# Sources trail    Rhinau – Daubensand

At the height of Rhinau, the slope of the Rhine valley goes from 3 per thousand (3 meters of height difference per kilometer) to one per thousand. This makes the roof of the water table flush and can pierce the ground. The sources thus created are called *Donnerlöcher* (flash holes) because they were thought to be due to a flash. The Donnerlöcher give birth to streams. Other sources penetrate the bottom of rivers and streams.

These waters are on constant temperature (11 degrees) and host a particular fauna and flora. The old forests they cross are now sheltered from the Rhine flood. They contain about 30 species of woody.

Note the blonde color of the Rhine lands while those of the Ill are brown. In flooded depressions it may even be black.

The departure can be made from Rhinau or Daubensand. The trail is practicable by bike.

Antimoustic, hat and gourd will make the ride more enjoyable.

The trail is dotted with picture scenery which is typical of the Rhineland forest with geese, ducks and swans swimming peacefully amid the reeds and rushes. The dike path which you will follow takes you to some natural springs, each one more beautiful than the next, and each with its own story.


**Leaving From**
Tourist information Centre, (35 Rue du Rhin in Rhinau).
Take the path on the left of the statue of the Virgin Mary, then turn right after the educational farm.

**1) Hanfroste**
Hemp (or "Hanef ") was once washed in this spring.

**2) Breitsandquelle**
This spring was once situated on an island of sand.

**3) Kamillenkopf**
This spring was once surrounded by camomile fields.

**4) Mittler Brunnwasserquelle**
This spring was named after ist central location

**5) Neufeld (Schollenrhein)**
This place once featured a levee (or « Schollen ») crossed by the river Rhine.

**6) Siropquelle**
The water from this source was rich in minerals and had remarkable properties.
People came from afar for supplies and gave their children the water to drink.

**7) St Julien Loch**
Grazing calves once came here for water.