



ERZGEBIRGE
DIE ERLEBNISHEIMAT

“GLÜCK AUF!” TO A WORLD HERITAGE SITE FULL OF WONDERS!

Discovering the Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří Mining Region



Europäische Union. Europäischer
Fonds für regionale Entwicklung.
Evropská unie. Evropský fond pro
regionální rozvoj.



Ahoj sousede. Hallo Nachbar.
Interreg V A / 2014 – 2020



Idyllic landscapes, unique river valleys...

... and picturesque spots dotted along the German/Czech border have been forged over more than 800 years of mining history – a history to which the Erzgebirge owes its wealth, its name and its economic significance. In July 2019 the Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří Mining Region was awarded UNESCO World Heritage status. The site comprises 22 component parts: 17 in Saxony (Germany) and five in Czechia. Taken together, these demonstrate the extraordinary universal value of this place; they are testament to the region's mining heritage, and representative of many other mining communities and artefacts.

Our World Heritage Site consists of over 400 individual elements. However, not all of them are used for tourism, or open regularly. This brochure lists the museums, mines, exhibitions and other attractions in the Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří Mining Region that have regular opening hours.

Additional opening times and events can be found at:
www.erzgebirge-bewegt.de or www.erzgebirge-tourismus.de

1ST WEEKEND IN JUNE

Mining Adventure Days to celebrate UNESCO World Heritage Site Day in Germany!

This weekend allows you a rare peek behind doors that would otherwise be closed, with special guided tours of mines and museums and mining tours of the Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří Mining Region.

www.erzgebirge-tourismus.de/bergbauerlebnistage



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WORLD HERITAGE

With tradition and passion

Its rich deposits, predominantly of silver, tin, cobalt and uranium forged the character of the Erzgebirge and paved the way for pioneering accomplishments that had a lasting impact on the development of other mining regions across the globe. Mining brought with it many new inventions that stood the test of time: the Ehrenfriedersdorfer Kunstzeug water-pumping system (1540), the Nasspochwerke water-powered stamp mill (1507) and the large-scale water management system that supplied mines with motive water (from 1558). Its global reach was further consolidated by the outstanding writing that emerged from the region, including the first printed book on mining by Ulrich Rülein von Calw (1505), *De re metallica* and other writings by Georgius Agricola, and *Sylvicultura oeconomica oder haufwirthliche Nachricht und Naturmäßige Anweisung zur wilden Baum-Zucht* (News and Instructions for the Natural Growing of Wild Trees) by Hans Carl von Carlowitz, who was also considered the father of sustainable forestry. Mining in the Erzgebirge was supervised by the government, and impacted on all areas of society.



Early mining codes played a decisive role here. The first mining code was drawn up in Freiberg in 1300. The Annaberg mining code, which formed the basis for large parts of mining law, followed in 1509. Mining codes provided for mining administrations, which safeguarded miners' civil rights and made decisions on, and monitored, key economic and technical issues. In addition, silver Thaler coins were minted in Jáchymov for the first time in 1520, and these remained the blueprint for many European countries' monetary systems for several centuries. Today they are considered to be a precursor to the dollar. Freiberg University of Mining and Technology, founded in 1765, remains the oldest mining education institution in the world, providing first-class training for the mining sector.

SILVER Between 1460 and 1560 the amount of silver extracted in Saxony and Bohemia shot up by 600 %, meaning that the Erzgebirge held a leading position in the global market.

COBALT The cobalt factories established between 1641 and 1649 formed a cartel for the production of cobalt blue, which controlled Europe's cobalt blue market for over 100 years.

Tin Between the 14th and 16th centuries, Erzgebirge tin production moved swiftly up the rankings, passing even Cornwall in South West England, remaining the world's leading tin producer until the second half of the 19th century.

IRON Iron was an essential raw material for the manufacture of tools and machines, gaining in importance as silver ore mining took off and numerous towns and cities were established. The region's new-fangled tin plate production in the 17th/18th centuries provided further impetus for the mining and processing of iron ore.

URANIUM The selected uranium landscapes are of major importance and bear witness to the remarkable role played by the Erzgebirge in the extraction of uranium ore.



SAXON COMPONENT PARTS

(SILVER) 1-DE Dippoldiswalde Medieval Silver Mines:

The outstanding archaeological relics of underground silver mining dating from the late 12th and early 13th centuries are an extraordinary testament to medieval mining technology.

(TIN) 2-DE Altenberg-Zinnwald Mining Landscape:

A superb example of a multi-layered tin-mining landscape, demonstrating that various tin ore deposits were mined here, as well as the existence of pioneering water-management systems and new ore-processing technologies dating back to the 15th century.

(TIN) 3-DE The closely associated component part of the administrative centre of Lauenstein:

Not only an excellent example of a settlement in the eastern Erzgebirge cross-border region, but also an especially clear demonstration of the bond between Saxony and Bohemia, and of manorial tin mining in the Zinnwald.

