what the educational centre "Sommerland" near Thomsdorf is all about.

Here children will learn to understand and preserve the environment without any of the usual school pressures. The beautiful countryside, so removed you might think you fell into the rabbit hole like Alice in Wonderland, offers extensive opportunities to explore the forest, the earth, the waters and the complex interdependencies between them. In addition to the ecological programmes, the children in "Sommerland" have ample time for all the "normal" adventures such as a canoe trip, romping around, field games, swimming and disco. So learning becomes a pleasure.

[Schullandheim "Sommerland"](#)  
Tel. 039 889 – 721  
[www.thomsdorf-sommerland.com](http://www.thomsdorf-sommerland.com)







MAPS

Rad- und Wanderkarte Rheinsberg-Obere Havel 1. Edition 2007  
ISBN 978-3-940175-02-1

Rad- und Wanderkarte Neustrelitz – Feldberger Seenlandschaft, 4. Edition 2016  
ISBN 978-3-940175-07-6

Rad-, Wander-, Padelkarte Lychen – Fürstenberg/Havel, 3. Edition 2016  
ISBN 978-3-940175-22-9

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinformation (editor), Topografische Freizeitkarte Naturpark Uckermarkische Seen, edition 2009  
ISBN 978-3-7490-4160-2 West  
ISBN: 978-3-7490-4161-9 Ost  
ISBN 978-3-7490-4162-6 Set

TOURIST INFORMATION

TMU Tourismus Marketing Uckermark GmbH  
Stettiner Straße 19  
17291 Prenzlau  
Tel. 039 84 – 835 883  
info@tourismus-uckermark.de  
www.tourismus-uckermark.de

Tourismusverband Ruppiner Land  
Fischbänkenstraße 8  
16816 Neuruppin  
Tel. 033 91 – 659 630  
Fax 033 91 – 357 907  
info@ruppiner-reiseland.de  
www.ruppiner-reiseland.de

Templin Information  
Historisches Rathaus  
Am Markt 19  
17268 Templin  
Tel. 039 87 – 26 31  
Fax: 039 87 – 538 33  
touristinfo@templin.de  
www.templin.de

Tourist - Information Zehdenick  
Am Markt 11  
16792 Zehdenick  
Tel. 033 07 – 28 77  
Fax 033 07 – 42 08 77  
touristinfo@havelstadtzehdenick.de  
www.zehdenick-tourismus.de

Tourismusverein Lychen e. V.  
Stargarder Straße 6  
17279 Lychen  
Tel. 039 888 – 22 55  
info@tourismus-lychen.de  
www.tourismus-lychen.de

Tourismusinformation “Fürstenberg Seeland” e. V.  
Markt 5  
16798 Fürstenberg/Havel  
Tel. 033 093 – 322 54  
Fax: 033 093 – 325 39  
info@fuerstenberger-seenland.de  
www.fuerstenberger-seenland.de

Tourismusverein Fürstenwerder Seenlandschaft e. V.  
Ernst-Thälmann-Straße 26  
17291 Nordwestuckermark / OT Fürstenwerder  
Tel. 039 859 – 202  
Fax 039 859 – 630 06  
info@fuerstenwerder-seengebiet.de  
www.fuerstenwerder-seengebiet.de

Tourismusverein Boitzenburger Land  
Tourismus im Naturpark Uckermarkische Seen e. V.  
Templiner Straße 4  
17268 Boitzenburger Land  
Mobile 0173 – 619 70 80  
willkommen@boitzenburgerland.de  
www.boitzenburgerland.de

Stadtinformation Prenzlau  
Marktberg 2  
17291 Prenzlau  
Tel. 039 84 – 833 952  
Fax: 039 84 – 83 39 54  
stadtinfo@prenzlau.de  
www.prenzlau-tourismus.de



UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Schorfheide – Chorin

## Rambler's paradise – winding paths through quiet country

Biosphärenreservat  
Schorfheide-Chorin



### Biosphere reserve at a glance

#### Great scenic views

- Grimnitzsee near Althüttendorf, goose layover in autumn, sea eagles and ospreys hunting
- Oberuckersee bei Fergitz
- BIORAMA Project Joachimsthal, old water tower with platform
- Vista "Am Melln"
- Rummelsberg between Brodowin and Pehlitze
- Spitzberg near Willmine, well-known and loved panorama "mountain"

#### Recommended tours

- Uckermärker Landrunde (115 km)
- Schorfheide Circular tour (66 km)
- Choriner Circular tour (60 km)
- All three tours are connected and can be combined;
- Several shorter tours

#### More tips

- Angermünde with restored old town, zoo and fieldstone church
- Wildpark Groß Schönebeck with climbing park
- Old and new ship lift in Niederfinow
- Exhibition GeoPark "Eiszeitland am Oderrand" (Ice Age Country on the Oder's Edge) in Groß Ziethen in the Alten Dampfmühle
- Hiking in the World Natural Heritage Beech Forest Grumsin, starting in Altkünkendorf or Groß Ziethen

The Schorfheide-Chorin Biosphere Reserve is an old cultural landscape with a breathtaking palette of lakes, moors, woods and a rare flora and fauna. Situated a mere 50 km north of Berlin and stretching to the towns of Prenzlau and Templin this reserve is a rarity in Europe. It has managed to retain its beauty and natural wealth, while at the same time recounting the history of the life and passions and the people who, at various times have settled in this region at the heart of Europe.

Werbellinsee is the best known of the 240 lakes in this well-watered region. When the glaciers of the Weichsel ice age melted some 15,000 years ago, the lakes and the many land forms were left behind. Most of the settlements in this biosphere reserve date back to the 13th century. In the famous Chorin monastery the traditional Chorin summer

music festival attracts hundreds of thousands of music-lovers every year.

The reserve is a rambler's paradise. Hiking trails and quiet country roads with beautiful views abound - such as the Rummelsberg near Brodowin, the heights on the southern shore of the Wolletzsee at Altkünkendorf, the Spitzberg on the Sabinensee at Willmine. Between the winding sandy tracks, the fields and the fieldstone houses there is ample room for the sea eagle, the lesser spotted eagle and the osprey, birds that like to build their nests far away from men. There are still places for the black stork to hide its nest and inaccessible wetlands for the crane to raise its brood.

UNESCO has named this region one of the world's approximately 670 biosphere reserves, placing it alongside Serengeti and the Yellowstone National Park.



## Biosphere Reserve Main Visitors Centre NABU – Natur- erlebniszentrum Blumberger Mühle

The Blumberger Mühle Naturerlebniszentrum is one of the largest visitor centres of the NABU (German Conservation Association) and at the same time the main information centre for the Schorfheide-Chorin Biosphere Reserve. Year round visitors are welcome to a first-hand experience of conservation – both the environment and bio-diversity. A colourful educational program for children and adults alike offers a wide range of activities such as hikes, activity days on different topics, seminars, lectures, vacation programmes for children, festivals, summer camps, bird watching and much more.

The main building's architecture is inspired by a tree stump. The stump symbolises the eternal cycle of nature in which every stage of life is a necessary and valuable part of the whole. In the building itself the visitor will find information about the biosphere reserve. A permanent, interactive exhibition about forests and moors describes the wealth of habitats and development processes in a biosphere reserve. The "talking oak", more than 470 years old, having witnessed the decree of the first prince-elector's timber regulation for the Mark Brandenburg in 1547, tells all manner of interesting stories about the glacial landscape in northeastern Brandenburg.

The centre's restaurant "Zum grünen Wunder" offers a diverse selection of fresh regional and bio-products. During the thematic weeks (Easter lamb, apples, mushrooms, forest or fish) selected dishes complement the menu. Or celebrate your next birthdays with an old-fashioned coffee klatsch with delicious cake (by reservation).

On the 22-hectar grounds adjacent to the building, various miniature moor habitats have been created, mirroring those that occur naturally in the Schorfheide-Chorin Biosphere Reserve. Explore these diversified habitats which at the same time serve as



Plan an entire day for Blumberger Mühle, the main visitor centre of the biosphere reserve. The house's shape, a tree stub, symbolizes the cycles of nature.

a model of nature-compatible land use, the mandate of a biosphere reserve: in the immediate vicinity of the building you will find typical farm land with farmers' gardens, dry meadows, herb patches, and wild fruit orchards. Here visitors can encounter rare livestock breeds. Venture across the small suspension bridge to visit the endangered European swamp turtle. As you walk on you will notice that nature gets "free rein": human intervention declines. You can see how the landscape, left to its own devices, developed and changed, with shy animals like the beaver leaving their traces. Staff members are pleased to conduct tours regularly or by appointment through the nature experience landscape of the nearby UNESCO World Natural Heritage Grumsin Beech Forest.

Visitors can see the Blumberger ponds from a variety of perspectives: Twenty fish ponds with a total surface area of 140 hectares serve as an important resting place for marsh birds and waterfowl from beyond the region. They are managed in an exemplary fashion, according to the guidelines specified for biosphere reserves. The annual fishing dry in October has become a very popular event. The ponds are embedded in a 220-hectare nature conservation area.

### Naturerlebniszentrum Blumberger Mühle

Blumberger Mühle 2  
16278 Angermünde  
Tel. 033 31 – 26 04 -0  
Fax 033 31 – 26 04 -50  
[blumberger.muehle@NABU.de](mailto:blumberger.muehle@NABU.de)  
[www.blumberger-muehle.de](http://www.blumberger-muehle.de)

### Opening hours

April – October: Mon – Sun 9 am – 6 pm  
November – March:  
Mon – Sun 10 am – 16 pm

### Restaurant

April – October: 10 am – 5 pm  
November – March:  
11:30 am – 3:30 pm

### How to get there

RE 3 station Chorin, station  
Angermünde, continue with Bus 453  
OE 63 stations Joachimsthal  
Kaiserbahnhof, Joachimsthal  
[www.bahn.de](http://www.bahn.de)  
[www.vbbonline.de](http://www.vbbonline.de)



## Excursions and activities



Natural World Heritage Ancient Beech Forest Grumsin

### Back to the roots

In 2011 UNESCO designated the ancient beech forest Grumsin in the Schorfheide-Chorin Biosphere Reserve – together with five other beech forests in Jasmund, Müritzer, Hainich und Kellerwald, all in national parks – as Natural World Heritage. With a core area of almost 7 km<sup>2</sup> Grumsin is one of the two largest lowland beech forests worldwide. The forestry use of the core area was discontinued only 20 years ago and thus its results are still visible. It will take more than 100 years for the biological diversity and the natural beauty of the beech forest to re-emerge. Huge trees, stumps and dead-wood need time to develop a diverse forest structure entirely free from human intervention. This renaissance of the ancient forest was initiated in 1990 when the core area of Grumsin was designated. But already today, Grumsin is unique due to its size, its lakes, moors and marshes and its old lowland beeches. There are no other valuable beech forests of this size left in the European lowlands.

[Biosphärenreservat Schorfheide-Chorin](#)  
Tel. 033 31 – 365 40



On foot

### Long and winding roads

The biosphere reserve offers three long hikes that are interconnected and can be combined. In the north, the 115 km "Uckermärker Landrunde" takes you from Angermünde to Templin through a constantly changing tapestry of fields, meadows, hills and lakes. In the southwest of the reserve, the 66 km "Schorfheide circular tour" passes through a vast wooded region, offering magnificent views over the Werbellinsee and the Grimnitzsee. In the south-east, the 60 km "Choriner circular tour" twists and turns through a landscape of terminal moraine and on past wood, lake and moor before following the Parsteiner See to the Oder valley. From late April to September, walkers and cyclists can get to the Werbellinsee at weekends directly by bus or from the railway stations at Eberswalde or Joachimsthal. You can take your own bike or hire one locally.

[WITO](#)  
Tel. 033 34 – 591 00

Joachimsthal

### History of the Schorfheide and silent witnesses

The small town at Grimnitzsee has a church by famous architect Schinkel and, in the Grimnitz district the remains of the old Ascanian castle can be found. From the listed water tower, which has recently been restored, there are great views across one of the largest forests in Germany, towards the German-Polish border – and this pointed thing over there in the distance is the Berlin Television Tower 70 km. The history of Joachimsthal and the Schorfheide are closely intertwined. Silent witnesses to this history are the gnarled oaks typical of the region, some of them 300 to 500 years old. In days gone by, the oak forest was used as grazing for sheep, pigs and cattle. More than 2,000 of these trees are to be seen in the Schorfheide.

[Schorfheide-Info Joachimsthal](#)  
Tel. 333 61 – 633 80



Swimming

### Cool waters for hot days

For swimmers, the biosphere reserve offers many crystal-clear lakes. Try the south bank of Grimnitzsee, Lübbesee near Templin and the Oberuckersee south of Prenzlau or the Partensteiner See, the biggest and one of the cleanest in the reserve, the Werbellinsee with the European Youth Recreation and Encounter Centre on the east bank or the Große Peetzsee.

[Schorfheide-Info Joachimsthal](#)  
Tel. 033 361 – 633 80



Wolletzsee and Adlerquelle

### Where maidens fetch Easter water

An 18 km trail takes you round the Wolletzsee, past the lido and the mill (Gehegemühle), until you reach the Adlerquelle, a spring from which girls and women traditionally fetch Easter water. Through meadows and pastureland the trail leads to Altkünkendorf with its newly restored 13th century church. In 2017 the steeple was redesigned and made accessible in order to allow a view from above of the World Natural Heritage Beech Forest. After the village, it crosses the

history and the flora and fauna, while the circular embankment recalls the Slavs who settled here long before the old nobility. The trail continues via Klein Fredenwalde towards Willmine and on to the legendary Sabinensee. A diversion to the Spitzberg with its magnificent view over the lake and the Uckermark hills is definitely worth the time. From Willmine the trail leads back through the fields to Groß Fredenwalde. Feld-, Wald- und Wiesenschule  
Groß Fredenwalde  
Tel. 039 887 – 47 31

Welse, the main tributary flowing into the Wolletzsee. A road lined by ancient chestnut trees brings you into the sleepy village of Wolletz and from there to the Blumberger Mühle information centre.

[Blumberger Mühle.](#)  
[NABU-Informationszentrum](#)  
[Blumberger Mühle](#)  
Tel. 033 31 – 260 40



From Stegelitz

to Groß Fredenwalde

### Old nobility and young storks

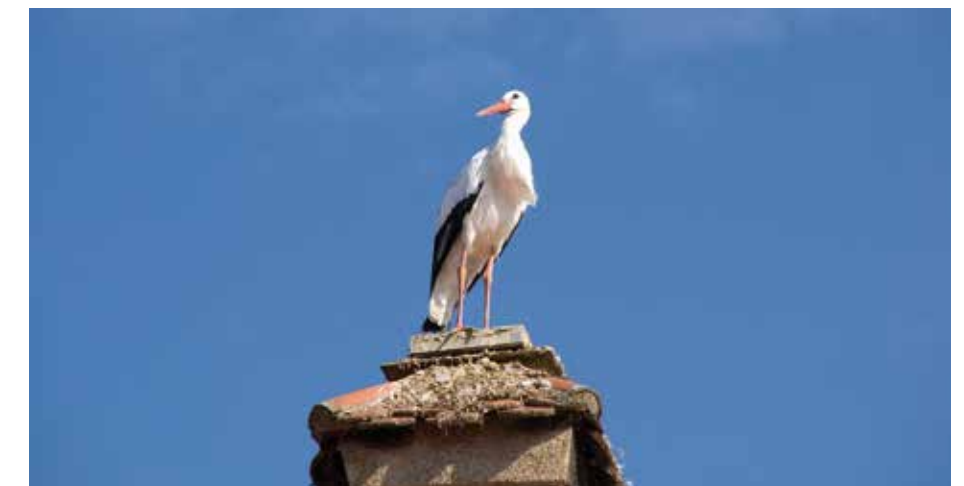
Near the Uckermark Circular tour we recommend the three-hour 15 km walk from Stegelitz to Groß Fredenwalde. From the starting point, the trail leads west through hilly arable land with hedgerows, pollard willows and tumuli and skirts the vineyard at Groß Fredenwalde. Here, the church with the stork's nest on the flat roof of the tower and the old schoolhouse recall the many branches of the von Arnim family. A nature trail provides more information on the local

Angermünde

### Start and finish by train and bike

With the RE3 regional express train, Angermünde is comfortably reached in 70 minutes from Alexanderplatz in Berlin. This makes it an ideal starting point for cycle tours to the Blumberger Mühle information centre or the neighbouring Lower Oder Valley National Park. Angermünde has a pretty old town and the Marienkirche, a fieldstone church with a famous Wagner organ.

[Tourismusverein Angermünde](#)  
Tel. 033 31 – 29 76 60





Groß Schönebeck

## Wolf, bison, elk

The RB27 – “the heather line” – takes a good hour from Berlin to reach the south of the Schorfheide at Groß Schönebeck. The Schorfheide Museum in the former hunting lodge contains an exhibition on the history of land use in the region, focusing on traditional hunting and forestry as well as taxidermied native animals.

In the 100-hectare wildlife park north of the town, apart from native fauna, you can see endangered breeds of domestic animals and come face to face with the wolves, elks and bison that once roved this countryside. Visitor amenities include a restaurant, children’s playground and information office.

[Wildpark Schorfheide GmbH](#)  
Tel. 033 393 – 658 55



Ship lift

## A marvel of technology

A highly recommended excursion on the Chorin Circular tour is a visit to the Niederfinow ship lift. The 12 km walk takes about four hours. It starts at the foot of the terminal moraine in Liepe. Taking the exit to Eberswalde, you follow the road to Niederfinow and soon come to the old ship lift, a technological monument that is a very popular tourist attraction. The gigantic structure uses a steel trough weighing 43,000 tons, held by thick steel cables, to overcome the 36-metre difference in height between the end of the Oder-Havel canal and the Niederoderbruch. Before it was opened in 1934, ships had to be brought down into

the valley by means of series of locks, along which there is now a footpath.

[Schorfheide-Info Joachimsthal](#)  
Tel. 033 361 – 646 46



Alte Schule Stegelitz

## Meet, greet and eat

For thirteen years the old schoolhouse in Stegelitz had been abandoned before the imposing building in the centre of the village had its renaissance as a restaurant and event location. Today the Alte Schule is a model project for sustainable economy and architecture and the use of renewable energies. A modern wood gas generator, a solar thermal and a photovoltaic system were installed.

The Alte Schule Stegelitz wants to be a place for guests to relax and to meet other people. Art, handicrafts, music and culture play a major role – as does the kitchen, which offers primarily regional and seasonal products from organic farms. Particularly among bikers the Alte Schule has become a favourite stop over.

In 2005 the Alte Schule, which provides work for several people in this economically weak region, was certified by the Schorfheide-Chorin Biosphere Reserve.

[Alte Schule Stegelitz](#)  
Tel. 039 887 – 611 73  
[www.alte-schule-stegelitz.de](http://www.alte-schule-stegelitz.de)

Chorin monastery

## Summer harmonies on ancient grounds

Traces of the Cistercians are to be found throughout the Uckermark. Their monastery at Chorin, built in the northern brick Gothic style during the 13th and 14th centuries, was a significant influence on the edifices of the surrounding parishes, such as the Maria-Magdalenen-Church in Eberswalde. The ruins of the monastery come to life in the summer, when visitors flock to the concerts of the Chorin Music Summer held in the inner courtyard. There is a centre and a service point.

[Schorfheide-Info Joachimsthal](#)  
Tel. 033 361 – 633 80  
[Landscape guide Matthias Kluth](#)  
Tel. 030 – 948 881 05



Brodowin eco-village

## Fruit of the land

The village lies between seven lakes on Chorin’s terminal moraine. Swimming is possible close by, particularly in the Brodowiner See. Around 1,200 hectares of land here is devoted to organic farming. The produce is sold directly on the farm, but can also be home-delivered. It is also possible to visit the stables and dairy.

[Landwirtschaftsbetrieb Ökodorf Brodowin](#)  
Tel. 033 362 – 302  
[Hotel Haus Chorin](#)  
Tel. 033 366 – 500

# Naturetainment: Get out and learn!

Werbellinsee

## Discover with the Solar Explorer

A ship powered by solar energy runs on the Werbellinsee and can be booked by school classes, seminar groups, and anyone else interested: a floating research laboratory. Passengers can observe the underwater world of the lake directly through the glass bottom. Water samples are taken and analysed by microscope. The main theme is the technical capability of generating energy from sunlight. Passengers can construct their own small, solar-operated fan, and enjoy the fact that it only runs on sunlight.  
[Kulturlandschaft Uckermark e. V.](#)  
(Ship owner)  
Tel. 033 31 – 29 80 82  
[info@kulturlandschaft-uckermark.de](mailto:info@kulturlandschaft-uckermark.de)

Haus der Naturpflege

## Nature protection museum and hayloft hotel

The “Haus der Naturpflege” in Bad Freienwalde organises tours round the idyllically situated organic garden and log cabin built by Kurt Kretschmann, the conservationist and creator of the famous owl symbol for nature protection. Environmental seminars are held here, with accommodation provided in the Heuhotel.  
[Haus der Naturpflege](#)  
Tel. 033 44 – 35 82

Rangers

## Reservations for guide tours

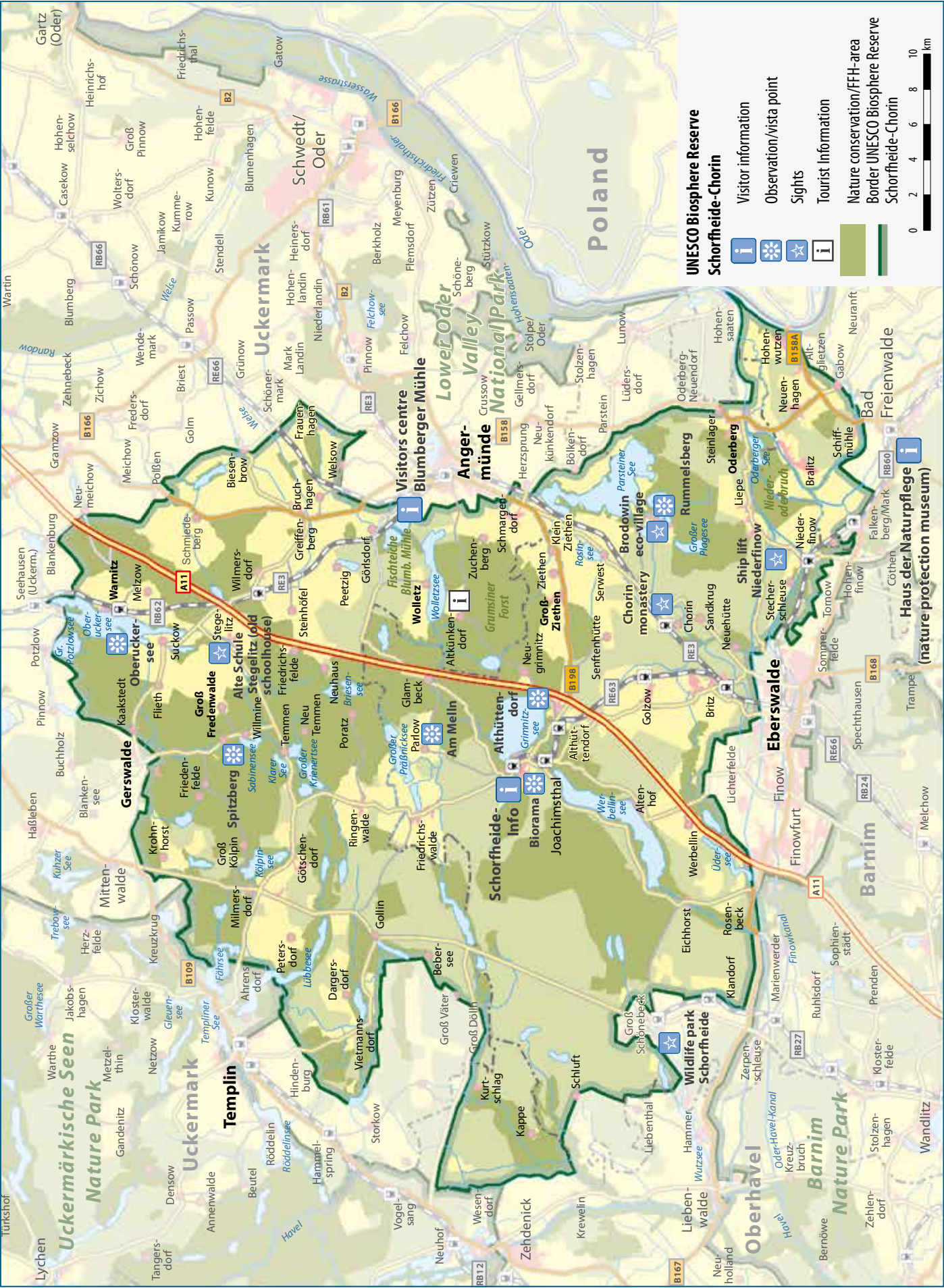
On request, group tours and slide shows can be organised by the warden service through, for example, the “Fischteiche Blumberger Mühle” nature conservation region.

On “Kids’ safaris” for groups of children and school classes up to the sixth year the children learn about ecology in an entertaining way as well as how to take responsibility for their own actions.

[Rangers Angermünde](#)  
Tel. 033 31 – 260 424 / 25







MAP

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinformation Brandenburg, Topografische Freizeitkarte 1:30.000 Schorfheide (Set Freizeitkarten Barnimer Land), Potsdam 2012  
ISBN 3-7490-4155-5

VALUABLE ADDRESSES

Kulturlandschaft Uckermark e. V.  
Förderverein des Biosphärenreservates  
Hoher Steinweg 5 – 6  
16278 Angermünde  
Tel. 033 31 – 298 082  
[www.schorfheide-chorin.de](http://www.schorfheide-chorin.de)

Landschaftspflegeverband  
Uckermark-Schorfheide  
Hoher Steinweg 5 – 6  
16278 Angermünde  
Tel. 033 31 – 298 790  
[www.lpv-uckermark-schorfheide.de](http://www.lpv-uckermark-schorfheide.de)

Denkmale Glambeck e. V.  
Wolletzer Weg  
16247 Friedrichswalde / OT Glambeck  
Tel. 033 361 – 702 51

Ökodorf Brodowin  
Weißensee 1  
16230 Brodowin  
Tel. 033 362 – 246  
[www.brodowin.de](http://www.brodowin.de)

Ferendorf Groß Väter See  
Groß Väter 34  
17268 Templin / OT Groß Dölln  
Tel. 039 883 – 48 99 90  
[www.ferendorf-gross-vaeter-see.de](http://www.ferendorf-gross-vaeter-see.de)

Environmental education

Alte Schule Stegelitz  
Dorfstraße 37  
17268 Flieth-Stegelitz  
Tel. 039 887 – 611 73  
[alte\\_schule\\_stegelitz@freenet.de](mailto:alte_schule_stegelitz@freenet.de)

Feld-, Wald- und Wiesenschule  
Groß Fredenwalde 27  
17268 Gerswalde  
Tel. 039 887 – 47 31  
[www.fww-schule.de](http://www.fww-schule.de)

Europäische Jugendholungs-  
und Begegnungsstätte  
Joachimsthaler Straße 20  
16247 Joachimsthal  
Tel. 033 363 – 62 00  
[www.ejb-werbellinsee.de](http://www.ejb-werbellinsee.de)

Waldschule Jägerhaus  
Schloßstraße 7  
16244 Schorfheide / OT Groß Schönebeck  
Tel. 033 393 – 66 49 70

FledermausWaldschule Reiersdorf  
Reiersdorf Nr. 4  
17268 Templin / OT Reiersdorf  
Tel. 039 882 – 201

Wald-Solar-Heim Eberswalde  
Brunnenstraße 25  
16225 Eberswalde  
Tel. 033 34 – 28 92 45  
[www.waldsolarheim.de](http://www.waldsolarheim.de)

Tourist information

Tourismus Marketing Uckermark GmbH  
Stettiner Straße 19  
17291 Prenzlau  
Tel. 039 84 – 83 58 83  
[www.tourismus-uckermark.de](http://www.tourismus-uckermark.de)

WITO GmbH  
Alfred-Nobel-Straße 1  
16225 Eberswalde  
Tel. 033 34 – 593 37  
[www.wito-barnim.de](http://www.wito-barnim.de)

Tourismusverein Angermünde e. V.  
Brüderstraße 20  
16278 Angermünde  
Tel. 033 31 – 29 76 60  
[www.angermuende-tourismus.de](http://www.angermuende-tourismus.de)

Tourist-Information Templin  
Am Markt 19  
17268 Templin  
Tel. 039 87 – 26 31

Naturerlebniszentrum Blumberger Mühle  
Blumberger Mühle 2  
16278 Angermünde  
Tel. 033 31 – 260 40  
[blumberger.muehle@nabu.de](mailto:blumberger.muehle@nabu.de)  
[www.blumberger-muehle.de](http://www.blumberger-muehle.de)

Administration  
Schorfheide – Chorin Biosphere Reserve  
Hoher Steinweg 5 – 6  
16278 Angermünde  
Tel. 033 31 – 365 40  
[www.schorfheide-chorin-biosphaerenreservat.de](http://www.schorfheide-chorin-biosphaerenreservat.de)

Schorfheide-Info Joachimsthal  
Töperstraße 1  
16247 Joachimsthal  
Tel. 033 361 – 646 46

Naturwacht (Ranger) Angermünde  
Blumberger Mühle 2  
16278 Angermünde  
Tel. 033 31 – 26 04 24 / 25

Naturwacht (Ranger) Chorin  
Am Amtssee 1  
16230 Chorin  
Tel. 033 366 – 530 33

Naturwacht (Ranger) Milnersdorf  
Mittelweg 2  
17268 Milnersdorf  
Tel. 039 886 – 57 65

Naturwacht (Ranger) Groß Schönebeck  
16348 Groß Schönebeck  
Tel. 033 393 – 638 19  
[www.naturwacht.de](http://www.naturwacht.de)



## Lower Oder Valley National Park

## Land in the stream

Nationalpark  
Unteres Odertal

## National Park at a glance

## Great scenic views

- Observation towers near Gartz, south of the Schöpfwerk pump station) and in Polder B near Wrechsee, outside of Schwedt and near the Polish village Ognica (Nipperwiese) on the German-Polish border
- Observation hut with telescope near Gatow on the Winterdeich (winter dyke)

## Recommended tours

- Gartzter Erlebnistour (20 km), marked hiking trail between Gartz (Oder) – Mescherin – Geesow, through the Salvey valley back to Gartz
- Tour Criewen – Stolpe (22 km), from Criewen across the western hills to Stolpe, back on the Oder-Neiße bike path along the meadows of the national park
- Tour “Beiderseits der Oder” (left and right of the Oder river, 70 km), from Schwedt to the border crossing, on the Polish side to the border crossing at Hohenwutzen, on the German side on the Oder-Neiße bicycle path back to Schwedt

## More tips

- Criewen: castle with Lenné park, gardens
- View from the castle keep in Stolpe
- Tobacco museum Vierraden
- Schwedt/Oder: old fortress, boat tours on the Oder, Uckermärkische Bühnen (theatre), public pool AquariUM
- Angermünde: old town
- Geological garden Stolzenhagen

The Lower Oder Valley National Park was put to the test far sooner than anyone could have expected. In 1997, with the opening ceremonies barely over, the river Oder reached record levels and the whole region was flooded.

In 1997 and in 2010 the water meadows and polder system in the Lower Oder Valley National Park proved their mettle. The polders were flooded which decreased the high water mark by about one metre. At the same time this type of water management is closer to the natural cycle of floods and droughts in a river flood plain.

Lower Oder Valley is Germany's only flood plains national park. It stretches for 60 km from Hohensaaten in the South to Stettin (Szczecin) in the North. The park protects an estuarine flood plain, one of the very few ones in Central Europe to remain largely intact, as well as the adjoining sloping banks, mixed deciduous forests and dry grasslands. Flood plains where the natural cycles of flood and drought are allowed to happen create a wide variety of forever changing structures such as flood plains, alluvial forests, cut-off meanders, sand bars and wetlands and a very rich biological diversity. They are rare and in Europe highly endangered biotopes. The oxbow lakes, sedges, reeds and wet grasslands of the Lower Oder valley make it a paradise for the waterfowl that come to breed, rest and pass the winter. It is home to the largest population of corn-crakes, a highly endangered species.

The park, however is not only a paradise for birds, it is also a paradise for humans. 120 km of dykes are ideal for hikers and cyclists. A stretch of around 54 km of the new Oder-Neiße cycle path runs through the national park. Picnic places abound and observation towers provide a good opportunity to take in the views and watch the fauna. Bikes and

boats are available for the visitor to hire and coach tours and river cruises are also on offer. The new national park visitors centre in Criewen permits a voyage of discovery through the life and history of the region. The restaurants and hostels along the edge of the mudflats provide visitors with comfortable accommodation and the typical dishes of the Uckermark region

Land in the stream, an ever changing, ever moving landscape: in spring, the flooded water meadows are full of birds - curlews, sandpipers and peewits. In summer, once the waters have drained away from the polders, enjoy the marsh and wetland flowers in bloom in the cut-off meanders on a walk through the mudflats. In autumn, the flats are often shrouded in mist. Once again, birds flock into the valley. Over 100,000 ducks, geese and swans and as many as 15,000 cranes come to the water meadows to rest. The cold quiet days of winter are particularly inviting for the walker. Drift ice appears in the river, the meadows are covered with frost and the winter light creates an incomparable mood of peaceful beauty and melancholy.

NationalParkHaus  
Criewen  
Visitors Centre

At the visitors centre, the NationalParkHaus, an entertaining exhibition in German, Polish and English, offers fascinating insights into 10,000 years of history – land, flora, fauna, and people – of the Lower Oder valley. You see mammoth, the tundra of the ice age, the castle mound built by the Slavs, medieval villages and modern day cities. An impressive multimedia show takes the visitors to the year 2095, the 100th anniversary of the national park. In this vision the flora and fauna – untouched by human hand – retransforms into the original wilderness. There will be human influence after all: due to the climate change exotic plants will have settled in the Oder valley.

Another highlight of the exhibition is the Oder aquarium. Today, 52 fish species live in streams and ponds of the Oder valley. 20 can be seen in the 15,000-litre aquarium, such as pike, orfe, asp, zander and burbot. Moreover spined loach, stickle back and bitterling can be seen.

The model polder gives everyone a chance to play the role of dike warden, operating the flood protection system and flooding the polders. It shows the way the water acts and reacts throughout the seasons in the flood plains and how the floods are being managed today.



The Nationalparkzentrum (National Park Centre) in the Lower Oder Valley is located at the Schloss Criewen and in the manor buildings. The information centre is found in the former sheep stall.

At any time of the year and no matter what the weather is like with this 400 m2 exhibition visitors can discover the world of the Oder valley indoors, either on their own or on a guided tour.

The shop in the NATURA-2000-HAUS offers souvenirs, regional products and books and information material.

Almost every weekend guided tours and excursions into the national park start at Nationalparkhaus in Criewen. Hikes with trained rangers offer an expertly guided and

very special nature experience. The Quellen-erlebnispfad (source trail) and Auenlehrpfad (meadow trail) can be easily reached from the Nationalparkhaus.

Visitors Centre Nationalparkhaus  
Park 2

16303 Schwedt/Oder / OT Criewen  
Tel. 033 32 – 267 72 44

## Opening hours

1 April – 31 October: daily 9 am – 6 pm  
1 November – 31 March:  
Fri – Sun 10 am – 5 pm  
Groups by appointment  
Entry free of charge

## How to get there

Rail / Bus: Berlin central station to Angermünde or Schwedt/Oder (Mitte), continue with Bus Line 468 to Criewen  
[www.bahn.de](http://www.bahn.de)  
[www.vbbonline.de](http://www.vbbonline.de)





## Excursions and activities



### International park

#### Nature without frontiers

In Poland, on the other side of the river, two nature parks were established in April 1993: Park Krajobrazowy Dolina Dolnej Odry and Zehden (Cedyński Park Krajobrazowy). Thus, the Lower Oder Valley National Park, comprising the Polish and the German parks and the conservation area National Park Region, form an international large protected area covering a total of 120,000 hectares. As the land on the Polish side remained totally unused for over 40 years, it is unusually pristine. Both Polish nature parks there can be reached via the border crossings at Schwedt, Rosow, Mescherin and Hohenwutzen.

[Nationalparkhaus Criewen](#)

Tel. 033 32 – 267 72 44

[Park administration in Poland](#)

Tel. 0048 – 9141 – 402 60



### Cycle tours

#### A national park for cyclists

The Lower Oder Valley National Park can be explored on a well-maintained cycle trail between Stolpe and Gartz. Cyclists and roller-skaters alike enjoy the tarmac road that runs north – south through the park for a distance of 54 km, mostly along the top of the dyke, offering fine panoramic views. The national park is easy to reach by rail, with a regional express service (RE3) from Berlin every two hours. The main stations are Schwedt (terminal) and Angermünde (about 15 km from the National park), Pinnow and Tantow (RB 66). The regional express can take a maximum of 50 cyclists with their bikes – however, that is a very “crowded experience”.

[DB Information](#)

Tel. 0800 – 150 70 90

[Tourismusverein](#)

[Nationalpark Unteres Odertal e. V.](#)

Tel. 033 32 – 255 90

### The park for beginners

#### Densen-Berge and Oder-Tal cycle routes

A wonderful way to get to know the national park are the routes from Angermünde via Stolpe and Criewen to Schwedt or a round trip from Criewen to Schöneberg and Stolpe and back.

The starting point is Criewen. Heading south towards Schöneberg, there is a view down into the Oder valley from the wooded hills of the Densenberge. This route takes you through Schöneberg with its ancient stone church and on through the Schöneberger Wald to Stolpe. From here, you cross the

canal bridge and follow the east side of the Hohensaaten-Friedrichsthal waterway. The cycle path now takes you north along the banks. After a short distance, you can branch off east towards the Oder and then continue north along the Oder dyke (3.5 km longer). If you follow the canal for another 4 km, you reach the winter dyke. This transverse dyke separates the dry polders to the south from the wet polders to the north, which are flooded in winter. The path continues along the bank of the Hohensaaten-Friedrichsthal waterway until you return to your starting point at the Criewen canal bridge.

[Nationalparkhaus](#)

Tel. 3332 – 267 72 44



### Criewen

#### Ramble round the castle park

The castle grounds in Criewen, designed by famous landscape architect Lenné, is simply enchanting with the castle, the 13th century church, century-old trees, meadows and the bank of the Hohensaaten-Friedrichsthal waterway. The ten-hectare Lenné Park on the grounds of the old village of Criewen shows typical features of 19th century European landscape gardening such as several visual axes, copses and almost imperceptible transition to the open countryside. Schloss Criewen is home to the German-Polish environmental education and meeting centre of the Brandenburg Academy. The southwest wing of the castle contains an environmental library. The castle's sheepfold has been converted into a national park' visitors centre, the Nationalparkhaus. The former granary has been turned into guest accommodation and is open to visitors. In 2014 the NATURA 2000 building opened its doors with the national park shop and a

wilderness laboratory. Every year, Criewen's traditional village festival is held in the castle grounds.

