

# Press information



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## Press kit for PR-Event Antwerpen: Ocean Museum Germany

### Content

- Where nature takes centre stage: the KÖNIGSSTUHL National Park Centre on Rügen
- Flyer

Link to media database: [urlaubsnachrichten.de/pressefotos](https://urlaubsnachrichten.de/pressefotos)

# Welcome to Rügen's unique chalk coast

in the UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site



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## Where nature takes centre stage: the KÖNIGSSTUHL National Park Centre on Rügen

Where the snow-white cliffs of Jasmund National Park rise majestically above the Baltic Sea lies a place where nature is not only experienced but also understood: the KÖNIGSSTUHL National Park Centre. Nestled in a landscape of extraordinary beauty, the centre embodies a unique blend of nature experiences, environmental education and active climate protection.

What is now regarded as an innovative visitor centre began with a vision. In the early 1990s, following German reunification, discussions took place regarding the future of a historic inn that had served as barracks for the Coastal Border Brigade during the GDR era. Should this prominent site be put to private commercial use once again, or made available to the general public? WWF Germany, together with the town of Sassnitz and the state of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, advocated for a non-profit use – as a centre for environmental education and sustainable tourism. This commitment paid off: on 18 March 2004, the KÖNIGSSTUHL National Park Centre was opened.

Since then, the centre has developed into a flagship project for education, sustainability and accessible nature tourism. Around 400,000 people now visit the centre each year, which is funded entirely by admission fees. It is run by the non-profit organisation Nationalpark-Zentrum KÖNIGSSTUHL Sassnitz gGmbH. The main shareholder, with a 70 per cent stake, is WWF Germany; the remaining shares are held by the town of Sassnitz. Around 70 staff members, one trainee and several volunteers work tirelessly every day to achieve the goal of imparting knowledge about nature with enthusiasm.

## A building with attitude: sustainability in action

The centre itself is an architectural statement of commitment to environmental protection. Designed as a zero-emission building, it uses geothermal energy, solar and photovoltaic systems, and a constructed wetland to meet its energy and water needs largely self-sufficiently. Natural resin paints, cellulose insulation made from waste paper, recycled plasterboard, PVC-free cabling and FSC-certified timber underline the consistently sustainable approach to construction.

But it is not just the building's exterior that impresses: the content has also been extensively developed in recent years. The four newest exhibition spaces have been completely redesigned and address current issues such as coastal dynamics, climate change and species loss. Audio and media guide tours have been expanded to ensure barrier-free access: in addition to German and English, Danish, Swedish, Polish and Dutch are now also available. Special facilities for blind, deaf and cognitively impaired visitors round off the programme.

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The in-house World Heritage Cinema offers a very special experience. In an emotionally staged multi-vision show, nature filmmaker Dirk Steffens uses the 'Voice of the Forest' to transport viewers into the magic of the UNESCO World Natural Heritage site 'Ancient Beech Forests'. This transnational World Heritage Site brings together a total of 94 protected areas across Europe and documents the last remaining treasure of our primeval forest wilderness. Impressive images, captivating soundscapes and a narrative style that gets under your skin make this show an unforgettable start to your visit.

The KÖNIGSSTUHL National Park Centre was awarded the German Sustainability Prize 2026 for its commitment to resource-efficient operations, modern environmental education and accessible experiences.

## **Spectacular floating: the Königsstuhl Skywalk**

An architectural highlight opened in 2023: the Königsstuhl Skywalk. The imposing viewing platform, with its elliptical shape, hovers 90 metres above the steep slope and offers a unique view of the famous chalk cliff. This landmark of the island of Rügen is part of the UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site "Ancient Beech Forests" and, as such, particularly worthy of protection.

The chalk coast on Rügen is unique in Germany – a natural spectacle that cannot be experienced anywhere else in the country in this form.

Since 2011, work has been underway on a concept designed to ensure the long-term accessibility of the Königsstuhl whilst minimising the impact on the sensitive natural environment. Following years of planning, the involvement of numerous experts and a successful environmental assessment, a spectacular, delicate structure has been created that meets both geotechnical challenges and aesthetic requirements. In April 2023, the Skywalk was officially opened – and now makes the natural experience at the Königsstuhl accessible to all.

