



Where to find more information?

National Park Gates are located at Simmerath-Rurberg, Schleiden-Gemünd, Monschau-Höfen, Heimbach and Nideggen. These Gates provide tourist information especially designed for visitors to the National Park, and also host various exhibits: The Rurberg exhibit, entitled 'Lebensadern der Natur' (Lifelines of nature), focuses on bodies of water in the Eifel region. The exhibit at the Gemünd Gate highlights graded oaks, colourful woodpeckers and forest tales. An exhibit at the Heimbach railway station provides information about the natural beech forests and wildcats. Here, texts are also presented in German Braille and in high-contrast type, for blind and visually impaired visitors. You can experience the exhibits at the last two National Park Gates mentioned in German, Dutch, French and English, and a floor guidance system will lead you around them. At the Nideggen Gate, natural treasures are exhibited, revealing the inventiveness of nature. A floor guidance system, audio equipment that can be borrowed, and videos translated into sign language make the exhibits at the Höfen and Nideggen Gates especially suitable for people with disabilities. The National Park Gates are all located at the edge of the large protected area. They are free of charge, can be reached without steps, and all have fully accessible sanitary facilities.

Opening hours:
 April to October: 10 am to 1 pm, 1:30 pm to 6 pm.
 November to March: 10 am to 1 pm, 1:30 pm to 4 pm.
 24 December and 31 December: 10 am to 1 pm.
 Closed on 25 & 26 December and 1 January.

Information is available not only at the National Park Gates, but also at the Forum Vogelsang IP Visitor Centre and the National Park Information Points, which are likewise equipped with films.

Additional information can be found at www.nationalpark-eifel.de/english



Dark Sky Park Eifel National Park

With its star-filled night sky, in 2014 Eifel National Park was recognised as the first International Dark Sky Park in Germany. In 2010, together with the region, astronomer Harald Bardhenagen from Cologne began preparations to establish a protected area for the night sky. The Eifel National Park region is one of the few locations in Germany where it is possible to see the Milky Way with the naked eye.

In addition to providing a nocturnal nature experience, the reduction of light pollution also protects nature and species diversity. Bats, migrating birds and many other animals benefit from a protected night sky. The next step is to develop further, from a Dark Sky Park to a Dark Sky Reserve. In addition to strict protection of the National Park against light pollution, a Reserve also includes a surrounding buffer zone of some 15 kilometres beyond the Park boundary.

For visitors to experience the night sky, the "Stars without boundaries" astronomy workshop offers regular events at the observatory site in Vogelsang.

Additional information about current programmes can be found at:

www.nationalpark-eifel.de/sternepark
 (in German)



- www.eifel-expeditionen.eu (information about nature study facilities in the region)
- www.nord-eifel-tourismus.de (Norderfeld Tourismus GmbH, tel.: +49(0)2441-99457-0; fax: -29)
- www.eifel-tipp.de (Rurinschaer Land-Touristik e.V., tel.: +49(0)2473-9377-0; fax: -20)
- www.rureifel-tourismus.de (Rureifel Tourismus e.V., tel.: +49(0)2446-90573-0; fax: -30)
- www.vogelsang-ip.de (Vogelsang IP, tel.: +49(0)2444-91579-0; fax: -29)
- www.eifel.info (Eifel Tourismus GmbH, tel.: +49(0)6551-9656-0; fax: -96)
- www.riv-tourismus.de/natur (Tourismus NRW e.V.)

The following maps and books concerning the National Park have been published:

- Trail map, scale: 1:25,000, Eifelverein, ISBN 978-3-944620-02-2, EURO 10,00
- Hiking book, 'Themenrouten', ISBN 978-3-7616-2068-7, -2644-3 and -2465-4, each EURO 14,95, ISBN 978-3-7616-2300-8 and -2301-5, each EURO 6,00
- Book nature and culture leaders, 'Der Nationalpark Eifel - Der Erlebnisführer für die ganze Region', ISBN 978-3-943123-04-3, EURO 14,80
- Erlebnis Nationalpark Eifel (Eifel National Park experience) - illustrated book about Eifel National Park, 196 pages, ISBN 978-3-95540-207-5, EURO 19,95 (published by Regionalia Verlag)

Visiting the Eifel National Park by bus or train

Mobility, free of charge, in the National Park region: As overnight guests at participating accommodation providers, visitors receive guest cards for the duration of their stay. This includes the free use of buses and trains in the entire discovery region and beyond, in the area of the VRS Rhine-Sieg transport association (Verkehrsverbund Rhein-Sieg) and the AIV Aachen transport association (Aachener Verkehrsverbund). In addition to the local public transport ticket, you save money via reduced admission at participating facilities, such as the "Wilderness Dreams" exhibition at the Eifel National Park Centre. If you are coming from the direction of Cologne, Bonn or Trier, the German Railways (DB - Deutsche Bahn) will bring you to the Kall railway station, with its National Park information point. The Rural railway (Rurtalbahn) brings you from Düren (with connections to DB trains from Aachen and Cologne) to the National Park Gate at the Heimbach railway station. In addition, buses from Aachen travel directly to Simmerath, Gemünd and Monschau. Several bus lines starting from Kall, Heimbach and Simmerath bring you directly to the National Park. At www.nationalpark-eifel.de you can find more information about the guest card and bus and train connections, as well as service numbers and the brochure 'Natur erfahren' (Experience nature), updated each spring, with details about buses and trains in and around Eifel National Park.



Rules of conduct

Please observe the following rules while you are in the Eifel National Park.

- Please stay on the trails.
- To protect wildlife, keep dogs on the leash.
- Please gather only impressions, do not collect plants or animals.
- Smoking and the lighting of fires is prohibited.
- Please avoid making noise, so as not to startle shy wildlife.
- Please do not leave any litter behind.



Due to increasing numbers of older trees in the National Park, branches and trees are more likely to fall on the path here than in other forests. Particularly in the event of windstorms, snow or handstorms, for your own safety you should avoid entering the forest, or should enter it as quickly as possible. Please note that you enter the National Park and participate in events at your own risk.

Danger to life - due to suspected remaining ammunition and explosive material outside the marked hiking trails on the entire ground of the Dreiborn plateau former military training area.



Imprint
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