Right next to the national park centre, in the former Arnim nursery garden, an ecological association (Umweltwerkstatt Unteres Odertal e. V.) runs a display and educational garden, where visitors can discover the wild and cultivated plants of the region. As well as the traditional orchards and herb gardens, the listed nursery buildings are well worth a visit. They include the old hothouse, a circular ice-cellar and a small art gallery. The garden is open daily.

[Tourismusverein “Am Unteren Odertal” e. V.](#)

Tel. 3332 – 255 90

[Nationalparkhaus Criewen](#)

Tel. 3332 – 267 72 44

[Umweltwerkstatt Unteres Odertal](#)

Tel. 3332 – 250 810



### Stolpe

#### A mighty fortress

Situated in the south of the national park, Stolpe is a delightful starting point for cycle tours and hikes. It was awarded the title of „National Park Municipality 2001“. There was probably a Slav fort here as early as the 8th century. In 1230, Stolpe fell into the possession of the Ascanians who built one of Germany's strongest castles here, with Stolpe tower – 17 m in diameter and 18 m in height and walls to a thickness of between 5 and 6 m.

The sloping banks of the Oder are ideal for walks. Traditional egg-rolling contests are held here at Easter. The tower is open for visitors from Wednesday through Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm.

[Tourismusverein Angermünde](#)

Tel. 033 31 – 297 660



### Mescherin

#### Best neighbour

Mescherin is situated in the north of the national park. It has been named “National park village” several times by the park management for its exemplary development and identification with the objectives of the large protected area. A new dock, co-funded by the EU, was recently completed. Mescherin is adjoined to the east by Poland's Lower Oder Valley Nature Park. To the north lie the Staffelder Tanger, Polder 8 and the Gartz Schrey that form part of the national park. To the west begins the conservation area of the Lower Oder Valley National Park Region.

Mescherin is the starting point for many excursions. It is possible to cross into Poland by car or bike or on foot. Raised platforms make it easy to view and identify the sights in the landscape. Information leaflets on the national park are available in all the local guesthouses and the municipal offices.

[Tourist information](#)

[Museum of Citizen Farmers Gartz](#)

Tel. 033 332 – 860 44



### Observations towers

#### Views of the Oder and the flora and fauna

The Oder River and the fauna of the national park can be observed year-round from the two towers south of the Gartz pumping station or at the Wrechsee in Polder B near Schwedt. From early October, the two platforms on the Gartz tower are particularly well suited to watch the cranes as they fly way to and from their roosting areas on the Polish side. In winter, many visitors come to observe the waterfowl in the bend of the Oder before Gartz.

It was in the old gun magazine at Gartz where the national park was opened in 1995 by the former minister president of Brandenburg, Manfred Stolpe. The renovation of the market, the gun magazine and the fort was supported by EU funds.

During the winter season, the tower at the Wrechsee offers panoramic views over the flooded polders as far as the causeway leading to the border crossing. In the summer months, it is an excellent spot to observe the flora and fauna of the Wrechsee. The towers are regularly used for guided tours but are also open to individual visitors.

[Nationalparkhaus Criewen](#)

Tel. 033 32 – 267 72 44

[Rangers, Tel. 033 32 – 516 406](#)





Tobacco museum Vierraden

## “Virginia made in Uckermark”

After Palatinate and Baden, Uckermark is Germany's third largest tobacco-growing region. During the summer, the drying sheds and storage barns and the delicate pink blossoms of the tobacco plants are visible everywhere between Lunow and Mescherin. The Huguenots brought tobacco here more than 300 years ago. Today primarily Virginia tobacco for cigarettes is grown and harvested here.

The tobacco museum in Vierraden is a traditional three-storey tobacco barn that has been transformed into a modern museum building with support from the EU Fund for Rural Development. Everything the visitor might want to know about Uckermark tobacco is available here, illustrated with models, photos, drawings and equipment. As in bygone days, the tobacco hung up to dry can be seen (and smelled). The growing beds outside are filled with the yellow blossom of wild tobacco (*nicotiana rusticana*), the white of oriental tobacco and the brown, blue or red of ornamental tobacco. A tobacco harvest festival is held in Vierraden every year at the end of August and beginning of September.

[Tabakmuseum Vierraden](#)

Tel. 033 32 – 250 991

[Schwedt](#)

Nationalparkstadt Schwedt

## Nature and industry in peaceful coexistence

The industrial town of Schwedt/ Oder is right on the border to the national park. A direct rail link to Berlin and Potsdam makes it an ideal gateway to Brandenburg's Auen (River Meadow) National Park. With its pedestrian zone in the old town, the Oder-Center shopping mall, the Aquarium pool, the

Uckermark theatres and the town museum and gallery, Schwedt has all the attractions needed to make this a worthwhile stop.

[Tourismusverein Nationalpark Unteres Odertal e. V.](#)

Tel. 033 32 – 255 90



Niedersaathen

## In the valley of love

In the second half of the 19th century, Niedersaathen (*Zatoń Dolna*) became a tourist attraction, especially for couples. The landscape park was created in 1850 and reconstructed a few years ago. This “valley of love” (*Dolina Miłości*) lies on the steep east bank of the Oder with picturesque views of the lowlands.

The park was the idea of Anna von Humbert (1798 – 1860), the wife of then Head Administrator of the district, Carl Philipp von Humbert (1805 – 1867). Embedded in the natural forest, the park was laid out on slopes formerly covered by beech forests. The grounds with their romantic features were accessible to the general public. In the following decades, allées, bridges and bowers were added, exotic tree species were planted. In the 1930s stones in memory of famous Germans such as Beethoven, Goethe, Schiller, Bach and Bismarck were placed in the park. After the Second World War the park was forgotten, the romantic structures destroyed. Nature reclaimed it. In the 1990s, revitalisation of the park began in the context of an INTERREG project for the Euroregion Pomerania. Some sculptures were returned and new bowers were erected. Now events are held in the park every year—naturally above all for those in love. The tour through the valley takes about two hours along marked routes. Vantage points, such as the bastion, offer magnificent vistas of the Lower Oder Valley National Park. Take a little detour to the church in Zatoń Dolna. Erected on a hill in the 18th century, it not only offers a lovely view but also a very un-

usual 12-cornered layout. The church, which also houses a Baroque altar made by the woodcarver Heinrich Bernhard Hattenkerell (1697 – 1732), is open on Saturdays during evening services.



Water labyrinth

## Guided canoe tours

The Oder Valley is criss-crossed by numerous old streams. A tour through this water wilderness is a unique experience. Knowledgeable canoe guides accompany you through the water labyrinth, explaining the peculiarities in Germany's only water meadow national park. Paddle along softly and silently and you might be lucky enough to see beavers, loons, grey herons and even a variety of swallows. Flowering rush, water pineapples, water lilies, and arrowhead abound. The canoe season in the Lower Oder Valley national park begins on 15 July and ends on 14 November. There are three tours that start at the Water Tourism Centre of the national park city Schwedt/ Oder, Stolpe or Stützkow. However tours can only be booked at the tourist association in Schwedt/ Oder.

[Tourismusverein Nationalpark Unteres Odertal e. V.](#)

Tel: 033 32 – 255 90

[touristinfo@unteres-odertal.de](mailto:touristinfo@unteres-odertal.de)

[www.unteres-odertal.de](http://www.unteres-odertal.de)



Nature adventure

## Aquatic wilderness

The Lower Oder Valley landscape conservation park (*Park Krajobrazowy Dolina Dolnej Odry*), in the northern, Polish part of the Lower Oder Valley is an aquatic paradise with fishing and an extensive waterway network to be explored by canoe or kayak. The Middle Oder part of the Polish park east of Gartz/ Oder is inaccessible to hikers because of its moors thus trails are found exclusively along the Oder dykes. Nonetheless locks at some places interrupt the paths so that continuous hikes are impeded.

“Flusslandschaft Reisen” offers nature lovers guided tours through the Oder delta wilderness every year starting in April. Overnight accommodation is available in the neighbouring towns, Gryfino (Greifenhagen), Szczecin (Stettin), Mescherin or Gartz/Oder.

[Flusslandschaft-Reisen](#)

Mobile 0172 197 93 16

[www.flusslandschaft-reisen.de](http://www.flusslandschaft-reisen.de)

# Excursions and activities Get out and learn!



Wildnislabor

## Right on nature's tracks

The wilderness laboratory in the NATURA – 2000 building gives school classes the best opportunities for project days in the national park. New, age-specific programs have been introduced since 2017, especially to encourage primary school pupils to discover nature.

[Nationalparkladen](#)

Tel. 033 32 – 26 72 27

[Lea.Potrafke@nlpvuo.Brandenburg.de](mailto:Lea.Potrafke@nlpvuo.Brandenburg.de)

Auenpfad

## Information “en passant”

The Auenpfad – river meadow trail – leads directly from Ciewen to the Oder. Along the 3.7 kilometre walk to the Saathener Weir, wooden posts with pictograms point out the special features of the Oder landscape. Visitors can also pick up a free information leaflet from the boxes to be found at the different starting points. The leaflets are illustrated and offer a wealth of information on the river meadow landscape. They draw the visitor's attention to such things as the colours of the plants on the banks, the variety of the reeds and the many species of hardwood trees in the river meadows.

[Rangers](#)

Tel. 033 32 – 516 406

Youth Group “The Kiebitze”

## Adventure in the national park

Led by the ranger service, the “Kiebitze” youth group meets once a week for adventures in the national park. The children, aged 8 to 15, go on excursions, cycle tours, weekend camps, exchanges with Polish youngsters and ranger training.

[Rangers](#)

Tel. 033 32 – 516 406

Quellenerlebnispfad

## Gushing water

Between Stolpe and Ciewen, on the west bank of the Hohensaaten-Friedrichsthal waterway, just before the Densenberge woods, you come to the Fuchswiesen. Here, numerous springs emerge from the well-watered slopes of the Oder. A trail to one of them, the Fuchquelle, has been specially developed for visitors.

[Rangers](#)

Tel. 033 32 – 516 406

Wilderness School Teerofenbrücke

## Junior researchers

Wildnisschule Teerofenbrücke (Wilderness School) offers individual programmes that can be booked either as excursions in the national park or seminars in the school. In addition, water samples can be examined in the national park laboratory. Groups of pupils, students and children are all welcome.

[Wildnisschule Teerofenbrücke](#)

Tel. 033 32 – 838 840

[www.wildnisschule-teerofenbruecke.de](http://www.wildnisschule-teerofenbruecke.de)





MAP

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinformation Brandenburg, (editor), Topografische Freizeitkarte Nationalpark Unteres Odertal mit Wanderwegen, ISBN 3-7490-4099-0

LITERATURE

Deutsch-polnischer Reiseführer (German-Polish Travel Guide) "NATURA 2000 im Unteren Odertal", 268 pages, 2014, Nationalparkladen

Dittberner, W., Die Vogelwelt des Nationalparks Unteres Odertal, Rangsdorf 2014 ISBN 978-3-942062-16-9

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Vössing, A., Blutke, G., Nationalpark-symphonie Unteres Odertal, Berlin 2005 ISBN 3-9810032-1-7

Wilke, H.-J., Das Untere Odertal, Archivbilder, Erfurt 2005 ISBN 3-89702-808-5

VALUABLE ADDRESSES

Ferienhof Salvey Mühle  
Salvey Mühle 3  
16307 Gartz/ OT Geesow  
Tel. 033 333 – 303 35  
www.salveymuehle.de

Geologischer Garten  
Elsengrund 6  
16248 Lunow-Stolzenhagen  
Tel. 033 365 – 359 or 705 56  
www.geologischer-garten.de

Galerie am Kietz  
Kunstverein Schwedt / Oder  
Gerberstraße 2  
16303 Schwedt / Oder  
Tel. 033 32 – 512 410  
www.kunstverein-schwedt.de

Kutsch- und Kremserfahrten (Coach rides)  
R. Fangerow  
Am Gutshof 10  
16278 Angermünde  
OT Dobberzin  
Tel. 033 337 – 208 60  
Mobile 0172 – 945 14 67

Kutsch- und Kremserfahrten Lehmann  
(Coach rides)  
Kastanienallee 2  
16278 Angermünde  
Tel. 033 31 – 213 99  
www.urlaub-bei-lehmann.de

Fahrrad- und Touristikcenter Bodo Butzke  
Kietz 11  
16303 Schwedt/Oder  
Tel. 033 32 – 83 95 00  
www.kanubutzke.de

Museums

Tabakmuseum Vierraden  
Breite Straße 14  
16306 Vierraden  
Tel. 033 32 – 250 991

Stadtmuseum Schwedt / Oder  
(City museum)  
Jüdenstraße 17  
16303 Schwedt / Oder  
Tel. 033 32 – 234 60

Ackerbürgermuseum Gartz / Oder  
Stettiner Straße 14a  
16307 Gartz / Oder  
Tel. 033 332 – 860 44

Tourist information

Tourismusverein Nationalpark Unteres Odertal e. V.  
Vierradener Straße 31  
16303 Schwedt/Oder  
Tel. 033 32 – 255 90  
touristinfo@unteres-odertal.de  
www.unteres-odertal.de

Tourismusverein Angermünde e. V.  
Brüderstraße 20  
16278 Angermünde  
Tel. 033 31 – 29 76 60  
info@angermuende-tourismus.de  
www.angermuende-tourismus.de





Barnim Nature Park

# A hop, skip and a jump from downtown Berlin

Naturpark  
Barnim

## Nature park at a glance

### Great scenic views

- Observation tower on the hiking trail through the conservation area "Schönowe Heide"
- Bird watching tower in the conservation area "Karower Teiche"
- Auf den Rieselfeldern
- Am Bogensee
- Kaiser-Friedrich-Turm (tower)

### Recommended tours

- Bicycle/hiking tour through the Brieze valley (approx. 17 km)
- Bicycle/hiking tour along Nonnenfließ (11 or 20 km)
- Bicycle/hiking tour through Biesenthaler Becken (approx. 20 km)
- Bicycle/hiking tour at Wandlitzer See and Liepnitzsee (approx. 11 km)

### More tips

- Basdorf: "Heidekrautbahnmuseum" (railroad museum)
- Bernau near Berlin: town church museum at Steintor and in Henkerhaus
- Biesenthal: old town
- Eberswalde: zoo, forest botanical garden, family garden
- Finowfurt: aerospace museum
- Klosterfelde: artist museum
- Liebenwalde: local history museum
- Oranienburg: castle and museum
- Memorial and Museum Sachsenhausen
- Schmachtenhagen: Oberhavel farmers' market

The Barnim Nature Park is a cross-border large protected area in the states of Brandenburg and Berlin – with around 5 per cent of the park's total area being within the perimeters of the Berlin districts Pankow and Reinickendorf. The Brandenburg part of the park lies in the triangle between the cities of Bernau, Eberswalde and Oranienburg. From the vibrant pulse of the nation's capital, the relaxing landscape of the 750-km<sup>2</sup> large nature park is no more than a short hop, skip and a jump away.

The ice age created a wide variety of landscapes in the region. The Eberswalde glacial valley in the north has forested terraces and the wet lowlands, the fertile soils, agriculture and tree-lined country roads and lakes of the Barnim plate set the tone for the middle section, while the Havel lowlands with its expanses of meadows gives the north-western part of the park its distinctive charm.

The Barnim Nature Park is dotted with lakes and ponds and criss-crossed by small streams. Rare plants and animals, such as the fire-bellied toad, make this area their home. The small animal with the orange and black patterned stomach and the melancholy voice is the park's symbol. Its habitat, water-filled hollows, is also home to other endangered amphibian species such as the crested newt and the Eurasian spadefoot toad.

More than half of the nature park's surface is covered with forests. Pine trees dominate, but there are also scarcely used beech forests, mixed oak forests and alder carrs. Old beech woodlands and the almost mystical alder tree marshes grow along the banks of pristine lakes such as the Liepnitzsee – a popular spot for swimmers. The numerous streams meandering through the country-

side, but also the Finow Canal and the so-called "Lange Trödel" are great places to go for long walks. This is the natural habitat for the playful otter, the tree-chopping beaver and the ever-busy Eurasian water shrew. With a bit of patience, the visitor can even observe the resplendent kingfisher hunting for small fish.

The park is also a breeding ground for storks, cranes and corncrakes. Orchids and rare wetland plants such as the carnivorous sundew can be found in the lower bog land habitats.

From Berlin it is a mere hop, skip and jump to the Barnim splendours. The S-Bahn takes you to the Brieze valley, to Buch or Karow. In the Barnim Nature Park day tourists play a much larger role than in all other Brandenburg large protected areas.



## Visitors Centre BARNIM PANORAMA Naturparkzentrum – Agrarmuseum Wandlitz

BARNIM PANORAMA houses the nature park visitor centre and the agricultural museum. The exhibition "Geformte und Genutzte Landschaft" (Formed and Used Landscape) tells the story of Barnim from the glacial wilderness to the modern cultivated landscape. In addition different rooms are devoted to a variety of topics. For example "Wilden Barmin" goes back 20,000 years in time with a multi-media show that tells the visitor how the landscape changed from its icy beginnings until the arrival of humans.

"Bewegte Böden" (Moved Grounds) shows the many features and functions of soil as a source of food, living space, disputed property or as speculation object. An unusual type of flock is the "tractor herd" with the legendary Lanz Bulldog down to the ZT323, the last GDR tractor. Childhood dreams come true in a high tech tractor cab. "Land – Leben" (Country – Life) was not all milk and honey. As the seasons changed, fields and meadows, home and farm had to be tended to. Come rain or shine. "Seeblick" (Lake View) opens upon Lake Wandlitz. An original bore core, over 4 meters long exposes historical details of the Wandlitz landscape. Analyses of the pollen stored in the lake sediment provide indications about the plants from the ice age until today. And what is finer than to see the world from above: a walk-through map installation in "Barnim-Geschichten" invites you to discover the nature park from a bird's eye view.

In the exhibition garden, visitors will find virtually forgotten root vegetables, rare grain types and varieties, a surprising selection of potatoes or vegetables that may bloom, so that the seeds can be collected. Along the discoverer path, miniatures of habitats in the Barnim nature park can be explored. Whether in the Baumhaus or the Naturbühne or in the amphibian theatre—the nearly 50-meter tour is rich with attractions for young and old.



The design of the new BARNIM PANORAMA in the old Wandlitz village centre is reminiscent of a Drei-Seiten-Hof (the farm buildings are arranged along three sides of a square farmyard) typical for the region.

BARNIM PANORAMA is open year-round and can be experienced individually or on numerous tours. Audio guides for children and adults offer story, history and anecdotes on selected exhibition items. In addition to tours, special exhibitions and summer classic concerts, larger events such as the museum festival, the Wandlitzer Sommerfrische, and the Nature Park & Harvest festival on the Day of the Regions attract visitors from far and wide—not to be missed.



**BARNIM PANORAMA**  
**Naturparkzentrum –**  
**Agrarmuseum Wandlitz**  
Breitscheidstraße 8-9  
16348 Wandlitz  
Tel. 033 397 – 68 19 20  
info@barnim-panorama.de  
www.barnim-panorama.de

### Opening hours

Daily except Fridays 10 am – 6 pm

### How to get there

S-Bahn S 1 railway station (Bhf) Borgsdorf (Briesetal)  
S 2 station Karow (Karower Teiche), station Buch (sewage farm landscape near Hobrechtsfelde)

S 8 station Mühlenbeck-Mönchmühle (Tegeler Fließtal and Schönerlinder Teiche)  
OE 60 station Rüditz / station Biesenthal (Biesenthaler Becken); station Melchow (Nonnenfließ / Melchower Schweiz)  
NE 27 ("Heidekrautbahn") station Basdorf (railway museum) / station Wandlitz (Agricultural museum, Liepnitzsee) / station Wandlitzsee (beach) / station Klosterfelde (acrobats museum) / station Ruhlsdorf-Zerpenschleuse ("Langer Trödel");  
only Sat and Sun station Schmachtenhagen (Oberhavel Bauernmarkt)  
www.bahn.de  
www.vbbonline.de



## Excursions and activities



### Going to the park by train No traffic, no stress

Many very attractive places to go for a day's outing can be reached from Berlin by public transport – easily and without stress by simply taking the S-Bahn S 1, S 2, S 8 or S 25. That includes Tegeler Fließ, Briesetal and the ponds in Karow. For those who enjoy a cultural highlight in their excursions, trips to the “Hussite city” Bernau and to Oranienburg can be highly recommended.

The “Heidekrautbahn” (RB 27) – which translates as Heather Train – brings visitors right into the central part of the nature park. The train connects the S-Bahn station Karow, Basdorf and Groß Schönebeck or Wensickendorf. On the weekends an extended line goes right to the very popular farmer's market in Schmachtenhagen with its regional focus on wares and food. With the Fjord horse farm “Insel”, water skiing facilities, the wooden raft “Schippschute” and a canoe rental, Ruhlsdorf and Zerpenschleuse offer a very wide range of attractions for tourists.

OE 60 between Berlin and Eberswalde, stopping at Rüditz, Biesenthal and Melchow, is another fast and easy way to access the beauty of the nature park. Visitors heading for the seemingly untouched Nonnenfließ get off at the Nature Park train station Melchow.

[Tourismusverein Naturpark Barnim e. V.](#)  
Tel. 033 397 – 672 77  
[www.barnim-tourismus.de](http://www.barnim-tourismus.de)

### Cycling and hiking tours Muscle power – naturally

Organised cycle and hiking tours to selected regions of the nature park are offered by rangers, Naturschutzbund and ADFC. In addition to the long-distance bicycle trails Berlin-Copenhagen and Berlin-Usedom, there are also regional cycle paths and several places where bicycles can be rented. The variety of cycle and hiking routes includes attractive circular tours around the smaller lakes all the way up to large routes that have



to be done in stages such as the Barnimer Dörferweg, the Nature Park meridian, and the 66-Seen-Wanderweg. Make sure to pick up the hiking map published by the park administration. There are also flyers available for individual routes, which include a map and information on the route. The guide “Wanderführer Naturpark Barnim” includes suggestions for more than a dozen hikes, cycling tours and walks.

A very lovely hiking tour takes you along the banks of the Liepnitzsee, which is almost completely surrounded by beech woodlands.

The small island “Großer Werder” in the middle of the Liepnitzsee is connected to the mainland by a ferry, which leaves every hour. On the island, as on other shores of the Liepnitzsee, you will find very popular swimming spots.

Horseback riders can also enjoy the beautiful landscape of the Barnim Nature Park. Especially the southern part, which is close to Berlin, has many bridle paths and horse farms.

[Tourismusverein Naturpark Barnim e. V.](#)  
Tel. 033 397 – 672 77  
[Rangers Barnim](#)  
Tel. 033 395 – 711 60  
[ADFC Berlin](#)  
Tel. 030 – 448 47 24



### Historic Finow Canal “Strolling” on water

The almost 400 year-old Finow Canal in the northern part of the conservation area is one of the oldest functioning artificial waterways in Germany. Due to the canal's very successful integration into the ecological system of the surrounding countryside, it has also become home to the local beaver population. The historic “Treidelweg”, the towpath along the banks of the canal, is perfect as a cycling and hiking path. The old Finow Canal runs parallel to the Oder-Havel Canal. Not used by cargo ships, it is ideal for sports and recreational boating. The many historic locks between Marienwerder and Hohensaaten give this waterway a very unique charm but are of course also very time consuming for those travelling by boat. Stop at the several rest areas and marinas to stock up on – or consume – food and drinks. Boats of various types can be hired.

[KAG Region Finowkanal](#)  
Tel. 033 34 – 38 49 13  
[www.finowkanal.info](http://www.finowkanal.info)



### “Schippschute” Travelling by raft – the easy way

A very special experience is a trip on the Finow Canal with the “Schippschute”, a motor-driven raft with a roof. The oldest, still usable waterway in Germany was an important transportation route for wood, which was rafted to its destination. The “Schippschute” reminds the travellers of this era, with its enjoyable trips back and forth between Finowfurt and Ruhlsdorf-Zerpenschleuse, passing through a number of locks along the way. On board the raft you can enjoy music, food and drinks. The raft, which is wheelchair-accessible, can also be booked for groups of up to 70 people.

[MST-Touristikflößerei](#)  
Tel. 033 35 – 302 03  
[www.schippschute.de](http://www.schippschute.de)



### Bird watching The fascinating world of waterfowl

In the fall and spring, the larger lakes and ponds offer excellent opportunities for bird watchers to see ducks, cranes and sawbills. This is especially true for the ponds in Karow (take the S 2 to Berlin-Karow) and Schönerlinde (take the S 8 to Mühlenbeck-Mönchsmühle), Lehnitzsee (take the S 8 to Lehnitz), the Summtor and Mühlenbeck lakes (take the S 8 to Mühlenbeck-Mönchsmühle, and then the bus), the Obersee and Liepnitzsee (RB 27 – known as the Heidekrautbahn – to Wandlitzsee).

In the fall, cranes stop to feed on the harvested cornfields. These “birds of good luck” can often be seen near Liebenwalde in the northern part of the park.

The colourful kingfisher can be seen year-round along the well-marked hiker's route through the Briesetal valley to Zühlsdorf (S 1 or S 8 to Birkenwerder or Borgsdorf). The route passes the old sawmill that used to be powered by water, the old beautifully situated former forester's house in Wensickendorf and past the natural monument Papenluch.

[Rangers Barnim](#)  
Tel. 033 395 – 711 60  
Mobile 0175 – 721 30 79





The Schönow Heath

### A lilac-blossom magic carpet

The late summer blooming of the lilac-coloured calluna or common heather is unique in the nature park. The former military training grounds provide ideal conditions for species like the field cricket, ladybird spider, sand lizard or the hoopoe. All these species have long since become rare in other regions.

Years of military manoeuvres have left behind a virtually treeless habitat. However this unique landscape would be filled again with plants if the game animals, mainly deer, did not bite off the young tree sprouts.

A 7-km-long circular trail leads around the preserve. Information boards along the way tell the visitors more about the heath. At the end there is a heath "quiz" to test what the hikers have learned.

[Nature park administration](#)  
Tel. 033 397 – 299 9-0



Hobrechtsfelder irrigation fields

### Four-legged landscape gardeners and art by the way

The Hobrechtsfelder Rieselfelder (sewage farms: from the late 19th well into the 20th century sewage water from Berlin was treated and used for irrigation in so-called Rieselfelder; now these fields are being reclaimed by nature) are being kept in ship shape by numerous four-legged helpers – along with sturdy cattle breeds like the Galloway, Konik and Fjord horses take good care of this semi-open forest landscape. Gates give bikers and hikers access to the nine grazing areas.

By the way, art is also big here – and by the trails. Sculptures made from wood and natural stone catch the eye and at the same time merge harmoniously into the landscape.

Nature park administration  
Tel. 033 397 – 299 9-0



Celebrating in the nature park

### Pure joy for the whole region

Two of the most popular events of the Barnim Nature Park are the Naturpark- & Erntefest, the Nature Park & Harvest Festival and the Museumsfest of the agricultural museum. In May you can have a closer look at old farming machines and traditional artisans' work at the agriculture museum in Wandlitz. In late summer, the Naturpark- & Erntefest offers live music, regional products and many events in and around nature as well as the presentation of traditional and modern forestry technology. You can easily come over by bike from Berlin.

The surrounding villages have numerous smaller and larger festivities. In mid-June Bernau celebrates the Hussite Festival and at the end of September the Festival of Ancient Music.

[Nature park administration](#)  
Tel. 033 38 – 751 760  
[Tourist-Information der Stadt Bernau bei Berlin](#)  
Tel. 033 38 – 761 919

## Naturetainment: Get out and learn!



Hobrechtsfelde

### All around the historical irrigated landscape

In the historically listed granaries, visitors learn the history and stories about the Hobrechtsfelde irrigated landscape. The journey back in time begins in the historical forest meadow through the time when forestry and agriculture were first separated. It continues to the early 20th century when the Berlin irrigation fields were closely linked with the state-owned Hobrechtsfelde estate. Today the irrigation fields are converted into a semi-public recreational landscape. Three characters who were crucial to this area guide the visitor through time: a shepherd in the Hutewald, the municipal engineer James Hobrecht and the physician Rudolf Virchow. A model shows Hobrechtsfelde when it was irrigated with Berlin sewage and farming shaped everyday life. Reports by contemporaries complete the picture of the rapid development of this landscape.

[www.gut-hobrechtsfelde.de](http://www.gut-hobrechtsfelde.de)  
Tel. 0176 – 1017 71 24



Forest school and educational trails

### Creature features

Adventure tours, pond tours, survival training or birthday parties for children and barbecues for adults, nature trails, garden, playgrounds and fireplaces, the Waldschulen – forest schools – in the nature park offer a wide array of events and facilities. Located in the middle of the forest they are an ideal point of departure for many nature adventures. Schools and kindergartens, tourists, families, companies, all are welcome in the four forest schools.

[Waldschule Bogensee](#)  
Tel. 03 33 97 – 292 14  
[Waldschule Bucher Forst](#)  
Tel. 030 – 9411 47 33  
[Waldschule Briesetal](#)  
Tel. 033 03– 40 22 62  
[Wald-Solar-Heim Eberswalde](#)  
Tel. 033 34 – 28 92 45



Adventure trail

### Dandelions at the gateway to Berlin

The Löwenzahnpfad – the dandelion trail – is a mere fifteen minutes from S-Bahnhof Mühlenbeck / Mönchmühle. In the conservation area "Schönerlinder Teiche" the visitors can explore the wildlife around hedges, meet four-legged landscape gardeners such as the water buffalo or the Konik, and watch the birds in the ponds.

If you want to combine digital and natural, go on a geocache treasure hunt. The coordinates can be found in the internet under: [www.tivi.de/fernsehen/loewenzahn/index/16732/index.html](http://www.tivi.de/fernsehen/loewenzahn/index/16732/index.html)





Tourismusverein Naturpark Barnim e. V.  
Outpost Wandlitz  
Bahnhofsplatz 2  
16348 Wandlitz  
Tel. 033 397 – 672 77

Tourist-Information Biesenthal  
Am Markt 1  
16359 Biesenthal  
Tel. 033 37 - 490 718

Tourist-Information der Stadt  
Bernau bei Berlin  
Bürgermeisterstraße 4  
16321 Bernau  
Tel. 033 38 – 761 919

Tourismusverein Oranienburg  
und Umland e. V.  
Schloßplatz 2  
16515 Oranienburg  
Tel. 033 01 – 600 81 10

Liebenwalder Touristeninformation  
mit Café  
Havelstraße 1 a  
16559 Liebenwalde  
Tel. 033 054 – 907 72

Tourist-Information Eberswalde  
Steinstraße 3  
16225 Eberswalde  
Tel. 033 34 – 645 20

Tourist-Information im Familiengarten  
Am Alten Walzwerk 1  
16277 Eberswalde  
Tel. 033 34 - 38 49 10

BARNIM PANORAMA  
Breitscheidstraße 8-9  
16348 Wandlitz  
Tel. 033 397 – 68 19 20  
[www.barnim-panorama.de](http://www.barnim-panorama.de)

Kornspeicher Hobrechtsfelde  
Hobrechtsfelder Dorfstraße 45  
16341 Panketal/Hobrechtsfelde  
mobile 0176 – 1017 71 24  
[www.gut-hobrechtsfelde.de/kornspeicher](http://www.gut-hobrechtsfelde.de/kornspeicher)

Kreismuseum Oranienburg  
Schlossplatz 1  
16515 Oranienburg  
Tel. 033 01 – 601 56 88

Gedenkstätte (Memorial) Sachsenhausen  
Straße der Nationen 22  
16515 Oranienburg / OT Sachsenhausen  
Tel. 033 01 – 20 02 00  
[www.stiftung-bg.de/gums/de](http://www.stiftung-bg.de/gums/de)

Heimatmuseum (Local history museum)  
Liebenwalde  
Marktplatz 20  
16559 Liebenwalde  
Tel. 033 054 – 805 55  
[www.museum-im-knast.de](http://www.museum-im-knast.de)

Stadtmuseum (City museum)  
in der Adlerapotheke  
Steinstraße 3  
16225 Eberswalde  
Tel. 033 34 – 645 20  
[www.museum-eberswalde.de](http://www.museum-eberswalde.de)

Forstbotanischer Garten  
Am Zainhammer 5  
16225 Eberswalde  
Tel. 033 34 – 65 74 76

Heimatmuseum (Local history museum)  
Bernau – Steintor  
Berliner Straße  
16321 Bernau  
Tel. 033 38 – 29 24

Heimatmuseum (Local history museum)  
Bernau - Henkerhaus  
Am Henkerhaus  
16321 Bernau  
Tel. 033 38 – 22 45

Heidekrautbahnmuseum  
An der Wildbahn 2A  
16348 Wandlitz / OT Basdorf  
Tel. 033 397 – 726 56  
[www.berliner-eisenbahnfreunde.de/  
heidekrautbahn-museum](http://www.berliner-eisenbahnfreunde.de/heidekrautbahn-museum)

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinforma-  
tion Brandenburg (editor), Topografische  
Freizeitkarte 1:30.000 Barnimer Feldmark  
und Naturpark Barnim (Freizeitkarten  
Barnimer Land), Potsdam 2008  
ISBN 978-3-7490-4155-8

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinforma-  
tion Brandenburg (editor), Topografische  
Freizeitkarte 1:50.000 Naturpark Barnim,  
Ausgabe mit Wanderwegen, Potsdam,  
4. edition 2010  
ISBN 978-3-7490-4092-6



Märkische Schweiz Nature Park

# Splendid heights and gorgeous gorges

Naturpark  
Märkische Schweiz



## Nature park at a glance

### Great scenic views

- Observation towers at Altfriedländer Teiche: hiking trail from Altfriedland
- Water tower Waldsiefersdorf
- Panorama route Schermützelsee
- Dachsberg near Kleiner Tornowsee

### Recommended tours

- Certified "Naturparkroute Märkische Schweiz" (approx. 20 km)
- "NaturaTrail" (approx. 17 km) through the gorges and ravines of the Märkische Schweiz
- Culinary cycling tour by the Nature Park Administration "Höfe, Landschaft und Produkte"
- Around the Schermützelsee: from Buckow/ Marktplatz via Schwarze Kehle, Weiße Taube, Langer Grund, Grenzkehle, Fischerkehle and return to Buckow / youth hostel (approx. 7.5 km)

### More tips

- Kneipp spa Buckow with Brecht-Weigel-Haus, farmers' townhouses and summer villas, railway museum and beach
- Altfriedland with monastery ruin and church
- Müncheberg with parish church
- Waldsiefersdorf with water tower, exhibition centre and public bath
- Bat museum and Eiskeller in Julianenhof
- Dorfanger Ihlow, fieldstone church, manor park and manor house
- Garzau with castle and pyramid
- Observatory Liebenhof
- Castle and park Neuhardenberg

To enjoy the beauty of an – almost – Swiss-like landscape with high peaks and deep ravines you don't have to travel to the Alps. Just leave Berlin for the East and you'll be right there in the Märkische Schweiz. The oldest and smallest of Brandenburg's nature parks, and the only one whose entire area is protected, features almost all of the state's different landscape forms. The park is a legacy of the last ice age of about 12,000 years. "Kehlen", deep ravines that were formed by melt waters, are unique to the Märkische Schweiz. Many of the various bodies of water – lakes, ponds and moors – were created when huge trapped and often buried blocks of ice melted long after the receding glaciers had freed the landscape of its icy cover. The landscapes variety includes streams, fishponds and springs, deciduous forests, fields, meadows and hedges. Near Münchehofe there is even a small sand dune.

The descriptive addition "Schweiz" (Switzerland) to an area's name was in fashion about 160 years ago and is now used by more than 60 different geographical areas in Germany. Here "Swiss" does not refer to the Alps proper but rather to the Swiss midlands, which at the time was considered to fulfil the Romanticists ideals of a cultural and natural landscape.

It is an ideal that hikers travelling along the Panorama Trail or on the Bollersdorfer Heights can easily understand. Here you have a far-reaching view of a lake shrouded in local folklore, the largest, deepest and most beautiful lake in the region, the Schermützelsee. Other views of this ideal are afforded from Krugberg, at 129 m the highest mountain in the Märkische Schweiz, where you look over the expanses of the Pritzhagener Feldmark, or from Dachsberg Mountain with its view down onto the Kleine Tornowsee. In addition to Schermützelsee – with an area of 146 hectares and up to 40 m deep – other large lakes include Große Klobichsee, Buckowsee and Große Däbersee, which all have an area of more than 10 hectares and are more than 10 m deep. The Stobber River, the main flowing body of water in the park, drops a total of 43 m in the 25 km that stretch through the park – giving it the characteristics of an near-alpine stream.

More than one-third of the park is forest. The "Buckower Kessel" and the "Kehlen" have a very moist climate, the kind of conditions preferred by mixed beech woodland. The name of the city of Buckow is derived from the Slavic word for beech tree "buk".



## Schweizer Haus Visitors Centre

The Schweizer Haus, the visitors centre of the nature park, was opened in 2000, the 10th anniversary of the park. The site in Buckow had previously been used as a bark mill and a fulling mill, a guesthouse, restaurant and vacation home and in the end it had fallen into disrepair after many years of vacancy. The Schweizer Haus is located on the edge of the little Kneipp spa town right at the nature conservation area Stobbertal. As point of departure for many hikes and tours it is truly the gate to the Märkische Schweiz Nature Park.

The centre houses an exhibition on the nature park as well as the park administration. A aerial video shows a bird's eye view of the park, wolves, the white-tailed eagle, kingfisher and the pond turtle are confined to their display cabinets. Groups can book different offerings of the "green classroom". The indoor exhibition space and the outdoor area towards the little Stobber River are linked offering a smooth transition from architecture to nature.

The exhibition focuses on the development of the landscape. Tuman the mammoth accompanies you through the ice age. This helps explain the most important landscape elements in the Märkische Schweiz and the force of ice in shaping it.



At the site of today's visitors centre of the nature park in Buckow stood a bark mill and fulling mill until the mid-18th century where clothmakers fulled wool and shoemakers tanned leather.

Alternating photographic exhibitions are on display in the seminar room.

Brandenburg's mini-Alps are blessed with rich biological diversity. Heraldic animal of the nature park is the common clubtail, a dragonfly. Otter, beaver, fire-bellied toad, European pond turtle, black and white stork, spined loach and pond loach are some of the species to look out for in the park. In spring the forest ground is covered with a blossoming blue and yellow blanket of anemone and liver wort.

