



DEUTSCHES BERGBAU-MUSEUM BOCHUM

The Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum has undergone a transformation in the years between 2016 and 2019: The renovation of the museum was flanked by the redesign of the permanent exhibition. From the summer of 2019, there will be four tours guiding visitors through the building: Hard Coal, Mining, Mineral Resources and Art cover the full range of the Leibniz Research Museum for Geo-resources.

With its new exhibition, the Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum is rising to the challenge of presenting the subject matter and results of its in-house research activities in an exciting, educational and informative manner, and to attract the attention of the diverse target groups with a range of communicative approaches. Whether it be in the form of an inactive game, multi-media or hands-on exhibits – the aim is to communicate the content of the permanent exhibition in a sustained way. There is also a children's trail that winds its way through the tours, with specially selected exhibits placed at eye level for our youngest visitors.

Around 3000 objects – from the in-house collections of the Montanhistorisches Dokumentationszentrum of the Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum as well as alongside loan items and brand new exhibits – are presented in a new light. The reduced number of exhibits allows individual, outstanding objects from the previous permanent exhibition to be viewed in a new light with a new contextualised focus. Apart from having a thematic focus, each of the four tours also has its own specific design concept.

The visitor's mine and the pit descent simulator also provide glimpses into the diverse facets of underground mining activity at the Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum. Stretching over 1.2 km, the underground network of passageways gives visitors an insight into everyday life underground and about historical technical developments in (coal) mining. The headframe of the erstwhile Germania colliery – the museum's largest exhibit – is a platform affording far-ranging views across the Ruhr Area, and a region shaped by the colliery imprinted landscape.

The Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum – founded in 1930 – is one of eight research museums belonging to the Leibniz Association. It researches, teaches and preserves the history of the mining, processing and use of geo-resources across all of the relevant time periods. Its research areas include: Archaeometallurgy, mining history, materials science, and mining archaeology, together with the research laboratory, and the Montanhistorische Dokumentationszentrum (the Mining History Documentation Centre, or montan.dok).

The renovation of the North Wing and the redesign of the Hard Coal and Mining tours were funded by the RAG Foundation as part of the "Glückauf Zukunft!" Project. The renovation of the South Wing and the redesign of the Mineral Resources and Art tours were funded as part of a joint national and state programme organised by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the Ministry of Culture and Science of the State of North-Rhine Westphalia. Both projects were further funded by the city of Bochum and the DMT-Gesellschaft für Lehre und Bildung mbH.

VISITOR SERVICE

Tel.: +49 (0)234 5877-126 (during opening times, except Mondays)
Email: service@bergbaumuseum.de

OPENING TIMES

Tue to Fri: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sat, Sun and public holidays:
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Closed: Monday and 1st January, 1st May,
24th - 26th and 31st December

Last tour visitor's mine: 3:30 p.m.
Last tour to headframe: 4:30 p.m.
Cashdesk closing time: 4:30 p.m.

ENTRANCE CHARGE

Adults: €10.00
Reduced charge*: €5.00
Children (up to 5 years old): free
Family day ticket: €22.00
Annual pass: €28.00
Family annual pass: €60.00

* Applies to children/young people (6-17 years old), students, apprentices/trainees, unemployed persons, disabled persons, those arriving shortly before closing time

The admission charge entitles visitors to the four tours of the permanent exhibition, to visit the visitor's mine and take the tower tour (caused by the weather) on the day of purchase.

PERMANENT EXHIBITION GUIDED TOURS

Every Sat. and Sun. – at 11:40 a.m.,
1:30 p.m. & 3:00 p.m.
Duration: 1 hour approx.
Charge: €3.00 plus admission charge
Max. no of visitors: 20 persons
For guided tours, please register at the ticket desk on the day of your visit.

For specially arranged guided tours at other times, please contact our Visitor Service.

