

Who knows the answers?

If you have followed the Wildcat Forest Activity Trail attentively it will be easy for you to answer the following questions and get your Wildcat Diploma. The letters preceding the correct answers will give you the solution which refers to the habitat of the wildcat.

1. Up until when was it presumed that the wildcat had disappeared from Baden-Württemberg? E 2006 / 2007 A 1936 D 2012

2. What is a typical feature of the wildcat? R Short whiskers U Stubby, bushy tail N Intense tabby coat pattern

3. How do many wildcats lose their lives in Germany? Z Hunting R Road traffic K Mild winters

4. Which scent lures wildcats? A Wild garlic L Pomace O Valerian

5. At what time of the day do wildcats hunt? S Late in the morning P At dusk and at night C At new moon

6. What sort of terrain provides a particularly suitable habitat for wildcats? A Richly structured mixed deciduous forests G Dark spruce forests H Gardens with lots of songbirds

7. What helps wildcats to migrate to new woodland areas without risk? O Welcome lures in the form of wildlife feed M Removal of undergrowth I Corridors of trees and bushes, wildlife crossings and passages

8. Where have most wildcats been observed in Baden-Württemberg? U In the Allgäu area P Around the town of Heilbronn S In the Upper Rhine Plain

9. Which other creatures also benefit from the nature protection measures initiated for wildcats? A Skylarks and stork C Bats and lynxes T Common hamsters and common wall lizards

10. How long do young wildcats usually stay together as a litter? H Until autumn O Until they are two years old L Until the mother dies

The solution for the Wildcat Diploma is:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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What there is to see:

On the Wildcat Forest Activity Trail you will follow the signposted path across wild and gentler terrain to ten activity stations which invite you to discover and explore. Here are some examples: Hush, be really quiet! The wildcat steals through the forest on velvet paws. an you do that, too?

Jump from log to log as nimbly as a wildcat. But beware! There is danger lurking at the end! Are you a good detective? Find the wildcats that are hiding in the treetops. You have to look very carefully as they are very well camouflaged. Stop at the talking bus stop: Listen to the animated conversation between the pine marten, bat and their friends.

Follow me ...

Do not forget to bring your mobile phones! Every station offers not only something to see but also a lot to listen to! At 089 21083351114 (mobile phone to landline rate) there is a sneak preview of the mobile phone audio guide.

Get your Wildcat Diploma

You can be the proud owner of this certificate today! Just answer the questions on the back and enter the solution and your name via the internet at www.wildkatzendiplom.de

Within seconds, a personalised diploma in pdf-format will be created – ready to be printed and hung on the wall.



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The Wildcat Forest Activity Trail is an initiative of the Baden-Württemberg section of the NGO “BUND” – Friends of the Earth Germany – sponsored by the Black Forest Nature Park Central/North and the community of Bad Herrenalb as well as the Härtwig Foundation.

The trail was developed in collaboration with the town of Bad Herrenalb, the state forestry administration ForstBW and the community of Loffenau. It is part of the BUND information campaign “Biotope Networking – Networks of Life” which is supported by EU funds from the LIFE+ financing program.

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The Activity Trail in Bad Herrenalb







Gefördert durch die
GlücksSpirale
VON LOTTO



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GlücksSpirale
VON LOTTO



SCHWARZWALD



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bad herrenalb

This project is sponsored by the Black Forest Nature Park Central/North with funds provided by the State of Baden-Württemberg, the “Glücksspirale” lottery and the EU ELER fund (European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development).

The Wildcat

A secret inhabitant of our woodlands

Wild cats? This is what they really are – they are not feral cats i.e. the offspring of domestic cats. They belong to the last predatory cats of Europe. In the past, there was an abundant population in woodland areas.

However, mankind has been their undoing: during the past centuries, the mousers were hunted down and became almost extinct. Nowadays, the wildcat is a protected species and is gradually reclaiming its natural habitat. But new hazards now endanger the wildcats: roads, housing estates and large fields dissect their habitat.

