



TOGETHER FOR THE BENEFIT OF NATURE AND PEOPLE

WELCOME TO THE BLACK FOREST NATIONAL PARK



TIPS FOR VISITING

FOOTPATH RULES



In the national park, always keep to the marked paths. Nature has priority. And wild animals have a right to privacy.

CHECK AHEAD



Before you visit the national park check the national park website or the national park Centre in Ruhestein to find out about any path closures due, for instance, to snow-related hazards or the designation of wildlife quiet zones.



DOGS ON LEADS

In the national park, dogs need to keep to the paths too. They should therefore never be taken off their leads.

LEAVE NOTHING, REMOVE NOTHING



In the national park, you can watch, smell and listen – but you mustn't pick, displace or collect anything. Just remember to take your own waste with you – even the decomposable stuff.

AT HOME IN THE FOREST



Roll out the mattress and dream away next to the campfire? No! Not even bivouacking is allowed in the national park because we want to make sure that the wild animals have as much peace as possible. The only way to spend the night in the park is by booking a pitch in one of the camps run by Trekking Schwarzwald.

HELLO, NICE TO MEET YOU!



I'M FERDY

or FERDINAND, the adventurous wasp beetle

I'M TILLY



or OTILIE, the clever pygmy owl

I'M SEV



SEVERIN, the shy adder

AND I'M LOTTA



KARLOTTA, the cheeky garden dormouse

You've probably already noticed that we're now part of the National Park team! That's because all four of us come from here. Almost every forest dweller knows us – and we've got plenty of forest tales to tell. We also know a lot about nature conservation and the wilderness in the Black Forest National Park.

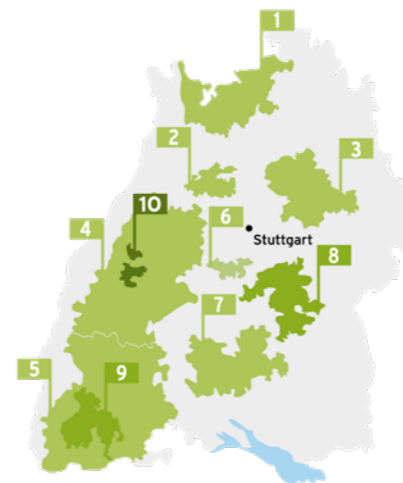
BUT WHAT ACTUALLY IS A NATIONAL PARK?

A **National Park** is an area in which nature is protected and allowed to develop as freely as possible without human interference. This leads to the area becoming a wonderful home for many rare and exciting animals.

COME AND VISIT US ...

... or check out our blog at www.nationalpark-schwarzwald.de/wibidigi

THE MAJOR CONSERVATION AREAS IN BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG (PART OF THE NATURAL NATIONAL LANDSCAPES)



Nature Parks

- 1 Neckartal-Odenwald
- 2 Stromberg-Heuchelberg
- 3 Swabian-Franconian Forest
- 4 Central/North Black Forest
- 5 Southern Black Forest
- 6 Schönbuch
- 7 Upper Danube

The aim of nature parks is to bring human behaviour and economic activity in line with nature, to develop the region and to establish sustainable tourism.

Biosphere Reserves

- 8 Swabian Alb
- 9 Southern Black Forest

Biosphere reserves are cultural landscapes of national importance that should act as models for sustainable development and for the coexistence of humans and nature.

National Parks

- 10 Black Forest

In national parks, one golden rule applies: leave nature to nature. They are refuges for wild animals and plants and therefore essential for biodiversity.



Nationale Naturlandschaften is a governing body for all German national parks, biosphere reserves and certified wildlife habitats, as well as a number of nature parks. Further information can be found at www.nationale-naturlandschaften.de



HOW TO FIND US



National Park Centre Ruhestein
Ruhestein 1, 72270 Baiersbronn
info@nlp.bwl.de · www.nationalpark-schwarzwald.de

Travelling by public transport



Many attractions in the national park and the national park centre in Ruhestein can be reached on public transport. Up-to-date information can be found at: www.nationalpark-schwarzwald.de/de/anreise-kontakt or www.efa-bw.de

Opening times

Tuesday to Sunday (closed on Mondays)

November to April: 10 am to 5 pm

May to October: 10 am to 6 pm

Please note that we are closed on some public holidays and for three weeks in November. Check our website for the latest information about our opening hours.

Publisher: Black Forest National Park
Production: Druckhaus Stil + Find, Leutenbach
Corporate design: Black Forest National Park
Graphic design: JUNG:Kommunikation

Picture credits: Cover: © David Lohmüller; 1: © Charly Ebel; 2: © David Lohmüller; 3: © Charly Ebel; 4: © Walter Finkbeiner; 5, 6: © Daniel Müller



This pamphlet uses paper from responsible sources with the Blue Angel ecolabel.

ONE STEP WILDER

Welcome to the Black Forest National Park! Here, on land covering around 10,000 hectares between Baden-Baden and Freudenstadt, one golden rule has applied since 2014:

LEAVE NATURE TO NATURE.

