

# Mythos Westweg

## Lead yourself into temptation.



### The legendary Westweg

When the „Schwarzwaldverein“ (Black Forest Hiking Club) inaugurated the now legendary “Westweg” footpath among the most beautiful highland heights in 1900, the expectations placed on long-distance hiking routes were forever changed.

Modern hikers now look for days filled with adventure and sights, but also for relaxing comfort among service-oriented hosts. That is why the 285 km trail between Pforzheim in the northeast and Basel on the southwest corners of the Black Forest was thoroughly renovated between 2005 and 2008. Additionally, there were trail

sections created and marked right in the heart of nature, rest and outlook sites were created, and around 160 “hiking hosts” were distinguished.

This brochure will help you to individually plan your hike to discover your own personal Westweg hiking experience as well as the right accommodation for a rejuvenating evening. More information can be found at: [www.westweg.info](http://www.westweg.info)

### Luggage-free hiking

Our “Luggage-free hiking” package deals also provide you with an opportunity to experience the trail burden-free. More information can be found on page 40.

## Quality tested Hiking with a seal of approval.



Hiking is the most popular outdoor activity among Germans. Every second German citizen finds joy in experiencing nature on foot. In addition to the particularly active 50+ generation, an increasing number of younger people are also discovering the pleasures of hiking. In the interest of meeting heightened standards, Schwarzwald Tourismus GmbH collaborates with the „Schwarzwaldverein“ (Black Forest Hiking Club) in promoting the German Hiking Association’s quality initiative, “Wanderbares Deutschland”.

### Seal of excellence for the award-winning Westweg



Westweg has been awarded with the “Qualitätsweg Wanderbares Deutschland” seal of excellence, which defines German-wide standards for hiking trails. It places particular emphasis on criteria such as trail format, diversified landscape, and trail signs. However, attention is also paid to particularly beautiful views, attractions along the path, facilities at rest areas, opportunities for a bite to eat, and connections to bus and rail.



In 2007, Westweg won the fernwege.de AWARD, which is based on the number of Web clicks from interested hikers. That means the award-winning Westweg is Germany’s most popular hiking trail, and on the European scale would only have to concede to Camino de Santiago.

cularly attentive to the needs of hikers, e.g. by offering lunch packs or luggage transport.

The seal of excellence communicates to guests that the recipient is located in an attractive hiking area and offers hosts who are knowledgeable about hiking.

### Hosts along the hike



Businesses specially oriented toward hikers can be awarded the “Qualitätsgastgeber Wanderbares Deutschland” seal of excellence. Quality hosts like to take in hikers even for one night and are parti-

The exact criteria for receiving these two seals of excellence can be found on the Internet at [www.wanderbares-deutschland.de](http://www.wanderbares-deutschland.de). There is list of all current holders of the “Qualitätsgastgeber Wanderbares Deutschland” certificate.

# Collect gates along the way



## Twelve information gates along the Westweg

The impressive gates set up in clearings along the Westweg provide hikers with information on sights in the area and on what awaits them along the trail. There is a plate on the ground showing the path of the entire Westweg between Pforzheim and Basel. Each gate is unique, clad in typical materials of the land, such as silver fir, Douglas fir, larch, shingles, granite, sandstone, masonry, boulder, and at times even gold.

The gates are found at the following locations: Pforzheim, Dobel, Forbach, Freudenstadt, Bad Rippoldsau-Schappach, Seebach, Hausach, Schonach, Feldberg, Wieden, Todt-

moos, and Lörrach. Each individual gate is indicated on the foldout map at the end of this brochure.

You can collect a special stamp from each gate with a stamp card.

If you collect enough stamps from hiking, you'll receive a gift. You can discover where to obtain a stamp card and what kind of gift awaits you at: [www.westweg.info](http://www.westweg.info)



## Hiking passes and hiking signs

If you've hiked the entire Westweg or one of the other two highland trails (Mittelweg or Ostweg) and can provide evidence of the individual sections you covered, then you can obtain a certificate with a highland trail insignia from the „Schwarzwaldverein“ upon request in exchange for a small fee.

The hiking pass is available from the „Schwarzwaldverein“ or in Pforzheim directly. If you would like to take a souvenir from the Westweg home with you, then we ask that you do not remove the trail markings along the hiking trail. You can order original trail markings

from the „Schwarzwaldverein“ for a small charge.

## Hiking maps

There is a water and tear resistant map with a 1:50,000 scale specifically for the Westweg available for EUR 6.95 plus shipping. It is available from Schwarzwald Tourismus GmbH, from the „Schwarzwaldverein“, and in book shops. Alternatively, there is a map set of the same scale available from the „Schwarzwaldverein“ and from WSP Pforzheim (see page 15 and 17 for address information).

A Hikeline guide for the Westweg is available from Esterbauer publishing house ([www.esterbauer.com](http://www.esterbauer.com)).

## Take it slow At the beginning



### Getting started in Pforzheim

Experience the golden city found on the path from Pforzheim Hauptbahnhof (main train station) to the start of the Westweg at Kupferhammer (ca. 25 minutes' walk). At the train station, you'll find signs for the Westweg with the 'red diamond on a white background.' You'll hike by the St. Michael castle church and monastery, Pforzheim's history book in stone. Crossing the market square (tourist information office found on the left), follow Goldsmith's Mile – here, you'll find informational signs about the evolution of the jewelry and watchmaking industry. It's only a few minutes' walk to Pforzheim's World of

Jewelry. Your path will pass along the Schütt precious stone exhibit and lead you directly to a museum that is one of a kind world over: the jewelry museum in Reuchlinhaus. Definitely worth a visit! After that, you'll continue on through the city garden to Kupferhammer. Alternatively, Kupferhammer can be reached using bus line 3, departing from the Hauptbahnhof train station.

### Back to Pforzheim

There are numerous bus and train connections for the return trip to Pforzheim. Schedules can be found at: [www.bahn.de](http://www.bahn.de) and [www.efa-bw.de](http://www.efa-bw.de). Tel. +49(0)1805 77 99 66\* (\*14c/min for calls from the German landline network, prices for mobile and international calls may differ)

The "Westweg mit Bus und Bahn" brochure with mapped day trips is available from Schwarzwald Tourismus GmbH.

### Virtual Westweg

You can experience an interactive flight over the Westweg at [www.westweg.info](http://www.westweg.info). On the website, you can also download the trail's GPS data.

### Speed hiking

Like hiking – only faster. That would be the simplified description. With walking sticks, backpack, and a significantly higher pulse, two day's worth of sections are covered in just one day. A true challenge for ambitious hikers.

Info at: [www.westweg.info](http://www.westweg.info)

Check out Westweg on Facebook:

 [www.facebook.com/westweg](https://www.facebook.com/westweg)

### Parking in Pforzheim:

- Central-Parkhaus Schober  
Zerrennerstr. 20, Tel. +49(0)7231-31830; open MO – SU and holidays 7am – 11pm; 24hr on-call service. From here, follow Westweg signs to the trailhead at Kupferhammer.

- "Marktplatz" underground parking, Deimlingstrasse 6  
Tel. +49(0)800-7275737  
Open 24hr daily

- City-Parkhaus  
Badstr. 12, Tel. +49(0)1805-903310  
open 24hr daily

- S-Parkhaus Luisenstraße  
Tel. +49(0)7231-993960  
open 24hr daily

- Parkhotel  
Deimlingstrasse 36, Tel. +49(0)7231-1610, open 24hr daily

## Arrival directions & KONUS Bus and rail for free



### Go ahead hikers and discoverers



Sometimes it is good to have a train or bus station in the vicinity - or better still to also have a ticket at hand. In the Black Forest you can have both: Hiking tours which can be shortened by bus or train distances and the popular KONUS-Guest Card of more than 10.000 hosts in 135 holiday places.

The KONUS-Guest Card is a valid ticket in all busses and trains of the whole holiday region.

Most hiking stretches can be split up in manageable distances because most villages along the hiking trails can be reached well

by bus and train. On the basis of the Map „Westweg by bus and train“ you can for example walk the 285 km long trail spread over some days.

A great help for planning the hike is the general map free of charge of the Schwarzwald Tourismus GmbH (Ludwigstraße 23, 79104 Freiburg, [www.blackforest-tourism.com/konus](http://www.blackforest-tourism.com/konus)). It shows the train and bus routes for KONUS in the whole region. In addition many communities have special tips for hiking tours and day trips for their KONUS guests.

If you plan a longer stay it might be useful to get a SchwarzwaldCard as well. This card is a good investment if you use the discounts connected to the card intensively. For more in-

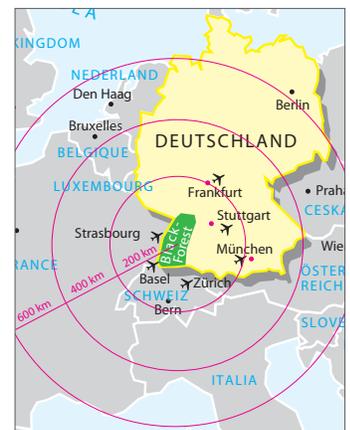
formation check [www.blackforest-tourism.com/schwarzwaldcard](http://www.blackforest-tourism.com/schwarzwaldcard)

### Travel low-cost and fast to the Black Forest

There is hardly no other holiday region that is so easy to reach as the Black Forest. The airports Karlsruhe/Baden-Baden, Lahr, Basel/Mulhouse/Freiburg in the west as well as - a bit further away - Stuttgart and Friedrichshafen in the east make a low-cost journey to the region possible with national and international low-cost carriers. The ICE railway line Frankfurt-Basel, the Höllentalbahn, the Schwarzwaldbahn, the Murgtalbahn as direct connections from the west to the

east as well as the local transport system of busses make it easy to travel to the destinations in the 11,000 square kilometre large region.

How to get to the black forest:



# The „Schwarzwaldverein“ (Black Forest Hiking Club) We'll show you the way



## The Schwarzwaldverein

For more than 100 years, the Westweg has been closely associated with the „Schwarzwaldverein“ – it’s no coincidence that the red diamond from the first big highland trail in the Black Forest continues to be a characteristic element of the Association’s logo even today.

Thanks to constant further development by the „Schwarzwaldverein“, the Westweg is fresher and more fascinating than ever.

With the Westweg, the „Schwarzwaldverein“ will lead you on a journey through our unique landscape and show you the diverse nature of the Black Forest: deep ravines and valleys, open peaks with majestic views, introducing you to the region’s unique culture as well as to an original nature experience.

The responsibility for the 285 kilometers of hiking has been in the

hands of the „Schwarzwaldverein“ since the beginning. Professional competence is required for coordinating and financing the markings as well as for preparing certifications and attending to hikers’ needs.

Without the voluntary work of the „Schwarzwaldverein’s“ trail keepers, who invest countless hours in checking and marking trails, the quality the Westweg displays today would be unimaginable.

As an important tourism partner, the „Schwarzwaldverein“ is excited to facilitate the Westweg experience.



