

Ramstein circuit

Pays de Bitche - Baerenthal



Château du Ramstein (PNRVN - A.Serylo)



A forest walk between the pond of Baerenthal and the ruins of Ramstein, punctuated with pretty points of view!

Witnesses to the tumultuous past of the region, many medieval castles overlook the forests of the Vosges Nord-Pfälzerwald Transboundary Biosphere Reserve for generations. Built between the twelfth and mid-fourteenth century on impressive rocky spurs, these castles, mostly troglodyte, seem to often be one with their rocky support and offer superb views.

Useful information

Practice : Walking

Duration : 2 h 20

Length : 7.3 km

Trek ascent : 227 m

Difficulty : Medium

Type : Loop

Themes : Faune & Flore, Étang, Château église abbaye

Trek

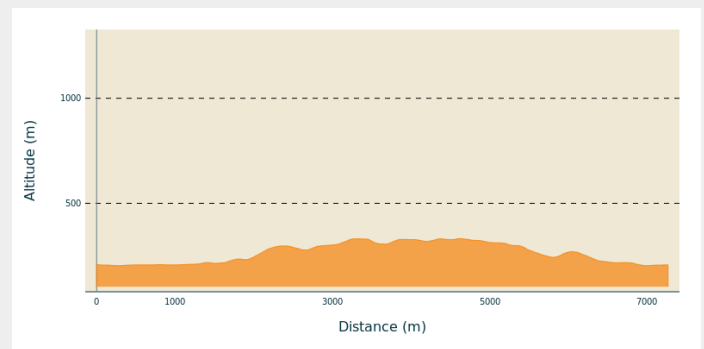
Departure : Parking main street of Baerenthal

Arrival : Parking main street of Baerenthal

Markings :  Club Vosgien

Cities : 1. Baerenthal

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 203 m Max elevation 332 m

From the car park, go up the main street on the left.

Turn right on Ramstein Street. At the height of the dike of the lake, turn left and go up the path following the green ring. Then go around the pond of Baerenthal on the right along the road through the locality Rosselhof.

At the place called Fischerhof, go up on the right following the yellow diamond after the small fishing pond. At the top of the climb, take the path that climbs to the right and leads to a wide forest path. Turn left to wind it up.

At the junction, turn right to join the Silberbrunnen following the green ring towards Baerenthal through the Ramstein ruins. At the Petit Dunkelthal pass, go down the green ring road towards the Ramstein ruins. Access to the castle is via the stairs along the rock faces. Superb panorama from the platform! Then go down to Baerenthal passing the Ramstein underground. When you reach the village, go down Ramstein street and turn left into the main street to reach the car park. Ability to continue on the main street to see the statue of the Bear of Baerenthal, symbol of the town in front of the town hall, before returning to the parking.

On your path...



Baerenthal Lake (A)



Silver fount (C)



Ramstein fortified Chateau (E)



Sainte-Catherine Church (G)



Highland cattle (B)



Petit Dunkelthal Pass (D)



Ramstein Underground Passage (F)

All useful information

Advices

Carte IGN : 3717 ET et 3713 ET

En cas de problème, composer le 112.

How to come ?

Access

From Niederbronn-les-Bains, take the D1062 then D662 to Philippsbourg, then take the D36 towards Baerenthal.

Advised parking

Parking rue principale, voisin de l'église Sainte-Catherine, Baerenthal

Environmental sensitive areas

Along your trek, you will go through sensitive areas related to the presence of a specific species or environment. In these areas, an appropriate behaviour allows to contribute to their preservation. For detailed information, specific forms are accessible for each area.

Réserve naturelle nationale des rochers et tourbières du Pays de Bitche

Sensitivity period: January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, Decembre

Contact: Email : contact@parc-vosges-nord.fr Tél. : 03 88 01 49 59

Créée en 1998, cette réserve naturelle* (RN) est constituée de rochers et de tourbières dans un environnement de hêtraies-chênaies acidiphiles et de forêts de pins sylvestres

Information desks

Tourist Office of the Pays de Bitche

2 avenue du Général De Gaulle, 57230
Bitche

contact@tourisme-paysdebitche.fr

Tel : +33 (0)3 87 06 16 16

<http://www.tourisme-paysdebitche.fr/>



On your path...



Baerenthal Lake (A)

This pond of the North Zinsel basin of 19 ha, already present in 1576 under the name of Schmalenthalerweiher, is one of the oldest ponds of the Pays de Bitche. Originally used to feed the forges, it is now a fishing place, ornithological reserve and base for recreation and swimming (Ramstein beach). It is located in a territory classified "World Biosphere Reserve" by UNESCO.

Attribution : Adrien Dorschner

Highland cattle (B)

When the peasant-workers who mowed the wetland meadows disappeared, the latter evolved into shrubby wasteland, or even forests, threatening the ecological balance of the area. Thus, in 1991, Highland cattle, adapted to wet soils, difficult to access and satisfied with grass of low palatability, were introduced in the Northern Vosges to maintain these wastelands. The first four cattle were introduced in Baerenthal.



Silver fount (C)

This spring, which takes its name from Silberberg, the mountain from which it springs, is an ideal place to take a break thanks to the bench located nearby. A legend says there would be a chest containing silver coins hidden nearby.

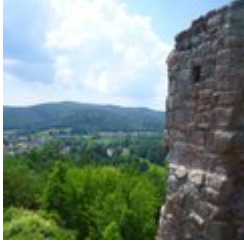
Attribution : PNRVN - A.Serylo



Petit Dunkelthal Pass (D)

Located in the North-East of the Moselle, it is the second lowest pass of the forest roads after its neighbor, the Grand Dunkelthal, with 299 meters of altitude. It offers nevertheless a very nice view.

Attribution : Adrien Dorschner



Ramstein fortified Chateau (E)

Built at the end of the 13th century by the Lords of Winstein, Ramstein Castle was intended to control or prohibit access to the Zinsel Valley. But during the 14th century, the lords of Ramstein transformed their castle into a veritable den of brigands, pillaging and ransoming the entire region. Faced with this situation, the people of Strasbourg, with the help of their Bernese allies, organized a punitive expedition against the fortress and destroyed it in 1335.

Attribution : PNRVN - A.Serylo



Ramstein Underground Passage (F)

These former military undergrounds served as a shelter for the inhabitants of Baerenthal during the fighting of the winter of 1944-45. Consisting of two parallel galleries connected by four shorter galleries, their entries have been closed since 1990 by special "bat" grids. Indeed, the temperature and the humidity during the winter are favorable to the hibernation of these animals. 11 different species were observed there.

Attribution : PNRVN - A.Serylo

Sainte-Catherine Church (G)

Built in the 15th century by the Count of Bitche Deux-Ponts, it became Protestant in 1571 after the Count of Hanau-Lichtenberg became the owner of the village. Partly destroyed during the Thirty Years' War, it was rebuilt but damaged again in 1945. It was then restored. A choir was built and the gothic windows were brought to light.