


World Heritage Site Völklinger Hütte

30
WORLD
HERITAGE
SITE
YEARS

2024



The image shows a vast industrial complex, the Völklinger Hütte, under a dramatic sky of orange, pink, and blue. The foreground is dominated by a dense, chaotic network of rusted metal beams, pipes, and large circular wheels, suggesting a state of disrepair or abandonment. In the middle ground, a long, low building with a corrugated metal roof spans across the scene. Behind it, the complex rises with multiple levels of walkways, railings, and large cylindrical tanks. Several tall, brick chimneys are prominent, with one particularly tall one on the left. The overall atmosphere is one of industrial grandeur and decay.

The World Heritage Site Völklinger Hütte is the world's only fully intact ironworks from the zenith of the industrial era. Today, with its many halls, open spaces and fascinating tangles of pipe systems, it offers a unique setting for international exhibitions, festivals and concerts. What's more, it's a place where culture and nature meet: what was once the "hell" of the coking plant, for example, is now a truly wild PARADISE.

**The Ironworks
once and now**




A monument of industrial culture

The historical facilities of pig iron production are completely preserved and accessible at the Vöklinger Hütte. More than seven kilometres of visitor paths lead to milestones in technological history, such as the ore inclined hoist, the sinter plant, or the enormous flywheels of the blowing engines. In 2024, the technically fascinating masterpiece of dry gas cleaning will be opened to visitors.

A photograph of two people in white clothing holding up industrial-style lamps against a large projection of a forest scene. The person on the left stands with their back to the camera, holding a lamp high. The person on the right is kneeling, holding another lamp high and looking up at it. The background is a large projection of a forest scene with tall, thin trees. The lighting is dramatic, with the lamps providing a warm glow against the cooler tones of the projection.

Events and festivals

Völklinger Hütte is a place that keeps reinventing itself: exhibitions, festivals, theatre productions and concerts interact with their multifaceted industrial surroundings to create extraordinary experiences. In 2024, among other events, the FREISTIL FESTIVAL organized by the Network Freie Szene Saar will take place from October 2nd to 13th at the World Heritage Site. It will feature performances, music, and theater interventions involving participants from the entire SaarLorLux region and Germany.



A moving place of remembrance

Over the course of the two World Wars, more than 12,000 people were forced to work at Völklinger Hütte. The world-famous artist Christian Boltanski has created a poignant memorial to these forced labourers in the World Cultural Heritage Site. The thought of the daily work performed by ironworkers in times of peace subsequently inspired Boltanski to create a second installation using lockers and voices of memory.

In Paradise

In PARADISE, it is fascinating to observe how diverse flora and fauna have recaptured parts of the facility. Here fish and frogs now meet foxes and wild boar. Where once there was only heat, dust and fire, today birches and butterfly bushes bloom. Winding paths lead to works of art such as Ottmar Hörl's monumental 10-meter-high sculpture "KingKong" and an urban art leopard by the artist Mosko.



