



View of the visitors' mine



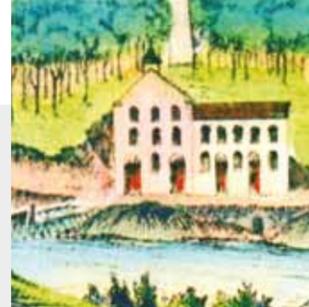
Small collier in the gallery



Special clothing for the gallery tour

the oldest hauling engines in the Ruhrgebiet (1887) in action.

The history of boat-building and coal transportation along the River Ruhr will come vividly back to life on board a 35 metre long flat barge.



A historic view of the Nightingale mine



Ruhr barge at the quay



The 'Nightingale' name giver



Brick-making history in the ring kiln



On the way to the visitors' mine

# The Nightingale mine

## The cradle of mining on the Ruhr

The Ruhrgebiet grew on coal. Almost 300 years ago people were mining the first lumps of 'black gold' out of the slopes above the river which has given the whole area its name. At the Nightingale mine in the Ruhr valley in Witten we can take you back to a time when people were digging coal out of horizontal galleries, and later began to sink the first vertical shafts.

A guided tour of the Nightingale gallery is one of the high points of your visit to the museum. Here you can experience at first hand the unique atmosphere of early mining activities. Equipped with a helmet and a pit lamp you can walk through the low passages of our visitor-mine to a genuine **streak of coal**.

Our exhibition on the 'Hercules' shaft, sunk in 1832, one of the first vertical shafts in the area, will tell you more about the techniques and arduous mining conditions in the 19th century.

In the historic engine rooms at the Nightingale mine we shall take you on a journey through the Ruhr valley during the industrial age. Here you can see one of

## 300 years of industrial history in the Ruhr valley

Starting from a **single mining gallery** that was first mentioned in 1714, over the next 150 years the Nightingale mine developed into one of the most productive mines in the region. But when large-scale mining moved north of the River Ruhr, the Nightingale mine like many others was doomed to extinction.

In 1892 a builder from Witten called Dünkelberg bought up the site and the adjacent Hetberg hill, which provided him with the necessary raw materials, lime and

sandstone. From now on bricks were baked in the new **ring kiln**.

Various companies, including a scrap dealer, used the dilapidated site during the 1960s before the town took over the buildings and listed them as mining monuments. In 1979 the Regional Association of Westphalia-Lippe (LWL), took over responsibility for the site in the newly founded Westphalian Industrial Museum and began work on restoring and preparing it for the general public.

# Discovering history

## Coal, boats and bricks

Beneath the domed roof over the ring kiln you can risk a look into the depths of the earth. The 'Hercules' shaft that marks the beginning of deep mining in the Ruhrgebiet has now been opened up for visitors who can reach the unknown world beneath the surface via a **zone of darkness**. Working models illustrate how the complex system of ventilation worked, and what an ideal mine looked like below the surface.

Starting in 1780 water transport along the Ruhr valley beca-

me the most important way to deliver the coal to the outside world. At our landing stage you can find out more about how the coal was transported and what difficulties the boatman had to face. Our '**Ruhr barge**' the 'Ludwig Henze' lies at anchor here. It was built on a 1-1 scale from an original 19th-century model.

The exhibition entitled '**Bucket-for-Bucket Mining**' recalls the 1,000 small-scale mines that existed in the Ruhrgebiet after the Second World War. The site

in front of the entrance to the visitor-mine uses photos and documents to highlight just how these 'family mines' worked. Miners and entrepreneurs have their own say in the exhibition. They talk about simple technical matters and the team work in the pits.

