



Credit: Adobe Stock

# Magic Moments in the Harz Mountains

Tips for trips and hikes



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[www.buerger-und-miniaturenpark-wr.de](http://www.buerger-und-miniaturenpark-wr.de)

## WERNIGERODE CIVIC AND MINIATURE PARK



### Location

Dornbergsweg 27  
38855 Wernigerode



### Distance from the Gothisches Haus

ca. 2 km



### Walking time to the destination

ca. 26 minutes



### Opening hours

April – October (subject to change)

April ..... 09:00 – 18:00

May – September ..... 09:00 – 19:00

October ..... 09:00 – 18:00

Entrance to the miniature park up until  
1 hour before the ticket office closes.

### Miniature Park

As a project funded by the Municipal Employment Agency, the models of “Little Harz” were created at the Oskar Kämmer School in Wernigerode over a period of more than 12 years. In some cases, more than 100 employees designed the various objects on the basis of photos and drawings. All components – from wall stones, windows, to the smallest figures and structures – were made from PVC sheets by the team with a lot of patience. The roof of the Martini Church in Halberstadt alone consists of 38,000 small tiles. The models were then painstakingly painted. With around 68,000 working hours, the replica of Wernigerode Castle holds the record. It is made up

of a total of 32 separate parts. The tallest model is the Brocken antenna at around five metres, the largest the Quedlinburg collegiate church with a base area of seven by six metres. Each building is unique. In 2009, the miniatures were integrated into the Bürgerpark (civic park). You can follow the process of creating the models in the digital exhibition workshop.



Credit: Adobe Stock

### Civic Park

Today known as the Bürgerpark, the 15-hectare landscape park was created on the occasion of the Wernigerode State Garden Show in 2006. It filled with a wide band of more than 60 themed gardens which you can explore on two circular paths. The peony garden and the

changing flower beds in the entrance are particularly popular, as they inspire visitors with an exuberant abundance of blossoms. In addition, at the beginning of the season, more than 180,000 early-flowering plants in the park awaken feelings of spring.

The mineral gorge, numerous biotopes and five ponds offer the opportunity to observe nature. From the 22-metre-high viewing platform, you can enjoy a wonderful view over the lovingly designed grounds.

At the same time, the park is an ideal place to relax. Make yourself comfortable on the sunbeds, in the beach chairs or on the island by the waterfall and enjoy the unique panorama of the Harz Mountains.

[www.harzer-baumkuchen.de](http://www.harzer-baumkuchen.de)

## HARZ BAUMKUCHEN HOUSE



### Location

Neustadter Ring 17  
38855 Wernigerode



### Distance from the Gothisches Haus

Approx. 3.5 km



### Walking time to the destination

Approx. 40 minutes  
(Option to take a bus)



### Opening hours

(Subject to change)

Monday – Friday ..... 10:00 – 18:00

Sunday / holiday ..... 12:00 – 18:00

- closed on 24, 25 and 26 December
- 31 December: open until 16.00, closed on New Years Day
- W3 (January): closed from Mo – Su
- W26 (June): closed from Mo – Su

### Baumkuchen

Among connoisseurs, the Baumkuchen is considered the “king of cakes”. But did you know that the Baumkuchen has a very long history that is closely linked to the development of mankind and the mastery of fire? And that the first documented mention of this cake was by the Greeks over 2,000 years ago? You can enjoy not ancient old, but delicious fresh Baumkuchen in many variations at the Baumkuchenhaus.

Excellent Baumkuchen is baked here according to traditional recipes. You're welcome to savour the Baumkuchen variations on site, in the in-house café with a good cup of coffee, tea or something else, and take a proper “Baumkuchen stump” home with you for your loved ones.

### History of the Baumkuchen

A small, unique exhibition at the Baumkuchen house displays the history and spread of the Baumkuchen. It is interesting to know that the history of the Baumkuchen is closely linked to the history of baking and roasting in open fires.

*As early as 2,000 years ago in ancient Greece, a bread sweetened with honey was baked: the so-called Obelias bread.*

In the course of history, many generations and cultures have been exposed to it and modified its design and refinement, customs and eating habits. A wide variety of types emerged worldwide. It ranges from simple wrapping on a stick – Kürtöskalács (Hungary and Romania) – to meringue and spettekakka from southern Sweden. Baumkuchen. Is even to be found in Japan since 1910.





[www.schloss-wernigerode.de](http://www.schloss-wernigerode.de)

## WERNIGERODE CASTLE



### Location

Am Schloss 1  
38855 Wernigerode

Access to the castle only with special permission, no parking at the castle. Accessible on foot or by castle train.



### Distance from the Gothisches Haus

Approx. 1.5 km



### Walking time to the destination

Approx. 20 minutes



### Opening hours (Subject to change)

Monday ..... closed

Exception:

Monday, 19.12.2022 ..... 10:00 – 17:00  
(Last entrance 16:30)

Tuesday to Friday ..... 10:00 – 17:00  
(Last entrance 16:30)

Samstag und Sonntag ..... 10:00 – 18:00  
(Last entrance 17:00)

Closed on Christmas Eve.

### Winter castle (25.12.2022 – 02.01.2023)

**Please note: On these days there is a surcharge on the regular admission due to the special programme.**

Wernigerode Castle was originally a medieval castle intended to protect the path of the German emperors of the Middle Ages on their hunting trips to the Harz Mountains. A first castle complex was built above the town of Wernigerode at the beginning of the 12th century. In the

course of its history, the complex has undergone various far-reaching changes. At the end of the 15th century, it was greatly expanded in the late Gothic style, of which two curtain arch windows in the castle courtyard remain. During the 16th century, the castle was converted into a Renaissance fortress, still visible today in the Renaissance stair tower. Heavily devastated in the 30-year war, Count Ernst zu Stolberg-Wernigerode began the Baroque reconstruction of the castle remains into a romantic residential castle in the form of a round castle in the late 17th century.