(SILVER) 4-DE Freiberg Mining Landscape:

A prime example of the dominant influence of silver mining, this was where the region's first major silver rush began. The landscape includes extraordinarily complex evidence of silver mining and its almost continuous development from the 12th century through to the 20th century.

(SILVER) 5-DE Hoher Forst Mining Landscape:

These remarkable archaeological remains of silver mining from the 14th and 15th centuries and a late-medieval fortified settlement provide exceptional evidence of mining-related settlement during the first mining period, and the role of the local nobility in mining.

(COBALT) 6-DE Schneeberg Mining Landscape:

These excellently preserved mining artefacts highlight the leading role of the Erzgebirge region in the mining and processing of cobalt ores from the 17th to the 18th century. Although Schneeberg was originally a silver-mining town, it owes its current baroque appearance to cobalt mining.

(COBALT) 7-DE Schindlers Werk Blue Dye Factory:

A remarkably well-preserved example of a smelting site and mine factory that produced cobalt blue from the 17th to the 19th century. The entire production complex and the social and administrative infrastructure are almost completely preserved.

(SILVER) 8-DE Annaberg-Frohnau Mining Landscape:

In 1496, Annaberg became the first planned mining town in the region, due to the rich silver deposits found in the Frohnau mining landscape. The technological systems located both above and below ground document the transition from silver mining to cobalt extraction, then to the mining of bismuth, cobalt and nickel ore in the 18th century, all the way through to uranium mining in the central Erzgebirge region during the final mining period.

(SILVER) 9-DE Pöhlberg Mining Landscape:

The mine at Pöhlberg became one of the most important silver and copper mines in the region. The silver-bearing copper ore mined here was processed at the liquation works complex in Grünthal (14-DE), which was owned by the entrepreneurial Uthmann family from 1550.

(TIN) (URANIUM) 10-DE Buchholz Mining Landscape:

This mining landscape, located southwest of Buchholz, bears witness to the tin mining that was undertaken here from the 15th to the late-18th century, in the middle of a silver-mining landscape. In 1501, mining activity led to the founding of the mining town St. Katharinenberg im Buchholz, which increasingly competed with the neighbouring mining town of Annaberg.

(SILVER) 11-DE Historical old town of Marienberg, and the associated (SILVER) 12-DE mining landscape of Lauta:

The mining town of Marienberg is an extraordinary example of a planned mining town, initially founded on free, previously undeveloped land located directly next to an area of rich and varied ore deposits. The town was laid out on the Renaissance model, used here for the first time in a town north of the Alps. Both the town of Marienberg and its mining landscape represent the final phase of urban and landscape development in the Erzgebirge in connection with silver mining in the 16th century.

(TIN) 13-DE Ehrenfriedersdorf Mining Landscape:

The "Ehrenfriedersdorfer Kunstgezeug" water-pumping system was developed here in the 16th century, and was the world's foremost drainage technology for around 200 years. The mining landscape is an excellent example of tin-ore mining, which began in the 13th century at the Sauberg.

(SILVER) 14-DE In the Saigerhütten [liqutation works]

complex, Grünthal: This liqutation complex is in excellent condition, and is thus a rare example of a pre-industrial, central metallurgical site. The complex was used to process and smelt silver-bearing copper ore in order to extract silver and copper by the process of liqutation.

(TIN) 15-DE Eibenstock Mining Landscape:

The high concentration of collapsed shafts, surface workings, mines both above and below ground, processing sites and former ditches, archaeological remains of ore-crushing and charcoal-burning sites, and ore transportation routes, interspersed with small agricultural spaces throughout (14th to 19th century), is quite remarkable.

(IRON) 16-DE Rother Berg Mining Landscape:

The high demand for tools, machines and products made of iron was closely linked to silver mining in the region. The Erlahammer is a well-preserved hammer mill, which was in use from the 17th to the 19th century.

(URANIUM) 17-DE Uranium Mining Landscape:

The mining landscape bears witness to the leading role played by the Erzgebirge in uranium production, and to the large-scale decontamination and landscape restoration programme, unique in the world, which began in the early 1990s and set new international standards for the rehabilitation of former mining areas.

CZECH COMPONENT PARTS**(SILVER) (URANIUM) 18-CZ Jáchymov Mining Landscape:**

For a brief time in the 16th century, Jáchymov was the most important silver mining area not only in the Erzgebirge region, but also in Europe and the world. As well as being known for silver mining, it is closely linked with the discovery of the radioactive elements radium and polonium by Marie and Pierre Curie, and with the uranium era of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

(TIN) (IRON) 19-CZ Abertamy – Boží Dar – Horní Blatná Mining Landscape:

The Bludná tin ore and iron ore field and the Kaff ore field in Zlatý Kopec, in the western Bohemian Erzgebirge, are outstanding examples of iron mining between the 16th and 20th centuries. The mining town of Horní Blatná is the only example of a planned 16th-century mining town that was not located close to silver ore deposits.