Find out more about us at:  
[www.schwarzwaldverein.de](http://www.schwarzwaldverein.de)

Adresse:  
Schwarzwaldverein e. V.  
Schloßbergring 15, 79098 Freiburg  
Tel. +49(0)761-380530

## Stage 1 Pforzheim – Dobel (24.6 km – 6 hr)



You'll find the "Golden City" of Pforzheim at the confluence of the three Black Forest rivers Enz, Nagold, and Würm. The former residence of Baden's margraves and the birthplace of the humanist Johannes Reuchlin (1455-1552), today it is the center of German jewelry and watchmaking industries. The Black Forest's three best known highland hiking trails begin at Kupferhammer. They are the Westweg, the Mittelweg, and the Ostweg.



Kupferhammer (1), the confluence of the Nagold and Würm rivers, is where the Black Forest Association's three big trails begin. Those who do not wish to arrive there by bus hike from Pforzheim's train station through heart of the city, crossing the Enz River and following the Nagold River up through the valley through the Stadtgarten park to the trail sign and the "Golden Gate" at the start of the three long trails.

Westweg and Mittelweg remain close to the Nagold, while the Ostweg makes its own way off into the Würmtal valley right from the start. Once at the Hoheneck ruins, the red diamonds lead to the right over Hämmerlesberg down to Dillweißenstein (2). After the Nagoldbrücke bridge, the trail runs over Sonnenberg back into Enztal valley and follows the rushing river from Unterer Enzsteg (3) down into Enztal valley. At Grösselbachfurt (4), there are

sturdy stepping stones to assist in crossing the brook.

The Neues Schloss (5), or New Palace, sits enthroned upon a stately hill, high above the former mining town of Neuenbürg. It houses a branch of the Baden State Museum, showing scenes from the popular Black Forest fairytale "The Cold Heart" by Wilhelm Hauff.

Down in Neuenbürg's old town, hikers pass over the bridge and up the Enz's steep undercut slope to the district of Wilhelmshöhe. After a brief pass through the forest, there is a path along the edge of the woods above Straubenhardt. From the Schwanner Warte (6) wooden tower, the view sweeps all the way to the Rhine and the Palatinate Forest. Then the Westweg absconds into the dark fir woods of the Northern Black Forest. Behind the impressive Großer Volzemer Stein rock formation, it reaches the spa resort Dobel (7).



### Hiking path

Pforzheim (train station) – Kupferhammer – Dillweißenstein – Sonnenberg – Birkenfeld (height variants) – Neuenbürg palace – Schwanner Warte – Herzogswiesen meadow – Dreimarkstein – Volzemer Stein stones – Dobel

### Starting point

Pforzheim-Kupferhammer

Destination: Dobel

Length/duration: 24.6 km / 6 hr

Characteristics: Comfortable wide trails; forest and meadow trails.

### Sights

Reuchlinhaus with jewelry museum and Industriehaus with jewelry worlds in Pforzheim, the Old Palace and New Palace in Neuenbürg with Baden State Museum, outlook tower Schwanner Warte in Straubenhardt.

### Rest opportunities

Pforzheim: Restaurant Kupferhammer (Tel. +49(0)7231-67712), Neuenbürg: Restaurant Wilhelmshöhe, closed Mo., (Tel. +49(0)7082-7024), Café Zauberberg (Tel. +49(0)7082-6677), Landhotel Adlerhof, closed: Mo. (Tel. +49(0)7082-92340)

### Public transport

From Dobel: Bus 716 to Pforzheim (ca. 45 min, 1x per hour) or on Bus 716; to Bad Herrenalb (ca. 20min, every 1-2 hours), from there, on the S-Bahn light rail to Karlsruhe train station.

### Tip

Those who have the pleasure of being in the Jewelry and Design City of Pforzheim should visit at least one of the two jewelry exhibitions. The same also applies, of course, for the museum at the palace in Neuenbürg. Wilhelm Hauff's Black Forest saga "The Cold Heart" is the ideal way to get into the mood for the upcoming days of hiking.

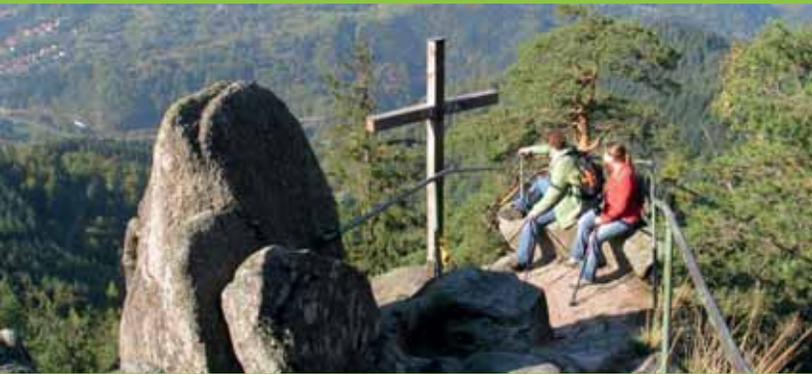
### Information

WSP Wirtschaft und Stadtmarketing Pforzheim  
Marktplatz 1  
D-75175 Pforzheim  
Telephone +49 (0) 72 31 / 39 37 02  
www.pforzheim.de

Kurverwaltung Dobel  
Neue Herrenalber Straße 11  
D-75335 Dobel  
Telephone +49 (0) 70 83 / 74 5 13  
www.dobel.info

## Stage 2

### Dobel – Forbach (26km – 7 hr)



The second stage shows the typical landscape of the northern Black Forest all in one day: rustling coniferous forests, majestic views, marshy hill tops, and deep river valleys. The slow rise from Dobel to Kaltenbronn is graced with numerous views, largely due to the impact from Hurricane Lothar (Christmas 1999). The trail rises over steep, rocky paths past the Latschigfelsen cliffs down into the Murgtal valley and on toward Forbach.

On the edge of town in Dobel (1), the Westweg dives back into deep coniferous forests. It gently rises over the ridge between Alb and Eyach toward Kaltenbronn. The Westweg remains under the crestline, first passing by the clearing Weithäuslesplatz (2) and then offering up views passing under Schweizerkopf all the way to Hahnenfalzhütte cabin (3). It reaches the Kaltenbronn plateau at the Langmartskopf hütte cabin.

Majestic views down into Murgtal valley accompany the Westweg to Kreuzlehütte cabin (4), where it crosses the Alte Weinstraße, or Old Wine Road, heading toward the Kaltenbronn inn (5). At the beginning of the 20th Century, Kaltenbronn was the recovery destination and preferred hunting grounds for Baden's Grand Duke Friedrich I. Today, you'll find alpine and cross-



country skiers frolicking about in the winter months. Kaltenbach, an animated brook skipping over granite boulders, accompanies the Westweg up to Hohloh-See, a small highmoor lake. A plank bridge leads directly to the tower Hohloh-Turm (6), which the Black Forest Association erected in 1897 at the highest point of this sweeping 988-meter plateau.

After a steep descent, the full altitude distance to the Murgtal valley becomes apparent from atop the Latschigfelsen cliffs (7). The Murg river has dug itself into a deep, rocky canyon. In Kauersbachtal valley above Gausbach there are characteristic wooden huts for drying hay brought by immigrants from Tyrol. After drying in the huts, farmers would bring the mowed hay down into the valley on sleds during the winter months.

The panoramic trail via Gausbach shows the lovely side of the Murgtal valley before this stage ends at the historic wooden bridge in Forbach.

### Hike's path

Dobel – Weithäuslesplatz clearing – Hahnenfalzhütte cabin – Langmartskopf hütte cabin – Kreuzlehütte cabin – Hohloh – Prinzenhütte cabin – Latschigfelsen cliffs – Forbach-Gausbach – Forbach

**Starting point:** Dobel

**Destination:** Forbach

**Length/duration:** 26 km / 7 hr

**Characteristics:** Mostly comfortable forest roads and trails. The long and steep descent over the Latschigfelsen cliffs into Murgtal valley has an alpine-like feeling and is a bit hard on the knees.

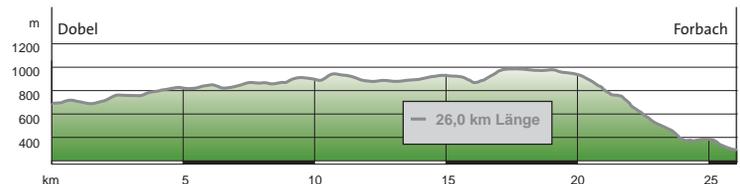
**Sights:** Kaiser-Wilhelm Tower at Hohloh, moor landscape at the lake Hohlohsee, Latschigfelsen cliffs, valleys with hay-drying huts, and covered wooden bridge over the Murg river in Forbach.

### Rest opportunities

Gernsbach: Hotel Sarbacher, RT: Mo, Tel. +49 (0) 7224-93390

### Public transport

To Dobel: From Karlsruhe on the S-Bahn light rail to Bad Herrenalb (ca. 40 min, 1-2x per hour), then take Bus 716 to Dobel (ca. 20 min., 1x per hour). Or from Pforzheim on Bus 716 to Dobel (ca. 40 min.). From Forbach: take the S-Bahn light rail to Baiersbronn or Freudenstadt (ca. 30 or 45 min, 1x per hour) or take the S-Bahn light rail to the Bahnhof (train station) in Karlsruhe (ca. 1 hr, 1-2x per hour).



### Detour

A nice detour will lead you to the lake Wildsee, with an impressive plank walkway over a rampant, still highmoor landscape. The entrance to the plank walkway is found next to the cabin Weißensteinhütte, which can be reached from the Kreuzlehütte cabin via the Helenahütte cabin and further along the Mittelweg. This is where the Wildsee nature conservation area begins. You can reach the restaurant Gasthaus Kaltenbronn directly by following the plank walkway's extension.

### Information

Tourismusbüro Bad Herrenalb  
Rathausplatz 11  
D-76332 Bad Herrenalb  
Telephone +49 (0) 70 83 / 50 05 55  
[www.badherrenalb.de](http://www.badherrenalb.de)

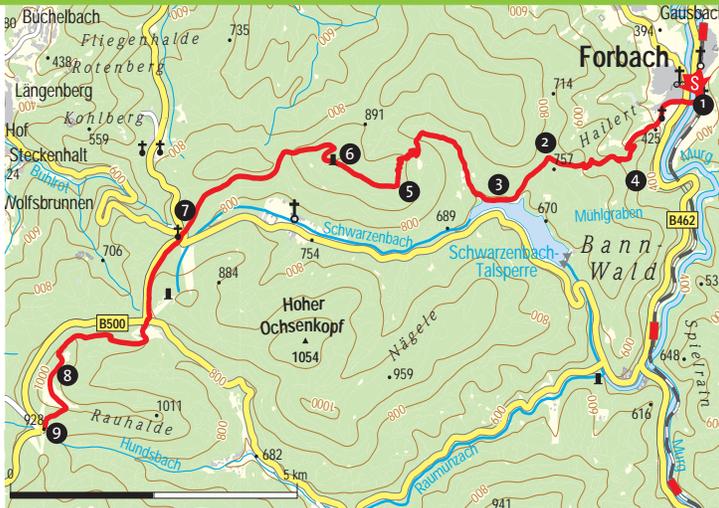
Kultur- u. Verkehrsamt Gernsbach  
Igelbachstraße 11  
D-76593 Gernsbach  
Telephone +49 (0) 72 24 / 64 4 71  
[www.gernsbach.de](http://www.gernsbach.de)

Forbach Tourist Information  
Landstraße 27  
D-76594 Forbach  
Tel. +49 (0) 72 28 / 39 0  
[www.forbach.de](http://www.forbach.de)

## Stage 3 Forbach – Unterstmatt (19.4 km – 6 hr)



*The Black Forest's main ridge is calling! The Westweg's third stage pushes forward into the highest regions of the Northern Black Forest, Badener Höhe, and Hochkopf. The climate becomes noticeably harsher, the mountains steeper, and the trails more challenging.*

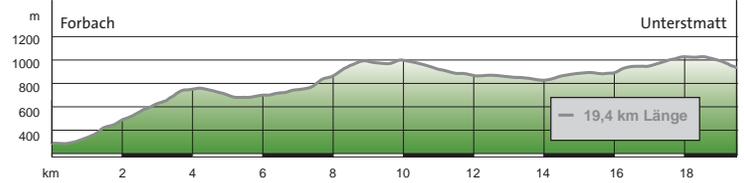


From the historic wooden bridge over the Murg river, the Westweg runs straight through Forbach's old town (1). Passing the chapel Maria-Hilf-Kapelle, it ascends up through one of the romantically still valleys with hay-drying huts. The first ascent is over 450 meters and leads to Wegscheid (2); a bit rough on the legs early in the morning. The soft descent down into the Schwarzenbach valley dam (3) gives the calves an opportunity to relax. The valley dam, with the largest lake in the Northern Black Forest, feeds the Forbach pumped storage power plant (4), whose powerful compression lines are just a short distance away from the Westweg via a small detour down into Murgtal valley.