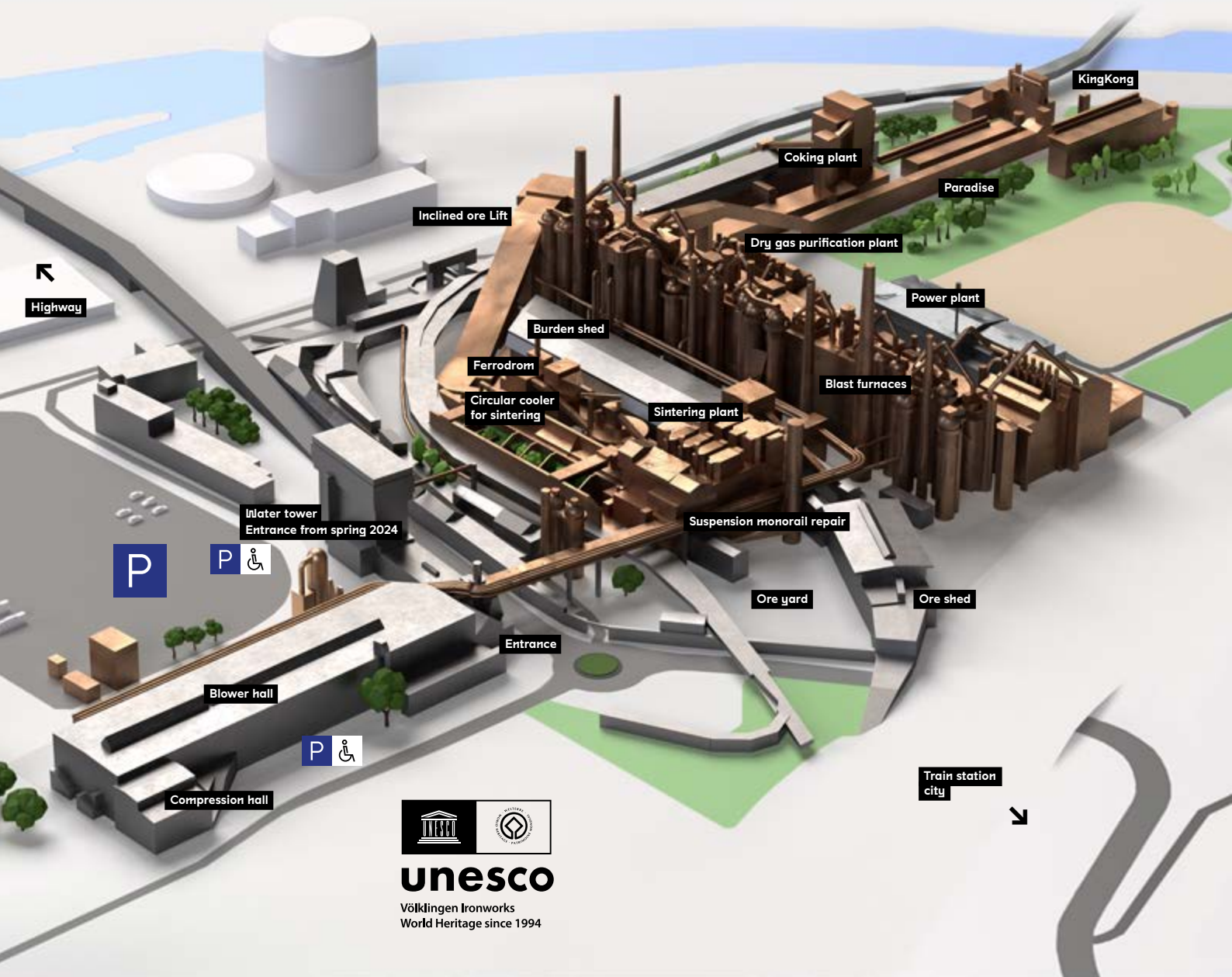


The End

Parcours of the arts

Within the expansive grounds of the World Heritage Site, alongside Rémy Markowitsch's installation WE ALL (Except the Others) where one encounters the history of Völklingen and the Hütte in the suspension monorail repair, there are also plenty of site-specific artworks and installations to discover, such as ZEVS's PERPETUAL ENDING. You will be surprised!

INDUSTRY CULTURE HISTORY ART NATURE




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Völklingen Ironworks
World Heritage since 1994




**GERMAN
CINEMA**
15.10.2023
18.8.2024

This major exhibition by World Heritage Site Völklinger Hütte and Deutsche Kinemathek Berlin offers for the first time a comprehensive overview as well as immersive insights into the special qualities of German film from 1895 to the present day. The exhibition reflects cultural history together with the history of the Völklinger Hütte before, during, between and after the wars of the twentieth century.



The Urban Art Biennale of the World Heritage Site Völklinger Hütte is one of the largest showcases worldwide for this anarchic art form, diverging from traditional white cube aesthetics. Since 2011, every two years, the entire area of the Völklinger Hütte has become an ideal dialogue partner for art stemming from street art and graffiti. In 2024, the focus lies not only on political in-situ works but especially on participatory Urban Art projects.

**URBAN ART
BIENNALE**
28.4. – 10.11.2024

A close-up, profile view of a man's face, heavily dusted with coal. He is looking towards the left. The background is a dimly lit mine tunnel with visible tracks and structural elements.

MAN & MINING

1.6. – 1.9.2024

The exhibition MAN & MINING brings together artistic perspectives on global resource extraction in the digital age. Central to this exploration is the 'human resource', enabling the industrial dominance above and below ground. Within a specially developed exhibition landscape in the ore hall, photographs, object art, and spatial installations interact, shedding light on the consequences of extensive extraction for both humanity and nature.