The spectacular political rise of Count Otto zu Stolberg-Wernigerode, which made him the first chief president of the Prussian province of Hanover from 1867, later German ambassador to Vienna and finally Bismarck's deputy as vice-chancellor of the German Reich and deputy prime minister of Prussia led to a major historical reconstruction that was undertaken from 1862 to 1885. As a result, the palace became a leading building of North German historicism. In the same style, architect Carl Frühling created an impressive palace ensemble of great distance effect and im-

mense richness of detail in the interior. The artistic principle of the reconstruction is expressed in both the interior and exterior architecture. When circling the building, a new exterior silhouette is presented every 45° angle.

The castle and its three gardens and parks (pleasure garden, zoo, terraced gardens) have been a nationally valuable cultural monument since 1999 and are part of the Saxony-Anhalt state project Gartenträume®. Parts of the palace have been open to the public since 1930. Inside, almost 50 rooms can be visited in two tours. Since 1998, the castle has been developing into Germany's first centre for 19th century art and cultural history, covering the period from 1803 to 1918.



Credit: Adobe-Stock



## CHRISTIANENTAL WILDLIFE PARK (OPEN ALL YEAR ROUND)

[www.christianental.de/tierpark](http://www.christianental.de/tierpark)



### Location

Christianental 11  
38855 Wernigerode



### Distance from the Gothisches Haus

Approx. 2 km



### Walking time to the destination

Approx. 24 minutes



### Opening hours Waldgasthaus inn

April – October..... 10:00 – 18:00  
November – March ..... 10:00 – 17:00

Monday and Tuesday are closing days (except on public holidays, subject to change).

Between Agnesberg mountain and Fenstermacherberg mountain lies the Christianental valley, named after Count Christian Ernst, who reigned in the 18th century. Originally called Tillenthal, Christianental was part of the Wernigerode county zoo. Count Christian Ernst built a so-called “Lusthaus”, today’s inn, here.

The first hospitality business dates back to 1770, and was directly connected to the person of the zoo keeper at the time. In 1889, when the prince levied a rent of 100 talers, the office of the keeper of the zoo was separated from that of the restaurant owner. Since then, the house has been run in Tyrolean style as a restaurant. In 1991, the Lux family took over the forest inn and runs it until today.



Credit: Adobe Stock

[www.harzkristall.de](http://www.harzkristall.de)

## HARZ CRYSTAL GLASS MANUFACTORY IN DERENBURG

**Location**

Im Freien Felde 5  
38895 Blankenburg/Derenburg district

**Distance from the Gothisches Haus**

Approx. 8.1 km

**Travel time to the destination**

Approx. 15 minutes car ride

**Opening hours** (Subject to change)

January – December ..... 09:30 – 17:30  
31 December ..... 09:30 – 16:00

Closed on Good Friday, Sunday of the dead,  
Christmas Eve and New Year's Day.



Credit: Adobe Stock

### The Crystal Glass Manufactory

The Harz Crystal Glass Manufactory in Derenburg is one of the few glassworks in Germany that still manufactures glass.

During a 30-minute tour, you will learn all about the history of the glassworks, the art of glassmaking and the Harz Crystal products of the past and present. At the end of each tour, you can experience the glowing heat of the melting furnace with all your senses and watch the glassmakers practicing their traditional craft.

In various creative activities – especially popular with children – you can become a glass artist yourself and

make baubles, cups and glass hands together with the glassmakers – an unforgettable experience guaranteed.

### “Küttner’s Kugel” – the world’s largest glass globe

With a diameter of 1.28m and a weight of around 500kg, “Küttner’s Kugel” is the largest accurate globe in the world. The geographical image of the globe, which has been transformed into a work of art, now finds its final, permanent home.

The sculpture was designed in 1968 by the artisan Manfred Küttner and subsequently built in his Wernigerode “Workshop for Artisanal Metal Design”. The construction

of the globe decorated with molten glass took a total of around 20 years.

“Küttner’s Kugel” has already been exhibited at the EXPO 1992 in Seville (Spain) and at the EXPO in Hanover as well as in renowned institutions in Berlin and Hamburg and all over the world.

Visitors of the glass manufactory can see the globe in the Glass World of Experience as part of the “ManufaktOur” tour.





[www.baumwipfelpfad-harz.de](http://www.baumwipfelpfad-harz.de)

## TREE TOP TRAIL HARZ BAD HARZBURG



### Location

Nordhäuser Straße 2d/2b  
38667 Bad Harzburg (Burg Berg Center)



### Distance from the Gothisches Haus

Approx. 31.2 km



### Travel time to the destination

Approx. 30 minutes car ride



### Opening hours (Subject to change)

April – October ..... 09:30 – 18:00  
November – March ..... 10:00 – 16:00

### Let's go – up we go!

The Harz treetop path is an educational and treetop path in the Harz mountains on the territory of the town of Bad Harzburg in the district of Goslar, Lower Saxony.

It is located south of the Großer Burgberg in the Kalten Tal, on land owned by the Niedersächsische Landesforsten and directly adjacent to the Harz National Park. The Kalte Tal is crossed by the Radau tributary Kالتalbach, which feeds the Schweineteich and can also be viewed directly from the treetop path. You will find the pond away from the settlement area within the Harz Mountains and it can be reached via the B 4 road to the west or the spa park.

You reach the path via an access crest that spirals upwards over a length of about 300 metres. The entire route is barrier-free, with a maximum incline of 5.8%. The

bridges docked on 18 platforms lead through the valley at heights of up to 26 metres above the ground. A total of 50 experience stations provide information about the history of the region, the timber industry and nature.

The facility is the first tree-top walk in Lower Saxony

and the Harz Mountains. The groundbreaking ceremony took place on 23 September 2014, the construction costs amounted to approximately 4.6 million euros and the construction project was carried out from November 2014 to March 2015. The tree-top walk was inaugurated on 8 May 2015.







## IMPERIAL PALACE “KAISERPFALZ” IN GOSLAR

[www.goslar.de/kultur-freizeit/museen/kaiserpfalz](http://www.goslar.de/kultur-freizeit/museen/kaiserpfalz)



### Location

Kaiserbleek 6, 38640 Goslar



### Distance from the Gothisches Haus

Approx. 39 km



### Travel time to the destination

Approx. 50 minutes car ride



### Opening hours (Subject to change)

Tuesday – Sunday ..... 10:00 – 17:00

The Imperial Palace was built between 1040 and 1050 under Emperor Henry III and is a unique monument to secular architecture. For over 200 years, German history was written here at imperial assemblies and court conventions. Exciting guided tours and an impressive exhibition on the history of the wandering emperors make it a “must” for every visitor to Goslar.

