

The National Park is engaged in non-polluting mobility, sustainable tourism and climate protection and is a member of the Kooperation Fahrtziel Natur (Destination Nature).



The journey to the National Park is possible with public transport (train, bus, public cabs, so called AST). The ways to the entrances of the National Park are signed.

Imprint
Nationalpark Kellerwald-Edersee
Laustraße 8, 34537 Bad Wildungen, Germany
0049 5621 9040-0
info@nationalpark.hessen.de
www.nationalpark-kellerwald-edersee.de



Photographs: cognitio (4, 5, 7), M. Delpho (Titel, 10), further photos Nationalparkamt
Design: cognitio Kommunikation & Planung GmbH, www.cognitio.de

3rd Edition, September 2022



Nationalpark Kellerwald-Edersee is part of National Natural Landscapes (NNL). It's the alliance of German national parks, nature parks, biosphere reserves and wilderness areas.
www.nationale-naturlandschaften.de



Nationalpark Zentrum Kellerwald

National Park Information Centre near Vöhl-Herzhausen
– Space for Wilderness and People

The NationalparkZentrum informs about the history and background of the National Park. The varied exhibition suits active and curious visitors, who want to discover the spirit of ancient beech forests. The animals and plants that live in the National Park, their habitats and the global responsibility of the protection area are in the centre of interest. The highlight of the NationalparkZentrum is the 4-D-Sensual-Cinema. Regularly changing special exhibitions and a variety of events complete the range.

NationalparkZentrum Kellerwald
Weg zur Wildnis 1
34516 Vöhl-Herzhausen
Phone: 0049 5621 9040-160
www.NationalparkZentrum-Kellerwald.de

Opening hours
November – March 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Tue. – Sun.)
April – October 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. (daily)
Closed on certain days in January as well as on Dec 24th and Jan 1st



KellerwaldUhr

Kellerwald Clock near Frankenau
– A journey through time marked by the beech tree

In the KellerwaldUhr the focus of interest is the relationship between man and forest. The free exhibition shows a variety of charts, screens and other sensory and audio elements explain, how fire and hunting influenced woods and mankind. With the development of a cultural landscape of small farmerstead to growing wilderness in mind it is the perfect start of a hiking tour into the National Park and the Quernst Chapel nearby.

Free entry.

KellerwaldUhr
35110 Frankenau
(51.10627, 8.948383)
Phone: 0049 5621 9040-250

Opening hours
November – March (Sat. + Sun.) 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (During the holidays in Hesse daily)
April – October 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. (daily)
Closed on Christmas and New Years Day.



WildtierPark Edersee

Wildlife Park Edersee near Edertal-Hemfurth
– Wild Animals close enough to touch

The WildtierPark ist a Wildlife park that shows native and formerly native wild animals of the European beech forests. Here wolves, lynxes, wild cats, European bison, red deer and the Sorraia horse live in large preserves. Visitors can be in contact with fallow-deer and muffs in walkable preserves. Don't miss the raptor air show! Children can go on exploratory tours in the adventure playground in front of the WildtierPark.

WildtierPark Edersee
Am Bericher Holz 1
34549 Edertal-Hemfurth
Phone: 0049 5621 9040-200
www.wildtierpark-edersee.eu

Air shows:
March – November 15th
daily 11 a.m. & 3 p.m. (except Mon)



BuchenHaus

Beech House near Edertal-Hemfurth
– Secrets of Wilderness

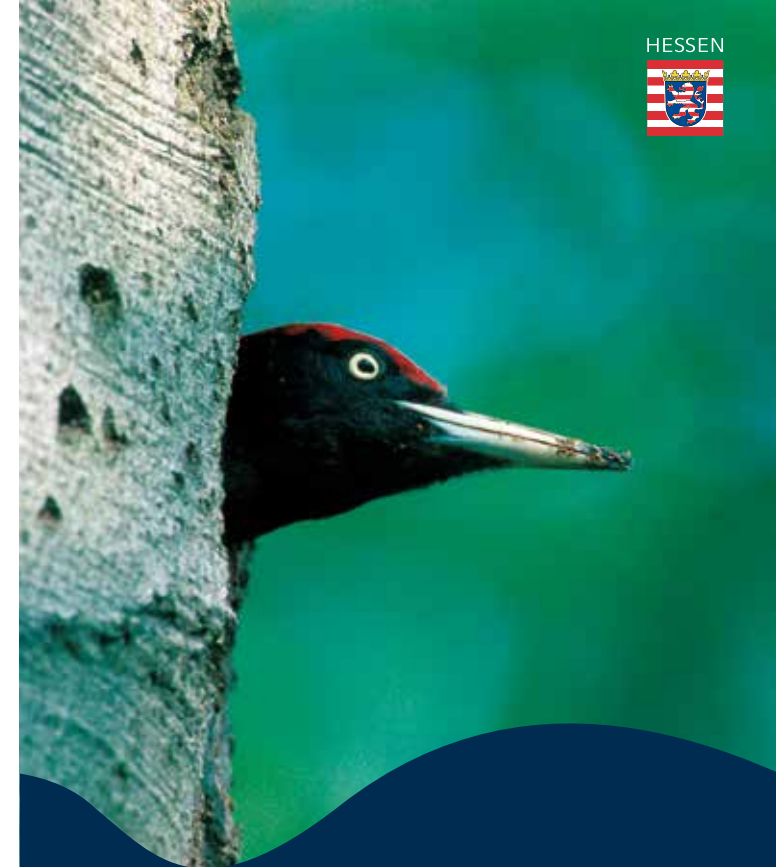
The Buchenhaus is an information centre and at the same time the entry to the WildtierPark. Experience interactively the biodiversity and fascination of beech forests.

