



Federal Ministry
of Transport and
Digital Infrastructure



Radweg
Deutsche
Einheit

German Unity Cycle Route

Rest, learn and experience





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The German Unity Cycle Route is a symbol of the reunification and integration of the infrastructure of the former German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany. It offers the chance to experience the success story of Germany at first hand at historical sites.

With service points for cyclists and free high-speed internet, charging facilities as well as digital information on the route and the region, we are setting a new standard for long-distance cycle routes – and we are creating a unique, modern cycle tourism experience in Germany.

Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure



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Creating a cycle route

Reunification was a godsend for Germany and has brought people in our country together again. After the Berlin Wall had come down and freedom of travel had been regained, it was the restoration of transport infrastructure between East and West that became a major driving force of the growing together of the country.

25 years after German reunification, Federal Minister of Transport Alexander Dobrindt initiated a new transport project together with the federal states that is to make German unity a tangible experience: the German Unity Cycle Route. It runs from the former federal capital Bonn right through Germany up to the seat of government in Berlin. Covering over approximately 1,100 kilometres, it shows at very different locations how German unity has been achieved and what progress has been made, in particular in recent years.

The German Unity Cycle Route

The German Unity Cycle Route runs mostly on an already existing network of long-distance bike routes and weaves through seven federal states altogether.

It is signposted and open to cyclists from end-to-end. Particular mention should be made of the reliable signs which make it easy for cyclists to find their way, the high-quality cycle tracks and the well-developed range of services for cycle tourists. They make this cycle route a special experience for cyclists of all ages and abilities.

While you're at home, you can easily plan your route on our website www.radweg-deutsche-einheit.de and while you're on the road, the RDE app, which is available free of charge, provides you with navigation instructions.

All modes of digital communication with regard to the cycle route – from the website to the app and up to the touchscreens at the service points for cyclists along the route – are connected. As a result, you can choose the digital means that suits you and your requirements best.

Rest, learn and experience

As of 2017, digital service points for cyclists will be set up along the route: They will be equipped with touchpads and provide you with information on the highlights of the route. Moreover, you can find out about accommodation, the weather or restaurants in the region. Cultural and historic sites in the seven federal states make the cycle route a perfect choice for day trips and longer holiday trips alike and point the way to the digital future of cycle tourism. Depending on the specific site, solar panels will be installed together with some service points for cyclists.

Electric mobility is also an important issue in this context. Cyclists will be able to charge the batteries of their e-bikes at the service points while visiting the sights of the region.

The German Unity Cycle Route connects the cities of Bonn and Berlin with their rich history and is a symbol of the growing together of Germany after reunification.

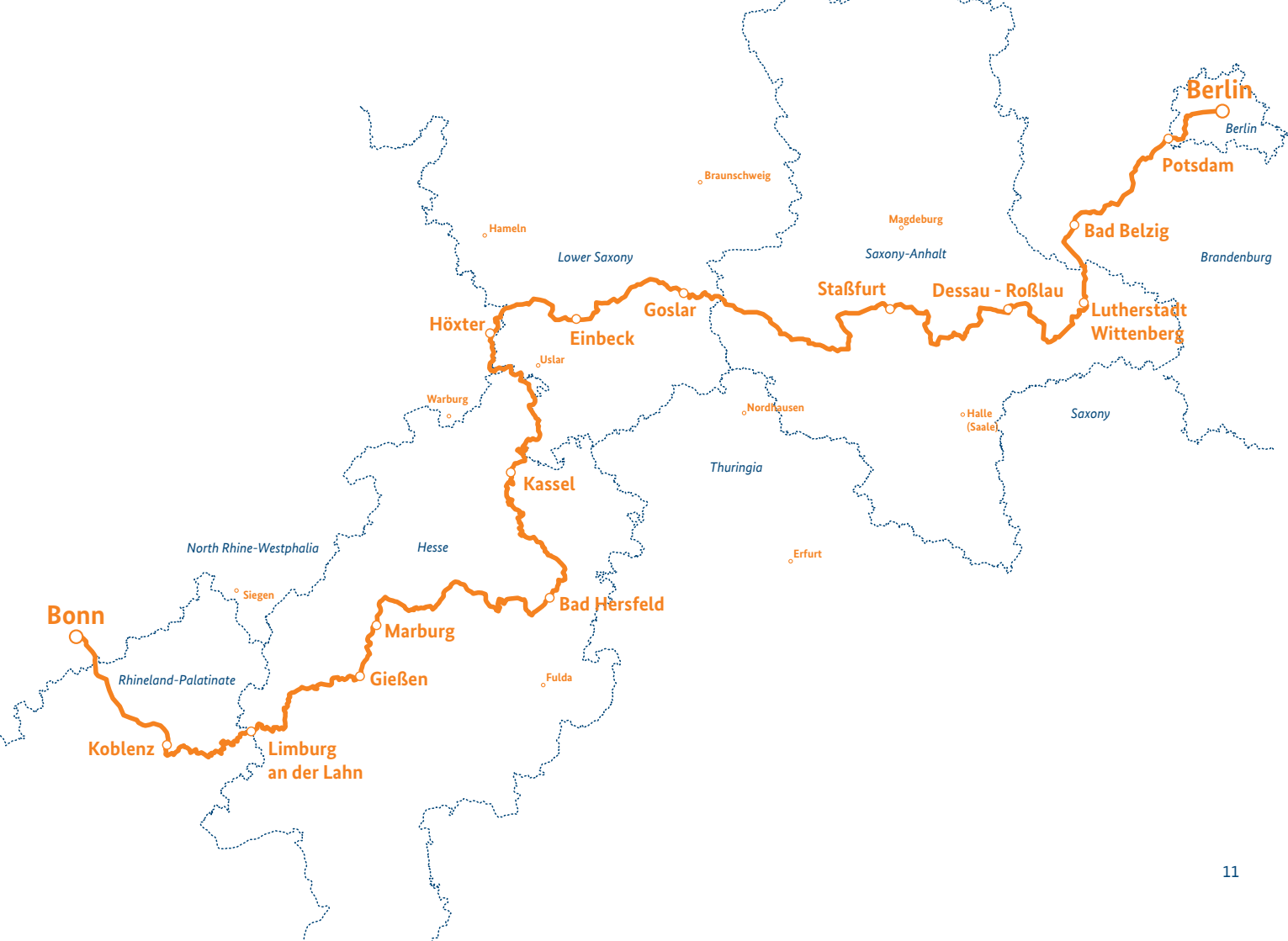
The RDE App

Download the free App and start planning your route on komoot!



A photograph of two cyclists riding on a paved path through a forest. The path is covered with fallen brown leaves. The cyclists are wearing blue shirts and dark shorts. The forest is lush with green trees and foliage. A large, semi-transparent blue circle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text "The entire route" in white. The overall scene is bright and sunny, with light filtering through the trees.

The entire route

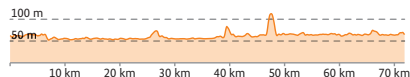


A photograph of a paved path in a park. The path is on the right side of the frame, leading into the distance. To the left of the path is a grassy area with many fallen brown leaves. Several large, mature trees with green foliage line the path. In the background, there are wooden exercise structures. A large blue circle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing white text.

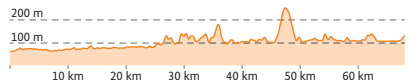
The legs of the German Unity Cycle Route



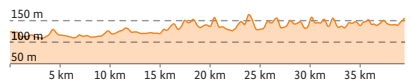
 4,5 h  72 km



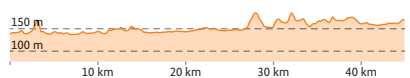
 4,5 h  68 km



 3 h  40 km



 3 h  45 km



1st leg

BONN – KOBLENZ

After a short ride through the former federal capital Bonn, this section takes you all along the River Rhine. You will cross impressive valley landscapes and pass historical sights such as the Dragon Rock in Königswinter and the famous Bridge at Remagen.

2nd leg

KOBLENZ – LIMBURG

Starting on the River Rhine, this section takes you along the River Lahn. A couple of short but tough climbs are rewarded with magnificent views – for example the impressive view of the Ruppertsklamm gorge.

3rd leg

LIMBURG – WEILBURG

Following the course of the River Lahn, this upgraded section captivates you with its unique natural landscapes and historic castles. Knowing that there are beautiful views waiting at the end will make the light to medium ascents much easier to take.

4th leg

WEILBURG – GIESSEN

The German Unity Cycle Route continues to follow the River Lahn past the baroque Weilburg Palace. Further on, the Dudenhofen artificial lake invites you to linger, or why not visit the Lottehaus in the idyllic town of Wetzlar?

Bonn



1st leg

72 km



2nd leg

140 km



3rd leg

180 km

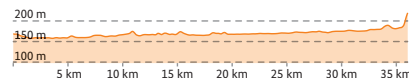


5th leg

GIESSEN – MARBURG

There are no significant climbs on this section, where nature speaks for itself and highlights such as the botanical gardens in Gießen or the Martinsweiher nature conservation site await you. The Mathematikum represents a welcome diversion to the physical exercise on your bicycle and a chance to train your brain.

 2,5 h  36 km

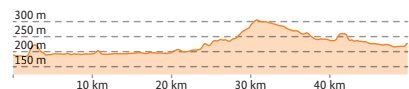


6th leg

MARBURG – SCHWALMSTADT

Numerous churches, towers and mills with fascinating histories are waiting for you on this hilly section and offer the opportunity to take a break. Nature enthusiasts will find a lot to discover in the Schweinsberger Moor, a habitat for boars, deer and many rare birds.

 3,5 h  50 km

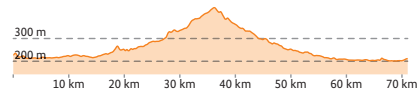


7th leg

SCHWALMSTADT – BAD HERSFELD

This rather hilly section is characterized by its castles of different eras and its quaint villages. The fairy tale house in Neukirchen will let you forget any endeavours and invites cyclists to a world of tales and legends.

