

## "Quallerberg" rest area and hiking spot car park in the district of Bermsgrün

This area received approx. EUR 98,000 in subsidies from 16 May 2022 to 14 July 2022 as part of the B.2.1 "Investment projects for rural tourism" funding measure for construction projects to improve the quality of the tourism infrastructure. This measure derives from the "Project funding in accordance with the Saxon State Ministry for Environment and Agriculture directive for the implementation of LEADER development strategies" (LEADER funding guidelines – RL LEADER/2014) funding programme dated 15 December 2014. The measure amounted to approx. EUR 158,000 in total.

Once the undeveloped "Quallerberg" area has been turned into a recreational picnic spot, seating, information about the site and the surrounding area, as well as opportunities for sports activities, will be provided.

### Equipment:

- o pull-up station
- o table tennis table
- o paved barbecue area with benches and bar table
- o two sheltered banks of seating
- o two benches with scenic views
- two information boards

# "W@anderbarer Silberberg" circular hiking trail

The circular hiking trail "W@nderbarer Silberberg" covers a distance of approx. 97 km and wends its way through the districts of all municipalities belonging to the Städtebund Silberberg. The varied trail stretches through historical town centres, past local sights, across fields and meadows and through forests. Numerous magnificent vantage points of the Erzgebirge (Ore Mountains) allow hikers to appreciate the vastness of the region. Well-known mountain landmarks, such as the Fichtelberg and the Auersberg, nestle picturesquely among the peaks and valleys. Enjoy the views and take all the time you want. The patchwork of idyllic mountain meadows and town centres buzzing with local industry are everything you could wish for – a place to enjoy breathtaking nature and regional specialities all at once. Dig into mining history and explore the buildings and monuments of UNESCO's Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří Mining Region that are dotted along the way, and go in search of traces of the region's industrial history. A colourful circular walk to delight all the senses, promising an excellent escape from everyday life.

#### Special note

Not only does the "W@nderbarer Silberberg" loop deliver a very special hiking experience, it also offers hiking enthusiasts of all ages a unique, digital way to explore the diversity and history of the places along the route, step by step.

# The Städtebund Silberberg (Silberberg Association of Towns)

The towns of Aue-Bad Schlema, Lauter-Bernsbach, Lößnitz, Schneeberg and Schwarzenberg are all located in the Erzgebirge region and work closely together as part of the Städtebund Silberberg. Among other things, this collaboration has resulted in a tourism partnership

set up to create a shared hiking region and a circular hiking trail connecting all five partner towns.



The region comprising the Städtebund Silberberg is extremely diverse and wows visitors with its superb mining heritage, significant industrial sites, and of course its beautiful landscapes and nature. It is considered an unspoiled, unique and varied region that offers a highly valuable experience. The local population has deep ties with the Erzgebirge mountains, as any visitor will notice when they hear the common greeting "Glück Auf" and the Erzgebirge dialect spoken in these parts. Typical symbols of the Erzgebirge, such as the "Schwibbogen" (candle arch) and the pyramid, can also be spotted in the town centres, and not just at Christmas time.

## Schwarzenberg

The beginnings of the town of Schwarzenberg, the "Pearl of the Erzgebirge", date back to the middle of the 12th century. Its development was fundamentally shaped by mining and the new forms of industry that this brought. The arrival of the railway in the 19th century and subsequent industrialisation took Schwarzenberg to new heights as an economic and cultural hub and a focal point for life in the region. Today, the municipal area spans approx. 46 km² and is home to some 16,500 inhabitants. The town includes the districts of Bermsgrün, Erla-Crandorf, Pöhla and Grünstädtel. Schwarzenberg offers ideal conditions for hikers of all ages due to its wonderful location in the low mountain region of the Erzgebirge. The municipal area is characterised by steep-sided valleys and lofty mountains, and has an altitude of approx. 400 to 820 m above sea level.

The old town of Schwarzenberg greets you with two unmistakable landmarks: the castle and St. George's Church, both set above the Schwarzwasser river. Numerous other sights and nationally important events attract thousands of visitors to the town every year. It is an ideal starting point for many tourist trips, hikes and excursions around the town and in the surrounding area.

#### Special note

Schwarzenberg Castle is home to the PERLA CASTRUM Museum – A Castle Full of History; a visit is most certainly recommended. The historic Rother Berg Mining Landscape in Erla, which features the striking "Erlahammer" manor house, is one of the 22 elements that make up the Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří Mining Region, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Visit the Schwarzenberg Railway Museum to see its huge locomotive shed containing a collection of standard gauge railway vehicles – well worth a look. Europe's largest tin chambers in the Zinnkammern Pöhla Visitor Mine are an impressive sight indeed, and the ride on the mine train alone is a very special experience as you journey into the depths.

