

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 19th and 20th centuries.

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, 22 groups of works by Duane Hanson will be presented in an area of 800 m² until May 12th.

Burden Shed: World events in reporting photography



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 was built between 1911 and 1913, and is now the arena for an exhibition of highlights of reporting photography.

Top platform: view from the panorama platform



The monorail cars ran along the top platform (28 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.

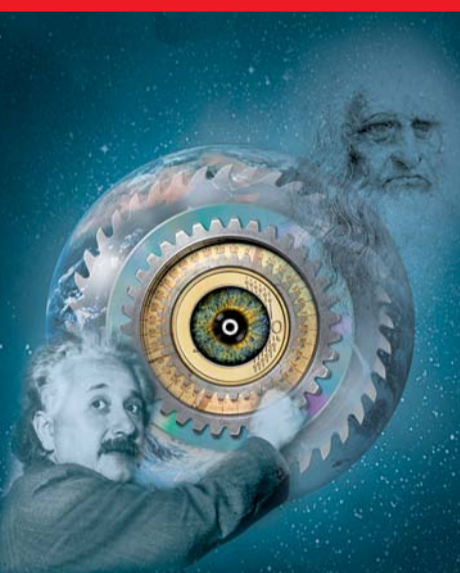


ScienceCenter Ferrodrom®

The first ScienceCenter in the Saar-Lor-Lux region, Ferrodrom®, in the burden shed with its area of more than 10,000 m², invites the visitor to discover the fascinating world of iron. Ferrodrom® takes visitors from the early days of iron production right through to high-tech products made of stainless steel.

With the four elements fire, water, earth, and air, iron can be produced at its best. These elements can be sampled with the fire- and windtornado, the magic ice cube or the giant wind-machine.

Exciting hands-on exhibits mean that there's no chance of getting bored. Inquisitive people of all ages will have great fun in Ferrodrom® at the World Cultural Heritage Site at the Völklingen Ironworks. see ③



Genius I

'Genius I. The mission: discover research invent' is an exciting journey to the desires, dreams and longings of mankind. In a vast panorama, the exhibition shows the most significant steps taken by mankind, bringing to life the genius of the inventors. Experiment stations help the visitor to understand the mysteries of the various inventions and appreciate how miraculous they must have seemed. Since ancient times, genius has been the divine embodiment of the power of intellect and ideas at work in Man. Genius is the greatest legend of mankind. Genius is the personification of creativity, the motor of the world, the driving force of progress. The genius of Archimedes, Leonardo da Vinci, Galileo Galilei and Albert Einstein has shaped and altered our world. The World Cultural Heritage Site at the Völklingen Ironworks is a magical place, where the tremendous forces of the past continue to propel us toward the new horizons of the future. see ⑦

Weltkulturerbe

Völklinger Hütte

Europäisches Zentrum für Kunst und Industriekultur



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.

Railway Station / City
footpath 3 minutes

until 2008
Duane Hanson
Sculptures of the American Dream
until May 12th 2008

Advance notice 2009
Ferrodrom®
ScienceCenter
April 5th to November 1st 2009

Coking Plant: turning coal into coke by temperatures of 1300°C



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 together - were set to work in 1897.

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 m² 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 m³ 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.

Orientation Map

March 16th until November 2nd 2008
www.voelklinger-huette.org

Comprehensive catalogue 192 pages, hardcover, four-colour throughout, 28 x 24cm, special edition, 29,80 €

Over an area of 800 m², the historical ore shed is celebrating its première as an exhibition venue with Duane Hanson's 'Sculptures of the American Dream'. The World Cultural Heritage Site at the Völklinger Ironworks will be the only exhibition venue in central Europe. Duane Hanson (1925 - 1996) was one of the most important realists sculptors of the 20th century. His life-size, detailed figures are fully cast in plastic from living models. In fact, they look so real that they often generate a certain amount of confusion among visitors. Influenced by pop art, Hanson devoted himself to themes from American everyday life. Housewives, construction workers, waitresses, car salesmen, caretakers, members of the middle and lower middle classes whose lives were marked by the disappointments of the American dream were the inspiration for his sculptures. Having said that, these are not simply illusionistic likenesses, but rather condensed interpretations of reality, as borne out by the postures and expressions of the figures.

