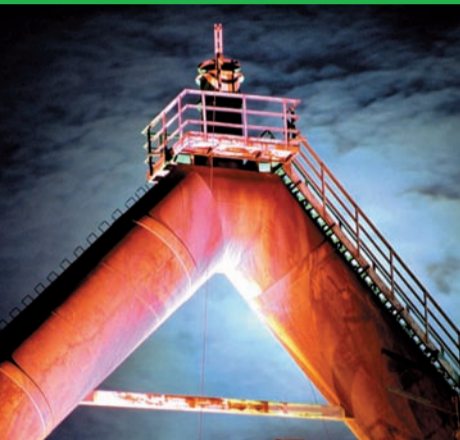


## The fascination of the Völklingen Ironworks



In 1994, the Völklingen Ironworks became the first plant from the heyday of industrialisation to be declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. For more than a century, the Völklingen Ironworks had shaped the lives of many thousands of people. Today, it is the only fully preserved ironworks from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and an extraordinary monument and sightseeing location featuring high quality cultural exhibitions and thrilling projects.



## The largest Concentration of UNESCO World Heritages in Europe

Nowhere else in Europe is the density of Unesco World Heritage Sites higher than in the greater region of the Saar-Lor-Lux also comprising Alsace and the Palatinate. Roman monuments such as the Porta Nigra in Trier, the Cathedral of Speyer, the baroque jewel of the Place Stanislas in Nancy, the Luxembourg fortress, Strasbourg's gothic cathedral and medieval quarter at its city centre and the baroque fortification of Vauban in Longwy. And in the midst of all this is the World Cultural Heritage Site at the Völklingen Ironworks.



## Otmar Alt The Raven at the Centre of World History

A new creative period of artist Otmar Alt was significantly connected to the World Cultural Heritage Site at the Völklingen Ironworks. This high quality exhibition by renowned, lateral thinking artist Otmar Alt was brought about by a visit to the Unesco World Heritage Site at Völklingen in 2007 and most significantly by the "World Events Masterpieces of Reportage Photography from Associated Press". The exhibition inspired and motivated him to a new creative period culminating in "Otmar Alt. The Raven at the Centre of World History" comprising a unique cycle of paintings featuring 31 large scale works, with reference to, and optical borrowings from, recent European and global historical events such as the 1968 movement, the Beatles' mop-tops, the 1974 World Cup and the oil crisis of that decade. Otmar Alt - one of the most important artists of the present - creates with his latest group of works a unique kind of access to the history of the last 60 years.

## Sintering-plant: Introduction with multi-media show



The multi-media journey in time through the history of the Völklingen Ironworks, presented in the introductory show, impinges on all the visitor's senses. It is the starting-point on a 5000-metre circuit which leads to seven stations, passing through the world's largest sintering-plant with its enormous ventilators and sintering-machines. In the sintering process, residues from iron production were recycled and ploughed back into the blast furnace system.

## Ore Shed: From a material silo to an exhibition and cultural arena



At one time, vast quantities of ore were stored in the ore shed. Today, its roof offers the visitor a panoramic view of Völklingen, the rail track system and the active Saarstahl steelworks. The panorama also takes in the blower shed and the sintering-plant. Inside the shed, which has been made into a new exhibition and cultural arena, the science center exhibition "Your brain: think, feel, act" will be showed from 16 May.

## Burden Shed: contemporary history exhibition "Otmar Alt"



In the burden shed, the 'belly' of the ironworks, 12,000 tonnes of raw material were once stored. On the upper level, railway wagons brought in the raw materials; on the lower level, the monorail cars with which those raw materials were taken up to the blast furnaces were loaded. The burden shed, one of the first large reinforced concrete buildings of its kind, was built between 1911 and 1913, and is now the arena for the exhibition "Otmar Alt".

## Top platform: view from the panorama platform



The monorail cars ran along the top platform (27 metres above ground level) and filled the six blast furnaces with raw materials. At 45 metres, the viewing-platform offers the visitor a fascinating view out over the World Cultural Heritage Site and the industrial landscape along the Saar. Then the walkway leads down to the tapping-level, where the molten pig iron was tapped from the blast furnace.

## Weltkulturerbe

## Völklinger Hütte

### Europäisches Zentrum für Kunst und Industriekultur



Obstacle free: All areas of the World Cultural Heritage Site at the Völklingen Ironworks and its exhibitions and event spaces are comfortably accessible via ramps and obstacle free lifts, and accessible via walking frames or wheelchairs (with the exception of the 45 metre high viewing platform).  
Further information: [www.voelklinger-huette.org](http://www.voelklinger-huette.org)

**Your brain**  
think, feel, act  
until 18 April 2010

**State gifts**  
60 years Germany  
Until 18 April 2010

**Ferrodrom®**  
ScienceCenter  
28 March until 1 November 2010

**The Paradise**  
Garden of industrial culture  
From 20 June 2009

This icon leads you through the circuit of the Ironworks. If you want to visit the entire Ironworks, your stay at the World Cultural Heritage Site will last about 2-3 hours.

**WC** This icon leads you to the next restroom.  
**Exit** This icon leads you to the exit.

## The paradise between coal storage towers and coke oven



In the coking plant, at a temperature of 1300°C, fire turned coal into coke. The terrific heat and pungent smoke made this workplace one of the toughest in the whole of the Völklingen Ironworks. The coal came from Saarland and other coalfields in the region. The first coke ovens at the Völklingen Ironworks - there being more than 100 all together - were set to work in 1897. From summer 2009 the garden "the paradise" will be available to visitors.

## Blast Furnaces and ScienceCenter Ferrodrom®: The World Cultural Heritage Site at a glance



On the coal track, visitors can experience a breathtaking panoramic view. It spreads from the blast furnaces with their inclined ore lift (unique worldwide), the ore bunkers, the water tower and the craftsmen's lane of the World Cultural Heritage Site at the Völklingen Ironworks. At the foot of the inclined ore lift is the entrance to the ScienceCenter Ferrodrom®. On the lower level of the burden shed, over 10,000 m<sup>2</sup> in area, the visitor is whisked away into the fascinating world of iron and steel. The four elements fire, water, air and earth, vital to the production of iron, can be experienced at first hand. The history of iron and that of the Völklingen Ironworks become tangible at Ferrodrom®, where more than 100 hands-on exhibits invite the visitor to experiment.

## Blower Hall: Marvels of technology



The enormous blowers, which once generated up to 300,000 m<sup>3</sup> of blast for the blast furnaces, dominate the blower shed. Today, the blower shed is a fascinating arena for exhibitions and events. The blowers are unique worldwide. From 20 June the World Cultural Heritage Site is presenting here the history exhibition "State gifts. 60 years Germany".