At the counter you can find suggestions for activities and flyers with route descriptions to take away. You can also buy hiking maps. The lady or gentleman behind the counter certainly also has a special tip in store.

### Schweizer Haus Visitors Centre

Nature Park administration  
Lindenstraße 33  
15377 Buckow  
Tel. 033 433 – 158 -41, -47, -48  
schweizer.haus@lfu.brandenburg.de  
np-maerkische-schweiz@lfu.brandenburg.de  
www.maerkische-schweiz-naturpark.de

### Opening hours

January – December:  
Mon – Sun 10 am – 16 pm  
and by appointment

### How to get there

S-Bahn S 5 until Strausberg or Strausberg Nord, continue by bicycle  
From Müncheberg also seasonal travel with the museum train to Buckow  
www.bahn.de  
www.vbbonline.de





## Excursions and activities

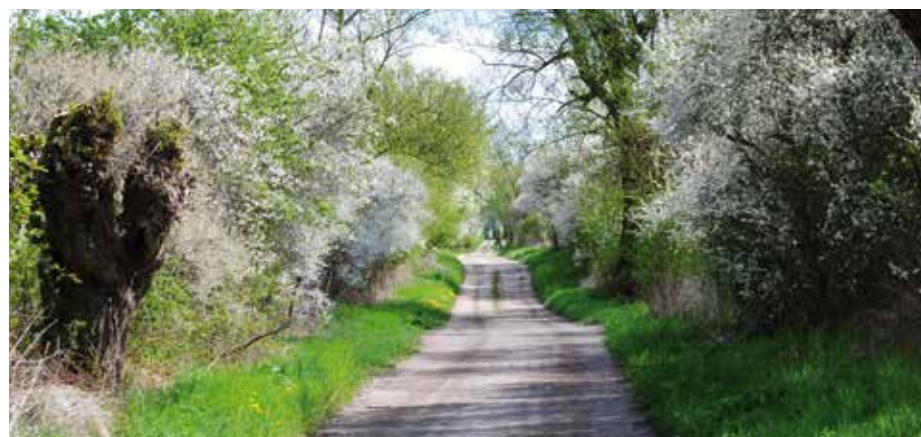


Worth the effort

### Intensive biotope care in the Naturpark Märkische Schweiz

The wet meadows with more than ten orchid varieties or the small patches of dry meadow with a multitude of endangered insects are some of the outstanding biotopes in the nature park. Both habitat types are maintained intensively according to the specifications of the nature park administration and the FFH protected area officer, with the help of many hours of volunteer work. A shepherd has his flock maintain the dry meadow areas. Other contractors care for the species-rich wet meadows—in part with mixed herds—that usually cannot be operated with conventional methods.

The idea of low technology but high human and animal input bears not fruit but blossoms: between 2000 and 2008 the number of blooming western marsh orchids (*Dactylorhiza majalis*) increased from 50 to 1,500.



Hiking routes

### A far flung net with a fine mesh

Starting points for hikes on the 150 km of trails are the towns of Buckow, Waldsieversdorf, Münchehofe, Pritzhagen, Ihlow, Prötzel and Altfriedland. The routes are clearly marked and are equipped with benches, information signs and shelters. Guided hikes, specialist excursions and tours on local history are offered by the park administration and rangers, the tourist information office, the history and Kneipp club in Buckow, the association Langes Haus in Altfriedland as well as the Forest School and the ecological education centre "Drei Eichen".

Kultur- und Tourismusamt Buckow  
Tel. 033 433 – 659-82, -83  
[touristinfo@amt-maerkische-schweiz.de](mailto:touristinfo@amt-maerkische-schweiz.de)

### Natural monument Wurzelfichte Old tree in deep hollow

Not far from Drachenkehle (which can be interpreted as dragon's throat or as dragon's ravine), on the banks of Sophienfließ, you will find the Wurzelfichte (rooted spruce). The river has washed away the earth covering the far-reaching roots of this 30 m high and 160 year old spruce tree so that caves have formed in the space in between – a spectacular sight, even after a storm has snapped the tree above the roots.

Nature park administration  
Tel. 03 34 33 – 158 48, -47

### Stobber and Stobbertal Upstairs for fish

An exceptional hiking trail brings you to Stobber and its alley, the Stobbertal, which is renowned as a habitat for many rare plants and animals. The Pritzhagen mill and the Eichendorf mill are the only settlements in the Stobbertal conservation area. Look for rarities such as liverwort, lungwort and yellow anemone, European terrapin, clubtail dragonflies, kingfisher, beaver or water shrew.

There used to be eight mills on the Stobber, producing energy. Since the dams hindered the upstream migration of the fish they were rebuilt to create step-like cascades. The fish can now move upstream step by step. With every new step the number of species in the Stobber River increased. The clear, fast-moving water is home to rare species of fish such as chub, bitterling, spined loach and weather loach. Visitors can find out more by looking at the information boards.

Nature park administration  
Tel. 033 433 – 158-48, -47



Bicycle trips

### The discovery of slowness

The partially paved European cycle trail R 1 passes the nature park from Garzau via Garzin, Liebenhof, Bergschäferei, Waldsieversdorf, Drei Eichen, Münchehofe to Obersdorf. In the idyllic villages you will come across farmsteads and manors, gates and cemetery walls and numerous churches built of red-brick or stone. Village ponds and orchards, old hedges around the fields and meadows and a landscape of fields, woodlands remind of the centuries of give and take between

mankind and nature.

"Höfe, Landschaft und Produkte" (Farms, Landscape and Products) is the motto of the nature park administration's "culinary cycling tours". The brochures contain maps and information for the individual tourist. The nature park administration, Naturwacht and the tourist information office in Buckow and the History & Kneipp Club offer guided cycling tours centred on special themes such as the Seven Lakes Tour (Sieben-Seen-Tour), tours to the old Stobber mills, to palaces and manor houses and through the almost untouched marshland known as Rote Luch.

Kultur- und Tourismusamt Buckow

Tel. 033 433 – 659-82, -83

"Höfe, Landschaft und Produkte" under  
[www.maerkische-schweiz-naturpark.de](http://www.maerkische-schweiz-naturpark.de)



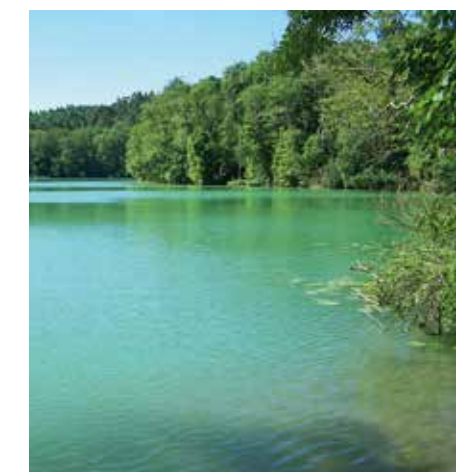
Altfriedland, Dahmsdorf, Ihlow, Buckow and Pritzhagen

### Award-winning communities

Altfriedland, Dahmsdorf and Ihlow were awarded the title "Nature Park Community of the Year" for their efforts to maintain their traditional village structure and appearance, keep the old buildings alive with new ideas and develop the community so that it is in harmony with nature and allows for ecologically sound tourism.

Altfriedland is the heart of the European bird preserve Märkische Schweiz. In the fall, the observation posts on the Altfriedland ponds will let you revel at hearing up to 40,000 bean and white-fronted geese. With a bit of luck you can even see white-tailed eagle and osprey on the hunt. Altfriedland is an old tobacco cultivation area and a fisherman's paradise. This is the site of the annual Fisherman's Fest and there are summer concerts in the convent church. Klostersee offers a wonderful swimming spot. It is also worth your while to visit the cloister and the refectory at the ruins of the Cistercian cloister. The local tourist information office offers interesting guided tours to the old presbytery, the "Langen Haus" (Long House) and the old tobacco barns.

The village of Ihlow, with a population of 160, has an idyllic commons with several ponds. In the summer there are concerts in the late-Romanesque stone church. The village is dominated by the manor house and park, surrounded by the many stone buildings, gardens and flowerbeds, flowers and fruit trees, not to forget the stork's nest where young storks are raised every year. In May/June you can hear the "bells of the countryside", the sonorous call of the fire-bellied toad. And no longer really a secret is



Schermützelsee

### What a wonderful day

Schermützelsee is a lake that is just perfect for a weekend outing. Go swimming or for a boat ride or walk around the lake on romantic trails with beautiful vistas. And don't worry: plenty of inns along the lake make sure you won't suffer hunger or thirst. Legend has it that the town of Alt Buckow disappeared in the depths of the up to 40 m deep lake.

Kultur- und Tourismusamt Buckow

Tel. 033 433 – 659-82, -83



the Gärtnerhof Ihlow with its on-site sales of flowers, its vacation apartments and cosy country outings in a horse-drawn wagon. Dahmsdorf belongs to Müncheberg and in 2003 celebrated its 750th anniversary. Here too fieldstone constructions are characteristic, along with a church dating from the 13th century and numerous ponds. Regional traditions are maintained in Dahmsdorf, e.g. old craft techniques such as weaving, spinning and felt production, along with the knowledge of medicinal herbs and many other things grandmother could still do. The spa towns Buckow and Pritzhagen were also "Nature Park Communities of the Year". [Fremdenverkehrsverein Altfriedland e. V.](#) Tel. 033 476 – 509 57  
[Biohof Ihlow](#)  
 Tel. 033 437 – 897 89  
[Zachariashof Ihlow](#)  
[www.zachariashof-ihlow.de](#)  
[Förderverein Dahmsdorfer Kirche e. V.](#)  
 Tel. 033 432 – 714 75  
[Waldpferdehof / Ökolandbau / Hofladen in Müncheberg-Dahmsdorf](#)  
 Tel. 033 432 – 99 97 66  
[www.waldpferdehof.de](#)  
[Gestüt Senftleben und Gasthof & Pension „Pritzhagener Heide“](#)  
 Tel. 033 433 – 842  
[www.pritzhagen.de](#)  
[Habondia-Hof und Heilehaus Dahmsdorf](#)  
[www.habondia.de](#)



## Buckow

### Where poets came to rest

The railroad to Küstrin, completed in 1867, opened a new suburban playground for Berliners. The charming town of Buckow in particular became very popular with the bohème: the poets Adalbert von Chamisso, the writer Theodor Fontane, the journalist Egon Erwin Kisch, Bertolt Brecht and Helene Weigel all fell in love with Buckow which, embedded in the Buckower Kessel, is surrounded by five lakes. The small town, with a population of only 1,700, is an officially recognised Kneipp spa. Already in 1854 the royal physician to the Prussian King Frederic William IV recommended the town to his famous patient with the words: "Your Majesty, in Buckow your lungs will walk on velvet." The town is characterised in part by the old "Ackerbürgerhäuser", the townhouses of local yeomanry, and summer villas. Many buildings have been lovingly restored, some with the help of EU funds, such as the Brecht-Weigel Haus. The literature museum hosts the "Literature summer", an event that attracts 11,000 visitors per year. The town has many other cultural highlights to offer including the concert series "Classic in the countryside", "Music in village churches" and "Religious evening music". During the "long night" visitors can discover the culture and the countryside of Buckow all night long. The traditional Buckow "Rosentage" (Days of Roses) remind the visitor of Buckow's significance as a town of rose growers and cultivators. [Kultur- und Tourismusamt Buckow](#)  
 Tel. 033 433 – 659-82, -83



## Waldsiedersdorf

### Tourism trailblazers

Only 2 km away from Buckow is the village of Waldsiedersdorf. The community, together with Buckow and Bollersdorf, belongs to the traditional core of the tourist area Märkische Schweiz and is an officially recognised resort. Here visitors will find beautiful hiking trails with enchanting viewpoints such as the Däbersee with the remains of a Slavic refuge, the "Schwedenschanze", idyllic paths to Buckow, Münchehofe and into the Rote Luch. There is a beach and rowboat rentals, a water tower, which is under preservation order and is the town's landmark, a floral clock, an equatorial sundial and an exhibition room on local history. The traditional Hunter's fest and the Vier-Seen Triathlon are events that visitors have come to associate with the name Waldsiedersdorf. [www.waldsiedersdorf.info](#)  
[John-Heartfield-Haus](#)  
[www.heartfield.de](#)

## Bollersdorf

### Old estate village

Bollersdorf lies about 1 km northwest of the Schermützelsee on the Barnim plateau. From there hikers have a beautiful view of the lake, Buckow and the richly forested hills of the Märkische Schweiz. The appearance and development of this typical estate village is characterised by its agricultural nature. The village commons with the pond and the stone church form an entity. The renewal of the village was supported by the EU Fund for Rural Development. [Kultur- und Tourismusamt Buckow](#)  
 Tel. 033 433 – 659 -82, -83



## Pritzhagen

### Horse country and more

Pritzhagen, a small village located at the edge of the conservation area "Stobbertal", features a church that dates back to about 1350. The restaurant and guesthouse "Pritzhagener Heide" on the horse farm Senftleben is popular with the horsey crowd, not only during the traditional Pferdetage, the horse days. The farm offers cross-border trails from the Märkische Schweiz nature park to the Polish nature park "Warthemündung".

Along the Junker-Hansen-Kehle, a ravine south of the village, you get to the Große Tornowsee (where swimming is allowed) and the Kleine Tornowsee. Right at the shore is the impressive manor Haus Tornow and only a few minutes away at the Stobber you will find the oldest "tourist inn" of Märkische Schweiz, the "Pritzhagener Mühle". The site has held a mill since 1375. [www.pritzhagen.de](#)

## Naturetainment: Get out and learn!



## Julianenhof

### Bats in the ice cellar

There are eight different kinds of bats that live at Julianenhof. That spawned the idea to start an international bat museum. One ice cellar is now refurbished, not simply as winter quarters for bats, but also as witness to the history of an old cooling technology. An exhibition informs the visitors from May to October about the bygone era when natural ice was a luxury and refrigerators as yet unknown. Those who want to visit the exhibition have to register with the visitor information centre of the nature park beforehand. [Internationales Fledermauseum Julianenhof](#)  
[www.fledermauseum-julianenhof.de](#)



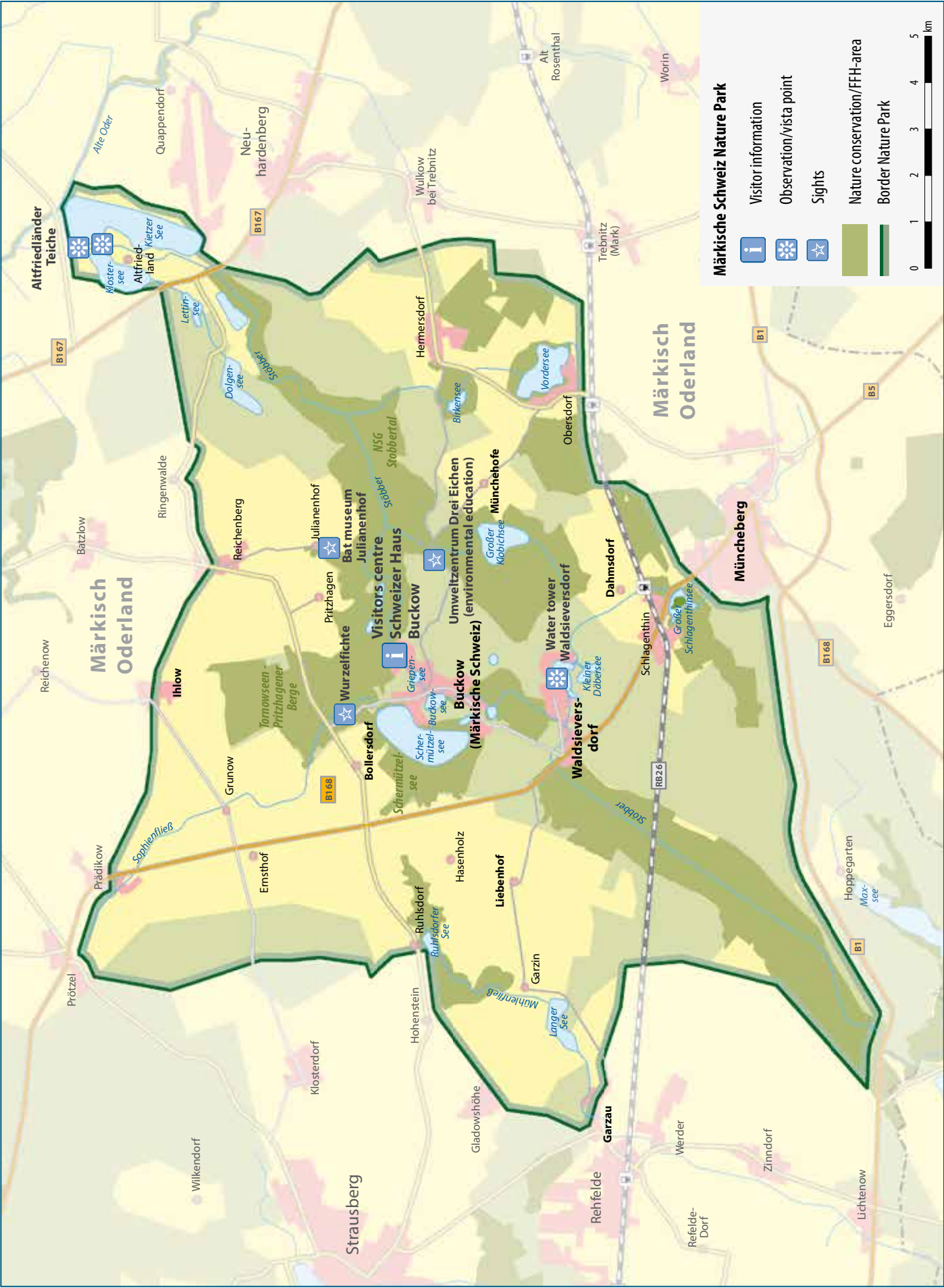
## Environmental education in Märkische Schweiz Nature Park

### Hiking and sleeping "Indian style"

The project centre "Drei Eichen" offers accommodation and great vacation ideas. It focuses on guided adventure tours into the wilderness, project days and trips for school classes. ÖkoLea is an eco-community in Klosterdorf where 26 persons live and work. On an old farm they operate a bakery, an organic garden and an educational centre, offering many events on diverse issues such as ecology, art, crafts and health.

JugendUmweltHaus in Müncheberg also offers events, exhibitions, seminars and presentation for school classes on issues on nature and the environment. A "nature garden" serves as an outdoor laboratory in the middle of a small town in Brandenburg. [www.dreieichen.de](#)  
[Drei Eichen](#)  
 Tel. 033 4 33 – 201  
[ÖkoLea Bildungswerk,](#)  
[www.seminarhaus.oekolea.de](#)  
 Tel. 033 41 – 359 39 30





Schweizer Haus Visitors Centre  
Nature park administration  
Lindenstraße 33  
15377 Buckow  
Tel. 033 433 – 158 -41, -47, -48  
schweizer.haus@lfu.brandenburg.de  
np-maerkische-schweiz@lfu.brandenburg.de  
www.maerkische-schweiz-naturpark.de

Naturwacht (Ranger) Märkische Schweiz  
Tel. 033 433 – 60 63  
maerkischeschweiz@naturwacht.de

MAPS

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinformation  
Brandenburg (editor), Topografische Freizeit-  
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& Gewässerkarte, Grünes Herz Verlag,  
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2003, ISBN: 3-931021-48-3

Dierk Heerwagen, Unterwegs im Naturpark  
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2001, ISBN 3-930388-21-9

Berger, Thomas, Domnick, Hans,  
Die Märkische Schweiz – Ein Kleinod ost-  
deutscher Landschaften, Findling-Verlag,  
Werneuchen 2005  
ISBN 978-3-933603-31-9

TOURIST INFORMATION

Kultur- und Tourismusamt Märkische  
Schweiz  
Sebastian-Kneipp-Weg 1  
15377 Buckow  
Tel. 033 433 – 659 -82, -83

Verein Langes Haus Altfriedland e. V.  
Fischerstraße 21  
15320 Altfriedland  
Tel. 033 476 – 509 57

Touristinformation Müncheberg  
(Torwächterhäuschen)  
Ernst-Thälmann Straße 101  
15374 Müncheberg  
Tel. 033 432 – 709 31

Environmental education

Drei Eichen, Besucherzentrum  
für Natur- und Umwelterziehung  
Königstraße 62  
15377 Buckow  
Tel. 033 433 – 201  
info@dreichen.de  
www.dreichen.de

ÖkoLea Bildungswerk  
Hohensteiner Weg 3  
15377 Oberbarnim / OT Klosterdorf  
Tel. 033 41 – 359 39 30  
info@oekolea.de  
www.seminarhaus.oekolea.de

“Schweizer Bären”  
Junior-Ranger der Naturwacht  
Schweizer Haus  
Lindenstraße 33  
15377 Buckow  
Tel. 033 433 – 60 63

Sternwarte Liebenhof Märkische Schweiz  
Peter Eichelkraut  
15345 Garzau-Garzin / OT Liebenhof Nr. 7  
Tel. 033 433 – 571 79  
sternwarte-maerkische-schweiz@gmx.net  
www.sternwarte-maerkische-schweiz.net





Schlaubetal Nature Park

## Jewel of East Brandenburg

Naturpark  
Schlaubetal

## Nature park at a glance

## Great scenic views

- Observation tower Reicherskreuzer Heide and tour
- Observation point "Himmel & Hölle" on the cycling trail south of the Großer Treppensee
- Waterfowl observation hut on the west bank of the Großer Treppensee

## Recommended tours

- Certified "Schlaubetal Hiking Route" from Müllrose to Wirschensee
- Monks' tour – Mönchstour, (3 days, 103 km) Bicycle tour through the valleys of Schlaube, Oelse and Dorche and through the Oder-Neiße region
- Bicycle tour Oder-Schlaube-Spree (approx. 46 km)
- Hiking trail Wirschensee, (4 km)
- Hiking tour around the Große Müllroser See (approx. 9 km)
- "Mill tour" Bremsdorfer Mühle via Kieselwitzer Mühle, Klingelmühle, Jankemühle, Walkemühle, back to Bremsdorfer Mühle (approx. 14 km)
- Hiking tour through the valley of the Dorche (approx. 7 km; approx. 2 hours)
- Educational trail on the Planfließ, starts at Bremsdorfer Mühle (5 km)
- Historic forest educational trail in Dammendorf (3 km)
- Kingfisher trail near Rießen (3 km)

## More tips

- Müllrose: historic old town
- Educational trail to the historical buildings in Dammendorf

The most beautiful small river valley in East Brandenburg lies only about an hour's drive by car southeast of Berlin: the Schlaubetal. The little town of Müllrose in Mark Brandenburg is its northerly gateway and the entrance to the nature park of the same name. On its 20 km journey through the valley the enchanting Schlaube undergoes a considerable change: Leaving its spring in the meadows at Wirche, it transverses Wirschensee and winds like a mountain stream through steep ravines that are up to 30 m deep with free-flowing tributary streams to reach the large Lake Müllrose as a tame meadow brook.

Look for the "flying jewel", the kingfisher, going about its fishing business in the clear water or the elegant lemon-yellow grey wagtail with its graceful, almost dance-like movements. The comical love-play of the great crested grebe is fun to watch and the hammering of the woodpeckers is difficult to miss. And if you are particularly lucky a white-tailed eagle soars majestically over the romantic scenery.

The Schlaubetal – like almost all Brandenburg landscapes – was shaped by the last two ice ages. They left behind a varied landscape in a small space, at times flat, at others undulating and at many places breathtakingly beautiful.

On the wet meadows orchids grow, and butterflies of all colours flutter in the summer wind. Almost 700 butterfly species have been identified in the Schlaubetal Nature Park.

In addition to the forests and ravines, lakes, ponds and bogs, meadows and inland dunes, all preserved in their original state, there is the heath, the Reicherskreuzer Heide. Together with the Schlaubetal it forms the heart of the nature park, linked by the

valley of the Dorche in the east to the water-meadow landscape of the Oder and Neiße and the Gubener recreation area in the south with its many bathing lakes. In spring Reicherskreuzer is a sea of yellow broom blossom and later, at the end of August, when the heather is in bloom, as a purple carpet. In the evenings and at night the nightjar calls and the scent of marsh tea, the "moth plant", hangs bewitchingly in the air.

Autumn is the season of the mushroom gatherers, when chanterelles, ceps and edible boletus fill the baskets. Other fruits of the forest, like cranberries and whortleberries, wait to be picked and turned into delicious jams. Autumn enchants the forest with the most beautiful colours and whimsical reflections on the water. But beware – the red deer with its imposing roar at the time of the rut in October feels anything but romantic!

These marvels big and small are discovered only by those who take the time and move along East Brandenburg's most beautiful valley in the slow rhythm of nature. On foot or by bicycle is ideal: The Spree-Neiße-Radwanderweg is a very well maintained supra-regional bike trail from Reicherskreuz to Pinnow right through Reicherskreuzer Heide.

The history of the region is closely intertwined with Kloster Neuzelle, a Cistercian abbey, today a cultural monument of national importance. Many old mills in the valleys of the Schlaube, Oelse and Dorche speak of the medieval times when water was a major source of energy. Some of the mills have entirely disappeared, other were turned into popular inns for day tourists.

Schlaubemühle  
Nature Conservation Centre

The BUND Naturschutzzentrum (conservation facility) is located near the Wirschensee. The lake, which is rich in fish, covers an area of 36 hectares and is up to 16 m deep. Along its steep banks, which make the lake less suitable for bathing, runs a tree-lined, 4 km long nature trail that leads past the Waldsee Hotel, the Försterblick viewing point and the area of springs feeding the Schlaube.

The programme of the Schlaubemühle BUND Nature Conservation Centre is geared towards groups of children, pupils and tourists but all visitors are welcome (and overnight accommodation is available).

BUND Naturschutz- und  
Informationszentrum Schlaubemühle

15898 Neuzelle / OT Treppeln  
(on the road from Treppeln to Groß Muckrow)  
Tel. 033 673 – 59 52  
[schlaubemuehle@t-online.de](mailto:schlaubemuehle@t-online.de)

## Opening hours

Details by telephone query  
033 655 – 59 17 30

Nature Park Administration  
Naturpark Schlaubetal

Siehdichum 6  
15890 Siehdichum / OT Schernsdorf  
Tel. 033 655 – 59 17 30  
[np-schlaubetal@lfu.brandenburg.de](mailto:np-schlaubetal@lfu.brandenburg.de)  
[www.schlaubetal-naturpark.de](http://www.schlaubetal-naturpark.de)

## How to get there

RE 1 until Jacobsdorf, from there continue with excursion line, A 400 via Müllrose, Kupferhammer and Bremsdorf to Wirschensee, from 1 May – 3 October, 3x daily  
weekends and holidays  
[www.bahn.de](http://www.bahn.de)  
[www.bos-fw.de](http://www.bos-fw.de)



In the autumn, splendid foliage makes for a colourful walk around the Großer Treppensee.



# Excursions and activities



Hiking and cycling

## The journey is its own reward

The Schlaubetal features a well signposted network of hiking and cycling trails. A highlight is the certified hiking route from Müllrose along the Schlaube with its mills all the way to Wirschensee. In 2016 it was nominated one of the ten most beautiful hiking trails in Germany. Many hiking trails lead along the waters and past inns. Dirt tracks catering for the adventurous cyclists as well as family-friendly paved cycling paths are found throughout the nature park. From the town of Müllrose cycle paths lead along the Schlaube, in the north to the Helenesee or eastwards to the Friedrich-Wilhelm Canal. In the south cyclists can link the tour with a jump into the cooling waters of the Groß See or the Pinnower See. If you want to combine nature and culture, try the Mönchs-tour. A leisurely tour takes you along the Oder and Neiße towards Eisenhüttenstadt. From Guben the large Neiße bridge crosses to the Polish side.

When hunger strikes stop at any one of the numerous inns in the nature park and the Oder-Neiße region to enjoy a "Schlaubetal Teller" or "Schlaubetal Platter" filled with regional goodies. This special, for EUR 12-15, is brought to you by the Nature park administ-

ration and the regional tourist offices. Don't get lost – get a map: "Naturpark Schlaubetal" hiking map and the Fahrrad- und Erlebniskarte Seenland Oder-Spree, published by the Tourismusverband Seenland Oder Spree.



Fishing

## Footprints in the sand

In the nature park, a paradise for anglers, most of the water is fished. Responsible anglers leave nothing behind than their footprints at their idyllic fishing spot. Information can be obtained via the tourist offices about water controlled by the DAV (German Angling Association), local farmers and fishing licences.

Fischer Weidner  
Tel. 033 655 – 211  
[www.fischerei-weidner.de](http://www.fischerei-weidner.de)  
Schlaubefisch  
Tel. 033 603 – 210  
Lothar Baitsch  
mobil 0172 – 470 62 98

You can obtain information about the DAV waters, tenants, and angling maps from the tourist offices.

Landesanglerverband Brandenburg e. V.  
Tel. 0331 – 743 01 10  
Schlaubetal-Information Müllrose  
Tel. 033 606 – 772 90  
Tourismusinformation Neuzelle  
Tel. 033 652 – 61 02



Kloster Neuzelle

## Baroque splendour with the Black Abbot

Traces of the Cistercian monks of Neuzelle are ever present in the nature park. In 1368, Henry "the brilliant", Margrave of Meißen, founded the Neuzelle monastery. It survived the Reformation and continued as a monastery until 1817. Today Kloster Neuzelle is a cultural monument of national importance. It represents one of the few completely preserved Cistercian monasteries in Brandenburg, and is counted among the greatest Baroque monuments of North

and East Germany.

During the roughly five hundred years of its active existence the monks practised forestry, established ponds to farm fish for the periods of fasting and were active in viticulture. In the middle of the 18th century the monastery garden at Neuzelle was developed into a Baroque garden. The support of the EU Fund for Rural Development and grants from Land Brandenburg have been used since 1993 to restore the monastery buildings and the garden. Visitors like to enjoy the restored magnificence of the Baroque monastery church, visit one of the temporary exhibitions in the simple cloister, listen to an opera in the inner court of the monastery or take a stroll in the Baroque park.

The new museum exhibits the "passion at the holy grave", commissioned in 1751, an almost life-sized group of wooden figures, finished with linseed oil paint. Many a visitor is keen to make the acquaintance of the Schwarzer Abt or Black Abbot: This full-bodied black beer, which because of its ingredients cannot be called "beer" under German law, comes from the monastery brewery. Friends and acquaintances of the Black Abbot can look round the monastery brewery. People who like something unusual can have themselves pampered in the first European beer bath at the hotel called the Landhotel Kummerower Hof", using beer from the monastery brewery.

The Klosterhotel will also initiate its guests in the distillery secrets. Lovers of nature are not short-changed either: From the terrace of the Siedichum forester's house, the former hunting lodge of the Abbot of Neuzelle, one can watch the lively goings-on in a colony of herons.

Tourismusinformation Neuzelle  
Tel. 033 652 – 61 02

Klosterbrauerei Neuzelle, Tours  
Tel. 033 652 – 81 00

Gasthaus "Forsthaus Siedichum"  
Tel. 033 655 – 210



Bomsdorfer Park

## Old family estate

Bomsdorf was the only village in the area that did not belong to Neuzelle monastery. The village church is medieval and was rebuilt in 1737 in the Baroque style. The old manor house was originally built as a moated castle. In the park there are magnificent weeping purpleleaf European beeches, mighty oaks, silver poplars and ash trees, as well as numerous pools and the graves of the last owners, the von Kunow family.

Schlossgaststätte Bomsdorf  
Tel. 033 657 – 36 90 36



Erratic blocks

## Non-rolling stones

Erratic blocks, boulders, seem to "grow" in the fields but they were brought down here from Scandinavia during the two ice ages of about 170,000 and 10,000 years ago. They were gathered and set up as memorial or gravestones and used for building: Dressed by stonecutters, they served as a building material for the walls of churches, houses, stables and barns. Walls, paths and roads

too were strengthened with boulders. In the Schlaubetal, an area rich in stones, the large erratic blocks are legendary, like the 300 tonne Kobbeler Stone or the Devil's Stone (Teufelsstein). A beautiful legacy of this stony culture is the centre of the village of Reicherskreuz with its old boulder buildings and walls. Even the village bakehouse is made of boulders and still functions. The fabled darlings of the Niederlausitz, the Luttchen, are dwarves that are said to have had their homes in the Luttchenhaufen: Bronze Age barrows near Kieselwitz.



Findlingspark in Henzendorf

## Culture and history carved in stone

In the Findlingspark (erratics park) in Henzendorf an "Avenue of Scripts" has been established: Erratic blocks carved by artists according to historical models and decorated with old European and Near Eastern writings line this avenue. Moreover there are Germanic boulders and runes, Celtic and Hittite stone statues and sculptures from other cultures, statues of warriors, mythical figures and fabulous beasts like unicorns and dragons. Close by stands the "Avenue of Stones": 2,000 years of human history, from the birth of Christ onwards are documented here, with selected stones worked by artists. The idea arose in 1999 out of a German-Polish open-air exhibition by sculptors.

Nature park administration  
Tel. 033 673 – 422





The valleys of the Schlaube, Oelse and Dorche

## Some big wheels keep on turning

Today only crumbling bricks and quiet mill-ponds bear witness to the once 17 mills in the Schlaube, Oelse and Dorche valleys. The mills, built in the 15th century, were used for the grinding of corn, and later also as oil, hammer or saw mills.

Some have been preserved. In the industrial mill at Müllrose flour is still milled. The Schwerzko mill in the valley of the Dorche and the Ragow mill in the valley of the Schlaube have been lovingly restored as technical monuments.

In the former Bremsdorf mill too the mill wheel is still turning. Today there is an inn here. The Bremsdorfer Mühle Youth Hostel and a campsite offer a variety of options for rest and recuperation. There is a bathing place on the Großer Treppensee, as well as a trout farm and numerous hiking trails, including round the Kleiner Treppensee.

Schwerzkoer Mühle Dorchetel  
Tel. 033 655 – 598 66

Ragower Mühle Schlaubetal  
Tel. 033 655 – 721

Jugendherberge Bremsdorfer Mühle  
Tel. 033 654 – 272



Nature trail

## The Christophorus labyrinth

The pleasant Christophorus nature trail runs along the Schlaube near Ragow mill, 5 km south of Müllrose. The heart of the nature trail is formed by a reconstructed maze with wheelchair access, consisting of over 1,200 locusts. The exposed location of the facility also gives visitors a very good all-round view of the landscape for those who are confined to wheelchairs. Besides numerous other events taking place here, in July and August Stiftung Stift Neuzelle brings opera – OperOderSpree – to the barn.

Schlaubetalinformation Müllrose  
Tel. 033 606 – 772 90  
Stiftung Stift Neuzelle  
Tel. 033 652 – 81 40



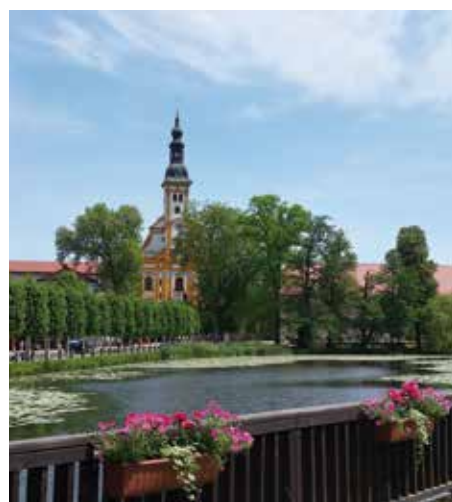
Heath

## The work of tanks and fires

For decades the army had used the heart of the nature park. Shooting and artillery practice caused fires that in turn led to the development of large, open heather areas, the so-called Brandheide. Today, these areas are managed by the "Reicherskreuzer

Heide und Schwansee" Nature Reserve and a peacefully grazing flock of sheep. Because of unexploded shells the 30 square kilometre nature reserve is fenced off. Some areas however have been cleared and visitors can explore the magnificent heath on a nature trail with observation towers or take leisurely tours by charabanc or "Langholzkutscher", a renovated farm cart, which is pulled by a tractor.

Langholzkutscherei Schulz  
in Schenkendöbern / OT Grano  
Tel. 035 693 – 205  
Pferdeverein Märkische Heide  
Tel. 035 691 – 41 05



Churches

## Old and new

Numerous churches within and without the park are worth visiting. In Neuzelle these are the Klosterkirche St. Marien, which is a former monastery, and the Kirche zum heiligen Kreuz. In the villages the restored boulder church in Möbiskrüge, the half-timbered churches in Steinsdorf and Grunow are particularly interesting. Unique is the church in Henzendorf, which brings together old and new: the tower is dated 1597, but the church itself was reconstructed in 1985 as an A-frame building.

Tourismsinformation Neuzelle  
Tel. 033 652 – 61 02



Müllrose

## Strolling along the new riverbank promenade

The little town of Müllrose, founded by a margrave in 1260, today has 4,300 inhabitants. It rose to importance in 1668 with the opening of the Friedrich-Wilhelm Canal, which links the Oder and the Spree. It is charmingly situated between the Kathari-

nensee, the Kleine Müllroser See and the Großer Müllroser See. Müllrose mill, the oldest and most important mill in the region, developed into a modern industrial facility in 1839. The town is now a health resort recognised by the State.

The "Guesthouse" or "Haus des Gastes" with the Schlaubetal information point, Heritage Museum, Library and two permanent exhibitions brings together tourism, culture and business under one roof. Müllrose offers



visitors, besides the historic marketplace, an outdoor swimming pool and a bathing beach, a nature trail and a hiking path round the Großer Müllroser See. Grants from the EU Fund for Rural Development supported the upgrade of the riverbank promenade in the centre of Müllrose – a nice stroll, particularly in spring and summer. The marina has also developed fabulously. Canoes and boats can be hired for a fantastic trip via the canal and Katharinengraben to the Katharinensee where refreshments wait at Haus Katharinensee.

