

Germany and Luxembourg Regional Activity Guide

This guide provides detail on various outdoor activities you can enjoy whilst on holiday with Canvas.

Our customer researched walking and cycling information will help you find some of the area's most beautiful spots. They detail route information, start/finish points, where to hire bikes and so on - all the information is at your fingertips.

Canvas Active ... something for everyone



Contents

Walking Routes

A Guide to Walking in Germany & Luxembourg 3

Germany (Saarburg)

Route 1 - 5-7

The Saarschleife Circular

Route 2 - 8-10

A Circular Walk To Ayl

Luxembourg

Route 3 - 11

Some Alternative Walks Around Landal Greenparks
Warsberg

Route 4 - 12-14

The Nommerlayen Rocks

Route 5 - 15-17

Larochette Circular

Route 6 - 18-19

The Champignon (Circular From Nommern)

Insurance and Up-to-date information 20

Walking Routes

Our thanks go to Martin, Sue and Sam Norman and the Evan's family who carried out the research and supplied us with the information for these routes. Please note that all information was correct at the time of research. We strongly advise that you take a detailed map of the area to accompany the maps and descriptions provided here.

A Guide to walking in Germany and Luxembourg

Germany is the original home of long distance footpaths - the Black Forest Westweg opened some 65 years before the Pennine Way. Today the countryside is covered with some 250,000 well maintained and way marked footpaths. Despite its small size, Luxembourg is a paradise for walkers, being home to around 5000km of trails and 20 long distance footpaths, one of the densest networks in Europe.

The countryside that our researchers explored for these walks is some of the best. The area connecting the two regions is often referred to as 'Little Switzerland'. It is home to hundreds of footpaths through densely wooded forests, clear streams and interesting rock formations. There is an abundance of wildlife with many species of plants and animals to look out for as you explore this beautiful countryside.

Map Guidelines

There are two maps on a 1:50 000 scale that cover the whole of Luxembourg. These have all of the footpaths marked on them and are recommended for use whilst completing the walks detailed in this booklet. They are available at Tourist Information offices across the country, or in some larger supermarkets. A tourist information office will also be able to provide you with a free local leaflet that details some of the shorter, more local trails.

In Germany, there are a series of 'Wanderkarte' (Walking maps) referred to as WK, varying in scale from 1:75 000 to 1:25 000, which have all of the main footpaths marked on them. We recommend the 1:30 000 scale, which details all of the paths used in the routes described here, but you may wish to buy a smaller scale if you intend to explore further. These maps are available from tourist information offices and also from larger supermarkets or bookstores.

Don't Forget

- Wear good strong shoes or walking boots.
- Take plenty of food and drink with you.
- Do not wander off the paths.
- Do not trample on, or pick any of the plants.
- Lighting fires is prohibited.
- Throw your rubbish in the dustbins provided along the way or take it home with you.
- Beware of sunstroke and take plenty of sunscreen and a sunhat.
- Always close barriers/gates behind you.
- When going on a walk, always tell someone where you are going and when you plan to return.

Useful Walkers' Phrases (in French and German)

Access only for residents, cyclists and walkers - Sauf Riverains / Antieger Frei

Pedestrians Only - Sauf Pieton / Nur Fußgänger

No Entry - Défense d'Entrer / Kein Eingang

Footpath - Sentier / Fußweg

Coastal Footpath - Sentier Côtier / Küstefußweg

Alternative route - Itinéraire de Déstéage / Ausweich

Part / District - Quartier / Gebiet

Hill / Hillside - Coteau / Berg

Town Centre - Centre Ville / Stadtzentrum

For more Useful Phrases see your Canvas Holiday Guide.

