

Sauer valley loop

Alsace Verte - Niederbronn-les-Bains



Browse this great loop crossing the country of the baths by bike!

This rolling road connects the spas of Niederbronn-les-Bains and Morsbronn-les-Bains. The circuit then takes the old railway Line Maginot that leads to Lembach. Beyond Lembach, the silhouettes of castle ruins overhang the road to Obersteinbach at the end of the Steinbach valley. We then switch to the valley of Wineckerthal then that of Jaegerthal to Niederbronn-les-Bains

Useful information

Practice : Bicycle

Duration : 4 h

Length : 59.8 km

Trek ascent : 791 m

Difficulty : Hard

Type : Loop

Themes : Histoire & patrimoine,
Château église abbaye

Trek

Departure : Parking rue du Quillier,
Niederbronn-les-Bains

Arrival : Parking rue du Quillier,
Niederbronn-les-Bains

Cities : 1. Niederbronn-les-Bains

2. Windstein

3. Dambach

4. Obersteinbach

5. Niedersteinbach

6. Lembach

7. Wingen

8. Gœrsdorf

9. Woerth

10. Morsbronn-les-Bains

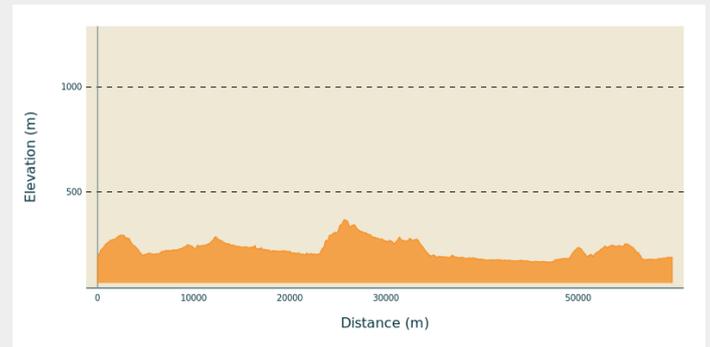
11. Durrenbach

12. Gundershoffen

13. Forstheim

14. Reichshoffen

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 166 m Max elevation 368 m

A hilly road links the thermal spa towns of Niederbronn-les-Bains and Morsbronn-les-Bains. The route follows the old Maginot Line railway line which leads to Lembach after passing through Woerth, a historic site where there was fighting in the 1870 war. Lembach is the beginning of the route of the fortified castles. There are at least ten of them within a 10 km radius, including Fleckenstein Castle. At the far end of the Steinbach valley, the route swings into the Wineckerthal valley, then that of the Jaegerthal, along which can be found the first forges of the De Dietrich company, which is today located in Niederbronn-les-Bains.

On your path...



-  Rocher de l'Homme (A)
-  Wineck fortified Chateau (C)
-  La Halte des Randonneurs Guarded hiker's Refuge (E)
-  Kutzenhausen Rural House (G)
-  Woerth Chateau (I)
-  Iron Museum (K)
-  Escalade : rocher du Wineck (B)
-  Schoeneck fortified Chateau (D)
-  Lembach Lime kiln - Maginot line work (F)
-  French Museum of Petroleum of Merkwiller-Pechelbronn (H)
-  De Dietrich Chateau (J)
-  Maison de l'Archéologie museum (L)

All useful information

Advices

Carte IGN : 3814 ET

How to come ?

Transports

SNCF 36 35 (0,34 € / minute)

www.sncf.fr

Ligne/Linie/Line

Strasbourg-Niederbronn-lesBains

- Reichshoffen-ville
- Niederbronn-les-Bains

Access

From Haguenau, take the D1062 direction Niederbronn, then the D28.

Advised parking

Parking rue du Quillier, Niederbronn-les-Bains

Information desks

Office de Tourisme de l'Alsace Verte - Bureau d'information de Lembach

2 route de Bitche, 67510 Lembach

tourisme@alsace-verte.com

Tel : +33(0)3 88 86 71 45

<https://www.alsace-verte.com/#ot>



On your path...



Rocher de l'Homme (A)

Rocher de l'Homme

Attribution : Guy Schnell - <http://www.randoalsacevosges.com>



Escalade : rocher du Wineck (B)

Escalade : rocher du Wineck.

Rocher équipé et conventionné pour la pratique de l'escalade avec matériel approprié sauf indications contraires présentes sur site. Cette convention a été élaborée conformément à la charte pour la pratique de l'escalade sur les rochers du Parc naturel régional des Vosges du Nord (http://www.parc-vosges-nord.fr/medias/File/_doc_dyn/french/charte_escalade_20081223308490.pdf et http://www.parc-vosges-nord.fr/medias/File/_doc_dyn/french/livret_escalade_compo-escalade1223300156.pdf).