Schlaubetal-Information Müllrose  
Tel. 033 606 – 772 90  
Haus Katharinensee  
Tel. 033 606 – 855 30

# Naturetainment: Get out and learn!



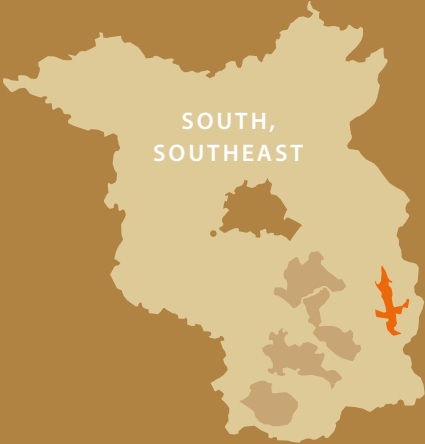
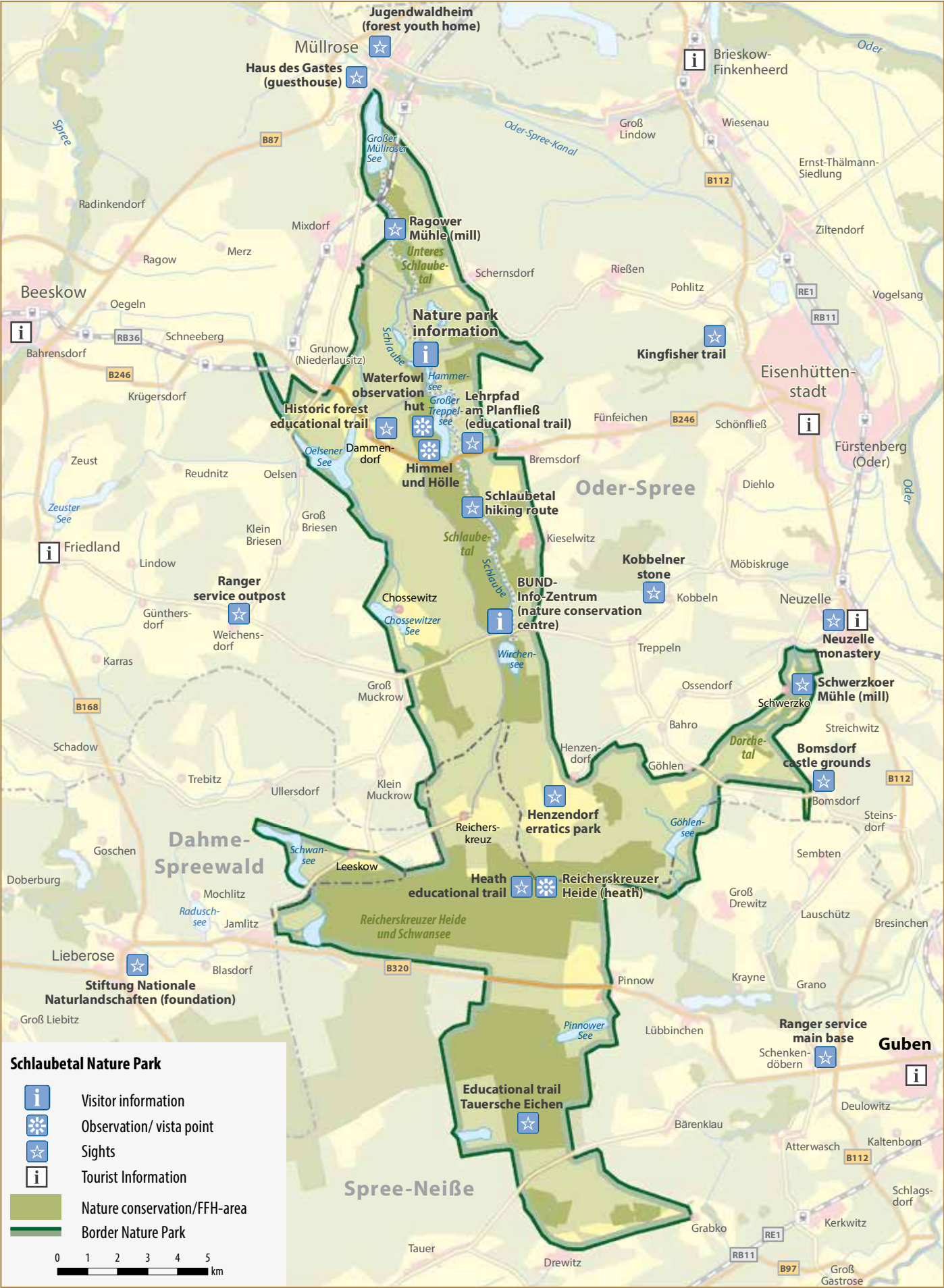
## Jugendwaldheim Müllrose Learning and leisure in the forest

In Müllrose, surrounded by a varied landscape of forest, meadows and large expanses of water, is the Jugendwaldheim Müllrose owned by the Brandenburg State Forest Service (Landesforstverwaltung Brandenburg). The Forest Youth Home has modern video and audio technology, a laboratory, teaching room, leisure and seminar rooms. A playground and games field, a campfire and barbecue area, facilities for those with

animals, a forest theatre and nature trails ensure a varied stay. Lectures, excursions, guided tours and seminars are likewise offered, as are youth forest camps and recreational stays. The range of facilities on offer is aimed not just at school pupils and young people, but also at adult visitors, families and clubs.

Jugendwaldheim Müllrose  
Tel. 033 606 – 635





Naturpark Schlaubetal  
Siedichum 6  
15890 Siedichum 6 / OT Schernsdorf  
Tel. 033 655 – 59 17 30  
np-schlaubetal@lfu.brandenburg.de  
www.schlaubetal-naturpark.de

Naturwacht (Ranger) Schlaubetal  
Main base  
Gemeindeallee 26  
03172 Schenkendöbern  
Tel. 035 61 – 559 98 46  
schenkendoebern@naturwacht.de

Outpost  
Dorfstraße 60  
15848 Friedland / OT Weichensdorf  
Tel. 033 673 – 550 97  
schlaubetal@naturwacht.de

Stiftung Naturlandschaften Brandenburg,  
Outpost Lieberose  
Tel. 033 671 – 327 88  
mobil 0171 – 454 94 73  
www.stiftung-nlb.de

MAPS

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tion Brandenburg (editor), Topographische  
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Frankfurt (Oder), Beeskow, Guben 1:50 000,  
Spezial Wander-, Rad- und Reitwegkarte,  
Blatt 741, KOMPASS-Karten GmbH (editor),  
2. edition 2011  
ISBN 978-3-85491-797-7

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Tourismus-Information Neuzelle  
Stiftsplatz 7  
15898 Neuzelle  
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tourismus@neuzelle.de  
www.neuzelle.de

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Eisenhüttenstadt e. V.  
Lindenallee 25  
15890 Eisenhüttenstadt  
Tel. 033 64 – 41 36 90  
tor-eisenhuettenstadt@t-online.de  
www.tor-eisenhuettenstadt.de

Schlaubetal-Information im Haus des Gastes  
Kietz 7  
15299 Müllrose  
Tel. 033 606 – 772 90  
service@hausdesgastes-muellrose.de  
www.schlaubetal-tourismus.de

Marketing und Tourismus Guben e. V.  
Frankfurter Straße 21  
03172 Guben  
Tel. 035 61 – 38 67  
ti-guben@t-online.de  
www.touristinformation-guben.de

Märkische Tourismuszentrale Beeskow e. V.  
Berliner Straße 30  
15848 Beeskow  
Tel. 033 66 – 422 11  
tourismus@spreereigion.de  
www.spreereigion.de

Tourist-Information Friedland  
und Umgebung e. V.  
Pestalozzistraße 3  
15848 Friedland  
Tel. 033 676 – 459 78  
tourismus@friedland-nl.de  
www.friedland-nl.de

Förderverein Schlaubemündung-  
Odertal e. V.  
Karl-Marx-Straße 28  
15295 Brieskow-Finkenheerd  
Tel. 033 609 – 72 88 11  
info@schlaubemuendung-odertal.de  
www.schlaubemuendung-odertal.de

Tourismusverband Seenland  
Oder-Spree e. V.  
Ulmenstraße 15  
15526 Bad Saarow  
Tel. 033 631 – 86 81 00

Museums

Strohhaus – Museumshof ländlicher  
Alltagskultur  
Slawengrund 11  
15898 Neuzelle  
Tel. 033 652 – 825 58  
www.neuzelle-strohhaus.de

Burg Beeskow  
Frankfurter Straße 23  
15848 Beeskow  
Tel. 033 66 – 35 27 10  
info@burg-beeskow.com  
www.burg-beeskow.de

Städtisches Museum (City museum)  
Eisenhüttenstadt  
Löwenstraße 4  
15890 Eisenhüttenstadt  
Tel. 033 64 – 21 46  
info@museum-eisenhuettenstadt.de  
www.museum-eisenhuettenstadt.de

Heimatismuseum (Local history museum)  
im Haus des Gastes  
Kietz 7  
15299 Müllrose  
Tel. 033 606 – 772 90

Heimatismuseum (Local history museum)  
“Sprucker Mühle”  
Mühlenstraße 5  
03172 Guben  
Tel. 035 61 - 6871 21 00

Dokumentationszentrum  
Alltagskultur der DDR  
Erich-Weinert-Allee 3  
15890 Eisenhüttenstadt  
Tel. 033 64 – 41 73 55  
www.alltagskultur-ddr.de

Charabanc trips

Harald Schulz, Klein Muckrow,  
Tel. 033 673 – 50 02  
Bernhard Briegert, Chossewitz,  
Tel. 033 673 – 52 87  
Frank Schulz, Adventure trips (Floß und  
Langholzkutscher) from Groß Drewitz,  
Tel. 035 693 – 205  
Frank Michael Fischer, Schadow,  
Tel. 033 671 – 320 60  
Rudolf Richter, Schneeberg,  
Tel. 033 662 – 11 91



## Dahme-Heideseen Nature Park

## Sand shaker filled with gems

Naturpark  
Dahme-Heideseen

## Nature park at a glance

## Great scenic views

- Observation tower at the Groß Schauener See
- Observation tower at Salzweg near Storkow
- View from Blocksberg
- Water tower Kehrigk
- Observation tower Wehlberg near Köthen
- Observation tower Rauener Berge
- Inland dunes Waltersberge

## Recommended tours

- Around the Groß Schauener lake chain (25 km)
- Cycling tour with remarkable trees (40 km or 70 km)
- Hike by foot or bicycle along the Salzweg (approx. 9 km)
- Reading tour "Lesefährte Waldweisen" starting and ending at Forsthaus Hammer
- Tour around the lakes between Teupitz and Tornow (13 km)
- Large circular trip with the paddleboat

## More tips

- Baruth: Museum village Glashütte and Johannismühle animal park
- Gräbendorf: Haus des Waldes
- Großschauen: Heinz-Sielmann-Infozentrum and fishery adventure farm Köllnitz
- Halbe: Waldfriedhof (forest cemetery)
- Märkisch Buchholz: tour of town, weir, children's forest
- Münchehofe: Gläserne Molkerei (transparent dairy)

From the bird's-eye view, the more than hundred lakes in Dahme-Heideseen Nature Park shine like sapphires embedded in the velvety green of the vast forests. To get to know all these lakes inside out is a life-time job, but by all means do plan a few short trips to get wonderful first impressions of this wood and water region just some 30 km away from Berlin.

If you want to escape the fast pace and hubbub of the city, this is the ideal spot to rest your weary soul. This nature park has something on offers for everyone, be it sports or simply a getaway from the daily routines of urban life. Every season is the right season to experience the nature park, either in quiet contemplation or pursuing an outdoor activity. You can hike and bike, go horseback riding or boating. The Dahme lakes are among the most beautiful areas for water sports southeast of Berlin and just the place for avid swimmers.

The sandy, barren ground and dunes contrast nicely with the lakes and streams. Pine tree forests stretch across the nature park spreading their unique aroma. "Heide", the German word for the sandy landscape covered with pine-trees, and as well as the Dahme river and lakes gave the park its name.

This landscape has developed over thousands of years, in flux since the ice ages. Old gnarled oak trees in the conservation areas Dubrow and Radeberge show that this region used to be covered by mixed forests. Where the lakes silt up, the dense reed and the marshes create a new wilderness. And quite often in the small moor areas in the middle of a forest you find plants you would only expect in a hill moor.

In geological terms, the region between Philadelphia and Storkow is a rarity. Salty water penetrated the cracks deep in the earth, rose

to the top and created salt marshes where halophytes – salt-loving plants – thrive such as the saltmarsh rush and the sea milkwort. It's a soupçon of the North Sea in the middle of the sandbox of Mark of Brandenburg.

It is not only the beautiful landscape of the Dahme-Heideseen region which waits to be discovered by the visitors, but also idyllic village greens, churches and historic manor houses and mansions. The history of the settlements goes back to the stone ages. In Klein Köris, the museum village "Germanische Siedlung" shows life 2000 years ago at the original excavation site. Circular villages such as Streganz, Pätz and Prieros indicate that the Western Slavic Wends settled there. Prussian history is still very much alive in the royal hunting lodge Königs Wusterhausen in the former Dubrow hunting preserve. Fishing has a long tradition in this area; early settlements were always situated along the water. Not surprisingly regional fish specialties and game from surrounding forests can be found on the menus of local restaurants.

Burg Storkow  
Visitors Centre

The 800-year-old Burg Storkow with its modern open-air stage, a tourist information office, a café and the municipal library is the cultural and social centre of the town and the visitors centre of the nature park that showcases the region fits nicely in this complex.

Behind the thick walls of the fortress, the exhibition of the nature park takes the visitors on a trip through the millennia from the ice ages to modern times. The exhibition comprises three levels with many interactive elements about the geological and cultural development and use of the landscape, the nature park as well as the history of the fortress and the city. Moreover, the exhibition offers many good tips for excursions to the nature park and nature adventures in the surrounding countryside. Burg Storkow is a perfect point of departure for a hike along Salzweg or a bike tour around the Groß Schauener lake chain. Consult the tourist information office for guided tours.

## Burg Storkow Visitors Centre

Schloßstraße 6  
15859 Storkow (Mark)  
Tel. 033 678 – 731 08  
tourismus@storkow.de  
www.burgstorkow.de

## Opening hours

April – October: 10 am – 5 pm  
November – March: 11 am – 4 pm  
(last admission to the exhibition one hour before closing)

## How to get there

Regionalbahn RB 36 Königs Wusterhausen to the historic station Storkow (Mark) Rail route Königs Wusterhausen–Frankfurt (Oder) stations Bestensee, Groß Köris, Halbe, Oderin  
www.bahn.de  
www.vbbonline.de



Swamps and water surround Storkow. The 800-year-old fortress rises high above the countryside, just like the observation tower on the Salzweg.



## Excursions and activities



### Bicycle tours

#### Watch and go

The day tour around the Groß Schauener chain of lakes leads through 32 km of the Storkow region – a bicyclist's paradise with expanses of virgin land. On the way you pass the fishery Köllnitz with a fishery museum, restaurant, hotel and a little "theme park". On the site of the fishery the visitors of the Groß Schauener lake chain can get to know the life and work of Heinz Sielmann, famous creator of animal documentaries. Heinz Sielmann and his wife Inge established the Heinz Sielmann foundation, which subsequently acquired the water surfaces of the lake chain to conserve it. "Eagle TV" shows the family life of the osprey, right from the birds' home.

Be sure not to miss any of the highlights on your way back to Storkow, including an old half-timbered church on the village green of Groß Schauen. The village is one of the oldest church villages in southern Bran-

denburg. The observation tower in Kehrigk, the round village Bugk with its old "Peace Oak" in the village square and the Wochowsee peninsula are also worth seeing. Very popular with swimmers is the Dobrasee; nevertheless you will find pretty sports and crystal clear water. Other cycling tours recommended run along the Dahme River, the "Dahme Radweg", or through the extensive woodlands of the Dahmeland, the "Hofjagdweg", tracing the hunting trails of the Prussian kings into the Spreewald.

Fischerei Köllnitz eG

Tel. 033 678 – 620 06

Besucherzentrum Burg Storkow

Tel. 033 678 – 731 08



### Geological touch

#### Tracing the ice age

The eastern section of the nature park is part of Geoland Oder – Spree. Here the ice age created a very special landscape. Discover glacial valleys, inland dunes, inland salt deposits, boulders and outwash plains. Begin at the interactive installation "Mensch und Natur – Eine Zeitreise" in Burg Storkow to get an idea what the ice age is all about. Here too is the beginning of the 8.5 km long Salzweg through the inland salt deposits of the Luchwiesen and the Marstallwiesen. Don't miss the helophytes, salt loving plants, such as the sea arrowgrass. Climb Brandenburg's highest inland dunes. When the glaciers receded some 10,000 years ago, they left a barren landscape where the wind swept up a 36-meter-high dune, creating a unique habitat animals and plants. In Rauhen, only a few kilometres away, you will find along the hiking route the impressive Markgrafenstein stones in the Rauener Berge. The giant boulders were transported by glacial ice from Sweden into our region. The Geoland flyer available in the visitor information centre at the fortress contains more interesting tips for geo-historical excursions.



### Hiking tours

#### Salty routes

Between Philadelphia and Storkow saltwater rising from deeper strata created a unique landscape: the salt marshes with plants such as the sea aster, sea sandwort and sea arrowgrass that usually are only found on sea shores. In late autumn and spring the marshes are often flooded and serve as resting places for flocks of waders and other migrating birds. From Burg Storkow the Salzrundweg circular tour leads through the salty areas of the Marstallwiesen and Luchwiesen. Information boards provide facts and figures on the geology and the habitat of the salt marshes.

Besucherzentrum Burg Storkow

Tel. 033 678 – 731 08



Observation towers in Selchow and Groß Schauen

#### Insight and other views

The observation tower in Selchow offers a view of the large lakes of the unspoiled Sielmann landscape Groß Schauener Seen with its virtually completely silted up belt of



### Adventures on the wayside

#### Old trees with character

Two thirds of the Dahme – Heideseen Nature Park are covered by mixed and coniferous forest. Millions of trees, most of them planted and raised by man, bolt upright like Prussian soldiers, seemingly indistinguishable. But when you have a closer look you will find ancient and bizarre trees with crooked trunks and cracked bark. At the Karlslust athletics field, not far from Storkow, is the Malerkiefer. The tree was planted around 1750 as a boundary marking between two farms. In the open space its branches have been growing for more than two centuries in all directions giving it its unique character. The great "Königseiche" in the Dubrow forest near Gräbendorf is even older: probably the oldest tree in the nature park it is estimated to be more than 570 years old.

You can see the old trees by taking either a 40 or 70 kilometre cycling route. The tour starts in Burg Storkow where a flyer describing it can also be obtained.

Burg Storkow Visitor Centre

Tel. 033 678 731 08

reeds, marshes and wet areas. In some parts the reed belt is 100 m wide. From the observation tower at Selchow you can practically look right into the "living room" of the great crested grebe and other aquatic birds. Above the water osprey and white-tailed eagle show their flying artistry. The observation tower on the Salzweg between Storkow and Groß Schauen afford great views of the salty areas of the Marstallwiesen. At the horizon you can discern the outline of Storkow. Guided tours through the salt marshes can be booked at the rangers of the nature park.

Rangers Dahme-Heideseen

Tel. 033 768 – 501 18





Klein Köris

## Teutonic abodes

What was life like for the earliest settlers along the Dahme? An excavation area of a Germanic settlement from the 2nd and 3rd centuries near Klein Köris is operated by the “Freilichtmuseum Germanische Siedlung Klein Köris” e. V. Worth seeing is an exact replica of the kind of pit house, which was common then, presented as an open-air or museum village.

Freilichtmuseum Germanische Siedlung Klein Köris e. V.  
Tel. 0331 – 280 18 79

Forest adventure

## Forsthaus Hammer and the Waldweisen

Waldweisen is a trail, a forest reading route, an art and culture project in the forests of Hammer. Reading stations offer poetic, magical texts about the forest, not only from German and European literature but also from faraway places and ages. Media artist



Wolfgang Georgsdorf, an Austrian who has lived in the park for many years, created this project together with the Oberförsterei Hammer. The trail, starting and ending at the Oberförsterei Hammer, includes both a long and short hiking circuit, each marked with its own information boards. The hiker will find 50 lecterns along 20 kilometres. The reading route can be combined with tours of varying lengths. Forsthaus Hammer is a listed historic landmark erected in 1897 and restored over the past few years. Along with hosting the summer “Waldfest” and the “Waldweihnachtsfest”, it features the monthly “Waldkino”, evenings from May to September.

Landeswaldoberförsterei Hammer  
Tel. 033 765 – 217 80



Königs Wusterhausen

## Northern gateway to the nature park

Königs Wusterhausen, easy to reach from Berlin by public transport, is thus the north-western gate to the nature park. You get a

view of the virtually endless forests in the nature park from the old water tower on the Funkberg. When ten-year-old Prince Friedrich Wilhelm received the area as a present from his father, it was called Wendisch Wusterhausen and comprised ten straw-covered huts where only approximately 80 people lived. The Soldier King Frederic William I had the old fort rebuilt as a hunting lodge and renamed it Königs Wusterhausen. The lodge is now completely renovated (with the help of EU funds) and is a museum.

Schloss & Schlossgarten  
Königs Wusterhausen  
Tel. 033 75 – 21 17 00



Water and more

## Splashing fun

With its many lakes, the Dahme-Heideseen Nature Park can be reached directly by water via the Dahme and its lake-like extensions from Berlin. Among the favourite places for bathing are Pätzer Vordersee, Wolziger See, Storkower See, Langer See Prieros Grubensee near Limsdorf and Klein Köriser See. All manner of weekend captains can be found cavorting on the Teupitz-Köris lakes or the Storkow canal. You rather don't get your feet wet? Take the trail between Teupitz and Tornow. Along the route you will find an enchanting spring, the natural monument “Klingespring”. Here cold and glass-clear water bubbles from a sloping forest in the Tornower See.



Prieros

## Mooring for vacation

There are all sorts of ways to get to Prieros not only on land, for example by bike, but also by boat along the Dahme. The lakes in

Teupitz, Storkow and Bad Saarow are connected to Prieros and even the Spreewald can all be reached by canoe. Peace, quiet and enchanting nature can be found on the Dahme from Prieros to Märkisch Buchholz. In addition to many water sports and swimming spots Prieros, Gräbendorf and Blossin also offer affordable accommodation for families and school classes. The parklike meadows, right in the round village of Prieros, which was founded by Slavs attracts many tourists. Canoeists can start and end their tours a few steps from the village centre, right next to the pier for the excursion boat. The Nature Park tourist centre in Prieros has an exhibition on nature, culture and landscape and offers information for visitors. If you are interested in the history of

a typical Brandenburg village, visit the Heimathaus, a thatched local history museum. The restful biogarden in Prieros is open all year round.

Nature park administration  
Tel. 033 768 – 96 90  
Tourismszentrum Heidesee  
Tel. 033 768 – 20 89 30  
Biogarten Prieros  
Tel. 033 768 – 501 30 oder – 504 55

# Naturetainment: Get out and learn!



Biogarten Prieros

## Hurry-scurry

Insects, birds and frogs make quite a hurry-scurry in the organic garden in Prieros – as do the many childrens' groups from kindergartens, schools and holiday camps. Accompanied by brimstone butterfly, squirrel and hedgehog and cheered on by staff, parents and grandparents the kids go on an

adventure tour.

Experiencing nature requires all the senses and the children learn to sow and to harvest. Reservations for groups are required.

Biogarten Prieros  
Tel. 033 768 – 501 30 oder – 504 55



Haus des Waldes Gräbendorf

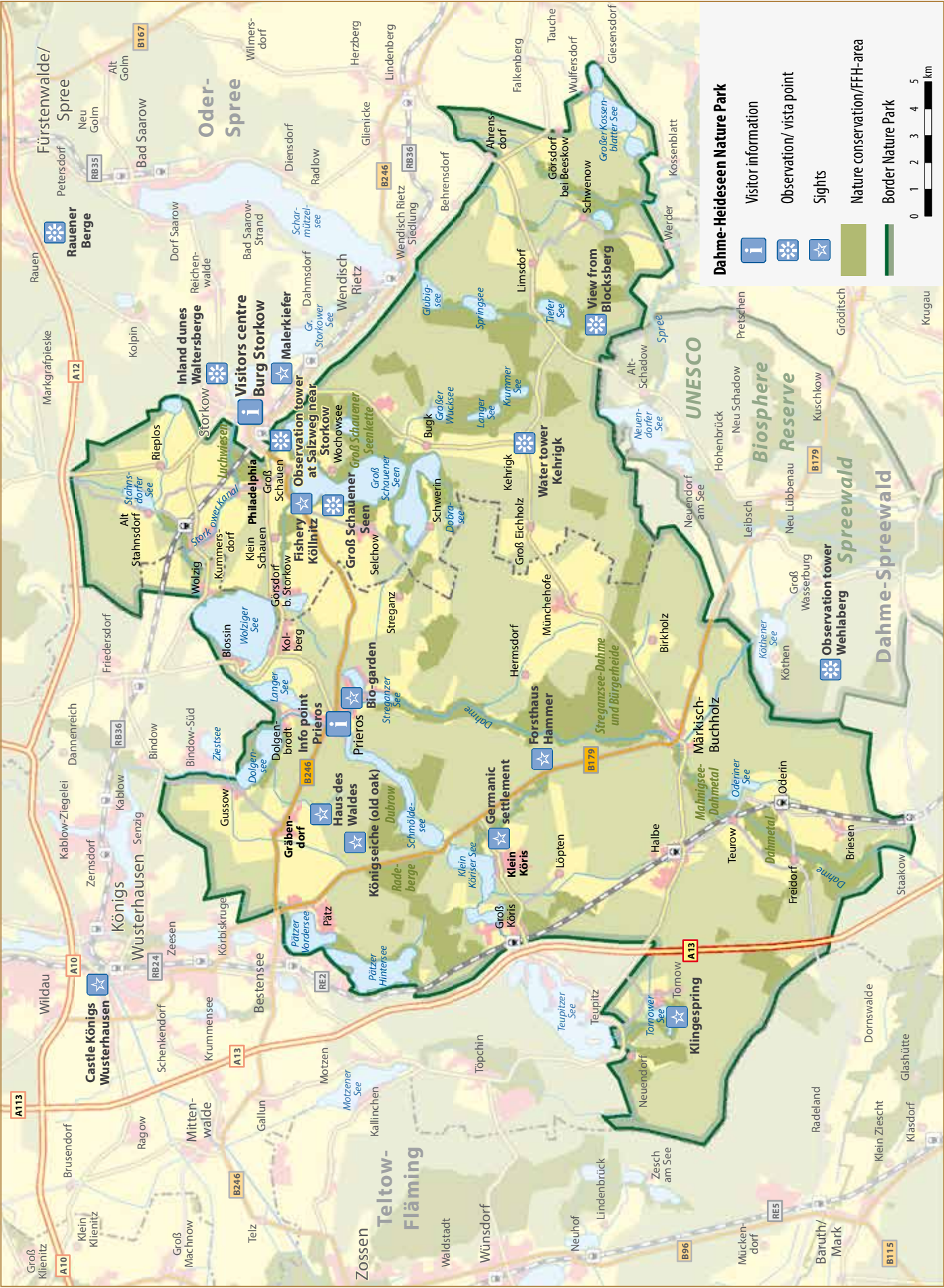
## Forest senses

Southeast of Königs Wusterhausen in the Dubrow nature conservation area is the “Haus des Waldes”, an environmental education facility of the State forest office. The institution houses a library and craft centre and is surrounded by an orchards, a playground, a forest adventure centre and a forest adventure trail. There are excursions and tours accompanied by forest wardens that focus on experiencing nature hands-on. Maybe the foresters let a stag beetle crawl up your arm. This virtually extinct beetle species prefers to live in forests with old and rotting oak trees such as can still be found in this area.

A special adventure art the mushroom days in autumn when you collect, name and cook the mushrooms yourself.

Haus des Waldes Gräbendorf  
Tel. 033 763 – 644 44





Burg Storkow Visitors Centre  
Schloßstraße 6  
15859 Storkow (Mark)  
Tel. 033 678 – 731 08  
tourismus@storkow.de  
www.burgstorkow.de

Alte Schule Priors  
Nature park administration and  
information centre  
Arnold-Breithor-Straße 8  
15754 Heideseer / OT Priors  
Tel. 033 768 – 96 90  
np-dahme-heideseen@lfu.brandenburg.de  
www.dahme-heideseen-naturpark.de

Naturwacht (Ranger)  
Arnold-Breithor-Straße 8  
15754 Heideseer / OT Priors  
Tel. 033 768 – 501 18  
dahme-heideseen@naturwacht.de  
www.naturwacht.de

MAP

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinfor-  
mation Brandenburg (editor), Topographische  
Freizeitkarte 1:25000 Dahme-Seengebiet –  
mit Wanderwegen, Potsdam 2010  
ISBN 3-7490-4078-8

LITERATURE

JahreBuch des Naturparks Dahme-  
Heideseen – series of writing published  
annually (Ed. NABU Dahmeland e.V.  
and Naturschutzfonds Brandenburg)  
ISSN 1869-0920  
www.nabu-dahmeland.de

TOURIST INFORMATION

Touristinformation Dahme-Seen  
Bahnhofsvorplatz 5  
15711 Königs Wusterhausen  
Tel. 033 75 – 25 20 25  
info@dahme-seen.de  
www.dahme-seen.de

Tourist-Information Heideseer  
Prieroser Dorfstraße 18 a  
15754 Heideseer / OT Priors  
Tel. 033 768 – 20 89 30  
tourismus@gemeinde-heideseer.de  
www.gemeinde-heideseer.de

Tourismusverband  
Seenland Oder-Spree e.V.  
Ulmenstraße 15  
15526 Bad Saarow  
Tel. 033 631 – 868 100  
info@seenland-os.de  
www.seenland-os.de

Schenkenland Tourist e.V.  
Lindenstraße 23  
15746 Groß Köris  
Tel. 033 766 – 218 44  
schenkenland-tourist@gmx.de  
www.schenkenland-tourist.de

Museums

Freilichtmuseum (Open air museum)  
Germanische Siedlung Klein Köris e.V.  
Across from Buschweg 8  
15746 Klein Köris  
Tel. 0331 – 280 18 79  
info@germanische-siedlung-klein-koeris.de  
www.germanische-siedlung-klein-koeris.de

Heimathaus Priors  
Prieroser Dorfau 1  
15754 Heideseer / OT Priors  
Tel. 033 768 – 501 44

Schloss Königs Wusterhausen  
Schlossplatz 1  
15711 Königs Wusterhausen  
Tel. 033 75 – 21 17 00  
schloss-koenigswusterhausen@spsg.de  
www.schloss-koenigswusterhausen.de

Environmental Education

Biogarten Priors  
Mühlendamm 14  
15754 Heideseer  
Tel. 033 768 – 501 30 or 504 55  
biogarten@vgdahme-spreewald.de  
www.biogartenpriors.de

Märkisches Haus des Waldes Gräbendorf  
15754 Heideseer / OT Gräbendorf  
Tel. 033 763 – 644 44  
hausdeswaldes@lfb.brandenburg.ed  
www.haus-des-waldes.info

Landeswaldoberförsterei Hammer  
An der B 179  
15746 Groß Köris / OT Hammer  
Tel. 033 765 – 217 80  
www.forst.brandenburg.de

Sielmanns Naturlandschaft  
Groß Schauener Seen  
Groß Schauener Hauptstraße 31  
15859 Storkow / OT Groß Schauen  
Tel. 033 678 – 620 06  
www.sielmann-stiftung.de

Fischerei Köllnitz eG  
Groß Schauener Hauptstraße 31  
15859 Storkow / OT Groß Schauen  
Tel. 033 678 – 620 06  
www.koellnitz.de

Gläserne Molkerei  
Molkereistraße 1  
15748 Münchhofe  
Tel. 033 760 – 207 70  
info@glaeserne-molkerei.de  
www.glaeserne-meierei.de

Dahme-Schiffahrt Teupitz  
Markt 16  
15755 Teupitz  
www.dahme-schiffahrt.de

Electric cycling in Brandenburg  
Sonne auf Rädern –  
Network for hiring powerful electric  
bicycles and touring bicycles  
Charging stations for E-Bikes in Priors  
at the nature park administration  
www.sonne-auf-raedern.de



UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Spreewald

## Park in a labyrinth of streams

Biosphärenreservat  
Spreewald

### Biosphere reserve at a glance

#### Great scenic views

- Observation tower Kockrowsberg at Barzlin at European Hiking Trail E 10 between Lübben and Lübbenau
- Observation tower at Wussegk in Unterspreewald near Schlepzig
- Observation tower at Wehlberg in the Krausnicker Berge near Köthen

#### Recommended tours

- Tour Lehde (approx. 3 km)
- Nature trail Buchenhain (approx. 5.5 km)
- Bicycle trail from Burg to Dissen (approx. 30 km) to storks and aurochs
- Gurkenradweg (250 km), the "cucumber trail", covers the entire Spreewald
- Canoe tour from Lübbenau to the restaurant Wotschofska (10 km)

#### More tips

- Lehde: cucumber museum
- Spreewald village Leipe: Heimatstube (local history museum)
- Schlepzig: Information centre Alte Mühle and farm house museum
- Burg: dispersed settlement, Heimatstube (local history museum)
- "Stork village" Dissen: local history museum
- Re-naturalisation area Spreeaue with aurochs reserve
- Lübbenau: old town
- Castle Lübben: town and regional museum, castle island, town wall
- Straupitz: church by Schinkel and triple-mill
- Raddusch: Slav fortress
- Castle Vetschau with park

Every year almost four million visitors enjoy Brandenburg's most famous tourist attraction – the Spreewald – and discover that it is more than just boat trips, pickles and restaurants. If you are looking for peace and serenity here you will find it despite the many tourists. And if you are looking for nature you will find it as well.

The Spreewald is a unique landscape, a labyrinth of streams into which the Spree river – seamed by meadows, fields and forests – branches out. It is a result of the last ice age and the hundreds of years in which people have been endeavouring to regulate the water, drain the land and reclaim it. The interplay of landscape, nature and mankind has created a distinctive atmosphere. Time and again the traveller will come across wooden bridges, called banks due to their unusual construction, small locks and weirs, romantic villages, countless jetties and piers where the small, flat-bedded boats languorously bob on the water.

Any time of the year is a good time for a visit. In the spring the meadows are aglow with the yellow blossoms of the marsh marigolds. The scattered settlement of Burg has turned into one large blossoming orchard. More than 100 pairs of white storks spend the summer raising their young. The banks of the streams are full of dragonflies, and overhead you can see buzzards and red kites circling through the sky. Fowl that stay over winter and migrating birds – from the mute swan to the little grebe – are as much part of the autumn as the vibrant colours of the forests. Frozen streams and snow-covered trees make the quiet beauty of a clear winter's day.

Many species that are endangered or already extinct elsewhere live in the UNESCO Spreewald biosphere reserve. During the last ten years the beaver has returned to the

region and his construction business can be seen all over; the otter has come back as well but is hardly ever seen. The white-tailed eagle and osprey are at home here, as are cranes, black storks and several species of woodpecker. The diversity of the dragonfly population fascinates not only the expert. Water bodies, wet meadows and alluvial forests have a particularly rich flora. 585 species of plants on the Red List grow here in the water or at the water's edge, on the meadows and in the forests, for example orchids, iris and the ragged robin.

With around 200 locks and weirs, the people here have been defying the water and turning the former swamp into meadows and fields, thus creating the unique park-like cultural landscape. Even today the streams – called Fließe, flowing waters – are important transportation corridors. There are 1,500 km of small streams and canals; 300 km of which can be explored by rowing boat or canoe.

Elegant castles and splendid churches are surrounded by houses in the Spreewald's typical log cabin style. 800 such traditional abodes are still intact, giving the towns, especially Burg, their unique look and feel.

Today, there are many efforts to preserve this wonderful region by applying suitable agricultural methods and techniques. Particularly the wet meadows are sparsely used in order to maintain their biological diversity. More than 70 percent of the Spreewald's agricultural area is used for organic farming, producing among others the famous Spreewald cucumber, horseradish, honey, linseed oil or millet.

## There are visitors centres in Lübbenau, Burg and Schlepzig



### Lübbenau Haus für Mensch und Natur Visitors Centre

The central visitor information centre for the biosphere reserve, the "Haus für Mensch und Natur" is located in the old town of Lübbenau, not far from the market and Nikolai church (access from the market square through the passageway next to the tourist information).

The exhibition, redesigned in 2015, shows how the primeval forest of the Spree lowlands looked like 2,000 years ago and how it became a cultivated countryside and how it is being preserved.

#### Haus für Mensch und Natur Lübbenau

Schulstraße 9  
03222 Lübbenau/Spreewald  
Tel. 035 42 – 89 21 -0

#### Rangers

Tel. 035 42 - 87 91 68

#### Opening hours

April until October:  
Tue – Sun 10 am – 5 pm  
November – March:  
Tue - Fri 10 am – 3 pm

#### How to get there

RE 2 and RB 19 railway stations in Lübben and Lübbenau, in Lübbenau, 10 minutes by foot to Haus für Mensch und Natur  
[www.bahn.de](http://www.bahn.de)  
[www.vbbonline.de](http://www.vbbonline.de)



### Schlossberghof Burg Information Centre

The community of Burg is one of the most unusual places in Germany with its 600 individual farms. A walk-through aerial photograph on the floor gives the visitor a bird's eye view of this dispersed settlement. The information centre supplies insights and details about the past, present and future of the unique community. The Schlossberghof Burg is devoted to all things sensory: discover a barrier-free nature experience clock, a herb garden, the herbal manufactory, Anne-mariehaus or the small installation about the Burg dispersed settlement.

#### Schlossberghof Burg

Byhleguhrer Straße 17  
03096 Burg (Spreewald)  
Tel. 035 603 – 691 -0

#### Rangers

Tel. 035 603 – 75 01 46



### Mühle Schlepzig Information Centre

In the information centre in Schlepzig the visitor walks "under water" and gets to know the Spreewald streams and their inhabitants from a completely new perspective.

Right past the bullfrogs, slip behind a curtain... and you seem to be under water. Above you recognise a Spreewald barge, floating plants sway on the water's surface and a large pike lurks in the murky waters. What a wonderful way to learn all about the wealth of species in the biosphere reserve using electronic media.

#### Alte Mühle Schlepzig

Dorfstraße 52  
15910 Schlepzig  
Tel. 035 472 – 276

#### Rangers

Tel. 035 472 – 52 30

All visitors centres: [www.spreewald-biosphaerenreservat.de](http://www.spreewald-biosphaerenreservat.de).





## Excursions and activities



Spreewald streams

### Discovery tours on water and on land

A boot trip along the waters of the quiet streams of the Spree is still the best way to experience the magic of the landscape – just as it was 100 years ago. Boot trips start in almost every town. Especially close to nature are the harbours in Leipe, Ragow, Schlepzig, Alt Zauche and Neu Zauche.

For water hikers the waterways, the Spreewald is simply paradise. Information on tours and orientation in the labyrinth of streams is offered in flyers and maps on the internet with suggested routes published by the biosphere reserve. It is just as charming to discover the Spreewald on foot or by bicycle while travelling along the mostly well-maintained and well-marked paths. The probably most famous product of the Spreewald farmers can be discovered all along the 250 km Gurken-Radweg (cucumbers trail). You can also go for a swim in the Spree at the invitingly natural swimming spot in Lübben-Steinkirchen. The Neuendorfer See and the Köthener See in the Unterspreewald or the Briesensee are also wonderful lakes to go for a swim. Indoor saunas and pools, open year round, are in Burg and Lübbenau.

