# Mountainbike Circular Route Heppenheim







The Heppenheim Mountainbike circular route is a joint project of the district city of Heppenheim and the Geo-Naturpark Bergstrasse-Odenwald.



The circular route covers a distance of approx. 23 km with a difference in altitude of about 580 m. Starting point of the tour is the Kleine Bach at the backside of the Kleiner Markt, which is located in Heppenheim's old town. From here, the route takes mountain bikers through vineyards and splendid mixed forests up to Krehberg mountain (approx. 600 m). The viewpoint "Mathildenruhe" offers a great panoramic few of the region.

#### **Tour description**

"Get away from busy streets, switch off from everyday life and enjoy the varied natural landscape of the Bergstrasse region and the Odenwald" - this is the motto of the newly signposted mountain bike circular route!



Our tour starts in close proximity to the old town, the Kleine Bach, It takes us on Burgweg and Kanonenweg up to the Sternwarte, astronomical observatory, which is located below Starkenburg Castle. Mountain bikers will have a splendid round view over the city and the Odenwald valleys. Alongside a range of hills, between the Hambacher Tal and the Kirschhäuser Tal, we will pass the "Helenenruhe" and continue our route through magnificent mixed forests until we will reach the mountain hut "Jägerrast". We will continue on the uphill earth track up to Krehberg mountain - the highest point of our tour and the Odenwald. From here, we will enjoy a great view of the Rhine Valley and the Melibokus mountain. After a short ride, we will reach the view point "Mathildenhöhe", offering a great view of the Neunkirchner Höhe. The way back goes downhill, passing the Heiligenberg and Eselsberg until we will reach the northern hill range of the Hambacher Tal. Right in front of us, we will enjoy a splendid cultural landscape, presenting itself by a harmonious interaction of vineyards and fields as well as open spaces. Through the "Steigkopf" vineyard, passing by the "Winzerrast" with a great view of Starkenburg Castle and the Rhine Valley, we will return to our starting point.

## **Signposting**

Due to its topography and its beautiful landscape, the Geo-Naturpark Bergstrasse-Odenwald region is not only a great hiking region, but also an adventurous mountain bike terrain. Considering all these benefits, the Geo-Naturpark's idea to initiate a uniform conception and signposting of routes, complements the touristic marketing conception of the district city of Heppenheim.

In this context, it is of special relevance that all routes have been marked with uniform waymarks and signage under the guidance of the Geo-Narupark. Please also note that Geopark information boards were located at the starting point. They do not only show the exact routes, but also indicate their total lengths as well as the altitudes to be expected. Just as ski lopes, all mountain bike routes are classified into "blue", "red" and "black tracks".

### Signage and markings – "trail buddies"

Similar to volunteer trail keepers who take care of the hiking trails, there are volunteers who take care of all signage and markings of the mountain bike routes. In this context, all thanks of the district city of Heppenheim goes to the mountain bike group of the Heppenheim ski club. The members of this association developed the Heppenheim circular route. In addition, they will also continue to take care of signage and markings as so-called "trail buddies".

#### Information:

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