

PRESS RELEASE

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UNESCO World Heritage Site Zollverein, Essen Data, Facts and Figures

// The UNESCO World Heritage Site "Zollverein Coal Mine Industrial Complex"¹ comprises the areas of Shaft XII, Shaft 1/2/8 and the Coking Plant and thus a total area of 100 ha. This equals the size of 100 large football fields. Therefore, the Zollverein site is larger than Essen's city centre (94 ha).

// The Zollverein Coal Mine was closed down in 1986 as the last of 291 collieries in Essen. Essen once was the largest mining city on the European Continent.

// 96 buildings, more than 200 technical plants and machines, approx. 2.7 km of conveyor bridges and over 13.2 km of pipes are located on the site.²

// Consequently, Zollverein is one of the largest industrial monuments in Europe and all over the world.

// Zollverein is a landmark and supreme example for mastering the structural change in an old industrial region.

// Zollverein has been developed as a location for the creative industry (art, culture, design), for education, tourism and recreation.

// The World Heritage Site is the base of 35 companies which mainly come from the creative industry and employ approx. 1,000 people³:

- > Shaft XII: 25 businesses providing approx. 300 jobs
- > Shaft 1/2/8: 14 businesses providing approx. 300 jobs
- > Coking Plant: 12 businesses providing approx. 400 jobs

// From 1990-2016, the EU, the federal government, the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, the City of Essen, and Regionalverband Ruhr/Association of the Ruhr Area (RVR) spent a total of 334 million Euros on terrain preparation as well as maintenance and conversion measures for buildings and facilities.⁴

// The development of Zollverein has a positive effect on the surrounding districts.

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// Investments at Zollverein (overhaul, maintenance, operation) contribute to the strengthening of the (particular medium-sized) local and regional economy and safeguard jobs.

// The investment volume spent between 2001-2009 for the conversion of the former Coal Washery and the construction of the new SANAA Building (so-called large-scale EU projects) indirectly triggered the generation of 2,168 jobs, with the regional share amounting to 49 % = 1,062 jobs.⁵

// Investments are to a considerable extent returned to public authorities via taxes (VAT, business tax, income tax etc.).

// The mighty “Doppelbock” pit head gear has established itself as the landmark of the Ruhr area and is the symbol of identification for an entire region.⁶

// The Zollverein World Heritage Site is the most-visited tourist destination in the Ruhr Metropolis.^{7a}

// With about 1.5 million visitors per year, Zollverein comes second (after the Cologne Cathedral) as cultural tourist attraction in North Rhine-Westphalia.⁷

// Zollverein visitors generate a gross turnover of 68.4 million Euros.⁸

// Zollverein tourism generates and safeguards more than 1,450 full-time occupations in the hospitality industry.⁹

// About 11 million Euros of VAT and approx. 1.5 million pro rata wage and income tax as well as business and real estate tax arising from Zollverein tourism are flushed into public coffers.¹⁰

// Zollverein as a tourist and leisure time destination provides numerous – partly unique – places to visit and experience.¹¹

// Zollverein is the central anchor point of the “Route of Industrial Heritage” as well as a significant anchor point of the “European Route of Industrial Heritage” (ERIH).¹²

// Along the Denkmalpfad ZOLLVEREIN®, the facilities of the coal mine and coking plant which are maintained in their original condition, the history and production processes become comprehensible and come to live thanks to the combination of innovative media technology and the explanations of excellently trained guides.

// The “Portal of Industrial Heritage” as an information centre on industrial heritage is unique throughout Europe.

// The Zollverein World Heritage Site repeatedly won the CONGA-Award and the Location Award as Germany's best event location.¹³

// Zollverein enjoys international reputation as a design location (Red Dot Design Museum / Red Dot Design and Red Dot Communication Award).¹⁴

// The Design Faculty of the Folkwang University of the Arts makes the Zollverein World Heritage Site a location for research into and teaching of design sciences.

// PACT Zollverein - das Choreographische Zentrum NRW / Tanzlandschaft Ruhr is internationally renowned for pioneering, multi-discipline developments in the fields of dance, performance, theatre, media, and fine arts.¹⁵

// The Ruhr Museum is the first natural and cultural history museum of the Ruhr area with national prominence. Since its opening in January 2010, 250,000 guests visit the permanent and special exhibition of the museum every year.

// Zollverein is a venue for cultural events and trade fairs of national and international prestige like Ruhrtriennale, Klavier-Festival Ruhr, ExtraSchicht, contemporary art ruhr (C.A.R.).¹⁶

// ZOLLVEREIN® Park with an area of approx. 70 ha (and more than 20 artworks by nationally and internationally renowned artists)¹⁷ is an important part of 'The European Green Capital 2017' and the Emscher Landschaftspark – in the valley of the river Emscher (ELP).

// 99 % of Zollverein visitors state that they will recommend the tourist and cultural offers at Zollverein.¹⁸

// In the overall rating, visitors award the offerings and services at the UNESCO World Heritage Site Zollverein the average grade of 1.6.¹⁹

// Zollverein is a paradigm for dealing with outstanding evidences of the industrial history in accordance with monument preservation aspects.

// Conversion projects and new buildings at Zollverein, which were designed by renowned architects, won numerous awards and acknowledgements.¹⁹⁻²³

Sources

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