Germany (Saarburg)

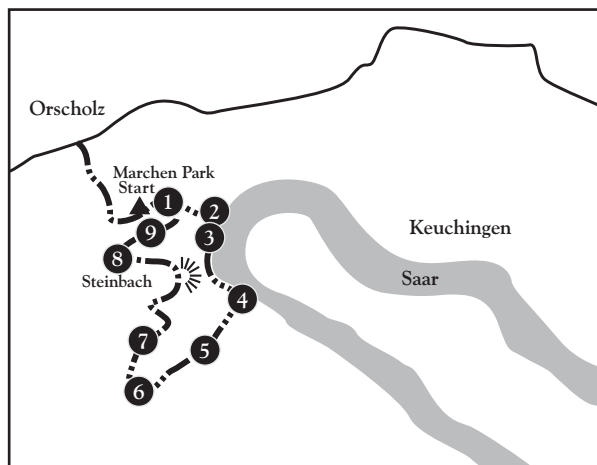
Route One 2.5mils/4km (Approx 2hrs)

Saarschleife Circular

This route leaves from the car park next to Saarschleife viewpoint. An enjoyable walk, which commences at a stunning viewpoint, then takes you through a nature reserve with particular interest to birdwatchers. Take your camera for the excellent views of the river Saar.

"Excellent views of the river Saar and restful Biergärten next to the river. This is an interesting nature walk through deciduous woodland where you may spot Nightingales and Black Woodpeckers."

Martin Norman, Cornwall.



Directions to Saarschleife viewpoint

Leave the Warsberg campsite and travel into the centre of Saarburg, heading south past the tourist information centre. Take the first left after this, in the general direction of Saarbrücken, but continue on the B407 past the villages of Trassem and Kirf. 4.5km after Kirf you will come to a crossroads where you should turn left on the L177 for Orscholz and pass through a village. At the end of the village is a roundabout, just past a supermarket. Take the second exit route off the roundabout and you will see a car park on the left hand side. Do not park here but follow the road around, past some flats for the elderly and down

through the forest for 1km, taking care to follow the road around a sharp left hand bend - instead of going straight ahead. You will soon come to another large car park with Waldgasshaus in the corner (or children's theme park). Nearby is a Biergärten and café, with traditional German music in the garden, which is worth visiting.

The journey should take 30 to 40mins. A very useful map is the 1:50000 Naturpark Saar-Hunsrück, which covers both the journey to the Saarschleife and the walk itself.

Route Description

(SP=Signposted)

This route leaves from the car park next to Saarschleife viewpoint.

1 From the car park you will see a sign for Saarschleife. Follow this around for 100m and you will come to a beautiful viewpoint, overlooking the River Saar and surrounded by steeply banked deciduous woodland. The river takes a sharp 'U' turn in its course - a very unique feature, well worth bringing a camera for. There are rocky crags and the opportunity to see large river barges negotiate this sharp bend. There are also picnic benches here, so it is a great place to stop for lunch.

2 From the viewpoint, you will notice a path immediately below, SP Zur Saarscheife. Follow this and after about 30mins you will reach the River Saar below. The path zigzags and is not difficult to follow. You will also see evidence of scree and erosion. Half way down there are seats where you can sit and enjoy the view. When you reach the bottom you can admire the view of the river bend from a different angle, as well as the sandstone rocks and screes.

3 Turn right along the cycle track and enjoy an easy stretch alongside the river where you will soon (after 0.5km) come to a riverside refreshment house. (If this one is not open there is a second Biergärten a further 0.5km away).

4 Your route turns right, just after the first refreshment house, and the path follows a stream up into the woodland for 1km through quite a deep gorge.

5 As you rise slowly you will pass through a nature reserve with colour poster boards of this nature reserve's bird species. Here you are likely to see Nightingales and Black Woodpeckers, which are rare in Britain.

6 After 1km, you will reach a number of steep steps. Climb the steps and follow the path around a tight bend before climbing a second set of steps. As the path begins to level off, look out for poster boards of owls and other birds of prey.

7 You will notice your earlier route up the valley immediately below you, with the impressive view of the gorge and isolated crags. After nearly 1km, during which your path widens to become a track, you will reach the Tellfelstein Hutte where you can rest and enjoy the view of the River Saar below.

8 Continue to follow the track, which rises gently after the Hutte for 400m, until you come to a staggered path crossroads. Turn immediately right following the signpost 'Zur Cloef'.

9 After 100 metres you will cross over a small stream and follow the path back for the final stretch of the walk to the Saarschleife viewpoint (0.5km.) From here, return via the way you came to the car park where you started.

