**Visit the German Nature Park and UNESCO Biosphere reserve „Rhön“**

**17th-25th June**

**Where?**

##### The UNESCO Biosphere reserve Rhön is located in the heart of Germany and offer a wealth of beautiful scenery. You can travel in the Rhön via Frankfurt airport and further on with the ICE-train in one hour to Fulda. There would be a shuttle waiting for you and pick up to Rhön in about 50 min. You will stay in the bavarian part of the UNESCO Biosphere reserve Rhön, which is also a Nature Park.

You will find Information about the Nature Park on http://biosphaerenreservat-rhoen.de (german) or http://www.germany.travel/en/leisure-and-recreation/natural-landscapes/biosphere-reserves/rhoen-unesco-biosphere-reserve.html (english).

**Accommodation:**

The guest could perhaps stay in the new educational institution “Umweltbildungsstätte Oberelsbach” (72 beds, seminar areas) [www.rhoeniversum.de](http://www.rhoeniversum.de).

**What can I experience?**

You will get to learn activities of the UNESCO Biosphere reserve Rhön in the following fields. In the course of the following program you will meet the staff and learn about the job of the staff.

Some ideas for the Program:

* Managing high moorland „Schwarzes Moor“; area of ca. 60 hektars; hot spot of tourismus (ca. 150.000 visitors per year); path of wooden planks (ca. 2,5 km); viewing tower; visitor counting monitors
* Environmental education
* Education for sustainable development in the UNESCO Biosphere reserve Rhoen
* Hiking area, Mountainbike area, soft Kayak aerea
* Visitor guidance
* Managing of 2 visitor centers (“House of the Black Mountains and House of the Long Rhön”) and an educational institution “Umweltbildungsstätte Oberelsbach” (72 beds, seminar areas) [www.rhoeniversum.de](http://www.rhoeniversum.de); this would be the place of lodging of the guest from Great Britain.
* Shooting and hunting management for the nature protected area Lange Rhön (3200 Hektars); FFH –Area; special protected bird area (e. g. Tetrao tetrix, Crex cex, Gallinago gallinago, Saxicola rubetra, Lanius excubitor, Corvus corax, Nucifraga caryocataces, Milvus milvus, Scolopax rusticola, Ciconia nigra); Mammalia: e. g. Felis silvestris, div. Microchiroptera,
* Landscape management
* Frame concept Biosphere reserve
* Dark Sky Rhön
* Geology of the Rhoen (e. g. vulcanism etc, basaltic rocks., trias fossils, tertiary fossils brown coal)
* Ecological agriculture; direct marketing and agri-tourism
* Sheep farming (local species Rhön-Sheep)
* Eco vineyards; craft beer in small brewery and other local family brewery; small family distillery
* Cultural heritage of the Rhön; inventory
* Political and financial support of the Nature Park and the Biosphere Reserve.