



ON SITE

AT THE VOGELSANG 'INTERNATIONAL PLACE'

The Eifel National Park Centre is located in a highly unusual place. From 1934, the National Socialists established the 'Ordensburg Vogelsang' estate here. Following World War II, the territory was first a British and then a Belgian military training area. Today it is an international meeting place and education centre, which stands for tolerance, open-mindedness and a respectful approach to nature. At the heart of the site – the Forum Vogelsang IP – you can learn about the region, enjoy a snack in the café, and visit two exhibitions: the interactive 'Dreams of the wilderness' exhibition, and the Nazi documentation of the history of the site.

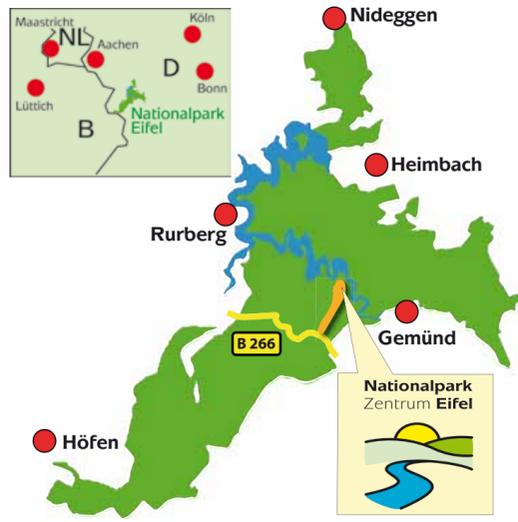
THE SOURROUNDINGS

IN THE EIFEL NATIONAL PARK

The National Park Centre offers panoramic views over the Urftsee reservoir in the heart of the Eifel National Park.

Woods, water, wilderness – this is the motto of the first National Park in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. Near-natural beech and oak forests, brooks, rivers and areas of open grassland provide for a varied view into and beyond the immediate landscape. A hiking or cycling tour is always an attractive option in combination with a visit to the exhibition.

Board and lodgings are offered by certified National Park hosts: www.nationalpark-gastgeber.eu



GETTING HERE

By public transport

Take National Park bus no. SB 82 from Kall railway station or bus no. SB 63 from Aachen via Einruhr (bus stop 'Vogelsang IP Forum') www.vrsinfo.de, www.av.de

By car/coach

Take the main B 266 road to the address 'Vogelsang 70, 53937 Schleiden'. There is a charge (€ 4) for parking in the visitors' car park after the first 30 minutes.

On foot and by bike

The National Park Centre is on various hiking and cycling routes and is thus ideal as a stopping-off point on your tour. Coordinates: N 50°35'10.6", O 6°26'52.1"

OPENING HOURS

Daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Till 2 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve)

ENTRANCE FEES

Entry 8 € | reduced 4 €
 Family ticket 18 €
 Combination ticket 12 € | reduced 6 €
 (Entry to both exhibitions – 'Dreams of the wilderness' and the 'Nazi documentation')

Free entry for children up to age 6 and birthday girls and boys (0 to 100+ years old)

Holders of a 'GuestCard' are entitled to a 10 % discount on the entrance charge:



Further information: www.nationalparkzentrum-eifel.de

Animals may not be taken into the exhibition. There are facilities on site where you can leave dogs.

There is no charge for entry to the visitor centre in front of the exhibition. Here you will find all sorts of fascinating information on the Eifel, short films, and an interactive model of the National Park.



Exhibition

WILDNIS TRÄUME

Dreams of the wilderness

WELCOME



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GERMANY
 53937 Schleiden
 Vogelsang 70
 Forum Vogelsang IP
 Eifel National Park Centre



You can use all of your senses to experience the fully accessible 'Dreams of the wilderness' exhibition. The entire exhibition area, including the sanitary facilities, is freely accessible for wheel chairs and pushchairs. Plenty of seating is on offer throughout. There are both tactile and auditory guiding systems available. The main content of the exhibition is explained in German, English, French and Dutch. There are also simplified language, raised type and Braille versions (all in German only). Media guides can be borrowed, providing information in several languages, including German sign language.

FULL ACCESSIBILITY

- discovery tours
- at different times
- in English, French, Dutch
- in German sign language
- fully accessible
- for school classes
- workshops for school classes
- birthday parties

Groups reserving in advance can

Monday to Friday 2 p.m.
 Saturday, Sunday, public holidays in NRW 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

PROGRAMME



Various events are on offer to complement the tours. You will find the latest information and dates on the website: www.nationalparkzentrum-eifel.de
 Tip: Why not combine your visit with a horse-drawn carriage ride to the former village of Wolfseifen, a guided tour in the National Park, or a walk around the historic Vogelsang site? The nocturnal sky views in the observatory are an additional attraction at night. www.sternenpark-nationalpark-eifel.de

OFFERS

The 'Dreams of the wilderness' exhibition is open every day. You can explore the exhibition floor on your own, or join a guided discovery tour. Whatever you decide, there are all sorts to experience, to marvel at, and to grasp.

TO THE EIFEL NATIONAL PARK CENTRE

Here you will find our extensive interactive exhibition, 'Dreams of the wilderness': 2,000 m² of fascinating interactive displays for young and old in a fully accessible, multi-lingual tour of discovery. The exhibition explains the special features of the National Park, the international 'Let nature be nature' national park philosophy, and the value of biological diversity. All sorts of surprising effects and fascinating changes of perspective await you. Experience the dynamics of nature, pause for a moment – and marvel. Be inspired to take a new approach to nature.