The heart of the emperor, who died in 1056, was placed in the adjoining Palatine Chapel of St. Ulrich to the south “because his heart always stayed in Goslar”, as a medieval chronicle reports.

Both buildings were extensively restored in the late 19th century. The hall of the imperial house was painted by the history painter H. Wislicenus. On the ground floor, the large exhibition in seven vaults shows outstanding art treasures such as the bronze imperial throne or the mysterious griffin that once adorned the gable and watched over the imperial palace.



Credit: Adobe Stock


[www.schierker-feuerstein-arena.de](http://www.schierker-feuerstein-arena.de)

## SCHIERKER FEUERSTEIN ARENA



### Location

Am Winterbergtor 2  
38879 Wernigerode



### Distance from the Gothisches Haus

Approx. 17 km



### Travel time to the destination

Approx. 21 minutes car ride



### Opening hours

Opening hours for the 2022/23 winter season are expected to be from 1 December to 5 April 2022 (subject to change)

Weekday	Regular opening hours	Holiday opening hours (Saxony-Anh./Lower Saxony)
Monday	Closed	10:00 – 20:00
Tuesday	11:00 – 19:00	10:00 – 20:00
Wednesday	11:00 – 19:00	10:00 – 20:00
Thursday	11:00 – 19:00	10:00 – 20:00
Friday	11:00 – 19:00	10:00 – 20:00
Saturday	10:00 – 20:00	10:00 – 20:00
Sunday/Holiday	10:00 – 18:00	10:00 – 18:00

### The multifunctional arena

The stadium, which can accommodate up to 4,900 visitors, stretches along the Cold Bode River and blends in perfectly with the climatic health resort at an altitude of

approx. 600 metres. The highlight of the spectacular architecture is the filigree roof construction made of glass fibre membrane, which - resting on only two building points - spans approx. 2,400 square metres over the multifunctional arena. Thanks to this innovative solution, the roof always provides a view of the slopes of the Upper Harz and the Schierk sky. It skilfully combines the unchangeable nature with the historic competition tower and the natural stone terrace made of Harz granite.

The Schierker Feuerstein Arena thus integrates itself into the rustic Harz town of Schierke with ease and elegance. Modern design deliberately complements the traditional here.

### History

Formerly a natural ice stadium - today a multifunctional event venue. The Schierker Feuerstein Arena combines old and new and offers a colourful mix of cultural and sporting events all year round: ice skating, ice disco, ice hockey and curling in winter and music, theatre, children's adventures and family events in summer, and family events.

In 1910, Schierke developed into a trendy place - as the "St. Moritz of the North", Schierke became very attractive as a winter sports resort. At the site of today's arena, in the lower village of Schierke at the foot of the Barenberg, there was already an ice skating rink, which was inaugurated on 5 February

1911. In 1934, the German Ice Hockey Championships took place in Schierke, and in 1950, Jutta Müller, later Katharina Witt's coach, became the German runner-up in figure skating in Schierke.

The Schierker Feuerstein Arena emerged from a natural ice stadium that was built for the 1st GDR Winter Sports Championships in 1950. In 1961 Schierke became a restricted area and the natural ice stadium became dilapidated over the years. When the border was opened in 1989, the Brocken became "free" again and Schierke was accessible to everyone. In 2009, Schierke was incorporated into Wernigerode.

The foundation stone for the new arena was laid on 18 May 2016. The listed ensemble of the former natural ice stadium was converted into a multifunctional event arena that can be used all year round. It now invites visitors to spend sporting or leisurely hours amidst a unique backdrop. The arena has given Schierke a unique leisure facility that is independent of the weather.



Credit: Adobe Stock


[www.schierker-feuerstein.de/willys-apotheke](http://www.schierker-feuerstein.de/willys-apotheke)

## SCHIERKER FEUERSTEIN FLINT HOUSE



### Location

Brockenstraße 3  
38879 Schierke am Brocken



### Distance from the Gothisches Haus

Approx. 17 km



### Travel time to the destination

Approx. 30 minutes car ride



### Opening hours

Monday – Friday ..... 9:30 – 17:00  
(with an appointment, subject to change)

- Small groups and individuals every  
3rd Friday of the month (by appointment)
- Closed on Saturday, Sunday and public  
holidays

**The Schierker Feuerstein originated around 1908 in the pharmacy “Zum Roten Fingerhut”.**

In addition to all kinds of tinctures and medicines, the apothecary Willy Drube also mixed an elixir that was supposed to relieve the spa guests in Schierke of stomach complaints. Thus, for more than 100 years, Schierker Feuerstein has been produced with the same great care and according to Willy Drube's original recipe.

A tour of the main building in Schierke - the pharmacy “Zum Roten Fingerhut” - is like a journey back in time. Let yourself be inspired by the history of Schierker Feuerstein in the renovated exhibition rooms, find out what the

granite of the Feuerstein cliffs has to do with the famous herbal half-bitter and discover the passion of pharmacist Willy Drube.

**Participation in the guided tours is permitted from the age of 18. You can register by calling +49 39455 / 372.**



Credit: Adobe Stock


[www.seilbahnen-thale.de](http://www.seilbahnen-thale.de)

## CABLE CARS THALE – HEXENTANZPLATZ AND ROSSTRAPPE



### Location

Goetheweg 1  
06502 Thale



### Distance from the Gothisches Haus

Approx. 29.7 km



### Travel time to the destination

Approx. 30 minutes car ride



### Opening hours (Subject to change)

#### Summer season

- Easter – October..... 09:30 – 18:00

#### Winter season

- 01. – 8.11.2022  
daily..... 10:00 – 16:30
- 09.11. – 24.12.2022 ..... closed
- 25.12.2021 until the end of Christmas  
holidays, daily..... 10:00 – 16:30
- until 06.01.2023 daily, incl. Saturday  
and Sunday ..... 10:00 – 16:30  
otherwise closed
- February until Easter  
daily..... 10:00 – 16:30

### The Thale cable car experience

Right where the Hexentanzplatz, Bodetal and Rosstrappe meet is the Seilbahnen Thale Erlebniswelt. In addition to the well-known cable car to the Hexentanzplatz and the chairlift to the Rosstrappe, other attractions include the Harzbob all-weather toboggan run, the show hydroelec-

tric power station, the Legends Pavilion, the Fun Island and much more. Many new attractions on, on, above and beside the water ensure lots of fun – for adults and children alike.

