

# The Hunebourg forest circuit

Pays de Hanau - Dossenheim-sur-Zinsel



Grotte des amoureux (PNRVN)



*Fill up with calm and serenity while taking a forest bath around the Château de Hunebourg!*

During this tour, you will discover the Château de Hunebourg, site occupied by Man for more than 4000 years, and its surrounding forest. Along the way, you can see through the foliage hills Vosges bristling with trees while enjoying the soothing calm of nature only punctuated by the song of birds and the rustle of leaves.

## Useful information

Practice : Walking

Duration : 3 h

Length : 8.7 km

Trek ascent : 366 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Loop

Themes : Géologie, Histoire & patrimoine

# Trek

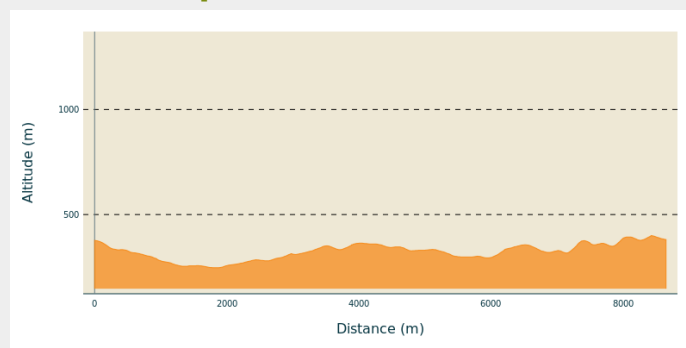
**Departure** : Parking at the foot of the Hunebourg Castle

**Arrival** : Parking at the foot of the Hunebourg Castle

**Markings** :  Club Vosgien

**Cities** : 1. Dossenheim-sur-Zinsel  
2. Neuwiller-lès-Saverne  
3. La Petite-Pierre

## Altimetric profile



Min elevation 247 m Max elevation 400 m

Take the blue rectangle forest path to Johannisthal, located opposite the car park.

At the junction of Johannisthal, go straight on the paved road. At the next intersection, continue left on the road. Further, leave it to walk the forest path of Finkenthal. Then take the forest path that goes up. Continue climbing the trail after a hairpin turn to the right.




At GORNA, a wildlife care center, turn off before the building and take the discovery trail around the GORNA. At the D134, turn right and follow the road. Turn to the right and follow the white-barred blue rectangle markings for about 200 m before continuing along the road following the blue bridge markings to the Château de Hunebourg.



100 m after the Fischbaechel forest road, turn left and follow the blue ring markings to join the path leading to the Rocher de la Guérite. After admiring the impressive Rocher de la Guérite, retrace your steps and take a left to follow the blue trail.

Near the Château de Hunebourg, leave the blue trail and take the path on the right marked blue ring and red cross until you reach the Cave of Love. After admiring the rocks and the view through the trees, return to the Castle of Hunebourg.

# On your path...



-  Cave Grotte de l'Amour (A)
-  Rocher de la Guérite (C)
-  Hunebourg Chateau (E)

-  Pierre Cross (B)
-  Three Swords milestone (D)

# All useful information

## **Advices**

Carte IGN 3714 ET

Possibilité de commencer la balade au GORNA (Loosthal), où se trouve une table de pique-nique et un parking ombragé ; commencer alors la randonnée au point 2.

Au rocher de la Guérite, possibilité de continuer sur le sentier jusqu'au Gros Chêne.

## **How to come ?**

### Transports

- Gares TER les plus proches : Obermodern, Ingwiller (ligne TER Strasbourg – Sarreguemines-Sarrebruck)
- Gare TGV la plus proche : Saverne (ligne TGV Paris-Strasbourg et lignes TER)
- Itinéraires en Alsace : [www.vialsace.eu](http://www.vialsace.eu)

### Access

Between Dossenheim-sur-Zinsel and Phalsbourg, take the D133, locate the direction of the Castle: it is 6 km at the end of a forest road.

### Advised parking

Parking at the foot of the Hunebourg Castle

## **Information desks**

### **Tourist Office of Hanau - La Petite Pierre**

2A rue du Château, 67290 La Petite-Pierre

[tourisme@hanau-lapetitepierre.alsace](mailto:tourisme@hanau-lapetitepierre.alsace)

Tel : +33 (0)3 88 70 42 30

<http://www.tourisme.hanau-lapetitepierre.alsace/>



### **Vosges du Nord Regional Natural Park**

21 rue du Château BP24, 67290 La Petite-Pierre

[contact@parc-vosges-nord.fr](mailto:contact@parc-vosges-nord.fr)

Tel : +33 (0)3 88 01 49 59

<https://www.parc-vosges-nord.fr/>





# On your path...

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## Cave Grotte de l'Amour (A)

Located near the Château de Hunebourg, the Grotte d'Amour was created in the 19th century when General Clarke transformed the estate into a park. Carved in the sandstone, it includes a picnic table.

Attribution : PNRVN - A.Serylo

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## Pierre Cross (B)

Dating from the 14/15th century, it would be the oldest monumental cross in the Northern Vosges. It is an expiatory monument indicating the location of a murder, that of Johannes Schliezeweck. A common practice in the Middle Ages in the Germanic world, the family of the victim of a murder could demand compensation. This compensation could be of various kinds and could take the form of a monument at the place of the murder. This practice disappeared after 1530.

Attribution : PNRVN - A.Serylo

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## Rocher de la Guérite (C)

The cliffs and the sandstone peaks are strong elements of the landscape of the Northern Vosges. On the summits as well as on the walls of these rocks a very specific flora develops, such as Scots pine, mosses and lichens.

Attribution : PNRVN - A.Serylo

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## Three Swords milestone (D)

A milestone delimiting the county, bearing the Hunebourg coat of arms: three gold-handled swords pointing to the chief.

Attribution : PNRVN - A.Serylo



## Hunebourg Château (E)

The first castle was attested in 1125. Destroyed by the Strasbourg in 1378, it was rebuilt then punctually occupied or abandoned after 1464. Sold as a national good, the ruin was acquired by Napoleonic marshal Clarke in 1809, that Napoleon made Count of Huneburg. The medieval donjon was demolished and a hunting lodge built below the castle. Fritz Spieser acquired the ruins of the castle in 1932 and built new residential buildings and a dungeon in neo-Romanesque style.

Attribution : PNRVN - A.Serylo