The long ascent out of Murgtal valley adds another 350 meters to the climb up to the first thousand-meter mountain in the Northern Black Forest. The steep,

rocky trail up to Seekopf (1,001m) passes the calm lake Herrenwieser See, whose 170-meter high bowled rock wall, which is the highest in the Northern Black Forest. At the memorial rock for Philipp Bussemer (5), one of the pioneers of the Black Forest Association the first time the Westweg was marked, you'll find a small, quiet, inviting bank for taking a break under the rhododendrons. Just one meter higher, you'll find Badener Höhe (1,002m) and the Friedrichsturm Tower (6), visible from a considerable distance.

At Sand (7) spa resort, one of numerous formerly resplendent highland hotels now in slow decline, the Westweg meets with Schwarzwaldhochstrasse trail, which it follows until the Hundseck lift. One final ascent brings hikers to Hochkopf (8), the first peak on the Westweg in the Grinden area. The trail leads through a rustic highmoor landscape down to the spa resort Unterstmatt (9).



### Detour

**Gertelbach falls are among the highest waterfalls in Germany and can be reached on a detour from Sand via the Wiedenfelsen cliffs, which stand tower-like over Bühlertal valley. Don't hesitate to climb all the way up and then down to the foot of the waterfalls, for they are best appreciated from below. Above the waterfall, there is a marked trail that leads directly to the Hundseck lift.**

### Hiking path

Forbach – Wegscheid – Herrenwieser lake – Bussemer Memorial Rock/Seekopf – Badener Höhe – Herrenwieser saddle – Sand – Hundseck lift – Hochkopf – Unterstmatt

**Starting point:** Forbach

**Destination:** Unterstmatt

**Length/duration:** 19.4 km / 6 hr

**Characteristics:**

Mostly forest trails and ascents, at times rocky and steep, other times wide trails / plank walks through highmoors.

### Sights

Schwarzenbach dam, outlook tower on Badener Höhe, Herrenwieser See, highmoor at Hochkopf, Gertelbach falls (reachable via short detour from Sand)

### Rest opportunities

Sand: Naturfreundehaus Badener Höhe, closed: Mo (Tel. +49 (0) 7226 - 238), Bergwaldhütte Sand; closed: Mo, Tu; (tel. +49 (0) 7226 - 289), Gasthaus Große Tanne (Unterstmatt), open daily (tel. +49 (0) 7226 - 254)

### Public transport

To Forbach: From Baiersbronn (30 min, 1x per hour), Freudenstadt (45 min, 1x per hr) or Karlsruhe (ca. 1 hr., 1-2x per hr).

From Unterstmatt: take bus 245 to Baden-Baden train station (ca. 50 min, ca. 1x per hour)

### Information

Bühlertal  
Tourist Information  
Hauptstraße 92  
77830 Bühlertal  
Telephone +49 (0) 72 23 / 99 67 0  
www.buehlertal.de

## Stage 4

### Unterstmatt – Freudenstadt-Kniebis (27.8 km – 8 hr)



This stage through the Grinden Black Forest takes hikers over the highest peaks in the Northern Black Forest. At an altitude of over 1,000 meters, hikers follow the Black Forest's main range in a constant up and down. The unique Grinden landscape and the tremendous views down into the Rhine Valley, lying nearly 1,000 meters below, make this stage one of the highlights of the Westweg.

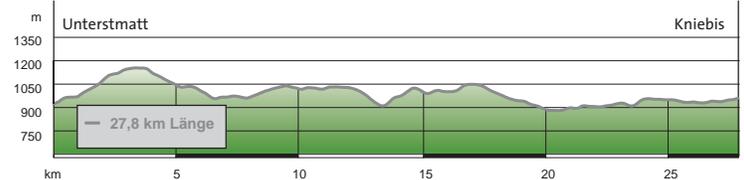
Grinden is the name for the barren, highmoor flats on the crests of the Northern Black Forest. They were formed during the Middle Ages from intensive pasturing. Today, they are covered in nardus, heather, and mountain pine. The Grindens are maintained with targeted clearing and revitalization with livestock ranching.

From Unterstmatt (1), a small trail snakes to the in Gasthaus Ochsenstall, then climbing to the commanding television tower on the Hornisgrinde high plateau, the highest mountain in the Northern Black Forest. The small Bismarckturm tower (2) is found at the highest point of the plateau. At the southern end of the moor, above the lake Mummelsee, the Black Forest Association erected the large tower Hornisgrindeturm, which was reopened for visits in 2005 following the departure of the French military.



Behind the mystical Mummelsee lake (3), the Westweg transverses the faces of Altsteigerkopf, swept barren by the storm Lothar. The cozy cabin Darmstädter Hütte (4) is an inviting location to take a rest. Nearly one kilometer farther, the dark Wildsee lake in the Bannwald forest shines like one of the eyes of the Northern Black Forest.

The nature center at Ruhestein (5) explains the history of the Grinden landscape in an easy-to-follow manner. Grinden presents its typical views to those on Schliffkopf (1,055m) (6), which has been ground flat. The unimaginable fury of Storm Lothar while sweeping over the Black Forest on Christmas day 1999 can be appreciated in an impressive manner on the trail Lotharpfad (7). This small detour climbs over snapped trees and crawls through the underbrush. The fortifications Röschenschanze an der Zuflucht (8) and Alexanderschanze (9) from the 18th Century bear witness to stormy times of an entirely different nature in the Northern Black Forest.



## Variation

This long, difficult stage is a good candidate for being spread over two days. To do so, hikers descend from lake Mummelsee (3) over the high cliffs to Seebach/Ottenhöfen to thrillingly climb back to the Westweg via Edelfrauengrab (waterfall and ravine) and the alpine ascent at Karlsruher Grat and/or the Allerheiligen cloister ruins and waterfall. The Westweg is reached again at Schliffkopf (6).

**Hiking path:** Unterstmatt – Hornisgrinde – Mummelsee – Seibelseckle – Darmstädter Hütte cabin – views Eutinggrab/Wildsee – Ruhestein – Schliffkopf – Zuflucht – Alexanderschanze fortification  
**Starting point:** Unterstmatt  
**Destination:** Alexanderschanze fortification, or Freudenstadt-Kniebis

**Length/duration:** 27.8 km / 8 hr  
**Characteristics:** Mostly forest and wooded trails, also brief ascents and plank walkways though highmoors  
**Sights:** Peak plateau and highmoor at Hornisgrinde, Hornisgrindeturm tower, Mummelsee lake, Ruhestein nature conservation center, Schliffkopf, Lotharpfad, Edelfrauengrab waterfall, Karlsruher Grat ridge, Allerheiligen cloister ruins (two-day variant)

**Rest opportunities**  
Bühl: Wanderheim Ochsenstall, open daily, (tel. +49(0)99286), Raststätte Seibels-Eckle, open daily (tel. +49(0)7842-2247), Ruhestein: Ruhsteinschänke; open daily, (tel. +49(0)7449-91054), Grenzstübe, closed: Mo (tel. +49(0)7449-799), Baiersbronn: Schliffkopfhotel, open 7 days (tel. +49(0)7449-9200)

**Public transport**  
To Unterstmatt: From Baden-Baden train station to Unterstmatt (ca. 60 min, change 1-2x)  
From Alexanderschanze: take bus to ZOB Freudenstadt (20 min, 3x daily); take Touring Bus via Freudenstadt train station (27 min), Tübingen train station (108 min) to Reutlingen (131 min); take Touring Bus via Bad Peterstal train station (22 min), Appenweiler train station (57 min), Kehl train station (84 min) to Strasbourg train station (109 min).

## Information

Baiersbronn Touristik  
Rosenplatz 3, 72270 Baiersbronn  
Telephone +49 (0) 74 42 / 84 14 0  
[www.baiersbronn.de](http://www.baiersbronn.de)

Freudenstadt Tourismus  
Marktplatz 64, 72250 Freudenstadt  
Telephone (0) 74 41 / 86 40  
[www.freudenstadt-tourismus.de](http://www.freudenstadt-tourismus.de)

Tourist Information Seebach  
Ruhesteinstraße 21, 77889 Seebach  
Telephone +49 (0) 78 42 / 94 83 20  
[www.seebach.de](http://www.seebach.de)

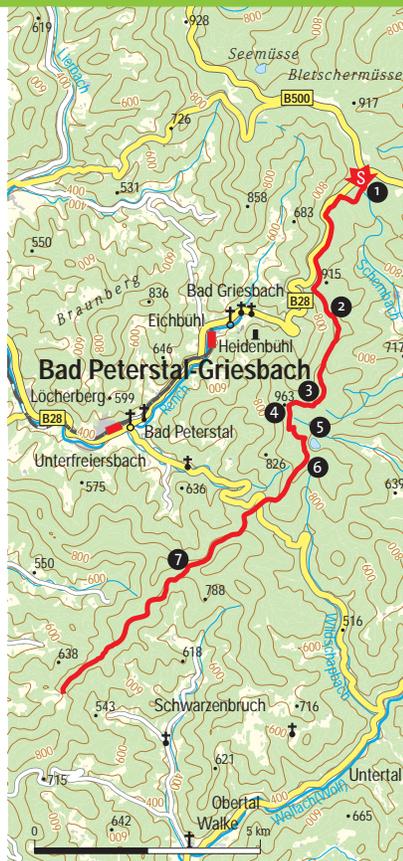
## Stage 5 Freudenstadt-Kniebis – Hark (16.9 km – 4.5 hr)



*Forest, forest, forest. One long, lonely mountain ridge stretches from Alexanderschanze to Harkhof. The trail has several pearls to offer, such as the lake Glaswaldsee, one of the “blue eyes” of the Northern Black Forest. Steep bowl walls give the lake a mystical feeling. Not far from there, you’ll find Klagstein, whose depths are allegedly unexplored.*

Directly at the Alexanderschanze (1) parking lot, the Westweg disappears on a narrow trail into the thicket. Behind the source of the Wolf river, the trail returns to the top edge of the deep valley Renchtal.