(URANIUM) 20-CZ Red Tower of Death:

This rare example of a uranium processing and sorting complex illustrates the dark side of uranium mining after World War II. In the 1950s, political prisoners were forced to work at the processing plant under brutal conditions. Not only were they subjected to abuse and mistreatment, but they were also constantly bombarded with high levels of radiation and contaminated with radioactive materials.

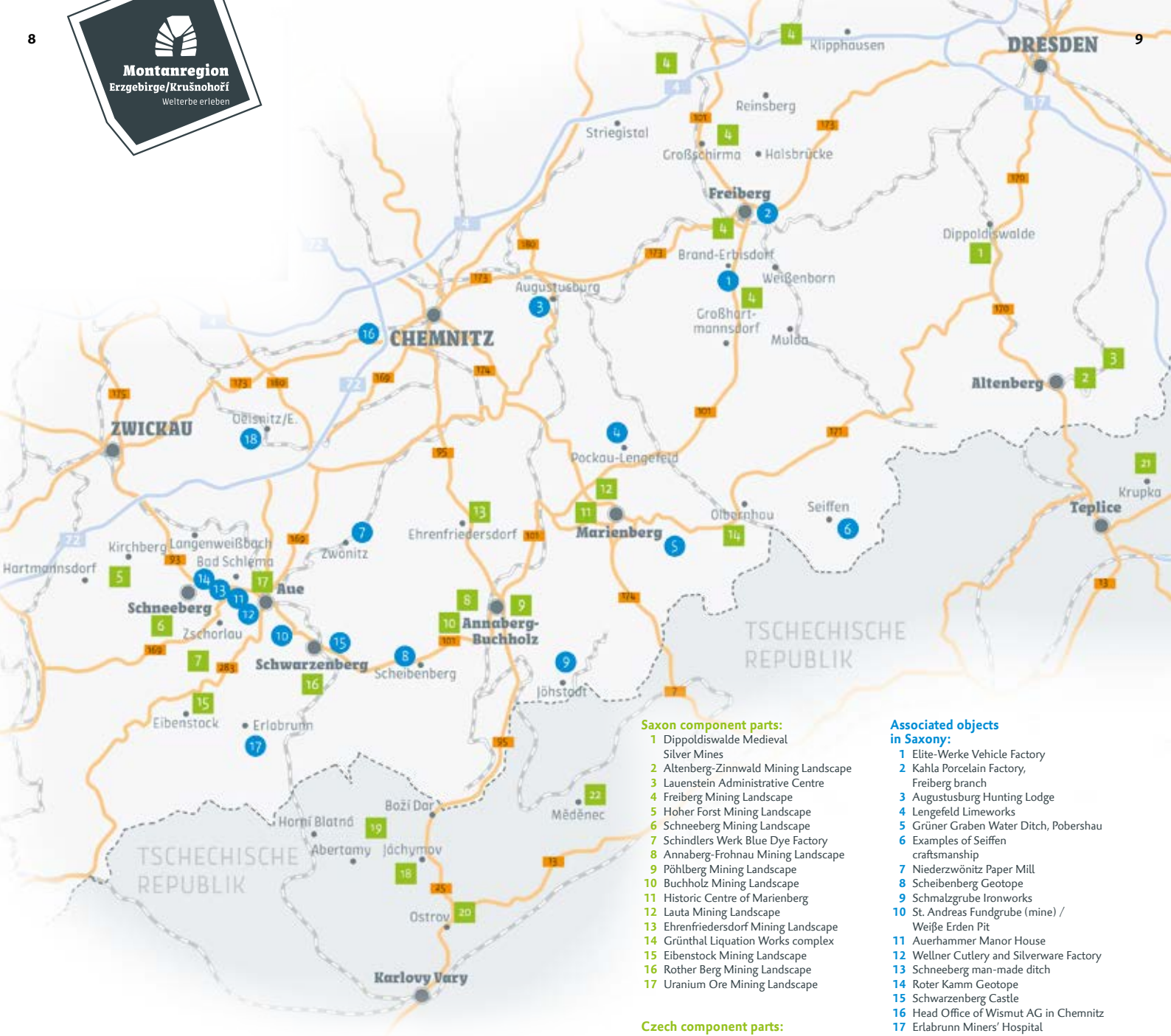
(TIN) 21-CZ Krupka Mining Landscape:

The medieval mining town of Krupka and its mining landscape is an excellent example of how different tin deposits were mined here between the 13th and 20th centuries. The landscape is characterised by a high density of mine workings ranging from the late medieval to the early modern period positioned according to the mining laws in force at the time (size and layout of mining fields).

(IRON) 22-CZ Vrch Mědník (Kupferberg) Mining Landscape:

This is an authentic mining landscape located in the central Bohemian Erzgebirge, which provides striking evidence of the gradual exploration for and extraction of iron and copper ore from skarn mineralisations between the 15th and 19th centuries.