By means of clever changes of perspective, Boggelreich, Schattenwald „shadow wood“, Waldbühne „forest stage“, Netzwerk „network“ and BodenSchau „soil-view“ carry you off through fabulous worlds. Whether you experience a walkable silhouette of trees or, all of a sudden, you see nature magnified, from underground or from the point of view of the „Boggels“, the mysterious little fellows of our beech woods.

The visit of the BuchenHaus is free.

Opening hours
BuchenHaus & WildtierPark
November – February 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
March – April 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
May – October 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Last entry:
One hour before closing time.



Fascinating wilderness in the kingdom of quaint beeches

The Nationalpark and its facilities



Nationalpark Kellerwald-Edersee





Wildlife habitat beech forests

„Let nature be nature“ ist the motto of all national parks worldwide. The only national park of Hesse, with an area of 7.688 hectares, protects one of the last unspoiled natural forests of common beech in Central Europe. Relics of primeval woodland, more than 1000 of the purest springs and natural streams as well as steep rocky slopes and block fields form precious habitats to a variety of species. Quite a lot of them are threatened or nearly extinct. The most valuable areas of the National Park were declared as World Heritage by the UNESCO.



Wilderness of tomorrow

The forests of the National Park surround the Edersee, a lake in Northern Hesse. South from the Edersee large deep and uncut woods and north of the Lake impressive gnarled grown beeches and oak trees on steep rocky slopes create a unique composition of the National Park. Here nature alone is the creator. In the largest part of the area man doesn't intervene. Trees are allowed to reach their natural age and even dead tree giants keep their place. Dead wood constitutes the base for many rare species. Even after storms or the decay of whole woods it will not be cleaned up. It is nature itself that decides which species will grow up in the future. It's a process of becoming a new wilderness.

Only on a few meadow valleys and former grassland for grazing, so-called „Triescher“, sustainable mowing or grazing are maintained. In these habitats rare plant communities have settled. Without the interventionist measures their survival wouldn't be possible.

Ennobled as UNESCO World Heritage

By the agreement about the World Heritage by the UNESCO natural and cultural assets of worldwide outstanding importance shall be preserved as Heritage for mankind.



The European beech forests are of worldwide importance, too. Formerly covering nearly the whole of Central Europe, today there are only small remnants of old genuine beech forests left. To point out their extraordinary value, some of the most precious ones were declared as UNESCO World Heritage. With 94 sites in 56 protection areas in 18 European countries the „Ancient Beech Forests and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and other European Regions“ represent the greatest serial, trans-national UNESCO World Heritage with a total size of nearly 100.000 hectares. (State 2022)

Since 2011 five sites in Germany are part of this World Heritage. There are sites in the national parks Jasmund, Müritz and Hainich and in the biosphere reserve Schorfheide-Chorin as well as about 1,500 hectares of the National Park Kellerwald-Edersee. These beech forests vary in altitude and basic rock. In the low mountain ranges of the Kellerwald the dominating rocks are graywacke and argillaceous shale.



Discover wilderness

The National Park offers extraordinary natural experiences in every season. The best way to go on your tour of discovery is on foot. Starting from the entries of the National Park or the designated parking places on the edge of the National Park, well signposted hiking routes enable you to have your own natural experience. All circular hiking routes are marked with ideograms. National Park rangers and guides offer fascinating guided tours – to be found in the annual calendar of events.



Etiquette in the conservation area



Beyond the yellow signpost with the owl the National Park begins – in this protection area special rules apply.

Rules

Visitors are welcome in the National Park. However nature needs special consideration. We kindly appeal to a respectful behavior.



Leave no trace and take along photos and memories.



Attention!

In the National Park wilderness is developing. Therefore a safety in traffic can't be guaranteed. Hiking in the National Park is at your own risk. It can happen that branches or trees topple or fall down. So be alert. Avoid going into the National Park in case of storm, strong wind or rain.