 4,5 h  71 km

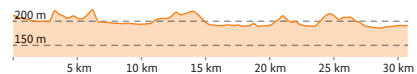


8th leg

BAD HERSFELD – ROTENBURG (FULDA)

This section follows the course of the River Fulda without any significant climbs. You will ride directly through the Forbachsee nature reserve and enjoy spectacular views of the Bad Hersfeld abbey ruins.

 2 h  31 km

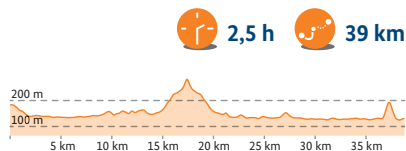




9th leg

ROTENBURG (FULDA) – KASSEL

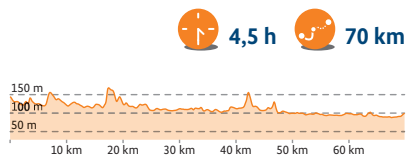
The cable ferry across the River Fulda in Beiseförth is an unusual but relaxing way of continuing your journey on your bicycle. If you would like to slow things down a bit, you can discover the small medieval town of Melsungen with its more than 300 timber-framed houses and an annual wine fair or you can visit the Breitenau memorial just ahead of Kassel.



10th leg

KASSEL – HANNOVERSCH MÜNDE

This leg runs largely along the River Fulda, where several locks invite cyclists to a visit. At the start of the leg in Kassel, you can choose whether to visit the time-honoured Orangery palace or the fascinating Hercules monument in Wilhelmshöhe park with its impressive and colourful illuminations.



11th leg

HANNOVERSCH MÜNDE – HÖXTER

Right at the start of this leg, you will find the famous Weserstein, which marks the confluence of the Rivers Fulda and Werra. The seven Hannover Cliffs, which rise up to 75 metres, offer spectacular views. The leg ends in Höxter in North Rhine-Westphalia, where the former Benedictine abbey and UNESCO World Heritage site of Corvey is located.

413 km

480 km

519 km

589 km

9th leg

10th leg

11th leg

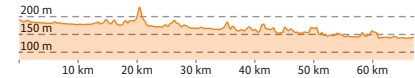
16 leg

12th leg

HÖXTER – EINBECK

Impressive castle ruins and enchanting palaces mark the path on this leg. The Höxter Nordic Walking Park and the canoe piers offer a sporting alternative to cycling. Or, if you are more into culture, you can visit Tonenburg Castle or the hill-top castle of Homburg which were erected in the 14th century.

 4 h  60 km

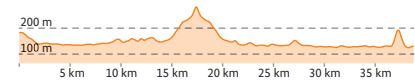


13th leg

EINBECK – GOSLAR

The city of Einbeck was founded in the Early Middle Ages and is known for the art of brewing as well as for its numerous decorated timber-framed houses. From here, this leg takes you through an attractive flora along the River Leine down to Goslar, the thousand-year-old imperial city on the edge of the Harz mountains.

 4,5 h  67 km

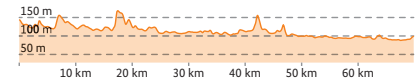


14th leg

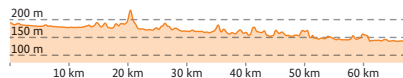
GOSLAR – BLANKENBURG

This leg weaves right through the Harz mountains. Between Bad Harzburg in Lower Saxony and Wernigerode in Saxony-Anhalt, you will cross the former border that separated the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic. Meanwhile, the Brocken mountain museum and the Harz steam train invite you to linger in the highest mountains of Northern Germany.

 4,5 h  56 km



 4 h  57 km

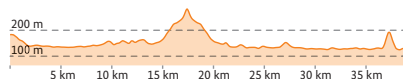


15th leg

BLANKENBURG – GATERSLEBEN

This leg runs through the towns of Thale and Falkenstein in Saxony-Anhalt and offers a mix of simple sections and slight to medium climbs. While riding on mainly concrete-paved paths, you will pass, for example, Ballenstedt Palace and the GDR Museum in Thale.

 3,5 h  55 km

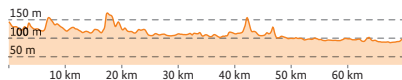


16th leg

GATERSLEBEN – BERNBURG

Most of this leg runs on bicycle-only paths, which make cycling a laid-back affair. The Königsau adventure park has something to offer for visitors of all ages. With its numerous cultural attractions, the town of Stassfurt, situated on the River Bode, is a particular recommendation.

 3,5 h  55 km



17th leg

BERNBURG – DESSAU

On concrete-paved cycle paths, this leg takes a comfortable 3.5 hours to complete. You will first cycle along the River Fuhne until, eventually, the village of Aken on the River Elbe is reached. Beside Bernburg Palace, the Molkerteich bathing area near Osternienburg is worth a visit.

772 km

15th leg

829 km

16th leg

884 km

17th leg

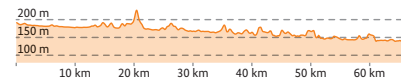
939 km

18 leg

18th leg

DESSAU – WITTENBERG

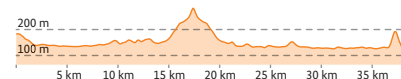
This section is characterized by a great number of attractions, for example the impressive Ferropolis city of steel, the famous Dessau Bauhaus or the unique Mittelbe biosphere reserve, and has cycle tracks that are easy to ride.



19th leg

WITTENBERG – BEELITZ

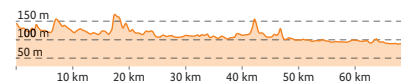
With 77 km, the 19th leg is the longest section of the German Unity Cycle Route. After approximately five hours of cycling on well-developed cycle tracks, the town of Beelitz is reached. The numerous castles, gardens and landscape parks are especially worth seeing. Beelitz has become known as the town of asparagus and is the culinary highlight of this day.



20th leg

BEELITZ – BERLIN

With a distance of 63 km, it takes about four hours to complete this last leg. Its cycle tracks run past many lakes, through Potsdam and across the Glienicke Bridge down to the federal capital of Berlin. Close to the Brandenburg Gate, you will reach the final stop of the German Unity Cycle Route, the Federal Ministry of Transport.



North Rhine- Westphalia



Owing to its major tourist regions, North Rhine-Westphalia ranks among the most important destinations in Germany. This federal state has a lot to offer in all respects. With approximately 18 million inhabitants, North Rhine-Westphalia is the most populous federal state and has produced many artists.

Nobel literature laureate Heinrich Böll as well as the famous composer Ludwig van Beethoven are both from North Rhine-Westphalia. Heinz Rühmann, one of Germany's most renowned actors of the 20th century, was born in Essen – the city that, in representation of 53 cities of the regional Ruhr association, was European Capital of Culture in 2010. The former coal, steel and mining region is undergoing dramatic changes while turning into a polycentric cultural region. By combining cultural diversity and physical activity, the German Unity Cycle Route represents an enrichment for North Rhine-Westphalia. The cycle route starts in Bonn at the office of the Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure and runs past the main station to the banks of the River Rhine. From here, it continues southbound all along the Rhine until the border with the federal state of Rhineland-Palatinate.

Hammerschmidt Villa

Situated centrally in the former government district, Hammerschmidt Villa was the official and private residence of the German Federal President between 1950 and 1994. Since then, it has been used as a second official and private residence, with the first one being Bellevue Palace in Berlin. Erected in 1860, the Villa and the park that surrounds it constitute an architectural gem. During a guided visit you can stroll around the beautiful gardens, enjoy the view of the River Rhine and experience the history of the former federal capital of Bonn.



Stage length

48,8 km



Highlights

9



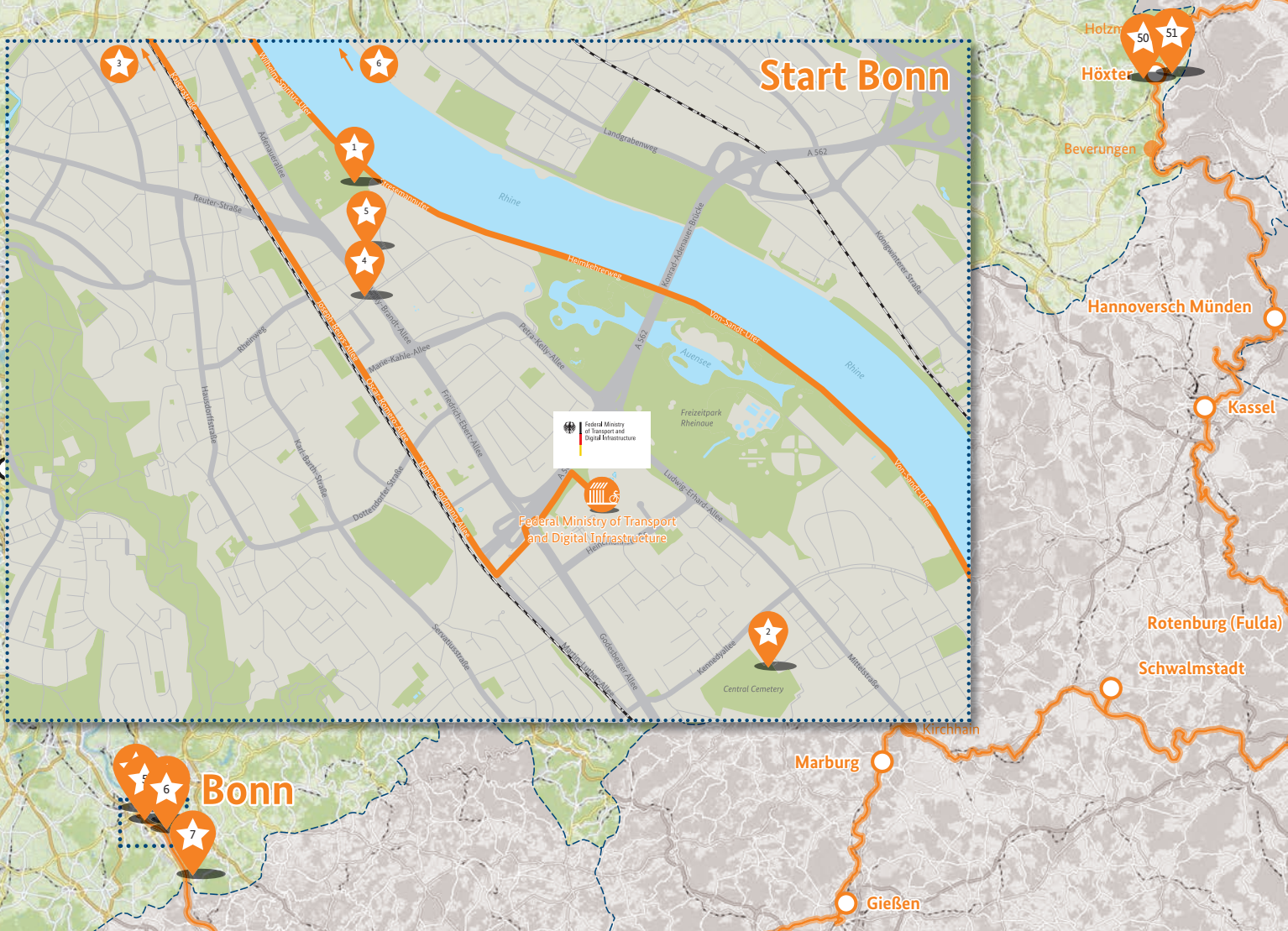
Digital service points

1



Bed + Bike

25



More highlights along the German Unity Cycle Route

With just about 50 km, this section of the German Unity Cycle Route is rather short but offers plenty of cultural diversity: Even during your first kilometres on the cycle route through Bonn – the seat of government from 1949 to 1999 and provisional federal capital – you will find traces of political history everywhere.