You can reach the Erlebniswelt directly and comfortably by train, so that you can start a wonderful day straight away.

The ultra-modern gondola lift provides an unobstructed view in all directions. In some cabins, you can even look

far down through a glass floor. Adrenalin and astonished open mouths are included. However, if large windows are enough for a view, you can ride with an opaque floor.

And what's more: action and adrenaline for mountain bikers are offered by the 2 km long downhill run from the Rosstrappe and the Bikepark Bodetal.

The Seilbahnen Thale Erlebniswelt – where all hell breaks loose in the Harz Mountains!



Credit: Adobe Stock



www.titan-rt.de

## TITAN-RT ON RAPPBODE DAM



### Location

Titan-RT an der Rappbodetalsperre  
38889 Stadt Oberharz am Brocken



### Distance from the Gothisches Haus

Approx. 17.9 km



### Travel time to the destination

Approx. 21 minutes car ride



### Opening hours (Subject to change)

daily .....09:00 – 18:00

### Ticket Sales

Tickets can be purchased at the ticket machines all year round / daily from 08:00 – 21:30 in cash or with EC (debit) card.

However, children's or group tickets are not available here. These (and all others) are available at the Visitor Centre at the following times:

January ..... closed

February – March

Tuesday – Sunday ..... 10:00 – 16:00

April – October

Monday – Sunday ..... 09:00 – 18:00

November – December

Tuesday – Sunday ..... 10:00 – 16:00 Uhr  
(except on the 24., 25. and 26.12.)

### The bridge

In the middle of the Rappboden valley, the Titan-RT spans the Bode reservoir with an incredible total length of 458.5 metres. The filigree cable construction was completed in spring 2017 and claws into the slate rock on both sides of the valley with the enormous tensile force of 947 tonnes. Four main supporting cables with a diameter of 65 mm form the backbone of the 120-tonne structure. In addition, two stabilising cables keep the bridge in shape and – at higher wind speeds – in position. The walkway (grating), which is 120 cm wide, is lined along its entire length with a 130 cm high railing and is closed at the sides by stainless steel nets.

### Breathtaking thrills at dizzy heights

This construction method makes it possible for every guest to climb this unique structure without any further safety equipment. Sturdy shoes and a bit of courage are enough to experience a very special adventure at a height of 100 metres. Surrounded only by air, a little steel and breathtaking nature, the Rappbach Valley can be seen from a unique perspective. A visit is also worthwhile in the twilight hours, because discreet bridge lighting ensures a safe crossing even after sunset.

### Pure adrenaline for the brave

Directly below the suspension rope bridge is another experience in a class of its own. The “GigaSwing” is the most spectacular pendulum jump in Europe. Alone or in tandem, the bravest of all visitors to the Harz plunge into the depths. After an exclusive freefall experience, the guests swing out leisurely before being pulled back onto the platform.



Credit: Adobe Stock


[www.harzer-hoehlen.de](http://www.harzer-hoehlen.de)

## RÜBELAND DRIPSTONE CAVES



### Location Baumannshöhle

Blankenburger Straße 36  
38889 Oberharz am Brocken



### Location Hermannshöhle

Blankenburger Straße 35  
38889 Oberharz am Brocken



### Distance from the Gothisches Haus

Approx. 13.5 km



### Travel time to the destination

Approx. 20 minutes car ride



### Opening hours (Subject to change)

November – January .....	09:00 – 15:30
February – June .....	09:00 – 16:30
July – August .....	09:00 – 17:30
September – October .....	09:00 – 16:30

### Two caves, one experience – fascinating dripstone worlds

Amidst the unique natural scenery of the Harz mountains, nestled in the valley of the Bode River in the cave village of Rübeland, lie the Rübeländer stalactical caves.

The Baumannshöhle and Hermannshöhle caves are among the oldest and best-known show caves in Germany. As geological natural monuments, they are unique and fascinating in their own way: they lead you down into an adventurous underground world with colourful and imaginative stalactites. With a little imagination, you

will meet turtles, dwarfs, dinosaurs and much more. And with a little luck, you will also discover the unique underground animal world with bats, cave olms and cave bears.

