

Welcome to Eitorf

Places of interest

Activities

Town plan



Eitorf erleben!



Enjoy Eitorf!



Educational bee trail



Merten Castle grounds



Radweg Sieg cycling path



Vetere sculpture garden



Canoeing on the Sieg



Café

Located close to Cologne, the metropolis on the Rhine, and the Federal City of Bonn, Eitorf is nestled in the heart of the Sieg region of natural beauty. The healthy climate, the varied undulating landscape with extensive woodland, picturesque valleys, forested upland ridges, marvellous views and the untouched river landscape of the river Sieg offer a wealth of opportunities for leisure and relaxation. On the Natursteig Sieg nature trail and

the Sieg experience trails, enjoy pure walking pleasure in a rich and varied cultural landscape. Numerous sporting activities including golfing, water touring on the river Sieg, cycling and mountain biking, and much more are all topped off with a lively cultural scene. This wide range of activities makes Eitorf the ideal holiday destination. Be inspired and escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life. We look forward to your visit!

By the way: travel comfortably to Eitorf via the Cologne-Siegen railway line. (RE 9, S 12 and S 19).

PLACES OF INTEREST



St. Agnes catholic church

Part of the historical grounds of Merten Castle is the former monastic church of St. Agnes, a three-nave Romanesque basilica from the second half of the 12th century, which can be seen from afar rising high above the Sieg Valley. The entire monastery and parts of the church were destroyed by fire in 1699. Reconstruction took a hundred years. Following the secularisation of the monastery in 1803, the church became the parish church of Merten and the surrounding area. When not in use for services, the church can be entered via the inner courtyard of Merten Castle.

Kirchweg, Eitorf-Merten



Merten Castle

The monastery believed to have been founded by Countess Mathilde von Sayn was first mentioned in a document by Otto von Kappenstein in 1217. Although Merten was not a rich monastery, it enjoyed considerable fame thanks to a relic of Saint Agnes and many other celebrated saints. The monastery was eventually secularised in 1803. In 1909, the aristocratic family Droste zu Vischering von Nesselrode-Reichenstein acquired the monastic buildings. They had the site converted into a castle and expanded the grounds into a neo-baroque park based on the model of French landscape gardening. During this period, a neo-baroque outbuilding was added, known as the Orangery, which today is home to a small café restaurant. The entire estate today houses a residential care and nursery home for the elderly. The grounds including the park and the Orangery are open to the public.

**Schloßstraße 14, Eitorf-Merten,
S-Bahn station: 500 m**



The Phantom

When the castle grounds were redesigned, the then lord of the castle Felix Count Nesselrode erected a temple gate on the opposite bank of the river Sieg, referred to jokingly by his family as the 'Phantom'. The trompe l'oeil building known as the 'Gloriette' resulted in the creation of a viewpoint of the style made famous by French landscape gardening, a so-called 'point de vue'.



Skulpturengarten Vetere

The 11,000 m² sculpture garden with exhibits of the work of the Italian painter and sculptor Giovanni Vetere and of various other artists is located in the centre of Eitorf. **The garden can be visited by appointment.** The Atelier Giovanni Vetere and the Galerie Incontro are based in the adjacent 'Zigarrenfabrik' (cigar factory).
**Schümmerichstr. 1, Tel. +49 2243 840086
www.giovanni-vetere.de**



Half suspension bridge

In 1946, shortly after the end of World War II, as part of a community project, the local residents built the suspension bridge over the Sieg using any material available to them. The cables, for example, were salvaged from a former cableway.
Located on the L333 rural road between the town centre and Eitorf-Alzenbach.

Stadtrundgang Eitorf

The town tells tales

The Town Tour through Eitorf offers an introduction to the meaningful history of the township of Eitorf. Having already been a market centre in the Middle Ages, following the arrival of the Cologne-Siegen railway, Eitorf quickly became an important industrial centre. The 5.6 km-long historical tour gives a clear idea of the economic rise of Eitorf – take for example the large industrialists' villas and attractive middle-class residences along the route. Today as in the past, relaxation is a highly esteemed tradition in Eitorf.

Start/finish: Eitorf railway station forecourt, Bahnhofstraße

Additional information is found on the marker posts along the route and in the brochure 'Stadtrundgang Eitorf' available from the tourist information centre.
www.eitorf-erleben.de



ACTIVITIES



Bicycle rent

Zweirad Viehof, Siegstraße 75,
Tel. +49 2243 2638
Hotel Schützenhof, Windecker Straße 2,
Tel. +49 2243 8870

Cycling

Discover the Sieg Valley by bicycle!
Whether following the pleasant Radweg Sieg cycling path through the picturesque river valley, or enjoying a more sporting challenge by mountain bike along the mountain ranges and steep slopes, the landscape offers the ideal backdrop for every age and every level of fitness.