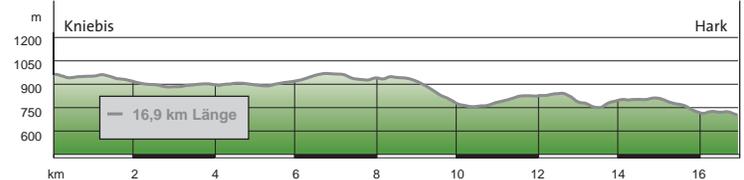
The broad trails now lead hikers along the edge of the valley. Bauernkopf offers a particularly beautiful view into the Renchtal valley with Bad Griesbach and the Black Forest Mountains wrapping around Mooskopf to turn toward the Rhine. When the thermals are right, paragliders and hanggliders launch from here. Just a few steps later, the Graseck trail crossing (2) is reached. This is where the detour to Teufelkanzel (3) departs, a cliff formation with roofs and recesses climbing over an alpine cliff ascent. The Westweg remains on height with the ridge, passing by the cabin Hildahütte on a small forest road through a majestically still, untouched landscape



to the plateau Lettstädter Höhe (966m) (4).

Underneath the broad plateau lies the sublime lake Glaswaldsee (5), hidden in a bowl. Those for whom the lake view isn't enough can climb the 200 meters down to its edge. While descending to the deep saddle Freiersbergsattel (6), there is also a ten-minute detour leading up to mystical Klagstein, rising high over the treetops of the virtually untouched valley Wildschapacher Tal. A splendid place to take a break and enjoy the view!

At Littweger Höhe plateau (7), the Westweg moves to the southern side of the ridge. It won't leave the deep woods again until the clearance at Harkhöhe. The inn Gasthaus Hark is an ideal place to bring a Black Forest evening to a close gathered around the restaurant's fireplace.



### Detour

This short section can be spiced up with three detours. Starting in Graseck, there's an alpine variant over Teufelkanzel to Lettstädter Höhe plateau. A descent to the enchanted lake Glaswaldsee and a stop on the dashing Klagstein with its tremendous views are practically must-sees for Westweg hikers.

### Hiking path

Alexanderschanze – Kaltenhaupt – Hilda-Hütte cabin – Lettstädter Höhe – plateau over lake Glaswaldsee – Freiersbergsattel saddle – Littweger plateau – Auf der Hark  
**Starting point:** Alexanderschanze, or Freudenstadt-Kniebis  
**Destination:** Hark  
**Length/duration:** 16.9 km / 4.5 hr  
**Characteristics:** Thoroughly comfortable wide trails and forest trails  
**Sights**

Alexanderschanze fortification, lake Glaswaldsee, view from plateau Lettstädter Höhe. Kniebis cloister ruins, Ellbach lake view (Variant to Kniebis). Alpine ascent along Teufelkanzel and Klagstein (detour).

### Rest opportunities

Oberharmersbach: Harkhof, closed. Mo (tel.: +49(0)7837-835)

### Public transport

To Alexanderschanze: 2x daily, take Touring Bus from Strasbourg, via Kehl, Appenweiler, and Bad Peterstal; or from Reutlingen via Tübingen and Freudenstadt; bus from Freudenstadt (22min, 4x daily). From Harkhof: next train station in Oberharmersbach-Riesbach (ca. 5 km from the Westweg). From there, a train leaves 5x daily, Mo-Fri (21 min) to Bilberach train station.

### Information

Kur und Tourismus GmbH  
 Wilhelmstraße 2  
 D-77740 Bad Peterstal-Griesbach  
 Telephone +49 (0) 78 06 / 9 10 00  
[www.bad-peterstal-griesbach.de](http://www.bad-peterstal-griesbach.de)  
 Tourist Information Oberharmersbach  
 Dorf 60, D-77784 Oberharmersbach  
 Telephone +49 (0) 78 37 / 2 77  
[www.oberharmersbach.de](http://www.oberharmersbach.de)  
 Tourist Information Oppenau  
 Allmendplatz 3, D-77728 Oppenau  
 Telephone +49 (0) 78 04 / 91 08 30  
[www.oppenau.de](http://www.oppenau.de)

## Stage 6

### Hark – Hausach (14.9 km – 4.5 hr)



This 6th stage penetrates deep into the center of the Black Forest. To reach the Spitzfelsen cliffs reaching into the Kinzigtal valley, the trail follows the narrow ridge between Wolfstal valley and Einbachtal valley underneath Brandenkopf. It's worth making a detour to the 945-meter Brandenkopf and its outlook tower, especially since the Black Forest Association's hostel, which also serves as a restaurant, is found on its peak.

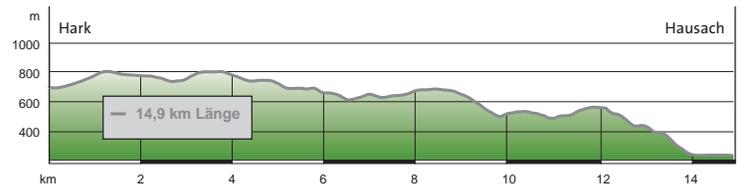
At Harksattel above the Gasthaus Hark (1), hikers find the Westweg again. Crossing over mountain meadows, the trail leads into the forest and around Regeleskopf to Kreuzsattel saddle(2). Shortly thereafter, at the "Am Reiherskopf" sign, the Brandenkopf variation branches off from the Westweg. The main trail leads to the east across Reiherskopf's face to Hirzwasen (5).

The variation circumvents Reiherskopf to the north and crosses the road Brandenkopfstraße at the cabin Steiglehütte. From there, the trail continues through a thick wood, passing mossy stone blocks up to the outlook tower and the restaurant at Brandenkopf's peak (4). The descent now passes just under Bettelfrau along with the trail Hansjakob-Weg to reach Hirzwasen (5).



From now on, the Westweg remains faithful to the ridge between the lovely valleys Einbachtal and Wolfstal. Sometimes on the right, other times on the left of the ridge, it crosses Hesselbacher Höhe plateau, Burzbühl (713m), and Ebenacker-Sattel saddle to reach the cabin Hohenlochenhütte, romantically located on a cliff. A wooden "Aussicht" [view] sign shows the way to a short detour to Hohenlochen (689m), offering a beautiful view over the Wolfstal valley.

At Osterbachsattel saddle, the Westweg departs from the forest, with the estate Käppelhof lying below in the middle of fruit fields. Behind Weißes Kreuz (6) cross and a pleasant trail on the edge of the forest, the trail climbs up to the sharp Spitzfelsen cliffs. The view from the cross down onto nearby Hausach and Kinzig's neighboring valleys provides compensation for all the work to get there. Tight, sharp turns along the edge of the forest lead down to Kinzig, from where it's just a few meters to Hausach (7) via a footbridge over the Kinzig river.



### Variant

There is a direct trail from Brandenkopf to Hausach through the lovely valley Einbachtal. When the Westweg turns left to Hirzwasen after a brief descent, the direct path to Hausach follows the back of the mountain via Rautschsattel saddle to Döbishof estate. From there, the trail follows the calm Talstrasse valley road to Hausach.

### Hike's path

Hark – Kreuzsattel saddle – Hirzwasen – Ebenacker – Hohenlochen – Weißes Kreuz cross – Spitzfelsen cliffs – Hausach

**Starting point:** Hark

**Destination:** Hausach

**Length/duration:** 14.9 / 4.5 hr

**Characteristics:** Thoroughly comfortable forest and wooden paths, seldom steep or rocky

### Sights

Brandenkopf outlook tower and windmills, Spitzfelsen cliffs, old town in Hausach (town hall), "Erzpoche" open air mining museum

### Rest opportunities

Wolfach: Kreuzsattelhütte cabin, May – October: open after 10am Sun + holidays, Oberharmersbach: Wanderheim Brandenkopf, closed: Mo (tel. +49(0)7831-6149), Lauterbach: Käppelhof (100m below the trail); open daily (tel. +49(0)7422-3889)

### Public transport

To Hark: take train from Offenburg to Biberach. From there, continue to Oberharmersbach-Riersbach (5x daily, Mon-Fri, 21 min). Then another ca. 5km steep ascent to Hark.

From Hausach: take S-Bahn light rail or train to Offenburg (ca. 25 min); take Schwarzwaldbahn train toward Konstanz (ca. 2 hours)

### Information

Kultur- und Tourismusbüro  
Hausach  
Hauptstraße 34  
D-77756 Hausach  
Telephone +49 (0) 78 31 / 79 75  
[www.hausach.de](http://www.hausach.de)

Kur- und Verkehrsamt  
Oberwolfach  
Rathausstraße 1  
D-77709 Oberwolfach  
Telephone +49 (0) 78 34 / 83 83 o  
[www.oberwolfach.de](http://www.oberwolfach.de)

## Stage 7 Hausach – Wilhelmshöhe (Schonach) (20.9 km – 6.5 hr)

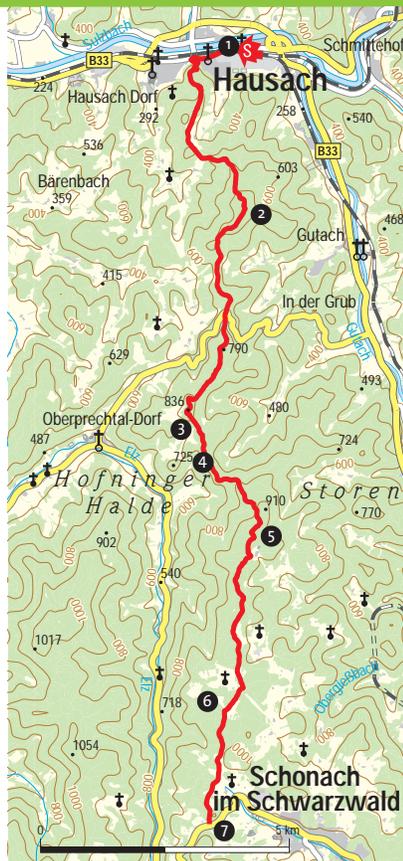


Hausach marks the halfway point on the Westweg. The Kinzig valley is the heart of the Central Black Forest. Nearby Gutach, is incidentally home to the famous Bollenhut hat traditional Black Forest dress. This stage is long and more strenuous than might be expected. Farrenkopf, Prechtaler Schanzen fortifications, Huberfelsen cliffs, and Karlstein demand ascents that are at times very steep and challenging. From Karlstein onwards, the Westweg maintains altitude and reaches Wilhelmshöhe with tranquil ups and downs.

Briefly after starting in Hausach (1), the first stop is found at the fortress Husen. From here, it's nice to take in the view of the city and the valley Kinzigtal one more time. The fortress keep and walls of the former Zähringer Burg sit proudly upon their throne over the city. Built to protect the surrounding silver mines, they were destroyed by Weimar troops during the Thirty Years' War.

To reach the cabin Haseman Hütte on Farrenkopf (789) (2), hikers will need to ascend another 500 meters, which ascends steeply toward the end. The Westweg continues its path south along the mountain ridge, at times surprisingly narrow and with more ups than downs. More than 1,100 meters will be racked up throughout the journey. Quite an accomplishment for one day!