Trail Notes

Distance of walk	2.5mls/4km round trip.
Grade	Moderately easy, although some steep sections
Terrain	Quite steep woodland path descent, cycle and woodland tracks.
Suitable for	Families, but not very young children and buggies
Time to allow	Approx 2hrs.
Start/Finish	Car park next to Saarschleife viewpoint.
Map	Wanderkarte 1:35000 Erholungsgebiet Saartal Obermosel from the Tourist Information Office.
Facilities	There are cafes and Biergärten along the walk.

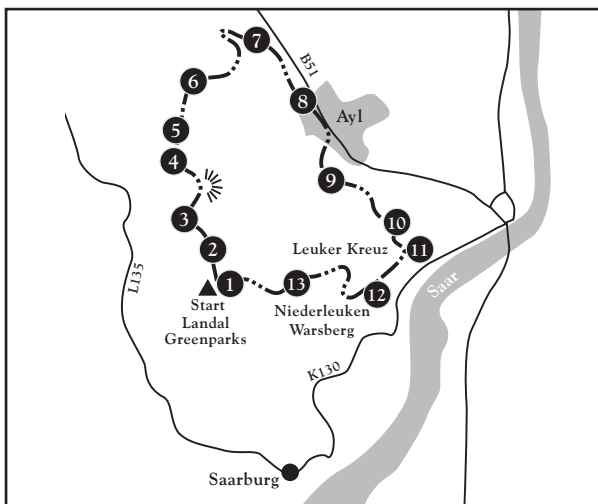
Route Two 3m/5km (Approx 3hrs inc. stops)

A circular walk to Ayl

This route leaves from campsite Landal Greeparks Warsberg. This is an easy circular walk for all the family, through tranquil countryside and the quaint, peaceful village of Ayl. Enjoy the lovely views of the Saar valley, the river and local vineyards.

"There is a peaceful tranquillity on this walk, which allows you time to amble quietly. The hillsides are enhanced by a beautiful array of wild flowers apparent both in the fields and through the vineyards."

Martin Norman, Cornwall.



Route Description

(SP=Signposted)

This route leaves from campsite Landal Greeparks Warsberg.

1 From the Canvas reception tent, turn right at the crossroads a few metres away and follow the lane past the tents and mobiles for about 100m. You will pass a barrier after which the road turns into a track through a field.

2 You will notice a signpost to Ayl. Follow the track through the first two fields, keeping straight. Do not turn right. Follow the bend around when you come to the second field, taking care not to descend on the path straight ahead, but following the track you are on round the right.

3 This will continue for nearly 200m, before turning left for 400m where you will meet a T-junction with a metalled road.

4 At the T-junction, turn right for 200m until you reach a crossroads where you turn left and then first right after 10m. This begins a very interesting phase of the walk through the local vineyards.

5 Follow the very clear track, which contours around the hillside, enhanced by a beautiful array of wild flowers apparent both in the fields and through the vineyards. This is a botanist's paradise and includes species such as Field Scabious, Chicory, Mallow, Agrimony, Tansy, Rest Harrow and Borage.

Enjoy a break on the small wall by the track and admire the view across the River Saar below to the surrounding hillsides dominated by vineyards.

6 Follow the track downward - the route is also good fun for children who will enjoy spotting the numerous lizards hiding in the wall crevices. Suddenly the landscape changes and you walk through woodlands - you will notice a No. 4 on a tree, which signals the change.

7 After a sharp bend in the road, you come out of the woodland, and you will see a seat on the left hand side. From here there are lovely views of the village of Ayl nestling in the valley.

8 Continue walking on this road into Ayl, passing through attractive orchards of apples, pears and plums. You are now entering the outskirts of the village and will pass a wine growers house and land called 'Weingut Geschrisster Simon'. As you continue straight on you will notice another No. 4 on the signpost. Turn right here for Trierer Strasse.

9 Continue along this street until you reach the village square and then towards the church along Kirchstrasse. As you walk past the church look out for the intriguing message written on the sign near the sculpture of the Crucifixion. Continue on the road round the back of the church, following it through more orchards.

10 As you slowly climb there are good views to the left of the Saar canal, which cuts a large loop in the river. You are now climbing back towards the campsite.

