Success together

From 1996 to 2011 a large-scale nature conservation project by the Federal Government was realized in the nature park area above all to stabilize the landscape water balance. The project ensured that the water level in 27 lakes and 54 moors rose. Reviving growth in moors is especially significant in the face of climate change. Important partners of the project leader, the Feldberg Association - Uckermark Lake Landscape (Förderverein Feldberg-Uckermärkische Seenlandschaft e.V.), and the nature park were the nature conservation organization WWF and the Naturschutzfonds Brandenburg. Together with the nature park administration and the WWF, the Feldberg Association has been active in the sustainable regional development of the nature park since 1999. These efforts have borne fruit. Since 2001 the nature park region has received millions in financial support from the European Union and the State of Brandenburg for projects involving the sustainable agriculture, forestry, and fishery industries and for ecological tourism, all via the LEADER+ programme. This has lead to the development of new products and services, and thereby created jobs in this economically underdeveloped region.

In practice this means:

An information and guidance system leads the canoeists along around 150 km of water routes through the nature park. Along the bike path "Spur der Steine" ("Stone trail") visitors can discover the landscape formed by the ice age between Templin and Fürstenwerder.

The nature park can also be discovered along the rails of a former railway line with bicycle draisines. Hikers can find impressive nature experiences of clear lakes and streams along the "Märkische Landweg" ("Mark Land Route") or the "Uckermärker Landrunde" ("Uckermark Land Circuit"). Especially curious visitors to the nature park can avail themselves of the certified nature and landscape guides.

And, last but not least, many Uckermark residents have planted more than 3,500 trees of old apple varieties. All of these varieties can be found in the display garden at the thermal springs in Templin.

Nature and Environmental Conservation

Naturpark Uckermärkische Seen
Naturparkverwaltung und Besucherinformation
Uckermark Lakes Nature Park Administration and Visitor information
Zehdenicker Straße 1
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Tel.: 03 98 88 / 645 30
Fax: 03 98 88 / 645 55
np-uckermaerkische-seen@lugv.brandenburg.de
www.np-us.brandenburg.de

Naturwacht Uckermärkische Seen
Nature Watch – Uckermark Lakes
Zehdenicker Straße 1
17279 Lychen
Tel.: 03 98 88 / 435 17
Fax: 03 98 88 / 435 18
www.naturwacht.de

Naturparkverwaltung Feldberger Seenlandschaft
Strelitzer Straße 42
17258 Feldberger Seenlandschaft / OT Feldberg
Tel.: 03 98 31 / 527 80
Fax: 03 98 31 / 527 89
www.naturpark-feldberger-seenlandschaft.de

Förderverein Feldberg – Uckermärkische Seenlandschaft e.V.
Feldberg Association – Uckermark Lake Landscape
Am Markt 13
17268 Templin
Tel.: 039 87 / 53 7 33
Fax: 039 87 / 40 95 61
www.uckermaerkische-seen.de

Landschaftspflegeverein Nord-uckermärkische Seenlandschaft e.V.
Landscape Conservation Association North Uckermark Lake Landscape
Dorfstraße 47
17268 Boitzenburger Land / OT Wichmannsdorf
Tel. / Fax: 03 98 89 / 550 68

Nature Guide Thomas Volpers
Metzelthin 30
17268 Templin
Tel. / Fax: 03 98 85 / 32 87
www.um-natur.de

Tourism

TMU / Tourismus Marketing Uckermark GmbH
Stettiner Straße 19
17291 Prenzlau
Tel.: 03 984 / 83 58 83
Fax: 03 984 / 83 58 85
www.tourismus-uckermark.de

Tourismusverband Ruppiner Seenland
Ruppiner Lakeland Tourism Association
Fischbänkenstraße 8
16816 Neuruppin
Tel.: 033 91 / 65 96 30
Fax: 033 91 / 35 79 07
www.ruppiner-reiseland.de

Tourismusverein Boitzenburger Land e.V.
Tourist Association Boitzenburger Land
Tourismus im Naturpark Uckermärkische Seen
Templiner Straße 4
17268 Boitzenburger Land
www.boitzenburgerland.de

Templin - Information
Historisches Rathaus
Am Markt 19, 17268 Templin
Tel.: 039 87 / 26 31
Fax: 039 87 / 538 33
www.templin.de

Lychen - Information
Stargarder Straße 6
17279 Lychen
Tel.: 03 98 88 / 22 55
Fax: 03 98 88 / 41 78
www.lychen.de

Fürstenberg / Havel Tourism Information
Markt 5
16798 Fürstenberg / Havel
Tel.: 03 30 93 / 322 54
Fax: 03 30 93 / 325 39
www.fuerstenberger-seenland.de