Besides the **former buildings of the Federal Chancellor's Office**, home to the German Federal Chancellor from 1976 to 1999, the **House of the History of the Federal Republic of Germany** is one of the highlights of the Federal City of Bonn. It ranks among the most popular museums in Germany and is one of the highlights of the tour: In its permanent exhibition entitled “Unsere Geschichte. Deutschland seit 1945”, the museum presents German history from the post-war era until today.

In North Rhine-Westphalia, the German Unity Cycle Route shows a particular feature: the federal state has two separate legs. The first one runs from the starting point in Bonn along the River Rhine southbound to Rhineland-Palatinate. The second one starts where the three federal states of Hesse, Lower Saxony and North Rhine-Westphalia meet and runs from Beverungen via Höxter to Lower Saxony. In the urban area of the town of Höxter, you will find the **Abbey of Corvey**, directly located on the River Weser. It is a world heritage site. In the former Benedictine abbey and present-day palace, a museum was installed where cultural events, concerts and exhibitions take place.



1. Hammerschmidt Villa in Bonn
2. Deutsches Museum in Bonn
3. Beethoven House in Bonn

4. House of the History of Germany
5. Former Federal Chancellor's Office
6. Reunification trees in Bonn

7. Dragon Rock in Königswinter
50. Jacob Pins Forum in Höxter
51. Corvey Abbey in Höxter





Rhineland- Palatinate







Rhineland-Palatinate is home to the “cradle of German democracy”. It was during the Hambach Festival in 1832, when the aspiration for freedom, civil rights and German unity was celebrated, that the black, red and gold flag in its current form was used for the first time. Later it became the symbol of a German republic.

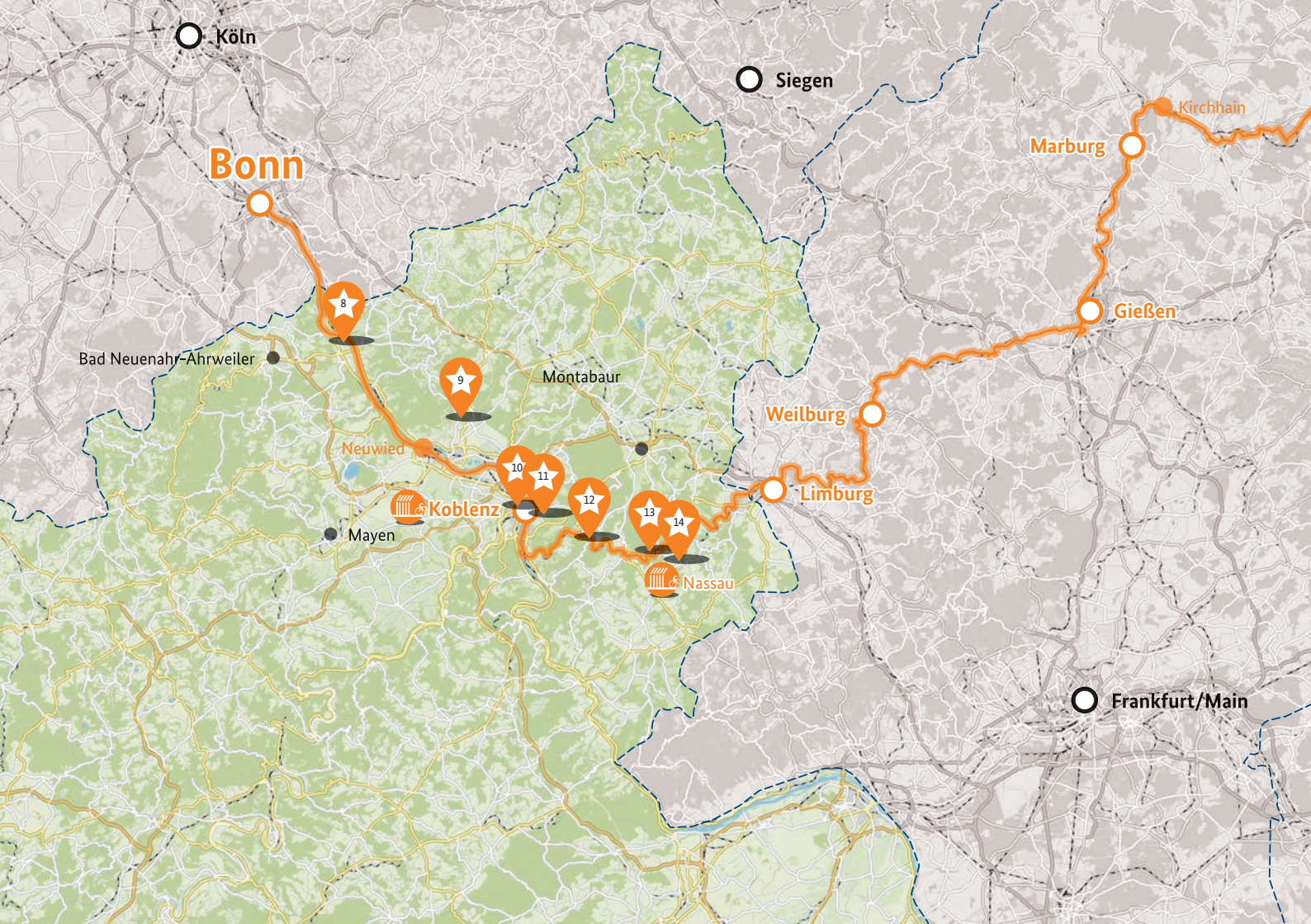
Besides its history and excellent wines, Rhineland-Palatinate also captivates visitors with its natural highlights. With a scenery of castles and palaces, green forests and its picturesque landscape, the state features exciting destinations. The route along the River Rhine and through the valley of the River Lahn – one of the most idyllic in Germany – is highly recommended. On this section with a total length of 113 kilometres, there are some steep climbs to master and stamina is required – but you will be rewarded for your efforts! As you ride past vineyards as well as castles and palaces, you can enjoy culture and landscape. The towns of Remagen, Bad Breisig, Koblenz and Nassau are located along the way and invite cyclists for a visit.

Deutsches Eck

As a symbol of the idea of unity, the Deutsches Eck in Koblenz has been part of the UNESCO Upper Middle Rhine Valley world heritage since 2002. When the Teutonic Order was established as a hospital brotherhood in 1216, this historic place was named Deutsches Eck. The night of reunification was celebrated not only with an official event at the Reichstag in Berlin, but also in Rhineland-Palatinate in front of the Deutsches Eck. Like an arrow, this artificial headland points at the spot where the River Moselle joins the River Rhine. Here, the 37 m high monument of Emperor William I was erected in 1897 as gratitude for the unification of Germany and to commemorate the late monarch.



	Stage length	113,6 km
	Highlights	7
	Digital service points	2
	Bed + Bike	48



Köln

Siegen

Bonn

Marburg

Kirchhain

Gießen

Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler

Montabaur

Weilburg

Neuwied

Limburg

Koblenz

Mayen

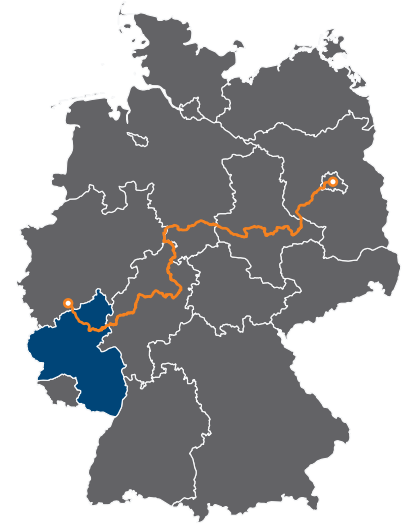
Nassau

Frankfurt/Main

More highlights along the German Unity Cycle Route

In many respects, Rhineland-Palatinate has a variety of culturally and historically important sites to offer. Right next to the German Unity Cycle Route is the former **railway bridge at Remagen**. It is said to have been one of the most beautiful steel bridges across the River Rhine and has an exciting history to share: In order to prevent American troops from advancing, German soldiers were ordered to destroy the bridge towards the end of the Second World War. However, the prepared demolition failed and the Americans were able to cross the Ludendorff Bridge unexpectedly. As a result of this defeat of the German Wehrmacht, the Second World War ended several months earlier and the bridge went down in history as the “Miracle at Remagen”. Today, the listed towers on the Remagen side host a museum for peace.

In Nassau, the Freiherr vom Stein park invites cyclists to linger and enjoy the beautiful view of not only one but two castles: **Nassau Castle** was erected by Counts Ruprecht and Arnold von Laurenburg and has given its name to the land far beyond the town. With King William Alexander in the Netherlands and Grand Duke Henri in Luxembourg, two descendants of the House of Nassau still reign today. 70 metres below the castle lie the remains of **Stein's Castle**. It was once the family residence of the Barons vom und zum Stein, whose most prominent member is the Prussian reformer Heinrich Friedrich Karl.