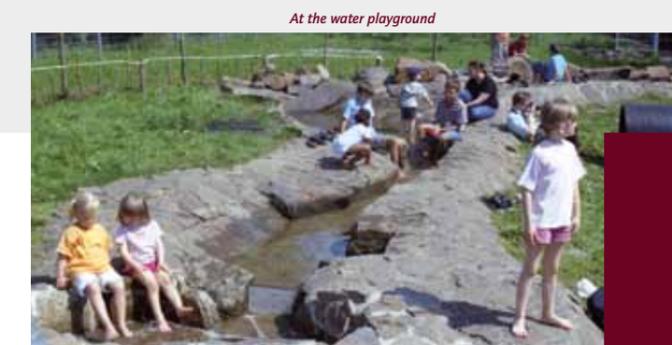


Historic oil lamp

## Taking children to the museum

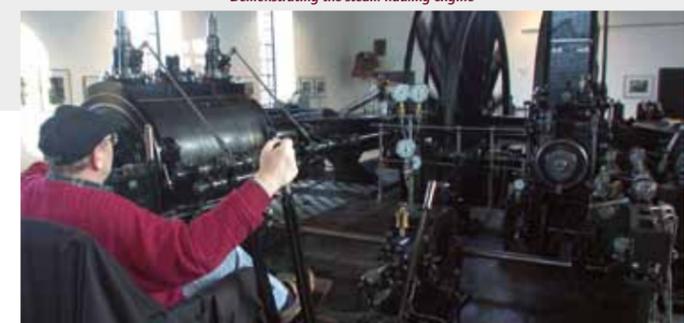
The first oil lamps - they were called 'lamp frogs' - taken by miners underground were rather dim. Our museum mascot, 'Öli', reminds us of this time. Families and their children (from the age of 8 upwards) can set off with 'Öli' on a **journey of discovery** through the Nightingale mine, during which our mascot will tell you his stories and show you the highlights in the Museum. The tour can be booked spontaneously during opening hours on all days, but can also be booked by groups.

Our younger visitors can experiment on a mini version of the River Ruhr at the playground. They can dam up the water, work the sluices and drive their own boats, as well as climbing rope ladders up to the lookout on the pirates' mast, balancing on a narrow plank and rocking back and forth in a small boat. The high point of the visit, for children and adults alike, is a guided tour through the Nightingale mining gallery.

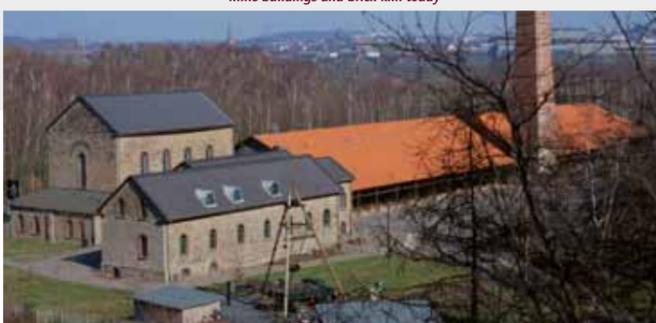


At the water playground

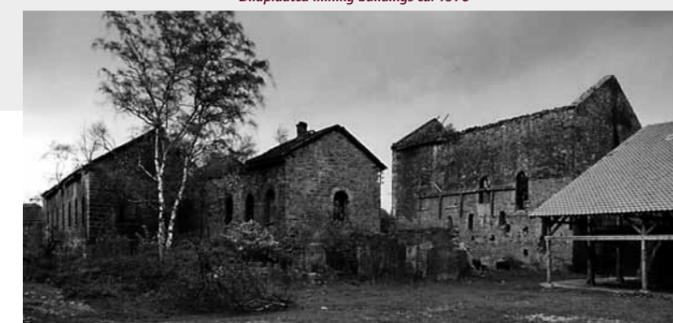
Demonstrating the steam hauling engine



Mine buildings and brick kiln today



Dilapidated mining buildings ca. 1970



An installation in the historic „Hercules shaft“



'Bucket-for-Bucket Mining' exhibition





The Zollern colliery Dortmund

The Hannover colliery Bochum

The Nightingale mine Witten

The Henrichshütte Ironworks Hattingen

The Henrichsburg ship lift Waltrop

The Bocholt Textile Museum Bocholt

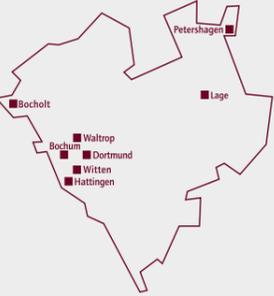
The Brickworks Museum Lage

The Gernheim Glassworks Petershagen

# Experiencing the mine

**LWL-Industriemuseum**  
Westphalian State Museum  
of Industrial Heritage

The LWL-Industriemuseum is an umbrella museum comprising eight different industrial heritage sites. It was set up in 1979 by the Regional Association of Westphalia-Lippe (LWL). It was not only the first museum of its kind in Germany, it is also the largest. Its mission is to communicate, research and preserve the culture of the industrial era from the earliest years to the present day.



Eight Sites – One Museum  
[www.lwl-industriemuseum.de](http://www.lwl-industriemuseum.de)

Visit our partner,  
the LVR-Industriemuseum

We are also participating  
**RUHR.2010**  
European Capital of Culture

Photos: LWL-Industriemuseum, A. Hudemann, M. Holtappels, u. a.

## What we can offer

Guided tours, stone cutting workshops, mining safaris and creative afternoons for the very young will make your visit to the Nightingale mine an unforgettable experience for **young and old** alike. Our programmes for school classes and children's birthdays promise lots of excitement and fun on journeys of discovery into the past.