Complete catalogue 192 pages, hardcover, four-colour throughout, 28 x 24cm, special edition, 29,80 €

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Orientation Map



Fascination Völklinger Hütte

"I know of no comparable project in the whole world where one can go so far into its mediation and staging as well as the maintenance and transformation of industrial cultural grounds as the World Cultural Heritage Site Völklinger Hütte. The World Cultural Heritage Site Völklinger Hütte takes peak position in the international world of industrial cultural projects." (Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Ebert, Professor of Industrial Heritage Management, Istanbul)

At the time in 1994, when the Völklinger Ironworks was officially nominated as a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site, no one thought that it would become one of the Europe's most important monuments of industrial culture.

Today the World Cultural Heritage Site Völklinger Ironworks is a prominent anchor point of the European Route of Industrial Heritage - ERIH. The World Cultural Heritage Site Völklinger Ironworks is now one of the favourite 100 places to visit in Germany (Baedeker publishers) and one of the 100 most important cultural monuments and is an outstanding location in the landscape of ideas (DuMont travel publishers).

Nearly 2 million people have visited the World Cultural Heritage Site Völklinger Ironworks up to the present day; twice as many as the actual population of Saarland.



Duane Hanson

PopArt

until May 12th 2008

Sculptures of the American Dream

PopArt

until May 12th 2008

Sculptures of the American Dream



Genius I

The Mission discover research invent until March 30th 2008

UNESCO

Europäisches Zentrum für Kunst und Industriekultur

Völklinger Hütte

Genius I. The Mission

'Genius I. The mission: discover research invent' covers the key areas of ingenuity and inventiveness which have had the greatest effect on human life: the foundations of our civilisation, world domination, control over life and death, boundless mobility, electricity and its infinite force, limitless communication and the boundaries of hearing and seeing. The project takes the visitor to seven major theme worlds in which the whole gamut of the most significant inventions from ancient times to the present day is unfolded. Unusual historical exhibits, important inventions, multi-media installations and experiment stations give the visitor the opportunity to discover, research and invent in the wonderful world of innovation in the blower shed, 6000m² in area. These include the invention of the spoked wheel (1600 B.C.), the letterpress (1450), the light bulb (1854) the automobile (1886) and the aeroplane (1903). Genius I also covers many other inventions that have changed our society, including the MP3 audio format (1987), the Internet (1989), the complete decoding of human DNA (2003), and also the condom (1912) and the contraceptive pill (1960).

