

FOUNTAIN TOUR IN LEMBACH



Easy level



Start : Lembach



  3 km

 1h

 14 m

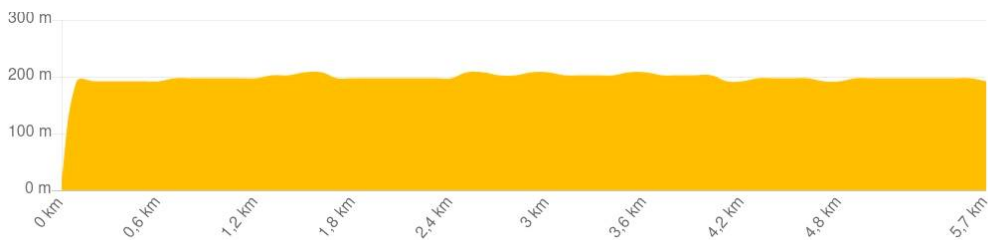
 14 m

Discover the village of Lembach through its thirteen fountains, fed by three springs: the Dentelthal, with its ferruginous water from the sandstone hills of the Vosges du Nord adjacent to the village, and the Nagelsbrunnen, with its limestone water from Wingen. A journey through the heart of Lembach, with the history of each spring told to you along the hour-long tour.

 *Tourist Office Alsace Verte*

 *Town hall parking*

 *14 Km - Wissembourg*



USEFUL INFORMATION

Carte IGN 3814



[GPX Track](#)

CONTACT

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STEPS

1 The frog of freedom

Sauer's frog was planted there in 2003, on the spot where an old tree of liberty was planted in 1793 to celebrate the achievements of the Revolution. The water comes from the Nagelsbrunnen spring.

2 The Oberdorf fountain

At Rue de Pfaffenbronn, the road to Wissembourg forms a long curve. This is where the modest water point, a recent development, recalls the old Oberdorf fountain, which was requested by the residents of this upper part of the village who were deprived of individual wells, which would have been too costly for them given the depth of the water table.

3 The "Schlappègàss" fountain

Like the Oberdorf fountain, it is fed by the mains and dates back to 1922. In the background of the fountain is a house dating back to 1787 and its small tympanum decorated with the tools of the stonemason, one of the village's leading trades in days gone by. This tympanum adorned the lintel of the house's original entrance door. The imposing staircase was built much later.

4 The high fountain at "L'Arbre Vert"

It dates from 1911 and discharges its limestone water from the Nagelsbrunnen into two troughs on either side of the shaft. According to primitive usage, one of the troughs was reserved for humans and the other for animals. A rudimentary system regulates the flow between the two fountains in the inn, which was built in 1772 and has been run by the Gerlinger family since the early 19th century.

5 The cemetery fountain

Its trough is dated 1922, the year the commune's drinking water network was laid, and is so named because it stood against the cemetery wall until 2013. To make it stand out a little more and give it a bit more air, it was decided to move it behind the St Jacques Catholic church, which dates back to 1907, when the street was being redeveloped.

6 The "Nejgàss" fountain

The road to Bitche is known in Alsatian as Rue Neuve. This fountain, which dates from 1993 and is fed by the Nagelsbrunnen, is a reminder of a fountain that was a victim of the last war and stood nearby. It is the work of sculptor Benoît Magar. In the 19th century, the beautiful half-timbered house (1842) was the home of "s'Hàfners", the village potters.

7 The low fountain of the "Arbre Vert"

It is dated 1883. Like the upper fountain, it was equipped with two troughs. Only one is still in place. L'Arbre Vert was an obligatory stopover for timber teams. After unloading the logs at the local sawmills and before returning to the Steinbach valley or Wingen, the driver would quench his thirst at the inn and the horses at the fountain.

8 The presbytery fountain

The fountain near the garden wall, in the shadow of the Protestant church (13th-18th century) is the more recent of the two fountains in the square. It was installed just after the presbytery was built in 1896. It was never equipped with a trough, but with a square stone on which the water carrier placed his water. The shaft is original, while the three stones are recent.

9 The old school fountain

Like its sister, this fountain is fed by the Nagelsbrunnen. Dating from 1888, it is the oldest of our fountains. Located between the old post office and the old school (1829), it found its current location after the school was demolished in 1991 when the Place André Weckmann, Alsace's greatest 20th century poet, was laid out.

10 The fountain at Spill House

This is one of the two Flecken fountains created when the drinking water network was laid (see date on trough). The house that serves as its backdrop dates back to 1737 and underwent a complete restoration between 2016 and 2018. Its owner, the Spill family, is one of the oldest families in the village. The Spills were hard-working charcoal burners.

11 The Grall fountain

It bears the name of the house's former owner. It was the only one made of cast iron, both the barrel and the trough. The barrel is still there, but the trough has been replaced by a sandstone trough (1990). The Flecken district was densely populated until the Second World War. Just a few metres from the mains water fountain stood the synagogue, built in 1834 and destroyed in 1941.

12 The fountain at the war memorial

Connected to the municipal network, this fountain, an integral part of the war memorial, is the work of René Hetzel, a well-known Alsatian sculptor. The monument depicts a moving pietà and dates from 1957, as does the town hall, rebuilt on the site of the old town hall dating from 1844, which fell victim to the dynamiting of the village centre in May 1940.

13 The fountain at the new school

It is both the most monumental and the most discreet, as it is hidden from view except for the village schoolchildren. It is located in the school courtyard. It is also the work of Hetzel. The motifs carved into the central shaft represent children's games in the 1950s: skipping, archery, swinging and ball games.

