

Product information

Germany. A walker's paradise.

On-trend sport with a long tradition – Well-developed infrastructure and excellent service for a variety of target groups

There is a long tradition of walking and hiking in Germany – pilgrims have been visiting religious sites here for centuries. The great poet Johann Wolfgang von Goethe once said, “Only where you have walked have you truly been”, and in the 18th and 19th centuries the Romantics sought artistic inspiration by walking among nature. Today, according to surveys by the Allensbach Institute for Public Opinion Research, more than 60 per cent of Germans regularly go walking. Walkers from all over the world will find excellent infrastructure in Germany, catering to a wide range of needs.

Germany has something for everyone, from families with children, to culture lovers who like exploring historical sites and energetic hikers conquering the mountain peaks. Added to the mix are health-promoting walks, regional food and drink, and tourist highlights such as treetop walks and park ranger experiences.

Germany boasts a network of around 200,000 kilometres of well-signposted hiking trails with varying levels of difficulty. Experts regularly examine the trails on the basis of defined criteria and certify them. The German Ramblers' Association has awarded the *Wanderbares Deutschland* seal of approval to 259 routes covering a total length of 15,038 kilometres. Four certified *Wanderbares Deutschland* regions offer premium standards of service, accommodation, nature conservation and trail quality. The German Institute of Hiking provides guidance for hikers with four types of certification: premium hiking trails, premium city-based walks, premium walking trails, and the premium walking region/premium walking centre certificate.

Around 1,500 hotels are certified accommodation providers bearing the *Wanderbares Deutschland* seal of approval,

About the GNTB

The German National Tourist Board (GNTB) has its headquarters in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. It works on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) to represent Germany as a tourist destination and is funded by the Ministry in accordance with a decision taken by the German Bundestag. The GNTB develops and communicates strategies and products to promote Germany's positive image abroad as a tourist destination and to encourage tourists to visit the country. It has 31 agencies around the world to support its activities. Further information is available from our online press centre at www.germany.travel/press.