The fortifications along the trail at Büchereck, on Höchst, and on Hirschlache



(3) bear witness to the turbulent times during the War of Spanish Succession at the beginning of the 18th Century. There is a nice view into the Elz's valley from the Huberfelsen (4) cliffs, shaped like a ship's bow and covered in ash and birch trees, as well as rowan berries.

The highlight of this stage is the brief cliff ascent to the 25-meter granite block on Karlstein (964m) (5), secured by handrails. A view to the south reveals individual estates surrounded by fields, like islands in a dark forest of needles. Ten minutes later, hikers can celebrate what's been accomplished so far with a hearty meal at the restaurant "Schöne Aussicht."

The Westweg now maintains its altitude. Our destination is near. Passing by "Zum Karlstein" inn (6), this stage ends at Wilhelmshöhe (7) over Schonach, a winter sports venue rich in tradition.

**Hike's path:** Hausach – Farrenkopf – Büchereck – Prechtaler Schanze fortification – Huberfelsen cliffs – Karlstein – Rensberg – Wilhelmshöhe, near Schonach

**Starting point:** Hausach

**Destination:** Wilhelmshöhe, near Schonach

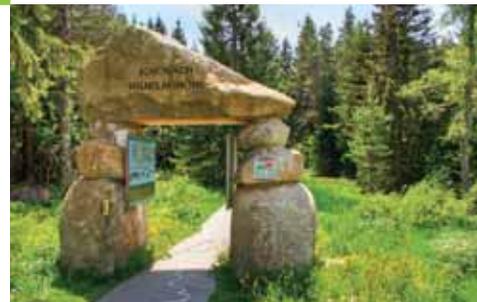
**Length/duration:** 20.9 km / 6,5 hr

**Characteristics:** Long ascending sections that are at times steep, at times narrow, interrupted by revitalizing forest roads.

**Sights:** Husen fortress ruins, fortification at Büchereck and Hirschlache, Huberfelsen cliffs, Hauenstein, Schonach ski jump.

**Rest opportunities**  
Hornberg (below Karlstein):  
Schöne Aussicht, open daily, (tel. +49(0)7833-93690), Schonach:  
Vesperstube Silberberg, open daily after 11am, (tel. +49(0)772-6564)

**Public transport**  
To Hausach: From Offenburg, take the train or S-Bahn light rail (ca. 25 min); from Konstanz, take Schwarzwaldpanoramabahn panoramic rail, 1x daily.  
From Wilhelmshöhe: Sa + Su: 4x daily on bus 274 to Elzach (32 min), from there, take S-Bahn light rail to Freiburg (37 min); Sa + Su: 4x daily on bus 274 to Triberg (16 min), from there take train to Offenburg (ca. 40 min)



### Tip

Those who still have energy in reserve can go on a Schonach discovery hike. At "Heimatstube", beautiful traditional dress, furniture, and a famous Christmas nativity scene built by Meinrad Spath can be seen. Tours are given of the ski jump every Wednesday. Triberger waterfalls are also easy to reach with the regular bus line from Wilhelmshöhe.

### Information

Tourist Information Hornberg  
Bahnhofstraße 3  
D-78132 Hornberg  
Telephone +49 (0) 78 33 / 79 3 44  
www.hornberg.de

Tourist Information Schonach  
Hauptstraße 6  
D-78136 Schonach  
Telephone +49 (0) 77 22 / 96 48 10  
www.dasferienland.de

## Stage 8 Wilhelmshöhe – Kalte Herberge (22.2 km – 6 hr)



The gently undulating, broad ridge between Rohrhardsberg and Brend, and further on to lake Titisee constitutes one of the most dominant highland sections of the Central Black Forest. It is also the watershed between the Rhine and Danube. While the heights rise softly from the east, the west flanks are torn down abruptly and wildly into the deep valley Simonswäldertal, delivery amazing views, especially at Brend.

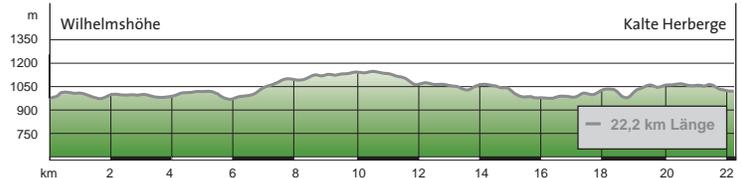
At Wilhelmshöhe (1), hikers pass through the powerful boulder portal. Passing the Wolfbauernhof farm with the Longinuskreuz cross, the Westweg takes hikers to the lake Blindensee (2). Early morning on the Bohlenpfad trail through the highmoor is a particularly beautiful experience, when the first rays of sunlight shine upon the night's dew, still hanging on the cotton grass and on the branches of the mountain pine.

Behind Weißenbacher Höhe (3), the trail moves through a slight dip in Elztal valley over to the main ridge between the Danube and the Rhine. Passing by the Elz river's small source, hikers reach a river source that is rather historically significant at the Martinskapelle (4) chapel. This is where the Breg river originates under a cliff. It goes on to unite with the Brigach near Donaueschingen to form the Danube. The brief detour to the Breg's source is a must-see for every Westweg hiker!



Back on the trail, the Günterfelsen cliffs represent the next destination and are found right on the path. These powerful granite cliffs are hidden in the middle of the forest. While there is no view from here, there is one on the nearby outlook tower at Brend (1,149m) (5). Hikers will find an exciting preview of the upcoming stages by taking a look to the west to Kandel and to the south to Feldberg. On particularly clear days, hikers can even see nearly the entire western range of the Alps from Zugspitze to Mont Blanc.

The Westweg continues to follow the watershed to Neueck, providing plenty of variety between forest and meadows. This is where hikers meet the southern section of the B 500, which – like the Westweg – crosses the Black Forest from north to south. The two trails remain close to one another and cross paths several times, leading past Hohles Bildstöckle to Kalte Herberge hostel.



### Variant

The section in the direct vicinity of the B 500 can be circumvented by leaving the Westweg between Brend and Neueck to descend into the truly wild Wilde Gutach valley, visiting Bazler Herrgott on the following day and returning to the Westweg again at Lachenhäusle.

### Hiking path:

Wilhelmshöhe – Wolfbauernhof farm – Blindensee lake – Weißenbacher Höhe – Martinskapelle chapel – Brend – Neueck – Hausebenehof estate – Kalte Herberge hostel.

### Starting point:

Wilhelmshöhe, near Schonach

Destination: Kalte Herberge

Length/duration: 22.5 km / 6 hr

### Characteristics:

Wide trails throughout, interrupted by forest and meadow trails.

**Sights:** Blindensee nature conservation area, Elz river source, Martinskapelle chapel, Breg river source (source of the Danube), Günterfelsen cliffs, outlook tower at Brend.

### Rest opportunities

Schonach: Gasthof Panorama: closed Mo (tel. +49(0)7722-5221), at Martinskapelle chapel: Höhengasthof Martinskapelle; (tel. +49(0)7723-7887), closed: Mo, Tu, Gasthof Kolmenhof; open daily in the summer (tel. +49(0)7723-803), Gasthof Brend; open daily, (tel. +49(0)7723-504870), Alte Eck: Hotel Raben; closed: Fri (tel. +40(0)7723-7397), Neue Eck: Gasthof Hirschen; closed: Wed. (tel. +49(0)7723-7412), Vöhrenbach: Höhengasthof Kalte Herberge, closed: Tue. (tel. +49(0)7723-7389).

### Public transport

To Wilhelmshöhe: from Freiburg, take train to Elzach (37 min), from there, take Bus 274 to Wilhelmshöhe (Sa + Su: 4x daily, ca. 32 min); from Offenburg train station, take train to Triberg (ca. 40 min), from there, take bus to Wilhelmshöhe (Sa + Su: 4x daily, 16 min); From Kalte Herberge: no connections

### Information

Tourist Information Schönwald  
Franz-Schubert-Straße 3  
D-78141 Schönwald  
Telephone +49 (0) 77 22 / 86 08 31  
[www.dasferienland.de](http://www.dasferienland.de)

Tourist Information Furtwangen  
Lindenstraße 1  
D-78120 Furtwangen  
Telephone +49 (0) 77 23 / 92 95 0  
[www.dasferienland.de](http://www.dasferienland.de)

**Stage 9 (East + West) ▶ The trail diverges here!!**  
**Kalte Herberge – Titisee – Hinterzarten / Feldberg (25.8 km – 6.5 hr)**

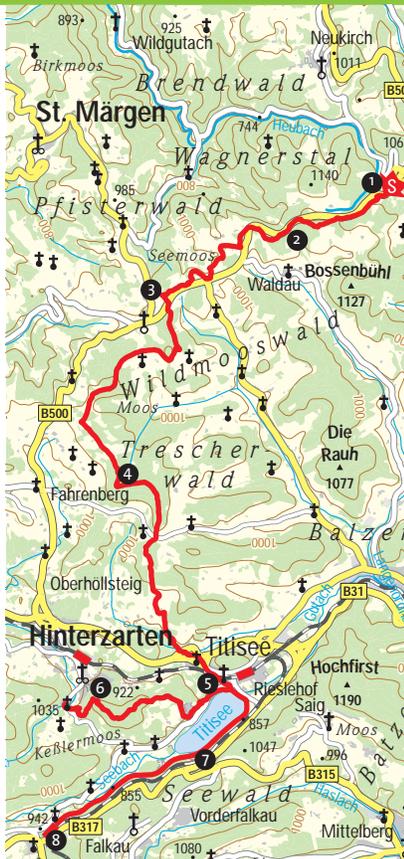


From Titsee lake, the Westweg continues to follow the European watershed. There, the Westweg diverges into two main trails. While the western route heads toward Basel via Feldberg, Belchen, and Blauen, the eastern route crosses Herzogenhorn, Blössing, and Hohe Möhr to set course for the Swiss city am Rheinknie via the geologically interesting Dinkelberg.

From Kalte Herberge hostel (1), the Westweg continues to follow the B 500 on its eastern side, staying above it initially and below it later on. At Lachenhäusle (2), the view reaches out far until disappearing in the deep Simonwälder valley. Just a few kilometers beyond that, the remains of a defensive fortification can be recognized at Türkenlouis-Schanz on Hohler Graben (1,045m) (3) in the fern tree forest.

With a majestic view to the south, the trail circles around Doldenbühl (1,098m) and then heads toward the inconspicuous Weißstannenhöhe (1,190m) (4) via Fahrhalde with its many views. Down to the right is Bernau, with the horizon-filling Feldberg massif towering over it.

The trail leads over Fürsatzhöhe and the traditional Berghäusle hiking home down to the Oberaltenweg trail, with its typical Black Forest farms. With every step toward lake

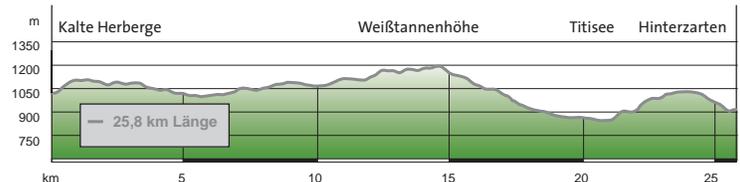


Titisee, the question of “which path to take” pushes itself into the foreground more and more.

For at the rest area at Titisee (5), the Westweg divides into two routes.