11 After 0.5km from the church you reach a fork in the road where you turn right, following the signpost to Saarburg on the G9. At the sharp bend in the path look across the valley below to see the Saar and distant Saarburg. Follow marker 1 on a tree.

12 You will soon come to a T-junction where you turn right and follow arrow 1. At this point you will enter the woodland near the campsite. After 150m there is another junction, or bend where the route turns left (the path to the right goes to the viewpoint called Kreuzberg). Follow this for 50m and then take the right fork at the next junction. The walk is fairly level now.

13 Turn left at the next junction and follow the track for 0.5km into the campsite.

Trail Notes

Distance of walk	3mils/5km round trip.
Grade	Easy with some climbs.
Terrain	Tracks through fields and vineyards, woodland paths, minor roads.
Suitable for	Families, there are plenty of resting and picnic stops with lovely views.
Time to allow	Three hours, including stops
Start/Finish	Canvas reception at Landal Greenparks Warsberg campsite
Map	Wanderkarte 1:35000 Erholungsgebiet Saartal Obermosel, available from the Tourist Information Office.

Some Alternative Walks

From and around Landal Greenparks Warsberg Around the park (3km)

From the campsite reception, walk in the direction of the Canvas tents down Reisling Strasse to the barrier. Turn left and follow signs for 'Nummer 2'. The path goes through a wood and along vineyards. There are some great views of Saarburg. If you want to shorten your walk, turn left at the 'Grillhutte' on the road leading to the campsite. You will pass 'Park Restaurant Warsberg' and return via the bungalow park.

To Kreizberg (3km)

From the campsite reception walk in the direction of the Canvas tents. At the crossroads, turn right onto Rulander Strasse. Go straight on past the tennis courts. Near emplacement 400, turn right into the wood. From here, follow signs for 'Nummer 3' to Kreizburg and the observation tower. From there, you can see the whole Saartal region.

To Engelback (1.2km)

From the campsite reception, walk in the direction of the Canvas tents. Go straight on down Reisling Strasse and turn left at the barrier. Follow signs for 'Nummer 2'. When you meet the junction, take the path on the right and follow signs for 'ZE' to Engelback. The path goes through a wood and leads steeply downhill. Follow the tarmac road and turn right. You will see a restaurant, car park and fishing pond on your left. Turn round and walk along the road in the direction of Saarburg. Be careful of the traffic.

To Saarburg (1.2km)

Walk in the direction of the cable car. Take the stairs behind the terminus and follow the narrow path. Walk further through a vineyard until you reach the 300 stairs leading down to the tunnel next to the river. To reach this point takes about 30mins. Explore the thousand-year-old town centre, which includes ruins and beautiful waterfalls. A visit to the bell makers is also worthwhile. The walk back up the hill to the campsite is quite strenuous. If you prefer you can take the cable car back to the campsite, buy your tickets at the campsite before setting off.

Luxembourg

Route Three

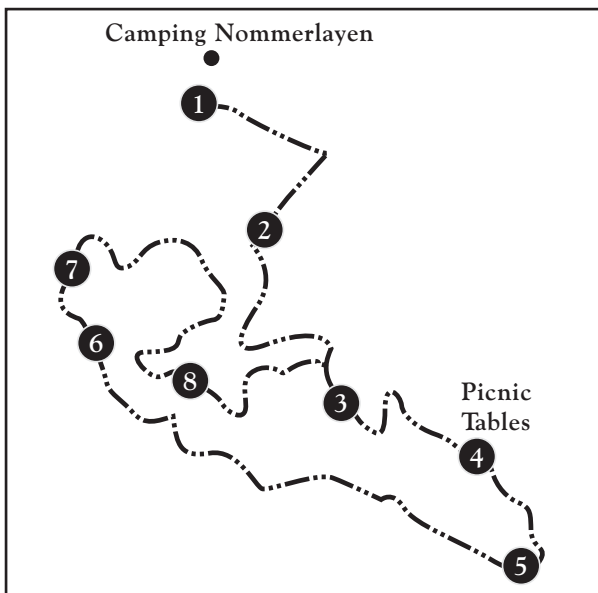
3.5mils/5km Approx 2hrs

The Nommerlayen Rocks

This route leaves from Europacamping Nommerlayen. Follow tracks through the forest to view the fascinating Nommerlayen sandstone rocks and chasms. This is an enjoyable walk for all the family.

