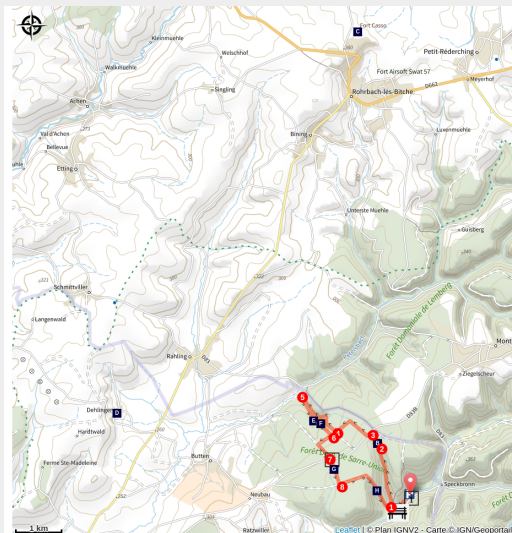


Heidenkirche Falls

Alsace Bossue - Butten



La Heidenkirche (PNRVN - A.Serylo)



Stroll along this refreshing forest trail to enjoy the amazing waterfalls falling on the sandstone!

The tranquility generated by the forest and water cascading can give way to emotion in front of the ruins of the Heidenkirche chapel of the fourteenth and last vestiges of a village now disappeared.

Useful information

Practice : Walking

Duration : 3 h

Length : 9.7 km

Trek ascent : 244 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Loop

Themes : Géologie, Histoire & patrimoine, Faune & Flore

Trek

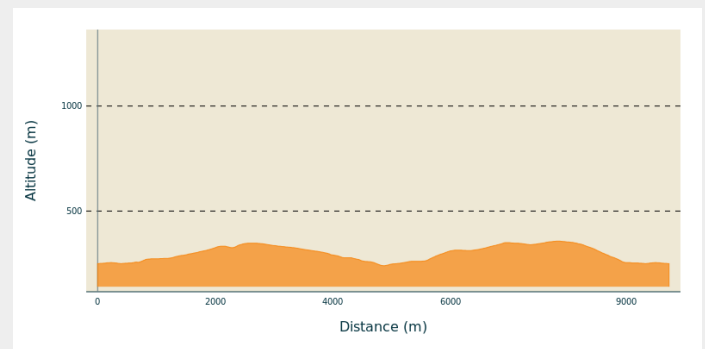
Departure : New bridge parking

Arrival : New bridge parking

Markings :  Club Vosgien

Cities : 1. Bitten

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 240 m Max elevation 357 m

Leave the car park of the Heidenkirche following the yellow triangle towards the remains of the Heidenkirche. Climb the stairs to the right on the other side of the picnic table.

For the rest, follow the green ring tag. Get off on the path opposite the entrance to the Heidenkirche. Take the path on the right marked green ring towards Saumuehle. Leave this path for a path on the left. Shortly after, cross the ravine (slippery floor!). Shortly before the D723, follow the green ring to the left. Cross the D723 and enter the forest path of the cherry trees. At the intersection, turn left.

At the forest path of the ravine, turn right. Take the second right at the next junction. At the deep ravine, go slightly to the left and cross the ravine by the way. Walk down the ravine.

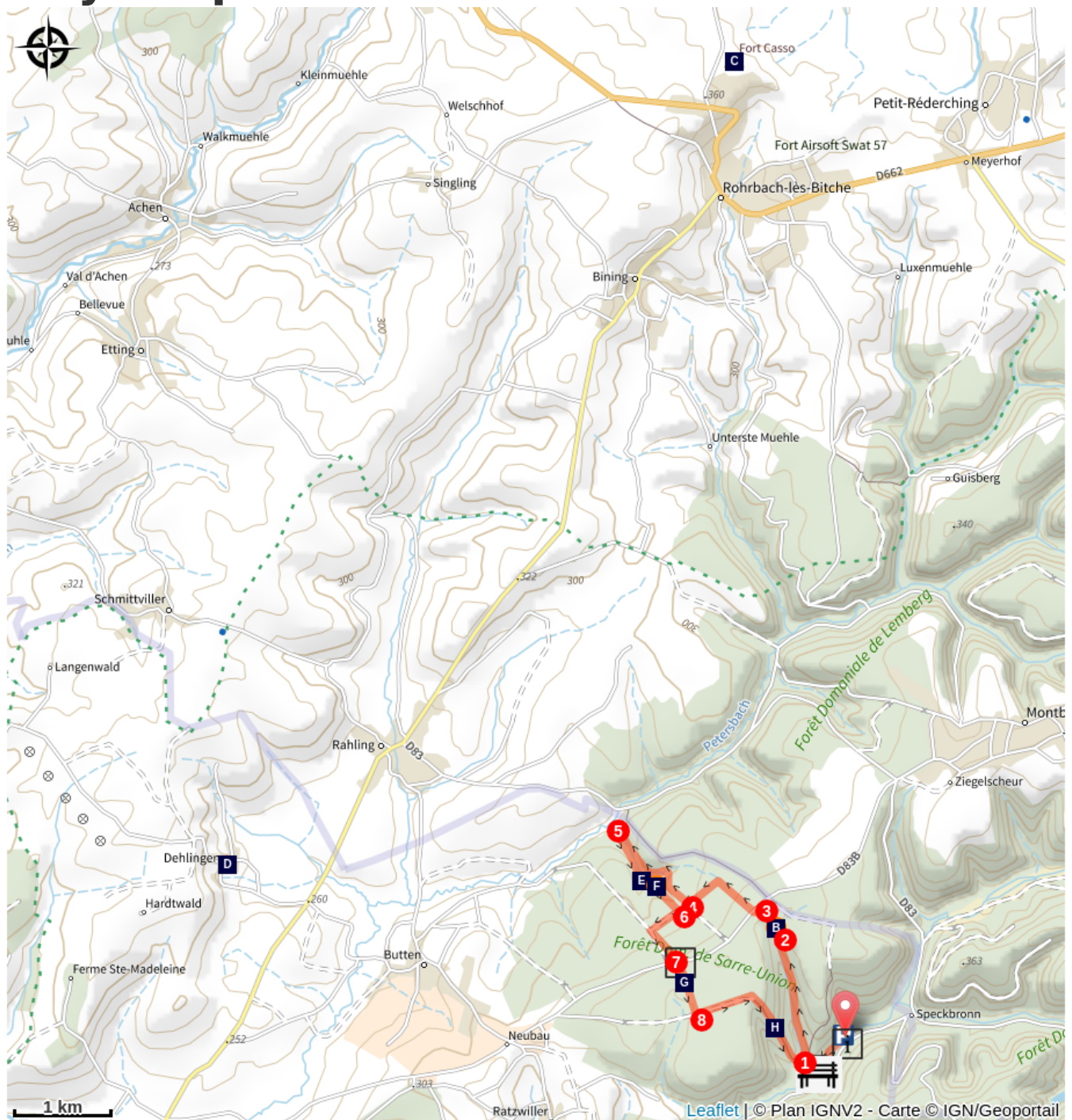
Before the hamlet Saumuehle, start in the opposite direction on the other side of the stream. The skid trail regularly rises to the right of the ravine. This track spans a beautiful stone culvert. Further on, you can see the beautiful sandstone projections that form the waterfalls.