**Western route:** The western route winds down directly to the lake, follows the shore to the west and climbs up to Keßlerhöhe (1,017m) with beautiful views of the lake. From there, it’s just a short distance to the tower at the famous Adlerschanze fortification, high behind Hinterzarten (6), the home of the successful “Black Forest Eagle.” From Scheibenfelsen cliffs, a narrow path steeply descends to Oberzarten.

**Eastern route:** On the bustling road Seestraße, the eastern route circles around the lake along the southern shore. Behind the camp grounds at Seebachmündung (7), the trail makes a continuous climb underneath the rail line to Feldberg-Bärental valley (8).



**Detour**

From Scheibenfelsen cliffs at the Adlerschanze fortification, a zigzag along the edge of the skiing arena descends directly to the Adlerplatz square in Hinterzarten.

**Hiking path**

Kalte Herberge – Lachenhäusle – Schweizer Hof – Fürsatzhöhe – Geigershof – Titisee – Oberzarten – Hinterzarten / Feldberg-Bärental

**Starting point:** Kalte Herberge

**Destination:** Hinterzarten-Oberzarten or Feldberg-Bärental

**Length/duration:** 25.8 km / 6.5 hr

**Characteristics:**

Wide trails throughout, interrupted by forest and meadow trails.

**Sights:**

Fortifications and defensive walls around Thurner, Titisee lake, ski jump arena “Adlerschanze” in Hinterzarten.

**Rest opportunities**

Between Lachenhäusle and Hohle Graben: Gasthaus Schweizerhof; closed: Mo (tel. +49(0)7669-91040), St. Märgen-Hohle Graben: Zum Kreuz; closed: Thu (tel. +49(0)7669-91010), Heiligenbrunn: Wanderheim Berghäusle; closed: Thu, (tel. +49(0)7652-98206

**Public transport**

To Kalte Herberge: no connections. From Hinterzarten: by train to Freiburg (33 min, 2x per hour); from Feldberg-Bärental: by train to Freiburg (hourly, ca. 1 hour)

**Information**

Tourist Information Vöhrenbach  
 Friedrichstraße 8, 78147 Vöhrenbach  
 Telephone +49 (0) 77 27 / 50 11 15  
[www.voehrenbach.de](http://www.voehrenbach.de)

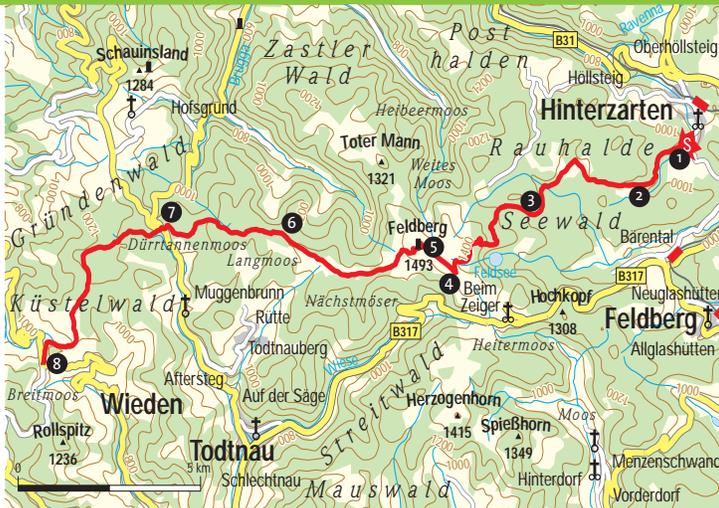
Hochschwarzwald Tourismus GmbH  
 Breitenau information office  
 Dorfstraße 11/1, 79874 Breitenau  
 Telephone +49 (0) 76 52 / 12 06 83 80  
[www.hochschwarzwald.de/wandern](http://www.hochschwarzwald.de/wandern)

Hochschwarzwald Tourismus GmbH  
 Titisee information office  
 Strandbadstraße 4, 79822 Titisee-Neustadt, Tel. +49 (0) 76 52 / 12 06 81 20  
[www.hochschwarzwald.de/wandern](http://www.hochschwarzwald.de/wandern)

## Stage 10 (west) Hinterzarten – Feldberg – Wiedener Eck (26.5 km – 7.5 hr)



The king of the Westweg's stages is without a doubt crossing Feldberg from east to west. At the top on the windswept peak, the highest point in Germany north of the Alps, Westweg hikers are not the only ones who feel like conquerors of the mountain. Some would certainly like to spend a fair bit of time here enjoying the grandiose view if they didn't have the long journey to Wiedener Eck ahead of them.



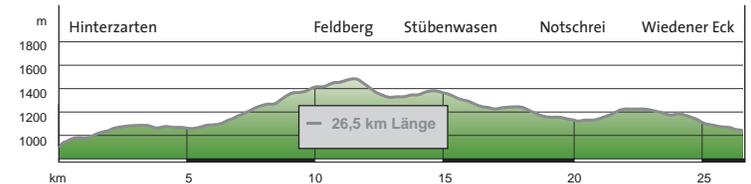
From Oberzarten (1), the Westweg initially follows along the romantic valley Zartenbachtal. There are signs indicating a brief detour to beautiful Mathisleweiher (2), a former timber pond. Slowly descending, the "Am Feldberg" clearing is reached along individual forest farms.

At Rufenholzplatz (3), the trail begins to climb more sharply. The wide trail gradually turns into an alpine ascent through a rustic pine forest. On the back of the monstrous walls of the bowl Feldsee, the forest occasionally grants views of the green, shining lake Feldsee far below.

Past the forest's border, the trail climbs through Grüble, which may even have snow in the summer months, into the wide saddle between Seebuck on the left and the top of Feldberg on the right (4). A good twenty minutes later, the "climax" of the Black Forest is reached.

The outlook island on the 1,495-meter Feldberg (5) marks the highest point in Germany outside of the Alps. Accordingly, it provides a 360-degree panorama when the weather is nice: in the north and east, the peaks of the Black Forest fade into the horizon; in the west the Vosges mountains appear to sway over the Rhine area; however, the true spectacle is found in the broad Alpine panorama to the south.

The Westweg continues as a narrow trail with steep steps, climbing down to the cabin St. Wilhelmer Hütte; from there, it follows the back side of the mountain to connect to Belchen. The barren and long ridge on Stübenwasen (1,386m) (6) leaves quite an impression with its majestic Alp panorama. Behind the pass Notschrei (7), the trail ascends once again circling Trubelsmattkopf to reach Wiedener Eck (8) passing over free meadows.



**Hiking path:** Hinterzarten – Oberzarten – Rufenhütte cabin – Feldberg – Stübenwasen – Notschrei pass – Am Trubelsmattkopf – Wiedener Eck

**Starting point:**

Hinterzarten-Oberzarten

**Destination:** Wiedener Eck

**Length/duration:** 26.5 km / 7.5 hr

**Characteristics:**

Long section, often on wide trails yet seasoned again and again with forest and meadow trails.

**Sights**

Mathisleweiher, Feldsee, bowl, detour Felsenweg Seebuck, Feldberg peak

**Rest opportunities**

Feldberg: St. Wilhelmer Hütte cabin, closed: Wed, (tel.: +49(0)7676-342)/Stübenwasen; closed: Thu (tel.: +49(0)7671-334)/Oberried: Waldhotel am Notschrei; open daily (tel.: +49(0)7602-94200)

**Public transport**

To Hinterzarten: From Freiburg, by train (33 min, 2x per hour)  
From Wiedener Eck: Take bus to Münstertal, then take train or bus to Bad Krozingen and from there with the train to Freiburg (ca 1 hr, 15 min, 2x daily); with the bus to Aitern, then take bus to Zell and finally take train to Basel (ca. 2 hr., 20 min, 2-3x daily)

## Detour

In the bowl Feldsee, behind the view onto Feldsee lake, the cliff ascent on the path Emil-Thoma-Weg branches off and leads right through the middle of the bowl wall between Seebuck and Feldsee, at times passing over narrow hard rock to reach the estate Feldberger Hof. A brief visit to "Haus der Natur" is exceptionally informative. There is also a gondola that hikers can ride up to Seebuck, which saves significant amounts of both climbing and time.

## Information

Hochschwarzwald Tourismus GmbH  
Hinterzarten information office  
Freiburger Straße 1  
D-79856 Hinterzarten  
Telephone +49 (0) 76 52 / 12 06 82 00  
[www.hochschwarzwald.de/wandern](http://www.hochschwarzwald.de/wandern)

Bergwelt Südschwarzwald  
Meinrad-Thoma-Str. 21  
D-79674 Todtnau  
Telephone +49 (0) 76 71 / 96 96 95  
[www.bergwelt-suedschwarzwald.de](http://www.bergwelt-suedschwarzwald.de)

## Stage 11 (west)

### Wiedener Eck – Belchen – Kandern (31.9km – 9 hr)



Belchen and Blauen are two of the highest Black Forest peaks on this program. Belchen is considered one of the most beautiful, rustic, and alpine-like peaks in the Black Forest. Its stunning massif towers over the surrounding valleys with powerful steep wooded flanks. Blauen, by contrast, leans far into the Rhine region. The descent into the Markgräfler Land represents the start of a gradual departure from the Black Forest.

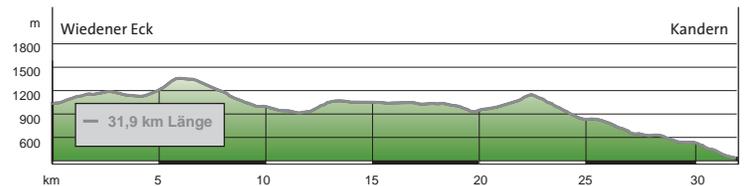


From Wiedener Eck (1), the Westweg circles Heidstein on small trails and then climbs through steep mountain hillsides to Krinne (2). The crown prince of the Black Forest begins to take shape at Belchen. A steep, rocky, and alpine climb – enriched with deep views into Münstertal valley – ascends through the mountainous forest until it reaches the bald summit. From the edge of the forest, there is a detour directly to the peak (1,414m) (3).

The Westweg runs parallel to the hillside to the Belchenhaus, the highest restaurant in the state of Baden-Württemberg since 1898. What a show! From the summit, the view encompasses the entire Southern Black Forest all the way to the shining ice giants in the Alps. 700 meters further

down, the Kleine (small) and Große (large) Wiesental valley extends through idyllic villages. The trail continues through a one-of-a-kind mountain forest with sorbus shrubs above the “southern wall” of Belchen with a descent that is gradual at first but grows steeper. There are a few handrails to assist hikers over particularly exposed spots. Passing the chapel Dekan-Strohmeier-Kapelle, the trail follows the edge of the forest to Haldenhof estate (4).

While descending to the Kreuzweg parking lot, the narrow trail snakes around the Weiherfelsen cliffs. This is followed by a recovery section on quiet forest trails up to Müllheimer Egerten (5). From there, the trail leads over the steep northern flank to the iron tower Baluenturm (1,165 m) (6). From here, it's all downhill! The section passing over the mystic Hexenplatz and Sausenburg (7) fortress ruins is so interesting that before hikers realize it, they have reached Kandern (8).