Bicycle repairs

Lukas Fahrräder, Hardtstraße 1,
Tel. +49 2243 3694
Zweirad Viehof, Siegstraße 75,
Tel. +49 2243 2638

Angling

Angling is possible on the river Sieg for those in possession of a valid permit and day ticket. Special rules apply for catch volume and fishing period.

Day tickets can be purchased at the following locations:

Campingplatz Happach
Hennefer Straße 8, Tel. +49 2243 3533
Raiffeisenwarengenossenschaft
Uferstraße 6, Tel. +49 2243 927920



Radweg Sieg cycling path

The Sieg is a 146 km-long upland river with a course that has been left in its natural state. It rises in the Rothaar Mountains and flows into the Rhine near Niederkassel. The cycling path closely follows the course of the river. Over a 60 km section between Windeck and its water mouth, the cycling path is practically level and traffic-free, making it ideal for family cycling tours.
TIP: Siegtal pur - car-free Sieg Valley - first Sunday in July, cycle from Siegburg to the source of the river Sieg in Netphen.

Canoeing

A canoe trip on the river Sieg as it flows between undisturbed meadows and delightful pasture landscapes is an unforgettable experience. Special rules apply on the section between Windeck-Oppersau and the water mouth into the Rhine, as this area is a protected nature reserve.

Information: www.eitorf-erleben.de

Canoe rental:

Aktive Elemente

Tel. +49 2207 8475070 or
+49 172 2479418

www.aktive-elemente.de

Aktivevents Kanustation Eitorf

Am Eichelkamp, Tel. +49 228 9084973,
www.aktiv-eventsbredthauer.de

Siegtours Kanuverleih Eitorf

Tel. +49 2243 9239117,
www.siegtours-kanuverleiheitorf.de



Golfing

The golf course is located close to the centre of the town, in an idyllic hilly area

- 27-hole championship course
- public 6-hole short course
- Stay & Play for all
- driving range with covered tee
- golfing academy
- hotel and restaurant

Gut Heckenhof Hotel & Golfresort an der Sieg,

Heckerhof 5, Tel. +49 2243 923232,
www.gut-heckenhof.de

Archery

Schützenverein Eitorf

www.schuetzenverein-1859.de

Eitorfer Bogenschützen

www.bogensport-eitorf.de

Hot air ballooning

Erika & Reiner Schröder

Tel. +49 2243 6063,
www.ballon-schroeder.de

Horseback riding

Reitsporthalle & Reitschule

Heidehof Eitorf-Lindscheid,
Kalkstraße 60,
Tel. +49 2243 83455,
www.heidehof-eitorf.de



Breathtaking panoramas, unforgettable views and the imposing, ever changing interplay of the Sieg, brooks, pasturelands, forests and meadows, up mountains and down dales, the changing colours of the seasons, tarmaced roads or soft hiking trails... Eitorf and the Naturregion Sieg offer the ideal backdrop for strolling and rambling along routes entirely of your own choosing. There is something for everyone, young and old, from challenging to casual.



The trails on offer range from 5 predetermined loop trails, 20 exciting adventure trails, demanding rambles along the 'Natursteig Sieg' nature trail to even a historical stroll through the town of Eitorf. For refuelling and refreshment, there are numerous stop-off points along the hiking trails in Eitorf and the surrounding area.

Have we peaked your wandering spirit? Then all you need do is put on your hiking boots and off you go. Enjoy the magnificent natural landscapes of the Sieg Valley. Our reliable guidance system with clear trail markings will take you to your planned destination.

Hiking on the Natursteig Sieg

The Natursteig Sieg hiking trail offers almost 200 km of pure enjoyment for hikers, between Siegburg and Mudersbach. The route travels through the solitary natural landscapes of the Sieg Valley, taking in numerous sites of cultural interest, and amazes visitors with its impressive river landscapes and fabulous views. Narrow tracks rather than broadly-laid hiking trails and an appealing route characterise this remarkable hiker's paradise. The entire trail can be comfortably hiked in 14 one-day stages. Numerous railway stations follow the trail along the Sieg Valley, ensuring easy access to the various stage points using public transportation.

Three stages of the Natursteig Sieg pass fully or partly through Eitorf.

Stage 3 from Blankenberg to Merten
Distance: 12.6 km, Walking time: 4 hours

Stage 4 from Merten to Eitorf
Distance: 13.9 km, Walking time: 4.5 hours

Stage 5 from Eitorf to Herchen
Distance: 20.7 km, Walking time: 7 hours

All information about the nature and adventure trails can be found at www.naturregion-sieg.de and in the Naturregion Sieg tourist information centres.