Even your journey here can be an adventure if you decide to travel by the **Mutten Valley railway**. It goes back and forth regularly between the parking lot and the museum during the summer months. Alternatively you can use the so-called **'MontanTicketRuhr'** to take a day trip into industrial history plus a guided tour of the visitor mine, and visit the demonstration foundry at the Henrichshütte steelworks museum on the railway. In addition, on every fourth Saturday of the month from March to October the **'Colliery Express'** travels between the Nightingale mine and the LWL-Industriemuseum Zollern colliery in

Dortmund. For more information see 'Useful internet addresses'.

There are further combined offers for school groups. On request we shall be delighted to send you a leaflet listing all our tours and programmes. You can find all the information you need on the internet under: [www.lwl-industriemuseum.de](http://www.lwl-industriemuseum.de).

The majority of our museum is barrier-free. We have a special toilet for handicapped persons and a wheelchair can be lent out. There are many hands-on objects which can be picked up or touched.



Mining safari



Miners' day

## Things are buzzing here

The Nightingale mine is more than just a museum. Every year it presents countless events in the Ruhr Valley from old-timer meetings to opera performances, miners' days, film nights, the 'Extra Shift' and even 'boules' tournaments. The extensive site is ideal for **events of all kinds**.

You are warmly welcome to visit the **coffee garden** at the Nightingale mine. If the weather is bad you can take refuge in the bistro in one of our old railway wagons. Should you require more information on opening hours and group catering arrangements please contact:

'Der Nehm'  
Agentur für Gastro- und Veranstaltungsservice  
Tel. 0049 (0) 2302 33482  
Fax: 0049 (0)2302 33888  
E-Mail [dernehm@t-online.de](mailto:dernehm@t-online.de)



Museum party

Concert in the Nightingale gallery



# Tips for your day out

## Over hill and vale

Set in an idyllic hilly landscape in the Ruhr Valley, the Nightingale mine is an ideal place from which to set out on long hikes, bicycle tours, boat trips, round trips of the Industrial Heritage Trail, or a stroll to nearby castles and fortresses.



On the Ruhr Valley cycle trail

The Nightingale mine is also the ideal place for visitors who want to find out more about the region's geology. The museum foyer contains the GeoPark Ruhrgebiet information centre. Both the 'Düinkelberg Quarry' and our mine are national geotopes offering visitors insights into hundreds of millions of years of the history of the Earth.

The Mutten Valley lies directly in front of the museum gates. It offers walkers the opportunity to go on a 9 km circular tour of mining history, including a visit to the historic miners' prayer house along the way.

## Useful internet addresses

[www.montanticketruhr.de](http://www.montanticketruhr.de)  
[www.geopark-ruhrgebiet.de](http://www.geopark-ruhrgebiet.de)  
[www.route-industriekultur.de](http://www.route-industriekultur.de)  
[www.muttenthalbahn.org](http://www.muttenthalbahn.org)  
[www.ruhrthalbahn.de](http://www.ruhrthalbahn.de)  
[www.ruhrthalradweg.de](http://www.ruhrthalradweg.de)  
[www.bergbauhistorischer-verein.de](http://www.bergbauhistorischer-verein.de)  
[www.burgfreunde-hardenstein.de](http://www.burgfreunde-hardenstein.de)  
[www.schloss-steinhausen.de](http://www.schloss-steinhausen.de)  
[www.haus-herbede.de](http://www.haus-herbede.de)  
[www.kemnadersee.de](http://www.kemnadersee.de)  
[www.dernehm.de](http://www.dernehm.de)  
[www.stadtmarketing-witten.de](http://www.stadtmarketing-witten.de)  
[www.witten.de](http://www.witten.de)

The Ruhr Valley train to the museum



## Contact:

**LWL-Industriemuseum**  
Westfälisches Landesmuseum für  
Industriekultur  
**Zeche Nachtigall**  
Nachtigallstraße 35  
58452 Witten  
Fon 0049 (0)2302 93664-10  
Fax 0049 (0)2302 93664-22  
E-Mail [zeche-nachtigall@lwl.org](mailto:zeche-nachtigall@lwl.org)  
[www.lwl-industriemuseum.de](http://www.lwl-industriemuseum.de)

## Opening hours Museum

Tue-Sun: 10.00-18.00  
Final admission: 17.30

## Admission prices\*

Adults: 2,40 €  
Groups, max. 16 persons: 1,90 €  
Concessions:\*\* 1,60 €  
Children, young people (6-17) and school students: 1,50 €  
School students on the museum's educational programmes: 1,10 €  
Families: 5,80 €