Further information about all our guided tour services is available at:
www.bergbaumuseum.de/fuehrungen

SCHOOLS SERVICE

www.bergbaumuseum.de/schulklassen

NEWSLETTER

Subscribe to our newsletter and keep up to date with the latest news:
www.bergbaumuseum.de/newsletter

DIRECTIONS

Am Bergbaumuseum 28
44791 Bochum
Received: Europaplatz
www.bergbaumuseum.de/information
Due to the limited parking space, we recommend that visitors use bus and rail transport.

CONTACT

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HARD COAL. MINING. MINERAL RESOURCES. ART.

DEUTSCHES BERGBAU-MUSEUM BOCHUM

VISITOR INFORMATION PERMANENT EXHIBITION





HARD COAL. THE MOTOR OF INDUSTRIALISATION

The first thing visitors encounter is the lower trunk of a lepidodendron tree from the Carboniferous Period (approx. 306 million years ago) and a room-filling oil painting of a Cretaceous Period landscape (1923). A prologue opens this tour, which tells the history of the coal mining industry in Germany. There is scarcely any other economic sector to have shaped history, the economy, the environment, social life and culture as enduringly as the hard coal mining industry.

During the course of the tour, some 600 exhibits comprehensively describe the technical developments, social achievements and cultural interrelations associated with hard coal in Germany: from partial to full mechanisation, mine rescue and occupational health and safety, the establishment of the unions and industrial associations, the socially consensual cessation of coal production to the post-mining period. The tour's epilogue examines the current state and future outlook for the Ruhr Metropolitan Region.

MINING. STONE AGE WITH FUTURE

Natural resources have been a part of human existence since time immemorial. The ways in which these resources are mined, processed and used have changed over time, and transformed humanity. Researching these subjects is the remit of the Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum, a research institute entered into the Blue List in 1977.

This tour describes this work in a myriad of ways: Researchers working in areas such as archaeometallurgy, mining history, materials science and mining archaeology vividly explain the history of mining from the Stone Age, through to Antiquity and the Middle Ages, the Early Modern Period to Industrialisation and on to the present day – and end by casting a glance towards the future of mining deep down in the oceans or far off in space. Over 1,150 exhibits are on show, illustrating how the interrelationship between man and mining is also a paradigm of the interplay between continuous technical development and problem-solving, and the acquisition of knowledge and power.

MINERAL RESOURCES. TREASURES OF THE EARTH

With the exception of water, all mineral resources are solid, gaseous or liquid mineral raw materials that occur in natural sediments or accumulations, known as deposits. These can be found on the on or below the Earth's surface, on or below the seabed, or in water. The reserves of these materials are finite. But they are extremely useful to people, because without geo-resources, today's highly technicalised world would be inconceivable. So the mining of these materials above and below ground is of great economic importance.

The tour starts with some geo-scientific fundamentals: How old is the Earth? What are minerals and rocks? How and where do deposits occur? The Raw Materials Lab with its "have-a-go" stations, then allows visitors to put mineral deposits and their benefits under the microscope. To recognize the use of raw materials at first glance is often not evident – because their diversity and possible uses are immense. But the use of geo-resources brings both benefits and drawbacks. How they are used is a question of acting responsibly.

ART. IDEALS AND REALITY

Mining and art are closely interlinked, even though mining was never a central theme for the visual arts. During the 17th and 18th centuries, mining was extremely important to the courts of the sovereign rulers, and a wealth of mining-themed ceremonial and decorative centrepieces were produced. As industrialisation progressed, the focus shifted towards the people performing the work, and on the burgeoning industry. Art works were created equally due to a personal connection with the sector, and in the form of commissioned pieces.

The tour is arranged according to the characteristic features of mining, and harnesses these as a theme. The bandwidth of exhibits ranges from works by renowned artists to amateur art, with exhibits dating from the 17th to the early 21st century. Sculptures, paintings and graphics are augmented with arts and crafts and artisanal items. Any hierarchical structure is deliberately omitted. Instead, the tour investigates the importance of artistic works for particular groups of individuals, placing the focus on the various motivations in creating, commissioning and exhibiting art.