"See the unique sandstone features formed after the last ice age - an amazing trail for adults and children alike"

Martin Norman, Cornwall



Route Description.

This route leaves from Europacamping Nommerlayen. SP-Signposted.

1 Leaving the campsite by the main entrance, following the road to Nommern for 100m. Turn right, at the first track at the end of the campsite, walking uphill through a field.

2 At the top of the field, on the edge of the woodland, turn left at a V junction and follow the track ahead for 100m. There is a bend in the track bearing left, follow the track for about 50m. After the bend look out for a short

steep path on the right, no more than 20m long, which takes you straight to the foot of the Nommerlayen rocks. Look up at the unique sandstone features, formed after the last Ice Age, surrounded by tall beech trees.

3 Follow the path to the left in a clockwise direction, alongside the rock formations, following the yellow 'N' signs, starting with N31 and N32. There is a blue handrail for support through the steeper parts (if needed.) Follow the blue arrow markers and the N33 sign. Go across a small bridge and straight ahead, keeping an eye out for N34 and N35 signs.

4 Soon the path cuts through the rocks in a steep but easy natural step pattern, giving an excellent view of the chasm, that is ideal for photographs. You will also notice the N36 and N37 blue marker signs as you rise to a plateau with fewer trees. Follow the path across the plateau for 0.5km, until you come to a car park with benches and picnic tables. This is a pleasant stop for lunch or a break. Here you will find the N39 marker.

5 From the picnic site turn right, (turning left leads to the road). Follow the broad track gently uphill until you reach the head of the valley. You don't need to follow tracks to the right or left at this point, but continue for 1km passing the N19 and N20 markers. This is a very quiet forested landscape. (Look out for red squirrels) which descends to the Nommerlayen rocks.

6 Follow the path descending to the right, marked by the blue N21, until you come to a bridge about 1.5km away, which crosses a fascinating gorge, within the Nommerlayen rocks. Pass by the N22 marker.

7 Descending either side of the gorge (one side has a hand rail) to the path below which has the guiding marker N23. Follow the path through the cleft in the rocks passing the marker N24, and you will see good examples of the coral texture of the sandstone rocks.

8 Follow the path for 1km, around the base of the rocks, passing markers N25-N30, until the original steep path is reached where the Nommerlayen trail began. Descend this to the wide track below and turn left, following it back the way you came to the campsite below.

Trail Notes

Distance	3.5m/5km
Time	2 hours
Start	Nommerlayen campsite
Terrain	Forest tracks
Grade	Moderate
Suitability	All the family, take care with young children as there are some steep climbs
Map	Grand-Duché Carte Topographique, 1:50000 Luxembourg Sud. This route is well signed at regular intervals.

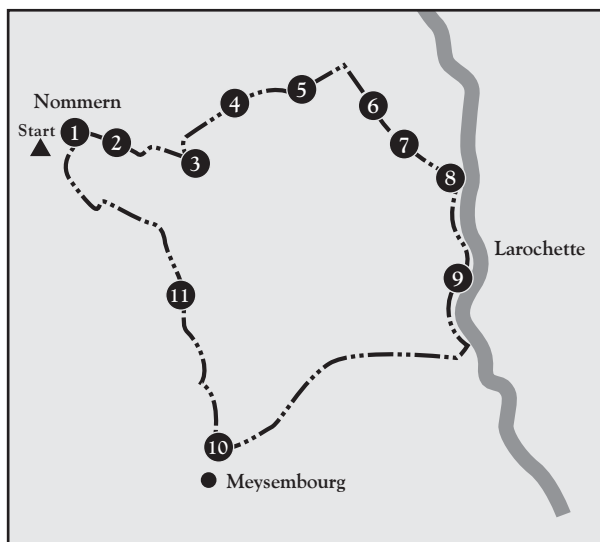
Route Four 7m/11km (Approx 4-6hrs)

Larochette Circular

This route leaves from the car park at Nommern (short distance from campsite.) A walk along cycle tracks through peaceful oak and beech woodland offering great views before taking you to the scenic town of Larochette. Take time to explore the town before returning through pastoral landscape to the village of Nommern.