### Baumannshöhle – the oldest show caves in Germany

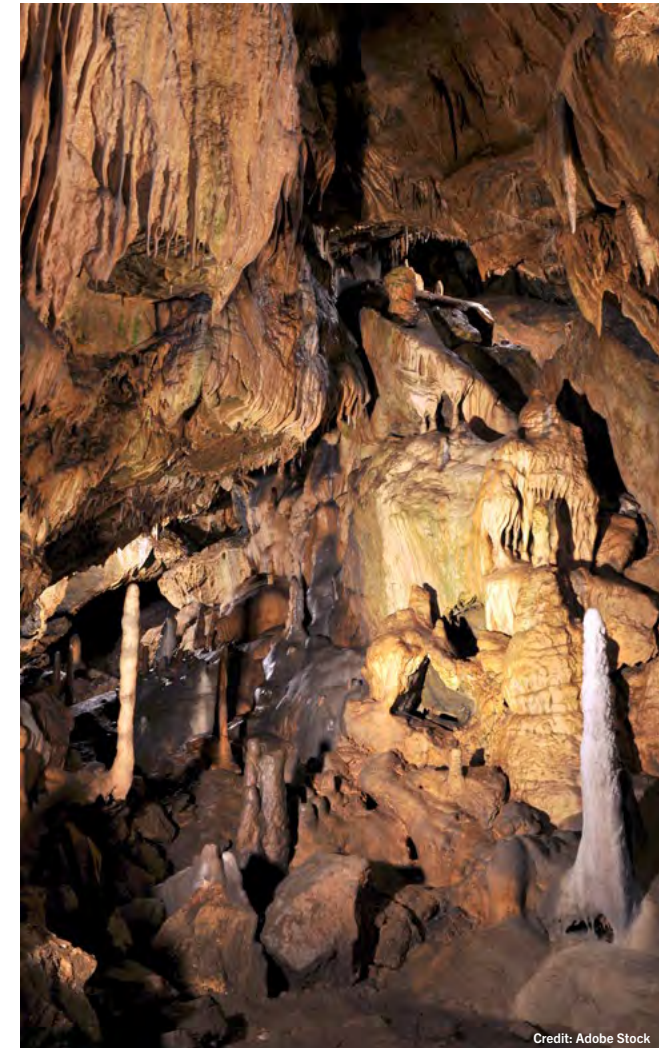
The hallmark of Baumannshöhle is its special wealth of unique and diverse stalactite formations. On guided tours, cave guides will tell you everything you need to know about Baumannshöhle, its dripstones and the cave inhabitants in around 50 minutes.

The cave was discovered as early as the 16th century by the miner Friedrich Baumann, but at that time rather by chance. Since 1646, organised guided tours through the cave have taken place.

The most famous visitor to this unique dripstone cave is and remains Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. He visited the cave several times and is the owner of the largest cavity inside the Baumannshöhle, the Goethesaal.

### Hermannshöhle – fascinating river cave with rare creatures

The Hermannshöhle Cave was once discovered by chance during road construction work in the 19th century. Only a five-minute walk from the Baumannshöhle, it impresses with its huge, up to 50-metre-high cavities, as well as its many unique dripstone formations. Special highlights in Hermannshöhle Cave are the Olmensee, home to Germany's only grotto olms, and the sparkling crystal chamber.



Credit: Adobe Stock

50-minute tours with cave guides are offered here, too.

## UPPER AND LOWER BODE WATERFALLS NEAR BRAUNLAGE



### Location

Bodewasserfall bei Braunlage  
Unterer Bodefall Wasserfall  
38700 Braunlage (Wurmbergparkplatz)



### Distance from the Gothisches Haus

Approx. 23.5 km



### Travel time to the destination

Approx. 27 minutes car ride

One of the most beautiful and romantic hiking trails in the Upper Harz begins at the Wurmberg car park at the valley station of the cable car. From here it is only 2.5 km to the Upper Bode Falls on the Great Bode.

Walk along the spa promenade on an asphalt path for a while, past various wooden carvings. The Warme Bode flows past you on the left side of the path, and an old stone railway bridge crosses the Warme Bode.

At the next bridge, do not continue straight ahead to the ski jumpers' mat jumps, but turn off to the left side of the small river. The trail rises slightly here and the path is a little bumpy over hill and dale. It is as if you are immersed in a magical world. Black alders, beeches, spruces and willows offer a varied tree population next to the Warme Bode, which gently plods along over stones. After just under a kilometre uphill, the Lower Bode Falls announce themselves with a roar.

Over granite boulders, the water flows down the valley, sometimes thunderously, especially after it has rained. Benches invite you to take a short break. You can take a little time out here and listen to the rippling water. Just 500 metres further uphill, shortly after the confluence of the Kleiner and Großer Bode, lies the Obere Bodefall. This natural waterfall is also wildly romantic and impressive. If you want, you can take the path back down into the valley from here. On the way, you should always watch out for

mountain bikers who like to use this partly narrow path. You can also hike further up the mountain to the Bärenbrücke bridge, from there to the Moosbrücke bridge and then back to Braunlage. If you choose this route, the hike is about seven kilometres long. The course of the Kleine Bode stream is repeatedly lined by alder trees. The last section follows the Triftweg. This is where the cattle used to be led to pasture. Your tour ends at the large car park at the Wurmberg valley station.



Credit: Adobe Stock

## ROMKERHALL WATERFALL



### Location

Romkerhaller Wasserfall

Get there via:

Hotel romantisches Jagdschloss  
im Königreich Romkerhall  
Okertal 24  
38644 Goslar



### Distance from the Gothisches Haus

Approx. 37.8 km



### Travel time to the destination

Approx. 35 minutes car ride

**The Romkerhall waterfall is a royal high light. Situated in the tranquil Upper Harz, it borders directly on the Romkerhalle Hotel and Restaurant, which presents itself as the smallest kingdom in the world.**

But the creation of the Romkerhall waterfall is also special. In 1862, King George V of Hanover had his hunting lodge built here. In 1863, the waterfall was then artificially created to increase the attractiveness of the facility. To do this, the Romke River was diverted to the cliffs of the Oker Valley via a 350-metre-long ditch.

Ever since, the Romkerhall waterfall has been falling about 64 metres into the depths at this point as a cascade of veils. The rocks that serve as a backdrop for the Romkerhall waterfall were an attraction in the area even before it opened. They are limestone that was formed millions of years ago.



Credit: Adobe Stock

In winter, the Romkerhall waterfall is exceptionally beautiful. When snow and ice melt into each other in the landscape, a fairytale winter paradise is created.

The Romkerhalle is a good starting point for many hiking trails. You can hike into the magnificent Oker valley and admire the steep cliffs. The river Oker is also a highlight

with its many small islands made of alluvial material, including the famous Engagement Island.

Or you can hike up to the Ahrendsberg cliffs and enjoy the view over the valley and the waterfall. After the hike, you can stop off at the rustic Romkerhalle restaurant and enjoy the view of the Romkerhall waterfall for a while.



## SELKEFALL NEAR ALEXISBAD

**Location**

Selkefall  
Kreisstraße 19  
06493 Harzgerode

**Distance from the Gothisches Haus**

Approx. 51.2 km

**Travel time to the destination**

Approx. 42 minutes car ride

The Selke Falls is a small man-made waterfall on the Selke River in the Upper Selke Valley nature reserve. It is located in a forest area about one kilometre north-east of Alexisbad, close to the federal road 185.