## Variant

Those who find this stage to be too long can divide it up into two days. To do so, take an alpine climb over the Rosenfelsen cliffs and Hohfelsen cliffs to Neuenweg. On the following day, pass over the enchantingly beautiful Nonnenmattweiher to Haldenhof estate, to where the Westweg also follows a more direct path.

**Hiking path:** Wiedener Eck – Krinne – Belchen – Hohe Kelch – Haldenhof estate – Sirnitz saddle – Stühle – Blauen – Hexenplatz – Sausenburg fortress - Kandern  
**Starting point:** Wiedener Eck  
**Destination:** Kandern  
**Length/duration:** 31.9 km / 9 hr  
**Characteristics:**

Extremely long and strenuous stage. While often on forest roads, it frequently has steep climbs that are at times rocky.

**Sights:** View from Belchen, Belchenhaus, outlook tower on Blauen with view down into Markgräflerland, Sausenburg fortress, Rosenfelsen and Nonnenmattweiher (variant via Neuenweg).

## Rest opportunities

Belchenhaus; open daily (tel. +49(0)7672-281), Neuenweg: Haldenhof; open daily (tel. +49(0)763-284), Blauen: Blauenhaus; open daily (tel. +49(0)7632-388)

## Public transport

If the 32.5 km are a bit much for you, you can take Bus 7306 in the morning from Wiedener Eck toward Schönau Sparkasse; at the Aitern branch-off you need to change to Bus 7306 toward Belchenbahn. You can then take the Belchenbahn gondola to reach the top of Belchen.

To Wiedener Eck: Take train/bus from Freiburg (via Kirchzarten or Felberg-Bärental) or Basel or Müns-tertal). Journey duration 1-2 hours. From Kandern: take bus to Basel, Müllheim, or Eimeldingen. There, take the train toward Freiburg. Ride duration: 1-2 hours.

## Information

Badenweiler Thermen und Touristik GmbH  
Kaiserstraße 5  
D-79410 Badenweiler  
Telephone +49 (0) 76 32 / 79 93 00  
www.badenweiler.de

Gemeinde Kleines Wiesental  
Tegernauer Landstraße 10  
D-79692 Kleines Wiesental  
Telephone +49 (0) 76 29 / 91 10-0  
www.kleines-wiesental.eu

## Stage 12 (west) Kandern – Basel (26 km – 6.5 hr)



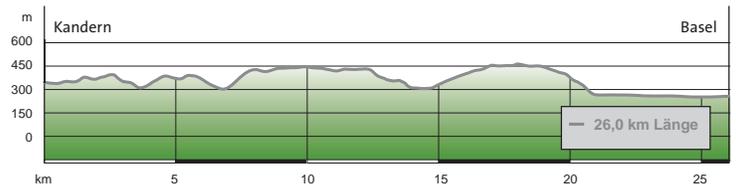
*The Westweg passes through the docile Markgräfler Land toward its destination in Basel. The wild and romantic Wolfsschlucht ravine, majestic beech forests, small wine hills, and the powerful Rötteln fortress ruins are all found along the path. The Westweg passes Tüllinger Berg, which is rich with beautiful views, descending down to the meadow Flüsschen Wiese. The area turns surprisingly green on the journey into the Swiss town at Rheinknie to the train station Badischer Bahnhof in Basel.*

From Kandern (1), the Westweg first passes along the valley Kandertal. At the Kandern hillside, cliffs have split off and now form the Wolfsschlucht ravine. Narrow trails lead through tight cliff passes and steep slopes underneath the roof of the dominant mountain Buchen, at times ascending and at times descending until reaching Hammerstein (2). The first wine hills accompany hikers over Egerten to the cabin Baselblick-Hütte above Wollbach (3). Behind the quaint Markgräfler village, the trail disappears into the forest and steers toward the powerful Rötteln (4) fortress ruins, passing over flatland. The fortress, built in its current dimensions following the 1356 earthquake in Basel is one of the largest fortresses in southern Baden. The climb up to the Stauer castle keep is definitely worth the time – especially considering the



view of the fortress, the city, and the valley Wiesental. The nearby church in Rötteln is also worth seeing. It is more than 1,250 years old and houses the burial site of Margrave Rudolf the Third of Baden and his wife in a vaulted chapel. The path continues through Turmringen (5) to Tüllinger Berg to reach the cabin Dauer-Hütte, where even more nice views can be found.

When hiking along the forest edge to Tüllinger Höhe (6), a constant string of new views present themselves into the valley Wiesental, Dinkelberg, and the city Lörrach. Just a short time later, hikers will find a spectacular view of Basel from the terrace of the Ottilien Church. Hikers then continue through the Swiss wine hills to reach the meadow Flüsschen Wiese. The field dam leads through the Lange Erlen area to the animal park of the same name. From there, it's just a few more minutes to the train station Badischer Bahnhof (7).



### Tip

The Westweg officially ends at the train station Badischer Bahnhof in Kleinbasel. However, it would be nearly a sin to not take one of the tram lines to Marktplatz and wander around Basel a bit. Marktplatz and Rathaus, the Cathedral, and the narrow alleys in the old town with its colorful fountains (especially the fountain Tinguely-Brunnen at Theaterplatz) are definitely worth a visit.

**Hiking path:** Kandern – Wollbach – Hagen – Turmringen – Obertüllingen – Basel (Badischer Bahnhof train station)

**Starting point:** Kandern

**Destination:** Basel (Bad. Bahnhof)

**Length/duration:** 26 km / 6.5 hr

**Characteristics:** Flat stage to cool down, mostly on wide trails and field paths.

**Sights:** Kandertal museum railway, Rötteln fortress ruins, Rötteln church with the grave of Margrave Rudolf the Third, Tüllinger church, old town in Basel.

### Rest opportunities

Lörrach-Rötteln: Rötteln fortress restaurant, open daily: Sun and Mon (tel. +49(0)7621-52141), Rötteln fortress beer garden, (tel. +49(0)7621-52141)

### Public transport

To Kandern: ca. 1x hour from Freiburg on a train toward Müllheim Eimeldingen, Weil, or Basel. There, change onto a train toward Kandern. Ride duration: 1-2 hours, change trains 1-3 times. From Basel: Take train (also ICE) toward Freiburg.

### Information

Burghof Lörrach GmbH  
Tourist Information  
Herrenstraße 5  
D-79539 Lörrach  
Tel. +49 (0) 76 21 / 9 40 89 13 / -12  
www.burghof.com



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### Info and booking:

Schwarzwald Tourismus GmbH, Villingen office  
Tel. +49(0)7721.846410  
service@schwarzwald-tourismus.info

[www.westweg.info](http://www.westweg.info)

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## Stage 10 (east)

### Bärental – Weißenbachsattel (Hochkopfhäus) (24.9 km – 6.5 hr)



With four of the highest mountains, the eastern variant shows the best side of the Black Forest. While Zweiseenblick, Herzogenhorn, Blössling, and Hochkopf do provide a chance to experience nature to the fullest, they also require a good level of fitness and endurance. In the evenings hikers can recuperate at Hochkopfhäus-Auerhahn over a good bottle of Baden wine and one of their 14 kinds of fondue.

The path begins heading uphill right from Bärental (1) valley. The destination is Zweiseenblick (1,304m) (2). From the small group of granite cliffs, hikers find a majestic view onto lake Titisee and – barely visible through the high trees – onto the lake Schluchsee. The plank trail leading through the highmoor is reminiscent of Scandinavia.

From the cabin Hochkopfhütte, a forest road leads through the steep mountain flanks of Menzenschwander Talkessel to the lodge Caritashaus. Below the national road, the trail leads to Feldberg-Pass (3). Thousands of skiers populate the runs here during the winter season. Hikers continue on to pass over fields and through woods up to Grafenmatt. Behind the national athletic training center, the Westweg ascends to the Schwedenschanze jump on Herzogenhorn. A detour to the grand wooden cross on the second-highest Black Forest peak (1,415m) (4) is



obligatory – for many, this is the most beautiful mountain view in the black forest.

The trail continues over the narrow mountain ridge between the valleys Prägbachtal and Bernauer Hochtal down to the deep saddle “Auf der Wacht” and then in large zigzag turns up to Blössling (1,310m) (5), a great insider tip. At Präger Eck, the Westweg reaches the Präger Gletscherkessel basin, which six glaciers with a thickness of 500 meters carved out during the ice age.

The trail now continues along the basin’s edge until reaching Hochkopf, snaking through a rustic forest landscape where storms have left their mark to reach Ledertschobenstein (6) and the branch-off up to Hochkopf. The tower Hochkopfturm (1,263m) delivers an impressive view into the deep glacial basin. The trail finally descends to Weißenbachsattel (7), passing through a mixed forest rich in variety.



**Hiking path:** Feldberg-Bärental valley – Zweiseenblick – Caritashaus lodge – Grafenmatt – Herzogenhorn – Auf der Wacht – Blossling – Präger Eck – Ledertschobenstein – Hochkopf – Weißenbachsattel (Hochkopfhäus)  
**Starting point:** Bärental valley  
**Destination:** Weißenbachsattel (Todtmoos)

**Length/duration:** 24.9 km / 6.5 hr  
**Characteristics:** Long and strenuous stage over four (!) big Black Forest mountains. At times on wide trails, but also often on forest trails and narrow paths.

**Sights:** Highmoor and view at Zweiseenblick, panoramic view from Herzogenhorn and Blössling, Hochkopfturm tower.

**Rest opportunities**  
Feldberg: Menzenschwander cabin, closed: Wed, Thu (tel. +49(0)7676-224), Berggasthof Grafenmatt inn, closed: Thu (tel. +49(0)7676-332), Emmendinger cabin: open: Fri, Sat, Sun 10am – 4pm (tel. +49(0)7676-236), Herzogenhorn, open daily (tel. +49(0)7676-222)

**Public transport**  
To Feldberg-Bärental: Take train from Freiburg via Titisee to Bärental (hourly, duration: ca. 1 hour). Or from Donaueschingen via Neustadt and Titisee to Bärental. (ca. 1.5 hr; 1x per hour). From Weißenbachsattel: to Todtnau bus station (25 min, 8x daily, Mon-Fri, 3x daily, Sat+Sun), from there, direct and indirect connections to Freiburg via Kirchzarten or Titisee or Feldberg-Bärental (ca. 1 hr, 20 min, 2x per hour)

## Detour

There are two brief, yet very rewarding detours available to extend this stage, which is already quite challenging on its own. These extra hikes lead to Herzogenhorn and Hochkopf and take ca. 15 min. each. No Westweg hiker will want to miss them.

## Information

Tourist Information Feldberg  
Kirchgasse 1  
D-79868 Feldberg  
Telephone +49 (0) 76 52 / 12 06 83 00  
[www.hochschwarzwald.de](http://www.hochschwarzwald.de)

Tourist Information Bernau  
Rathausstraße 18  
D-79872 Bernau  
Telephone +49 (0) 76 75 / 16 00 30  
[www.bernau-schwarzwald.de](http://www.bernau-schwarzwald.de)

## Stage 11 (east)

### Weißenbachsattel – Hohe Möhr – Schweigmatt (18.3 km – 5 hr)



When descending from Oberer Hotzenwald to Schweigmatt, hikers have the opportunity to experience the Black Forest's diverse landscapes: from mountain meadows at Todtmoos to the laid-back woods and forest edges rich in views at Gersbach and the first meadows with fruit-bearing trees. The tower at Hohe Möhr is a highlight with a majestic long-range view of the Swiss Alps and Jura mountain range, as well as of the mountain Dinkelberg far below.