Saxon component parts:

- 1 Dippoldiswalde Medieval Silver Mines
- 2 Altenberg-Zinnwald Mining Landscape
- 3 Lauenstein Administrative Centre
- 4 Freiberg Mining Landscape
- 5 Hoher Forst Mining Landscape
- 6 Schneeberg Mining Landscape
- 7 Schindlers Werk Blue Dye Factory
- 8 Annaberg-Frohnau Mining Landscape
- 9 Pöhlberg Mining Landscape
- 10 Buchholz Mining Landscape
- 11 Historic Centre of Marienberg
- 12 Lauta Mining Landscape
- 13 Ehrenfriedersdorf Mining Landscape
- 14 Grünthal Liquefaction Works complex
- 15 Eibenstock Mining Landscape
- 16 Rother Berg Mining Landscape
- 17 Uranium Ore Mining Landscape

Czech component parts:

- 18 Jáchymov Mining Cultural Landscape
- 19 Abertamy – Boží Dar – Horní Blatná Mining Landscape
- 20 Red Tower of Death
- 21 Krupka Mining Cultural Landscape
- 22 Vrch Médník (Kupferberg) Mining Cultural Landscape

Associated objects in Saxony:

- 1 Elite-Werke Vehicle Factory
- 2 Kahla Porcelain Factory, Freiberg branch
- 3 Augustusburg Hunting Lodge
- 4 Lengfeld Limeworks
- 5 Grüner Graben Water Ditch, Pobershau
- 6 Examples of Seiffen craftsmanship
- 7 Niederzönitz Paper Mill
- 8 Scheibenberg Geotope
- 9 Schmalzgrube Ironworks
- 10 St. Andreas Fundgrube (mine) / Weiße Erden Pit
- 11 Auerhammer Manor House
- 12 Wellner Cutlery and Silverware Factory
- 13 Schneeberg man-made ditch
- 14 Roter Kamm Geotope
- 15 Schwarzenberg Castle
- 16 Head Office of Wismut AG in Chemnitz
- 17 Erlabrunn Miners' Hospital
- 18 Evidence of coal mining in Oelsnitz/Erzgebirge



WORLD HERITAGE

with mountain spirit

Fascinating mining towns and magnificent churches

With the discovery of silver, wealth began to pour into the Erzgebirge, and more and more people flocked here. New mining towns were founded with special rights and tax benefits in order to encourage rapid development and to provide the new citizens, miners and administrative buildings with accommodation close to the deposits. Over 30 such mining towns were established in the Erzgebirge. The imposing, often richly furnished hall churches belonging to the newly founded mining towns bear witness to this prosperity – and to the gratitude of the local nobility and miners.

The mining altar in St. Anne's Church in Annaberg-Buchholz (1499 – 1525) illustrates how mining evolved in the region in the early 16th century. As well as the legend of Daniel Knappe striking the first vein of silver, the painting also depicts mining processes and technologies, and the various professional guilds and landscapes of the Erzgebirge, which were so strongly shaped by mining. The Miners' Church of St. Mary stands on Annaberg marketplace; it was commissioned by the local miners' union and miners from the Annaberg ore field, specifically as a place for miners to pray. The building costs were covered largely by miners' weekly union contributions. Inside the church is the treasured miners' nativity scene.

The Cathedral in the historical centre of Freiberg is richly furnished with its tulip pulpit, Gottfried Silbermann's organ and the famous Golden Gate.

An altar by Lukas Cranach the Elder can be admired at St. Wolfgangskirche in Schneeberg, also known as the Miners' Cathedral. The unique town of Marienberg reveals a touch of Italian Renaissance thinking. With a regular layout, a central, square marketplace and a right-angled street system, it bears all the hallmarks of an "ideal town". Not far from the marketplace is the late Gothic Church of St. Mary, an architectural accomplishment that goes back to the heyday of silver mining. Three new mining towns sprang up almost at the same time between 1529 and 1533: Abertamy, Boží Dar and Horní Blatná. Horní Blatná and Boží Dar were founded by the Saxon Elector John Frederick on previously undeveloped land and only incorporated into the Kingdom of Bohemia in 1546. The historical town centre and grand buildings continue to draw visitors even today.



SCHNEEBERG

www.schneeberg.de

SCHWARZENBERG

www.schwarzenberg.de

ANNABERG-BUCHHOLZ

www.annaberg-buchholz.de

FREIBERG

www.freiberg.de

MARIENBERG

www.marienberg.de

OLBERNHAU

www.olbernhau.de

DIPPOLDISWALDE

www.dippoldiswalde.de

ALTENBERG

www.altenberg.de

JÁCHYMOV/TSCHECHIEN

www.mestojachymov.cz

HORNÍ BLATNA/TSCHECHIEN

www.horni-blatna.cz/de

BOŽÍ DAR/TSCHECHIEN

www.bozi-dar.eu/de

KRUPKA/TSCHECHIEN

www.krupka-mesto.cz



Unique cultural gems

The wealth of history and culture in the Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří Mining Region is reflected in the museums, palaces and exhibitions of the mining towns just as much as in their imposing and splendidly decorated hall churches. Nature's own works of art gleam at Freudenstein Castle in Freiberg: the minerals that form part of the internationally acclaimed terra mineralia collection, painstakingly put together by Swiss collector Erika Pohl-Ströher.