Tourismusverband Spreewald e. V.  
Tel. 035 433 – 722 99



The beech grove

### Biodiversity in the swamps

Starting in Schlepzig you enter one of the most fascinating woodlands in the Spreewald, the beech grove (Buchenhain). On the banks of the streams you will find yellow iris and marsh marigolds blooming in the very early spring. A bit later there is the flowering rush. Depending on the time of year you will also see black and white storks, cranes and white-tailed eagles. Simply cross the former swamp on the "Archedamm", dating from the 14th century, which leads you straight to the beech grove.

Infozentrum Alte Mühle Schlepzig  
Tel. 035 472 – 276



Slavic castle Raddusch

### A journey through time in the Niederlausitz

The Slavic castle Raddusch combines a Slavic fortification, whose exterior has been reconstructed true to the original, with a modern exhibition showing insights gained from excavations that were carried out before the brown coal was strip-mined.

Förderverein Slawenburg Raddusch e. V.  
Tel. 035 433 – 555 22



Old oak in the Byttna-Hain

### 13<sup>th</sup> century Florentine

500 years and more – that is how old several of the English oaks in the Byttna-Hain are. This grove of trees can easily be reached on a hike from Straupitz. The oldest tree – named Florentine – is estimated to be around 900 years old.

Rangers Burg  
Tel. 035 603 – 75 01 46

Animal watching

### Bird show at the fishponds

Excellent observation areas for fowl and birds of prey can be found at the Schlepziger Teiche in the Unterspreewald region and the Stradow Teiche in the Oberspreewald region. Already in March you can see lapwings out on the mudflats of the drained ponds. From the adjoining forests you hear the mating calls of crane and green and black woodpeckers. Later they are joined by grey herons, white storks and even black storks, as well as many other waders. As late as May, in addition to the indigenous breeding birds, including white-tailed eagles and osprey, you can see migratory birds heading north.

Infozentrum Alte Mühle Schlepzig  
Tel. 035 472 – 276

Krausnicker Berge

### Scenic views

The Krausnick hills – the Krausnicker Berge – are made for climbing: between Groß Wasserburg and Köthen the ice age has deposited the 144 m high Wehlaberg. During the 2 km from Köthener See to the peak of the "mountain" the altitude increases 100 metres. Beautiful insights into the world of waterfowl on the moor lakes and the scenic view from the new observation tower make this hike well worth its while.

Infozentrum Alte Mühle Schlepzig  
Tel. 035 472 – 276



Polder Kockrowsberg

### On otter's tracks

The area in the polder Kockrowsberg was made arable and used intensively for agriculture up until 1990, after which it was left fallow. Now many parts are again sodden and have become a habitat for waterfowl and waders. Here you can find otter tracks and from the observation tower you can see the white-tailed eagle and other rare animals. The polder is on the hiking route Lübben – Lübbenau.

Rangers Lübbenau  
Tel. 035 42 – 89 21 -0

The Wotschofska

### With dry feet through muddy grounds

When hiking from Lübbenau to the Wotschofska, a small elevation in the former swampland, the path leads through the wettest and least developed part of the Oberspreewald. This is where the otter lives. The route, lined with alder trees and birches, ends at "Wotschofska", a country restaurant founded in 1894. One of the traditional places to go in the Spreewald, up until the early 20th century it was only accessible by boat.

The Wotschofska hiking route is described in a biosphere reserve flyer. The route to or from Wotschofska can be made by boat.

Spreewald-Touristinformation  
Lübbenau e. V.  
Tel. 035 42 – 88 70 40



Spreewald cities Lübben and Lübbenau

### Much more than harbours

The attractions of Lübben include the re-stored castle island and the castle as well as the regional museum. But the Lübbener Hain, a small forest and nature preserve located in the middle of the town, is also well worth seeing.

In Lübbenau, walk around the old town, the castle district and the castle park. On summer evenings the local bat population may well treat you to an air show. The Spreewald museum and the biosphere reserve information centre cater to nature lovers.

Spreewald-Touristinformation  
Lübbenau e. V.  
Tel. 035 42 – 88 70 40  
Spreewaldinfo Lübben  
Tel. 035 46 – 30 90





Lehde

## Venice of the East

The listed town of Lehde provides many insights into the traditional economy of the Spreewald. The homesteads were entirely built on artificially raised headlands. The settlements were surrounded by fields of thick grass and the typical Spreewald hay-barns. The open-air museum exhibits details of everyday life in the past, the construction of a typical Spreewald boat and the diversity of traditional Spreewald costumes. Even the history and the processing of the Spreewald pickle can be seen in Lehde – in Germany's only pickle museum.

**Spreewald-Touristinformation**  
Lübbenau e. V.  
Tel. 035 42 – 88 70 40



Schlepzig

## 1000 years young

Schlepzig, more than 1000 years old, is the favourite starting point for boat trips through the forest and meadow landscapes of the Unterspreewald. Numerous boaters put their boats into the water here. The information centre Alte Mühle, the agricultural history museum and the church with its rural Baroque style, consecrated in 1782, are worth a visit.

**Tourismusinfo Unterspreewald**  
Tel. 035 472 – 640 25



Burg

## A scattered settlement and spa

Burg in Oberspreewald is the largest and probably most beautiful scattered settlement in Germany, very charming with its typical Spreewald blockhouses in the middle of meadows, fields, orchards or little forests. The name of one of the city's districts – Kauper – shows that the community grew from single homesteads that were once situated on elevated sand islands – called Kaupen. Cycle through Burg and the Spree meadows in spring when the fruit trees are blooming! You can see storks, otters any many shimmering dragonflies. In Burg you will also find a garden with medicinal and spice plants, the "nature clock" (Natur-Erlebnis-Uhr) and one of the information centres of the biosphere reserve.

**Touristinformation Burg (Spreewald)**  
Tel. 035 603 – 750 16 -0  
**Infozentrum Schlossberghof**  
Tel. 035 603 – 691 10

Straupitz

## Impressive triple

Straupitz is located in the northern Oberspreewald and has two exceptional tourist attractions: a classicist treasure, a church built according to the plans of the famous Berlin architect Karl Friedrich Schinkel, and the only working triple mill in Germany. The mill grinds corn, saws wood and presses linseed oil. In the neighbouring Saccrow visitors can enjoy a hands-on agricultural experience.

**Touristinformation Oberspreewald**  
Tel. 035 475 – 809 77

Leipe

## Dense meadows and waterways

Up until 1936 Leipe could only be reached by boat. Two branches of the river Spree hug the town. The houses' attractive "street" side faces the water. Today, Leipe is one of the few villages where you can experience traditional Spreewald agriculture with its small, dense meadows set on artificially raised areas. If you want to find out about the history of the village, visit the "Heimatstube". The last Saturday in July is the day of the traditional Festival of the hunters, fishermen and farmers in Leipe.

**Heimatstube Leipe**  
Tel. 035 42 – 802 35  
**Spreewald-Touristinformation**  
Lübbenau e. V.  
Tel. 035 42 – 88 70 40

# Naturetainment: Get out and learn!



Environmental education

## Naturwacht (Rangers) in the Spreewald Biosphere Reserve

The rangers perform a variety of public relations tasks in the Spreewald Biosphere Reserve. They conduct tours with visitor groups and activity days with school classes, staff information booths at festivals and fairs both in the region and beyond. But as knowledgeable as they are, they never preach, never bore with endless statistics and never overwhelm with names of hundreds of different animals and plants.

The information is packaged in stories, personal experiences and entertaining formats – so at the end of the day you probably notice that you do remember quite a number of facts and figures.

A mallard waddles and quacks in duck grit, normally. But a ranger noticed something unusual on the Berzlin dyke in the Burg – Lübbener Canal: a mallard hen tried to catch something on the bank. With a pair of binoculars the ranger could see what was going on: she had caught a frog but the obstinate animal didn't want to give in. Time and again the mallard tried to get the green thing, somehow in her beak.

Such stories are the stuff of the Ranger

Adventure Tours (bookable from a selection of guided paddleboat tours).



Vetschau

## Stork tube

At the NABU white stork centre in Vetschau it's all about storks. A video camera broadcasts the family life of the most prominent white stork family in the Spreewald live during the season. This can be followed on the internet at [www.storchennest.de](http://www.storchennest.de)

**Weißstorchzentrum des**  
**Naturschutzbundes Deutschland**  
Tel. 035 433 – 41 00



Forest School (Waldschule)

## "Zum Specht" in Börnichen

Real Spree forest can be found in the Unterspreewald. Virgin forests cover half of the area. The games on the educational forest trail of the forest school "Zum Specht" or the discovery that a handful of forest earth is home to countless living creatures fascinate the younger visitors. In addition to "Forest Experience" days, the school also offers hiking with the forest rangers, family days or forest projects as well as special activities for senior citizens and disabled persons.

**Waldschule Börnichen**  
Tel. 035 46 – 22 67 80





Lübbenau Haus für Mensch und Natur  
Schulstraße 9  
03222 Lübbenau / Spreewald  
Tel. 035 42 – 892 10  
br-spreewald@lfu.brandenburg.de

Naturwacht Lübbenau (Ranger)  
Tel. 035 42 – 89 21 -0  
spreewald@naturwacht.de

Alte Mühle Schlepzig  
Information Centre  
Dorfstraße 52  
15910 Schlepzig  
Tel. 035 472 – 276  
br-spreewald@lfu.brandenburg.de

Naturwacht (Ranger) Schlepzig  
Tel. 035 472 – 52 30  
Br-sw.schlepzig@naturwacht.de

Schlossberghof Burg  
Information Centre  
Byhleguhrer Straße 17  
03096 Burg  
Tel. 035 603 – 691 -0  
br-spreewald@lfu.brandenburg.de

Ranger – Burg  
Tel. 035 603 – 75 01 46  
br-sw.burg@naturwacht.de  
www.spreewald-biosphaerenreservat.de  
www.naturwacht.de

#### MAPS

AD-Team (editor), Freizeitkarten Spreewald  
1:25.000, Burg / Spreewald

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinfor-  
mation Brandenburg (editor), Topographische  
Freizeitkarte 1:25.000  
Oberspreewald mit Wanderwegen,  
ISBN 3-7490-4013-3  
Unterspreewald mit Wanderwegen,  
ISBN 3-7490-4022-2

#### LITERATURE

Tourismusverband Spreewald (Editor), Reise-  
führer Spreewald, Raddusch 2000

Schubert, Beate et al. (Eds.), Brandenburg –  
Der Süden Band 1: Der Spreewald und die  
Luckauer Niederlausitz, ProLineConcept-  
Verlag, Templin 2002  
ISBN 978-3931021450

#### TOURIST INFORMATION

Tourismusverband Spreewald e. V.  
Lindenstraße 1  
03226 Vetschau/Spreewald / OT Raddusch  
Tel. 035 433 – 722 99  
www.spreewald.de

Touristinformation Burg  
Am Hafen 6  
03096 Burg / Spreewald  
Tel. 035 603 – 750 16 -0  
www.burg-spreewald-tourismus.de

Spreewaldinfo Lübben  
Ernst-von-Houwald-Damm 15  
15907 Lübben  
Tel. 035 46 – 30 90  
www.luebben.de

Spreewald-Touristinformation Lübbenau e. V.  
Ehm-Welk-Straße 15  
03222 Lübbenau  
Tel. 035 42 – 88 70 40  
www.spreewald-online.de

Tourismusverband  
Niederlausitzer Land  
Nonnengasse 1  
15926 Luckau  
Tel. 035 44 – 30 50  
www.luckau.de

Touristinformation Oberspreewald  
Kirchstraße 11  
15913 Straupitz / Spreewald  
Tel. 035 475 – 809 77  
www.teg-lds.de

Touristinformation Unterspreewald  
Dorfstraße 26  
15910 Schlepzig  
Tel. 03 54 72 - 640 25  
www.schlepzig.de

Amt Peitz Kultur- und Tourismusamt  
Markt 1  
03185 Peitz  
Tel. 035 601 – 81 50  
www.stadt-peitz.de

Tourist-Information Stadt Vetschau  
Schlossstraße 10  
03226 Vetschau / Spreewald  
Tel. 035 433 – 777 55  
www.vetschau.com

#### Museums

Spreewald-Museum Lübbenau-Lehde  
Topfmarkt 12  
03222 Lübbenau  
Tel. 035 42 – 24 72

Stadt- und Regionalmuseum  
(City and regional museum) Schloss Lübben  
Ernst-von-Houwald-Damm 14  
15906 Lübben  
Tel. 035 46 – 187 478  
www.museum-luebben.de

Heimatsstube Burg  
Am Hafen 1  
03096 Burg  
Tel. 035 603 – 757 29

Bauernmuseum mit Agrartechnik Schlepzig  
Dorfstraße 26  
15910 Schlepzig  
Tel. 035 472 – 225  
www.bauernmuseum-schlepzig.de

Spreewälder Spintestube  
Brunnenplatz 2  
15913 Neu Zauche  
Tel. 035 475 – 584

#### School camp / retreats

03096 Burg  
Byhleguhrer Straße 1  
Tel. 035 603 – 268  
www.schullandheim-burg.de

15910 Schlepzig  
Dorfstraße 26  
Tel. 035 472 – 65 42 80



## Niederlausitzer Landrücken Nature Park

## Old mountain chains and new lakes

Naturpark  
Niederlausitzer  
Landrücken

## Nature park at a glance

## Great scenic views

- Crane observation tower
- Barrier-free observation platform at the Wanninchen Nature Park Centre
- Castle tower Bornsdorf
- Vistas at mining lakes, e.g. Stiebsdorfer See, Altböbner See

## Recommended tours

- "Schellentenweg" (23 km)
- Kranich Tour (200 km)
- Kornradenweg (37 km)
- Heedekornweg (14 km)
- Around Fürstlich Drehna (6 and 24 km)
- Käuzchensteig (2.5 km)

## More tips

- Open-air museum Höllberghof
- Centre of old Luckau with Niederlausitz Museum and Kulturkirche
- Landscape park Fürstlich Drehna moated castle
- Landscape park Altdöbern baroque castle
- Plins villages Gosda, Zwietow and Weißag
- Pottery village Crinitz
- Slav castle Raddusch
- Old mill bicycle route along the Dahme
- Church bicycle routes (between 24 and 37 km)
- Antique car museum in Calau
- Cartoon museum in Luckau
- Edelmond – chocolate manufacture in Zöllmersdorf

Niederlausitz – Lower Lusatia – in the minds of many Germans this name still conjures up images of a god-forsaken wasteland. But if you have a closer look, you will be surprised at how unique and diverse this landscape is. The colour of the lake is deep blue. Electricity pylons, which used to be the symbols of this coal and energy region, now house large numbers of osprey nests where conveyor bridges used to be.

This transformation is what is so exciting about Niederlausitz. There are species of animals and plants dependent on the vegetation of opencast mining landscapes. Virtually extinct birds such as river plovers, but also swallows, hoopoes, small birds of prey and black birds live here. It is also home to Brandenburg's largest black-headed gull colony.

Yet the region is not only interesting for bird watchers. You only need to travel an hour from Berlin, Potsdam or Dresden to see the emergence of new lakes and to watch how the Nordic migratory birds turn this quiet landscape into absolute bedlam during autumn.

The number of natural and architectural monuments is immense, proving that this nature park region is an old cultural landscape with a rich history. Not only Luckau's historic centre bears witness to the Slavic past. Outside the city you will find remnants of Slavic castle walls, medieval churches, manor houses with rural landscaped parks, watermills and windmills, ponds, vineyards and more. The fields around Luckau have been a resting place for cranes since time immemorial. The local inhabitants call these majestic birds "Gruhlings".

Pine and oak forests as far as the eye can see stretch along the mountain range that lends its name to this region. On clear winter nights you can hear the calls of the Tengmalm's owl *Aegolius funereus* that

breeds in old black woodpecker holes. The wood grouse, which has returned to the sparse forests, gorges on blueberries growing abundantly in large patches. The forest ground shows changes that delight every conservationist: Lots of small deciduous trees are pushing into the tree layer. This development is intended and promoted since mixed forests are more stable and resistant to insect invasion and detrimental environmental effects.

Hiking, bicycle riding, animal watching and enjoying the calm on the shores of new lakes are good ways to enjoy the beauty and uniqueness of this nature park region.

Visitors Centre  
Heinz Sielmann  
Natur-Erlebniszentrum  
Wanninchen

Where the huge excavators churned the earth until 1991, the Heinz Sielmann Foundation bought more than 3,000 hectares in order to preserve the massive unfragmented area as a retreat for rare plants and animal species. Today an extensive lake and swamp area, dry meadows and new forests provide habitats for cranes, sand martins, wolves and hoopoes.

The Heinz Sielmann Naturerlebniszentrum is the only building the excavator left behind in the Wanninchen, a village located directly on the Schlabendorfer See. A vista, with wheel-chair accessibility, offers visitors an impressive panorama of this landscape, disturbed by mining and rehabilitated. Explore the bee path and reptile preserve, the boulder garden and an adventure lake with moor path and tree trail. Families can take a prepared discoverer's rucksack with them on an individual exploration tour. If you want to learn more about the unique transformation of the mining landscape, register for a group tour (8 persons or more).

The natural history exhibition supplies information about the development of the one-time mining area and the history of the villages that disappeared. Today, the region is an important crane stop-over on



The Heinz Sielmann Natur-Erlebniszentrum Wanninchen shows the unique transformation of a post-mining landscape created by opencast coal mining in the region.

their flight south. The centre is named after its founder, the famous German animal documentary filmmaker Heinz Sielmann. Alternating nature photography exhibitions and short films reflect the impressive species and habitat variety of "Sielmanns Naturlandschaft Wanninchen".

The post-mining landscape with its new lakes and shallows provide thousands of cranes and geese outstanding overnight accommodation. During the autumn migration they stop here every evening and those interested in nature can see their landing approach. In September and October the Natur-Erlebniszentrum Wanninchen organises regular evening observation sessions.

Heinz Sielmann  
Natur-Erlebniszentrum Wanninchen  
Wanninchen 1

15926 Luckau / OT Görlsdorf  
Tel. 035 44 – 55 77 55  
[wanninchen@sielmann-stiftung.de](mailto:wanninchen@sielmann-stiftung.de)  
[www.wanninchen-online.de](http://www.wanninchen-online.de)  
[www.sielmann-stiftung.de](http://www.sielmann-stiftung.de)

## Opening hours

April – October: Tue – Sun,  
Holidays 10 am – 5 pm  
November – March:  
Tue – Fri 10 am – 3 pm

## How to get there

RE 2 stations Lübben and Lübbenau  
RB 14 stations Calau and Luckaitztal  
Continue by bicycle  
[www.bahn.de](http://www.bahn.de)  
[www.vbbonline.de](http://www.vbbonline.de)

Visitors arriving by car are advised to drive to Luckau – Görlsdorf. "Sielmanns Naturlandschaft Wanninchen" is marked by signs between Görlsdorf and Garrenchen. A paved path leads to the Natur-Erlebniszentrum.



## Excursions and activities



The Crane Tour

### Heights and depths of the Niederlausitz

The 200-km long cycling tour encompasses a region full of contradictions around one of the largest crane breeding and resting places in the south of Brandenburg. It leads from the idyllic Dahme valley to the craters of the Greifenhain opencast mines, from the promontories of the Niederlausitz Landrücken to the lowlands of the Spreewald. Along the route you will find the picturesque castle and park grounds of Fürstlich Drehna and Altdöbern as well as the constantly changing post-mining landscape. The "Slawenburg Raddusch" features an exact reconstruction of the Slav fortress walls once numerous in the region which not only tells the history of the Niederlausitz, but also the origin of the name.

In some villages along the way, traditional crafts and agricultural techniques have been preserved, e.g. in the Plins villages where buckwheat is grown and processed. In the Spreewald villages of Leipe and Lehde, barges are still the main form of transport between the thatched-roof blockhouses and the cucumber fields. In Crinitz, where household and decorative ceramics are made in the seven potteries, some of which have been in operation for 150 years.

The Crane Tour combines charming villages and historic town centres with marvellous landscapes and the spectacular appearance of migratory birds at their autumn resting place. The excursion is marked by a crane and can be commenced at different places (e.g.

at the railway stations in Drahnisdorf, Calau, and Lübbenaue) and shortened to a day trip. Whoever wants to follow the entire route and stop at the interesting points should allow five days for the trip. Overnight accommodation and luggage transfer can be booked.

**Tourismusverband Spreewald**  
Tel. 035 433 – 722 99



Extensive views

### Life after mining

Bicycle paths lead through certain parts of the mining landscape. However there are large areas that have not yet been fully rehabilitated. Many vistas to the new lakes can also be reached by car. They allow extensive views of an ever-changing landscape with sparkling water surfaces and bizarrely shaped banks, with plants reclaiming the once barren spaces. In some places birds can be well observed: For example the west bank of the Stoßdorfer See is a good place to watch the nature conservation area with the bird colony on the island. The west bank is a paradise for anglers. The large variety of fish in the Schönfelder

See attracts all kinds of water birds. Soon the lake will be open to recreational use. However, all of Lichtenauer See is a nature preserve and can only be seen from the eastern or southern banks. Schlabendorfer Lake is the largest lake in the nature park. In autumn thousands of geese bustle on the lake and many cranes spend the night in the nearby shallows. In future bathing and sailing is to be allowed from the Schlabendorfer banks, while the area around Wanninchen remains a nature conservation area. There is a lot for nature lovers to discover from the bank. Romantic Stiebsdorf Lake will not be used for recreational purposes but as a research object. Until the mining rehabilitation work is completed closure of parts of the post-mining landscape cannot be ruled out.

**Nature park administration**  
Tel. 035 324 – 30 50



Dahme Valley

### Old mills – on line

Many water mills of the upper Dahme lost their function long ago. The Dammühle was restored with the help of EU Fund for Rural Development. Today, the mill wheel no longer grinds but generates electricity. Meanwhile the Heidemühle, a few hundred meters downstream, houses an artist's atelier and shows how the Dahme can be restored to its natural flow with hydraulic applications. The Neue Mühle now serves as backdrop for cultural events. The Dahme cycling trail connects this and other mills along this stream. The mountain stilt, a

typical mill resident, builds its nests in holes in the wall near the rushing water. During harsh winters, even kingfishers can be seen along the Dahme.

Near the Dahme spring, the bicycle path links up with Fläming-Skate.

**Tourismusverband Dahme-Heideseen e. V.**  
Tel. 033 75 – 25 20 25  
[www.dahme-radweg.de](http://www.dahme-radweg.de)



Rochauer Heath

### Remember Hansel and Gretel!

On the western border of the nature park there is a large forest complex, spanning 238 square kilometres. The trees in this forest, most of which are situated in the nature park, were protected by two functions: This is where capercaillies were bred and reserved for the hunting season of the kings of Saxony. The oaks forests were used to graze pigs. When this region was still part of East Germany, many of the precious old oak trees were felled and in their stead mainly pine was planted. Since the 1990s nature conservationists and foresters are working intensively to turn the man-made forest into a near-natural commercial forest that could again offer a habitat for the capercaillies, the signature bird of the Niederlausitz. Thanks to the pilot project to restore capercaillies, this bird is again an inhabitant of the Rochauer Heath. These birds, however, are very shy and thus rarely seen. But what you will see is new growth oak mixed forests where the young oak trees bear witness to the vitality of nature. The same can be said about the Gahroer Buchheide where the red beech is overtaking the pine forest. A gem of the Niederlausitz, the lowland spruce grows magnificently in the cool, damp climate of the "Tannenbusch Groß Mehßlow". No axe has been put to a tree for the past fifteen years thus you can almost watch the natural forest grow.

Hikers who like to pick mushrooms and berries love the Rochauer Heath. But make sure not to stray from the path, as it is very easy to get lost in this large forest. If you are in the vicinity of the restaurant "Zum wilden Eber" during rutting season, you can hear stags roar.

**Restaurant "Zum wilden Eber"**  
Tel. 035 455 – 481  
[www.gaststätte-zumwildeneber.de](http://www.gaststätte-zumwildeneber.de)



Luckau

### Pearl of the Niederlausitz

Many architectural monuments were restored and beautiful gardens and parks in Luckau were restored for the 2000 State Horticultural Show. Lovely park grounds are now adjacent to the historic city centre, forming a gradual transition to the open landscape of the nature park. Also worth seeing are Sankt Nicolai, a Gothic hall church, the market with baroque houses with decorative gables and the town wall, which is completely intact, and the moat. The old prison and even older Dominican convent house several museums and the Kulturkirche is a major event location. The tourist information office is also located here.

**Tourist-Info Luckau**  
Tel. 035 44 – 30 50  
[www.luckau.de](http://www.luckau.de)



NSG (Nature Conservation Area)  
Borcheltsbusch

### Secret wilderness

"Lausitz" comes from the Slavic-Sorbian word meaning "marsh land". The Slavs built their fortresses on marshland because it made them easier to defend. Freesdorfer Borchelt (fortress wall) is a perfect example: the old fortress wall borders on flat moorland, which is about 300 hectares, the centre of which cannot be reached. Borcheltsbusch is a nature reserve and a perfect area for cranes and otters, which are completely safe here. Not even biologists dare enter this wilderness, into which water has been pumped from the former coal mining area Schlabendorf-Süd since it was restored in 1983. Visitors can observe this fascinating animal world from the observation tower: grey geese, cranes and storks land here. In the interior of the fortress there is a kind of historic three-field farm and field flora reservation. The blossoms of a large number of agricultural wild flowers, some of which are very rare, are on display every year in June.

**Nature park administration**  
Tel. 035 324 – 30 50





### Fürstlich Drehna Thriving jewel

In the Middle Ages Fürstlich Drehna was one of the eleven royal domains in Niederlausitz. Today, the village centre, water castle and the landscape park are listed monuments. The historical buildings, streets and squares were restored. Today, the water castle is a hotel. The historic restaurant “Zum Hirsch” and the “Alte Schule” welcome diners and guests for cultural events. In the gardener’s house, where the headquarters of the Nature park administration is located, a small visitor centre provides information on the nature park. The ensemble also includes a windmill, which can be toured if you have registered in advance.

Before 1990 Drehna seemed to be at the end of the world, a village surrounded by coal mining on three sides. Today it is a thriving community in the heart of the nature park. The brewery continues century-old brewing traditions – do sample the tasty results. The ecological pond fishery manages the small groups of ponds in the region.

Active members of the culture and local history association are pleased to guide guests through the romantic landscape park and explain the history of the princely palace. One can still discover traces of the former masters of the castle following marked trails around the place, e.g. at Weinberg (vineyard) and in Ursulagrund.

The Drehnaer See, a mining relic is being rehabilitated and will be open for recreational purposes in several years.

Gasthof “Zum Hirsch”  
Tel. 035 324 – 70 30  
[www.fuerstlichdrehna.de](http://www.fuerstlichdrehna.de)



Gosda, Weißag and Zwietow

### Plins villages

Three small villages are situated in a narrow valley between Kesselberg (161 m) and Tiebenberg (151 m): the Plinsdörfer (plins villages). The two restaurants offer dishes made from buckwheat, an old crop that loves the sandy earth around Calauer Schweiz. The Alte Mühle processes this pseudocereal (it is a flowering plant of genus Fagopyrum) into meal and flour. If asked the miller is pleased to explain his craft. Try the buckwheat plins (a yeast pancake), you will understand why it is so popular.

Calauer Info-Punkt  
Tel. 035 41 – 895 80  
[www.calauer.de](http://www.calauer.de)



Sonnenwalde and Calau

### Gates to the nature park

The small town of Sonnenwalde has a local museum in the front castle worth visiting. The small castle park, rich in water, with its old trees creates a harmonious combination with the natural landscape. A planet trail even allows an excursion as far as Neptune. Near Brenitz is the largest fishpond in the nature park, the Lugkteich. But it is not the fish that make it so attractive for us humans but the multitude of birds. It has become

a sought-after winter home increasingly popular with whooper swans and great white egrets.

No joke: The “Witzerundweg”, which refers to “Kalauer”, a generic term for corny jokes, takes you through the small town of Calau. A cycling tour through the neighbouring villages is not about jokes, but about the region’s sagas, such as the saga of the Goldborn near Werchow. This colourful and generous natural spring is also an excellent point of departure for hikes in the Calauer Schweiz. Lonely trails wind through the largest nature conservation area in the nature park to the Kuhringsberg, in the Hölle or to the Plins villages.

Heimatismuseum Sonnenwalde  
Tel. 035 323 – 68 87 08  
oder 035 323 – 308  
[www.museum-schlossareal-sonnewalde-ev.de](http://www.museum-schlossareal-sonnewalde-ev.de)  
Calauer Info-Punkt  
Tel. 035 41 – 895 80  
[www.calauer.de](http://www.calauer.de)



Altdöbern

### Baroque magnificence at the mine’s edge

Just like Niederlausitz itself, Altdöbern with its historic town centre and the baroque castle belonged to Saxony until 1815. It was not easy protecting the ground water in the landscape park with its beautiful trees when there was still coal mining and the water was extracted. The castle and park have now been beautifully restored, complete with a café in the renovated Orangerie. A large lake is developing to the east of Altdöbern from an opencast mining pit. The cycling path near the bank allows fantastic views of the water surface and the bank shaped by humans and nature, especially from the west and south.

[www.amt-altdoebern.de](http://www.amt-altdoebern.de)



Churches around Luckau  
in the Niederlausitz

### Fieldstone walls and brick artistry

The region around Luckau has an unusual density of churches. Many are built with thick fieldstone walls since they offered protection during times of war. Thanks to the ice age there were plenty of stones. Some churches exhibit the creative use of regionally produced bricks or interesting half-timber architecture. Each church has its own character: particularly unique is certain-

ly the two-legged steeple of the Walddrehnaer village church.

The Förderkreis Alte Kirchen der Luckauer Niederlausitz has compiled six suggestions for cycling tours from 25 to 40 kilometres in length, including some 50 churches worth visiting. It also offers guided cycling tours and church visits.

[www.kirchenradtouren.de](http://www.kirchenradtouren.de)

## Naturetainment: Get out and learn!



Höllberghof

### Three perspectives – three exhibitions

In 1990, the nature park association, which promotes the nature park, built a three-sided farm, typical for the Niederlausitz, on the outskirts of the picturesque Höllenberge fashioned after a historic model. The ensemble was rounded off by other half-timbered brick buildings: a barn, Kossätenhaus – modelled after a Kossätenhaus which was torn down in Jetsch in 1991 (Kossäten were village dwellers who were primarily artisans or traders and had small farms only as an

additional source of income) – and a bakery house which was cleared away in Bornsdorf. This little open-air museum houses three exhibitions year round: “Historic land and nature protection”, “From flax to linen” and “Historic farm tools”. In the farmer’s garden nearly forgotten crop plants flourish. Many events aim to preserve rural traditions. During project days or holiday programmes, children can learn loam and willow construction, prepare something tasty from garden herbs or learn how to make bread from grain.

Freilichtmuseum  
Höllberghof Langengrassau  
Tel. 03 54 54 - 74 05



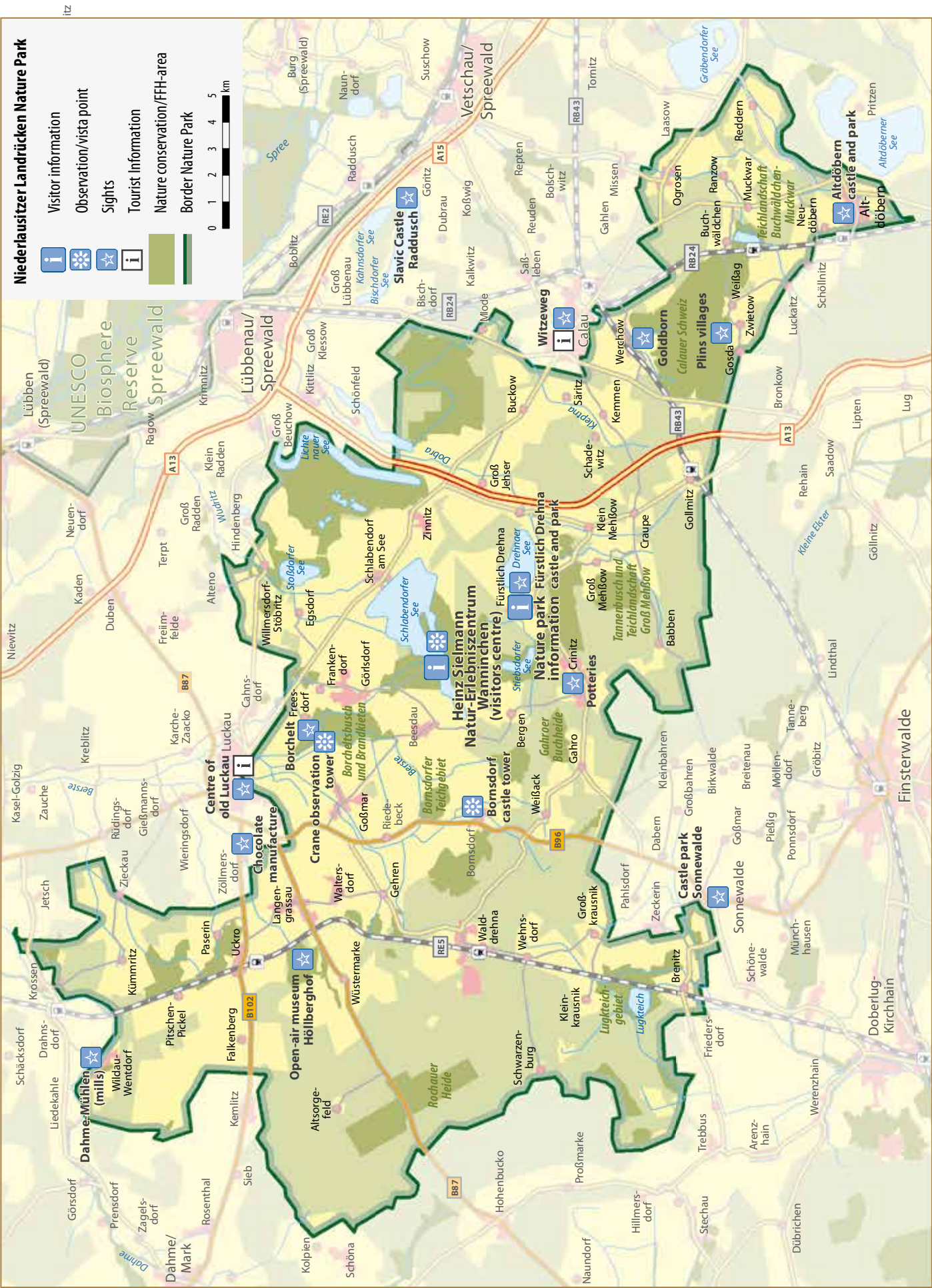
Kornradenweg

### Cultivated landscape

The 37-km-long route through cultivated countryside that has developed over many centuries connects the two nature park information centres of Wanninchen on Schlambendorfer See and Höllberghof on the ridge. You will pass through villages with field stone churches, the Freesdorfer Borchelt, the crane tower at Borcheltsbusch, the Görldorf manor and the Bornsdorf castle ruin. Along with all kinds of rare wild herbs, the Kornrade – Agrostemma githago, the common corn-cockle – unfurls its beautiful blossoms in the field flora reserve at the Borchelt from May until June.

Nature park administration  
Tel. 035 324 – 30 50





Heinz Sielmann  
Natur-Erlebniszentrum Wanninchen  
Wanninchen 1  
15926 Luckau / OT Görlsdorf  
Tel. 035 44 – 55 77 55  
wanninchen@sielmann-stiftung.de  
www.sielmann-stiftung.de

Naturparkverwaltung und Naturpark-Info  
im Alten Gärtneriehaus Fürstlich Drehna  
Alte Luckauer Straße 1  
15926 Luckau  
Tel. 035 324 – 30 50  
np-niederlausitzer-landruecken@  
lfu.brandenburg.de  
www.niederlausitzer-landruecken-  
naturpark.de

Naturwacht (Ranger) Fürstlich Drehna  
Alte Luckauer Straße 1  
15926 Luckau  
Tel. 035 324 – 30 80 78  
landruecken@naturwacht.de  
www.naturwacht.de



MAP

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinforma-  
tion Brandenburg (editor), Topographische  
Freizeitkarte 1:50.000 Wanderkarte des  
Naturparks Niederlausitzer Landrücken,  
2013  
ISBN 978-3-7490-4081-0

LITERATURE

Beate Schubert *et al.* (Editor), Brandenburg.  
Der Süden Band 1: Der Spreewald und die  
Luckauer Niederlausitz, Pro-Line-Concept-  
Verlag, Templin 2002, ISBN 3-931021-45-9

Rasmus, Carsten und Klähne, Bettina,  
Erlebnisführer Naturparks in Brandenburg,  
KlaRas-Verlag Berlin 2000  
ISBN 3-933135-05-2

TOURIST INFORMATION

Tourismusverband Niederlausitzer Land e. V.  
Nonnengasse 1  
15926 Luckau  
Tel. 035 44 – 30 50  
www.niederlausitz.com

Tourismusverband Elbe-Elster-Land e. V.  
Markt 20  
04924 Bad Liebenwerda  
Tel. 035 341 – 306 52  
www.elbe-elster-land.de

Calauer Info-Punkt  
Cottbuser Straße 32  
03205 Calau  
Tel. 035 41 – 895 80  
www.calauer.de

Tourismusverband Spreewald  
Raddusch  
Lindenstraße 1  
03226 Vetschau/Spreewald  
Tel.: 035 433 – 722 99  
www.spreewald.de

Museums

Niederlausitz-Museum Luckau  
Nonnengasse 1  
15926 Luckau  
Tel. 035 44 – 557 07 90  
www.niederlausitzmuseum-luckau.de

Heimatismuseum (Local history museum)  
Calau  
Kirchstraße 33  
03205 Calau  
www.calau.de

Heimatismuseum (Local history museum)  
Sonnewalde  
Schlossstraße 21  
03249 Sonnewalde  
Tel. 035 323 – 68 87 08 or 035 323 – 308  
www.stadt-sonnewalde.de

Land- und Erlebnismuseum zu Uckro  
Uckroer Dorfstraße 25  
15926 Luckau / OT Uckro  
035 454 – 875 42 or 035 44 – 33 14

Weißstorch-Informationszentrum  
Drebkauer Straße 2  
03226 Vetschau  
Tel. 035 433 – 41 00  
www.storchennest.de

Slawenburg Raddusch  
Zur Slawenburg 1  
03226 Vetschau / OT Raddusch  
Tel. 035 43 – 555 22  
www.slawenburg-raddusch.de

Freilichtmuseum (Open air museum)  
Höllberghof  
Langengrassau  
Heideweg 3  
15926 Heideblick  
Tel. 035 454 – 74 05  
hoellberghof@t-online.de  
www.hoellberghof.com

Urlaubshof “Niederlausitzer Land”  
Zöllmersdorfer Dorfstraße 5  
15926 Luckau / OT Zöllmersdorf  
Tel. 035 44 – 62 60  
www.urlaubshof-thiel.de

AWO Ferien- und Freizeitzentrum  
Gut Kemnitz  
Kemnitz – Am Gut 6  
15936 Dahme (Mark)  
Tel. 035 454 – 883 80  
www.awo-bb-sued.de



## Niederlausitzer Heidelandschaft Nature Park

## Where larks sing above the heather and princes swing from apple trees

Naturpark  
Niederlausitzer  
Heidelandschaft

## Nature park at a glance

## Great scenic views

- Observation towers near Friedersdorf and at Restloch 124
- Rothsteiner Felsen, geological surface natural monument
- Scenic view between Kraupa and Hohenleipisch
- Observation tower in the “Loben” moor

## Recommended bicycle tours

- Nature Park Bicycle Excursion (approx. 75 km)
- “Trittsteine Bergbau” (approx. 25 km)
- Apple Route (approx. 50 km)
- Storchengang (approx. 22 km)
- “Mönche von Dobrilugk” (approx. 50 km)

## More tips

- Bad Liebenwerda
- Pomological garden Döllingen
- Weißgerbermuseum (Chamois) Doberlug-Kirchhain
- Herb garden Oppelhain
- Brick factory “Louise”
- Natourem in Maasdorf
- Mühlenhof Museum Grünewalde
- Park, manor, and church Saathain
- Windmill Elsterwerda
- Heritage museum, animal preserve, Kleine Spreewald Wahrenbrück
- Hiking tour “Naturparadies Grünhaus” (approx. 8 km)
- Bridle tour “Tafelsilber” (approx. 70 km)
- Forest tour Pechofenberge (approx. 1.6 km)

Two forces have decisively shaped the landscape in southeast Brandenburg and they have not treated it kindly: The Saale glaciation, which ended about 180,000 years ago, and man, searching for energy in the form of “black-brown gold”.