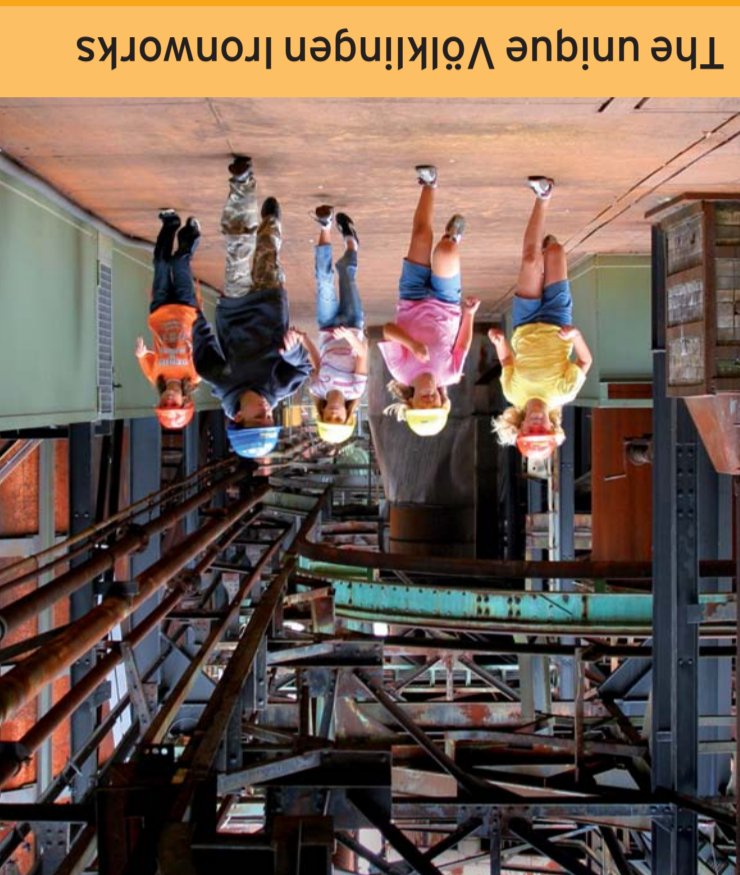
The unique Völklinger Ironworks

A visit to the World Cultural Heritage Site at the Völklinger Ironworks is an adventure. The visitor can descend deep into the dark corridors of the blower shed and climb up to the lofty heights of the blast furnace viewing-platform. The multi-media introduction in the sintering-plant takes the visitor on a journey through time from the beginnings of the Völklinger ironworks right up to the present day. From the roof of the ore shed, a view opens up over the town of Völklingen and the active Saarstahl steelworks. At the granulating-plant, the laid out picnic area invites the visitor to stop for a rest and relax between colourful aquatic plants and defiant steel. The visitor can ascend to the top platform at a height of 28 metres, where the raw materials were tipped into the blast furnaces. Anyone wanting to go higher still can climb up to the blast furnace viewing-platform.

The top platform is open to visitors along the whole of its length, over 200 metres. Then the walkway takes the visitor to the blower shed. The blowers, giants of iron and steel, used to generate the blast which was piped into the blast furnaces. It takes two to three hours to follow the well signposted walkway through the World Cultural Heritage Site, which is more than 5000 metres in length.

The World Cultural Heritage Site at the Völklinger Ironworks: one of the most exciting places in the world.

Catalogue: the Völklinger Ironworks: 9,95 €



Weltkulturerbe Völklinger Hütte

Europäisches Zentrum für Kunst und Industriekultur

UNESCO

Europäisches Zentrum für Kunst und Industriekultur

Völklinger Hütte

Ferrodrom® 08

World of Adventure

March 16th to November 2nd 2008

www.voelklinger-huette.org

More than 100 adventure stations



ScienceCenter Ferrodrom® 08

Opening times

March 16th to November 2nd 2008

daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Admission

Völklinger Ironworks / Ferrodrom®

Reduced rate € 10

Standard € 12

Children in class groups € 3

Families (2 adults with children up to age 16) € 25

The admission fee includes the current exhibitions.

Guided tours (approx. 1,5 hours) for groups (advanced booking required) € 80 plus reduced rate € 10 per person

Especially detailed guided tours available (3-4 hours) (advanced booking required)

A good idea for club and company outings:

the ScienceCenter Ferrodrom®

Season ticket (one year)

Children € 25

Adult € 55

Families € 55

Special tickets for ironworks sponsors and other services on request.

Special rates apply for special events and performances.

Visitor Service

Tel.: +49(0)6898 / 9 100 100

Fax: +49(0)6898 / 9 100 111

visit@voelklinger-huette.org

Bistro B 40 with beer garden / Café Ummwelter

Open all year round

Tel +49 (0) 6898 / 68 93 52

Arrival by car / coach

From Mannheim / Saarbrücken follow the A620, exit no. ③ Völklingen/Geislautern, and Industriekultur

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Dr. Meinrad Maria Grewenig

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The wonderful world of the Völklinger Ironworks comes to life in the Ferrodrom®. At the entrance to the Ferrodrom® one of the largest fire tornadoes in the world gives the visitor a fiery reception. In the laboratory of the Ironworks the surface of iron and steel can be examined with a video microscope. One thing remains certain: the Ferrodrom® is great fun. In the blower shed, there's the riddle of the four elements: what part is played by fire, water, earth and air in an ironworks? The ghostly fog screen turns water into fire. The giant ice cube makes water as hard as stone. Can sand become fluid? Home-made whirlwinds, the air bubble race, the clouds in the sphere - the Ferrodrom® fascinates visitors both young and old. The ironworks laboratory shows the magical world of magnetism. How can magnetism be put to use in everyday life? There's a lot to be discovered here. A powerful microscope helps us to take a close look at the mysterious world of surfaces. Have you ever watched iron rusting? The great challenge in an ironworks is that unimaginable amounts of raw and other materials have to be shifted. With monorails, conveyor belts, lifts. But how did it all work? With the transport circuit in the Ferrodrom®, the mystery can be solved in a playful way: so now you can roll up your sleeves and get into action! Who has the courage to go on the twenty-metre-chute? Who can make the big water wheel turn? There's a lot going on in the Science Park. Only the fit and brave ones can afford all tasks.

Ferrodrom® book for children and young readers: 9.95 €