WELCOME



Global diversity

The protection of habitats and species concerns us all. Biological diversity is under threat worldwide. The reasons for this are many and know no boundaries. Protection areas such as the Eifel National Park help maintain biological diversity.

How is the Eifel National Park intertwined with the world around?
What poses the threat to biological diversity?
What can we do to protect nature?

Take action yourself to protect nature!

Humans and nature

Risking a step into the wild – quite a challenge. On the one hand, we long for untouched nature; on the other, we are afraid of wild animals and the forces of nature. We are part of nature – we should treat it with respect, and deal with it responsibly.

What is your view on the intrinsic value of nature?
What do you associate with the word 'wilderness'?
What does the Eifel National Park mean to you?

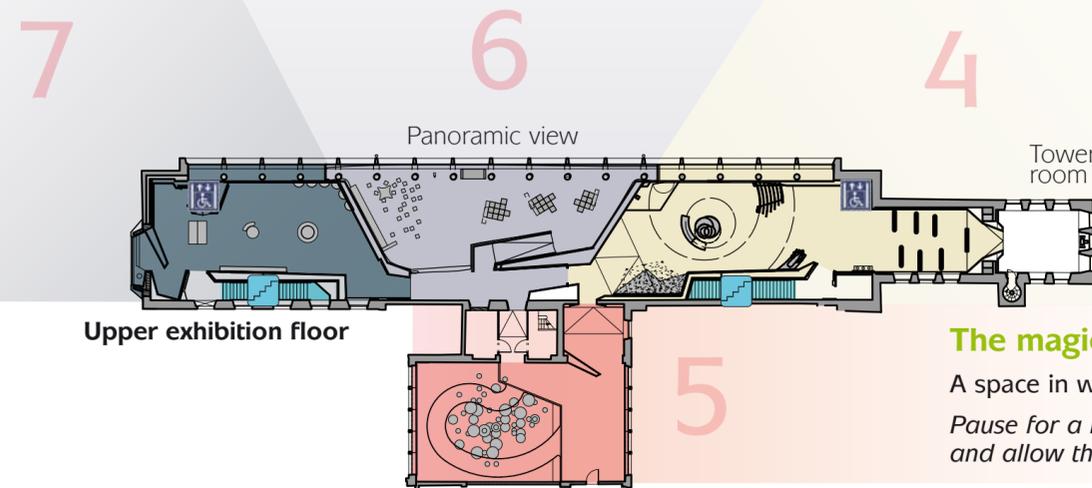
*Please take a seat –
and look both outwards and within
yourself!*

Life cycles

In the natural cycle, every end is also a beginning. The death of one thing is the basis of existence for another. Seasons, life cycles and feeding relationships determine the lives of inhabitants of the National Park.

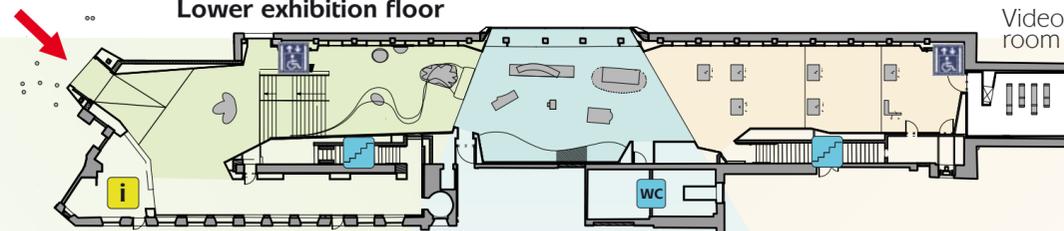
Who will prevail in the long term?
What strategy secures survival?
How do the species interact?

*Take the chance to observe natural processes
over the course of time!*



Entrance and exit

Lower exhibition floor



Tomorrow's primary forests

Central European beech forests are globally unique! Their main area is in Germany. In the Eifel National Park, the forest is no longer exploited for commercial purposes. It can thus develop slowly and undisturbed into the 'virgin forests of tomorrow', offering a habitat to all sorts of different species.

How many species live in the (virgin) beech forest?
Where exactly are they?
How do they share their habitat?

*Let the exhibition lead you from root to
crown, deep into the hidden diversity of
the forest!*

Water worlds

Spring, brook or reservoir: water is a key element in the Eifel National Park. Dynamic biospheres line the river from source to confluence. They offer a retreat, a hunting ground and a nursery to many different species.

Who occupies the water?
Why do some species live along bodies of water?
Who built the dams?

Take the plunge and find out more!

Sharp senses

Animals have remarkable sensory functions. They use compound eyes with thousands of photoreceptors, the finest of antennae, and GPS-free navigation to secure their survival and reproduction.

Who sees a long way clearly?
Who hears the quiet sounds?
Who can judge the temperature?

Put your own senses to the test!

The magic of the wilderness

A space in which to marvel – and to dream.

*Pause for a moment –
and allow the unexpected to have its effect on you!*

Dreams of the wilderness

just being there
getting involved enjoying
perceiving

touching
experiencing
discovering asking
getting inspired

playing
understanding
pondering

growing
adoting
respecting

IMPRINT

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