Attribution : SYCOPARC



Wineck fortified Chateau (C)

Le Château de Wineck, bâti vers l'an 1300 par la famille de Windstein, servit certainement de poste d'observation visant à compléter le système de défense du château de Schoeneck. Ce dernier a été démantelé à la fin du 17e siècle sur ordre du roi de France. Aujourd'hui n'est visible qu'une partie des murs en pierres de taille avec chaînes d'angles à bossage rustique du donjon polygonal, servant autrefois de bouclier au logis modeste.

Attribution : Commune de Dambach



Schoeneck fortified Chateau (D)

The remains of the Schoeneck Castle are divided into two parts: the original castle, at the top of a narrow and high rocky strip, with a keep, and the lower castle, from the 16th century, whose enclosure includes a bailey and outbuildings. On the platform, some walls of the 13th (rusticated ashlar) and 14th century (smooth ashlar) construction remain. A large part of the 16th century works have been preserved.

Attribution : SYCOPARC



La Halte des Randonneurs Guarded hiker's Refuge (E)

Se rendre à la mairie pour obtenir les clés. Elles vous seront remises en échange d'une carte d'identité.

Pus d'infos : <http://www.refuges.info/point/2794/refuge-garde/Vosges-du-Nord/Halte-des-Randonneurs/>

Attribution : <http://www.refuges.info>



Lembach Lime kiln - Maginot line work (F)

Strong built from 1930 to 1935 whose name comes from the locality on which it is, it was occupied from 1938 before being bombed in June 1940. The troops had to go and the fort was then occupied from 1940 to 1944 by the German army. After restoration, it was opened to the public in 1983. It consists of 6 blocks, each armed with a howitzer, a barrel, mortars, grenade launcher, twin machine guns and anti-tank guns. More info here.

Attribution : SYCOPARC



Kutzenhausen Rural House (G)

[Web](#)

Attribution : SYCOPARC



French Museum of Petroleum of Merkwiller-Pechelbronn (H)

The first oil-mining site in Europe! Already famous at the end of the Middle Ages for the healing properties of its oil, the area around Pechelbronn knew a significant industrial growth in the mid-19th century. The Oil Museum presents the history of the first European site where oil was refined till the refinery ceased its activity in 1970. From geology to the techniques of exploitation by excavating galleries and drilling, the various themes help us understand the importance of the site at the beginning of the 20th century.

[Web](#)

Attribution : J-P.Jenny



Woerth Chateau (I)

This castle, listed as a historic monument in 2002, dates back to the 14th century. It was restored after the Thirty Years War, and again after a fire on the first floor apartments. At the Revolution, the castle was sold in several lots. It was restored once again in 1925 before being acquired by the city in 1977, where the town hall and social services were installed. Today, it also houses the Museum of the Battle of August 6, 1870.



De Dietrich Chateau (J)

On the site of an old castle with four towers surrounding a circular courtyard, built in 1232 for the Duke of Lorraine and demolished in 1769, was built between 1770 and 1771 the current castle for Jean de Dietrich. Severely damaged during the last war, however, it was restored and served until now as administrative headquarters for the society Dietrich. It was classified as a historical monument in 1940.

Attribution : SYCOPARC

Iron Museum (K)

Le [Musée historique et industriel](#), musée du fer se situe sur la commune de Reichshoffen, dans le Département du Bas-Rhin.

Le musée retrace l'importance de la métallurgie dans l'histoire de Reichshoffen et de toute la région.

De la naissance de la métallurgie dans les vallées au 17e siècle jusqu'aux produits de haute technologie fabriqués par De Dietrich.



Maison de l'Archéologie museum (L)

Mainly dedicated to archaeology, this « House of Archaeology » exhibits all the finds from excavations conducted in Northern Alsace, from the prehistoric times to industrial archaeology. The prehistoric times are represented by stone tools and engraved rock shelters, specific to this region. The Gallo-Romans left many traces in Niederbronn (thermae) and in the vicinity (excavations in Frohret & Ebershoeltzel), where a temple of Mercury has been excavated. The medieval period is focused on the site of Hohenfels Castle where successive campaigns of excavations have brought to light artifacts associated with everyday life in the Northern Vosges. Additional information has been provided by excavations on the site of Schoeneck, also a medieval castle. A fine collection of cast-iron stoves and the presence of forges in Jaegerthal testify to the growth of metallurgical industry in the area.

Attribution : SYCOPARC