Turn right on Cherry Road, then left onto Goschwiller Forest Road.



Cross the D723 again. At the first intersection, go straight. Take a 500m long parcel line that joins a gravel road that you take on the left.

At the big crossroads marked by the sign "forest of La Petite-Pierre Nord", turn right and then left to enter the fir tree. Go down the track to the theater, near the Heidenkirche, then reach the car park.

On your path...



-  The ruins of Heidenkirche (A)
-  FORT CASSO - A MAGINOT LINE OUVRAGE (C)

-  Stone culvert (E)
-  Forest diversity (G)

-  Ravine (B)
-  The Villa - Interpretation Center of the Archaeological Heritage of Dehlingen (D)
-  Ondine Falls (F)
-  Spruce-fir Forest (H)

All useful information

Advices

Carte IGN : 3613 ET

Les cascades ne sont actives qu'après de longues périodes de pluie. Attention aux moustiques, nombreux dans les zones d'eau stagnante ! En cas de problème, composer le 112.

Attention, le secteur peut ne pas être couvert par la réception des téléphones mobiles.

How to come ?

Transports

- Gare TER de Diemeringen
(Ligne Strasbourg
Sarreguemines - Sarrebruck)

- Itinéraires en Alsace : www.vialsace.eu

Access

From Soucht, take the D83 to the locality Speckbronn to access the car park of the Heidenkirche.

Advised parking

Parking de la Heidenkirche, Butten

Information desks

Tourist Office of Alsace Bossue

90 rue Principale, 67430 Lorentzen

tourisme@alsace-bossue.net

Tel : +33 (0)3 88 00 40 39

<http://www.tourisme.alsace-bossue.net/>



On your path...



The ruins of Heidenkirche (A)

The Heidenkirche is the last remnant of the extinct village of Birsbach (14th century). Located in the forest, the Heidenkirche overlooks the small valley of Spielersbach. Excavations were undertaken in 1911, as well as in 1999 and the building was consolidated at the beginning of 2000.

At the rear of the ruins is a small rocky chaos (scattered sandstone blocks) of the sandstone conglomerate still called pudding.



Ravine (B)

Ravine which digs in the sandstones of the intermediate layers: mottled sandstones of color purple or lie-de-vin.



FORT CASSO - A MAGINOT LINE OUVRAGE (C)

Also called Rohrbach's work, it is a fortified work of the Maginot Line. This small infantry work of 3 blocks was built from 1934. Spared by the fighting of June 1940, it will however be sabotaged in 1944 and will be repaired only at the beginning of the Cold War. An association takes care of the tourist visits. [More info here.](#)

Attribution : J.C.Kanny



The Villa - Interpretation Center of the Archaeological Heritage of Dehlingen (D)

The Dehlingen Archaeological Heritage Interpretation Center provides an understanding of the work of archaeologists and how they bring to light and recreate the past. After his visit, it is possible to visit the archeology site of a Gallo-Roman villa through thematic trails. [More info here.](#)

Attribution : Boegly



Stone culvert (E)

Interesting stone culvert that spans a branch of the ravine. It was used as a rough refuge and hiding place during the last war.

Attribution : PNRVN - A.Serylo



Ondine Falls (F)

Viewpoint on the sandstone outcrops that form intermittent waterfalls, particularly active during rainy periods.

Attribution : PNRVN - A.Serylo



Forest diversity (G)

Young deciduous forest at the "gaulis-perchis" stage, interesting for its diversity: oaks, wild cherry trees, ash trees. The "gaulis-perchis" is a stage of development of a young stand of trees of the same age resulting from seedlings, whose stems, rigid, measure between 5 and 20 cm in diameter.

Attribution : PNRVN - A.Serylo



Spruce-fir Forest (H)

The acidiphilic beech forest is home to the whitish alfalfa (*Luzula luzuloides*), the tiny oxalis acetosella or the graceful fronds of the female fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*).

Attribution : PNRVN - A.Serylo