MiBERZ – the Museum of Medieval Mining in the Erzgebirge – is a hidden gem at Dippoldiswalde Castle, exhibiting extraordinary archaeological finds dating back to the 12th century. A particular highlight is an original windlass dating back to the early days of silver ore mining in the Erzgebirge.

And Lauenstein Castle is almost as old as this. Take an entertaining trip through over 800 years of Saxon history at the Renaissance-era Lauenstein Castle. The Castle was owned for almost 300 years by the von Büнау family, who were instrumental in the development of mining in the Saxon Erzgebirge.

“Das macht nach Adam Ries” – the old German saying that means you've performed a calculation correctly – pays tribute to the famous mathematician himself. Adam Ries' former school now houses the museum, which explains his teachings, as set down in his book *Rechnung auff der Linihen und Federn* (“calculating on a calculating board”). Original editions of his arithmetic books are displayed in the Museum's treasury.

The Huthaus Einigkeit museum in Brand-Erbisdorf, Perla Castrum at Schwarzenberg Castle and the Saxon-Bohemian Erzgebirge Museum, located in the historical mining store house in Marienberg, all provide a vivid illustration of the history of the Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří Mining Region. The Jáchymov Town Museum tells the story of the origins of the dollar. From 1520, Joachimsthaler (silver Thaler coins) were minted here in their thousands, and significantly influenced the development of the European, and later global, currency system.

**Osterzgebirgsmuseum
(Eastern Erzgebirge Museum)**
Lauenstein Castle
District of Lauenstein
01778 Altenberg, Germany
Tel +49 (0) 35054 25402
www.schloss-lauenstein.de

terra mineralia
Freudenstein Castle
Schloßplatz 4
09599 Freiberg
Tel +49 (0) 3731 394654
www.terra-mineralia.de

Adam-Ries-Museum
Johannissgasse 23
09456 Annaberg-Buchholz
Tel +49 (0) 3733 429086
www.adam-ries-bund.de

“Huthaus Einigkeit” Museum
Jahnstraße 14
09618 Brand-Erbisdorf
Tel +49 (0) 37322 50699
www.brand-erbisdorf.de

**Perla Castrum
Schloss Schwarzenberg
(Schwarzenberg Castle)**
Obere Schloßstraße 36
08340 Schwarzenberg
Tel +49 (0) 3774 23389
www.perlacastrum.de

**MiBERZ – Museum für
mittelalterlichen Bergbau
im Erzgebirge
(Museum of Medieval
Mining in the Erzgebirge)**
Kirchplatz 8
01744 Dippoldiswalde
Tel +49 (0) 3504 612629
www.miberz.de

**Sächs.-Böhm. Erzgebirge
Museum in Marienberg
Store House**
Am Kaiserteich 3
09496 Marienberg
Tel +49 (0) 3735 6681290
www.marienberg.de

**Schloss Augustusburg
(Augustusburg Castle)**
09573 Augustusburg
Tel +49 (0) 37291 3800
www.die-sehenswerten-drei.de

Jáchymov Town Museum
Nám. Republiky 37
362 51 Jáchymov,
Czech Republic
Tel. +420 736 754 831
www.bozi-dar.eu/de/muzeum-jachymov





WORLD HERITAGE

with depth

Underground treasure chambers

With the first finds of silver in 1168, in what is now the town of Freiberg, mining soon began to dominate the region. Silver, tin, cobalt, iron and uranium were all mined here, not to mention other raw materials such as kaolin, chalk and black coal. Numerous visitors' mines demonstrate different ore extraction techniques, show the exhausting work done by the men underground, and shed light on the miners' inventiveness and ingenuity. At the Ehrenfriedersdorf Visitors' Tin Mine, for example, visitors can marvel at the reconstructed water wheel that previously formed part of the Ehrenfriedersdorfer Kunstgezeug water system, in its original chamber. This pumping system solved the problem of how to drain water from deep mine areas, and was the foremost water-hoisting technology for over 200 years.

Visitors to the Reiche Zeche Silver Mine in Freiberg can trace the development of mining from the medieval period up until the present day – and even get a glimpse of what the future holds. Where once miners used to dig for silver, students and scientists now delve into the subject.

The Zinnwald Visitors' Mine was once a major tin ore deposit, and cross-border mining between Saxony and Bohemia took place here for centuries. The dimensions of some of the tin mining chambers and shafts are extraordinary.

At the Johannesstollen adit, for example, not far from Zlatý Kopec, there is a chamber measuring 60 x 20 m, with ceilings towering to heights of 10 to 20 m.

Visitors to the Markus-Röhling Adit in Frohnau see extraordinary evidence from the silver and cobalt mining era, and of uranium mining, too.

The Im Gößner silver mine right in the historical centre of Annaberg-Buchholz is also well worth a visit.

