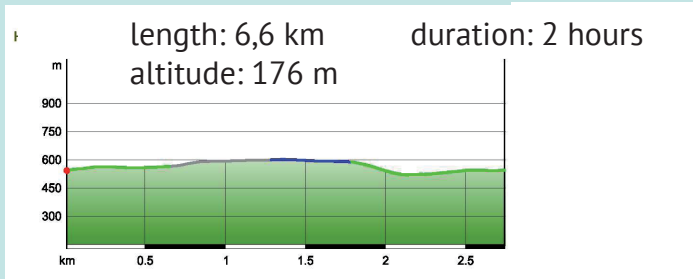
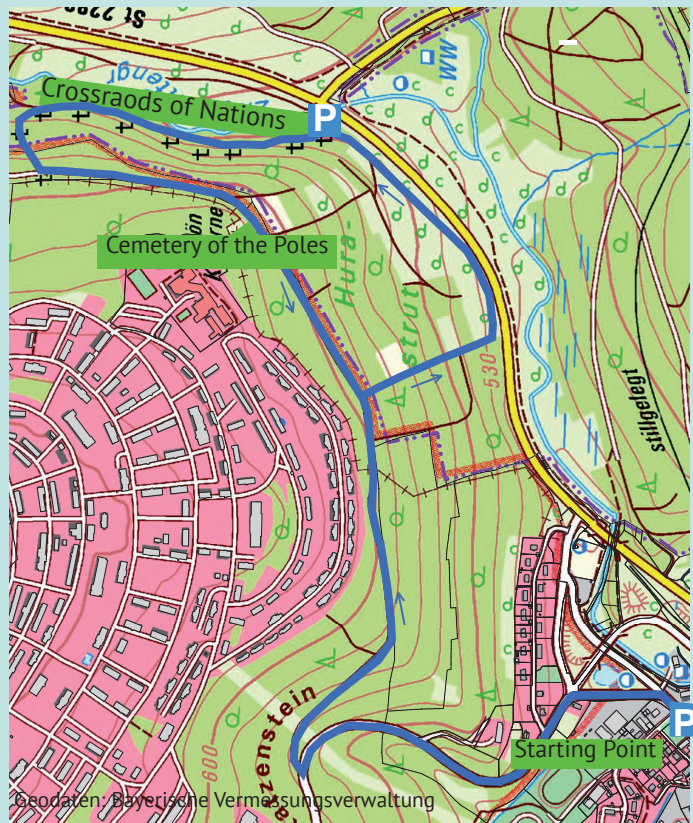


# Round walk Crossroads of Nations with Cemetery of the Poles



The Round walk Crossroads of Nations with Cemetery of the Poles is freely accessible. You receive the key for the chapel at the municipal administration, phone: 09745/9151-0, opening hours every day from 8-12 a.m., Thursdays also from 1-6 p.m.

## How to get there

Via the motorway A7 Würzburg-Fulda you reach the exit Bad Brückenau/Wildflecken. From there, it is a 15 minutes' drive to Wildflecken. The Crossroads of Nations as well as the Cemetery of the Poles can be experienced via a loop road starting from the Town Hall Square in Wildflecken. You can leave your car for free directly at the Town Hall Square. Another parking area is signposted in the direction of Gersfeld, opposite the drive-up to the „Kreuzberg“.

Due to the path surface, sturdy shoes are recommended.



## Donation account:

Sparkasse Mainfranken  
IBAN: DE48790500000042017640  
BIC: BYLADEM1SWU

**Donation hotline:** 0561/70090



**Volksbund Deutsche  
Kriegsgräberfürsorge e.V.**  
Bezirksverband Unterfranken

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# Wildflecken

## Crossroads of Nations with Cemetery of the Poles

Volksbund Deutsche  
Kriegsgräberfürsorge e.V.  
*Work for peace*



German war cemetery in Unterfranken





# Kreuzweg der Nationen (Crossroads of Nations)

The Crossroads of Nations is a walk of 1,5 kilometres which starts at the parking area. Along the river Sinn, it leads up to the Cemetery of the Poles. Along the path, ten steles (memorial stones) remind of the victims of war and violence during the two world wars.



9th stele



last stele

## Cemetery of the Poles

This war cemetery, built in 1970/71, is a memorial place for 544 Polish victims of war and tyranny, among them 428 children. Most of them died after the end of war of its consequences.

Between May 1945 and 1951 up to 20.000 Poles were accommodated here. They lived densely crowded in degrading temporary housing. Initially, it was a UNRRA-camp (United Nations Relief and Rehabilitations Administration (= relief organisation for the support of refugees and displaced persons in the areas occupied by the allies), later an IRO-camp (International Refugee Organisation). The camp supposed to be a transit area for the people on their way to a new life: either repatriation or emigration to another country. For 544 people it meant death.

The Cemetery of the Poles is a burial place with commemorative plaques for the dead. On the plaques and at the bottom of the high cross the adults' names as well as their dates of birth and death are engraved. A distinct commemorative plaque reminds of the children. The high cross surmounts the site.

The round chapel (diameter and height each 4 m) was painted by Mieczyslaw Wejman, director of the Academy of Fine Arts Krakau. The fresco is accompanied by the slogan "Sleep is the brother of death". The inner wall is divided into three horizontal parts which are cut through by an angel larger than life.

The inner wall is divided into three horizontal parts:

1. The lower band (about 90 cm) portrays the terrestrial area with the faces and heads of the children who died in this camp slightly appearing out of the sepulchral niches.
2. The central part (about 1 m) displays sitting figures of women and men. Their bodies are wrapped into white linen sheets.
3. The upper part (about 50 cm) is decorated in warm colours. Further above, this area merges into lighter colours. Thorn tendrils and cities are visible.

These parts are cut through by an angel larger than life.

Of the numerous new-borns many died already as sucklings, in most cases of brain fever.