The Selke Falls were created around 1830 as part of the construction work on “Carl’s Pond”, which supplied the ironworks in Mägdesprung with process water. The corresponding water management facilities were destroyed by a flood in July 1955. What remained was the picturesque and very natural-looking Selke Falls.

You can see the waterfall from the road mentioned above. However, you have to leave your vehicle and walk a bit to get directly to the Selke Falls.

There, the water of the Selke falls in several cascades about four metres into the depths. For hikers, the place at the waterfall is ideal for a short rest.



Credit: Adobe Stock

The Selke Falls look particularly impressive in winter, when the water rushes along under the ice and only appears in a few places. But even in spring, after the snow

has melted, the water’s fall over the rocks is impressive, as it is not regulated by any barrages.

## CIRCULAR TRAIL FROM THE GOTHISCHES HAUS AROUND THE CASTLE AND BACK



### Start and Finish

Travel Charme Gothisches Haus



### Distance

Approx. 6.4 km



### Duration

Approx. 2 hours

Start in the reception lobby of the Gothisches Haus. Go through the main entrance and turn left along the “Klint” to the Rathausplatz. Cross the square and turn right into Breite Straße ❶. Blume 2000” is on the left at the corner. Now follow Breite Strasse, Nicolaiplatz is on the left. At the end of the pedestrian zone, cross Ringstraße/Große Bergstraße and continue along Breite Straße to Rimker-tor. Turn right into the footpath Lindenallee ❷ and follow the signs towards the castle (shortly before the Harzsparkasse is on the left). The road is starting to go uphill.

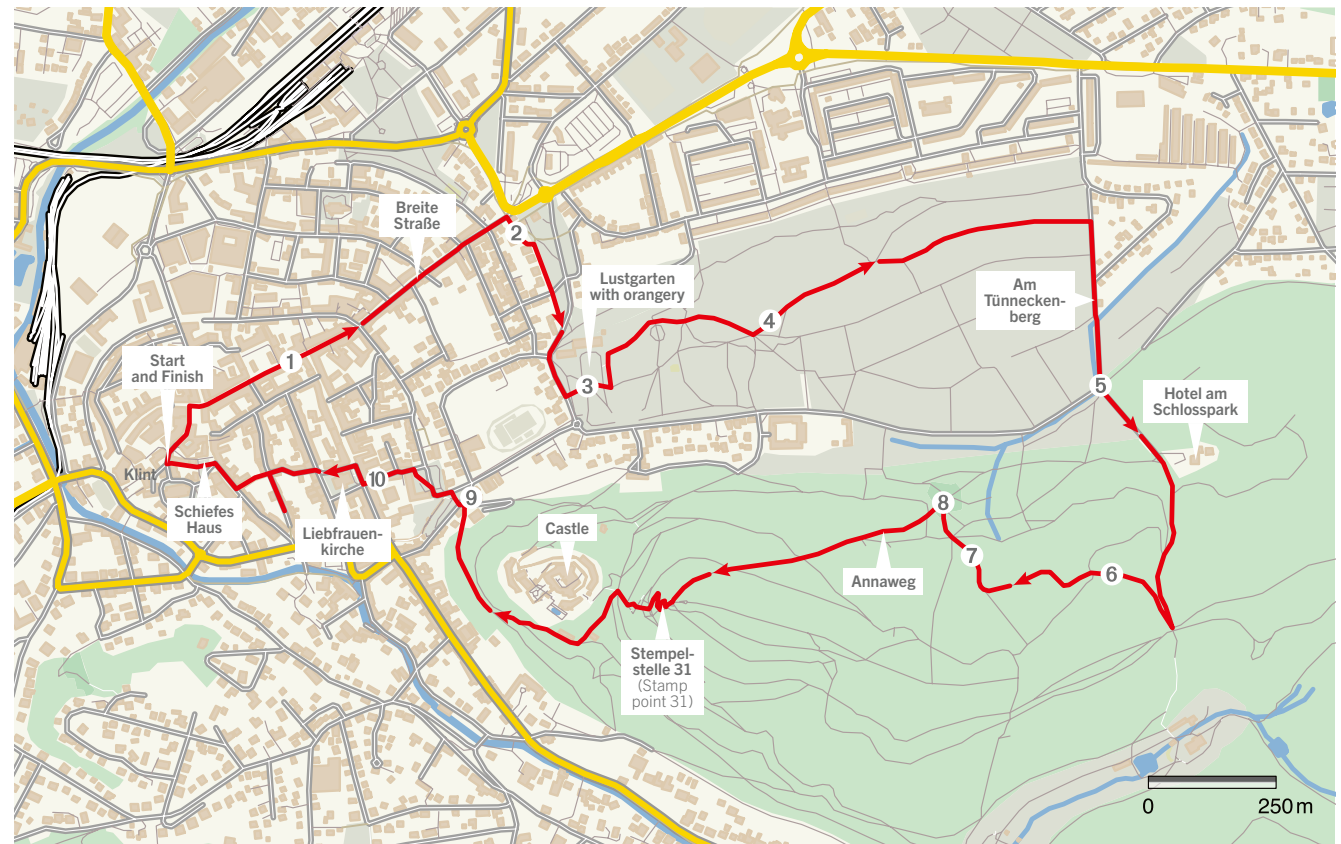
The footpath becomes narrower and you follow the turn and then continue straight on for a bit. About 150m before the roundabout, cross the road at the corner of Walter-Rathenau-Straße and walk up the hill ❸. You are now in the Lustgarten and can see the orangery on the left. Walk straight ahead for a while and then turn left, keeping the orangery in sight. You will then come to a small vantage point and have a wonderful view of the Brocken. Continue along the path to a second viewpoint. After a short rest, continue along the path, turn right briefly and then left into the slight incline. At the fork, keep left and follow the Voßweg into the chestnut grove ❹.

Go through the allotments on the left and right to the end. There, turn right onto the road towards the Schützenhaus. The road is slightly uphill, keep going straight on and cross the road Am Lustgarten ❺.