Whole villages had to give way to the more than 40 pits registered with the local mining authority. Bizarre landscapes have arisen and are forever changing. Highly specialised species of animals and plants move into these artificially created habitats. Some opencast mining sites have since been flooded and have blossomed as attractive bathing lakes.

In the south and west of the nature park the Schwarze Elster flows through the Niederlausitz glacial valley. Where the Kleine (Little) and Schwarze (Black) Elster Rivers meet in the west of the nature park, the Kleiner Spreewald opens up. With its marshy ground and alders it resembles the “real” Spreewald – particularly as boat trips are also a tradition on the “little brother”.

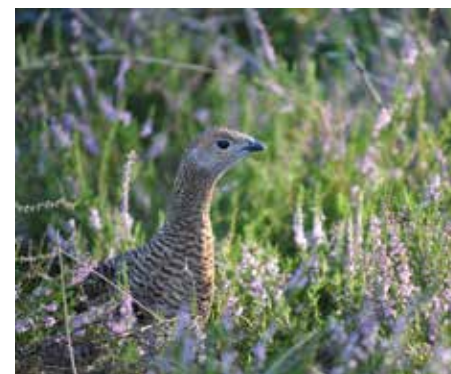
The core of the nature park is the Forsthaus Präsa nature reserve, a large forest of pine and chestnut oak with blueberries and cranberries covering the ground. Not so long ago the capercaillie, the heraldic bird of the nature park, was still plentiful here. A project was started to reintroduce this imposing bird. The broad expanses of heath amidst the forest, where the larks warble in spring, gave the nature park its name.

Bad Liebenwerda with its medieval town centre has held the title “spa” (Bad) for over 75 years. It has drawn visitors from far and wide to its iron mud baths since 1925. Once a year, in September, the puppets of the Wander-Marionetten-Festival steal the show.

Döllingen and Hohenleipisch are odes to traditional agriculture: in late summer the ocean of spring blossoms in the wild orchards has turned into tasty “prince apples”. Wild fruit orchards are a special experience: in the pomological exhibition garden visitors can sample more than 400 ancient fruit varieties offering entirely new taste experiences.

Some 280 km of marked hiking tracks, including several nature trails and the 35 km long Elster cycling path, run through the nature park. The water-borne traveller will enjoy tours of the Schwarze Elster.

Also worth seeing are the places, museums and events which nurture the traditions of the area. The potter’s trade, which at its height in 1903 had 24 potteries in the district, is still represented today by two in Hohenleipisch.

Naturparkhaus  
Bad Liebenwerda

The Naturparkhaus in Bad Liebenwerda provides an overview of the attractions to be found in Brandenburg’s southernmost large protected area. In addition to information on events and excursions a guided tour of the exhibition is arranged upon request. The exhibition touches all the senses with “folding and turning, leafing and climbing, looking and rummaging” so you will experience in a playful manner many new things about the nature park and its people: Play “apple memory”, search for the “black gold” next to the briquette factory “Louise” or marvel at the amazing violet blossoms of the Calluna heath. The capercaillie (also known as the wood grouse), heraldic animal of this nature park and once an inhabitant of the region can be heard as it promotes its future in the native cork oak and pine forests. “Mountaineers” have the model of the Rothesteiner cliffs for the best vista in a hidden mountain range. Need a break? Enjoy a view minutes rest while listening to two famous regional characters explaining the unique qualities of the people and their history – all in typical dialect.

The team at the Naturparkhaus created an environmental education programme, based on adventures especially suited for young explorers. These begin with “Tierisch wild” (a pun on “Wild animals”)—searching for Alfred Auerhahn—or the fabulous exploration tour “Frau Holles Apfelbaum” (Ms Holle’s Appletree). Children can celebrate their birthdays in the Naturparkhaus as “nature park detective” and together with their party guests investigate nature’s secrets. During school vacations junior cooks can master the kitchen in the “Küchen-Zirkus”. Curious researchers can hunt for footprints in the Spürnasen vacation programme.

The team at the Naturparkhaus is happy to advise their guests when planning day trips or multi-day excursions. Tips for seasonal jaunts and events are available. Events are also held regularly in the visitors centre where a range of high quality regional products can be bought.

Right at the door to the Naturparkhaus the heart of historic Bad Liebenwerda attracts visitors with its landmark buildings, history and stories.



The Naturparkhaus in Bad Liebenwerda is housed in what once was the Royal Forestry Office, restored in 2005. Located in the centre of the spa of Bad Liebenwerda, it is both the gateway and the voice of the nature park.

## Visitors Centre Bad Liebenwerda

Markt 20  
04924 Bad Liebenwerda  
Tel. 035 341 – 47 15 94  
info@naturpark-nlh.de  
www.naturpark-nlh.de

## Opening hours

April – October: Wed – Sun, 9 am – 5 pm  
November – March:  
Wed – Fri, 10 am – 4 pm  
Mon and Tue by request

## How to get there

RE 3 or RE 10, stations Doberlug-Kirchhain and Elsterwerda  
Other stations: Bad Liebenwerda, from there 12 minutes by foot to the Naturparkhaus; Hohenleipisch, Beutersitz  
www.bahn.de  
www.vbbonline.de



## Excursions and activities



Restoration project capercaillie (wood grouse)

### Immigrant heraldic animal

The capercaillie is unique, indeed. And if you have ever had the chance to observe the animal's impressive courting ritual you know why...

For some years this drama has been on show again in the Nature Park Niederlausitzer Heidelandschaft. However the actors come from Scandinavia.

After a constant decline since the middle of the last century, the wood grouse originally living here had disappeared by the late 1990s. A group of committed foresters and nature conservationists would not give up. Over the course of some 15 years the causes of the decline were analysed; the structure of the forests assessed and finally measures were proposed and implemented

to improve the habitats. In a pilot project with scientific support wild Swedish birds were released in the local forests and their movements monitored by transmitters. The animals have resettled in the places where they used to live and since 2013 they have regularly brooded. In 2015 event the first grandchildren's generation was identified, that is young animals from birds that themselves were brooded in the Niederlausitz. An actual resettlement programme developed from the pilot project and until 2020 a certain number of capercaillies may be caught in Sweden annually to be released into the wild in southern Brandenburg. In a concerted effort by forest managers and owners, the large, connected forests in the nature park have become wealthier in structure and biological diversity. Perhaps the presence of the shy capercaillies has made it more mysterious and in Brandenburg even unique.

The visitors centre in the Naturparkhaus and the Naturwacht offer excursions and cycling tours in these habitats. At the Landesbetrieb Forst's "Oppelhainer Pechhütte" station for birds of prey have a look at these fascinating animals in their enclosure.

Greifvogelstation – Falko Göbert  
Mobile 0172 – 314 42 59



### Döllingen / Hohenleipisch A fruitful experience

In spring the region around Döllingen and Hohenleipisch is a sea of fruit blossoms, at harvest time the trees are heavy with shiny ripe fruit. On hikes, cycle tours or excursions by charabanc with rangers through a historic landscape of fruit fields you will find out why wild fruit fields are not only a feat for the human eyes but also habitats that are varied and rich in species. The real showpiece is the "apple pleasure garden", developed as a pomological collection for teaching purposes. More than 400 fruit trees grow here, e.g. the slightly bell-shaped Prinzenapfel, prince apple, with its characteristically spicy taste. Pomology is the science of fruit growing. On about 3 hectares there are some 150 varieties of apple, pear, cherry and plum trees and also hazelnuts and peaches. There is also information about the history of the village and its surrounding area: namely the former manor, the windmill, the church and its mining tradition. The regeneration of Döllingen and Hohenleipisch was promoted with EU funds.

Kerngehäuse e.V.  
Tel. 035 341 – 615 12



Forsthaus Präsa Nature Conservation Area

### Greetings from the purple heather ...

Lüneburg Heath is not the only place where, on journeys by charabanc and cycle tours, you can enjoy the purple heather and meet the traditionally dressed shepherd with his flock of moorland sheep. On about 500 hectares in the Forsthaus Präsa Nature Conservation Area (Naturschutzgebiet) the flock helps to trim the overgrowth of the heather, which serves as the habitat for species like the woodlark, hoopoe, and gravel grasshopper.

If you want to relax after the stress of the metropolis book a sensuous heather experience or get a feel for this unique landscape on a meditative hike, an evening campfire with specialties from the local heather habitat.

Nature park administration  
Tel. 035 341 – 61 50

### Regional cuisine

### Feast like the gods in the Lausitz

Dishes like trout "Tante Erna", Niederlausitz lamb's lettuce or Liebenwerdaer Schnitzchen make gourmets curious. The "Regionale Speisekarte" (regional cuisine) is a network of eleven restaurants in the region that present a rich assortment of local products. These are also sold at the pretty green markets and farmers' markets in the region. Brochures with the dates and locations of events are available from the Nature park administration.

Nature park administration  
Tel. 035 341 – 61 50



### Naturschutzgebiet Loben Nature's treasury

The "Loben", a low-lying marsh, is a product of the ice age. Such damp areas represent the last refuge for many rare plants and endangered animals. Scientists have found 316 different species of plants in the Loben, of which 32 are classified as endangered. Since 1981 the Loben has been a conservation area. Hikers cross a varied landscape of meadows, pine and mixed forests, open expanses of water and marshes. A tour of the Loben is recommended, to visit the old peat banks and see their fascinating animal world. Twelve information points provide additional interesting facts and figures, such as difference between the sand birch and moor birch or the role of the moor for storing water. From the Lobenturm observation tower one can watch the breeding and resting place for cranes and on the Sonnentauteg there is a peek at the world of wild rosemary, cotton grass and sundew.

Rangers  
Tel. 035 341 – 101 92



### Kleiner Spreewald

### Just like the bigger brother

The Kleine (Little) Elster River and the Schwarze (Black) Elster River merge in a mini delta near Wahrenbrück. This network of ditches and branches of these two rivers has

been used for boat trips since 1977, similar to those in the Spreewald to the east. Kleiner Spreewald has in recent years developed more and more into a favoured place for excursions. From the old half-timbered water mill, first mentioned in 1248, the route passes the Jungfernbrücke or "Maidens' Bridge" and Liebesinsel or "Love Island". The weeping willows seem to gently stroke the waters of the Kleine Elster, whose bed is shaded by the foliage of oaks almost 400 years old. This is a place where the beaver feels at home, and where it is now encountered more and more frequently.

Kahnfahrten Karsten Jurischka  
Tel. 035 341 – 233 63  
mobil 0160 – 9734 78 20



### Cycle and hiking routes

### On solid tracks through marsh and moorland

The nature park is particularly well suited to being explored on its numerous cycle and hiking routes. One can wander in the "tracks of the monks of Dobrilugk", who in 1165 founded a monastery near Doberlug. The former monastic villages and especially the churches that survived from that period still bear witness to the work of the Cistercians. The place-names Lugau, Doberlug and Grünwalder Lauch point to the fact that the places lay in marshy lowlands. Today most of the marshy areas have fallen victim to land improvement. Cyclists can experience both the former marshy lowlands and those still in existence, like the areas around the southern nature reserve or the pool formerly used to wash fleeces before they were spun. The heath and marsh tour leads from Bad Liebenwerda to the Grünwalder Lauch. Wide-open expanses of water in the Forsthaus Präsa Nature Conservation Area with silver grass and common heather, mysterious marshy areas in the Loben Conservation



Area, and a refreshing bathe in the Grünewalder Lauch are attractive stops on this tour. Further high points are the potteries in Hohenleipisch, the wild fruit fields and the apple pleasure garden in Döllingen or the herb garden and the Paltrock windmill in Oppelhain.

Apple memory games in the Naturparkhaus, watching juice pressed at the Hofmosterei Dobra and a visit to the apple bar in Maasdorf are some of the stops on the Apple Route.

Birdwatchers should take the Storchenweg (Stork route). This tour allows you a view of numerous stork nests. The information displays show some of the details about the love life, flight performance or the dangers to which this impressive bird, characteristic of our landscape, is exposed.

The tourist map of the nature park area indicates scenically beautiful cycling and hiking paths, as well as inns, riding establishments, and centres for boat and cycle hire. The map is available from bookshops and the Nature park administration.

ADFC Brandenburg

Tel. 03 31 – 280 05 95

Naturparkverwaltung

Tel. 035 341 – 61 50

Tourismusverband Elbe-Elster-Land e. V.

Tel. 035 341 – 306 52



Grünewalder Lauch and  
Waldbad Zeischa

## Pack your swimming things

One would hardly imagine that only about 25 years ago coal was still being mined from the waters of Grünewalder Lauch, where people now bathe. The “Worked-out Pit No 117” with its 6 km long beach and 100 hectares of water fit for bathing is presently the largest lake in the nature park.

In spring and autumn it is used as a resting place by many species of birds, including bean geese, white-fronted geese, green-winged teal and tufted duck on their migration.

Whilst lignite mining in Grünewalde is now history, the large gravel excavators are still tirelessly digging their shovels into the sand to the east of Bad Liebenwerda. But there too a part of the area has already been changed into a charming bathing lake, the Zeischa Recreational Area (Naherholungsgebiet).

Tourismusverband Elbe-Elster-Land e. V.  
Tel. 035 341 – 306 52



Doberlug-Kirchhain

## Of monks and tanners

Europe’s only chamois skin dressing museum in Doberlug-Kirchhain shows all the steps in the production of leather. The museum is an original chamois skin dressing works from the year 1753, with a variety of exotic leather and skins on exhibition. The range of skins extends from mouse to elephant. The technical part of the museum offers visitors a show tannery with the old tanning machines.

Weißgerbermuseum

Tel. 035 322 – 22 93



Domsdorf

## Louise, a 109-year-old briquette factory

Of the seven briquette factories operating earlier in the nature park region, only Louise remains. It was in operation from 1882 to 1991, and is considered to be the oldest, still complete factory of this type in Europe. Meanwhile the technical monument has become a museum.

Brikettfabrik Louise

Tel. 035 341 – 940 05

# Naturetainment: Get out and learn!



Grünewalde

## Stony adventure to Scandinavian giants

Lignite mining exposed Scandinavian erratics from the Ice Age. Follow a trail through Grünewalde to see 80 of these glacial erratics. These massive giants, weighing as much as 3 tonnes, have been cut on their corners so that their inner structure and grain is visible.

Nature park administration

Tel. 035 341 – 61 50

Wildlife and forest nature trails

## Breath of romance

On the 600 m long “Welkmühle” nature trail between Grünewalde and the former Mückenberg a “tree of the year” is planted every year. In the marshy areas the frogs hold their spring concerts, and shimmering blue dragonflies show off their flying skills. Bare and rotten trees are nesting places and sources of food for woodpeckers and other hole-nesting birds.

Pines about 26 m high and 150 years old line the Pechofenberge forest trail near Hohenleipisch. 20 viewing points equipped with boards provide information about the species of animals and plants to be seen here.

The Maasdorfer Ponds nature trail near Thalberg also gives information on its circular tour about the flora and fauna. The ponds are not just a favourite place for an excursion for the inhabitants of Liebenwerda. About 1530, they were dug by the peasants from the surrounding villages performing forced labour. The ponds, covering 60 hectares, were intended to provide the former Elector of Saxony with the necessary fish he required, and also duck shooting. Nowadays fish for the table in particular are farmed, like carp, tench and pike.

Nature park administration

Tel. 035 341 – 61 50

Oppelhain

## Goats, pitch and fresh herbs

An herb garden, a Paltrock windmill, a model of a pitch oven and a farmers’ shop are just some of the things that make an excursion to Oppelhain worthwhile.

The 4,000-m2 herb garden contains about 60 indigenous plants and herbs. The Paltrock windmill has been Oppelhain’s new emblem since May 2001. The name of this type of windmill comes from the so-called Pfalzrock, a frock coat worn in the Palatinate, which these mills are thought to resemble. The

Oppelhain mill was restored with EU funds; accommodates temporary exhibitions and can be visited, together with its working machinery. Pitch boiling, a craft over 200 years old, is explained using a model pitch oven right next to the mill.

Oppelhain Kräutergarten

Tel. 035 325 – 570

Oppelhain Paltrockwindmühle

mobil 0173 – 464 32 35



Maasdorf

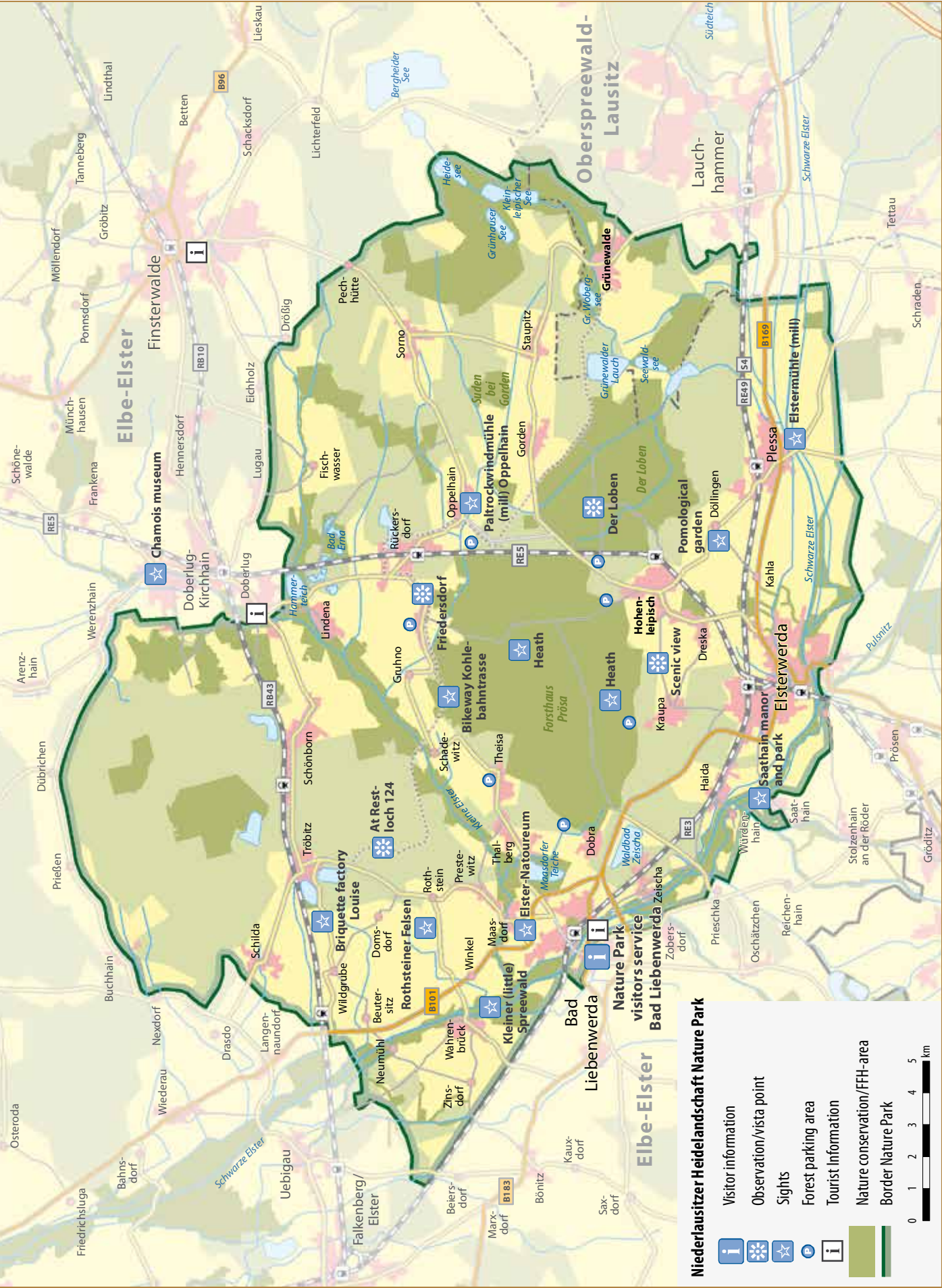
## Elster-Natourem

The Elbe-Elster country can be experienced in miniature in Maasdorf. With model trains of various sizes, in part automatically controlled, one can travel through the model region. Numerous taxidermied animals, reproductions, models, dioramas, and video films provide information about the varied species in the region. Outdoors there are miniature reproductions of the architectural peculiarities of the vicinity.

Elster-Natourem Maasdorf

Tel. 035 341 – 497 -36, -37





Naturparkhaus Bad Liebenwerda  
Visitors Centre  
Markt 20  
04924 Bad Liebenwerda  
Tel. 035 341 – 471 594  
info@naturpark-nlh.de  
www.naturpark-nlh.de

Nature park administration  
Markt 20  
04924 Bad Liebenwerda  
Tel. 035 341 – 615 -0  
np-niederlausitzer-heidelandschaft@  
lfu.brandenburg.de  
www.niederlausitzer-heidelandschaft-  
naturpark.de

Naturwacht (Ranger)  
Markt 20  
04924 Bad Liebenwerda  
Tel. 035 341 – 101 92

MAP

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinfor-  
mation Brandenburg (editor), Topographische  
Freizeitkarte 1:50.000 Naturpark Niederlau-  
sitzer Heidelandschaft, Wandern, Radfahren,  
Reiten, 2013  
ISBN 978-3-7490-4090-2

LITERATURE

Beate Schubert *et al.* (Editor), Brandenburg.  
Der Süden Band 2: Die Niederlausitz und das  
Elbe-Elster-Land, Pro-Line-Concept-  
Verlag, Templin 2004, ISBN 3-931021-50-5

Rasmus, Carsten und Klaehne, Bettina,  
Erlebnisführer Naturparks in Brandenburg,  
KlaRas-Verlag Berlin 2000  
ISBN 3-933135-05-2

TOURIST INFORMATION

Tourismusverband Elbe-Elster-Land e. V.  
Markt 20  
04924 Bad Liebenwerda  
Tel. 035 341 – 306 52

Tourist-Information Doberlug-Kirchhain  
Schlossplatz 1  
03253 Doberlug-Kirchhain  
Tel. 035 322 – 68 88 50  
www.doberlug-kirchhain.de  
touristinfo@doberlug-kirchhain.de

Museums

Mühlenhofmuseum Heimattube  
Schulstraße 4a  
01979 Lauchhammer  
OT Grünewalde  
Tel. 035 74 – 761 148

Bauernmuseum Lindena  
Dorfstraße 19  
03253 Lindena  
Tel. 035 326 – 981 10

Mitteldeutsches  
Marionettentheatermuseum  
Burgplatz 2  
04924 Bad Liebenwerda  
Tel. 035 341 – 124 55

Kreismuseum Finsterwalde  
Lange Straße 6 – 8  
03238 Finsterwalde  
Tel. 035 31 – 307 83

Weißgerbermuseum  
Potsdamer Straße 18  
03253 Doberlug-Kirchhain  
Tel. 035 322 – 22 93  
www.weissgerbermuseum.de

Brikettfabrik Louise  
Louise 111  
04924 Domsdorf  
Tel. 035 341 – 940 05  
www.brikettfabrik-louise.de  
Opening hours:  
April until end of October  
Daily 10 am – 6 pm,  
November until end of March  
Daily 10 am – 4 pm  
and by appointment

Pomologischer Schau- und Lehrgarten  
Döllingen  
04928 Döllingen  
Tel. 035 341 – 615 12  
www.pomologischer-garten.de

Kräutergarten Oppelhain  
Hauptstraße 27  
03238 Rückersdorf  
Tel. 035 325 – 570





Nuthe-Nieplitz Nature Park

## “Wilderness” at the gates of the metropolis

Naturpark  
Nuthe-Nieplitz



### Nature park at a glance

#### Great scenic views

- Observation towers at Ungeheuerwiesen (Blankensee), Pfefferfließ (Stangenhagen), and Nieplitzwiesen (Beelitz)
- Observation platforms Blankensee and Riebener See
- Weinberg Dobbrikow and Glauer Berge
- View from Wurzelberg to the inland dunes and Keilbergaussicht in the NSG Forst Zinna-Jüterbog-Keilberg
- Observation tower Löwendorfer Berg
- Baumkronenpfad Beelitz-Heilstätten

#### Recommended tours

- FlämingWalk (Nordic Walking, 150 km)
- Cycling tour Blankensee (14 km)
- Hiking tour Riebener See (6 km)
- Naturpark stage 66 Seen-Circular tour (25 km)
- Hiking tour Glauer Tal game preserve (1 – 5.5 km)
- Hiking tour NSG Forst Zinna-Jüterbog-Keilberg (from 3.8 km to 16 km)

#### More tips

- Beelitz and Treuenbrietzen
- Kloster Zinna with museum
- Kähnsdorf with erratic garden, sculpture exhibition, cultural event barn, beach
- Blankensee with castle, park, farmer's museum and Glauer Tal game preserve
- Gottsdorf with Nordic walking centre, water mill and art exhibitions

What kind of magic trick was that? Only minutes ago you were amidst bustling crowds and noisy traffic at Berlin's centre and Potsdam train station and now you gaze across quiet lakes and wide meadows, walk along dreamy tree-lined streets – while a red kite circles majestically above. It is hard to believe that the peace and rural calm of the landscape between Nuthe and Nieplitz are just half an hour by train or car from the gates of the two capitals.

The flooded meadows and undisturbed marsh woodlands of the Nuthe-Nieplitz Nature Park are a picture of natural wilderness: an El Dorado for waterfowl and waders. The Lake Rieben, Blankensee, Grössinsee and Lake Gröbener follow each other on the Nieplitz like a string of pearls. The shallow lakes near Stangenhagen are the home of dabbling and diving ducks, water rails, coots and moor hens. Rare wading birds, such as the peewit, common snipe and the redshank all breed in the marshlands.

This sparsely populated and largely undisturbed lowland region supports rare jewels such as sea eagles, osprey, otter, fire-bellied toads and various types of orchid. In autumn and spring, up to 180,000 aquatic birds find their resting and mixing places in the nature park. Observation towers near Blankensee and Stangenhagen and the plank bridges on Blankensee and Lake Rieben offer observers outstanding opportunities to watch the bird world directly. But the birds are not the only ones deserving attention: the nature park's more modest beauties appeal to all senses. In the dense foliage of the mature trees in parks and gardens the nightingale sings in springtime. The sweet smell of poplars hangs over the banks of the two name giving rivers. With its cornflower blue back wings the blue-winged grasshopper creates and audible buzz, and at dusk the silent flitting of a small animal equipped with needle-sharp teeth can be observed over many of the lakes: a Daubenton's bat is out hunting.



## Nature Park Centre at the Glauer Tal Game Preserve

In the nature park centre all sorts of information and tips about the adventures available in the region can be obtained from the certified tourist information, along with a day's programme for the entire family. Visitors can also stalk red deer, fallow deer and mouflon in the outdoor enclosure under near-nature conditions at the adjacent Glauer Tal Game Preserve (Wildgehege Glauer Tal). The wild animals graze the area, push back the shrubbery and obtain the open habitat that was created by years of use as a military manoeuvring ground.

The Glauer Felder open-air exhibition displays a miniature of the nature park to give you a first and playful impression of the region. The adventure brochure Mit Nunie durch die Glauer Felder takes the young visitor through the exhibit. Researcher questions stimulate discovery and puzzle solving. Children can play in the water and climb grounds while adults browse in a small specialty shop offering regional products.

If you want to know more about the nature park and its inhabitants have a look at the schedule of events around the visitors centre. Sitting pretty in a coach you can observe the animals off the beaten path. The herb teacher shows you how to prepare tasty dishes from local wild herbs. Trained nature and culture guides share their expertise and a lot of practical experience during unique tours through the nature park.

A special treat is the NaturParkFest on the last Sunday in September. The regional market offers all kinds of hand made things from



The pyramid-shaped glass roof of the Naturparkzentrum on the edge of the Glauer Tal game preserve can be seen from afar.

the region, seasonal fruit and vegetables, fresh fish from the Blankensee fish smoke-house and much more. Experts describe the work in the nature park. Or enjoy a natural history tours. You are thirsty from all this excitement? Taste the freshly pressed apple juice from the meadow orchard at Blankensee. Children can discover in puddles the life in ponds, enjoy pony rides, archery and much more. The visitors centre and Glauer Felder are barrier-free. Binoculars, handcars and explorer rucksacks can be borrowed. For private festivities, tours and coach rides through the game preserve can be booked and a seminar room and an idyllic barbeque hut are available for hire.

### Nature Park Centre at the Wildgehege Glauer Tal Landschafts-Förderverein Nuthe-Nieplitz-Niederung e. V.

Glauer Tal 1  
14959 Trebbin / OT Blankensee  
Tel. 033 731 – 70 04 60  
mail@besucherzentrum-glau.de  
www.naturpark-nuthe-nieplitz.de  
www.nuthe-nieplitz-naturpark.de

#### Opening hours

January – December: 10 am – 5 pm  
Christmas and New Year:  
limited opening hours

#### How to get there

RE 3 und RE 4, railway stations  
Trebbin (continue with Bus 751),  
Luckenwalde, Jüterbog  
RE 7, railway stations Michendorf,  
Seddin, Beelitz-Heilstätten  
RB 23, station Saarmund  
MR 33, stations Beelitz, Elsholz,  
Buchholz, Treuenbrietzen  
Bus 608, Michendorf, Stücken,  
Dobbrikow  
www.bahn.de  
www.vbbonline.de





## Excursions and activities



### On foot or by bike Come, see and experience

Many of the old villages of the Mark Brandenburg have their own stork's nest. Many boast very attractive examples of "Feldsteinkirchen", medieval churches, which in the absence of local rock were built from erratics deposited in this region by ice age glaciers. The lakes Siethen, Dobbrikow, Seddin, Wildenbruch, Kähnsdorf and the Kliestow all have popular bathing spots. Here, as in the open-air swimming pools of Beelitz and Treuenbrietzen, a merry bustle prevails during the warm summer months. The flat lowland is particularly suitable for walking and cycling. Help with directions, tips and information can be found on the nature park map of walks. The comparatively little used country roads and the tracks through woodlands and fields are especially suitable for cycling tours. There are as yet only a few designated cycle paths in the nature park grounds. However, marked circular tours start at Beelitz station (cycle path F 5, Nieplitz-Niederung around Beelitz), at Ludwigsfelde, Trebbin and Thyrow (route TF 4), at Luckenwalde (route TF 3) and at Jüterbog (Route TF 1). Route maps can be obtained from the Teltow-Fläming tourist association. Further tour suggestions are found in the

cycling maps issued by the German cycling club "ADFC" and the publisher Ampelverlag, and also in the guide-book "Wander- und Naturführer 'Naturpark Nuthe-Nieplitz'".  
Nature park administration  
Tel. 033 732 – 50 60  
Tourismusverband Fläming e. V.  
Tel. 033 204 – 62 87 -63, -64



### Sanatoriums of Beelitz Where the woods became parkland

Around the turn of the century a tuberculosis sanatorium was built on a 140 hectare piece of land – at the time the largest sanatorium in Europe. Today a fire-fighting museum and the sanatorium with its old thermal power station can be visited, while

the species-rich mixed woodland that has developed over the space of more than a hundred years is also unique.  
Tourismsinformation Beelitz  
Tel. 033 204 – 391 55



### Nature park towns Beelitz and Treuenbrietzen

Beelitz? Sure, it boasts a beautiful old town, its sanatoria have a long tradition – but what it is really known for is its export blockbuster: the Beelitz asparagus. From early April to June it is cut on the many fields around Beelitz. Particularly worth a visit is the old town of Beelitz, with its medieval layout, which has been designated an area of outstanding historical interest. The medieval old town of Treuenbrietzen has a historic centre with what are probably the narrowest streets in Brandenburg, well worth seeing. From there the visitor quickly reaches the surrounding green belt. A marked footpath through the picturesque upper Nieplitz valley leads all the way to the source of the Nieplitz south of Frohnsdorf. On the way many signs carry information on the fauna, flora and geology of the upper Nieplitz valley.  
Tourismsinformation Beelitz  
Tel. 033 204 – 391 55  
Stadtinformation Treuenbrietzen  
Tel. 033 748 – 747 78



### Glauer Valley Game Preserve Imposing encounters

On the former Glau military training area the Wildgehege Glauer Tal, a game preserve has been established where red deer, fallow deer and argali are kept to prevent the open landscape from overgrowing. The project combines nature conservation, research and tourism in a unique way. In the 160-hectare enclosure from various routes, resting places and viewing points you can observe the animals roaming freely as they would in the wild. It is an unforgettable spectacle when during the rutting season in autumn the stags seek to impress the does and other stags with their calls, and see off rivals with the help of their impressive antlers. Information stands along the hiking trail explain the wildlife grazing and stimulate both play and learning. The visitors have an impressive view of the preserve from the former command tower. Tip: Don't forget binoculars.  
NaturParkZentrum  
am Wildgehege Glauer Tal  
Tel. 033 731 – 70 04 60  
www.naturpark-nuthe-nieplitz.de



### Upper Nieplitz valley Romantic hiking area

The river Nieplitz has been repeatedly altered and straightened. However from its source at Frohnsdorf to Treuenbrietzen it retains the original character of a low mountain stream. On the north edge of the Fläming it picturesquely winds through the woodland – a pretty location for long walks and cycling tours.  
Rangers Bardenitz  
Tel. 033 748 – 135 73  
Stadtinformation Treuenbrietzen  
Tel. 033 748 – 747 78



### Blankensee Jewel in the heart of the nature park

The village of Blankensee is a jewel in the heart of the nature park with its farming museum, the "Fischerbrücke" and the boardwalk along the lake. The latter offers a unique view on to the protected Blankensee in which countless waterfowl find cover and nesting places. Armed with binoculars the visitor can observe geese, ducks and rails, cormorants, herons and sometimes also sea eagles and osprey. And perhaps he might even experience the colourful kingfisher flitting past. A nature trail leads to the castle park, which is crossed by several subsidiaries of the Nieplitz River. With its beautiful trees, statues, follies, and the arched bridges it provides a magical atmosphere. The mansion – or castle – which was once owned by the writer Herrmann Sudermann – is open for guided tours of the Sudermann room, offered by the local history association. Regional produce is available from the beekeeper nearby, the two fish sellers and in the village pubs. The farming museum is housed in a so-called Mittelfurhaus, a typical 17th century building of the Mark Brandenburg, erected in 1649. Within, the museum tavern is available for rest and replenishment. Every year in September the museum festival is celebrated in the courtyard and on the fields along the banks of the Nieplitz. The village church is also well worth a visit. Though unprepossessing from the outside it harbours historic cultural treasures of the baroque and renaissance eras.  
Stadtinformation Trebbin  
Tel. 033 731 – 84 20  
Bauernmuseum  
Tel. 033 731 – 800 11





The village of Kähnsdorf

### Erratic art

The Lake Seddin erratics garden provides interesting information on the ice age and its stony witnesses. Interwoven with the open-air exhibition by the Potsdam gallery Ruhnke, the old natural forms communicate in combination with the modern work of renowned sculptors. New art and traditional farm life meet a stone's throw away in the Heimatstube & Kunstscheune. Findlingsgarten Seddiner See e. V. Tel. 033 205 – 455 63



Bird watching near Blankensee and Stangenhagen

### Incredible flocks of geese and cranes

The barrier-free boardwalk on the Blankensee offers an excellent view of the lake and the local aviary. Geese, ducks, herons, cormorants, and egrets can be observed across the wide water area. Northwest of the village the "Seechen" observation tower one can see bird flocks grazing on the enormous grassland, especially at migration time. With binoculars you will see mainly cranes, different geese varieties and egrets. One gets to the observation tower on the Pfefferfließ, a small stream, to the tower, and back along

the opposite bank through the village of Stangenhagen by traversing a boardwalk. The surrounding meadows, pasture and flood plains in the lowlands of Straßgraben and Pfefferfließ serve as resting and feeding places for many bird species. In the autumn and spring one can see cranes, great white egrets, white-fronted geese or bean geese. Greylags, black kites and marsh harriers find food here too. Tip: At the visitors centre pick up the flyer *Unterwegs im Vogelparadies Naturpark Nuthe-Nieplitz* with valuable information.

Visitors centre  
am Wildgehege Glauer Tal  
Tel. 033 731 – 70 04 60  
[www.naturpark-nuthe-nieplitz.de](http://www.naturpark-nuthe-nieplitz.de)

Gottsdorf

### The clatter of the mill

Built by Cistercian monks in 1285, the mill of Gottsdorf on the Pfefferfließ has been under family ownership since 1904. Up to two tonnes of grain, brought in by the neighbouring farmers, is milled here. The flour goes to the region's bakeries; the bran is used as animal feed: a small and environmentally sustainable economic cycle. On request the millers Martin and Markus Röthel will lead visiting groups around this monument to milling history.

