Welcome to Bavarian Forest National Park

Unspoiled nature has priority over human uses in national parks. Nature can flourish here according to its own laws.

As our motto “LET NATURE BE NATURE” suggests, forested landscapes unique in respect of their structure and animal and plant kingdoms and diversity different from the familiar commercial forests, have been growing and evolving in Bavarian Forest National Park for more than 140 years. Part of this is the natural processes of growth and decay in forest ecosystems, which are given free rein here, and dead trees or trees uprooted by storms remain in their natural environment.

Allowing the wild nature to grow, to research it, but also bringing this experience to life for people is part of the work of our national park.

We invite you to explore the wild forests and the unspoiled nature of our national park.

You are warmly welcomed as our guest.

Sascha Rösner
Director of Bavarian Forest National Park

Facts and Figures

This comprehensive protection of natural processes is of the national park area.

60 % of the case for almost such be free of human influence. Currently, this is own devices on

Through to the year 2030.

Established in 1970, Bavarian Forest National Park is Germany’s first and oldest national park.

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This comprehensive protection of natural processes is the most important internationally-recognized use of quality for evaluating large protected areas.

AMARADO: The national park has received many awards. Its distinction includes:

- the European Diploma, which recognises protected areas with outstanding scientific, cultural and aesthetic qualities, and which also serves as a conservation concept
- the Austrian Federal President’s Award, for the protection of Sumava National Park, with which it forms Europe’s largest protected forest area
- the European Diploma

VISITOR FACILITIES: The national park offices, each with an information centre and animal watching, 1 forest history museum, 15 nature trails, 10 information points in national park municipalities, 2 youth education facilities, 3 camp groups, 1 hiking park with a free playground, 1 youth camping site

VISITOR NUMBERS: 1.3 million per year

PROPRIETOR: Free State of Bavaria

Located around 50 km north of Passau along the main route of the Biedersteiner mountain range, directly on the border to the Czech Republic.

TRAIL NETWORK: more than 500 km

HABITATS IN THE NATIONAL PARK

MOUNTAIN SPRUCE FOREST – a touch of Taiga
Among the mountain conifer forests of Bavarian Forest National Park are the natural spruce forests in the areas of higher altitudes. They consist of larger trees, and are found only in the higher, mountainous areas and locations of the mountains above 1,200 m and in the Alps. Snow can often be found in these areas well into the early summer months.

MIXED MOUNTAINS – a colourful community
The mixed mountain forest is characteristic of the areas of intermediate or lower altitudes. They consist of small trees, and are found only in the lower, mountainous areas.

RAISED Bogs – a place for survival artists
Raised bogs are one of the unusual moors, groves and dead trees in alpine meadows here, in turn with water-filled pools and dead trees. Only rare water is available to plants in these raised bogs as larger ground bodies cut them off from other sources of water and nutrients.

SCHACHTEN (CLEARINGS) – the magic of old timberline
Known as “islands in the forest sea” the Schachten are high altitude unforested areas that came into being as a result of natural processes. Many grass and flowers, rich meadows as well as wooded, offer centuries old timber trees characterize their chernozem. Dead trees and tree stumps mean that only very few firs, rowans and moor birches get to grow old with the spruce.

ALLUVIAL SPRUCE FOREST – living on wet ground
Cold air flows down from the mountain slopes and comes to rest in deep valley basins. Here, ground frosts even occur in summer and, as in the higher areas, the spruce characteristic of the forest. Damp and low temperatures occur in summer and, as in the higher areas, the spruce characteristic of the forest. Damp and low temperatures mean that only very few firs, rowans and moor birches get to grow old with the spruce.

You have not yet experienced forest like this

DISCOVER THE EXTRAORDINARY
With our guided tours and events programme that runs throughout the year we would like to make our national park yet more accessible and draw your attention to its special characteristics.

National park experts can accompany you on a range of guided hikes and bike tours. In personal conversations you can learn more exciting things directly from the field and have the opportunity to ask your own questions.

Special events for children, guided excurions as well as cultural events in the national park centres round out the national park’s programme.

An overview of current events can be found on the calendar on our homepage www.nationalpark-bayerischer-wald.de

NATIONAL PARK FOR ALL
The national park centres as well as our forest history museum can be experienced with all senses, at any time of the year. Safety walks with limited terrain make it easier for people with a disability, senior citizens and families with pushchairs to visit the nearby natural attractions.

Our staff members is the park and happy to discuss your individual requirements and helpful.

