

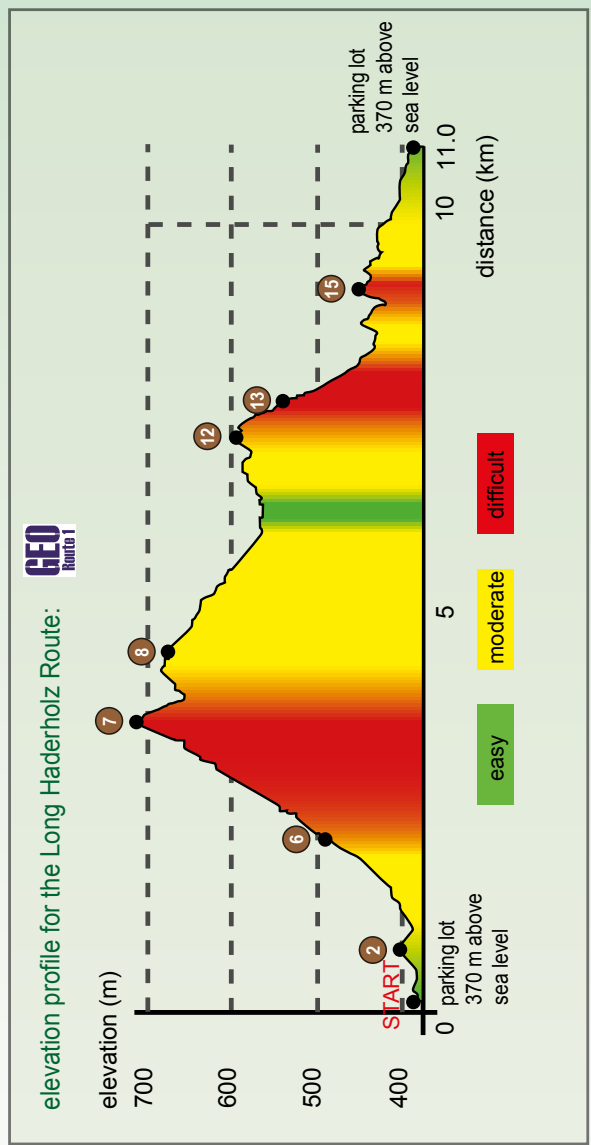


Long Haderholz Route

Guide for GeoRoute ①



Discover the region around the **GROßER INSELBERG** and visit our **GEO-INFOCENTRES** !



Note: The general map of the GeoRoute is not suitable as a trail map. Trail maps can be purchased in the tourist information.

At the Long Haderholz Route in the heart of the Thuringian Forest Mountains you can see different types of rocks: volcanic rocks, sedimentary rocks and metamorphic rocks. Some of them are 300 Million years old.

Here, in this small area a big part of the geological diversity of the Geopark is unfolding.

You might even find a small piece of Black Gold, since the trail passes through an old coal mining area. The peaks of the Hohe Warte, locally known as the "Howete", and the Haderholzstein present magnificent views of the Thuringian Forest.

Tip: take a stone from the Haderholzgrund with you to the top of the highest hill – you will see why when you get there....

GeoRoute:
 Length: approx. 11 km
 Duration: 5- 6 hours
 Degree of difficulty: medium (see [elevation profile](#))

Start: Sports field in Seligenthal
 The route can be hiked in both directions. It is recommended to begin your walk towards the Haderholzstein.

Arriving by bus:
 Bus lines 448, 452, 453 serve the stops in Seligenthal, Kleinschmalkalden, Hohleborn (Info: www.mbb-mgn.de)

Note:
 There are no places to eat directly along the GeoRoute. Bus services are available for the section between Kleinschmalkalden and the sports field Seligenthal.

Please ask for our qualified **Geopark Guides** to enhance your Geopark experience.
Booking & more information:
Touristinformation in Floh-Seligenthal.

We are looking forward to seeing you!

Contact:
Tourist information Floh-Seligenthal
 Bahnhofstraße 4
 Tel.: 03683/408848, Fax: 03683/408850
 Email: info@floh-seligenthal.de

Opening hours:
 Monday and Friday: 9 - 12 am
 Tuesday: 9 - 12 am and 1 - 4.30 pm
 Wednesday: 1 - 4.30 pm
 Thursday: 9 - 12 am and 1 - 5.30 pm

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Visit our other GeoRoutes in the GeoPark!