## Guided tours of the visitor mine

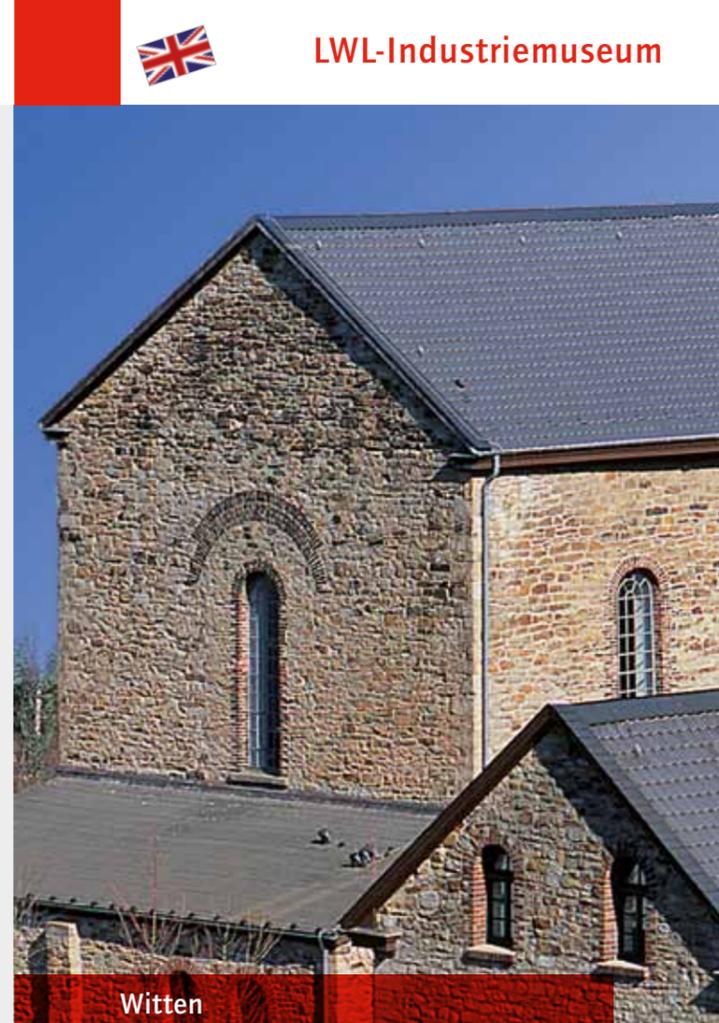
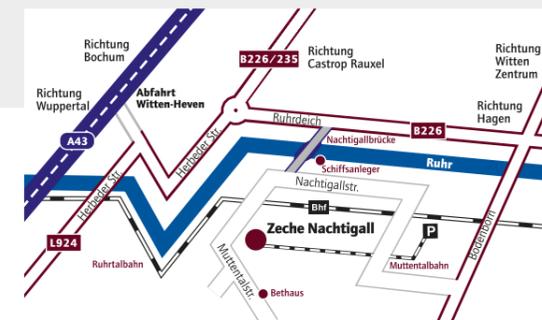
(for individuals, duration ca. 45 mins)  
Tue -Fri at 11.00, 13.00, 15.00 and 17.00  
Saturdays and Sundays every hour between 11.00 and 17.00  
Adults: 2,00 €  
Concessions: children, young people 1,00 €

We recommend  
the LWL Museum Card

\* We reserve the right to make changes  
\*\* Social security recipients, students (max. age 30), apprentices, persons performing national and civilian service duties, and people with handicaps from a severity of 80% upwards (accompanying person free of charge).

## How to find us

By car: from the parking lot in the Nachtigallstrasse ca. 1.5 km on foot, or take the narrow gauge trains run by the Mutten Valley Railway to the Nightingale mine.  
By rail: from the main station at Witten via Bergerstrasse, Herbeder Strasse, Ruhrdeich and the Nightingale Bridge: ca. 2 km on foot;  
from „Zeche Nachtigall“ station (Ruhr Valley Railway) ca. 400 metres on foot.  
By bus: from „Bommern Bf.“ (Lines 378, 379, 591) ca. 2 km on foot  
By boat: from the „Zeche Nachtigall“ landing stage, ca. 400 metres on foot.  
English travel information: [www.vrr.de](http://www.vrr.de) (bus & rail), [www.muttenthalbahn.org](http://www.muttenthalbahn.org) (narrow gauge railway) [www.stadtwerke-witten.de](http://www.stadtwerke-witten.de) (boat)  
By bike: the museum is directly on the Ruhr valley cycle trail (RuhrtalRadweg)



Witten

# The Nightingale mine

The cradle of mining on the Ruhr

[www.lwl-industriemuseum.de](http://www.lwl-industriemuseum.de)

**LWL**

Für die Menschen.  
Für Westfalen-Lippe.