You will then see the “Hotel am Schlosspark” on the left-hand side and continue along an old wall for a short dis-

tance until halfway up you turn right into the forest path Annaweg in the direction of Agnesberg-Gräfinenweg ❻.

Follow the path until you reach a fork in the road halfway along, where you take the upper right path ❼ in the direction of the “Altar of Truth” and continue along the Annaweg. You will come to a junction ❸ and continue →



## CIRCULAR TRAIL FROM THE GOTHISCHES HAUS AROUND THE CASTLE AND BACK



to stamp point 31 via the Agnesberg water hut to the Anaweg. After a small climb, you have reached the stamp station and a beautiful view of the castle and the town. Then walk down the path towards the castle. If you still have energy reserves, you can climb the stairs up to the castle, otherwise continue to the left down to the town and leave the castle on your right. At the end of the path, turn left onto the asphalt road and then turn right onto a forest path ⑨. Continue downhill to the right until you reach the fork.

Then turn right in the direction of Burgberg Stadt until you reach the paved road to the castle. Turn left and cross the road diagonally to the right. Go down the steps and left along Lindenallee until you reach Am Vorwerk ⑩. Turn left into this street and you will see the Liebfrauenkirche. Then turn right and immediately left into Oberengasse. The Liebfrauenkirche is on your left, you cross Büchtingstraße and then Kochstraße. Now you are on Markstraße and turn right. The stop for the Bimmelbahn to the castle is on the left.

Keeping the Litfass column in sight, walk towards the “Leaning House” and walk through the small Klintgasse to the end. Then turn a little to the right and you have reached your destination, the Gothisches Haus.

## CIRCULAR TRAIL FROM ELEND TO SCHIERKE AND BACK – OR JUST ONE WAY

**Start and Finish**

Elend Ortsmitte (Charged parking)

Or arrival and departure by bus:  
Wernigerode Heltauer Platz <> Elend Kirche**Distance**

Approx. 5.1 km

**Duration**

Approx. 1.5 hours

For the starting point of this really beautiful hiking route, it doesn't make much difference whether you arrive by car or by bus (HVB bus line 264). If you arrive by car in the centre of Elend, you can park in the paid car park ❶ (2–3 euros should be enough).



Credit: Adobe Stock

Leave the car park a little to the right and cross the main road. Here you will find the bus stop ❷, from where you start if you have travelled by bus. Continue in the direction of Braunlage along Braunlager Straße and you will see the old little wooden church ❸ on the left. Cross the road and after about 200m turn into Elendstal ❹. Follow the road to the end and you will reach a brick archway of the Harzquerbahn ❺. Now the forest path towards Schierke begins at an old spruce.

**Good to know:** *In the Elendstal valley there are still remains of the original Harz forest with a species-rich herb and shrub layer. While in the rugged upper regions of the Harz, the more robust spruce gradually became established since the Middle Stone Age, the mixed beech forest remained predominant in protected places, such as the Elendstal. In addition to spruce and copper beech, sycamore maple, alder, mountain elder, rowan and other trees and shrubs can be found here.*

Follow the path on the right-hand side along the Bode until you reach the stone bridge. Before the bridge on the right, a path leads up, the Mühlenweg ❻, which you take to Schierke. At the end of the Mühlenweg, you will reach Schierke and meet the Alte Dorfstraße ❼. If you go down to the left, you will reach the old smithy. From here you



Credit: Adobe Stock

Wooden church in Elend

can explore Schierke or take the bus from the bus stop "Schierke Heinrich Heine" back to Wernigerode.

If you want to hike straight back to Elend, then in Schierke, after reaching the Alte Dorfstraße, do not turn left towards the "Alte Schmiede", but turn right into the Alte Dorfstraße. Continue through the town to the restaurant "Heinrichs". Here you continue below on the Alte Wernigeröder Straße. To reach the bus stop again, pass the restaurant "Heinrichs" on the left and walk up the hill →