In its “Wildcat’s Leap” project the BUND commits itself to re-connecting the habitat areas of the wildcats by creating wildlife corridors. With its “wildlife route map” the State of Baden-Württemberg has developed the basic principles and these must now be implemented.

On the Wildcat Forest Activity Trail you will learn more about the life of the wildcat, about the dangers it faces and how we can help it. Come and explore with your family or your school class and spend hours of activity and excitement in the cat’s wild habitat!



Along wild paths

It is highly unlikely that you will come across a wildcat in our forests. These animals are extremely rare and timid. You would be very lucky to meet a wildcat face to face. Therefore, the Wildcat Forest Activity Trail is meant to provide information on the life of these secret forest inhabitants and to enable you to experience their habitat. On this trail you are therefore very close to the wildcats. Please observe the following during your trip:

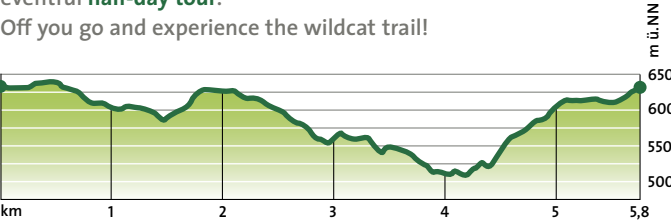
- ▶ Use of the trail is at you own risk!
- ▶ Bikes and vehicles are not allowed on the Wildcat Forest Activity Trail – we recommend sturdy shoes and a bit of stamina.
- ▶ Walking the trail in the snow or during storms is prohibited; fter heavy rainfall and in winter it might be impossible to cross the Alb stream.
- ▶ Children should be accompanied by adults on the trail. Dear parents, please point out any potential dangers to your children and always keep an eye on them.
- ▶ Your footprints are the only thing you should leave behind – please take your garbage with you.
- ▶ Important: Please be considerate, the forest is home to many animal and plant species.

Keep to the paths and do not make too much noise!

The Wildcat Forest Activity Trail is not a walk in the park.

The 6-km trail leads you up and downhill on narrow footpaths and over stepping stones across a small stream. Part of the trail even leads through a nature reserve.

With a snack in your backpack you are setting off on a short, eventful half-day tour. Off you go and experience the wildcat trail!



- Activity stations
- Rescue posts in case of emergency
- ▨ Nature reserve of the Alb valley and tributary valleys

Directions

By train and bus

Take the urban train S1 from Karlsruhe to Bad Herrenalb (leaves every half hour). The journey through the Alb valley takes approx. 40 minutes. Then change to bus number 116 (“Gaistal Talwiese”).

By car

GPS navigation data: N48°46'1.35“ E8°26'36.46“



If you are travelling from the direction of Frankfurt or Basle take the A5 motorway and exit at Ettlingen, follow the road signs. If you are travelling from the direction of Stuttgart take the A8 motorway, exit at Karlsbad-Bad Herrenalb and follow the road signs. In Bad Herrenalb: follow the road signs directing you to “Oberes Gaistal”.



For further information

on the Wildcat Forest Activity Trail and on wildcats:

BUND Baden-Württemberg, Marienstrasse 28, 70178 Stuttgart, phone: +49 (0)711 62030600, bund.bawue@bund.net, www.bund-bawue.de/wildkatzenpfad

Guided tours and directions:
Bad Herrenalb Tourist Office (located in the town hall), phone: +49 (0) 7083 500555, info@badherrenalb.de, www.badherrenalb.de

The Black Forest Nature Park Central/North, one of the largest nature parks in Germany, is a paradise for all those wishing to actively experience the Black Forest in harmony with nature – at any time of the year!

Discover the region’s natural treasures – on a family hike on one of the “NaTouren” treks offered by the nature park, on a tour led by one of the Black Forest Guides, or on one of our activity trails, such as here in Bad Herrenalb.

You can of course also sample the typical Black Forest specialties! Visit our nature park markets or stop off for a meal cooked by one of the nature park hosts.

All activities and events offered by the nature park can be found at www.naturparkschwarzwald.de