- 8. Bridge at Remagen
- 9. Limes border defence in the district of Neuwied

- 10. Deutsches Eck and monument of Emperor William I in Koblenz
- 11. Koblenz Funicular
- 12. Old Central Power Station in Bad Ems

- 13. Remains of Nassau Castle
- 14. Remains of Stein's Castle





Bonn

Deutsches Eck

Rhineland-Palatinate

Lower Saxony

Saxony-Anhalt

Berlin

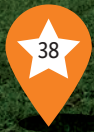
Brandenburg

North Rhine-Westphalia

Hesse



Hesse







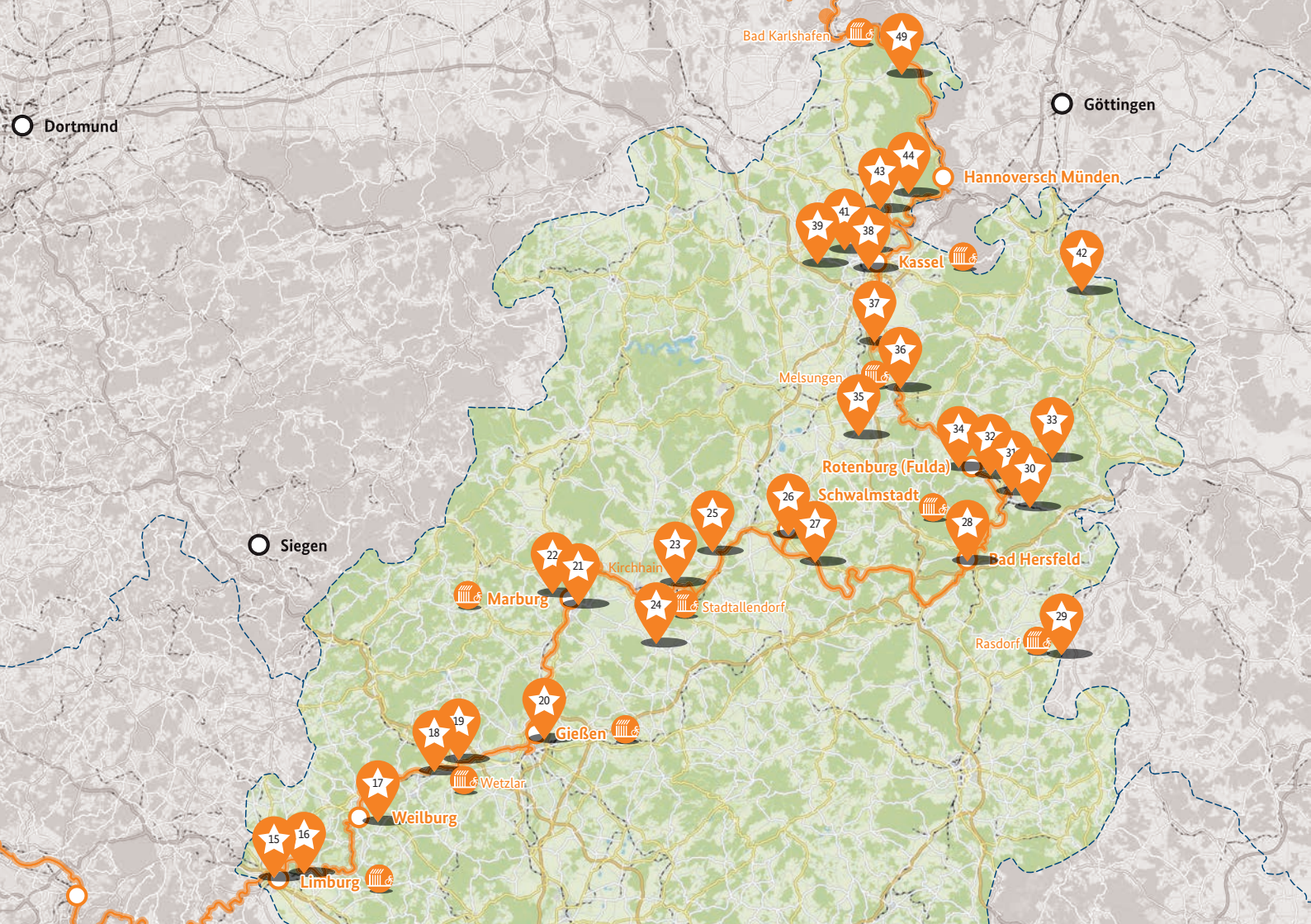
Diversity, originality and beauty – Hesse is known beyond the borders of the federal state for its unique nature and landscape. **About 374 km** of the **German Unity Cycle Route** run through Hesse. Attractive touristic offers, its natural and cultural landscapes as well as the cities and towns make Hesse an attractive holiday and leisure time destination. Apart from the leg destinations of Limburg an der Lahn, Gießen, Marburg, Bad Hersfeld and Kassel, it is the many castles and palaces along the route that make this section very attractive and show Germany from one of its most beautiful sides. However, there are also other reasons why Hesse is so popular among long- and short-term visitors from near and far. In Hesse, the valuable asset of nature is protected by means of numerous nature conservation areas that are located in close proximity to the cycle route.



Orangery in Kassel

The German Unity Cycle Route leads past the Orangery palace in Kassel, one of the most prestigious highlights of Hesse. The baroque palace was built between 1703 and 1711 under the rule of Landgrave Karl and has marked the northern start of Karlsaue Park since those days. The stretched galleries served as ballrooms and the corner pavilions used to be the summer residence of the landgrave's family. "Orangerie" is originally a French term and denominates an "orange tree house". Initially, orangeries were greenhouses where southern plants such as orange trees were brought to hibernate. Today, the Orangery in Kassel hosts an astronomy and physics exhibition and is the largest planetarium in the federal state of Hesse. Finally, it is also an ideal forum for weddings, conferences and events.

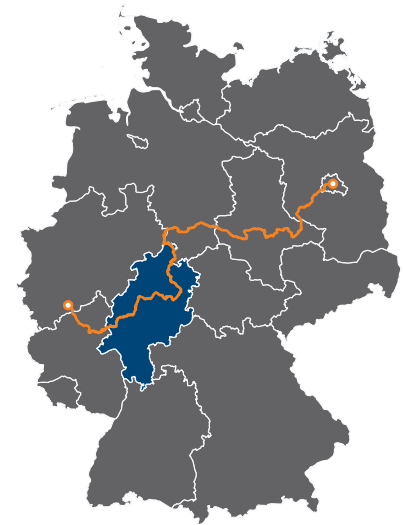
	Stage length	374,4 km
	Highlights	31
	Digital service points	10
	Bed + Bike	106



More highlights along the German Unity Cycle Route

About 30 km to the southeast of Bad Hersfeld, between Rasdorf in the federal state of Hesse and Geisa in the federal state of Thuringia, the **Point Alpha memorial** is located at the former border between East and West Germany. Geisa was the most western town of the whole Warsaw Pact. At the time, the observation base of the US Forces on the territory of Hesse was one of the most important surveillance posts in Europe. Today's memorial includes not only the American base, but also a strip of the original GDR border fortifications on the territory of Thuringia.

In Kassel, the **Hercules statue in the Wilhelmshöhe** park invites cyclists to take a break. Since 1717, the symbol of Kassel has stood on top of the Karlsberg hill. From a viewing platform 530 m above ground level, visitors can enjoy the views of the Wilhelmshöhe park, the city and the nearby uplands.



- 15. High Cathedral of Limburg
- 16. Berlin Memorial in Limburg
- 17. Kubach Crystal Cave
- 18. Optikparcours in Wetzlar
- 19. Lottehaus in Wetzlar
- 20. Mathematikum in Gießen
- 21. St. Elizabeth's Church in Marburg
- 22. Medieval Synagogue in Marburg
- 23. Documentation and Information Centre
in Stadtallendorf
- 24. Schweinsberger Moor
- 25. Junker Hansen Tower in Neustadt

- 26. Memorial and Museum in Trutzhain
- 27. Fairy Tale House in Neukirchen
- 28. Bad Hersfeld Abbey Ruins
- 29. Point Alpha Memorial in Geisa
- 30. Bebra Nature Adventure
- 31. Railway Museum in Bebra
- 32. GUT* No 7 – Bebra - Erfurt (rail)
- 33. Residence of the Trott zu Solz family in Bebra
- 34. Landgrave's palace in Rotenburg
- 35. Art on the border in the Werra Meissner
district
- 36. Timbre-framed old town of Melsungen

- 37. Breitenau Memorial
 - 38. Orangery and Karlsaue in Kassel
 - 39. Hercules statue in Kassel
 - 40. Fridericianum in Kassel
 - 41. Statue of the Ampelmännchen in Kassel
 - 42. Schiffersgrund border museum in Asbach
 - 43. Rothwesten observatory
 - 44. Monetary reform museum in Fuldatal-
Rothwesten
 - 49. Mühlenplatz exhibition of building
miniatures in Oberweser-Gieselwerder
- *German Unity Transport Projects





Lower Saxony







Lower Saxony is a region that is among the most steeped in tradition in Europe and invites cyclists to an eventful journey through time from the middle ages to the present day. Between the Rivers Ems and Elbe, the peaks of the Harz mountains and the ocean climate of the North Sea, the federal state offers a charming landscape that is just waiting to be discovered by bicycle.