30 Years **WORLD
HERITAGE
SITE**
Völklinger Hütte

**UNESCO
WORLD
HERITAGE DAY**
June 2, 2024

A highlight of the 30th anniversary of the World Heritage Site Völklinger Hütte is the celebration of the UNESCO World Heritage Day for Germany taking place at the Völklinger Hütte. Guests from all over Germany will come together in Saarland this weekend to celebrate the UNESCO World Heritage idea. This event is being organised in cooperation with the German UNESCO Commission in Bonn.

THE TRUE SIZE OF AFRICA

9.11.2024 – 17.8.2025

The major exhibition explores the artistic and cultural approach to the vast continent through constant shifts in perspective and curatorial diversity. While a MUSEUM OF MEMORABILITY delves into Africa's history and present from the perspective of a Europe shaped by colonialism, artists from Congo and Namibia curate the presentation of African sculptures and objects from European private collections amidst the machinery and fly-wheels of the blower hall. Significant artworks by African artists from recent decades converge with specially created spatial and sound installations for the exhibition, allowing for an experiential understanding of THE TRUE SIZE OF AFRICA.



World Heritage Site Völklinger Hütte

Weltkulturerbe Völklinger Hütte
Europäisches Zentrum für Kunst und Industriekultur GmbH
General Director Dr. Ralf Beil
Managing Director Susanne Degenhardt
Rathausstrasse 75–79
66333 Völklingen / Germany

Entrance

Standard 17 €
Reduced rate 15 €
2-day ticket 27 €
Children and youths up to 18 years free
Students up to 27 years with ID free

Opening hours

Open 362 days a year!
daily 10 am – 6 pm / 1 April to 31 October 10 am – 7 pm
open on Boxing Day and New Year's Day
24, 25 and 31 December closed

Public guided tours at www.voelklinger-huette.org

Guided tours of the site or exhibition

About 1,5 hours / max. 30 persons
For groups advanced booking required 110 €
plus reduced admission of 15 € per person.
Special rate for school classes. Guided tours for
schools and groups before 10 am possible.
The World Cultural Heritage Site Völklingen
Ironworks is largely barrier-free.

Annual ticket

Adults 55 €

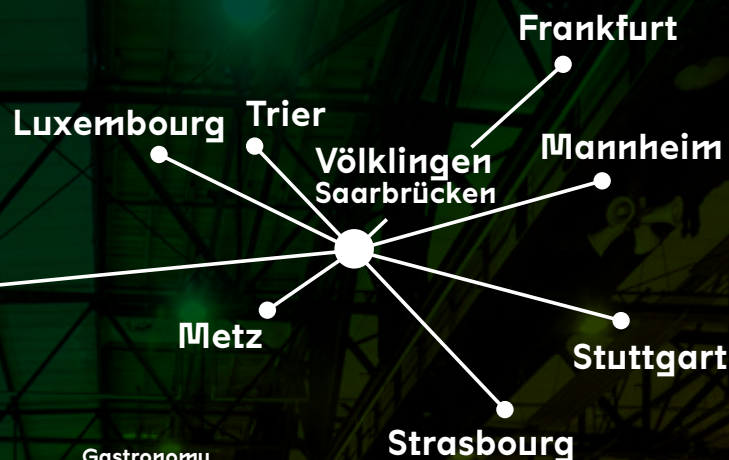
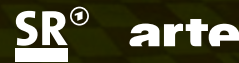
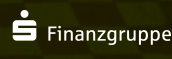
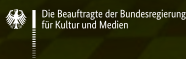
Visitor Service

Phone +49 (0) 6898 / 9 100 100
Fax +49 (0) 6898 / 9 100 111
visit@voelklinger-huette.org
www.voelklinger-huette.org



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Bistro / Biergarten
Phone +49 (0) 6898 / 914 455

Tourismus Zentrale Saarland GmbH

Phone +49 (0) 681 / 9 27 20-0
info@tz-s.de
www.tourismus.saarland.de

Kongress und Touristik Service Region Saarbrücken GmbH

Phone +49 (0) 681 / 93 80 90
info@city-sb.de
www.tourismus.saarbruecken.de

Tourist Information Völklingen

Phone +49 (0) 6898 / 13 28 00
tourist-info@voelklingen.de

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