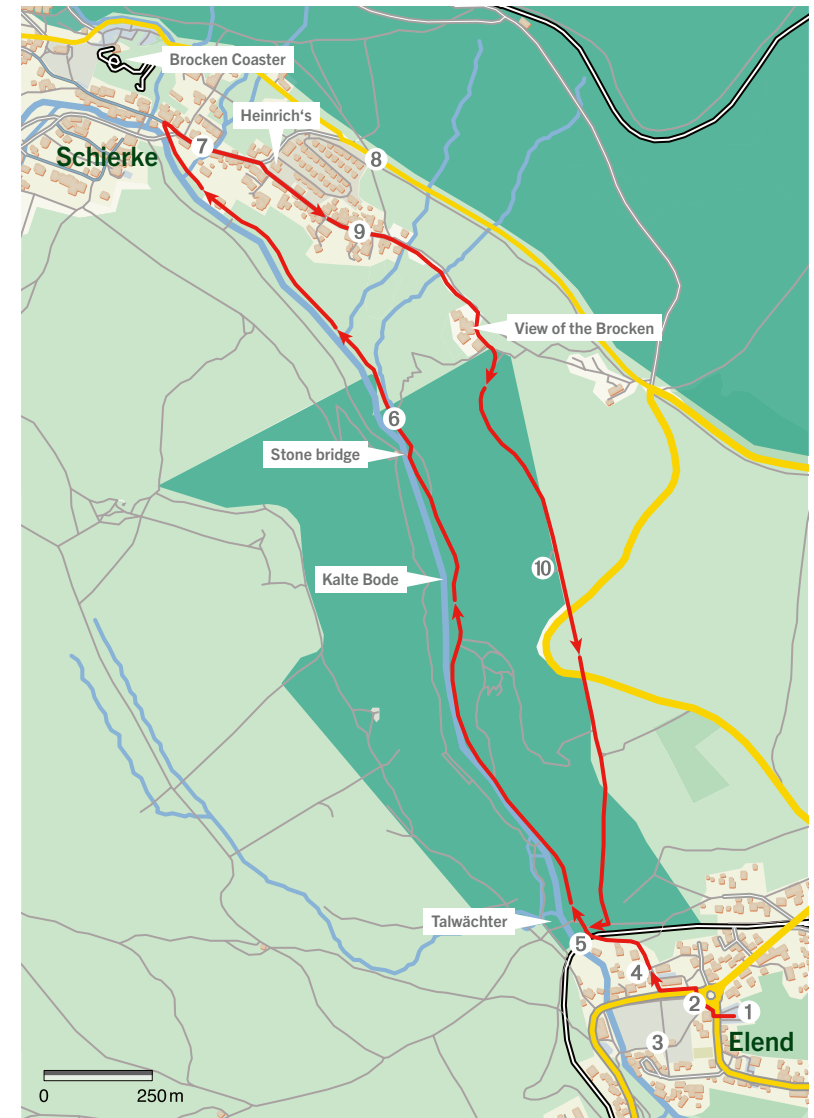
## CIRCULAR TRAIL FROM ELEND TO SCHIERKE AND BACK – OR JUST ONE WAY

and then turn right into Hagenstraße. There you will find the bus stop “Schierke Heinrich Heine“ ⑧, from where bus line 264 departs hourly to Wernigerode.

However, if you want to continue hiking, take the “Alte Wernigeröder Straße“ ⑨ to the resort and restaurant “Brockenblick“. There, keep to the right in the direction of Elend or the “Helenenruh“ stamping post.

After a while you will reach the stamp station ⑩ and will be rewarded with a view of the Brocken. Then continue your hike down to Elend.

The trail then ends again at the old “Talwächter“ spruce where you started. Now return to the bus stop or the car park.



## HIKE FROM THE SCHARFENSTEIN FROM ILSENBURG

**Start and Finish**

Wanderparkplatz Ilsetal

**Distance**

Approx. 13.4 km

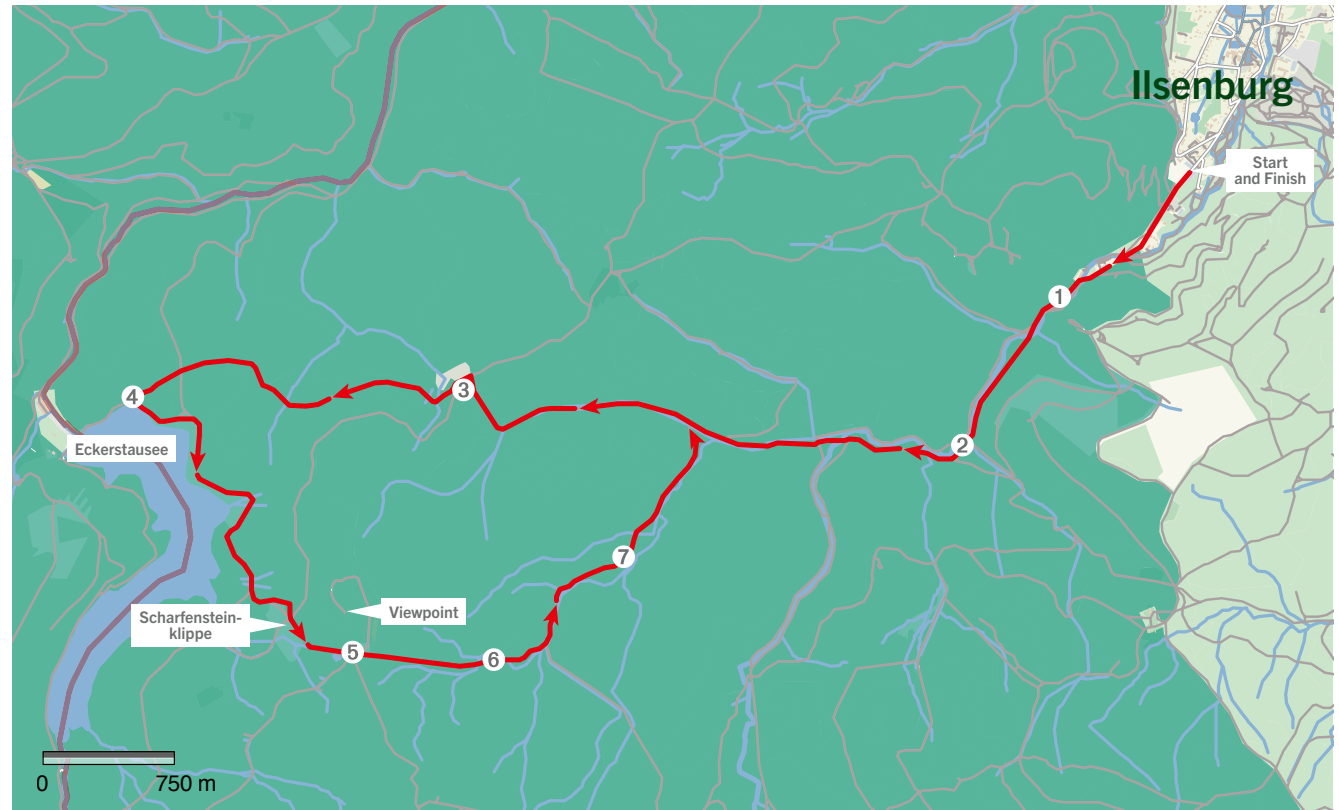
**Duration**

Approx. 4 hours

From the Ilsetal hikers' car park, walk along the Ilse ❶ for about 3 km. At the end of the trail, cross the Ilse on a bridge ❷ and turn right – following the blue cross – through the Große Sandtal to the crucifix ❸. There is a rest area here where you can take a break.



Credit: Adobe Stock



After a short break, the path with the blue cross leads along the Dielenweg to the Eckerstausee ❹. Once here, do not cross the dam wall, but follow the hiking sign with the green bar along the shore of the reservoir in the direction of Scharfenstein.

At the Scharfenstein there is a small ranger station with a snack bar (only open on summer weekends). However,

you should not miss the climb to the Scharfenstein cliff, which offers a beautiful view ❺.

On the path with the green bar, the descent now begins via “Kegelbahn” ❻ and Gruhe ❼ to Großes Sandtal. Here you take the same route as the uphill walk through the Ilse valley back to Ilsenburg.