Hiking on the Erlebniswege Sieg

Switch from untouched nature to inhabited farm landscapes. The Sieg Adventure Trails that connect with the Natursteig Sieg hiking trail cover distances of between 6 and 23 kilometres, and offer interesting insights into the life of the local people and the history of the region.

Four adventure trails pass fully or partly through the township of Eitorf.

Dreitalerweg

The Three Valley Trail travels from the heights of the town of Blankenberg into the Ahrenbach Valley and the Krabach Valley nature conservation area, as far as Merten Castle, with its neo-baroque castle grounds and Orangery.

Start: hikers car park Hennef-Stein, alternative S-Bahn station Eitorf-Merten
Distance: 16.7 km,
Walking time: 4-5 hours



Wildwiesenweg

On the Wild Pasture Trail, the main focus is to experience the local landscape. As well as wild pastures, arable land and meadow orchards, this route also takes in the contrast with the intensive farming and widely-used rich pasture lands. The variety of landscapes

offers a unique ecological opportunity for rare plants and animal species, and for hikers a unique natural experience.

Start: hikers car park Eitorf-Bourauel

Distance: 5.6 km,

Walking time: 2-2.5 hours



Dorferweg

Go back in history: sheep pastures, historical woodland and pasture trails with lonely roadside crosses, villages with their half-timbered houses and meadow orchards. The idyllic Village Trail takes you across the gentle undulating heights of the Leuscheid, and offers fantastic panoramic views. On your return to Eitorf, make use of the many stop-off points for a rest and relaxation.

Start: Eitorf railway station
Distance: 13.1 km, **Walking time:** 4 hours

Forsterweg

This Ranger Trail travels through the Leuscheid nature conservation area, the largest uninterrupted area of woodland in the region. There are also two educational nature trails based on the theme woodland and woodland animals.

Start: hikers car park Windeck-Stromberg

Distance: 16.6 km,

Walking time: 5-5.5 hours



Melli's Bienenlehrpfad

Anyone looking to experience and understand the life of the honeybee, or to find out how bees cohabit with other woodland creatures; anyone wanting to find out why honeybees are endangered, and what we can do to prevent their loss, must pay a visit to the Educational Bee Trail in Huppelröttchen.



11 information panels contain exciting facts and curious details for children and adults alike. Interactive elements and experience stations offer the perfect opportunity to find out more about bees and other woodland animals.

The new friends of the bees can reveal what they have learned by solving the puzzle, and with a little luck receive an attractive reward. Entry cards are available from the Natursteig Sieg tourist information centres.



Waldlehrpfad

For most people, all trees look the same. Visitors to the Educational Tree Trail will soon know better. The Tree Trail is part of the Educational Woodland Trail and on 23 information panels offers interesting stories and facts about oak, beech and pine. The information panels also offer interactive puzzle questions to help the young tree experts test out their new knowledge in a playful manner. As well as these information panels, various other information points show facts about woodland animals including bats, spiders and birds, and woodland nature.



How to get there:

Travel to Eitorf-Käsberg. Pass through the village and at its exit follow the road 'Zum Hohen Schaden' as far as the signpost 'Wandergelände Huppelröttchen'. After approx. 1 km, when you reach the hikers car park Melchiorweg, you will have found the start of 'Melli's Bienenlehrpfad'.

The 'Waldlehrpfad' starts at the first information point on 'Melli's Bienenlehrpfad' and can be followed in either direction.

Photosafari on the Wildwiesenweg



The 5.6 km-long Wild Pasture Trail leads through a protected nature reserve, which is home to many sometimes rare animals. However, because some of these animals are particularly timid, the inventors of this 'safari' can offer a little assistance: at the edge of the trail, a number of not entirely real(istic) animals have been hidden. Anyone who discovers and photographs these animals can take part in the annual prize draw.

How to get there:

www.naturregion-sieg.de

Adventure hill landscape

Am Eichelkamp, located between Siegtal-Gymnasium and gym.



Skate bowl

Siegauenplatz, to the north of the railway station. Alongside the skateboarding bowl is a basketball court.



Kinder-Erlebnis-Lehrpfad

A 2 km-long Children's Adventure Trail with 'Kiki Eichhorn' the squirrel, on the heights of the Keltersberg, with a whole series of interactive stop-off points including animal long jump, barefoot trail and much more. **Keltersberg** access via Kelterser Straße.