## **Technical specifications of the Skywalk:**

- Length of the entire structure: 90 metres
- Walkable circular path: 185 metres
- Width of the ellipse: 19 metres
- Width of the circular path: 2.50 metres (front tip: 3.50 metres)
- Height of the guyed mast: approx. 42 metres
- Foundation depth: 48 metres
- Investment by the state of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania: around € 11.37 million (pure construction costs: € 8.8 million)

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## A centre for all the senses

The outdoor area has also been redesigned. Twelve interactive discovery stations invite visitors to learn through play, a barrier-free adventure playground delights young guests, and environmental education programmes take place in the open air in the newly created outdoor classroom. Whether in sunshine, rain or snow, the KÖNIGSSTUHL National Park Centre is an ideal destination in all weathers.

A particular highlight of the centre is its extensive environmental education programme. Every year, around 25,000 guests are actively supported as part of school and holiday programmes, themed hikes, nature workshops and educational projects. Whether it's a class searching for clues in the beech forest or a family doing creative nature crafts, nature is taught in a playful and sustainable way here.

Thanks to comprehensive modernisation measures, all projectors and screens have also been replaced with modern, energy-saving technology. The conversion to LED lighting technology and the renovation of the floors round off the energy-efficient refurbishment concept.

## A declared love of nature

The KÖNIGSSTUHL National Park Centre is far more than a classical visitor centre: it is an interactive space, a flagship for active environmental protection and a place where nature can be encountered on equal terms. Visitors leave this place with new insights, a greater appreciation for nature and a desire to preserve it. A centre that does not lecture, but inspires.



### Your contact:

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Visit Rügen's landmark.



Opening hours > We are open daily for you  
Nov - Mar: 10am - 5pm | Apr, May, Sep, Oct: 9am - 6pm | Jun - Aug: 9am - 7pm

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A non-profit initiative by:



Nationalpark Zentrum  
Königsstuhl

# Welcome to Rügen's Chalk Cliff.

At the UNESCO World Heritage Site.

An initiative by



## KÖNIGSSTUHL National Park Centre

Dive into the fascinating worlds of Jasmund National Park. Right on the famous chalk cliffs the Centre offers visitors a variety of experiences – no matter the weather!

### Königsstuhl Skywalk

The platform soars above the Königsstuhl and offers a fascinating view of the giant chalk cliffs and cliff slope and across the Baltic Sea. The 185m rounded skywalk is the only accessible viewpoint on the chalk coast.

### Interactive exhibition

Dive into the Cretaceous seas, touch a glacier or become as small as a grasshopper. Come face to face with the largest creature on earth or listen enthralled to the elemental forces of nature. Take our media guide through the interactive exhibition and travel through time over three storeys, uncovering the secrets of the National Park.

### Guided tours and hikes

On our daily short tours and themed hikes, our guides tell visitors even more about this special location. Old and young alike can take a voyage of discovery through our creative workshops and treasure hunts.



*A celebration of nature.*

## How to get to your Königsstuhl experience



### Nearest car parks:

Hagen car park: 3,1 km  
Sassnitz car park National Park: 8,1 km



### Take the VVR bus:

Linie 19: from Hagen car park  
Linie 23: from Sassnitz station - harbour - car park



### Discount tickets:

**Shuttle ticket:** shuttle bus from Hagen car park or Sassnitz car park National Park + entry to KÖNIGSSTUHL National Park Centre  
**Königsstuhl ticket:** Bus day ticket for Rügen and Stralsund + entry to KÖNIGSSTUHL National Park Centre



Further information about our admission prices and possible combination tickets can be found here: [koenigsstuhl.com/tickets](https://koenigsstuhl.com/tickets)  
Simply scan the QR code and book your ticket directly online.

## Site map from KÖNIGSSTUHL National Park Centre

All offers on the premises are included in the entrance fee.



### Overview map Jasmund National Park:

- Clitt-top trail: 12,1 km  
Sassnitz - Königsstuhl - Lohme
- Hiking path: 3 km  
car park Hagen - Königsstuhl
- Cycle path
- Jasmund National Park
- UNESCO World Heritage Site



Herthasee 1,0 km  
Hagen 3,1 km  
Lohme 4,0 km

Kieler Ufer 3,8 km  
Wissower Klinken 6,2 km  
UNESCO-Welterbeform 6,3 km  
Sassnitz Wedding 8,1 km



Sassnitz-Hagen-Königsstuhl 12 km

Nationalpark Jasmund

