

HISTORY TRAIL ODER-WARTA 1945

At the end of the Second World War, the heaviest fighting in the Oder-Warta region left scars that are still visible today. Follow the cross-border history trail in the footsteps of the events of spring 1945.

On 31 January 1945, the first units of the Soviet Army reached the Oder River and established themselves there. Heavy fighting broke out entlang the present-day border river between Poland and Germany, resulting in countless casualties and devastating destruction of towns, villages and infrastructure by the end of April 1945.

Anklam



The locations on the 1945 War Events History Trail vividly convey the dramatic events at the end of the Second World War. These include former prisons and camps such as the Sonnenburg Penitentiary in Stońsk, Oflag IIC Woldenberg in Dobiegniew, the Wehrmacht prison in Anklam and the satellite camp of the Theresienstadt ghetto in Wulkow.

Places such as Klessin, Kienitz, Kostrzyn nad Odrą, Santok and Seelow also represent severe destruction and heavy losses in connection with the last major Soviet offensive towards Berlin. Nazi Germany finally surrendered on 8 May 1945 in Berlin-Karlshorst.

The **Oder-Warta 1945 history trail** recalls the events of that time and offers exciting insights from different perspectives.

PROJECT PARTNERS

City of Seelow (Lead Partner)
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„Remembrance connects“ the Oder-Warta region is a German-Polish network for cross-border educational and remembrance tourism. Under the leadership of the city of Seelow, the tourism brand of the same name connects around 180 places of remembrance on both sides of the border to create a multi-perspective landscape of remembrance. Discover the unique history of the Oder-Warta region.

WWW.REMEMBRANCE-CONNECTS.EU

LIBERATION ROUTE EUROPE

European Cultural Route of Liberation 1944-45

Liberation Route Europe is a certified Cultural Route of the Council of Europe and a project of the LRE Foundation. The route connects people, places, and events to mark Europe's liberation from occupation during World War II and to reflect on the long-lasting consequences and history of the war through a multi-national, multi-perspective approach. With hundreds of sites and stories in ten European countries, the route links the main regions along the advance of the Allied Forces in 1943-1945.



www.liberationroute.com

www.lre-germany.org

IMPRINT

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Travelling through the unique history of the German-Polish border region on the Oder and Warta rivers

History trail of the 1945 war events

MUSEUM BERLIN-KARLSHORST

Site of the German surrender in May 1945

Station on the Liberation Route Europe



www.reembrance-connects.eu



MUSEUM BERLIN-KARLSHORST



Marshal Zhukov (commander-in-chief of the Red Army), at the Receiving the surrender document, Berlin-Karlshorst, 8 May 1945

Room of the signing of the capitulation



Site of the German surrender in May 1945

The Berlin-Karlshorst Museum is located at a site of world-historical significance: this is where the Second World War in Europe ended on 8 May 1945. In the museum building, the commanders-in-chief of the German Wehrmacht signed the unconditional surrender in front of representatives of the Soviet Union, the USA, Great Britain and France. The historic rooms have been preserved in their original state.



THE MUSEUM

The museum was originally founded in 1967 as a „surrender museum“ by the Soviet troops in Germany. The tanks and guns in the grounds are a legacy of this period. The museum was re-established after German reunification. Today, former opponents of the war commemorate the Second World War together here.

THE EXHIBITION

The exhibition „Germany and the Soviet Union in the Second World War“ shows the war from the perspective of both the German and Soviet protagonists. Alongside original artefacts, historical photos and written documents, people and their individual stories are presented.

THE ENVIRONMENT

During the Cold War, the Karlshorst district was a Soviet restricted area to varying degrees. An outdoor tour of the museum leads to the former sites and traces of Soviet military and secret service facilities in post-war Berlin.



View of the exhibition, themed room „The war in the East and German society“

Biography stations in the exhibition



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Free admission; open Tue-Sun: 10 am - 6 pm, Mon: closed

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