#### Let nature be nature

Nature is constantly changing. In national parks, therefore, designing them according to human standards is out of the question.

#### Nature has time to develop according to its own standards.

Our role is to observe and admire, after all, processes are taking place here which we override in other parts of our world. National parks are part of our heritage and an opportunity for our future.

#### **Müritz-National Park**

Spacious woodlands, sparkling lakes and wonderful peatlands create the stage for sea eagle, cranes and red deer. The Müritz-National Park conserves these original, wild landscapes, that sometimes awaken our respect for nature.

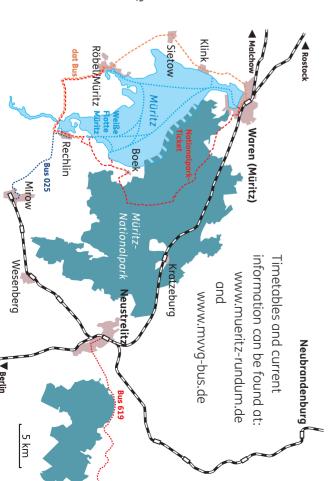


#### Following the tracks of the fish hunters

A ranger or nature guide will accompany you on guided walks to watch sea eagles, ospreys and co. Starting points are the National Park Information Centres in Federow and Boek. Please bring your binoculars!

619. It stops at the entry points to the and Feldberg Dianenhof and Carpin. pel. Between the towns of Neustrelitz he city transport Waren as well as Rö operates the bus route

)25 between Rechlin and Mirow and he west side of the Müritz, the bus line Müritz through the national park. The is also valid for the "dat Bus" on along the Eastern shore of Lake you and your bike car October, the National Park Ticket is





## Young and old woodlands

The Müritz-National Park has a size of 322 square kilometres and is the largest German national park on land. The larger area, with Lake Müritz at its eastern boundary is characterised by pine woodlands and large peatlands. In the smaller area around the village of Serrahn remarkable ancient woodlands have survived the times.

#### Stately woodlands

The ancient beech woodlands became a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2011. Together with four further beech woodland areas in Germany and Primeval Beech Forests of The Carpathians and other Regions of Europe these last remains of the worldwide unique woodlands are protected.

## Becoming a woodland wilderness

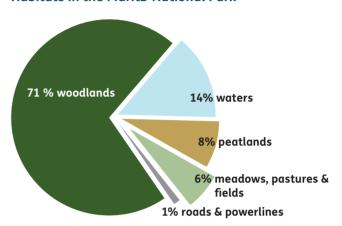
The western part of the national park is characterized by wide-ranging pine woodlands. Most of them were planted only 200 years ago for forestry purposes. These woodlands are young. Now they are developing into an undisturbed woodland wilderness.



#### The empire of the beech trees

Around the village of Serrahn, ancient beech woodlands have survived changeable times. They are home for numerous animals, plants and fungi. The ancient woodland is very valuable in our intensively used landscape, a treasure trove for biological diversity.

#### Habitats in the Müritz-National Park



322 km<sup>2</sup> is equivalent to 45.000 football pitches

## My ranger tip:

"My favourite pastime is canoeing on the river Havel. The tranquillity is wonderful. There is much to discover above and under water. A good starting point is Kratzeburg, then paddle towards the villages of Blanken-

förde or Userin. You can find the flyer on water routes with a map and information about accommodation as well on our website."

## Support us!



Förderverein Müritz-Nationalpark e.V.

Donation account:

IBAN: DE84 1505 0100 0640 1206 79 BIC: NOLADE21WRN (Müritz-Sparkasse)

Or become a member! Find out more information at www.foerderverein-mueritz-nationalpark.de

## **Publisher:**

Nationalparkamt Müritz | Schloßplatz 3 | 17237 Hohenzieritz Tel.: 0385 588 636 00 | poststelle@npa-mueritz.mvnet.de www.mueritz-nationalpark.de

facebook.com/mueritz.ˈnationalpark | instagram.com/mueritz | nationalpark

Content: Nationalparkamt Müritz Photos: Sandra Bartocha (Title), Nora Künkler Map: Kartis, Bargteheide Print: dieUmweltDruckerei, 2023





The Müritz National Park is part of the National Natural Landscapes (NNL), the alliance of German national parks, nature parks, biosphere reserves and wilderness areas. www.nationale-naturlandschaften.de







# The national park in brief



#### Water worlds

From the largest lake in Northern Germany, the Müritz, to a small woodland lake, every water has its own character. The world underwater is hidden to us under the sparkling surface. The inhabitants have a secret and also fascinating existence. There are spiders, that live in air bubbles. Carnivorous plants are on the hunt for tiny water fleas. You can find water scorpions, back swimmers and freshwater jellyfish. There are two waterside hiking routes in the national park. You are allowed to use your canoe between the villages of Kratzeburg and Zwenzow or between the localities of Boek and Mirow. As motorboats are not permitted, tranquillity and unique nature experiences are guaranteed.



## The spring of the river Havel

The last ice age left a large terminal moraine in the north of the national park. This range of hills is the watershed between the North Sea and the Baltic Sea. The spring of the river Havel is near the village of Ankershagen. The Havel then flows towards Berlin and into the river Elbe. On the trail "Oranges Reh" (orange roe deer), you can walk around the spring area of the river Havel. This is a hilly landscape of lakes and woodlands. For the young Heinrich Schliemann, this landscape was his inspiration to become an archaeologist. The museum in Ankershagen is designated to Schliemann.

# The empire of the Eurasian bittern

The Eurasian bittern is locally also known as the Moorochse (peatland ox) or Mooskuh (peatland cow). This bird lives a hidden life in large extends of reed. You can hear its muffled mating call for miles and this has given this small heron its name. North of the village of Blankenförde, there is a footpath called "Rote Rohrdommel" (red bittern) that will lead you into the habitat of this shy bird. As part of a European funded project large areas of wetland were restored successfully. In 2022 more bitterns than ever before were counted.