We also like to answer questions before you arrive, just send an e-mail to

info@nationalpark-bayerischer-wald.de

You can also take your experience home: From our products in the national park office, in the national park museums, in the national park centres and in all tourist information points.

We are happy to provide information on the preparation of cross-country skiing tracks, planned winter hiking trails, and other winter activities can be found in the national park centres as well as all tourist information points.

BAYERN DIREKT is your direct link to the Bavarian state government. You can

http://www.bayern-direkt.de

• Hotels and guesthouses
• Public transports information
• Trail condition reports
• Events
• Downloads for iPhone and Android.

The App! For national park explorers.

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GENUINELY A NATIONAL PARK

In winter the nature is very much snowbound and many plants and animals spend the winter in hibernation, waiting for spring. The national park offers our visitors many attractive opportunities in the cold time of year.

Now you can explore the wild winter forest on cross country skiing, hiking or on snow shoes. Please respect the winter peace, which nature needs, and use only the marked trails. Information on the prepared cross-country skiing tracks, planned winter hiking trails and other winter activities can be found in the national park centres as well as all tourist information points.

NATURE COMPOSITION: 90 % of the territory is composed of forests, 12 % green meadows and fields and historic forest pastures (Schachten)

HIGHEST PEAKS: Grußer Faltkogel (1,273 m), Lofer (1,273 m) and Giefle (1,454 m)

DISCOVER WILDERNESS
Always well informed

Bring your national park experience in the Lusen National Park Centre, the Falkenstein National Park Centre and the Forest History Museum St. Oswald, or visit one of the many public transport information points. Here you can obtain many tips and recommendations and make insights into the national park experience, the history of our national park as well as our native flora and fauna.

Our animal enclosures in particular are worth a visit at any time of year: they invite you to observe shy and sometimes also very rare wild animal species up close, such as lynx and capercaillie, or species, such as wolf and brown bear, that have become extinct here.

We would really like to draw your attention to the public transport services in the national park region, which facilitates environmentally friendly travel in the area: transport services in the national park region, which are well known for environmental awareness and providing quality services. They also feel a special bond to the protection of the national park there are some rules though; for your own safety and for the protection of endangered animal and plant species. With the Igelbus service; the
circular hiking routes, long distance hiking trail; the designated cycle path; the

Visitor facilities

Falkenstein National Park Centre

HAUS ZUR WILDSCHWEIN

with permanent and temporary exhibitions

ANIMAL ENCLOSURES

with 33 km of walking trails presenting 4 different species

STONE AGE CAVE

to travel back in time into the region’s ancient history

Phone +49 9922 5002-0
E-Mail Falkenstein@npv-bw.bayern.de
Igelbus stop: St. Oswald Gh. Goldener Steig

Lusen National Park Centre

HANS EIDEMANN HAGS

with permanent and temporary exhibitions

ANIMAL ENCLOSURES

with 7.5 km of walking trails presenting 40 different species

OPEN-AIR BOTANICAL EXHIBITION

OR OPEN-AIR GEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION

at the geology of the region

Phone +49 9199-9100
E-Mail Freilicht-museum-st-oswald@npv-bw.bayern.de
Igelbus stop: St. Oswald Gh. Goldener Steig

Experience more, naturally: National Park Partners

When it comes to your holiday in Bavarian Forest National Park, our National Park Partners are very knowledgeable partners, experts. In the guesthouse accommodation and public transport, they are well known for environmental awareness and providing quality services. They also feel a special bond to the national park and the region.

Detailed information can be found at: www.nationalpark-partnersen.com

Doing the right thing and going the right way: Conduct and Signposting

At Falkenstein National Park and the region, there are some rules for the conduct and signposting. Some important information is marked with a red circle and a white band.

1. Be well equipped: bring a map, sturdy footwear, drinks, snacks, a first-aid kit, and a sporty dress suitable for the weather.

2. Be off the lead.

3. Cycling only on marked cycle paths.

4. No overnight stays in the national park.

5. Campfires only in the special designated areas.

6. Pack out any rubbish you have ever created.

7. Do not feed the animals.

8. No photography in the designated public transport stops.

9. Be well equipped to observe the animals.

10. Be aware of the weather.

11. Be always well equipped: bring a map, sturdy footwear, drinks, snacks, a first-aid kit, and a sporty dress suitable for the weather.

12. Respect the animals.

13. Be off the lead.

14. Cycling only on marked cycle paths.

15. No overnight stays in the national park.

16. Campfires only in the special designated areas.

17. Pack out any rubbish you have ever created.

18. Do not feed the animals.

19. No photography in the designated public transport stops.

20. Be always well equipped to observe the animals.