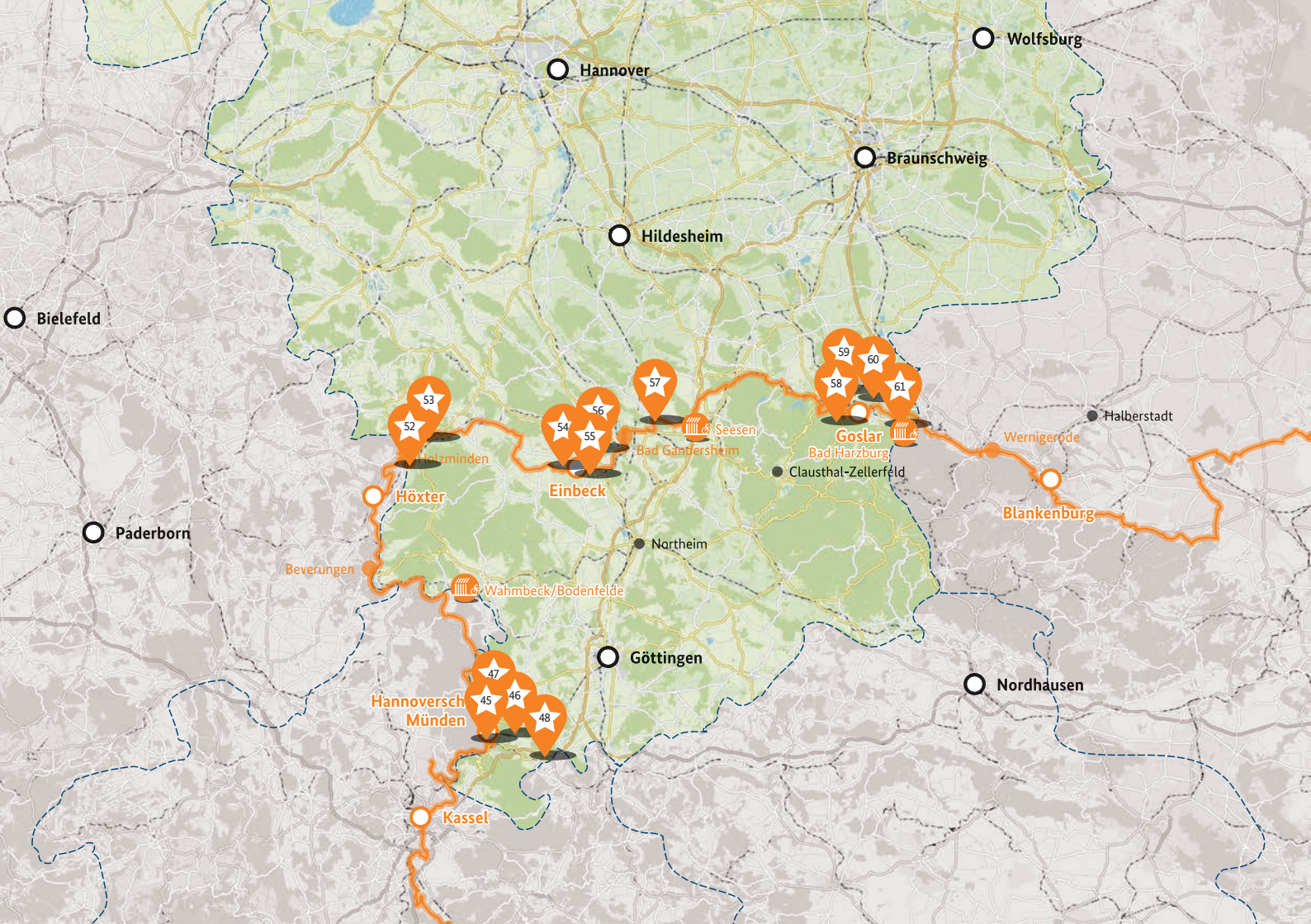
This section starts in Hannoversch Münden and will first take you to the Weser-bergland. After a short trip to Höxter in North Rhine-Westphalia, the German Unity Cycle Route heads east right through Lower Saxony up to Goslar and Bad Harzburg in the Harz mountains. Northern Germany's highest mountains can be passed in a jaunty up and down by bicycle, negotiating quite a few metres of altitude. An impressive panorama of mountain meadows, avenues, forests and rivers compensates for the effort and guarantees a constantly changing scenery to cyclists.

Goslar Imperial Palace

Erected between 1040 and 1050 under Henry III, the imperial palace is located at the foot of the Rammelsberg mountain in the south of Goslar and is known as the biggest, oldest and best-preserved secular building dating back to the 11th century. Together with the old town of Goslar and the Rammelsberg mine, the imperial palace is part of the UNESCO World Heritage. In the high-medieval period, the fate of German and European politics was steered at this place when diets and courts took place here. Even today, the imperial palace reflects its former grandeur and the power of the German imperial state. In seven vaults, a comprehensive exhibition provides information about the history of the travelling emperors, and outstanding artistic treasures and the imperial throne made from bronze can be visited.



	Stage length	167,4 km
	Highlights	14
	Digital service points	3
	Bed + Bike	35



More highlights along the German Unity Cycle Route

For around 167 kilometres, the cycle route runs through **Lower Saxony** where 14 tourist and cultural highlights are waiting for cyclists to visit them.

One of the most important architectural monuments of the Weser renaissance is **Bevern Palace, located in the south of Holzminden district**. It was built by Statius von Münchhausen between 1603 and 1612 on the site of a former manor house. From 1935, the Palace was used as military barracks. The two-floor building with four wings and two stair towers belongs to the impressive core building which, after having been conquered by US troops, was converted into a refugee camp for Russian and Polish prisoners of war and forced labourers between 1945 and 1949. Today, the Palace is home to the museum of local history of the town of Bevern.

While riding on the German Unity Cycle Route, you can also learn about the history of mobility in Germany. The **PS.Speicher** and the **RadHaus** in **Einbeck**, probably the most up-to-date bicycle museum in Germany, provide an insight into the history and development of the bicycle, amongst other things. The **thousand-year-old imperial city of Goslar** in the Harz mountains with its old town, the imperial palace and the Rammelsberg ore mine invites visitors to an exciting journey through time – from the middle ages to the present day.

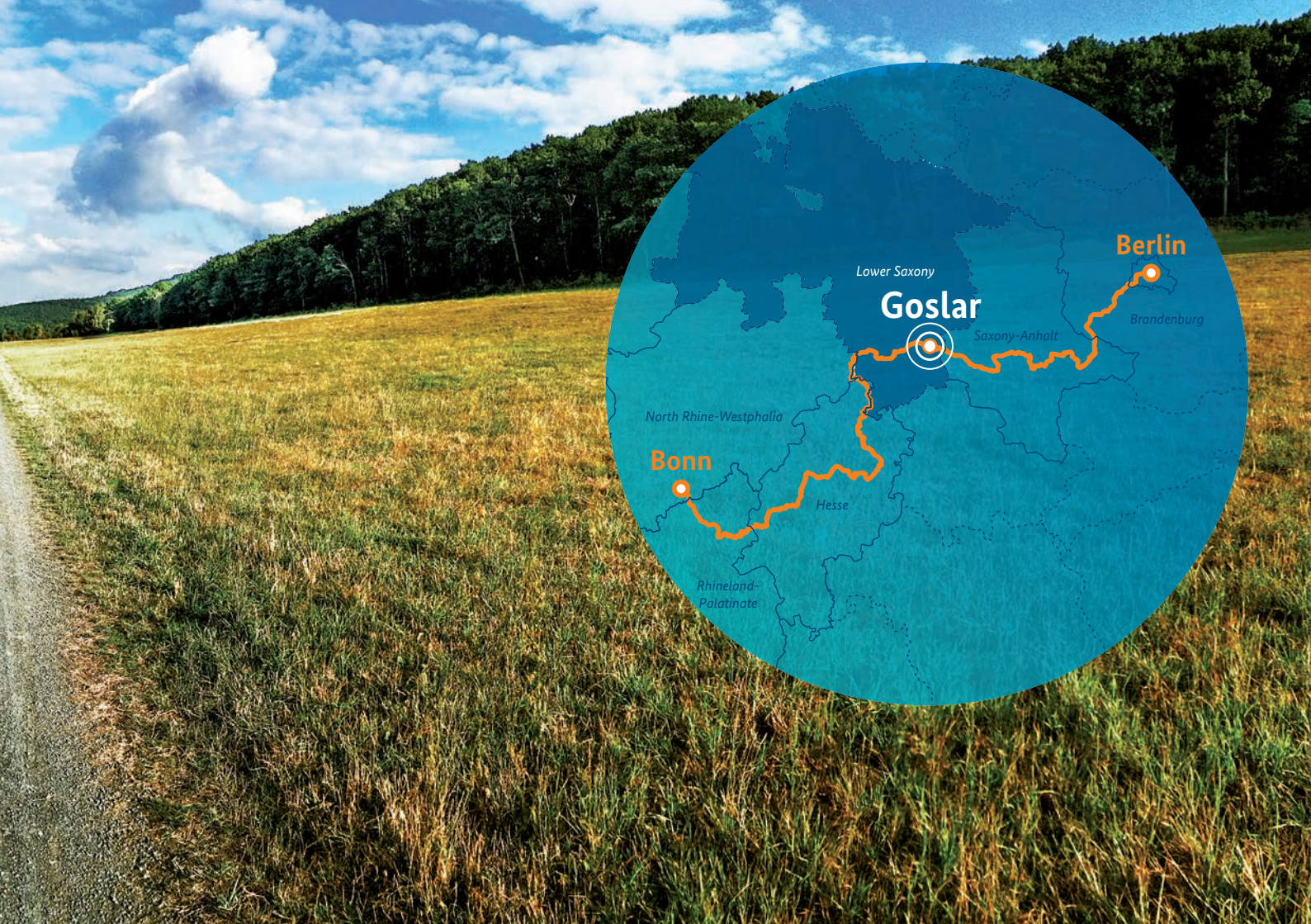


- 45. Historic old town of Hannoversch Münden
- 46. Tillyschanze observation tower
- 47. Guelph Palace in Hannoversch Münden
- 48. Hedermünden Roman military camp
- 52. Holzminden – the town of fragrances and

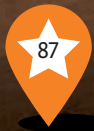
- flavours
- 53. Bevern Palace
- 54. PS.Speicher in Einbeck
- 55. Historic old town of Einbeck
- 56. RadHaus in Einbeck

- 57. Gandersheim house of secular canonesses
- 58. Rammelsberg ore mine
- 59. Goslar Imperial Palace
- 60. Old town of Goslar
- 61. Border town of Bad Harzburg





Saxony-Anhalt



The federal state of Saxony-Anhalt already existed in its current form from 1947 to 1952; it had been dissolved for the time being as a result of an administrative reform in the German Democratic Republic. It was only shortly before German reunification in 1990 that the five new federal states – one of them being Saxony-Anhalt – were established. The territory of the present federal state bears witness to more than 7,000 years of German and European history. The route takes cyclists from Wernigerode in the Harz mountains to Lutherstadt Wittenberg.