Attractions along the GeoRoute ① “Long Haderholz Route“

1 Well in Haderholzgrund

- artesian well
- original enclosure from 1831, renewed later

2 Granite grus pit in the Silgetal

- Kleinschmalkalden granite
- Age: approx. 335 million years (Carboniferous)
- Granite is a magmatic rock composed of quartz, feldspar and mica
- here the granite is weathered to a great depth as a result of subtropical weathering in the geological past
- feldspar and mica are less resistant to weathering than quartz

3 Gakenstein

- Rock spur of highly deformed Kleinschmalkalden granite (see No. ②)

4 Lamprophyre dike

- dark, fine-grained and very hard rock found in dikes
- also formerly known as “Melaphyr“ in Germany (see No. ⑦)

Did you know that dikes are a relict of volcanic eruptions?

Magma from deep down rises through fractures in the surrounding rock. However the magma usually does not reach the surface of the Earth.

In mixed dikes this process is repeated several times in sequence with different magma compositions. In this case the dike consists of several rock types.



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5 View of the Falkenburgstein hill ✨

- lookout with a view of the Falkenburgstein hill (composed of Haderholz porphyry (see No. ⑦))
- historic monument with archaeological remains of an ancient fortification
- Breeding ground for peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus*)

6 Münzhöhle (colloquially: Moinsöhle)

- natural cave (eroded joint in the Haderholz porphyry)
- presumed location of a counterfeit coin production workshop around 1600
- Winter quarter for e.g. fire salamander, crested newt and various bat species
- all-year habitat of the European cave spider (*Meta menardi*)
- is a “specially protected biotope“

7 Haderholzstein (713 m above sea-level) ✨

- highest elevation of the Long Haderholz Route
- Type locality for the resistant Rhyolite type “Haderholz porphyry“ in the Ilmenau-Formation
- rock is approx. 295 million years old
- here the Haderholz porphyry is around 200 m thick
- the peregrine falcon breeds in the rock faces
- the “Tamburg“, the protected remains of a former castle crowns this hill
- a small cave is located at the foot of the Haderholzsteins (see No. ⑦)



8 Plattenbruch on the Hausmasse

- old quarry on the Hausmasse hill (683 m above sea level)
- extracted rock is the green-grey sandstone from the Goldlauter Formation (approx. 290 million years old)
- sandstone occasionally contains trace fossils and plant remains
- Sandstone primarily used as cut stone (“Waldplatten“), see No. ⑮



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9 Rhyolite spur

- Rhyolith of the type “Haderholz porphyry“ is a very hard and resistant volcanic rock that often forms rock spurs and buttes (see No. ⑦)

10 Lake horizon

- Mudrocks from the Ilmenau Formation (approx. 295 million years old)
- Sapropel deposits of a former lake,
- typical fossils: fish, newt-like amphibians (branchiosaurs) and ostracods

11 Grenzborn

- enclosed artesian well
- well type: perched spring

12 Hohe Warte (colloquially: Howete) ✨

- Stone look-out, built in 1905
- located at 602 m above sea level
- locally known as “Henkeltöpfchen – pot with handles“
- Rocks consist of Haderholz porphyry (see No. ⑦)

13 Historic mining in the Altal valley

- numerous remains of historic coal mining activities are found in the Altal valley
- first officially recorded in the 16th century
- Base sediment of the Georgenthal formation (approx. 300 million years old)
- coal seam thickness varies between 20-25 m
- most recent mining attempt made in 1904 – 1910 by the Association “Hohe Warte“

14 Granite porphyry rock

- multi-phasic (“mixed“) dike penetrating the Kleinschmalkalden Granite (see Infobox)
- the outer zone consists of Kersantite the centre of Granite porphyry



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15 Granite porphyry dike at the Wire Factory Hohleborn

- Granite porphyry dike penetrates the gneisses of the Hohleborn formation (around 295 million years ago)
- Granite porphyry has been fractured tectonically and partially deformed
- Gneiss was formed by metamorphism around 350 million years ago

16 Quarry and rock spur at the Hundsrück

- gneisses of the Hohleborn formation penetrated by thick “mixed“ dikes
- the hard dike rocks were extracted as a hard, resistant, construction stone

More attractions nearby

Church of Gotha

- neo-classical church, completed in 1854
- built of typical regional stone: green sandstone (see No. ⑧), tufts from the quarries on the Rennsteig and Bunter Sandstone from the foothills

„Giant Stone“

- a big rock consisting of andesite (a volcanic type of rock)
- formed approx. 300 million years ago in the Georgenthal formation