Obermühle Gottsdorf  
Tel. 033 732 – 403 14



Nuthe-Urstromtal

### FlämingWalk – taking it easy

In the middle of the nature park is Brandenburg's largest Nordic walking park with an overall length of more than 500 kilometres. The extensive Nordic walking network is especially marked. Courses,

walking meets, stick hire and guesthouses make the trails particularly attractive.  
[www.flaemingwalk.de](http://www.flaemingwalk.de)

Dobbrikow

### Seven lakes and seven heights

A song tells of the seven lakes and seven heights of Dobbrikow. Two of the lakes, the Vordersee and Glienicksee are open to bathers. Also very popular is the camping area on the Glienicksee. Among the many hiking trails the walk around the idyllically situated Waldsee and over the Weinberg with its wonderful views is particularly recommended. More information can be obtained weekdays from the Nature park administration that has its offices there.

Nature park administration Nuthe-Nieplitz  
Tel. 033 732 – 506 10  
Campingplatz Dobbrikow  
Tel. 033 732 – 403 27  
[www.nuthe-urstromtal.de](http://www.nuthe-urstromtal.de)



Zinna monastery

### Cistercian heritage

The beautiful monastery complex, the weaver and cloister museums and the show distillery of the Zinna monastery founded by the Cistercians in 1170 have long been a visitor magnet. In the distillery visitors can go in search of the secret of the house beer "Zinnaer Klosterbruder" while emptying a cup. Next to the monastery Frederic the Great had a weaver colony set up. The ancient techniques of the weaver's craft are demonstrated in the weaver museum. The restoration of the monastery was supported by EU funding.

Kloster Zinna  
Tel. 033 72 – 43 95 05  
[www.museum-kloster-zinna.de](http://www.museum-kloster-zinna.de)

Forst Zinna-Jüterbog-Keilberg  
nature reserve

### Wilderness just outside Berlin's gates

After more than 100 years of military use, more than 7,000 hectares have become a young wilderness area. Where tanks used to forge ahead destroying everything that got in their way, nature is now reclaiming what's

due to it, calmly and peacefully but with a stubborn determination that dwarfs the tanks. Sandy expanses, dunes, shrub land and new forests alternate with moors and marsh woodland on the former military training grounds Jüterbog. Many rare plant and animal species requiring extreme conditions have found habitats in this huge area. The Stiftung Naturlandschaft Brandenburg has already marked a 30 km hiking trail network, complete with vistas and information

boards, in the area cleared of ammunition. Discover the forests and heaths along a hiking trail starting in Pechüle, Frankenförde and Felgentreu. The Wurzelberg trail leads from Luckenwalde to an impressive, large inland dune. Regular guided excursions are also offered.

Stiftung Naturlandschaften Brandenburg – Die Wildnisstiftung  
Tel. 0331 – 740 93 22  
[www.stiftung-nlb.de](http://www.stiftung-nlb.de)

## Naturetainment: Get out and learn!



Nature conservation centre Stücken

### Commitment with decades of tradition

For more than 25 years Landschafts-Förderverein Nuthe-Nieplitz-Niederung has been engaged in regional nature conservation. The NGO is in charge of the first large conservation project of Brandenburg, concluded in 2004 after twelve years of work. By purchase, lease and maintenance of areas valuable habitats were protected for enjoyment by future generations. The association's work included the resettlement of the little owl *Athene noctua* in the Nuthe-Nieplitz lowlands. The association is also responsible for the visitors centre and the Glauer Tal game preserve and offers natural history tours, lectures, festivals, films and events all year.

Landschafts-Förderverein  
Nuthe-Nieplitz-Niederung e. V.  
Tel. 033 204 – 423 42  
[www.foerderverein-nuthe-nieplitz.de](http://www.foerderverein-nuthe-nieplitz.de)



Rangers Nuthe-Nieplitz

### Environmental education

The rangers can be reserved as expert guides for exciting and relaxing hikes through nature. They offer tours for all age groups. The children have the green classroom at their disposal. The rangers will also assist study groups, help coordinate school events, and assist with research projects at schools and colleges.

Naturwacht Nuthe-Nieplitz  
Tel. 033 732 – 506 31



Recreation at Blankensee

### Invitation to the country experience

The FiB, recreational and educational centre in Blankensee, offers groups of children and youth a special service in their programme planning. Through cooperation with regional partners, farms and craft shops become places of adventure. Village renewal becomes a rallye and the village becomes a green marvel when managed by the forester.

FiB Freizeit- und Bildungsstätte  
Tel. 033 731 – 322 77





MAP

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinformation Brandenburg (editor), Topographische Freizeitkarte. 1:50.000, Naturpark Nuthe-Nieplitz, 2012  
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LITERATURE

Rasmus, Carsten und Klaehne, Bettina, Wander- und Naturführer Naturpark Nuthe-Nieplitz, KlaRas-Verlag Berlin 2001  
ISBN 3-933135-11-7

Beate Schubert *et al.* (Editor), Brandenburg. Der Westen Band 3: Der Fläming und das Baruther Urstromtal, ProLineConcept-Verlag, Templin 2001, ISBN: 3-931021-42-4

TOURIST INFORMATION

Tourismusverband Fläming e. V.  
Küstergasse 4  
14547 Beelitz  
Tel. 033 204 – 62 87  
info@reiseregion-flaeming.de  
www.reiseregion-flaeming.de

Museums

Bauernmuseum Blankensee  
Blankenseer Dorfstraße 4  
14959 Trebbin / OT Blankensee  
Tel. 033 731 – 800 11  
www.bauernmuseum-blankensee.de  
  
Alte Posthaltere – Museum Beelitz  
Poststraße 16  
14547 Beelitz  
Tel. 033 204 – 391 55

Spargelmuseum Schlunkendorf  
Kietz 36  
14547 Beelitz / OT Schlunkendorf  
Tel. 033 204 – 421 12  
  
Heimatstube & Kulturscheune Kähnsdorf  
Dorfstraße 15  
14554 Seddiner See / OT Kähnsdorf  
Tel. 033 205 – 641 04  
www.seddiner-see.de

Heimatismuseum (Local history museum)  
Treuenbrietzen  
Großstraße 1a  
14929 Treuenbrietzen  
Tel. 033 748 – 747 77

Valuable addresses

FlämingWalk (hiking trail)  
www.flaemingwalk.de

Offene Höfe in der Nuthe-Nieplitz-Region  
www.offenehoe.de

Environmental education

Schullandheim „Haus am See“  
Weinbergstraße 28  
14947 Nuthe-Urstromtal / OT Dobbrikow  
Tel. 033 732 – 403 66  
Suitable for handicapped  
Reservations required

FiB Freizeit- und Bildungsstätte  
Blankenseer Dorfstraße 15  
14959 Trebbin / OT Blankensee  
Tel. 033 731 – 322 77  
www.fib-blankensee.de

Nature Park Centre at the Wildgehege Glauer Tal  
Glauer Tal 1  
14959 Trebbin / OT Blankensee  
Tel. 033 731 – 700 460  
mail@besucherzentrum-glau.de  
www.naturpark-nuthe-nieplitz.de

Nature park administration Nuthe-Nieplitz  
Beelitzer Straße 24  
14947 Nuthe-Urstromtal / OT Dobbrikow  
Tel. 033 732 – 50 60  
np-nuthe-nieplitz@lfu.brandenburg.de  
www.nuthe-nieplitz-naturpark.de

Naturwacht (Ranger) Nuthe-Nieplitz  
Outpost Dobbrikow  
Tel. 033 732 – 506 31

Outpost Bardenitz  
In der Gasse 1  
14929 Treuenbrietzen / OT Bardenitz  
Tel. 033 748 – 135 73  
www.naturwacht.de

Landschafts-Förderverein  
Nuthe-Nieplitz-Niederung e. V.  
Zauchwitzer Straße 51  
14552 Michendorf / OT Stücken  
Tel. 033 204 – 423 42

Stiftung Naturlandschaften Brandenburg –  
Die Wildnisstiftung  
Schulstraße 6  
14482 Potsdam  
Tel. 0331 – 740 93 22  
www.stiftung-nlb.de

Stiftung Naturlandschaften Brandenburg –  
Außenstelle Jüterbog  
Mönchenstraße 47  
14913 Jüterbog  
Tel. 033 72 – 440 73 50







Hoher Fläming Nature Park

# Land of knightly castles, rummel valleys and giant boulders

Naturpark  
Hoher Fläming



Nature park at a glance

Great scenic views

- Panorama from R1 near Baitz (bustard watching in winter)
- Observation tower near Groß Briesen (on the Burgenwanderweg)
- Towers of four Fläming castles
- Hagelberg (200.2 m)
- Observation platform at former water works in Garrey
- Panorama from the Bockwindmühle Borne

Recommended tours

- International arts hiking tour Hoher Fläming (approx. 38 km)
- Burgenwanderweg hiking tour (147 km)
- Erratic hiking trail with nature conservation area Flämingbuchen (10 km)
- Bergmochwanderweg hiking tour through the Planetal (14.4 km)
- Panorama hiking tour around Bad Belzig (15.3 km)
- Europe cycling route R1, European cycling route E 11 and German Avenues Route
- Fläming cycling route from Dessau to Bad Belzig (approx. 60 km)
- 250 km bridle paths (riding stables along the way)

More tips

- Artisan village Görzke with pottery works
- Dippmannsdorf with natural bath and “Paradies” springs

Martin Luther, Germany’s great religious reformer, was known for his graphic language, but the landscape which today lies in the Hoher Fläming Nature Park he described almost tenderly: “Little land, what are you but grains of sand?”

No wonder: Barren ground and lack of water meant this area could only provide for a few. Even today the region is sparsely populated with only around 26 inhabitants per square kilometre: leaving plenty of room for deep breaths. Despite the lack of water—the region is among the driest in Brandenburg—Fläming is home to a network of crystal clear streams and springs, in which crabs and brook lampreys can be found. Orchids, such as the broad-leaved marsh orchid and the pyramidal orchid, flower in the meadows along the banks.

The Hoher Fläming Nature Park is still young, but its landscape is among the oldest in Brandenburg. More than 150,000 years ago glaciers brought in large masses of earth and rock, and left behind a belt of land raised above its surroundings: the Hoher Fläming. It forms part of a chain of terminal moraines 700 km long, stretching from Schleswig-Holstein all the way to Poland. At around imposing two hundred metres the Hagelberg is one of the highest elevations of the north German lowland.

In the northeast of the nature park the ground drops steeply by up to 60 metres to the meadows of Belzig, through which the melt water of the frozen river Weichsel flowed 10,000 years ago. Dense marsh woodland stretched across this lowland just a few decades ago. Crossing through these woods must have been an eerie experi-

ence. Old stories tell of voices in the fog, will-o-the-wisps and thieving riff-raff. How differently today’s visitor is welcomed by a landscape of meadows and hedgerows. It offers a habitat to numerous ground nesting birds, a place to rest for waders and a haven for the largest flying bird of Europe, the great bustard.

Deeply engraved dry valleys that only carry water when the rainfall is unusually hard are called Fläming “rummeln” (Kehlen – gorges – in the Märkische Schweiz) and constitute a geological and botanical peculiarity.

The Hoher Fläming nature park has moul- ted into a hiking region. Even more hikers discovered the region’s attraction after the Deutsche Wandertag (German Hiking Confe- rence) was held in Fläming in 2012.



## Hoher Fläming Naturparkzentrum

There is no exact record as to what was kind of legal or illegal concoctions were made in the “Old Distillery”. It is well documented, though, that between 1863 and 1945 a horse-powered cogwheel was used to pump water up to Rabenstein castle. Equipment from this period, such as the gear pump and a boiler can still be seen. The Raben visitors centre has quenched the visitors’ thirst for knowledge since 1997. Regardless of the season and the weather, the exhibitions give a good first impres- sion of the nature park. Don’t expect dry texts. At the entrance you will be handed a flashlight to visit the creatures of the night. Discovering the world of the Hohe Fläming in 360° panorama excursions in different villages and landscapes requires some fancy footwork. Farm animals want to be “put together”, trees need to be made to speak; even springs and streams in the Fläming do not bubble without help. When you partici- pate in the small wolves rallye and find the answer you can proudly show off your wolf pin! Promise: Time flies ... and afterwards you will be keen to experience the nature park for real...

The tourist information office has extensive supply of map and flyers to use for hikes or cycling tours. Bicycles for women, men, children or a tandem can be hired there.

Herbal hikes, history evenings, apple days—the visitors centre event calendar is diverse. The high point is the unique Christmas market on the first Advent weekend where the whole family can enjoy the Christmas



The Raben Visitors Centre is located below Rabenstein castle. The visitors centre building, Alte Brennerei, was first mentioned in historical records around 1700.

scent of regional products, create their own Christmas presents or start the Advent season with a relaxed torchlight hike to Burg Rabenstein.

The Flämingladen offers craftwork typical of the region and locally made natural pro- ducts like marmalade. By the way: the visitors centre (with the exception of the Flämingladen in the historic cellar vaults) has been designed barrier-free. An electromobile and therapeutic tandem can also be borrowed.



Naturparkzentrum Hoher Fläming

Brennereiweg 45  
14823 Rabenstein / Fläming  
OT Raben  
Tel. 033 848 – 600 04  
info@flaeming.net  
www.flaeming.net

Opening hours

January – December:  
Mon – Sun 9 am – 5 pm

How to get there

By railway RE 7 to Bad Belzig, from Bad Belzig station 15 km by bicycle via Euro- pean cycling route R1 to Raben  
www.bahn.de

With the Burgenlinie to Raben:  
starting 2017 daily between Easter and December  
Each between Bad Belzig, Niemegk, Raben and Wiesenburg five times daily  
www.burgenlinie.de  
www.vbbonline.de

By car: A9 Berlin-Leipzig, Exit Klein Marzehns, 3 km to Raben



# Excursions and activities



## Walking in the nature park Boulders, rummel valleys, castles

The Burgwanderweg, recognised as “quality route for hiking in Germany” takes you 148 km through extensive pine forests, past glacial erratics, rummel valleys and Fläming-fließe to the medieval castles of Eisenhardt in Bad Belzig, Rabenstein near Raben, the castle grounds in Ziesar and the Wiesenburg castle with its important landscape park. A “walking without luggage” package tour along the recommended eight stages of the castle hiking route can be booked with Touristinformation Bad Belzig. If you prefer a half-day or full-day hike, there is meanwhile a choice of more than 30 well-marked circular walks. The railway stations at Brück, Baitz, Bad Belzig, Wiesenburg and Medewitz along the RE7 lie are good starts or destinations for diverse hikes.

One of the most popular hiking trails is the Bergmolchwanderweg trail between Raben and Rädigke. It leads along an unimproved path from Raben along the Planetal nature conservation area. In Rädigke there is a historic inn for thirsty and hungry guests, where the Fläming – Bibliothek is also found. The return route goes through the Flämingwald

to the medieval castle Rabenstein. From there one can follow a nature path through the Rabenstein nature conservation area to the visitors centre and the playground in the village below.

Walking and wonders is the motto of the International Art Hiking Route between the railway stations Bad Belzig and Wiesenburg/Mark. Artists from Germany and Flanders (Belgium/ Netherlands) have installed 28 art objects in the landscape. Some pertain specifically to the historic settlement by the Flemish some 850 years ago.

[www.wandern-im-flaeming.de](http://www.wandern-im-flaeming.de)



## Cycling in the nature park Round and round

The landscape of the nature park is ideal for cycling. There are countless quiet side roads, many of which are beautiful old tree-lined avenues. There are amazing medieval field-stone churches in the villages and places to rest or enjoy a rural meal in the village common.

The three-castle cycling tour combines in one 54-km tour the castles in Bad Belzig and Raben with Wiesenburg castle. Bicycles can be hired at the railway stations of Bad Belzig and Wiesenburg/Mark as well as at the visitors centre.

There is a special cycling tour between Ziesar and Görzke. Here runs the new cycling route along the former railway tracks with wonderful views of the Buckau lowlands. A culinary stopover at the Forellenhof Rottstock is worth it as well as a visit to the five potteries in Görzke.

The nature park is crossed in its length by the well-built international cycle way R1. It leads through Belzig, where the regional rail express RE3 arrives hourly from Berlin. Head from Belzig to the nature park visitors centre in Raben, an R1 service station with cycle storage, tour suggestions and many

recreational tips. The well-marked Fläming cycling route connects the Brandenburg nature park with its neighbour in Saxony-Anhalt between Bad Belzig and Dessau. In combination with the Elbe cycling route and the European cycling route R1, the Fläming cycling route creates an attractive tour through the Fläming for several days.

Visitors centre

Tel. 033 848 – 600 04



## Travelling on horseback

### Riding from farm to farm

The nature parks many riding stables offer excellent conditions for a horse-centred holiday, but the glaciers also did their bit to help: they left behind a sandy ground and an open, hilly landscape. The marked nature park bridle route leads along unhardened paths to the region's highlights: through woods and villages, to castles and beech trees, from Verlorenwasser to Gesundbrunnen. The leaflet containing the addresses of all participating riding stables and the tourist map is available from the nature park centre. By the way the VFD (German association of recreational and sport riders) has praised the 110-km-long nature park bridle route!

[www.hoher-flaeming-naturpark.de](http://www.hoher-flaeming-naturpark.de)



## Bad Belzig

### Rustling reeds

An hour's journey takes travellers from Berlin to the thermal brine spa. From the train station it is only ten minutes on foot to Eisenhardt castle. Meadows stretch out below the fortress, through which the Belzig stream babbles merrily. Old trees line one side, flower meadows and reeds on the other. In the moat and in the ponds fed by underground springs, common toads hold mass weddings in early spring, and the patient observer will catch a glimpse of the rare grey wagtail. The round walk also features a wheelchair friendly nature trail.

Around Bad Belzig there is a dense network of hiking and terrain cure trails. The latter are also conceived as active movement therapy for spa guests.

The old and the new are harmoniously interwoven in the Hohen Fläming county seat and spa city. The panorama hiking trail offers amazing views of the city and the rolling hills surrounding it. On the other hand one can enjoy old town flair in the crooked streets with their lovingly restored historic townhouses. In the Rathaus am Markt you will find the city's tourist information office. The modern symbol of the city is the SteinTherme Bad Belzig in the north of the city. The thermal baths with two domes, like an erratic that has been cut open, there is iodinated water from a depth of 775 meters for healthy relaxation. A sauna as well as wellness, beauty and fitness programme is featured to spoil guests. Heat, light and colour create like magic mood of wellbeing

Tourist-Information Bad Belzig

Tel. 033 841 – 387 99 10

[www.bad.belzig.com](http://www.bad.belzig.com)



## Wiesenburg

### Homes in hollow trees

A further castle complex lies only 12 km to the west of Belzig. At around 1200 the old wood and earth fortifications of the Wiesenburg were replaced with a wall made from erratic ice age boulders found in local fields. By the late 19th century the Wiesenburg had been rebuilt as a castle and taken on its current form.

The sprawling landscape park modelled after English parks is home to ancient giant trees. The main path through the park takes you to the train station Wiesenburg/Mark, where the RE7 on its way from Berlin/Potsdam to Dessau stops.

Info point Wiesenburg castle

Tel. 033 849 – 309 80

[www.tourismusverein-wiesenburgmark.de](http://www.tourismusverein-wiesenburgmark.de)

## Ziesar

### “Behind the lake”

Ziesar, with its castle, lies just outside the nature park. Mentioned first in 948 AD, the castle served as mighty defence complex and residence to the bishops of Brandenburg. It now houses the museum of medieval religious and cultural history in Brandenburg, where many spectacular finds such as examples of medieval under-floor heating and large-scale murals can be admired. The place name is Slavonic and means “behind the lake”. Where the lake once was is now a wet meadow area. Hikers can experience the scenic area along the Rundwanderweg No. 51.

Tourist-Information Ziesar

Tel. 033 830 – 127 35

[www.ziesar.de](http://www.ziesar.de)

[www.burg-ziesar.de](http://www.burg-ziesar.de)





Rabenstein Castle

### No ravens on the “rough stone”

The southernmost of the Fläming castles, Höhenburg Rabenstein lies in the most attractive part of the Höhe Fläming landscape. The castle complex on the “Steilen Hagen” hill may have existed as early as 1190, serving as southern border fortress to the masters of Belzig, though the earliest documented mention dates from 1251. The word “Raben” comes from “Rauen”, thus the name Rabenstein is to be translated as “rough stone”, not “raven’s stone”. Today Burg Rabenstein serves as a hostel for children and youth groups. Visitors find an impressive view from the castle tower and can refresh themselves in the restaurant afterwards. The falconry demonstrates the work with the different species of birds of prey. An adventure trail leads from the Naturparkzentrum through the Rabenstein conservation area to the castle.

Burg Rabenstein  
Tel. 033 848 – 602 21  
info@burgrabenstein.de  
www.burgrabenstein.de  
Fremdenverkehrsverein  
Niemegker Land e. V.  
Tel. 033 848 – 600 29

Dippmannsdorf

### Heavenly conditions

Like pearls on a string the Fläming villages of Schwanebeck, Lütte, Dippmannsdorf and Ragösen are aligned along the sloping edge of the Hohe Fläming, apparently due to the plentiful supply of water in this otherwise very dry region. In this respect Dippmanns-

dorf enjoys heavenly conditions: crystal clear water bubbles from a dozen springs, which feed the millponds. The spring basin lined with old beech, oak and alder trees was carefully opened up to visitors with footbridges and dams as part of the village’s restoration. Dippmannsdorf boasts a further visitor attraction: a purely spring water fed natural spa pool.

[www.dippmannsdorf.de](http://www.dippmannsdorf.de)



Rummel tour

### Like green fingers

The ice age left behind a network of narrow dry valleys, so-called rummels. Following deforestation in medieval times they deepened through erosion and carry water only as a result of strong rainfall or thawing snow. Like green fingers the once again densely wooded rummels stretch far into the agrarian landscape. A few can be explored on foot. The little valleys swallow their visitors and transport them into their own little world. The Brautrummel valley near Grubo, in the heart of the nature park, is equipped with a walkers’ car park. The saying goes that a young couple drowned there following a rainstorm; hence the name “Braut (bride)“-rummel.

Still today, like in 2013, storms trigger landslides and set boulders in motion; trees are uprooted and masses of water flow rapidly through the Brautrummel. Just as this rummel changes all the time, another remains steadfast, the lush, steep-walled Neuendorf rummel near Garrey.

Nature park centre  
Tel. 033 848 – 600 04

Viewing tower at Groß Briesen

### Alpine experience in the lowland

In twists and bends the road winds its way up to the viewing tower “Schöne Aussicht” at Groß Briesen. From a lofty height above the sloping edge of the Fläming, where the ground falls away steeply for 60 m, a far-reaching view into the Baruth glacial valley is afforded. Twelve thousand years ago enormous melt-waters ploughed their way through here.

Nature park centre  
Tel. 033 848 – 600 04



Artisans’ town Görzke

### Potting before bedtime

Görzke in the west of the nature park looks back on a long tradition of pottery. In 1706 the bottle makers formed a guild. So called “pot men”, traders with horse and cart, brought the earthenware to the surrounding villages. Even today four potteries remain, which have been under family ownership for generations. The pottery market at Easter has long been a tradition of the town. Görzke was also known for its doll production. From the end of the 1950s in the former GDR the VEB earthenware factory (owned by the people) also produced the little Sandman toy figures until the site closed in 1993. The recently opened craft centre Handwerkerhof Görzke, previously a starch factory, shows machines used for doll manufacture. Pottery souvenirs can be purchased in the small shop there.

[www.toepferort-goerzke.de](http://www.toepferort-goerzke.de)

Dangelsdorf and Dahlen

### Deserted churches and exotic trees

Not far from Görzke along the Burgenwanderweg remnants of the Dangelsdorf church can be found in the middle of the forest. Some of the walls have survived in contrast to the Elsholz church ruin.

A bit further north the manor Dahlen is a worthwhile destination. A 1.5-km trail, also accessible for wheelchairs, leads through the park with its ponds and visual axes and more than 30 different tree varieties, some even exotic. The café nearby and the lovely little half-timber church complete the tour.



Burgenbus (Castle Bus)

### An excursion line through the nature park

The castles Burg Rabenstein, Burg Eisenhardt in Bad Belzig, Schloss Wiesenburg as well as the little Fläming town of Niemegk – four special excursion destinations all

lie on the Burgenlinie (the castle line). The landscape of the Hohe Fläming nature park enchants along the route with its gentle hills, wide vistas into the countryside and with its idyllic villages. Starting 2017 the bus line travels daily between Easter and December to bring guests to their destinations—five times a day.

The Burgenlinie is a real advantage for hikers, as they can now easily explore individual stages of the Burgenwanderweg and the Kunstwanderweg, two of the quality hiking trails in Fläming that are part of the trail network “Wanderbares Deutschland”. You can find the route, the timetable and the sights along the route at the Internet site. The VBB fares also apply to the Burgenbus – that means tickets, like the VBB subscription 65+ or the Brandenburg-Ticket, are also valid in the Burgenbus.

[www.burgenlinie.de](http://www.burgenlinie.de)

## Naturetainment: Get out and learn!



### Certified nature and culture guides Tempting guided tours

The Hohe Fläming has many tempting destinations which expert guides are glad to show you. Choose between tours by bicycle, by foot, on horseback, with a coach, charabanc or bus. There is also a selection especially tailored to families, children, and senior citizens available in the nature park centre.

Nature park centre  
Tel. 033 848 – 600 04

### Park rangers Quizzing the rangers

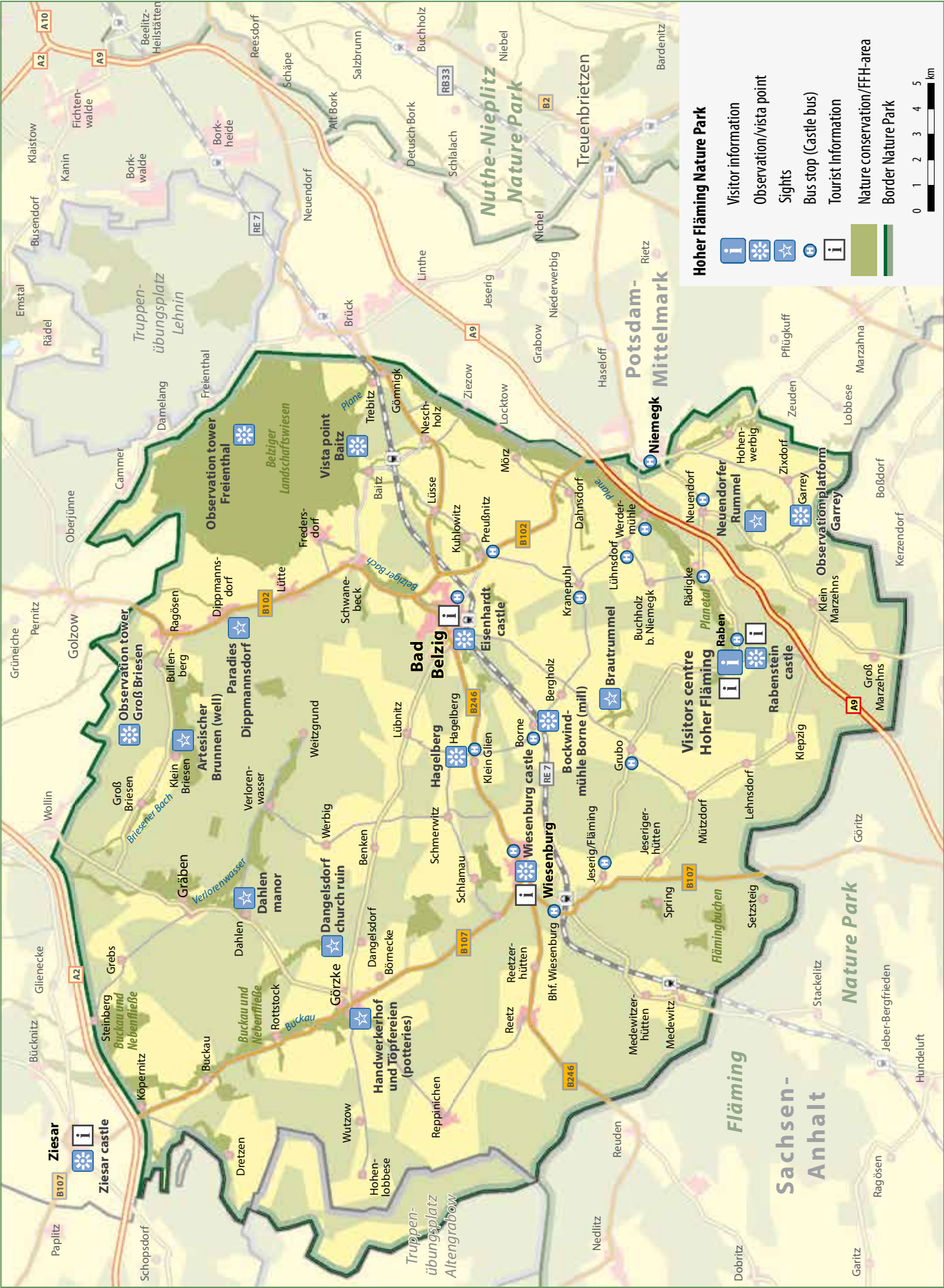
Nature is above all about senses – see, hear, feel. Use your senses to get to know the small and large inhabitants of the water, chase castle ghosts, observe the Märkische Strauß or investigate what connects land use and nature conservation—in other words: to experience the nature park in a special way. Questions are welcome! The park attendants are happy to be quizzed. Volunteers welcome! In the spring help setting up and checking the amphibian



protection fences or mow and clear valuable wet meadows in summer. The rangers are also glad to help when you are looking for information about whatever is offered to tourists in the nature park.

Naturwacht Hoher Fläming  
Outpost Baitz  
Tel. 03 38 41 – 437 34  
baitz@naturwacht.de





TOURIST INFORMATION

Tourismusverband Fläming e. V.  
Zum Bahnhof 9  
14547 Beelitz  
Tel. 033 204 – 62 87, -63, -64  
[www.reiseregion-flaeming.de](http://www.reiseregion-flaeming.de)

Tourismusverein Wiesenburg / Mark e. V.  
Schlossstraße 1 b  
14827 Wiesenburg / Mark  
Tel. 033 849 – 309 80  
[info@tourismusverein-wiesenburgmark.de](mailto:info@tourismusverein-wiesenburgmark.de)  
[www.tourismusverein-wiesenburgmark.de](http://www.tourismusverein-wiesenburgmark.de)

Touristinformation Bad Belzig  
Marktplatz 1  
14806 Bad Belzig  
Tel. 033 841 – 387 99 10  
[info@bad.belzig.com](mailto:info@bad.belzig.com)  
[www.steintherme.de](http://www.steintherme.de)  
[www.bad-belzig.com](http://www.bad-belzig.com)

Fremdenverkehrsverein  
Niemegker Land e. V.  
Zur Burg 49  
14823 Rabenstein / Fläming  
OT Raben  
Tel. 033 848 – 600 29  
[fvv-niemegkerland@web.de](mailto:fvv-niemegkerland@web.de)  
[www.niemegker-land.de](http://www.niemegker-land.de)

Fremdenverkehrsverein Brück e. V.  
Ernst-Thälmann-Straße 59  
14822 Brück  
Tel. 033844 – 621 58  
[info@fvv-brueck.de](mailto:info@fvv-brueck.de)  
[www.fvv-brueck.de](http://www.fvv-brueck.de)

Touristinformation Burg Ziesar  
Mühlentor 15 A  
14793 Ziesar  
Tel. 033 830 – 127 35  
[www.burg-ziesar.de](http://www.burg-ziesar.de)  
[info@burg-ziesar.de](mailto:info@burg-ziesar.de)

Museums

Heimatismuseum (Local history museum)  
Burg Eisenhardt  
Wittenberger Straße 14  
14806 Belzig  
Tel. 033 841 – 424 61  
[www.burgeisenhardt.de](http://www.burgeisenhardt.de)

Heimatsstube im Schloßturn  
Schlossstraße 1b  
14827 Wiesenburg / Mark  
Tel. 033 849 – 309 80  
[www.tourismusverein-wiesenburgmark.de](http://www.tourismusverein-wiesenburgmark.de)

Heimatismuseum (Local history museum)  
Ziesar  
Mühlentor 15  
14793 Ziesar  
Tel. 033 830 – 601 41

Bischofsresidenz Burg Ziesar  
Museum for Churches in Brandenburg and  
the Cultural History of the Middle Ages  
Mühlentor 15 A  
14793 Ziesar  
Tel. 033 830 – 127 35  
[www.burg-ziesar.de](http://www.burg-ziesar.de)

Handwerkerhof Görzke  
Kirchstraße 18/19  
14828 Görzke  
Tel. 033 847 – 402 55  
[www.toepferort-goerzke.de](http://www.toepferort-goerzke.de)

Nature park administration Hoher Fläming  
Brennereiweg 45  
14823 Rabenstein / Fläming  
OT Raben  
Tel. 033 848 – 600 01  
[np-hoher-flaeming@ifu.brandenburg.de](mailto:np-hoher-flaeming@ifu.brandenburg.de)  
[www.hoher-flaeming-naturpark.de](http://www.hoher-flaeming-naturpark.de)

Naturwacht (Ranger) Hoher Fläming  
Im Winkel 13  
14822 Brück / OT Baitz  
Tel. 033 841 – 437 34  
[baitz@naturwacht.de](mailto:baitz@naturwacht.de)  
[www.naturwacht.de](http://www.naturwacht.de)

Staatliche Vogelschutzwarte Brandenburg  
(Brandenburg state ornithological station)  
Outpost Baitz  
Im Winkel 13  
14822 Brück / OT Baitz  
Tel. 033 841 – 302 20

How to get there

With the railway in the Naturpark: RE 7  
stations at Baitz, Bad Belzig,  
Wiesenburg / Mark and Medewitz  
[www.bahn.de](http://www.bahn.de)

New: Burgenlinie starting 2017 five times  
daily from April until December between  
Bad Belzig, Niemegk, Raben and Wiesenburg  
[www.burgenlinie.de](http://www.burgenlinie.de)  
[www.vbbonline.de](http://www.vbbonline.de)

MAP

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinforma-  
tion Brandenburg (editor), Topographische  
Freizeitkarte 1:50.000 Naturpark Hoher  
Fläming, mit Wander-, Rad- und Reittouren





## Westhavelland Nature Park

# Water, hills and amazing aviators

Naturpark  
Westhavelland



### Nature park at a glance

#### Great scenic views

- Observation towers at Gülper See, Große Grabenniederung near Parey and Grützer Bogen (Havel lowlands)
- Observation towers in Havelländische Luch near Garlitz and Buckow

#### Recommended tours

- Hiking trail on the south bank Gülper See
- Havelland cycling path, East – West across the nature park
- Havel cycling path, from the source to the mouth (Havelberg)
- Hiking trail around Beetzsee, Hohennauener See
- Storchenweg through the Große Grabenniederung
- Water tour route Lower Havel (Overnight moorings at Milow, Mögelin, Grütz, Gülpe)

#### More tips

- Brandenburg a. d. Havel with cathedral
- Rathenow with Optics Park, Optics and Industry Museum
- Kleßen with toy museum, castle and Märkische manor garden
- Otto Lilienthal Memorial Stölln
- Havelberg with cathedral
- Havel boat trip between Brandenburg and Havelberg
- Neustadt / Dosse with “Hengstparade” (Stallion parade) (September)

With 1,315 km<sup>2</sup>, it is the biggest of the large protected areas in Brandenburg and has a distinctive countenance: the Westhavelland Nature Park. Water, broad lowlands, wood-covered hills and small settlements typical of the Mark Brandenburg, with their half-timbered houses and brick buildings, characterise the landscape between Brandenburg an der Havel, Friesack and Neustadt/Dosse. The region is famous for its aviators. Otto Lilienthal started attempts at flight here with his collapsible flying machines, which he transported from Berlin to the hills called the Rhinower Berge. The flying pioneer also made his last flight here: On 9 August 1896 he broke his cervical vertebra and died a few days later in Berlin.

The Lilienthal Centrum presents these periods in an exhibition in Stölln.

The other aviators come in thousands, and from a long way off. The largest continuous wetland in western Central Europe, through which the Havel flows, is an ideal staging site for north migrating birds. In spring and autumn geese and swans, cranes, duck and snipe fill the region, which has more bodies of water than in most of Germany. The migration of the clamorous flocks is a fantastic experience not just for bird-lovers and can be watched from numerous observation towers.

With its lifeline, the Havel, and its wealth of bodies of water, the Westhavelland Nature Park is especially suited for environmentally friendly water tourism. Cruising on the Havel, its tributaries and canals, enjoying bathing and water sports, for example on the Beetzsee and Hohennauen Lake, who could ask for more?

At the same time the Westhavelland Nature Park is home to rare species like black-tailed godwits, redshanks, curlews, common snipe

and corncrakes, otters and beavers. Also red and black kites as well as the imposing white-tailed eagle and osprey can be seen circling in the skies.

Another bird, which once found ideal conditions here, is now almost extinct: the great bustard. In the nature park it can only still be found in the “Havelländisches Luch” nature reserve. The Luch is one of the last three areas in all of Germany where the great bustard can be found. Only by means of a species preservation project conducted by the state environmental office over many years and a targeted local area management policy has it been possible to enable the survival of the last three reproduction areas of these imposing birds in Germany. From April until May it is possible to watch the impressive mating display of the bustard cocks from two observation towers near Buckow and Garlitz.

Westhavelland is rich in historic buildings and technical monuments, and thus also offers worthwhile visits or longer excursions to those interested in culture and history.



## Westhavelland Milow Visitors Centre

The nature park centre is located in the tranquil Havel village of Milow, in the historic centre. Milow lies on a peninsula between the Stremme, Havel and Gohlitz in the so-called Stremme-Havel Elbow. A castle was located on this site during the Middle Ages.

Until the middle of the 18th century all water traffic between Magdeburg and the Mark went along this small river, once a main tributary of the Elbe. Thus all boat traffic had to pass Milow castle, which was the trade control centre so to speak. Today the entire grounds have been redesigned. The nature park centre is in the former stables and granary. A senior citizen residence has been installed in the manor house and there is a restaurant directly on the bank with dock for passenger ships and boats.

Discover – Understand – Experience – Investigate is the motto of the exhibition in the nature park centre. Are fish really dumb? Why do moor frogs change colour? What does the fur of a fish otter feel like? What is a needle dam? These and many more questions on the history and nature of the Havelland are answered here in an entertaining way.