After a hilly start, the route remains rather flat and runs through a multitude of small villages in the Magdeburg Plain and the Mittelelbe biosphere reserve. Saxony-Anhalt has many cultural and historical sights to offer. There are many castles, palaces and churches to be found in this federal state as well as other cultural monuments, for example Wernigerode Castle, the Bauhaus in Dessau or Lutherstadt Wittenberg.

Ferropolis

Until 1991, Ferropolis was an operational lignite-fired power station. Today, it is a dynamic museum. With its impressive ensemble of 130 m high giant excavators and stackers, the City of Steel on Lake Gremmin represents an overwhelming background for concerts and events. Artists such as Herbert Grönemeyer and Deep Purple have already used this powerful atmosphere for their concerts. During a tour of the 2000-tonne Gemini stacker or a guided bicycle tour, you have the chance of getting another impression of Ferropolis – a place full of energy and memories which illustrates the major structural changes the region is undergoing.



Stage length

269,4 km



Highlights

28

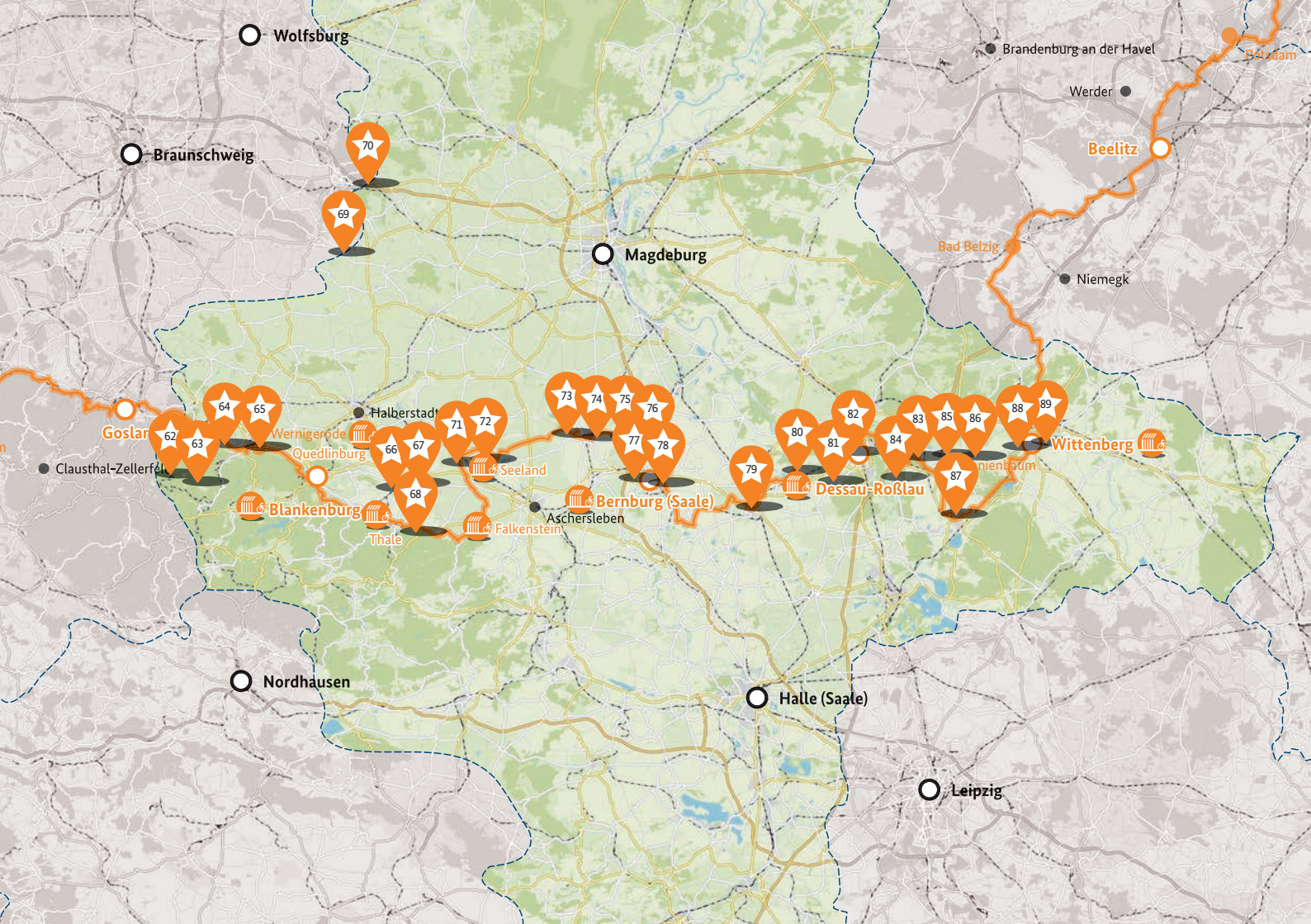


Digital service points 9



Bed + Bike

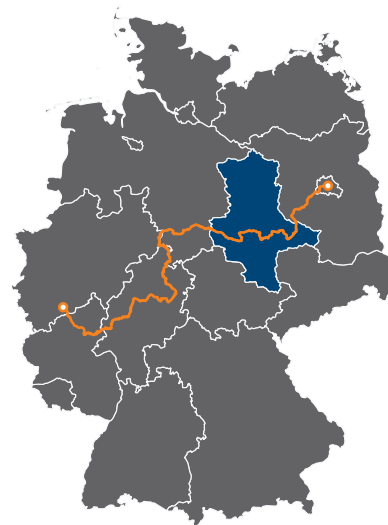
42



More highlights along the German Unity Cycle Route

Climbing the Brocken, the highest of the Harz mountains – and at 1,141 metres also the highest mountain in the north of Germany – can also be a laid-back experience if you use the Harz steam train, which is part of the historic narrow-gauge railway of the Harz mountains, instead of your bicycle. It was developed at the end of the 19th century (1899) to promote tourism. Bicycles are carried free of charge. And when you ride back down into the valley, you are guaranteed to have fun!

The **border-crossing point at Helmstedt-Marienborn** is located a little bit further off the cycle route. However, a day-trip there is worth your while. Until 1989, the former border-crossing point between East and West Germany was a bottleneck and had developed into the most important point for traffic in transit in Germany. Between 1984 and 1989, approximately ten million passenger cars and five million goods vehicles were handled here. Today, you can explore the site with its guard tower and passport control on your own or during a guided tour.

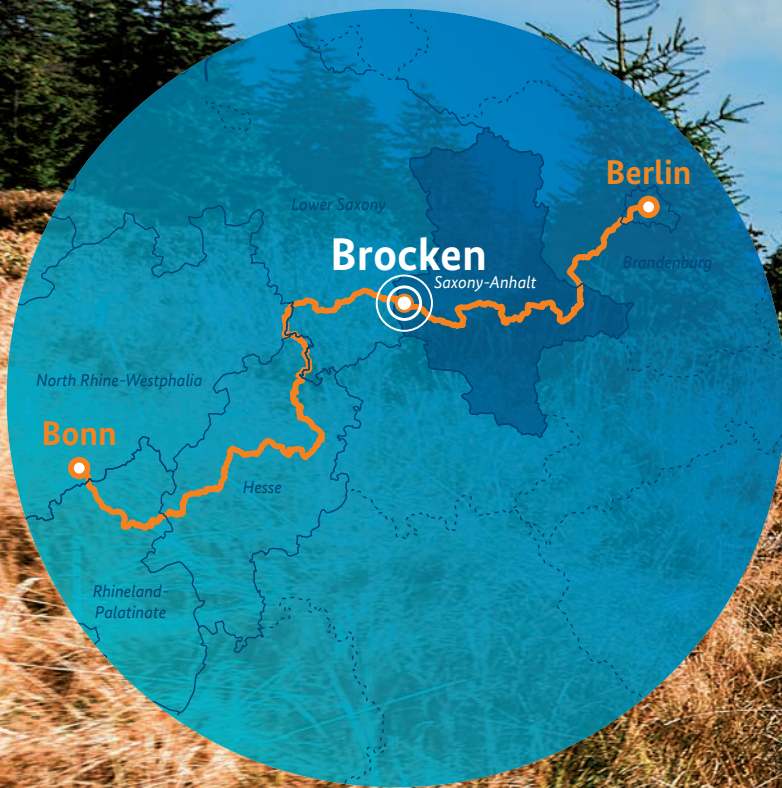


- 62. Harz steam train
- 63. Brocken mountain museum
- 64. Drübeck Monastery near Ilsenburg
- 65. Old town and palace of Wernigerode
- 66. Cathedral and cathedral treasure of Quedlinburg
- 67. Old town of Quedlinburg
- 68. Palace and gardens of Ballenstedt
- 69. Border memorial in Hötenleben
- 70. Marienborn Memorial of German Division
- 71. Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop

- Plant Research in Gatersleben
- 72. Lake Concordia
- 73. Museum of Radio and TV in Staßfurt
- 74. Automobile Museum in Staßfurt
- 75. Hohenexleben Palace
- 76. GUT* No 14 – A14 Halle – Magdeburg (roads)
- 77. Bernburg Palace Museum
- 78. Bernburg Memorial
- 79. Köthen Palace
- 80. Eike von Repgow village of Reppichau
- 81. Mosigkau Palace

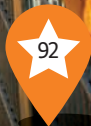
- 82. Bauhaus in Dessau
- 83. Vockerode lignite-fired power station
- 84. Mittelbe Oranienbaum biosphere reserve
- 85. Oranienbaum Palace and Park
- 86. Wörlitz Park
- 87. Ferropolis
- 88. GUT* No 8 – Nuremberg – Erfurt – Halle/Leipzig-Berlin (rail)
- 89. Lutherstadt Wittenberg

*German Unity Transport Projects





Brandenburg



With a maximum altitude of 201 m above sea level, Brandenburg is part of the North German Plain. Today's scenery is characterized by valleys which determine the lake and river landscape. As the terrain is so flat, the federal state represents a relaxing section for cyclists. Besides a multitude of canals and lakes, the Brandenburg section of the German Unity Cycle Route is very impressive, in particular with its well-developed cycle tracks, park landscapes and nature conservation areas. The approximately 90 km of the cycle route in Brandenburg weave through the High Fläming and past the lakes of the Havel up to the federal state's capital Potsdam. Passing palaces, architectural monuments, the idyllic city centre and many churches, you will eventually reach the Glienicke Bridge, where you will cross the former border strip between Brandenburg and Berlin that separated the East and the West until reunification.



