

## EXHIBITION NARRATIVE

### A place of fatal attraction?

The Nazi order castles were both training centres as well as stages of self-promotion for the bigwigs of the NSDAP. At the same time, they also had something unfinished and rushed: Much seemed improvised and driven by restlessness. This was especially true of the training content of the courses, which were constantly changed and criticised within the party. Nonetheless, the Ordensjunker, as they called themselves, were presented to the „Volksgemeinschaft“ as the new elite of the party, and many of them also felt as such. They believed that their appointment to the order castles was a path to social advancement and a professional career. The male society into which they had been accepted, promised them safety and security in the comradeship of like-minded people.

### Did they see themselves as „master race“?

The ideological imprinting took place through lecture series and seminars, but also through physical training with military drill and all kinds of sport. Above all through the sub-

ject of „racial doctrine“, the image of their own superiority constantly reinforced. A National Socialist substitute religion with rites and pathetic celebrations made the religious believe that they had a share in the creation of a „new man“ of the future.

### Dissolution of boundaries and violence

With this ideological background, the men from the Order castles initially went to war as soldiers, which became a war of race and extermination, especially in the war of extermination. In Poland, the Baltic states, Belarus and the Ukraine, several hundred of them were then used like colonisers, and many of them were involved in Nazi crimes there. It took very long before post-war society and finally the judiciary began to take an interest in the individual perpetrators.

At the end of the exhibition, questions remain that deliberately reach beyond Nazi history: How would we ourselves had been placed in a similar time and task? Are there comparable situations in the world today? What do democracy and plurality mean to us in our society today?

## VOGELSANG IN FAST MOTION

Over 90 years separate the laying of the foundation stone for the NS-Ordensburg Vogelsang and today's International Place in the National Park.

**1934**

Start of construction in Vogelsang as one of three Ordensburgen for training the next generation of NSDAP leaders



**1936**

Start of the Teaching



**1939**

Cessation of the beginning of the Second World War



**1942**

Usage by „Adolf Hitler Schools“



**1945**

Occupation by US Army



**1946**

Foundation by the military training area „Camp Vogelsang“ of the British military, forced evacuation of the village Wollseifen



**1981**

Dummy houses in Wollseifen, which were used by Nato troops to practise hand-to-hand combat

**2004**

Foundation of the Eifel National Park



**2006**

Start of civil utilisation, start of the Vogelsang International Place



**2009**

Opening of the Victor Neels Bridge



**2012**

Opening of the „Belgisches Kulturkino“ for events and conferences



**2016**

Opening of the new Forum Vogelsang IP with NS-Documentation and National Park Centre Eifel

VOGELSANG IP  
IN EIFEL NATIONAL PARK

**DETERMINATION:  
HERRENMENSCH.  
NS-ORDENSBURGEN  
BETWEEN FASCINATION  
AND CRIME**

Open daily from 10-17.  
Dogs are allowed in the exhibition.



Offers of historical-political education:  
<https://vogelsang-ip.de/de/leitmarken/akademie-vogelsangip/historisch-politische-bildung/erwachsenenbildung.html> Information and advice: +49 (0)2444 91579-11 or [beratung@vogelsang-ip.de](mailto:beratung@vogelsang-ip.de)



You can find out more about the exhibition as well as a 360° tour and a 3D animation at <https://vogelsang-ip.de/de/bestimmung-herrenmensch.html>



Online tickets are available here.  
Discounted prices are available for combined tickets.

**PERMANENT AND SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS  
OF THE NS-DOCUMENTARY VOGELSANG**



THE NS DOCUMENTATION
VOGELSANG

With an area of around 100 hectares, the former Nazi Ordensburg Vogelsang is one of the largest ensembles of buildings from the National Socialist era, along with the former Nazi Party Rally Grounds in Nuremberg and the seaside resort of Prora on the island of Rügen. Like most large Nazi buildings, it was never completed. But even unfinished, the complex shows that it was a political building. To this day architecture of the time is still visible, which served the National Socialism and illustrates its claim to power over man and nature.