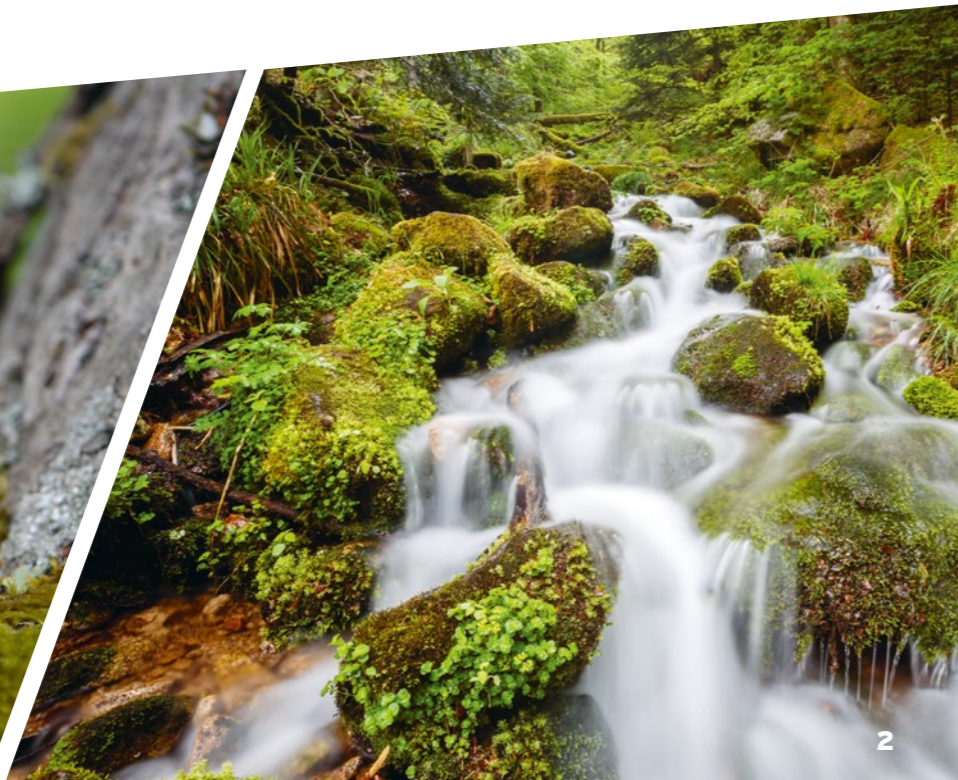
Humans are stepping back and can now watch in amazement as the natural processes unfold. From the rare three-toed woodpecker to the bark beetle – there's room for all in the Black Forest National Park. Trees that would normally reach only a third of their natural age in managed forests can live for hundreds of years here before making way for the next generation. And from what appears to be deadwood, new life begins to sprout. Everything here is becoming one step wilder.

Experience the wilderness for yourself

The National Park is a home for animals and plants, but also for us humans too. Visitors can go hiking and cycling, do winter sports, or simply relax and observe. Leave the hustle and bustle of daily life behind and immerse yourself in the beauty of nature. Explore the developing wilderness and discover little wonders. The Park's annual programme offers a wide range of tours and lectures. Kindergartens, school classes and associations can explore the National Park in the company of our wildlife education team.

Image 1: Garden dormouse

Image 2: Cascading stream



ONE PARK THREE ZONES



Today, many signs of human economic activity still exist in the Black Forest National Park, which is why it is known as a developing National Park. This means that before the majority of the area is left solely to nature – by 2044 at the latest – limited human support may still be provided. At present, there are three areas with varying levels of protection:

Core zone

In the core zone, nature is in charge. Only paths and visitor facilities in these areas are maintained. Animals and plants have priority otherwise.

Developing zone

Included in the developing zone are areas that still need a guiding hand before the rule of 'leaving nature to nature' applies here too. For instance, moorlands that are being re-naturalised.

Managed zone

25 percent of the National Park's area will be maintained permanently – for instance, to protect bordering forests from bark beetles. The wet heathlands also fall into this category due to them being classified as special habitats.



WILDERNESS IS THE PRESERVATION OF THE WORLD.

Henry David Thoreau

Scenic diversity

There's so much to discover in the National Park: dark forests, idyllic valleys, peaceful cirque lakes, moorlands, rugged outcrops, treeless ridges and the heathlands that provide a habitat for capercaillies, adders and many other, often rare, species. It's no wonder the fastest bird in the world, the peregrine falcon, and Europe's smallest owl, the pygmy owl, are at home here. The National Park is divided into two areas: a northern part focused around the Hoher Ochsenkopf peak and a southern part in the Ruhestein area. This growing wilderness can be experienced in a particularly vivid way on the Lothar, Wilderness and Lynx Trails or on the Allerheiligen circular path.

Getting curious? More information can be found on our website: www.nationalpark-schwarzwald.de



Image 3: Honey fungus on deadwood

Image 4: Pigmy owl

Image 5: Viewing tower at the National Park Centre