Beelitz Sanatorium and Treetop Trail

The Beelitz Sanatorium was built more than 100 years ago. Workers were sent to the clinic complex from Berlin to recover from the then rampant pulmonary tuberculosis. During both World Wars, the Sanatorium served as a military hospital for German soldiers. From 1945 to 1994, the biggest hospital of the Soviet Union's Red Army outside Russia was located here. With about 60 historic buildings, the site is the biggest conservation area in Germany today.

Since 2015, a 320 m long treetop path has spanned the Alpenhaus ruin. Since 1945, a singular treescape has been growing on the house. Visitors can explore the forest park from a unique perspective 22 m above the ground. From the observation tower 40 m above the ground, the view opens up far beyond the landscapes of the High Fläming and right up to Berlin.



Stage length

89,8 km



Highlights

8



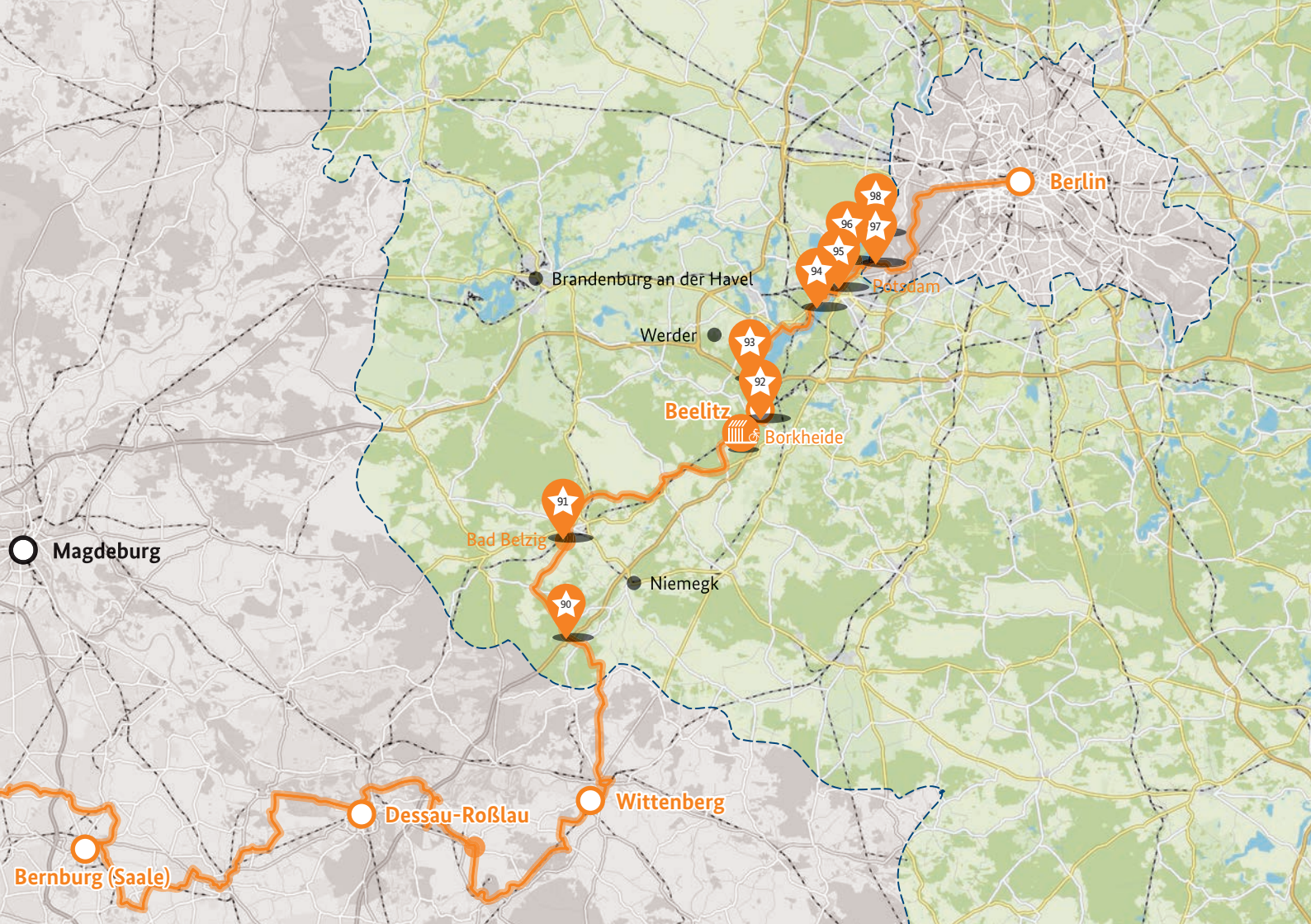
Digital service points

1



Bed + Bike

39



Magdeburg

Bad Betzig

91

90

Niemege

Beelitz

Borkheide

92

93

Werder

Brandenburg an der Havel

94

95

96

97

98

Potsdam

Berlin

Dessau-Roßlau

Wittenberg

Bernburg (Saale)

More highlights along the German Unity Cycle Route

The historic **old town of Bad Belzig** in Brandenburg is situated directly on the cycle route and well worth a visit. In 1995, the small town with about 11,000 inhabitants was recognized as state-approved climatic health resort, and since 2009 it has been a recognized spa town. In the town centre, the market square with the town hall stands out. Dating back to 1671, the imposing building was gutted by fire in 1972 and was completely demolished. Between 1988 and 1991, it was reconstructed based on historical plans.

At the Potsdam Conference from 17 July to 2 August 1945, world history was made: The meeting of the three main allies of the Second World War – Great Britain, the Soviet Union and the United States of America – took place at the **Cecilienhof Palace** in Potsdam. After the end of the fighting in Europe, the conference decided on a division of the German Reich into zones of occupation. For this reason, the conference marks the end of the Second World War in Europe and, in a certain way, also the beginning of the Cold War. The failure to agree on a joint strategy of occupation eventually led to the division of Germany, which was to last more than 40 years. When the Potsdam Conference in 1945 had ended, the palace and park were made accessible to the general public. In 1990, Cecilienhof Palace, together with the palaces and parks of Potsdam-Sanssouci and Berlin (Glienicke and Peacock Island) became a world heritage site and was placed under the protection of UNESCO.

90. GUT* No 12 – A 9 Nuremberg - Berlin (road)

91. Historic old town of Bad Belzig

92. Beelitz Sanatorium and Treetop Trail

93. GUT* No 11 – A 2 Hannover - Berlin and

A 10 S+E Berlin orbital motorway (road)

94. Lindenstraße Memorial in Potsdam

95. GUT* No 5 – Helmstedt - Magdeburg -

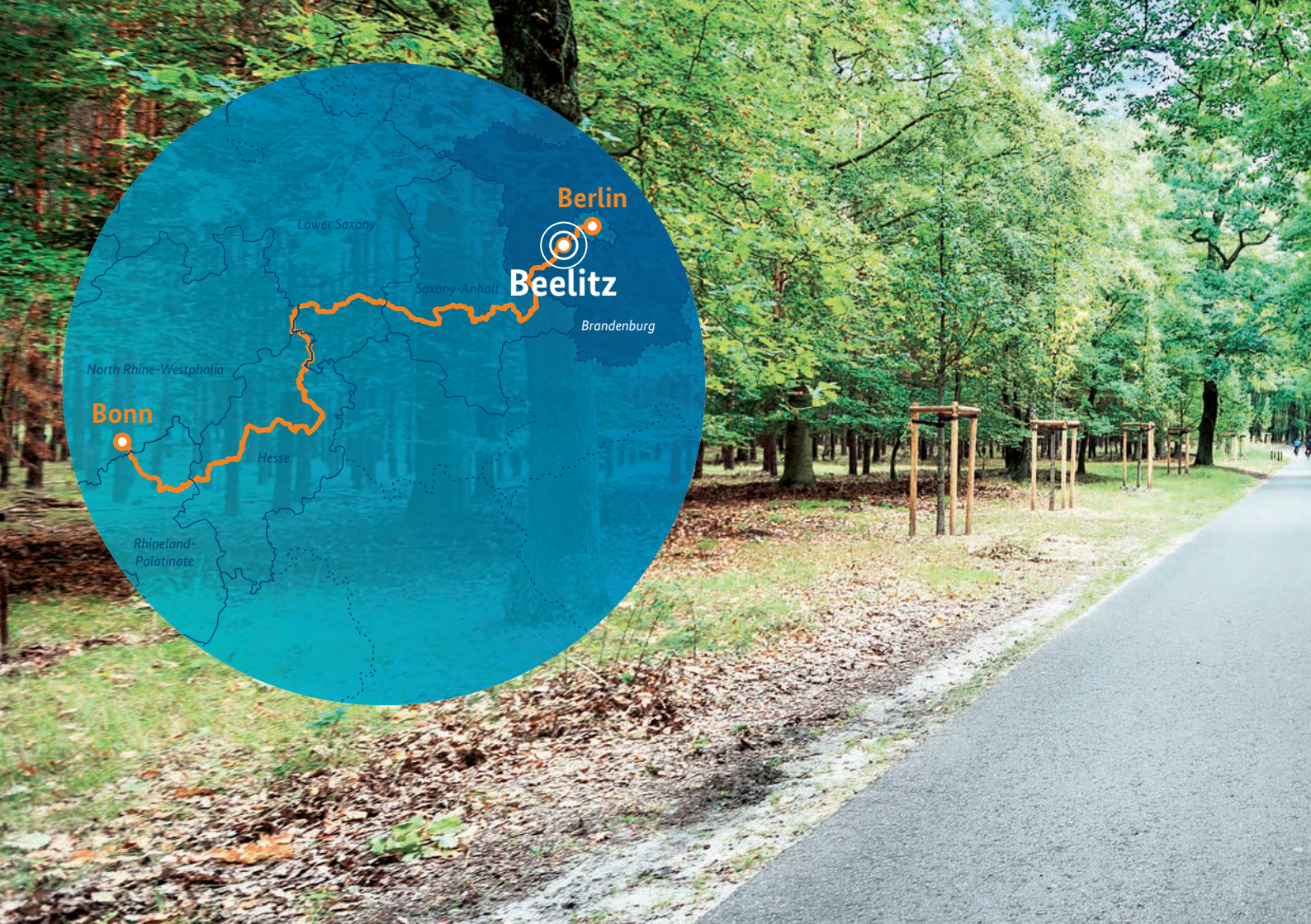
Berlin (rail)



96. Cecilienhof Palace

97. Church of the Redeemer in Sacrow

*German Unity Transport Projects







Berlin

101

Its forests and allotment gardens as well as the numerous parks and recreation areas make Germany's capital one of the greenest metropolises of Europe. Discovering Berlin on bicycle is becoming more and more popular. The many sights as well as the parliament and government precinct are easily and quickly reached and offer a whole new perspective of the constantly changing capital city.