Playgrounds

Multi-generation playground with

- toddlers' play area
- picnic places
- cable ride
- climbing pyramid
- mini football pitch
- outdoor fitness trail
- championship jeu de boules facilities all in the Siegpark, located by the school centre between the Brückenstraße and Siegstraße

Other playgrounds: Buchenweg, Ginsterweg, Parkstraße, Schmidtgasse

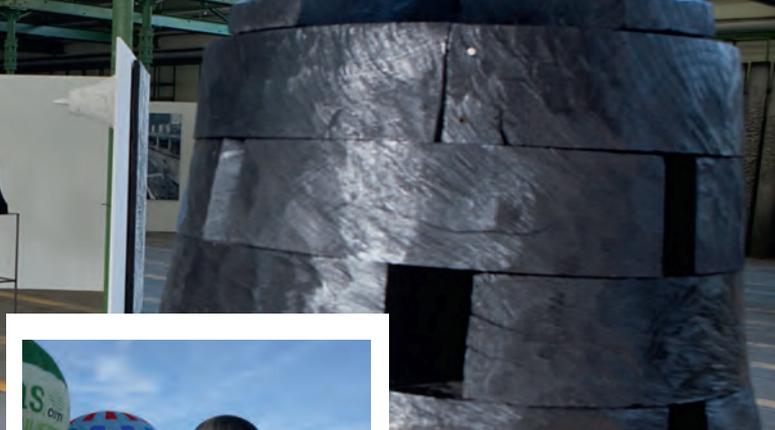
Alzenbach: Canisiusstraße

Halft: Feldergasse

Harmonie: St.Martinsweg

Irlenborn: Dorfstraße and Waldweg

Mühleip: Linkenbacher Straße



Cultural events

Throughout the year, in the Theater am Park (Park Theatre) and at other historical locations, in churches and galleries, an ever-changing cultural programme is on offer. From music and cabaret through to children's theatre, the six-monthly cultural calendar offers all the relevant details and for the latest news visit www.eitorf.de.

Tickets for cultural events are available at the town hall in Eitorf, Markt 1 and Copy-Shop, Asbacher Straße 11 and Glashaushaus, Kirchstraße 6.

Recurring events

APRIL

Eitorfer Frühling spring fair

Exhibition of trade, handcrafts and local commerce, with car show.

Market square and surrounding streets
Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



JUNE

Fairy tale festival

Family afternoon based on the theme of fairy tales, with puppeteers, fairy tale narrators, handcraft and experience and learning games.

Merten Castle grounds, Eitorf-Merten
2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Eitorfer Kneipennacht 'Spätschicht' ('Late Shift' pub night)

Live music at various locations in the town centre.



1ST SUNDAY IN JULY

Siegtal pur – car-free Sieg Valley

www.naturregion-sieg.de

The L 333 rural road through the Sieg Valley is closed to motorised transport over a distance of 120 km from Siegburg to Netphen.

All along the route, musical events and street parties are organised.

Closure: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.



JULY, EVERY 2 YEARS

Hot air balloon gathering

www.ballon-schroeder.de

30 hot air ballooning teams or more attend this three-day event and competition. For the public, opportunities to take a balloon ride and an entertainment programme culminating in the glowing balloons with Bengal fire. On the meadows along the Sieg by the L 333 between the centre and Eitorf-Alzenbach, near the industrial area.

LAST SUNDAY IN JULY

Eitorf bric-a-brac market

Antiques, bric-a-brac and household goods and a large children's flea market.

Market square and the surrounding streets
8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

JULY / AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

Siegtal Festival Sommer

Series of cultural events organised by Siegburg and Hennef and the townships of Eitorf and Windeck.



4TH WEEKEND IN SEPTEMBER

Eitorfer Kirmes fair

The traditional Eitorfer Kirmes is the largest fair in the Rhein-Sieg district with numerous attractions, displays and a large market ending with fireworks.

Town centre. Saturday to Tuesday



OCTOBER / NOVEMBER

Kunstpunkte im Doppelpack (twin arts event)

www.kunstpunkte.net

An annual arts event organised each year together with the town of Hennef. Art and design are displayed in historical buildings, at special locations and in selected shop windows in Eitorf and Hennef.

1ST ADVENT WEEKEND

Eitorfer Christmas Market

Market square, Friday to Sunday
11 a.m. to 8 p.m.



- 1 Alter Friedhof
- 2 Railway station **DB** **S** **BUS**
- 3 Biological station
- 4 Keltersberg
- 5 Natursteig Sieg **S** (access)
- 6 Radweg Sieg **S**
- 7 Siegpark
- 8 Skulpturengarten
- 9 Theater am Park
- 10 Centre/Tourist information
- 11 Hospital
- 12 Police station
- 13 Townhall

Eitorf



Eitorf erleben!

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Naturregion
Sieg