

EIFEL



Left to right: Manderscheid Upper and Lower Castle, Himmerod Monastery

So much to discover!

TIP

“Tourist map Eifel-Ardenne”

There are 500 sights and destinations to be visited between Aachen and Trier, between Mayen and Lüttich. The map is available through: www.eifel.info

Count and Countess Beissel von Gymnich would like to welcome you to their family estate Satzvey Castle near Mechernich. There will be a variety of events taking place at the castle, and even off-season it is well worth a visit. www.burgsatzvey.de

INFORMATION

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“We’ve got holidays on our doorsteps,” enthuses the dialect singer Sylvia Nels when talking about her home. The common history of this holiday region Eifel-Ardenne reaches far back into the past. It combines German and French history. The Celts and Romans left their traces.

The Carolingians put this low mountain region on the map of European history. In 721 Charlemagne’s great-grandmother Bertrada founded the prince abbey of Prüm. Later this became the family monastery of the Carolingians. In 855 Emperor Lothar I was buried in Prüm Abbey Church. Bernhard von Clairvaux sent his Cistercian brothers to Himmerod to establish their first monastery on German soil. Every year the Himmerod Organ Summer attracts many lovers of music. The beginnings of Steinfeld monastery, one of the best-preserved-monastic monuments in the Rhineland, reach back to the times of Heinrich I, the founder of towns. Nideggen Castle with its beautiful view of the Rur valley is often called the “Parlour of

the Düren District”. Its museum will take you on a fascinating journey through time. Hengebach Castle is one of the oldest castles in the Eifel region. In summer you can enjoy concerts performed by well-known musicians. The Manderscheid castles speak of the conflict of interests between the Trier Electorate and the Duchy of Luxemburg. They provide the scene for the historical castle festival which takes place every year on the last weekend in August.

School classes may choose to be scared by the ghost of Blankenheim Castle Youth Hostel. The town itself with its beautiful medieval streets allows you a glimpse into times gone by.

Many artists have settled in Kronenburg, where the Days of Art and Culture are held every September. Both Monschau, the former town of clothworkers, and Bad Münstereifel, the town of craftsmen, have well-kept medieval town centres. Indeed: “We’ve got holidays on our doorsteps,” and well-kept cycle and hiking trails support that claim.