Visitors' Mine "Vereint Zwitterfeld zu Zinnwald"

Goetheweg 8
01773 Altenberg
Tel +49 (0) 35056 31344
www.besucherbergwerk-zinnwald.de

Silberbergwerk Freiberg/ Himmelfahrt Fundgrube Freiberg/Alte Elisabeth mines

Fuchsmühlenweg 9
09599 Freiberg
Tel +49 (0) 3731 394571
www.silberbergwerk-freiberg.de

Zinngrube Ehrenfriedersdorf (Ehrenfriedersdorf Tin Mine)

Am Sauberg 1
09427 Ehrenfriedersdorf
Tel +49 (0) 37341 2557
www.zinngrube.de

Visitors' Mine "Markus-Röhling-Stollen" Frohnau

Sehmatalstraße 15
09456 Annaberg-Buchholz
OT Frohnau
Tel +49 (0) 3733 52979
www.roehling-stolln.de

Erzgebirge Museum with "Im Gößner" silver mine

Große Kirchgasse 16
09456 Annaberg-Buchholz
Tel +49 (0) 3733 23497
www.annaberg-buchholz.de/erzgebirgsmuseum

Horse gin at the Rudolphschacht

Lauter Hauptstraße 12
09496 Marienberg
Tel +49 (0) 3735 608968
www.marienberg.de

Štola Johannes/ Johannestollen adit

Boží Dar/Czechia
Tel +420 603 539 020
www.stolajohannes.cz/de

Štola Starý Martin/ Visitors' Mine

Alter Martin
41742 Krupka/Czechia
Tel. +420 724 260 711
www.krupka-mesto.cz

Štola č.1/Adit No. 1

Štola č.1
Jáchymov/Czechia
Tel +420 601 289 121
www.bozidar.cz/de/natur/berglandschaft

Důl Mauritius/Mauritius Mine with Krystof adit

Abertamy/Czechia
Tel +420 608 205 940
www.dulmauritius.cz/de



WORLD HERITAGE

With clout



World-class ingenuity

Trailblazing inventions and technologies developed here in the Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří Mining Region – gaining worldwide significance – demonstrate just how inventive the miners of the day were, and how interesting the Erzgebirge region was, and is, to scholars.

The Wäsche IV (ore washer) at the Altenberg Museum of Mining exemplifies the wet-stamping process developed in the 16th century Erzgebirge, which significantly improved yield in the processing of inferior tin ore.

The liquation process enabled silver to be extracted from silver-bearing copper ore. The Olbernhau Liquation Works is the only remaining example of its kind in Europe. The Grünthal roofing copper manufactured here was used for the roofs of buildings such as St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna and the Hotel Adlon in Berlin.

The Siebenschlehen Stamp Mill in Schneeberg is one of the most important monuments in cobalt mining. The manufacture of cobalt blue was especially important for Meissen porcelain, but in the 17th and 18th centuries, exports of cobalt blue were also highly sought-after all over the world.

Until 1502, the mint for the newly established town of Annaberg was located at the Frohnauer Hammer complex in Annaberg-Buchholz. Silver, copper and iron were processed here until 1904. Zwönitz Paper Mill is one of the best-preserved paper factories in Germany, and a rare example of paper being produced and supplied to the mining industry in the 16th century. "Büttenpapier" (hand-made paper) was produced here until 1873.

Kalkwerk Lengefeld Limeworks is a representative ensemble of monuments; chalk was fired in furnaces here and used in the surrounding mining towns, as well as for the construction of the Augustusburg Hunting Lodge.

In 1568, Elector Augustus I of Saxony ordered a hunting lodge be built in Schellenberg. Due to its altitude, water could only be supplied through the application of mining technology. The 130-metre well is located in the farmyard, and can still be inspected today on a guided tour of Augustusburg Castle.



Saigerhütte Olbernhau (Liquation Works) Museum

In der Hütte 10
09526 Olbernhau
Tel +49 (0) 37360 73367
www.olbernhau.de



Bergbaumuseum Altenberg (Altenberg Mining Museum)

Mühlenstraße 2
01773 Altenberg
Tel +49 (0) 35056 31703
www.bergbaumuseum-altenberg.de



Siebenschlehen Pochwerk (Stamp Mill)

Lindenauer Straße 22
08289 Schneeberg
Tel +49 (0) 3772 22636
www.museum-schneeberg.de



Technisches Museum Frohnauer Hammer (Technical Museum)

Sehmatalstraße 3
09456 Annaberg-Buchholz
OT Frohnau
Tel +49 (0) 3733 22000
www.annaberg-buchholz.de/hammer

Schloss Augustusburg (Augustusburg Castle)/ Well House

09573 Augustusburg
Tel +49 (0) 37291 3800
www.die-sehenswerten-drei.de

Technisches Museum Papiermühle (Paper Mill Technical Museum)