"This interesting walk incorporates the delights of the countryside and the beautiful town of Larochette. Look out for the forest game hides and the spectacular view of the château of Larochette."

Martin Norman, Cornwall



Route Description

(SP=Signposted)

1 Leaving the campsite follow the signs for Nommern. It is about a 10min walk. If driving, the short distance, there is a car park in the centre of the village, just past the church on the left hand side.

2 The walk starts from opposite the church. Head up the street marked Rue du Knapp, until you reach a grassy track.

There will be a white marker on a tree. Continue up the grassy track to the forest and keep on the track through the forest. As it climbs steadily, you will notice the Nommerlayen rocks on the right. After 1.5km there is a tiny chapel just before the path junction.

3 At the junction turn left. After 200m there is a fork. Take the right hand path. You will notice after 50m a bicycle sign with the number 36 on a tree. At various points on the walk it is possible to see curiously shaped traditional game hides which were used for the hunting of deer and wild boar.

4 Continue following the path, past bicycle route 37 sign. You will pass through oak and beech woodland. After just under 1km you will meet a wider track, do not go to the right or left on this track but continue on the narrower path straight ahead. You will soon come to a second wider track. Turn right onto the track with the bicycle 39 sign, which leads to the road.

5 Turn left at the road for 50m before turning right into the small lane. There is a campsite to the left. After 200m the road becomes a track. Bicycle track 43 sign is stated on a tree along the track. Soon after the sign you will come to a bend where the track goes to the left - ignore this and follow the track off to the right for about 50m, until you come to a small path on bicycle route 52, to the right. Go down this path for 25 metres, passing the dip of the valley and the small stream. Turn left onto the wider track, following the main valley route to Larochette.

6 On the descent the Nommerlayen rocks can be seen once more. At the tree with marker CH 37 turn to the left, continuing to descend further down the valley. Before long you will come to a 3-path junction. Follow the valley route straight on for about 1km to reach Larochette.

7 At the metalled road, turn right to head towards town, passing two small ponds with pleasant picnic spots. Note the Easter Island wood sculptures in the adjacent field. On the right hand side, there is a wood carving activity centre.

8 Turn right at the T-junction on the outskirts of Larochette, passing the Youth Hostel and Police Station,

until you come to a car park. Turn right here and continue into Larochette. Larochette is one of the most attractive towns in Luxembourg, surrounded by beautiful forest. Enjoy a welcome break in one of the many pleasant café's in the main street, and enjoy the spectacular view of the Château of Larochette above. This is a view not to be missed, and the adjacent castle ruins can be visited.

9 From the Museum of Industry, continue along the "circuit auto Pedestre", through a quiet housing area. At the crossroads, turn right and follow the road around for 0.5km, passing a car park. Turn right at the bus stop opposite the 'magic multi media studio', up a track which is adjacent to a wooden bridge. The track is wide and very easy to walk on. It ascends gradually upwards, passing more Nommerlayen rocks.

10 Continue walking on this path for 2km, until you arrive at a lake and picnic spot. Turn right at the minor road next to the lake. Pause to glimpse the beautiful château almost hidden in the trees, before continuing up the hill passing the Meysembourg sign. Continue along the minor road where the scenery becomes more pastoral.

11 At the crossroads go straight ahead (SP Nommern) for 0.5km, then take the track on the right (opposite orange marker S25). Turn left at the first track junction (don't take S26, which is straight ahead). The track descends through forest and farmland for 1km, offering views of the Nommern valley, until it reaches the village of Nommern. When you reach the main road junction, turn right and continue for 200m before arriving at the car park where you started. Alternatively, you can turn left at the road junction, and return straight to the campsite 1km away.

