

Two Worlds

Just 40 minutes by train from Berlin's »Kurfurstendamm« and close to the state capital of Potsdam, a landscape opens up which is like something from another world – the Nuthe-Nieplitz Lowlands. The nature park presents itself as an oasis where the rural serenity, quiet and wide expanse can be intensively experienced. In the north the lakes are joined together as if on a necklace. The largest is Blankensee, a bird paradise with a 300m wide reed belt. But this is all: in the south of the nature park there is a large conservation area, the »Zinna-Jüterbog-Keilberg Forest«, a former troops training ground. This conservation area contains primarily sandy landscapes, heathland and forests, but also springs, bogs and ponds. If the transition from big city to the lowlands beside the Nuthe and the Nieplitz would be a real shift, then entering this unusual landscape would be like going to a different world of slow pace and silence. The towns and villages disappear from view, the roads peter out in the sand and all human activity falls silent.

All in all, the nature park stretches over 623 sq km from Saarmund in the north to Jüterbog in the west and is bordered by the B101 in the east and in the west by the A9 motorway. It represents the central Brandenburg plateaus and lowlands and adjoins Fläming in the south. There is therefore by no means

just flat land; hikers and cyclists can really build up a sweat. In the »Zinna-Jüterbog-Keilberg Forest« conservation area the early moraine of the Saale ice age (170,000 years ago) meets the late morain of the last ice age, which ended 12,000 years ago. Its moraines traverse the nature park from Potsdam to northern Fläming, sometimes at a very steep elevation.



Mesopotamia

Floods have long since been a primary threat to people in the lowlands. Cattle drowned and crops rotted in the wet fields. Therefore the Nuthe and the Nieplitz, which flow together just outside Jütchendorf, have been continually regulated and straightened since 1776. Both the towns of the nature park are on the Nieplitz. Beelitz is know for its sanatoriums and its fine vegetables. »Beelitz asparagus« is a mark of quality for the white stems which are harvested from April to June on many fields in the region. Treuenbrietzen is know as the Sabinchen Town and the annual Sabinchen election and the memorial are a reminder of the eerily beautiful ballad of the murder of the fair »gentlewomen« who fell victim to a traitorous shoe maker. Both places have a restored historic town centre and attractive surroundings: particularly favoured by day trippers are the Nieplitz meadows, the large Beelitz forest and the forested Nieplitz valley south of Treuenbrietzen.

Discover the Nature Park

Whether with walking sticks or without – the 500 km network of the Fläming Walk gets visitors to the nature park going. If you like things a bit quieter, you can go hiking in the area of Gröben, Siethen and Saarmund on the trail of Fontane, discover the confluence of the Nuthe and the Nieplitz, climb the hills of the Saarmund Late Moraine Arc (Saarmunder Endmoränenbogen) or cool off in the lake at Siethen. Those who are looking for the heart of the Nuthe-Nieplitz Lowlands should consider the area around the Blankensee lake. The village of Blankensee is a good destination for stopover your journey. It has many things to offer, as does the Glauer Tal game reserve with its Nature Park Centre. You can experience culture and nature together in Blankensee, the »hidden capital« of the Nuthe-Nieplitz Lowlands, as well as in the nature park's towns of Beelitz and Treuenbrietzen. Day trips from Beelitz to the Nieplitz Lowlands or starting from the Sabinchen fountain on the marked cycle and hiking paths into the varied surroundings are not just worth it during the asparagus season or at the time of the Sabinchen festival. The best opportunities for observing the prolific bird kingdom are ultimately offered by the viewing towers and platforms by the shallow waters near Stangenhagen, in the enormous meadows near Blankensee







and on the edge of the Körzin meadow. The jetties at Blankensee lake and at Riebener lake or the observation towers near Beelitz are worth a visit. From here you can observe aquatic birds particularly well.

The Nature Park Centre at the Glauer Tal Game Reserve

At the visitor information centre the Friends of the Nuthe-Nieplitz Lowlands have various information available on the nature park and tips on interesting day trips, recreation and special adventure experiences in the region. The nature park display window offers a selection of regional produce and the nature park market place guarantees organic and nature friendly products. Seasonal healthy food awaits the visitor in the shepherd's corner of the nature park kitchens in Glauer Tal. The Nature Park Centre as well as the Glauer Fields are barrier-free. And in the extensive area of the Nature Park Centre discover the how deer, fallow deer, mouflons and Icelandic horses form a »wild« landscape. More than 5 km of hiking trails offer you the opportunity and encouragement to further discover the nature park region and to experience the unique nature and landscape by the Nuthe and the Nieplitz, either on foot or by bicycle.

Further offers at the Nature Park Centre:

 guided tours »Glauer Fields« or the wild deer enclosure Glauer vallev



- Nature Park for everybody (barrier-free)
- »Hiked« on tour with the nature and culture guides
- Torch tours as well as Kremserfahrten (Carriage trips) to the wild deer enclosure Glauer valley
- environmental education programmes for children (e.g. »let 's tap the sun«, »pond tours«)
- renting of a barbecue hut or a seminar room

Ministry of Environment, Health and Consumer Protection of the Federal State of Brandenburg

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there is one of the largest wilderness areas in Brandenburg.