Niederzwönitzer Str. 62a
08297 Zwönitz
Tel +49 (0) 37754 2690
www.zwoenitz.de

Bergbaumuseum Oelsnitz/Erzgeb. (Oelsnitz/Erzgebirge Mining Museum)

Pflockenstraße 28
09376 Oelsnitz/Erzgebirge
Tel +49 (0) 37298 93940
www.bergbaumuseum-oelsnitz.de



**WORLD
HERITAGE**

With a twist

Traditional handicrafts and lively tradition

The region was dominated by mining for a very long time, and mining and the wealth it produced had a marked influence on the art of the Erzgebirge for many centuries. Understandably it became a central motif in religious and secular art. It also gave rise to the famous Christmas traditions of the Erzgebirge, as well as the typical crafts, customs and practices that live on to this day. When the ore deposits began to dry up at the end of the 16th century, and mining no longer presented a viable way to earn a living, miners put their manual skills to use working stone and wood. These handicrafts, particularly wood-carving, brought them extra income. The people of the Erzgebirge still pass on their unique craftsmanship techniques from generation to generation today: Reifendrehen (a special form of woodturning) and Spanbaumstechen (wood-shaving trees) in particular are unlike any other techniques in the world. Folk artefacts that emerged from mining or were influenced by it – Schwibbogen (finely carved candle holders), Weihnachtsberge (Christmas model mountains), pyramids, Buckelbergwerke (portable mining displays) and incense-burning figurines – all feature among the customs of the Erzgebirge, which are unique in the world.

An impressive array of angels, miners, nutcrackers, composite figures and wonderful toys is on display at the Factory of Dreams in Annaberg-Buchholz. Just like at Terra Mineralia in Freiberg, the objects were carefully curated by Swiss collector Erika Pohl-Ströher. Over 1,000 imaginatively exhibited objects spanning four hundred years of mining history give visitors an insight into the Christmas practices of the Erzgebirge region, and how local people used to live.

Seiffen has a well-earned reputation as “Germany’s toybox”, thanks in large part to the practice of Reifendrehen, a special form of plate and spindle turning. The Seiffen Toy Museum and its outdoor display allow visitors to continue to experience the old techniques.

In, out, across – it may sound straightforward, but it produces the most intricately crafted lace. At the start of the 16th century, bobbin lace was in high demand as decoration for clothing. As the area prospered as a result of mining, bobbin lace-making also began to flourish alongside it. Traditional bobbin lace-making is still practised at the Frohnauer Hammer complex today. Take a look over the shoulders of expert bobbin lace-makers as they go about their work. Stunning examples of bobbin lace work can also be seen at the Miners’ Folk Art Museum.



Erzgebirgisches Spielzeugmuseum Seiffen (Seiffen Toy Museum) with open-air museum
Hauptstraße 73
09548 Kurort Seiffen/Erzgeb.
Tel +49 (0) 37362 17019
www.spielzeugmuseum-seiffen.de

Manufaktur der Träume Annaberg-Buchholz (Factory of Dreams)
Buchholzer Straße 2
09456 Annaberg-Buchholz
Tel +49 (0) 3733 19433
www.annaberg-buchholz.de/manufaktur-der-traeume

Museum für bergmännische Volkskunst (Miners’ Folk Art Museum)
Obere Zobelgasse 1
08289 Schneeberg
Tel +49 (0) 3772 22446
www.museum-schneeberg.de

Technisches Museum Frohnauer Hammer (Technical Museum)
Sehmatalstraße 3
09456 Annaberg-Buchholz
OT Frohnau
Tel +49 (0) 3733 22000
www.annaberg-buchholz.de/hammer





WORLD HERITAGE

*that marches to the
beat of its own drum*

Everything comes from the mine...

It's the beating heart of an Erzgebirge Christmas: proud men and women parading through their mining towns dressed in ceremonial costumes. Over 15 mining processions, complete with rousing mining music, welcome visitors to the festive season in the Erzgebirge every year. Many of these old mining traditions have their roots in religion, and this continues to be reflected today in the devoutness of the people, in their seasonal customs, their music and their art. The miners' costumes are based on historical templates, with their style, colour and accessories identifying the wearer's district, the historical period they are from, and what role they play in mining in Saxony. Parades take place on public holidays in the mining towns and administrative centres, to honour and pledge allegiance to state dignitaries. Erzgebirge residents continue to regard the mining parades as an important cultural tradition. The Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří Mining Region is an exceptional example of the far-reaching influence of mining on all the immaterial aspects of society: the vibrant traditions, ideas and beliefs of Erzgebirge culture.

In many places, the Christmas market opens with a traditional ceremony during the first weekend in Advent, when the town's Christmas pyramid is set in motion. Smaller towns and villages are also inviting places to visit, serving up plenty of mulled wine and lentil soup at their Christmas markets.