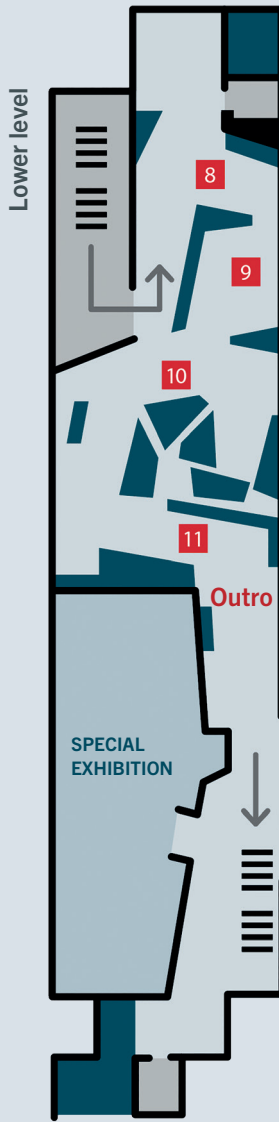
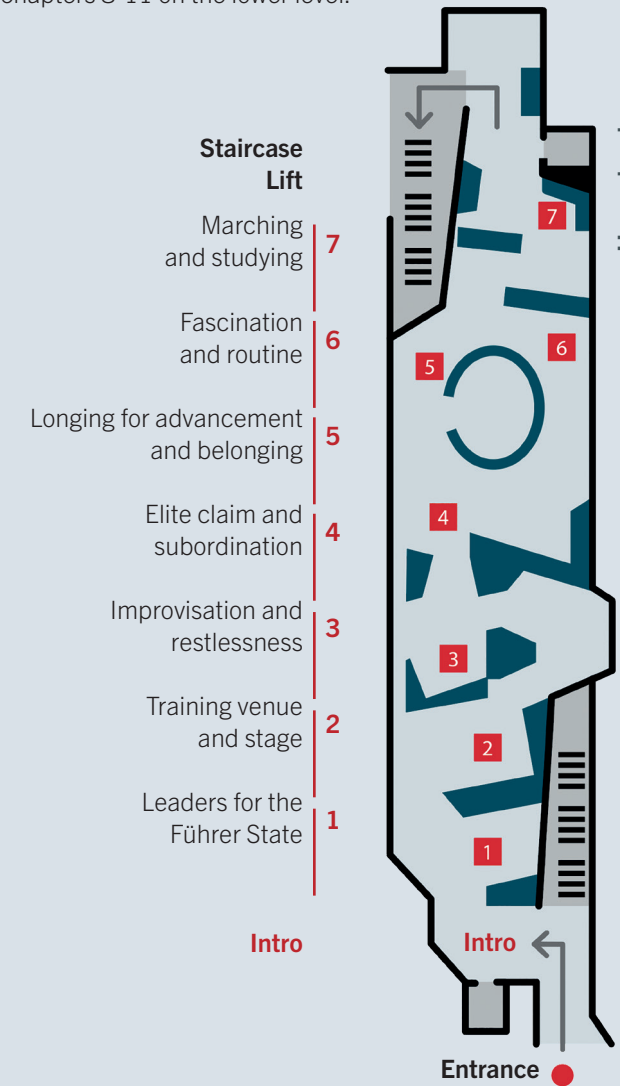
The permanent exhibition „Determination: Herrenmensch. NS-Ordensburgen both fascination and crime“ is the only exhibition on the history of the three former Nazi order castles. With a large number of text, video, picture documents and objects, it provides an insight into life in the NS-Ordensburg and the „fatal attraction“ of National Socialism. The exhibition in Vogelsang takes a place of glorification of the contempt for humanity, the exhibition also focuses on the occupied territories in Eastern Europe during the Second World War, where several hundred former „Ordensburgmänner“ became perpetrators and accomplices in National Socialist crimes.



In addition to the permanent exhibition, we recommend the Vogelsang IP guided tour and the Vogelsang IP tower ascent. Further information: +49(0)244492579 0 or info@vogelsang-ip.de

ROUND TOUR

The permanent exhibition is spread over two levels and 11 exhibition chapters - individual fields of action. Chapters 1-7 are on the upper level, chapters 8-11 on the lower level.



- Staircase Lift
8 Body cult and masculinity
9 New man and promise of salvation
10 Dissolution of boundaries and violence
11 Caesurae and continuities

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

„Auch Du gehörst dem Führer“!? - Kinder und Jugendliche in der Region 1918-1945.
„Visionen der Macht. Neue Einblicke in den Bau und die Architektur der NS-Ordensburg Vogelsang“.

Exit Stairwell Lift

The Vogelsang NS documentation was funded by:



... within the framework of the NRW-Ziel 2 Programms 2007-2013 „Regionale Wettbewerbsfähigkeit und Beschäftigung (EFRE)“

Ministerium für Familie, Kinder, Jugend, Kultur und Sport des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen

Die Beauftragte der Bundesregierung für Kultur und Medien

Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Bau und Reaktorsicherheit

... on the basis of a resolution of the German Bundestag



Die Gesellschafter und Förderer der Vogelsang IP gGmbH:



IMPRESSUM

PICTURE CREDITS
Photos: Vogelsang IP; Archiv Vogelsang IP; Vogelsang IP/Dieter Zehner, F.A. Heinen, Roman Hövel, Fotoagentur Wolf - freiheitswerke

Subject to change. As of: June 2025



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ACCESSIBILITY The exhibition is completely accessible. For blind and visually impaired people, a separate circular route is signposted and accessible via an audio guide.

LANGUAGES Using a QR code, you can have the texts announced in English, Dutch and French on your own smartphone. We provide headphones free of charge. Alternatively, we offer a media guide with the language versions.