Why not use the German Unity Cycle Route for such a discovery tour?





On the Glienicke Bridge, you cross the border strip from Brandenburg to Berlin. The last 30 km of the German Unity Cycle Route are covered on the territory of the city-state of Berlin. First, the route runs along the River Havel. You will mainly cycle on minor roads with little traffic, through green links or at the waterside. Finally, the Straße des 17. Juni takes you to the grand finale: a ride through the Brandenburg Gate. The German Unity Cycle Route ends at the headquarters of the Federal Ministry of Transport on Invalidenstraße.

Brandenburg Gate

As a national symbol of Berlin, the Brandenburg Gate symbolizes both the division and reunification of Germany.

There is no other place in Germany so closely linked to the history of the two Germanys as this most eastern highlight of the cycle route. In August 1961, when the Berlin Wall was built, the structure was situated in the middle of the restricted zone and could not be passed, either from the West or from the East. 28 years later, in December 1989, the only remaining gate of the city was reopened, with the Berliners cheering loudly.

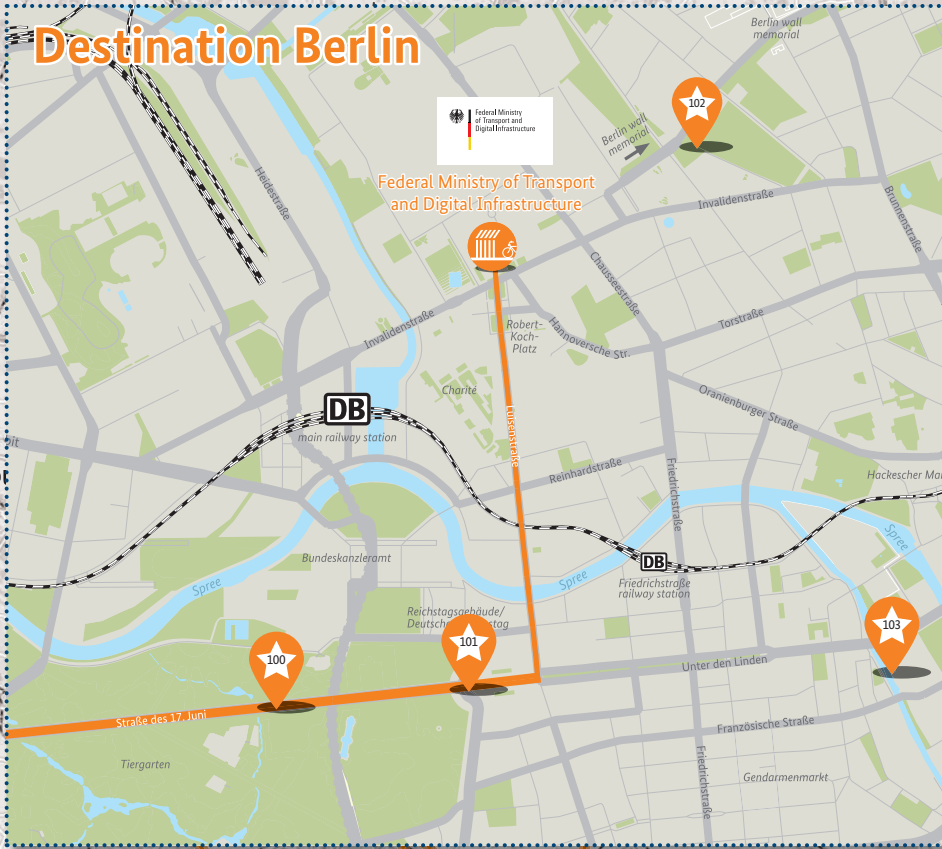


	Stage length	30,8 km
	Highlights	7
	Digital service points	1
	Bed + Bike	10

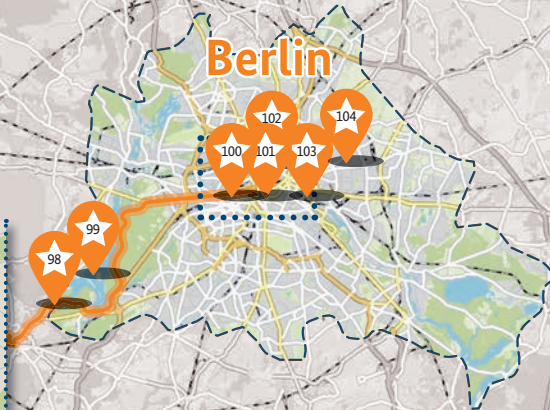
Destination Berlin



Federal Ministry of Transport
and Digital Infrastructure



Berlin

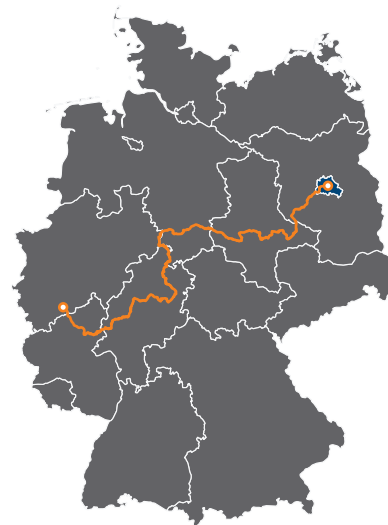


More highlights along the German Unity Cycle Route

The many highlights along the Berlin section of the route make it clear just how diverse the German capital and metropolis is. The **Straße des 17. Juni** – named after the popular uprising in the former GDR in 1953 – is ideal for an exploratory bicycle trip through Germany's capital. After passing through the communities of Charlottenburg and Tiergarten, this west-east artery heads down to Berlin-Mitte where it ends at the **Brandenburg Gate**.

The **Glienicke Bridge** was built in 1907. Located in the extreme southwest of Berlin, the bridge connects the federal capital to Potsdam and the federal state of Brandenburg. The border strip that separated it into East and West ran right through the middle of the bridge. The border-crossing point is still visible today. During the Cold War, agents of the American and Soviet secret services (CIA and KGB) were exchanged here on several occasions. As a result, the Glienicke Bridge became universally known and served to inspire many international film productions.

The **Berlin-Hohenschönhausen Memorial** commemorates a Soviet special camp that was set up after the Second World War and, from 1946, was used as a central Soviet remand prison in Eastern Germany. Eventually, the Ministry of State Security (MfS) took over the prison and used it as central detention centre; thousands of politically persecuted individuals were detained here.



98. Glienicke Bridge

99. GUT* No 17 – Hanover – Berlin (waterway)

100. Straße des 17. Juni

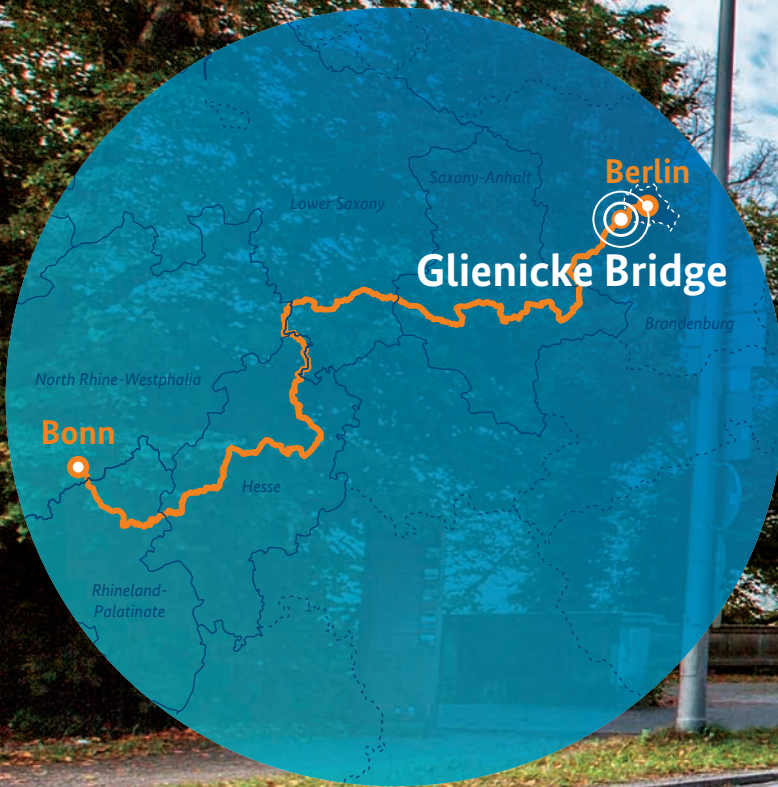
101. Brandenburg Gate

102. Berlin Wall Memorial

103. GDR Museum in Berlin

104. Berlin-Hohenschönhausen Memorial

*German Unity Transport Projects





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