Weihnachtshaus Himmelpfort
Himmelpfort Christmas House
Klosterstraße 23
16798 Fürstenberg/Havel
OT Himmelpfort
Tel.: 03 30 89 / 418 88

Touristinformation Zehdenick
Am Markt 11
16792 Zehdenick
Tel.: 033 07 / 28 77
Fax: 033 07 / 42 08 77
www.fremdenverkehrsbuero-zehdenick.de

Tourismusverein Fürstenwerder e.V. und Uckermärkische Heimatstuben
Fürstenwerder Tourism Office and Uckermark Museum
Ernst-Thälmann Strasse 26
17291 Nordwestuckermark / OT Fürstenwerder
Tel.: 03 98 59 / 202
Fax: 03 98 59 / 630 06
www.fuerstenwerder-seengebiet.de

City Information – Prenzlau
Marktberg 2
17291 Prenzlau
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Fax: 039 84 / 83 39 54
www.prenzlau-tourismus.de

Information & Exhibitions

Ziegeleipark / Brickyard Park
Ziegelei 10
16792 Zehdenick, OT Mildenberg
Tel.: 033 07 / 31 04 10
Fax: 033 07 / 31 04 11
www.ziegeleipark.de

Naturerlebnis Uckermark
Am Scharfrichtersee 2a
17291 Prenzlau
Tel. / Fax: 039 84 / 80 60 00
www.naturerlebnis-uckermark.de

Kirchlein im Grünen
Church in the Green
Alt Placht
Tel.: 03 98 88 / 520 63
www.kirchlein-im-grünen.de

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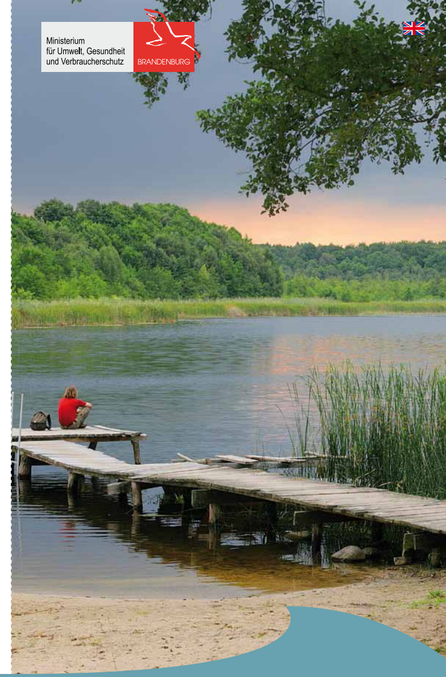
The Uckermark Lakes Nature Reserve is one of the "National Natural Landscapes", the umbrella organisation of the German national parks, biosphere reserves and conservation areas backed by the registered association EUROPARC Deutschland e.V.: www.europarc-deutschland.de

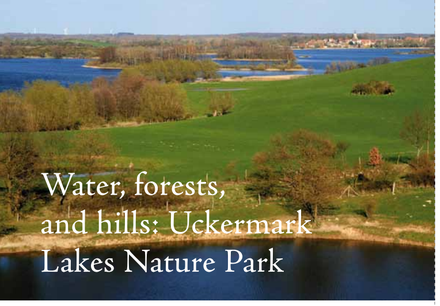
Ministerium für Umwelt, Gesundheit und Verbraucherschutz
BRANDENBURG



Uckermark Lakes Nature Park

QUALITÄTS NATURPARK

Nationale Naturlandschaften in Brandenburg



Water, forests, and hills: Uckermark Lakes Nature Park

An osprey silently circles overhead. Suddenly it stops, shaking over the water's surface. Then it plunges at a great speed, its sharp talons stretched out. Just before the water's surface, the osprey fans its feathers to slow down. At lighting speed it snatches its prey and swings back into the air with powerful flaps – and with a good piece of fish as its catch. Nowhere else in Central Europe is there such a high density of ospreys as here. The 230 lakes provide them with ample treats. The Stolpsee lake near Fürstenberg/Havel is the biggest of them with its 381 hectares; the deepest is Röddelinsee lake near Templin with its 39 meters. In more than 50 of the lakes in the nature park one can see over 2.5 metres down in the summer. That's why they're considered clear water lakes. The lively curves of the Uckermark lake landscape was left by the last ice age 15,000 years ago. Expansive pine forests on outwash plains dominate the western and southern parts of the nature park. The north and the east are dominated by beech forests on end moraines; the ground moraines are used for agriculture. Throughout the centuries there has arisen a mosaic of forests and grasslands, of dry heaths and wet moors.