Trail notes

Distance	7m/11km
Time	4-6 hours (including stops)
Start	Car park at Nommern
Terrain	Woodland tracks/paths and minor roads.
Grade	Moderate/easy
Suitability	Adults and children (aged 8 and over)
Map ref	GR 803955; 1:50 000 Luxembourg Sud

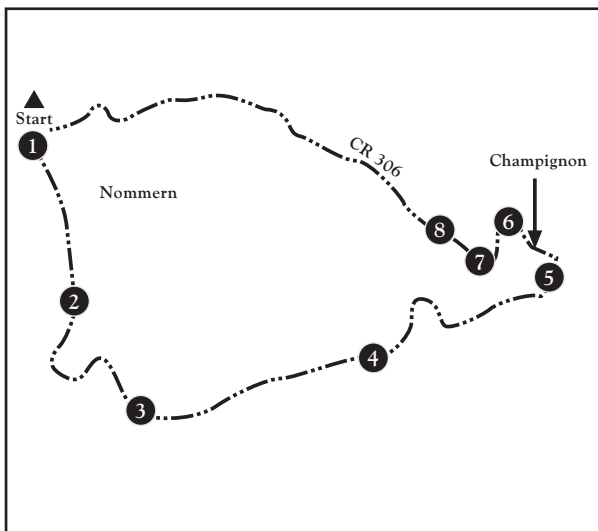
Route Five 3m/4.5km (Approx 2hrs)

The Champignon (Circular from Nommern)

This route leaves from Eurocamping Nommerlayen. This is an easy and enjoyable walk through peaceful countryside with plenty of fun for children along the way.

"An ideal introduction to the area with lovely views of the surrounding countryside. This route is very clear and obvious and an ideal adventure for children."

Martin Norman, Cornwall



Route Description

(SP = Signposted)

1 Leaving the campsite follow the signs for Nommern which is around a 10mins walk. If driving the short distance, there is a car park, in the centre of the village, just past the church on the left hand side.

2 Walk up the road opposite the church, by the tourist information board, called Rue du Knapp. Continue up the road, past the orchards to the left. The road merges into a track which you follow into the forest. You will notice the large Nommerlayen rocks before reaching a little shrine by a track crossroads, 0.5km away.

3 At the crossroads turn left and after 200m you will come to a junction. Take the left hand fork and the track

continues almost level for 0.5km until coming into more open space. At the next path division (where you will see three trees together in an island) go straight on. There will be a yellow marker CH 11 on a tree.

4 The path goes steeply downhill, past CH 12 on a tree, then continues through the edge of a small field. Where you see the marking CH13, the path turns to the right passing beautiful beech and fir trees - enjoy the fragrant smell, and the silence.

5 When the path reaches the road, turn left and continue along for 100m, where the scenery opens out to rolling farmland. Just after the 'Reserve Naturelle' sign there is a picnic bench in a quiet lay-by - ideal for a lunch stop. Retracing your steps for a few metres, turn right, and follow a little track through the nature reserve to a very unusual sandstone feature called the Champignon (mushroom). Next to it, is a see saw and another picnic bench. This micro-landscape is like heath land and a contrast to the surrounding farmland.

6 Follow the path from the Champignon around to the left and then turn right towards some wooden posts. Walk beside the posts and turn left next to some fir trees.

7 Follow the path downhill, for 200m, turning left behind a dwelling and then immediately right, following the path through swings, a seesaw, and a short lane to the road. You may even see a friendly family of goats!

8 Turn left, at the road, and walk along this quiet country lane, with beautiful views to the south west of rolling Luxembourg. After 1km you will arrive at the village of Nommern again, follow the road round to the car park, or you can walk through the village back to the campsite.

Trail Notes

Distance	3m/4.5km
Time	2 hours (including stops)
Terrain	Woodland tracks/paths and quiet roads.
Grade	Easy
Suitability	Adults and children
Map	1: 50 000 Luxembourg Sud

Up to date information.

The information contained in this guide has been compiled from reports written by Canvas customers. This information was last updated in 2006. We have not verified the information herein and cannot attest to its accuracy. We recommend that you obtain a detailed map of the area to accompany the descriptions and maps in this booklet.

Have we got it right?

We are constantly looking for ways to improve our service and would be grateful for your comments about our activities booklets. If you have any suggestions, or if any of the information in this booklet is inaccurate, we would like to hear from you.

Please send your comments (quoting ref AB1106) to:

Canvas Holidays (Activity Guides)

Freepost EH2 526

Dunfermline

Fife

KY12 7BR

Thank you for your help.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the written permission of Canvas Holidays.