

## Madenburg - Letterbox

placed on February 2007, 25<sup>th</sup> through: The Wuffs

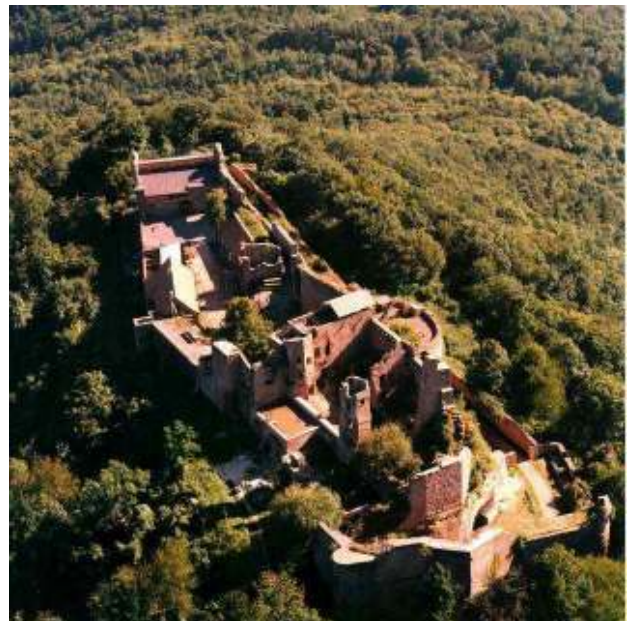
Start: Parking bay Windhof near Annweiler (Annweiler is due to the B 10 between Landau/Palatinate and Pirmasens). Left B 10 at the exit **Annweiler-West / "Burg Trifels"**. Always follow the marking direction **"Burg Trifels"**. (From "The end of the town"-sign, up to the parking bay, these are approx. 5 kms /parking bay after the "Kletterhütte"). Difficulty Level: medium, length: approx. 10 kms (4 - 5 H) the way in part leads across country and is provided with climbing tours - (however, mountaineering equipment is in no case required). 4-legged companions manage the way easily.



Topographic map 1:25000 "Annweiler am Trifels", compass and steady travelling shoes are a must.

The presumably in the 11th century as Parthenopolis built (Parthenon/Greek = virginchamber, Poli/ Greek = castle, city) Madenburg, is one of the biggest castles of the Palatinate. Mention finds her in the 12th century as Marienburg; at this, time she is in the possession of the German empire. At the beginning of 13-th century it was awarded as an imperial fief to the counts of Leiningen. At the middle of 14-th century she became - also sucked how many other castles, Castle Ganerben, i.e. the possession relations or ownership structures fell on the basis of hereditary succession but also pledge and/or fief apart.

Well known owners were the Sickinger and the Fleckensteiner. "Friedrich of Fleckenstein to Madenburg" took residence on the castle from 1456. He he had fought on the "wrong" side, and had turned against the palatinate Elector, so he had to accept 1470 the conquest of the castle through the palatinate troops. After this had the castle -



now on account of purchase-had different owners, last from 1516 the bishop of Speyer which she served as a Renaissance castle.

In the Peasants' Wars, the Madenburg 1525 was burnt down and rebuilt afterwards by Philipp von Flörsheim. His coat of arms, is still well-preserved visible about the entrance of the "Philippsbau", named after him.. The mark count of Brandenburg the castle pillaged 1552. In following time it was used by the bishops of Speyer as a secondary residence and further developed. In spite of her military strength considerable in the meantime French troops 1689 managed the final destruction of the castle arrangement. In 1870 the Madenburg association of the castle ruins has taken care. Since then intensive restoration measures were carried out in the preserved, impressive castle parts.

Opening hours of the castle and Burgschänke:

Nov.- Mrz: 12:00-16:00 o'clock - rest day: Monday + Tuesday

Apr.- Okt.: 10:00-18:00 o'clock - rest day: Monday

(during rest days the castle is likewise closed!!!)

Telephone number for questions at the opening times with Fam. Buchwald: 0049(0)6345 / 7110

Nevertheless now, enough of the culture, it is valid now to find a box hidden well.

You find a **cross** at the parking bay "windhof". We need the first both digits/figures of the establishment year, please note as **A**.

From the parking bay follow the hiking signs yellow stroke and/or white stroke with black point. Start in the opposite of the wood carver hut. The direction is, naturally, "Madenburg"

At the first crossroad, follow the way on the left (always direction Madenburg)

After a big crossroad, a rock stands left hand witch is labelled wit the yellow word -"Cramer Pfad" and a date. This date is needed and please notices this as **B**

According to a total of approx. 30 minutes, of unshrinking travelling desires a rock lies to left hand again. This time there is the label "Loogfels" on it. Read this time from the inscription, contained under Loogfels, the first word. The alphabetic characters of that word, converted as numbers (A=1, B=2 and so on) and from that the summary formed is **C**.

The small path upwards leads you uphill to the Loogfelsen.