At Weißenbachsattel saddle (1), the Westweg passes by the "Tor zum Wehratal" (Gate to Wehra Valley) and then leads down to a high ropes course. From there, it gently ascends through spruce and alder woods and aromatic mountain valleys to Todtmoos-Lehen. Behind St. Antoni (2), the trail disappears deep into the forest. At times leading north, at times south, the trail circumvents the thickly wooded crests of the ridge line and passes by the cross Altensteiner Kreuz before resurfacing out of the deep green at the Schwellen (3) bedrock. There is a fantastic view to the south along the forest edge over the bedrock, revealing the Gersbach sun terrace all the way to Switzerland's Jura mountain range.

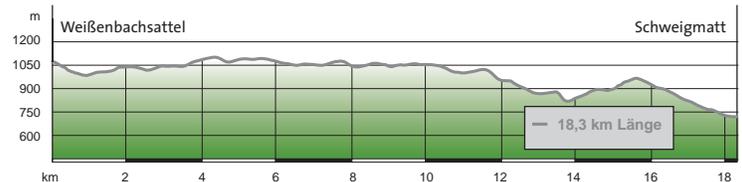
In the distance, hikers can already see Hohe Möhr with its characteristic tower structure on the peak. The ascent to the last of the highest Black Forest



mountain peaks begins at Sandwürfesattel saddle (4).

Finally, the trail winds its way to altitude taking numerous serpentine curves. A brief detour to a natural fountain promises a nice cool down before reaching the outlook tower at Hohe Möhr (983m) (5), built in 1893 from stone and wood. Thanks to the 25-meter platform, Westweg hikers can again scale up one thousand meters. Finishing the 144 steps is rewarded with a sweeping panoramic view over the southwest apex of the Black Forest.

From the tower, follow the familiar red diamonds down through the forest, which the trail won't leave again until Waldhaus mountain inn. Like an eagle's nest, Schweigmatt (6) adheres to the steep southwest hillside on Hohe Möhr. With a view onto Dinkelberg, over which the following stages run en route to Basel, hikers slowly leave the Black Forest.



## Tip

Those who find this section too short can extend it to Hasel. There, it's nice to visit the nearby cave Erdmannshöhle, which is among the oldest dripstone caves in Germany. It is an ideal subterranean warm-up for the Dinkelberg hikes, which themselves are of extraordinary geological interest

**Hiking path:** Weißenbachsattel saddle – St. Antoni – Altensteiner Kreuz – Sägbaumdumpf – Schwellen – Hohe Möhr – Schweigmatt

**Starting point:** Weißenbachsattel (Todtmoos)

**Destination:** Schweigmatt

**Length/duration:** 18.3 km / 5 h

**Characteristics:** Easy section, mainly on wide trails except at the ascent and descent for Hohe Möhr

**Sights:** St. Antoni chapel, Hohe Möhr outlook tower, Erdmannshöhle cave in Hasel if the section is extended.

## Rest opportunities

Schopfheim-Gersbach: Naturfreundehaus Gersbacher Hörnle; (tel. +49(0)7620.238)(500m from the trail), Schlechtbach: Blume inn, closed: Fri (400m from the trail) (tel. +49(0)7620.226)

## Public transport

To Weißenbachsattel: From Freiburg either directly by bus or via Kirchzarten or Titisee or Feldberg-Bärental to Todtnau bus station (ca. 1h 20min, 2x per hour). From there with the bus to Hochkopfhäus (25 min., 8x daily Mo-Fr 3x daily Sa+Su). From Schweigmatt: Bus/train via Fahrnau or Schopfheim to Basel (ca. 1hr, 6x daily Mo-Fri; 3x daily Sa)

## Information

Kurverwaltung & Tourist Information Todtmoos  
Wehratalstraße 19  
D-79682 Todtmoos  
Telephone +49 (0) 76 74 . 90 600  
[www.todtmoos.de](http://www.todtmoos.de)

## Stage 12 (east)

### Schweigmatt – Degerfelden (27.4 km – 7 hr)



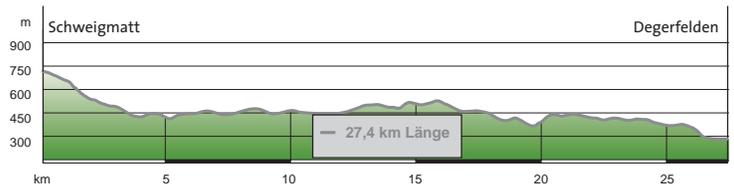
From a geological point of view, Dinkelberg no longer constitutes part of the Black Forest. It is a small, independent range with numerous special landscape characteristics. The intensive agricultural nature of the area, with forest, meadows, fruit-bearing trees, and fields make this stage a pleasurable venture over the long backside of Dinkelberg despite the wide trails.

From Schweigmatt (1), steep paths first lead hikers across mountain meadows and then through a beech forest down to Schammernbach brook. At the eastern edge of Hasel (2), the Westweg takes a right and crosses through Entengraben, behind which the actual Dinkelberg begins with fields, meadows, and fruit-bearing trees. The trail then leads through a landscape marked by many hollows, which are at times steep and are the remains of sinkholes from the hollow spaces in the perforated karst below. After crossing the national road, hikers reach the lake Eichener See (3) – if it can be seen at all. Eichener See is a karst lake that appears only at distinct moments, regardless of weather conditions, and is fed by irregularly occurring groundwater. The trail continues by



following the top of Dinkelberg, at times passing by meadows and fruit plantations, then back through the forest. Finally, after a brief steep ascent, the highest point of this alpenstock is reached: Hohe Flum (536m) (4). The outlook tower has views into the nearby valleys Wiesental and Rheintal, as well as back to Hohe Möhr, which now appears to be far off in the distance.

The path to Degerfelden via Oberminsel (5) leads through quiet brook valleys and along the edges of forests rich in variety. The ruins from the Roman estate bear witness that the Romans valued the fertility of Dinkelberg over 2000 years ago. The brook Großbach in Degerfelden (6) accompanies hikers until reaching the historical center of the village.



### Tip

In Degerfelden, there are no places to stay overnight, but there is a bus to Rheinfeld that leaves every half hour. In Rheinfeld, it's nice to pass over the Rhine bridge to the Swiss side and visit the beautiful old town

**Hiking path:** Schweigmatt – Hasel – Hohe Flum – Oberminsel – Degerfelden

**Starting point:** Schweigmatt

**Destination:** Degerfelden

**Length/duration:** 27,4 km / 7 hr

### Characteristics

Flat stage mostly on utility roads and broad trails, without ascents or descents worthy of mention.

### Sights

Erdmannhöhle cave in Hasel, Eichener See lake, outlook tower at Hohe Flum.

### Rest opportunities

Schopfheim-Wiechs: Hotel Berg-haus Hohe Flum, closed: Thu, Fri (tel. +49(0)7622-2782)  
Adelhausen: Dinkelberger Hof: open: Tue-Sat from 4pm, Sun from 11am; closed: Mon (tel. +49(0)7627-922162)

### Public transport

To Schweigmatt: Bus/train from Basel via Fahrnau or Schopfheim (ca. 1 hr; 6x daily, Mon-Fri, 5x on Sat).  
From Degerfelden by bus to Rheinfeld, from there by train to Basel (Sun only 3x daily)

### Information

Zeller Bergland Tourismus e. V.  
Schopfheimer Straße 3  
D-79669 Zell im Wiesental  
Telephone +49 (0) 76 25 / 92 40 92  
[www.stadt-zell.de](http://www.stadt-zell.de)

## Stage 13 (east) Degerfelden - Bâle (15.9 km – 4 hr)



Two landscape highlights await hikers in this final stage: the wild and romantic valley Ruschbachtal and the unique beech forest in Grenzach-Wyhlen. Here, the otherwise very docile Dinkelberg shows its wild side. Steep slopes, cliffs, and slippery ravines provides an intense nature experience before reaching the final stop in Basel, an artistic and cultural center.

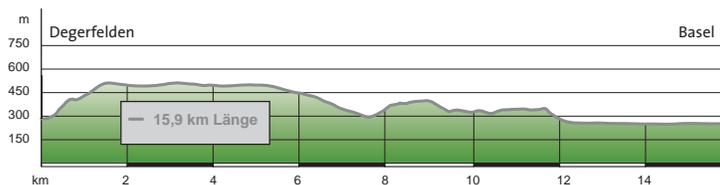


The Westweg leads hikers over narrow trails through clear beech forests ornamented with cliffs from Degerfelden (1) up to Eigenturm (2). From here, the view passes over the upper Rhine near Rheinfelden to Switzerland's nearby Jura mountains. Behind Rührberg (3), the Westweg bends to the left and leads down to Wyhlen. The variant through the valley Ruschbachtal is highly recommended in dry weather.

At the edge of Wyhlen (4), the Brenzacher beech forest begins. It is one-of-a-kind in Germany. The entire slope is covered in permanently green beech trees up to five meters high, all the way to the Hornfelsens cliffs high above Grenzacher Horn. Above that, a natural roof is formed by downy oaks, maples, and beeches. The beech trees were presuma-

bly brought by the Romans and love the warm, dry climate on the steep hillside. The Westweg becomes a narrow trail snaking up and down the beech forest's thicket. It is extremely important to be surefooted on these steep paths. Passing by red stone cliffs on narrow ledges, the trail gains altitude again before descending to Grenzach (5). The final highlights are the Grenzacher Hornfelsens (6) cliffs.

High above the Rhine, the view wanders to the harbor Birsfelder Hafen and on to Basel. After a steep zigzag descent, the Westweg reaches the final tail from Grenzach-Wyhlen and the customs station at the edge of Basel. Follow the Rhine's bank to the Tinguely Museum on the bridge Schwarzwaldbrücke, and from there take the street Schwarzwaldstr. to the train station Badischer Bahnhof (7).



### Tip

When the weather is good, it is highly recommended you take the variant via Ruschbachtal valley. The trail branches off 600 meters below the Swiss border between Rührberg and Wyhlen. The narrow trail snakes through numerous footbridges, passing waterfalls in the wild and romantic ravine. Warning: This trail may still be moist and slippery even after several dry days with no rain.

### Hiking path

Degerfelden – Eigenturm – Rührberg – Ruschbachtal – Grenzach – Basel (Badischer Bahnhof).

**Starting point:** Degerfelden

**Destination:** Basel (Badischer Bahnhof train station)

**Length/duration:** 15.9 km / 4 hr

### Characteristics

Steep ascents and small paths along the upper Rhine

### Sights

Eigenturm tower, Ruschbachtal valley, Buchswald, Hornfelsens cliffs, Tinguely Museum

### Rest opportunities

Rührberghof, Grenzach-Wyhlen: closed Tue, warm kitchen always open, (tel. +49(0)7624.91610)

### Public transport

To Degerfelden: Take train via Basel to Rheinfelden. From there, take the bus.

From Basel: Take train to Freiburg (ICE connections available)

### Information

Tourist-Information Basel  
Am Barfüsserplatz  
Steinenberg 14  
CH-4010 Basel  
Telephone +41 (0) 61 2686868  
www.basel.ch