#### **Peatlands full of secrets**

Numerous peatlands are dotted around the landscape like eyes. There are places full of secrets, where their equally mysterious inhabitants live. Different types of dragonflies hover around visitors on the boardwalks. Grass snakes are taking energy from the sun. Sticky leaves of the carnivorous sundew capture small insects. Peatlands are a habitat and the protector of our climate. Many drained peatlands in the Müritz-National Park have been restored. Standing water conserves matter. Dead plant material does not decay, but stores carbon as peat. Therefore their name. The largest peatlands are along the Eastern shore of Lake Müritz. You can experience and explore smaller ones on boardwalks near the Wienpietsch lakes south of Waren or in the village Serrahn east of the town of Neustrelitz.



Please park on designated car parks | Drive on public roads only and respect limitations to traffic such as "Frei für Anlieger" (only for residents) und "Berechtigte frei" (permit holders only).



Please do not smoke in the woodlands | Open fire is not permitted, including cigarettes. A cigarette stub thrown away has started many wood fires. From woodland fire risk level 5, some wood areas may have blocked access.



Stay on marked paths | More than 450 km foot paths and 270 km of cycle paths lead you through this wild nature. Cycling on designated footpaths disturbs other visitors who are walking.



**Leash your dog** | Even the most faithful four-legged friend may be tempted, when it has a hare, fox or deer in front of its nose. Safe wild animals from the dangerous hunt and your dog from the danger of disappearing in the woodlands.



**Don't leave your rubbish behind** | Rubbish in the national park is not a pleasant sight. Drink cans or plastic waste can become deadly traps for wild animals. Take everything you brought back home with you.



**Don't take anything from nature** | All living creatures in the national park are protected. Every animal, every plant and every fungus has a role to play in the web of life. Collecting mushrooms and berries is therefore only permitted for your own consumption and only in the development zones.



**Use designated bathing sites only** | This is where bathing is permitted. Jetties or meadows invite you to stay. Waterfowl can retrieve to quieter parts of the lake shore.



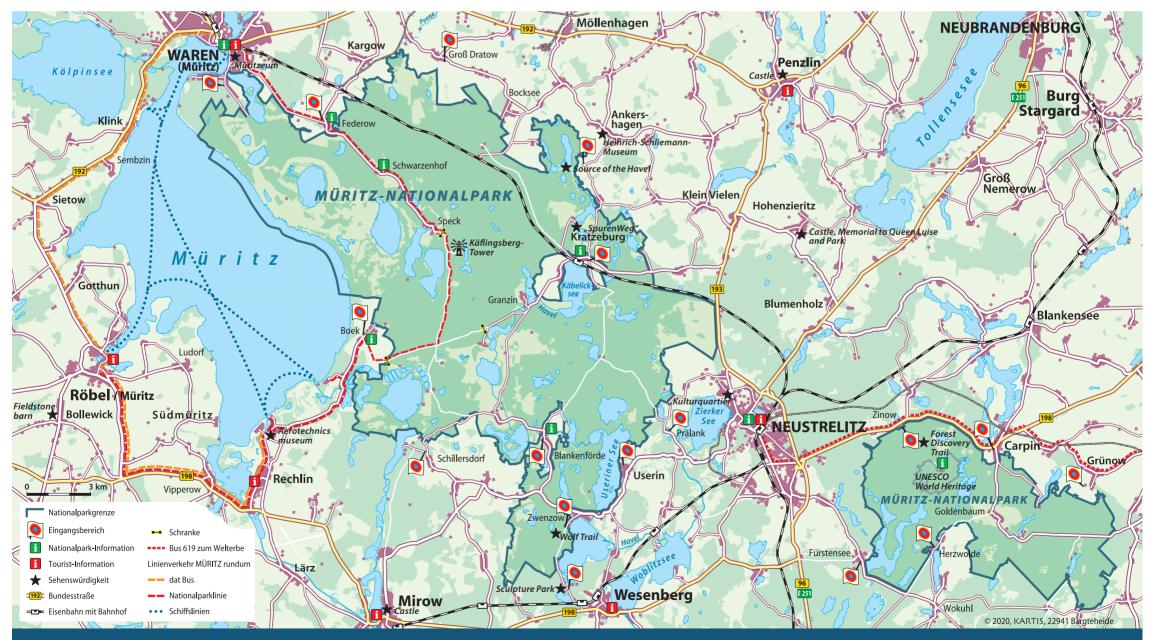
Only camp on designated camping sites | Camping inside the national park is generally not permitted. Please use the official camping site offers. You can find an overview of national park friendly hotels and guest houses at www. mueritz-nationalpark-partner.de



**Don't use drones** | The birds of the national park have the authority in the air. It is not permitted to use model planes or aerial vehicles of any kind. Animals perceive these as threats.



Attention! Nature also means danger! | At any time, you have to expect falling trees or branches. The state of Mecklenburg-Pomerania does not accept any liability for any accidents caused by nature. You enter the national park at your own risk



# National Park Partner

You will find accommodation, regional products or award-winning nature experience offers with our national park partners. Find more information at www.mueritz-nationalpark-partner.de

# Müritzeum

The Müritzeum is a nature discovery centre with Germany's largest freshwater aquarium for native fish. It is located in the town of Waren (Müritz) and we highly recommend it for a visit. More information at www.mueritzeum.de

## Nature Park Feldberg Lake District

This nature park is located immediately to the east of the Müritz National Park. More information at www.naturpark-feldberger-seenlandschaft.de oder www.feldberger-seenlandschaft.de