The Brandenburg Natural Landscapes Foundation, which was

founded in the year 2000 by state and private donations, pur-

chased 7,100 hectares of land. Nature is no longer interfered

with in large parts of the land. If visitors head into the fragrant

pine forests on the hiking trails and on guided excursions, roam

the birch forests which appear Siberian and seem to never want

to end, and the blossoming heathland, then they will experi-

ence how habitats can dynamically change and develop. As

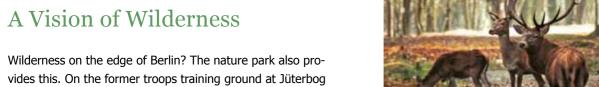
eye witnesses, so to speak, you can observe how the cycles of

the living forests come about and then die away again due to

fire or decay. The wilderness is a destination with vision.

Almost every village in the nature park has a stork's nest. The nature watch counts up to 25 breeding pairs annually.





On the former troops training ground at Glau a wild animal enclosure has been set up. Visitors can experience the fallow deer, red deer and direct mouflon almost as if they were in the wild.

More rare

They have

inhabitants of

the wilderness

area are wolves.

resettled in the

area in the past

few years after

disappearing

from Germany

hundred years

over one

ago.



Fascinating biotope areas: at the southern bank of Blankensee lake a natural wet alder woodland and flooded areas adjoin the reed belt. Due to its inaccessibility it is an ideal place of retreat for species which do

not like to be disturbed.

The »Open Farms of the Nuthe-Nieplitz region« are known for their mutual marketing and transparent production – which is a particularly experience on the public action days in May and November





Nature Park Information

Nuthe-Nieplitz Nature park management

Beelitzer Straße 24, 14947 Nuthe-Urstromtal OT Dobbrikow Tel: (033732) 5060, Fax: 50620 np-nuthe-nieplitz@lugv.brandenburg.de www.naturpark-nuthe-nieplitz.de

Nuthe-Nieplitz Nature Watch Tel: (033732) 50631, Fax: 50632

nuthe-nieplitz@naturwacht.de www.naturwacht.de

Nature Park Centre

am Wildgehege Glauer Tal Glauer Tal 1. 14959 Trebbin OT Blankensee Tel: (033731) 700460, Fax: 700461 mail@besucherzentrum-glau.de www.besucherzentrum-glau.de

Friends of the Nuthe-Nieplitz

Zauchwitzer Straße 51, 14552 Michendorf OT Stücken Tel: (033204) 42342, Fax: 41866 info@foerderverein-nuthe-nieplitz.de www.foerderverein-nuthe-nieplitz.de

Brandenburg Natural Landscape Foundation

Schulstraße 6, 14482 Potsdam Tel: (0331) 7409322, Fax: 7409323 info@stiftung-nlb.de www.stiftung-nlb.de



Tourist Information

Teltow-Fläming Tourism Organisation

Küstergasse 4, 14547 Beelitz Tel: (033204) 6287-0 Info@reiseregion-flaeming.de www.reiseregion-flaeming.de For visitors to the park and local residents the staff of the nature watch are a point of contact. Their area of duty includes monitoring the area and rural conservation, public relations, giving advice, as well as environmental education and monitoring selected species in the nature park.

Blankensee Farming Museum

Dorfstraße 4, 14959 Trebbin OT Blankensee Tel: (033731) 8001, Fax: 80011 bauernmuseum.bl.-see@gmx.de www.bauernmuseum-blankensee.de

Beelitz Local Museum Poststraße 16, 14547 Beelitz Tel: (033204) 64104

Kähnsdorf **Culture Barn & Local History** Museum

Dorfstraße 15, 14554 Seddiner See OT Kähnsdorf Tel: (033205) 64104 info@seddiner-see.de www.seddiner-see.de

Treuenbrietzen Local Museum Großstraße 1a, 14929 Treuenbrietzen Tel: (033748) 70506

FlämingWalk

www.flaemingwalk.de

Offene Höfe (Open Farms) www.offenehöfe.de

Shepherd's Corner Nature Park Kitchens Glauer Tal www.hirtenwinkel.de

Literature

Nuthe-Nieplitz Nature Park Freizeitkarte 1:50 000

Potsdam: Landesvermessung und Geobasisinformation, 2008 Tel: (0331) 8844123

poststelle@geobasis-bb.de

Carsten Rasmus

Wander- und Naturführer Naturpark Nuthe-Nieplitz Berlin KlaRas-Verlag, 2001

PLACES Ahrensdorf/Lf. Bardenitz (Pechüle) Beelitz | • | • | • | • | • | | • | • | • Berkenbrück Blankensee Buchholz b. Treuenbrietzen | • | | • | • Dobbrikow Elsholz • | • | • | • | Frankenförde Fresdorf Frohnsdorf • Glau Gottsdorf Gröben | • | • | Großbeuthen Hennickendorf Jütchendorf Kähnsdorf | • | • | • | • | • | • | • Kemnitz Kleinbeuthen Kliestow Liebätz Körzin Löwendorf Märtensmühle Mietgendorf Nettgendorf Nichel Niebelhorst Reesdorf Rieben Saarmund Schäpe • Schlalach Schönefeld Schlunkendorf Schönhagen Siethen Stangenhagen Stücken Thyrow Tremsdorf Treuenbrietzen Wildenbruch | • | | • | Wittbrietzen Zauchwitz • Zülichendorf