The star experience space (Sternenerlebnisraum) is especially impressive with innumerable stars—combined with polyphonic calls of nocturnal animals. In addition the exhibition covers in detail the Havel and its renaturalisation. Small children will love to play builder on the Havel run, stamp a wolf's track or tinker on the researcher table. Natural products from the region as well as some nice souvenirs of the visit to the Havelland are sold in the small shop.

The curious can use videos to expand their knowledge or go to the river equipped with rubber boots and nets. And do not forget the binoculars to watch terns, various sorts of duck, geese and swans or one of the many other types of birds that live in the Havel lowlands. Further information points for the park are in Parey, the headquarters of the park administration, in the Großderschau Kolonistenhof and the Lünow Meeting Rooms (*Begegnungsstätte*).



Find out on the x-ray table what injury a buzzard has, guess how many species are found in a meadow and look at a coot feather under a microscope. You can research nature in the Havelland at many interactive stations.

#### NaturparkZentrum Westhavelland

Stremmestraße 10  
14715 Milower Land / OT Milow  
Telefon: 033 86 – 21 12 27  
npz@nabu-westhavelland.de  
www.nabu-westhavelland.de

#### Opening hours

April – October: Thu – Tue 10 am – 5 pm  
November – March:  
Thu – Sun 10 am – 16 pm  
Closed Wednesdays  
Daily during the holidays in the State of Brandenburg and Berlin

#### How to get there

RE 1 Railway station Brandenburg  
RE 2 Station Friesack, station Neustadt (Dosse)  
RE 4 Station Rathenow  
RB 51 Station Pritzerbe, station Premnitz, from Rathenow and Premnitz continue by bus to Milow  
www.bahn.de  
www.vbbonline.de



# Excursions and activities



## City of Brandenburg Cradle of the Mark Brandenburg

You want to get away from it all in unspoilt nature, you enjoy walking, cycling, riding, fishing or taking part in water sports? The Westhavelland Nature Park is the place to go. As a point of departure the City of Brandenburg is excellently situated, on the southern edge of the park. With its cathedral, whose construction was started as early as 1165, the city is considered the cradle of the Mark Brandenburg. At one time a city in the Electorate of the Mark and its capital, it was elevated to a bishopric in 948 by Kaiser Otto I. Brandenburg is easy to reach by regional express. From here you can explore the park from south to north on the “Brandenburgische Städtebahn” or “Brandenburg Township-County Line”.  
[www.stadt-brandenburg.de](http://www.stadt-brandenburg.de)



## Brandenburg Township-County Line Round trip on rails

From its departure in Brandenburg the train quickly reaches the gate to the Westhavelland Nature Park, the town of Pritzerbe. This quiet little settlement on the banks of the Havel became a town in 948, when Otto I. founded the diocese of Brandenburg. It received the designation of Nature Park Parish (Naturparkgemeinde) in 2001, amongst other reasons because of its model approach to town restoration. The journey continues via the first known settlement in Havelland after the ice age, the present Premnitz, known for its chemical works. From here it is well worth walking the 2 km to the Havel village of Milow with its visitors centre for the Nature Park, which is situated at the entrance to the village right by the Havel. The train goes from Premnitz to Rathenow, the district capital, which is in the centre of the park. The bus passes the Hohennauener-Ferchesar See, and then

via Rhinow and Großderschau to Neustadt/Dosse, the City of Horses. From here day-trippers can easily and rapidly return by the regional express RE 2.  
[Tourismusverein Westhavelland](http://TourismusvereinWesthavelland.de)  
Tel. 033 85 – 51 49 -91 , -92  
[Tourismusverein Kyritz, Wusterhausen, Neustadt \(Dosse\)](http://TourismusvereinKyritz.de)  
Tel. 033 971 – 523 31



## Cycling and hiking With Fritze Bollmann to the Seven Brothers

The open, thinly populated landscape of the Westhavelland is especially suitable for hiking and cycling. Four cycling tours of between 41 and about 70 km are recommended by ADFC, the German Cycling Club, in its Potsdam-Havelland regional map. Visitors can follow the Prussian equestrian tradition (41 km) or forge ahead with the first aviator (Otto Lilienthal) to the flocks of fliers in the Gülper See bird paradise (up to 70 km), go fishing like Fritze Bollmann (41 km), or search for the great bustard (54 km). The Havelland-Radweg is a cycle path, which leads eastwards from Spandau to Senke in the Westhavelland Nature Park. It is the perfect way for visitors to discover the whole park from east to west, as far as the Land boundary with Saxony-Anhalt. The Havelradweg, which starts near the river's source in Mecklenburg, takes you from the city of Brandenburg through the lowlands of the Lower Havel where it ends The massive old trees in the park are impressive: the widest tree in Brandenburg, the large-leaved lime at Brielow with a trunk circumference of more than 12 m, and the Seven Brothers,

the Siebenbrüdereiche at Friesack, a group of seven oaks which have grown into one. Don't miss the ride from Rhinow to Strodehne via one of the most beautiful avenues in Brandenburg. Right by Rhinow, on the world's earliest aerodrome at Stölln, an old Ilyushin 62 passenger aircraft is a reminder that man began to fly in the Rhinower Berge.  
[Tourismusverband Havelland e. V.](http://TourismusverbandHavelland.de)  
Tel. 033 237 – 85 90 30  
[www.havelland-tourismus.de](http://www.havelland-tourismus.de)



## Cruising, water sports A boot trip, that's fun

The Havel from Brandenburg to Havelberg is a favourite and particularly attractive area for canoeing, known as Fluvial Landscape Lower Havel Lowlands, mentioned on maps and in travel guides. This picturesque river and lake landscape is well-suited for relaxing excursions with canoes, houseboats or tour boats. Where a scenic river and lakes abound, an extended boat trip simply is a must, like for example the legendary Fritze Bollmann took on the Beetzsee. Boats can be hired in several towns. A network of marinas, overnight moorings and resting and campsites can be found. Signs indicate where you can pitch your tent for the night. Some are found in Milow, Mögelin, Grütz and Gülpe, and Strodehne. In particular, the Beetzsee near the city of Brandenburg and the Hohennauener See, north of Rathenow, are playgrounds for swimmers, sailors, rowers and anglers. Both lakes offer a wealth of natural bathing places, pleasant pubs, guesthouses and campsites.  
[www.flusslandschaft-untere-havelniederung.de](http://www.flusslandschaft-untere-havelniederung.de)



## Starwatching in the Star Park Along the Milky Way to Swan, Eagle and the Big Bear

Is it still possible to admire the Milky Way in the night sky near the big cities of Berlin and Potsdam? Yes, in the Sternenpark Westhavelland! In the sparsely populated landscape of the Westhavelland there is relatively little artificial light streaming into the sky. This unique darkness at night is the ideal condition for observing the firmament. In a cloudless sky, the Milky Way can be seen in full glory with its thousands of twinkling stars. The Westhavelland nature park is open for starwatching all year. The best times to stargaze are in spring, late summer and in autumn. All you need is a good pair of eyes. But technology does help! Observation nights and interesting astronomy lectures are held in the “Sternenblick Parey” observation station.  
[Förderverein Sternenpark Westhavelland e. V.](http://FoerdervereinSternenparkWesthavelland.de)  
[www.sternenpark-westhavelland.de](http://www.sternenpark-westhavelland.de)



## Renaturalisation of the Lower Havel A river in transition

In the coming years, the Havel, lifeline of the nature park, will change its face. Again it will become closer to nature, livelier and more attractive, also for water tourists. Old branches will be joined, embankments removed, meadows and forests established on the banks, old flood drains activated and fish ladders installed. These measures will be implemented between Pritzerbe and the confluence of the Havel and Elbe in one of the largest river renaturalisation projects in Europe.  
[NABU Projekt Untere Havelniederung](http://NABUProjektUntereHavelniederung.de)  
Tel. 033 85 – 49 90 00  
[NaturparkZentrum Westhavelland](http://NaturparkZentrumWesthavelland.de)  
Tel. 033 86 – 21 12 27





Gölper See

Filling stations for migrating birds

This nature reserve is a unique bird paradise. Equipped with three observation towers, attractive hiking paths and a nature trail on the south bank of the lake, there is plenty of opportunity here to experience the wide variety of species in this ancient landscape. On Lake Gülpe in the Rhinow Ländchen or “district” lies what must be the largest wild goose staging site in Central Europe: an ornithological highlight. Staging sites are filling stations: Here migrating birds refuel for their onward flight to their wintering grounds. In the autumn and spring of every year up to 80,000 wild geese and up to thousands of cranes have been counted on a single day. The lake is also an important breeding area for many species of birds, including the marsh harrier, bittern, penduline tit and bearded tit. Further observation towers have been built in the Havel Lowlands at the Grützer Bogen, in the Große Grabenniederung near Parey and in the Havelländisches Luch Nature Reserve.  
[Nature park administration](#)  
Tel. 033 872 – 743 10  
[Rangers Westhavelland](#)  
Tel. 033 872 – 700 25



Boat trip on the Havel

In the sunshine on the “Sonnenschein”

A boat trip on the Lower Havel must be one of the most pleasant experiences the Brandenburg nature reserves have to offer. For example on the steamer “Sonnenschein”: From the district capital of Rathenow, the steamer cruises into a unique wetland of international importance. Here many sections of the river remain virtually untouched with a particular wealth of species of animals and plants. Besides the numerous water fowl the visitor may also come across traces of the beaver’s building activities, and in the spring sunshine can enjoy the magnificence of the first flowers in the wetlands. At the end the steamer passes two unusual historical monuments: Germany’s last still functioning needle weirs in Garz and Grütz. Needle weirs are facilities which consist of load-bearing elements (also called supports) and a range of squared timbers, the needles. The needles are 4 m long and are manually laid or set. There remain about 40 km of river

to the end of the trip, at Havelberg, with its cathedral erected in 1170, embedded in the attractive historic centre and visible from the water.

[Reederei \(shipping line\) Bolz, Rathenow](#)  
Tel. 033 874 – 603 21  
Mobile 0171 – 526 22 72



Riding

Charging with horsepower

Havelland is riding country – a wealth of riding establishments and private stud farms as well as numerous marked bridle paths invite exploration on horseback. The centre of Brandenburg’s breeding industry, the Brandenburgische Haupt- und Landgestüt, lies in the north of the Nature Park in the equestrian centre of Neustadt an der Dosse. A particular feature of Neustadt is the annual parades of stallions. On four weekends in September thousands of horse lovers and breeders come to Neustadt, the “Sanssouci for Horses”. Magnificent stallions and brood mares show off their temperaments, ability and obedience in impressive displays of jumping and dressage. Historic coaches, powerful carriage driving teams and fast and furiously driven Roman chariots enthrall the public, as do the acrobatic performances of Hungarian stunt riding or the mares of the Brandenburg State Studfarm with their foals at foot.  
[Tourismusverein Westhavelland](#)  
Tel. 033 85 – 51 49 -91, -92  
[Tourismusverein Kyritz, Wusterhausen, Neustadt \(Dosse\)](#)  
Tel. 03 39 71 – 523 31



Rathenow

The optics town

Rathenow’s old town with some remainder of its city wall is located on an island surrounded by the Havel. On the Kirchberg across from the Saint Maria Andreas Church is the birthplace of Pastor Johann Heinrich-August Duncker. It was because of this pastor that the town earned its nickname “The Optics Town”. Duncker was born in 1767; studied theology in Halle (Saale), and on the side also learnt much about optics. He invented a grinding machine with which high-quality lenses could be produced. He began running his first optical works in Rathenow in 1800. The Optics and Industrial Museum in Rathenow tells the story and history of the town’s optics industry. The Rathenow brachymedial telescope,

completed in 1953, is an engineering monument, the largest of its type in the world. The name refers to the construction by which the lenses and mirrors are combined to create the optical image.  
[Tourismusverein Westhavelland](#)  
Tel. 033 85 – 51 49 -91, -92  
[Optik-Industrie-Museum Rathenow](#)  
Tel. 033 85 – 51 90 40

Naturetainment:  
Get out and learn!



Optics park, early settlements and Lilienthal Centre

Lens adventure and pop-up lexicon

The masterful mixture of “green park” atmosphere, information and entertainment makes the Optics Park in Rathenow an attraction for young and old. Everything that is exciting and worth knowing in the world of optics is explained in a playful way and here optical phenomena become adventures. The Großdörschau Kolonistenhof takes the visitor to the times when the region was first settled in the 17th and 18th centuries. The winch well, the whim machine, the screw pump and other historical farm machinery and devices give an impression of the hard physical labour required to cultivate the land. The museum shows farming and crafts from past centuries and exhibits comprehensive information about the development of village life in the early settlements. 70 taxidermied animals from the Havel region shown in an exhibition about the Westhavelland Nature Park are definitely worth seeing. Near the place where Otto Lilienthal’s fatal

crash occurred is the Otto Lilienthal Centrum Stölln with its exhibition telling the story of Lilienthal’s aviation accomplishments and preserving the memory of this pioneer of air flight. It shows how Otto Lilienthal graduated from the childhood fascination with the way birds fly and how he arrived at the theoretical foundations of manned flight. The new “Pop-Up Encyclopedia of Air Travel” rounds out the museums features by exhibiting the history of air and space travel as a whole. Seven sections can be exposed as pop-ups using levers to display elements of aeronautical engineering history: for example tethered balloons, gliders, civil aviation, air war and space travel.  
[Optikpark Rathenow](#)  
Tel. 033 85 – 498 50  
[www.optikpark-rathenow.de](#)  
[Kolonistenhof Großdörschau](#)  
Tel. 033 875 – 908 10  
[www.grossdörschau.de](#)  
[Lilienthal Centrum Stölln](#)  
Tel. 033 875 – 906 90





MAPS

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinformation Brandenburg (editor), Topografische Freizeitkarte 1:50.000 Naturpark Westhavelland Nord, 2013  
ISBN 3-7490-4079-6

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinformation Brandenburg (editor), Topografische Freizeitkarte 1:50.000 Naturpark Westhavelland Süd, 2013  
ISBN 3-7490-4080-X

TOURIST INFORMATION

Tourismusverband Havelland e. V.  
Manager  
Theodor-Fontane Straße 10  
14641 Nauen / OT Ribbeck  
Tel. 033 237 – 85 90 30  
www.havelland-tourismus.de  
info@havelland-tourismus.de

Stadtmarketing- und Tourismusgesellschaft Brandenburg an der Havel mbH  
Neustädtischer Markt 3  
14776 Brandenburg an der Havel  
Tel. 033 81 – 79 63 60  
www.stg-brandenburg.de  
info@stg-brandenburg.de

Westhavelland Milow Visitors Centre  
Stremmestraße 10  
14715 Milower Land / OT Milow  
Tel. 033 86 – 21 12 27  
npz@nabu-westhavelland.de  
www.nabu-westhavelland.de

Nature park administration  
Pareyer Dorfstraße 5  
14715 Havelaue  
Tel. 033 872 – 743 10  
np-westhavelland@lfu.brandenburg.de

Naturwacht (Ranger)  
North  
Pareyer Dorfstraße 5  
14715 Havelaue  
Tel. 03 38 72 – 700 25  
westhavelland@naturwacht.de

South  
Stremmestraße 10  
14715 Milower Land  
Tel. 033 86 – 20 04 19  
milow@naturwacht.de  
www.naturwacht.de

Staatliche Vogelschutzwarte Brandenburg (Brandenburg state ornithological station)  
Buckower Dorfstraße 34  
14715 Nennhausen OT Buckow  
Tel. 033 878 – 60 257  
Fax: 033 878 – 606 00  
vogelschutzwarte@lfu.brandenburg.de

Tourismusverband Ruppiner Seenland e. V.  
Fischbänkenstraße 8  
16816 Neuruppin  
Tel. 033 91 – 65 96 30  
www.ruppiner-reiseland.de  
info@ruppiner-reiseland.de

Tourismusverein Westhavelland e. V.  
Freier Hof 5  
14712 Rathenow  
Tel. 033 85 – 51 49 -91, -92  
www.tourismusverein-westhavelland.de  
tv@westhavelland.de

Tourismusverein Kyritz, Wusterhausen, Neustadt (Dosse) e. V.  
Maxim-Gorki-Straße 32  
16866 Kyritz  
Tel. 033 971 – 523 31  
www.dosse-seen-land.de  
info@dosse-seen-land.de

Museum

Kolonistenhof Großderschau  
Kleinderschauer Straße 1  
16845 Großderschau  
Tel. 03 38 75 – 908 10  
www.grossderschau.de  
heimathaus@grossderschau.de







UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Elbe-Brandenburg Fluvial Landscape

# Life on the wild banks

Biosphärenreservat  
Flusslandschaft  
Elbe-Brandenburg



## Biosphere reserve at a glance

### Great scenic views

- 23 Nature Stops: e.g. observation towers: Rambower Moor, Boberow Moor, former border guard tower Lenzen, meadow view back diking Lenzen

### Recommended cycling tours

- Cycling tour “Treffpunkt Adebar” from Bad Wilsnack via Rühstädt (26 km)
- “Lenzer Wische” tour from Burg Lenzen via Mödlich and Eldenburg (27 km)
- International Elbe Cycling Route, Four-Country Border Cycling Route
- Biber-Burgen cycling tour (160 km)
- Individual tour planning possible using cycling junction guides in the Prignitz

### Recommended hiking tours

- Along the Zweiseitenweg around the Rambower Moor (12 km)
- Hiking trail Bad Wilsnack – Plattenburg (12 km)
- Hike along the “Karthanpfad” from Bad Wilsnack via Rühstädt and Bälöw (22 km)

### More tips

- Lenzen with historical town centre
- Dyke relocation Lenzen-Wustrow
- Elbe canoe tour, e.g. from Rühstädt to Wittenberge
- Wittenberge
- Bad Wilsnack with historic Church of the Miraculous Blood (Wunderblutkirche)
- Dune trails near Klein Schmölen

Half way between both noisy metropolises, Berlin and Hamburg, there is a land with a different rhythm, another sense of time. Where once high fences along the dyke separated Germany into two unequal halves, the sky is wider and the air is clearer. There is nearly always a breeze, carrying sounds across the river: the cracking of ice floes in winter, the wing beats of northern geese, the crane’s call, the humming of heavy ship’s turbines, and sometimes, even laughter from the other bank.

The UNESCO Elbe Fluvial Landscape Biosphere Reserve protects 400 river kilometres and through five federal states the Elbtalaue—one of the last intact fluvial landscapes in Central Europe. Here every season has its charm. In autumn and spring, during the great bird migrations, when the Elbe swells to a huge grey sea you can see what it is—a living river.

In the winter the river meadows are often flooded. Ice floes slowly float downstream, accompanied by the calls of northern whooper swans. The majestic birds weather the coldest season as winter guests on the Elbe before beginning their journey back to their brooding grounds in the northern Baltic. May again has a different heartbeat: in the shallows along the dyke the sky-blue moor frogs make their bubbling sounds and the calls of fire-bellied toads are carried for kilometres.

Summer time is stork time. The European Stork Village Rühstädt has more storks than any place in Germany: more than 30 brooding pairs. In August the young and old birds return to southern Africa and the Iberian Peninsula.

In autumn, thousands of wild geese cackle above in the pale, high skies. Cranes call. The morning fog rises. The sun is lower; throws

long shadows shines its warm light on the landscape’s structures.

The biosphere reserve is prime cycling terrain: Flat on the dyke, along a magnificent river meadow landscape. For years, the international Elbe cycling route has been Germany’s favourite among the long-distance cycling trails. Cycling tourists enjoy here spectacular views and an informative insight at 23 nature stops. Hikers marvel at the quiet and variety of Germany’s “most beautiful natural wonder 2014” (Sielmann Stiftung) along the Zweiseitenweg around the Rambower Moor. Do visit the villages along the river with their farms in northern red brick half-timber construction, Low German hall houses on mounds with horsehead gables and the splendid gardens, churches, castles and manor houses with proud pasts.



## Lenzen Castle Visitors Centre

Lenzen castle lies in the middle of a landscape promising many silent sensations and exciting adventures with its variety of species-rich habitats. The visitors centre shows a variety of exhibitions with observation tips, information about the region, nature and landscape, about the country and people and the cultural history of the Elbe.

The exhibition “Flusslandschaft am Grünen Band” (Fluvial landscape along the Green Belt) covers four floors up to the medieval tower, showing the river at different times and from any perspectives: when it still flowed wild and free and huge alluvial forests bordered its banks until today where humans, animals and plants all live together. The exhibition “Lenzener Stadtgeschichte” (Lenzen City History) documents the more than thousand-year history of Lenzen with its wars and times in which trade and crafts blossomed. A diorama with some 8,000 tin figures depicts scenes from the battle of Lenzen in 929, when King Heinrich I conquered the heavily fortified Slavic castle with his German-Saxon army.

A gem is the historic Baroque garden in the Burgpark. Fauna is enthroned in the Froschbrunnen (Frog Fountain), “Das Badende Mädchen” (the bathing maiden), surrounded by historic roses with poetic names Reine de Centfeuilles or Orpheline de Juillet. Poetry continues in the adjacent Natur-Poesie-Garten: pastures full of flowers and herbs, shrub beds and copses provide ideal habitats for butterflies, grasshoppers, bats and amphibians. Nine artworks draw upon natural philosophy and highlight the connection between nature and poetry. Not far from the Baroque garden a paved circle with a huge dented sphere under a mighty poplar carries the words of Nicholas of Cusa (1401-1464): “Every art is based on an observation that the wise have made in NATURE.” Wander through the centuries and let your thoughts wander.



The visitors centre of the biosphere reserve is located in the picturesque Lenzen castle with its tower rising high above the Brandenburg Elbtalaue.



The visitors centre is well suited as a point of departure for many exciting excursions in the biosphere reserve, whether by foot, by pedal power, with the paddleboat—on one’s own or in a guided tour. Explore the Green Belt, monument to German history and part of the national heritage, along the Vier-Länder-Grenzradweg (Four State Border Cycling Trail).

The BioHotel Burg Lenzen rounds off the pleasures in the Elbeauen with delicious cuisine and 40 tastefully appointed guestrooms within landmark walls.

### Lenzen Castle Visitors Centre

Burgstraße 3  
19309 Lenzen  
Tel. 038 792 – 12 21  
info@burg-lenzen.de  
www.burg-lenzen.de

### Opening hours

April – October:  
Daily from 10 am – 6 pm  
November - March:  
Wed and Thu 11 am – 3 pm  
Fri – Sun 11 am – 4 pm  
Mon and Tue by request

### How to get there

Arrive from Berlin with the RE 2 until Wittenberge, from Hamburg also with trunk lines.  
Continue with Bus 944 toward Lenzen (operates daily until 7 pm) up to five bicycles can be transported with reservations:  
038 76 – 78 99 40  
www.bahn.de



## NABU Visitors Centre Rühstädt

Rühstädt is Germany's stork city. Every year, more than 30 stork pairs raise their young here.

Starting in mid-March, the residents of Rühstädt get this strange itch: again and again they are seen to lift the eyes into the skies, waiting for their globetrotters to return. It is almost impossible to overlook the roofs with their large stork nests in the centre of Rühstädt village. A special attraction and favoured photographic motif is the former water tower near the old castle, once seat of the aristocratic von Jagow family (1782), naturally with a stork nest. From here it is only a few steps to the nature stop "Walter-Fritze-Storchenblick". Climb the stork balcony with a view of the stork colony by entering the Alte Speicher (old granary).

The Rühstädt visitors centre, directly on the Elbe cycling trail between Havelberg and Wittenberge, is the southern entry to the biosphere reserve. A live transmission in HD quality from the stork nest is the highlight of the NABU White Stork Exhibition. See nest construction, nest fights, mating, brooding and raising the young, feeding—always close to the action. Recordings of previous stork years round off the experience. You will find excursion tips and regional products in the shop.

### How about a quick get-away?

Enjoy the nature in the Elbtalauen and other recreational activities by staying one or more days in Rühstädt. The visitors centre offers nature adventure tours in and around Rühstädt. The feeding grounds of the white stork can be discovered either on foot or by bicycle. The researcher tour is designed especially for the young explorers to investigate in the ponds.



**Rühstädt Visitors Centre with NABU White Stork Exhibition**  
Neuhausstraße 9  
19322 Rühstädt  
Tel. 038 791 – 980 25  
[www.besucherzentrum-ruehstaedt.de](http://www.besucherzentrum-ruehstaedt.de)

**Opening hours**  
April – September Tue – Sun  
10 am – 6 pm, October 11 am – 5 pm,  
November – March by appointment  
Open on holidays and during school  
vacation on Monday.

**How to get there**  
From Berlin with the RE 2:  
station Bad Wilsnack, continue  
with the call bus to Rühstädt (Attention!  
Reservation of call bus up to 90 minutes  
prior to start of trip  
Tel. 038 76 – 78 99 40  
(daily from 6 am until 7 pm)  
Tip: Call bus immediately after boarding  
the RE 2 in Berlin. In Bad Wilsnack there  
is time for a visit to the city information  
office or the cafe in the station directly  
opposite the bus stop before continuing  
travel to Rühstädt).  
[www.bahn.de](http://www.bahn.de)

## Excursions and activities



tours around the nature stops are available at the Burg Lenzen and Rühstädt visitors centres.



### Cycling by numbers Cyclists' paradise Prignitz

With more than 1000 km of cycling trails, marked by the cycling junction network, the Elbtalaue in the Elbe Fluvial Landscape Biosphere Reserve and the entire Prignitz are a paradise for the recreational cyclist. The junction network permits an individual route plan depending on the interests and desired length of the cycling tour. To "cycle by numbers" select a route on any of the junctions using an overview map. Then one only has to follow the signs to the next junction. The tour can be lengthened or shortened as needed, at will.



### Nature stops Slow down and look far

There are 23 nature stops where visitors can enjoy spectacular views and informative insights about the bird world and many other themes in the natural and cultural landscape of the biosphere reserve. Be amazed or relaxed and get there easiest with a bicycle, using the junction network. From astounding vistas in Germany's largest dyke relocation area, to crane watching in the Rambower Moor, to marvelling at ant lions on the Quitzöbel inland dune, there is a lot of room for discoveries, peace and rest. Site maps and information on recommended

### Down by the riverside Cycling on the Elbe dyke

The water meadows of the great river are the heart of the biosphere reserve. Explore the landscape on the Elbe cycling trail, far from the highways, and you will see what makes this region so special: the sublime meander of the River Elbe that joins the far off horizon with the expanse of the sky; a peaceful landscape pairing the rustle of the fresh wind through the leaves of willows and poplars with the song of grassland birds and water fowl; in spring and autumn a wall of quacking and trumpeting swells when thousands of northern geese and cranes rest on the river. In spring and summer the storks stalk through the meadows. The charismatic migratory birds are so numerous here that the Elbaue hold the record for the most storks in all Germany. Nowhere else do more redbills brood than here. The Elbe cycling trail leads through pretty brick-red Elbe villages, where farmer's cafes and inns, bed & bikes, and vacation apartments warmly welcome guests.





Cities in the river meadows  
**Historical highlights,  
surprising discoveries and  
pleasant deceleration**

In Bad Wilsnack there is a cultural monument of great importance: the Wunderblut-kirche Sankt Nikolai (Church of St. Nicholas of the Miraculous Blood), Northern Europe's most important pilgrimage destination in the Middle Ages with pilgrims being drawn from as far as the north of Scandinavia. Today the pilgrimage route from Berlin to Bad Wilsnack, along historic paths, has been reconstituted and marked. To walk from the metropolis to the farming village is a remarkable experience. The Bad Wilsnack thermal baths, with graduation house, saline ponds and sauna landscape relax body and soul. Wittenberge lies in the centre of the biosphere reserve. Once a cradle of industrialisation, it was also the driving force for the construction of the Hamburg – Berlin railway line. Today it is a city on the Elbe rediscovering itself. The recently dedicated embankment along the Wittenberge is a symbol of the fusion: industry culture with wide river meadows in view.

Floods for the history books  
**More room for the river**

The Elbe floods in 2003 and 2013 were of unexpected intensity. Today, the UNESCO Elbe Fluvial Landscape Biosphere Reserve, a model region for sustainable development, demonstrates ecological flood management. In Lenzen, the largest dyke relocation in Germany to date, the water level was reduced by up to 50 centimetres. With extreme flooding, a few centimetres can be decisive. The dyke relocation benefits both humans and nature alike. The flood areas that protect from the risk of dyke breaks are also restored water meadows with alluvial forests, flood channels and lots of space for brooding and resting birds. A circular trail leads through the exciting area.

Walking and Wellness  
**Through the biosphere  
on Shank's pony**

The magic of Rambower Moor, Germany's "most beautiful natural wonder 2014" (Sielmann-Stiftung), best unfolds in a circular tour. The 12-km-long Zweiseitenweg hiking trail illuminates the history of humans and nature on the moor from two aspects: historical and current. Ancient messages are hidden in the peat: histories of mysterious Stone Age spearheads and brave wild boar hunters. During the great bird migrations of autumn and spring, thousands of cranes

fly into the Rambower Moor at sunset to find safety in the reeds for the night. In the spring, the filigree blossoms in magnificent orchid meadows are a feast for the eyes. The Karthanpfad trail (22 km) through the lowlands of the Elbe tributary starts in the picturesque little town of Bad Wilsnack and leads through the European Stork Village Rühstädt, Bälów and Klein Lüben, then returning to the half-timber town. Our tip: Spend a night in Rühstädt—half way—and after the hike visit the thermal baths in Bad Wilsnack.



Festivals for all seasons  
**Apples, cabbage, Elbe  
outings and open studios**

There are traditional festivals and markets in the region throughout the year. Elbe country excursions (May), Open Studio (May), the Medieval Spectacle at the Plattenburg (June), the Stork Festival in Rühstädt (July), the Pilgrim Festival in Bad Wilsnack (August), the regional market at Burg Lenzen (September) and the Apple Market in Wittenberge (October) are all highly recommended.  
[Tourismusverband Prignitz e. V.](http://www.tourismusverband-prignitz.de)  
Tel. 038 76 – 616 973

**Naturetainment:  
Get out and learn!**



stories on full moon tours. Take a glance at the history of the cultivated landscape or follow the architectural highlights.  
[www.elbe-brandenburg-biosphaerenreservat.de/landschaftsfuehrer](http://www.elbe-brandenburg-biosphaerenreservat.de/landschaftsfuehrer)

Naturwacht  
**The Ranger Service  
in the biosphere reserve**

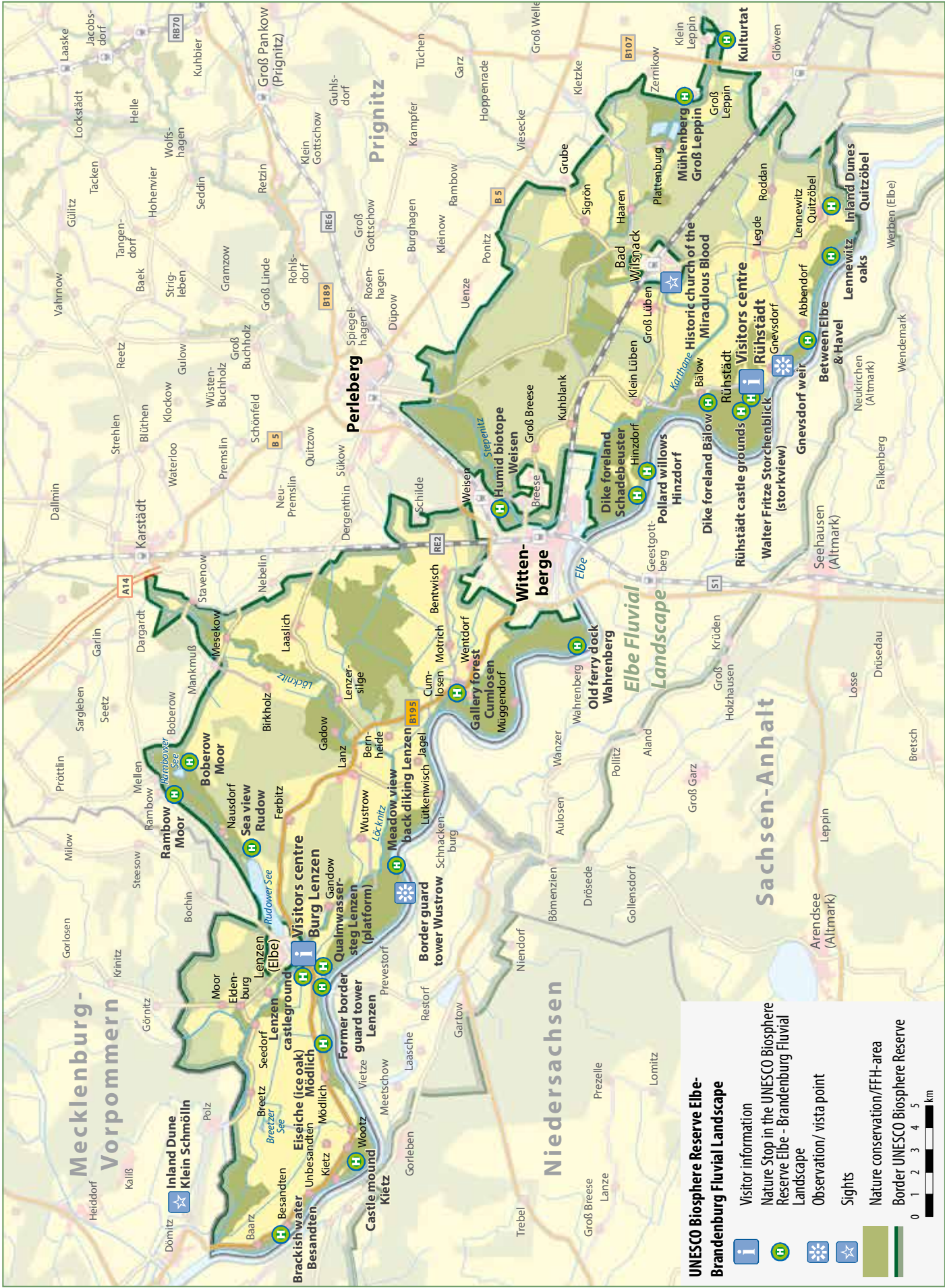
The rangers of the Naturwacht in the biosphere reserve offer a wide range of attractive adventure tours; they are conservation experts as well as environmental educators. As "Mediators between humans and nature" they work to protect local animal and plant species. Their aim: They want to share their knowledge, their pride and their excitement about the nature that surrounds us with all visitors.  
[www.naturwacht.de](http://www.naturwacht.de)  
[www.elbe-brandenburg-biosphaerenreservat.de/termine](http://www.elbe-brandenburg-biosphaerenreservat.de/termine)



Discover the cultivated landscape  
**Culture and landscape  
guides for the Elbe and  
Havel Lowlands**

The culture and landscape guides are ambassadors who propagate knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the impressive landscape in the UNESCO Elbe Fluvial Landscape Biosphere Reserve. They offer tours that can be booked individually as well as those at fixed dates. The culture and landscape guides offer opportunity to learn about the diverse landscape of the biosphere reserve on foot, by bicycle or canoe. There are many different ways. Hear exciting





MAPS

Landesvermessung und Geobasisinformation Brandenburg (editor), Topografische Freizeitkarte 1:50.000 Biosphärenreservat Flusslandschaft Elbe-Brandenburg, edition 2013 ISBN 978-3-7490-4154-1

Gestütsweg e. V, Reitwanderkarte 1:100 000 Gestütsweg – Reiten und Fahren zwischen Redefin und Neustadt (Dosse), www.gestuetsweg.de Tel. 038 759 – 335 74

TOURIST INFORMATION

Tourismusverband Prignitz e. V. Großer Markt 4 19348 Perleberg Tel. 038 76 – 3074 19 20 info@dieprignitz.de www.dieprignitz.de

Tourist-Information Wittenberge Paul-Lincke-Platz 1 19322 Wittenberge Tel. 038 77 – 92 91 81 touristinfo@kfh-wbge.de www.wittenberge.de

Stadtinformation Perleberg Großer Markt 12 19348 Perleberg Tel. 038 76 – 78 15 22 infobuero@stadt-perleberg.de www.stadt-perleberg.de

Stadtinformation Bad Wilsnack Bahnhof 1 19336 Bad Wilsnack Tel. 038791 - 26 20 stadtinfo@bad-wilsnack.de www.bad-wilsnack.de

Lenzen Castle Visitors Centre Burgstraße 3 19309 Lenzen Tel. 038 792 – 12 21 www.burg-lenzen.de

Rühstädt Visitors Centre Neuhaus 9 19322 Rühstädt Tel. 038 791 – 980 25 www.besucherzentrum-ruehstaedt.de

Administration of the Biosphere Reserve Flusslandschaft Elbe – Brandenburg Neuhaus 9 19322 Rühstädt Tel. 03 87 98 - 980 10 br-flusslandschaft-elbe@lfu.brandenburg.de www.elbe-brandenburg-biosphaerenreservat.de

Naturwacht (Ranger) Lenzen Hamburger Straße 48 / 49 19309 Lenzen Tel: 03 87 92/ 1701 elbtalaue@naturwacht.de www.naturwacht.de

Naturwacht (Ranger) Rühstädt Neuhaus 9 19322 Rühstädt Tel. 038 791 – 980 22 ruehstaedt@naturwacht.de www.naturwacht.de

European centre for pasture ecology, environmental education and visitors information Burg Lenzen Burgstraße 3 19309 Lenzen Tel. 038 792 – 12 21 www.burg-lenzen.de

Museums

Stadtmuseum (City museum) „Alte Burg“ Putlitzstraße 2 19322 Wittenberge Tel. 038 77 – 40 52 66

Filzverein Lenzen e. V. Schauwerkstatt Hamburger Straße 48 / 49 19309 Lenzen Tel. 038 792 – 50 49 75 filzverein-lenzen@gmx.de www.filzverein-lenzen.de

Dorfmuseum (Village museum) Eldenburg Historische landwirtschaftliche Geräte (historical agricultural equipment) Open from 1 April until 31 October Contact: Paul Eschen

Gestütsweg e. V. Lindenstraße 26 19309 Eldenburg Tel. 038 792 – 73 14

Friedrich-Ludwig-Jahn-Gedenkstätte Am Ring 21 19309 Lanz Opened upon request Tel. 038 780 – 72 10

School country retreat Schullandheim Elbtalaue Birkenweg 5 19309 Lenzen Manager Roberto Heuer Tel. 030 – 40 50 42 50 info@deineinhorn.de







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The National Nature Landscapes in Brandenburg belong to the umbrella brand "Nationale Naturlandschaften" for German national parks, biosphere reserves and nature parks sponsored by EUROPARC Deutschland e.V.