The Nightingale mine

The cradle of mining on the Ruhr

The Nightingale mine, which lies in the Ruhr valley near Witten, is one of the oldest mines in Germany and is a true open-cast mine. Visitors can take a guided tour of the Nightingale gallery, which is one of the highlights of a visit to the museum. Here you can experience at first hand the unique atmosphere of early mining activities.

Our exhibition on the ‘Her- cules’ shaft, which was excavated in 1832, is one of the most productive mines in the region. Before large-scale mining moved north of the River Ruhr, the Nightingale mine like many others was doomed to extinction.

In 1887 the Nightingale mine was closed down. Bricks were baked after the mine and listed as mining mo-
saments. In 1960 the site was opened as a scrap dealer, and today it exists in the Ruhrgebiet after the Second World War. The site

Taking children to the museum

The first oil lamps - they were called ‘lamp frogs’ - taken in stone underground were rather modest. Our museum mascot, ‘Öli’, reminds us of this time. The Nightingale mine was closed down.

You can find out more about the work of brickmakers in the ring kiln, where up to 23 million bricks were baked after the mine was closed down.

300 years of industrial history in the Ruhr valley

Starting from a single mining gallery that was first mentioned in 1780, the Nightingale mine developed into one of the most productive mines in the region. The history of brickmaking and coal transportation along the Ruhr valley during the industrial age. Here you can see one of the oldest brick-making kilns in the region.

The exhibition entitled ‘Bu- cket for Bucket Mining’ recalls the famous mining techniques that existed in the Ruhrgebiet after the Second World War. The site

Discovering history

Coal, boats and bricks

Beneath the domed roof over the mining gallery you can see 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 to visitors. The ‘Hercules’ shaft in action.

In the historic engine rooms and coal transportation along the Ruhr valley during the industrial age. Here you can see one of the oldest brick-making kilns in the region.

Brick-making history in the ring kiln

Starting in the early 19th century, the ring kiln you can risk a look into the depths of the earth. The ‘Hercules’ shaft marks the beginning of deep mining in the Ruhrgebiet has now been opened to visitors who can reach the complex system of ventilation and working models illustrate how the unknown world beneath the surface via a opening in the domed roof. Working models illustrate how the unknown world beneath the surface via a opening in the domed roof.

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The high point of the visit, for children and adults alike, is a guided tour through the Nightingale mining gallery. Children can try out the work of brickmakers and miners in the ring kiln.

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We are also participating
the LVR-Industriemuseum
of the industrial era from
geographic region comprising eight different
heritage sites. It was set up in 1935 by the
Regional Association of
Westphalia-Lippe (LWL).

The LWL-Industriemuseum
is an umbrella museum
comprising eight different
industrial heritage sites.

Eight Sites – One Museum

E-Mail dernehm@t-online.de
Fax: 02302 93664-22
Tel. Witten 58452
Nachtigallstraße 35

Website: www.lwl.org

Admission prices*:
Adults: 5,40 €
Children: 0,00 €
Concession: 3,60 €
Guided tours for youth groups (up to
30 persons) and school students: 1,00 €
School classes on the museum’s educational
program: 1,00 €

We recommend the LWL Museum Card
* We reserve the right to make changes
without prior notice.

\[ \text{Photo: LWL-Industriemuseum, A. Hudemann, M. Holtappels, u. a.} \]

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