Large copper

Yellow marsh orchid

Common spadefoot

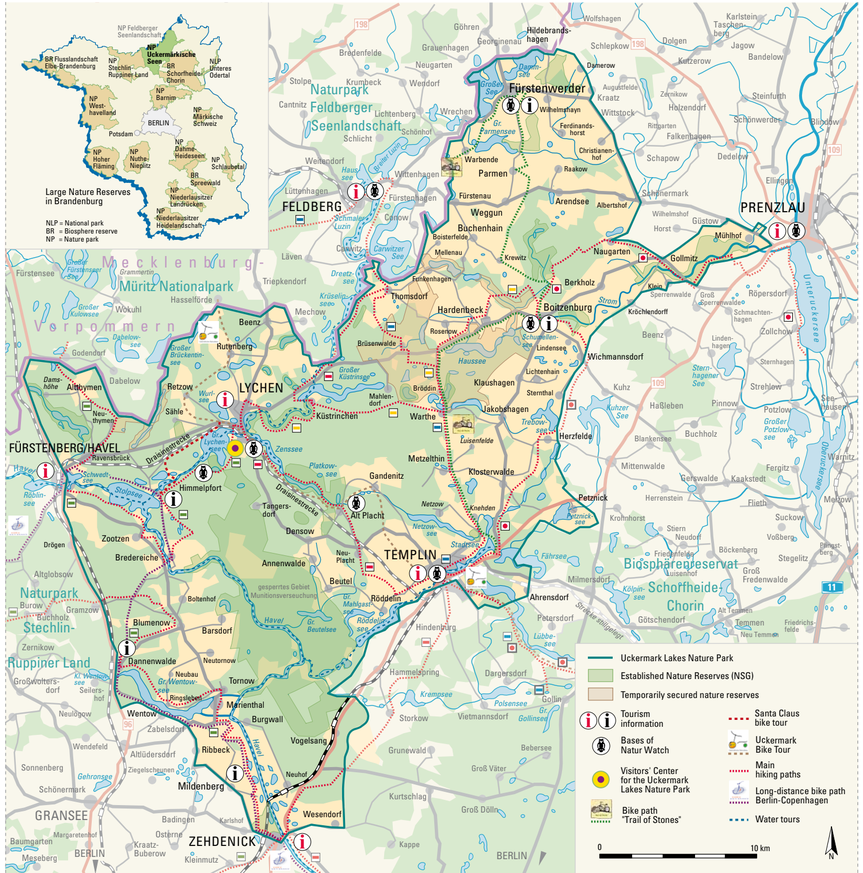
Otter

Sea eagle

A wealth of nature

Natural riches have been preserved in Uckermark that find no equal in central Europe. The Uckermark Lakes Nature Park hosts more than 1,200 plant species, some of which are seriously endangered. Growing in the moors one finds broad-leaved and slender cotton grass, flase twayblade, Marsh Labrador tea and the meat-eating sundew. Of the 15 known orchid species in the nature park, the rare traunsteinera sphaerica has here its only habitat in Brandenburg. The near-natural flowing waters such as the Hegensteinbach, Küstriner Bach, and Strom are a domicile for brook lampreys and brown trout.

The white stork, crane, osprey, otter, and beaver are just as at home in the nature park as the Great Bittern, the European crayfish, and the European pond terrapin. Among the notable species are the moor frog, the European fire-bellied toad, the grass snake, and the smooth snake. The open, rolling countryside punctuated by abundant hedgerows, groves and pathways is home to tawny pipits, whinchats, great grey shrikes and – with increasing frequency due to the climate – hoopoes.



Extra dry

"Mumps" with his herd on the heath

The dry and seemingly hostile meadows, sandy grasslands, and inland dunes are found precisely where the forest had earlier been destroyed through overuse of grazing livestock, ruinous exploitation of forests, and slash-and-burn clearing. Today these rare environments are only found on former military training grounds such as in the "Kleine Schorfheide" Nature Preserve. A multitude of specially adapted species live here such as the hoopoe, woodlark, red-winged grasshopper, transparent burnet, and the stone pink. These areas are also of great importance for the regeneration of groundwater. The grazing of sheep and goats makes it possible to preserve the moorlands. High levels of remaining munitions restrict touristic use.

"Desert" near Beutel

Caring for the young

The Nature Watch and the nature park administration agreed to a mutually beneficial collaboration years ago, with eight schools in Boitzenburg, Lychen, Mildenberg, Templin, and Zehdenick. The school pupils learn about protected plants and animals as well as learning about habitats near their place of residence, experiencing exciting project days, and receiving expert assistance in the ecological design of their school courtyards. In addition they gather important environmental data such as the visibility depth of the lakes, the stocks of rare plants and animals, or care of valuable biotopes such as wetland meadows and moors. In this way they support the Nature Watch and the nature park administration. Finally, there are two groups of junior rangers active under the expert guidance of the Nature Watch: the "Kingfishers" and the "Havel Sparrows".