A boundary stone stands right hand after a few meters. The number on the eastern stone side is **D**

Uses the bank a little to relax, cause it goes steep further .... over the driving way away, high to the rock. If you arrived at the rock, enjoy the view and the art above. In the middle of the rock is a big X signed. Go directly on it and look with your compass in  $(C \text{ minus across-sum from } B) = \text{-----}^\circ$ , into this direction you find a number and a letter, immediately before the abyss, signed in the rock. The number is **E**

From the rock, the direction is now  $((2 \times C) + (2 \times A)) = \text{-----}^\circ$  (mountain up) on the way uphill you passes boundary stones. At the third boundary stone take direction  $((D + E) - 40) = \text{-----}^\circ$  and follows the driving way in this direction. According to the 2nd raised hide / blind (in the next left turn) you see on the right, in  $((D+E) - 40) = \text{-----}^\circ$  big rock lumps lying in the forest. From now on the way is very much bustling. So, follow the tiny "path" (on the left along the rocks), however, from now on lose in this case never your aimed direction  $((D+E) - 40) = \text{-----}^\circ$ .

If everything is right, you arrive directly (over two driving way) the parking bay of the Madenburg (hopefully heals ).

A, so-called, "Pieta" house is here. What this is? Make you clever!

When was it established? Annual number = **F**

And how many lines has the sign on the right beside the door? Number of lines = **G**

Leave the small house and follow the white stroke with black point up to the Madenburg.

Look around a little and search the following points:

How many stairway steps do lead up to the entry of this chamber?

Number of steps = **H**



When did the famous journalist hold the speech for democracy on the Madenburg? Date = **I**

How many completely preserved windows are in the former chapel? Number of windows = **J**



Find the annual number about the archway. (near a blue sign) Annual number = **K**

How many crosses contains the coat of arms beside the (Fully) iron door?

Number of crosses = **L**

(Unfortunately, the Philippsbau and that part of the castle, lying behind it, can not be visited during the winter months / therefore is not required).

Who may, can storm after the investigation the Burgschänke to eat and drink something.

(Next rest possibility, for eat the own food, follows soon).

After leaving the castle follow the way in the direction of (2 times C) = -----°.

If you have then the wooden railing shortly before the parking bay on the right beside yourselves, look up diagonally left (at the edge of the parking bay) there is a tree. A "way through forbidden" sign is fastened on that tree. Put you next to it with the back and look in (2 x C - G - J) = -----° to a way on the other side of the parking bay (there is also the same sign "way through forbidden" on a tree). Briefly behind the sign are on the left and on the right a tree with two painted on white rings. To this way you follow. After approx. 30 m the way forks - keep on the right. For still or again hungry help approaches in form of a small resting place (approx. 15-20min.). After a short break it further goes in the direction of ( across sum of I = ----- x 4 ) = -----°

At the forest exit it goes straight ahead (according to approx. 100m looks back once, you can then see the Madenburg) and rise the first concrete way to the left. (You now see the white tower of the Slevogthof before you). At the 2nd crossroad now turn left. Until the end of the way, you bump into a driving way which you follow to the left. Marched at the "water pumps house" past and always follow route 4 (do never drift away to the left).

Look for a tree on your right hand, look like these:

Go next to it to the left and take a look with your compass onto the tower of ruin Scharfenberg (Münz).

The degree number is **M**





Preparation now for Letterboxing-look-up:

For "calibrating" the step length:

Between the nearest sign "water protection area" (the second on this way) and the third sign-board (it stands with the back to you), we have used 52 steps.

Should this not apply with you, well, .... then one means to mince or take long jump. ;-)

Before the next curve to the right introduces in ( M minus 85 ) = -----° on a way into the forest.

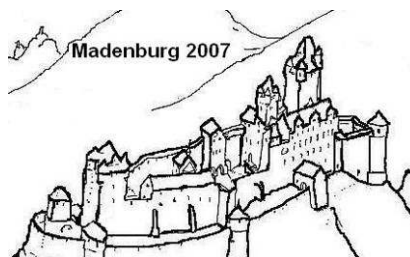
You follow him up till you arrive also a curve to the right. A small, young beech stands here to the left hand. From here, ( A+G + H ) = ----- steps in ( M - 100 ) = -----° up to one broken off fir.

This time in ( D + E + H ) = -----° stands a big beech with a small conifer in the trunk.

Goes to this. Now them ( cross sum of I plus G ) = ----- steps in ( I - K ) = -----° to an other big beech. Now only ( A - G - L ) = ----- steps in ( M - 20 ) = -----° to a double birch. By its tree-roots well stowed under stones, ( guarded perhaps well ;- ) , you find the Letterbox.



Pay attention to other hikers while stamping and hide the box again in its cache.



Way back:

Climb up high the mountain (bearing approx. 200°) and hit for you through branches until you bump into a driving way (hike way No.12) which you follow to the **right**. Always follow the No.12 until you comes onto a clearing on which you found that rock to the left hand, without inscription.

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**Attention**, there the way No. 12 turns onto a snugly, grassy forest path **to the right** (sign-posting returns only later! Therefore, do **not** follow route 4 here!!!) If you're right, then this way leads in approx. 10 min directly to the source parking bay ( when the way forks, keep on the left, don't go in direction Leinsweiler there).



A = -----

B = -----

C = -----

D = -----

E = -----

F = -----

G = -----

H = -----

I. = -----

J = -----

K = -----

L = -----

M = -----