

# The Hermannsweg: walking through the Hermannshöhen

There are quite a few articles about [hiking in Germany lately](#). Multi-day itineraries and day trips. With and without luggage. Alone or in groups. And rightly so! As a hiker, you will not be short of anything with our eastern neighbors, and certainly not on *Qualitätswegen* such as the Hermannsweg! This route takes you over Hermannshöhen, one of the most idyllic mountain ridges of the Teutoburg Forest.



If you choose one of the countless marked hiking trails with the *Qualitätsweg* designation, you are invariably assured of a number of important hiking conditions. For example, that the markings are in order and well maintained, that the routes are well thought out, that they are "*aussichtsreich*" and that they follow unpaved paths where possible. And of course, they must also have enough accommodations on the way. All the basic conditions for a great trip have been thought of. Even the presence of sufficient silence is a criterion. Really! You will not easily see a route that runs near a highway with this quality mark.

In short: the standards of the *Qualitätsweg Wanderbares Deutschland* designation guarantee your tours that are worthwhile in many respects.

## The Hermannsweg and public transport



This is a multi-day Qualitäts trail over the ridge of the [Teutoburg Forest](#) and a route that is also easily accessible by train. For example, the intercity from Amsterdam to Berlin stops in Rheine, the official starting point of the route. This town is located just across the border, two hours and 40 minutes from Amsterdam. Or you can choose Osnabrück station, which is only 25 minutes away. Here are excellent connections to various local trains to stage places of the Hermannsweg, such as Bad Iburg. Bielefeld and Detmold are important larger stations for connections to stage places at the end of the route.

On the websites of the Bundesbahn and the Regio-Bahnen you can find everything you want to know. A good website about the many bus and train connections between and to the smaller stage places is that of the [Projektbüro der Hermannshöhen Teutoburger Wald Tourismus](#).

### Walking the Hermannsweg

This 157 km route starts at the Rheine train station and ends in Horn-Bad Meinberg on the 441-metre-high rock formation of the Lippischer Velmerstot. The route owes its name to Hermann de Cherusk, who in the year 9 AD conquered three Roman legions led by General Varus. The route can be walked in 13 stages.



While walking you will get acquainted with the history of the region, thanks to many historic inner cities, castles and monasteries, museums and fortifications such as ravenberg castle. The route has several rises and falls, where you can enjoy fantastic views many times.



You walk through vast idyllic coniferous forests, interspersed with fields and meadows on gently rolling hills. You will also pass through nature parks and rocky areas, such as those of *das Hockende Weib* and the *Externsteine*. The entire route is considered one of the most beautiful high-altitude hiking trails in Germany. If not the prettiest!

## General route tips

- A good map is: Leporello Hermannsweg, PublicPress. Maßstab: 1:25,000, ISBN: 3899201914. The markings go a long way, but you also have to get off the route sometimes. For example, for an excellent *bratwurst!*
- The Hermannsweg with its mountain peaks that are interspersed with numerous valleys requires a good condition.
- Free camping is not allowed in Germany. It can be arranged that a blind eye is turned shut. However, this is not always certain, so it doesn't hurt to keep an alternative accommodation like 'Plan B' in hand.



**A bratwurst with bread**



**The Externsteine**





**The trail**



**Tecklenburg**



**Dörenther Klippen**





The Trail ( foto: reise-karhu.de)



On trail

