



Reinhardswald

Naturpark



Reinhardswald Nature Park
Fairytale-like and eventful



The Reinhardswald

Mighty, centuries-old oaks are the most famous symbols of the Reinhardswald. The “Sababurg Primeval Forest” nature reserve offers a special collection of impressive giant trees. But these striking trees also grow in numerous other places in the Reinhardswald. The Reinhardswald was used as a pasture woodland. The cattle were driven into the forest and ate the very nutrient-rich acorns which they found there. Today it is precisely these old oaks trees which create the special character of this landscape and make the Reinhardswald unmistakable.



Naturpark Reinhardswald

Fairytale-like Reinhardswald

The Brothers Grimm collected the stories between the castles, brooks and old trees from which their famous fairy tales originated. Rapunzel’s tower in Trendelburg and Sleeping Beauty’s Sababurg Castle are the most famous locations of Grimm’s fairy tales in the Reinhardswald Nature Park.



Treasure house of European forests

Due to its structural diversity, the Reinhardswald has already been described as a „treasure house of European forests“. In addition to the oak-rich pastoral woodland, extensive beech forests are characteristic of those which are largely left to their natural development in the “Naturwaldreservat Weserhänge”. Numerous springs also produce idyllic streams and valley landscapes.

From the Diemel via the Weser to the Fulda

The Reinhardswald Nature Park stretches from the Diemel valley in the west to the Reinhardswald in the east. The rivers Diemel, Weser and Fulda “enclose” the area, which was awarded prizes as the Reinhardswald Nature Park in Autumn 2017. The Nature Park is complemented by the Hessian part of the Bramwald forest, which lies to the right of the Weser in the north east.

The Diemel valley

The light, juniper-covered limestone slopes above the Diemel valley create a scenic contrast to the fairytale Reinhardswald. Rare limestone grassland biotopes are promoted here by the sheep and goats which are enabled to graze there. Lean limestone-based grasslands are of the highest importance for nature conservation. They provide rare orchids and butterflies with the best living conditions and nature lovers in the Diemel Valley with wonderful views at the same time.



European Prime Butterfly Area

The Diemel valley, with its extensive limestone grasslands, is the only area in northern Germany to have been awarded the European Prime Butterfly Area. Due to the special vegetation which is located here, numerous rare butterfly species such as the thyme blue ants, are native to the nature reserves of this region.

Active underway

Experiences await you at every corner of the Reinhardswald Nature Park. Irrespective of whether cycling along the river banks, hiking on natural paths or paddling on the water, there are no limits to the activities available.

Marked easy to walk round hiking trails open up the most beautiful places and the “Weserbergland-Weg” quality hiking trail crosses the nature park from South to North. The certified cycle routes Diemelweg, Fuldaweg and Weserradweg offer maximum cycling fun.



Tip: Experience native animals up close

One can experience 80 different animal species at the Sababurg Zoo. Action days, guided tours, show feeding and events encourage you to visit the zoo all year round. The Sleeping Beauty Sababurg Castle and the Sababurg primeval forest are in close proximity.

Environmental Education & Nature Conservation

Black stork, kingfisher and wildcat - these are just a few examples of rare, protected animal species that live in the Reinhardswald Nature Park.

The Naturpark Reinhardswald e.V. is committed to the preservation and further development of this diverse (cultural) landscape. It organises and promotes environmental education events, creates awareness of responsible behaviour towards nature and the environment and encourages environmentally friendly tourism.



Did you know that ...

... the rare Large Blue spends part of his life in ant nests as a “cuckoo among butterflies”? It hibernates as a caterpillar in the ant’s nest, in order to hatch as a butterfly and escape from the nest at the break of day early in the morning, when ant activity is at its lowest as they are sleeping like babies.



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At a glance

Founded: 2017

Area: 44,851 Hectares

Location: In the northern most point of Hessian

Nature reserves: 1,270 Hectares

Landscape protection areas: 3,964 Hectares

Flora-Fauna habitats: 6,148 Hectares

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