All dates for the annual miners' parades and Christmas markets can be found at:

www.erzgebirge-tourismus.de/weihnachtszeit



But miners' parades aren't only reserved for Christmas. We in the Erzgebirge put a great deal of passion and enthusiasm into maintaining our mining and metallurgical customs. Miners' parades are also held to celebrate special occasions. Every year on 22 July, for example, the Bergstreittag (Miners' Dispute Day) commemorates the wage strike by Schneeberg miners in 1496. The owners of the silver mine had attempted to cut the weekly wage from ten to nine Groschen in order to cover growing production costs. However, they hadn't reckoned on the miners. In 1498, with yet another attempt having been made to reduce weekly wages, the miners left the town carrying their guild's banner, and occupied nearby Wolfsberg. Bowing to this pressure, the powers-that-be revoked their decision and the miners returned to the town. They were reverent and religious people, and held a special service of thanksgiving at the church. From then on, the Schneeberg Streittag became a special occasion, complete with solemn mining services and processions. In 1665, 22 July was declared a public holiday by Elector Johann Georg II, to commemorate the Streittag. To this day, the town of Schneeberg holds a miners' parade, with over 600 participants, and a special miners' service at St. Wolfgang's Church, also known as the Miners' Cathedral. After the service, it's off to the market square for some traditional Erzgebirge mining music. On the last Sunday of June every year, Freiberg invites locals and visitors to discover the history of the Silver City at its annual Mining Festival, featuring a big traditional miners' parade.

BERGPARADEN



WORLD HERITAGE

With a (hi)story

On the trail of hidden treasure

The charm and stories of the old mining towns are best discovered on guided tours. Learn all sorts of lots of intriguing facts about the history, sights and traditions of the area. The guides will regale you with all kinds of tales, and let you in on a few local secrets.

But away from the mining towns, too, hiking guides are only too pleased to take guests on a journey of discovery through the local surroundings, showing them the natural wonders of the Erzgebirge and the special features of its mining landscape. Choose from a romantic lamp-lit walk or a moonlight hike, or perhaps a special themed tour on Erzgebirge mining or geology. Your tour and hike leaders also bring Erzgebirge myths and legends vividly to life.

The hiking weeks event always provides an excellent range of exclusive guided tours in the Erzgebirge. The tours run in all seasons, spring, summer, and even winter. Take a snowshoe hike or a cross-country skiing tour through extraordinary cultural landscapes, often covered in deep snow. There are lots of mining artefacts to explore along the hiking and educational trails: heaps and mine openings in the forests, or water management systems and ditches that are preserved in their entirety.

Events and dates can be found at:

www.erzgebirge-tourismus.de/wanderwochen

www.erzgebirge-tourismus.de/gefuehrte-wanderungen

www.erzgebirge-tourismus.de/bergstadtgefluester



WORLD HERITAGE

With wheels



The highs and lows of the Erzgebirge

Fresh air, exercise, freedom! Anyone who enjoys a spot of cycling will fall in love with the Erzgebirge. Cycling in the Erzgebirge has the right tour for you, whatever your preference: a tranquil ride along the river, a leisurely ride with the family along beautiful trails, or a climb up the mountains that takes all your strength.

The Mining Region is the perfect environment for a whole range of excursions on two wheels. Long-distance cycling trails and circular tours pass through idyllic valleys and swathes of unspoiled nature, rewarding you with outstanding views from the Erzgebirge ridge and taking in the beauty of the region's mining towns.

Many of these tours also pass through component parts of the World Heritage Site, inviting visitors to take a fascinating detour into the mountain towns and explore their cultural treasures. But there are plenty of traces of 800 years of mining tradition to be found in nature too. Riverside routes criss-cross the region and are ideal for touring cyclists: the Zschopautalradweg (Zschopau Valley Cycling Trail), the Mulderadweg (Mulde Valley Cycling Trail) and the Flöhatalradweg are three excellent examples.

Explore both sides of the border by bike along the Erzgebirgs-magistrale (170 km on the Czech side) or the Sächsische Mittelgebirge (250 km on the German side) long-distance cycling trails. The Stoneman Miriquidi routes are also a great challenge for cyclists. 292 km across two countries, 13 steep ascents and an elevation gain of 4,900, through centuries of mining tradition, spurred on by the Erzgebirge competitive spirit – that's the Stoneman Miriquidi Road. The Stoneman Miriquidi MTB route runs through the dense forests of the Erzgebirge, a 162 km circuit from Oberwiesenthal and back that really throws down the gauntlet, traversing nine of the highest peaks in the Saxon-Bohemian Erzgebirge, three of which are on the Czech side. Total elevation gains of 4,400 m await to be conquered by brave mountain bikers.

www.erzgebirge-tourismus.de/radfahren/

www.stoneman-miriquidi.com

road.stoneman-miriquidi.com

ERZAppAktiv

Your mobile travel guide in the Erzgebirge



The ERZAppAktiv is free for iOS and Android, and is the ideal travel companion if you want to get active in the Erzgebirge. It displays routes for both winter and summer tours, and also enables you to plan your own trips. It even includes attractions, accommodation and culinary highlights.



Also available on www.erzgebirge-tourismus.de/erzappaktiv

