

Are you ready for a trip to the surrounding area?

The Celtic garden in Steinbach

A walk through the garden shall acquaint the visitor in an illustrative way with the life, the world of work, the culture as well as the nature at the time of the Celts.



Information boards, on the one hand, offer details about the occurrence and significance of the diverse plants, and, on the other hand, also explain Celtic customs, habits, religious ideas and technical achievements.

The NABU (Association of the Conservation of Nature) is responsible for the Celtic garden.

"Triskel"-trail in Steinbach

Anybody who would like to get to know the picturesque surrounding area of the Celtic village reaches the Celtic garden as well as the various places to stop off, as for instance the hut of the Palatine Forest Club and the sports club, via the two trails which are marked with "triskels". The red-marked circular walk is about 4,5 km long, the blue-marked one about 2,5 km.

The "triskel" is a Celtic symbol in the shape of three circles or spirals, which are arranged in an equilateral triangle.



The Celtic path and the Celtic rampart at the Donnersberg

The main plateau of the Donnersberg is surrounded by a construction of ramparts of 8,5 km in length. These ramparts are the remains of the city wall of a large late-Celtic city enclosure, which belongs to the largest early-urban areas of settlement in Central Europe. The Celtic path leads along the various places of excavation within this city enclosure (lat. oppidum).

The Roman "vicus" and the Roman museum in Eisenberg

The collection of the Roman museum shows illustrative findings, reproductions and productions, which allow visitors to experience the everyday life in a small Roman town between the 1st and the 5th century AD. A large part of the findings comes from the nearby Roman settlement of Eisenberg, a so-called "vicus". The people, who lived there, left behind numerous contemporary testimonies, which can be discovered by the visitors during their sightseeing tour.



The adventurous mining world Imsbach

In Palatinate, mining can look back to a long tradition, which, in some areas, dates probably back to the Celtic time. Different raw materials have been won in this region for a long time. The variety of mineral resources, which have been won here during the last two millennia, can be admired in the Palatine mining museum as well as in the two model mines "White Mine" and "Mine Maria" in the former mining village Imsbach. The three new signposted circular walks, which lead past the mines, and which are provided with numerous information boards about the mining past of the village, can be explored off one's own bat or during guided tours all the year round.

This is only a small selection of suggestions we have for your leisure time in the Donnersberg district. We would gladly send you detailed information material.

What about becoming a member?

The registered association "The Celtic village at the Donnersberg", which is responsible for the Celtic village in Steinbach, is happy about every new member. Members have free admission the whole year long.

You receive information under 06357-989626.



Many ways lead to us...

You reach the Celtic village easily via the A 63. Coming from the direction of Mainz, you leave the motorway at the exit Göllheim / Dreisen, coming from the direction of Kaiserslautern, at the exit Winnweiler. From here, it is only a short way to the Celtic village. Railway stations can, for instance, be found in Winnweiler and Kirchheimbolanden.



Information, brochures, and suggestions regarding the arrival with public transport:

Donnersberg-Touristik-Verband

Uhlandstraße 2 · 67292 Kirchheimbolanden
Telephone: 0 63 52 / 17 12 · Fax: 0 63 52 / 71 02 62
www.donnersberg-touristik.de
E-mail: touristik@donnersberg.de

www.keltendorf-steinbach.de

Verbandsgemeinde Winnweiler
Jakobstr. 29 · 67722 Winnweiler
Telephone: 0 63 02 / 60 20 · Fax: 0 63 02 / 6 02 20
www.winnweiler-vg.de

the Celtic village at the Donnersberg

... being in touch with history



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the celtic village at the Donnersberg

The Celtic village in Steinbach is not a typical museum – here, visitors, while making use of all their senses, can follow the traces of a people that lived at the Donnersberg over 2000 years ago.

Thus, there are, besides competent guided tours, numerous offered activities, in which not only children can take part and test their creativity and skilfulness.

Dive into an almost forgotten culture...



The ground plans of a Celtic settlement, which had been discovered near Germersheim (Palatinate), served as a model for the Celtic village in Steinbach. The place of excavation is located between Lingenfeld and Westheim.

On the observation tower, which is 11,5 metres high, visitors of the Celtic village can enjoy the view of the Donnersberg – the highest mountain in Palatinate – on a platform at a height of 8 metres.

The village was built with the support of the EU, the federal state Rhineland-Palatinate and the employment office. The conception and the planning were taken on by Dr. Frank Andraschko, office for applied archaeology (AGIL) in Reppenstedt.

The Celtic method of construction

The six buildings give a good idea about the craftsman's techniques the Celts used to build their houses. There are wooden post and half-timbered constructions, which were made with the help of corresponding tenons in the traditional timber-frame technique. Wooden shingles were used for the roof and the facades were plastered with clay.



Life and crafts

How did the Celts live, work, fight? How were they dressed? What did they eat?

Since the Celts did not leave any written records, the answers to certain questions are difficult. Clues are offered by, among other things, Roman and Greek writings as well as numerous archaeological excavations.

The Celtic village in Steinbach tries to convey to the visitors in an illustrative way as many aspects of the Celtic life as possible.



"He carries a long sword that hangs down on the right, a long shield, lances and a kind of spear."
(Strabo, Greek geographer, 64 BC – 19 AD)



The Celts were skilled smiths.

The Celtic loom, which worked with weights, was operated in a vertical position.



The buildings are equipped differently. Among other things, life-sized figures in Celtic costume, a loom, a Celtic bedroom, household contents, pottery and a smithy with adequate tools can be seen.

Outside and inside the houses, fireplaces can be found, where cooking with herbs according to old recipes takes place.



The visitors become active themselves...

At the weekends, changing activities, such as archery, felting, the construction of arrows, the production of glass pearls or a musical programme are offered besides competent guided tours. Thus, especially children can approach the history of the Celts in a playful and creative way.

During the week, groups consisting of at least 15 people can book all-day or half-day programmes, during which different Celtic craftsman's techniques are presented and afterwards learned by the visitors. The offered activities depend, among other things, on the age and the interests of the participants.

"An essential element of Celtic life was the feast. The most important thing was drinking..."
(Poseidonius, Greek philosopher and historian, ca. 135 – 51 BC)

Special events

Special meals and music were part of the Celtic feast as well. In this respect, numerous special and musical events take place in the Celtic village, for instance, on the occasion of Celtic holidays. You can take the dates from the additional sheet or direct your enquiries to the Donnersberg-Touristik-Verband.



Opening hours ...on the track of the Celts and the Romans

The Celtic village is opened from the end of March until the 1st November on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. For groups consisting of at least 15 people guided tours and workshops are offered on request also on weekdays. Please take the exact opening hours and admission fees from the additional sheet. A competent guided tour as well as a small drink are included in the admission fee.

Arrival/ car parks

You can reach us easily via the A 63. We would gladly send you a detailed description of the route.

In the village centre of Steinbach, there are several signposted parking spaces. It is only a short walk from there to the Celtic village.

Places to stop off

Restaurants and huts of the Palatine Forest Club can be found for instance in Steinbach, Jakobsweiler, Dannenfels, at the Donnersberg, in Imsbach, Börstadt, Breunigweiler and Sippersfeld (e.g. Pfrimmerhof).

In cooperation with the youth hostel, general programmes are offered as well. Detailed information about these programmes can be received directly at the youth hostel in Steinbach under 06357-360.

Accommodation

Over-night accommodation can be found for example in Steinbach, Dannenfels, Dreisen, Imsbach, Winnweiler and Münchweiler. Simply request our free list of accommodation and restaurants.