- **mountain lake at the Ebertswiese** – direct connection to the Rennsteig

- **Spitterfall near the Rennsteig** - largest natural waterfall of the Thuringian Forest

- **biggest cowbell in the world** in Kleinschmalkalden

- **6 churches built in different styles** in the districts Seligenthal, Kleinschmalkalden, Hohleborn, Struth-Helmershof, Floh and Schnellbach

- Stud farm **Hof Boxberg** in the district Seligenthal

- **Visitor mine “Finstertal“** in Asbach

- **Technical monument “Neue Hütte“** - historical blast furnace complex built in 1835



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- **Museum Schloss Wilhelmsburg** in Schmalkalden
- **Mommelstein Cycle Route** with the viaduct outside of Kleinschmalkalden and an important geotope: a “Zechstein discontinuity“ exposed along the 200 m long former railway cutting

Inns and restaurants near the Long Haderholz Route ①

Café und Pension Leffler

Haderholzstr.13, OT Seligenthal, 03683/ 608101, open: daily from 12 am

Café Aschenbach

Hauptstr. 23, OT Kleinschmalkalden, 036849/ 21260, open: Wed-Sa from 3 pm, Sun from 10 am

Berghotel Ebertswiese am Rennsteig

03683/ 606451, open: daily except Tue and Wed

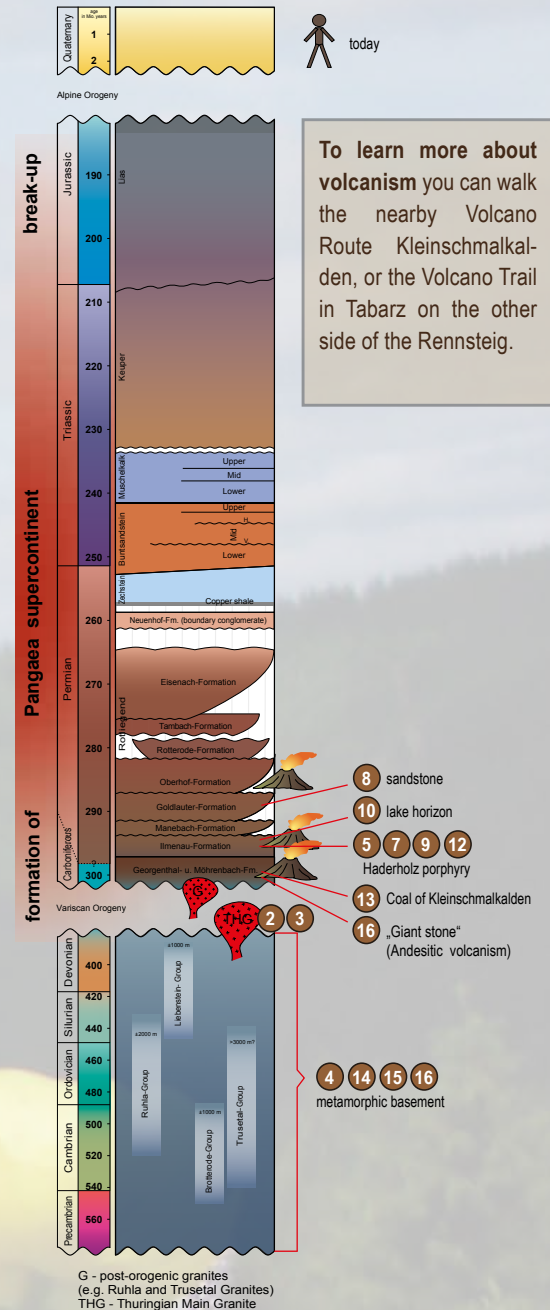
Guided tours along the Long Haderholz Route with certified GeoPark Guides

- regularly from April to October
- Start: 8 am, Sports field (district Seligenthal), duration: approx. 4-5 h
- essential equipment: sturdy shoes, suitable clothes according to weather, bring your own food and drinks
- Please book at least one day ahead at the Tourist information, phone: 03683/408848
- Cost: 5 € p.P., 2 € reduced
- exact schedule is available in the Tourist information, on a separate leaflet or in the monthly event calendar of Floh-Seligenthal



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Timetable of the geological development of the Geopark



To learn more about volcanism you can walk the nearby Volcano Route Kleinschmalkalden, or the Volcano Trail in Tabarz on the other side of the Rennsteig.