

# Alsace, Lorraine and the Vosges

Volksbund Deutsche  
Kriegsgräberfürsorge e. V.



Reconciliation about the graves  
Work for peace

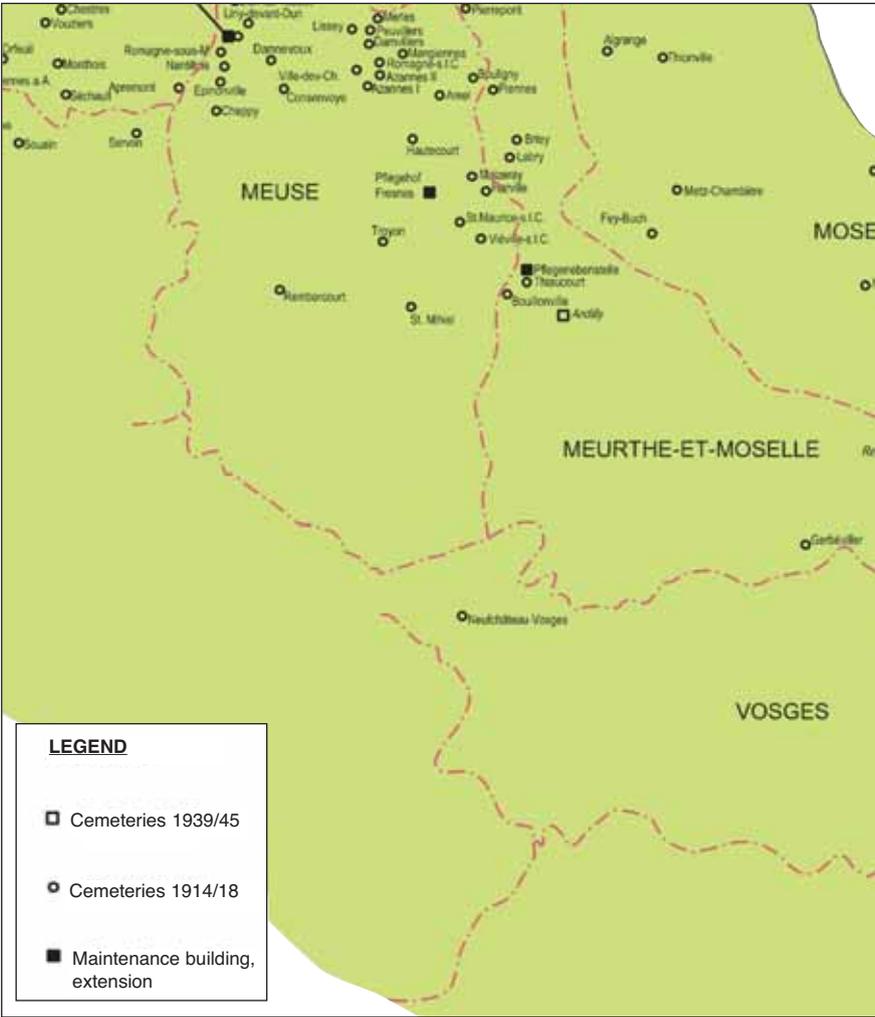
## German Military Cemeteries



Andilly

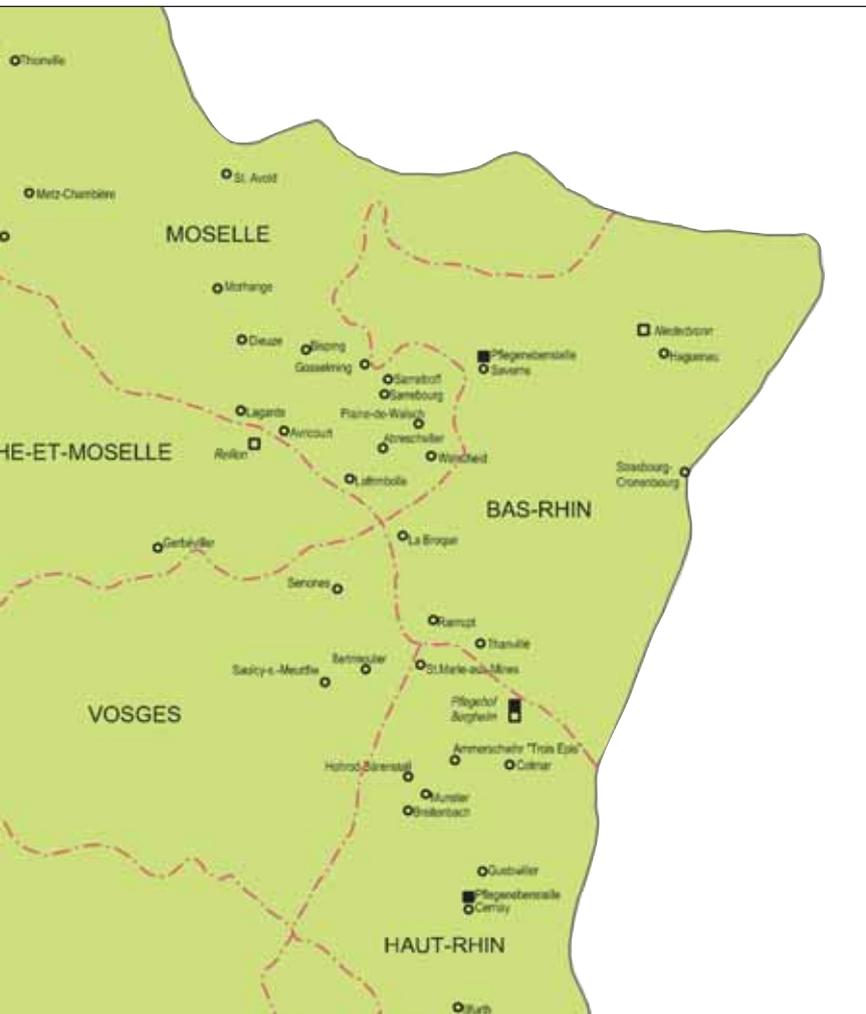
Eastern France is one of the major road intersections of Europe. The Vosges form a natural wall, although glaciers and flowing rivers have created openings. The areas of Alsace and Lorraine, together with the Vosges, offer a highly varied landscape of green valleys, colourful vineyards and picture-postcard villages. Everywhere, there are castles, palaces, cathedrals and museums. Many of these buildings reflect the historical links between Germany and France.

The aim of this brochure is to tell you about some of the sights; however, we refer time and again to the legacy of the three wars that have been fought between Germany and France.



Along the tourist routes through this beautiful stretch of land there are many war cemeteries dedicated to the two World Wars and to the Franco-Prussian War of 1870/71. Within the triangle of Wissembourg, Mulhouse and Metz alone, there are around 90,000 German war dead from the First and Second World Wars, buried at more than 40 sites.

In France, the Volksbund Deutsche Kriegsgräberfürsorge e. V. (German War Graves Commission or „Volksbund“) looks after 192 German war cemeteries from the First World War, containing 768,000 war dead, and 23 war cemeteries from the Second World War, containing 228,000 dead, on the basis of the War Graves Agreement concluded between the Federal Republic of Germany and France.





Niederbronn-les-Bains

## Over the border into Alsace

Approaching the Franco-German border from the German city of Karlsruhe, visitors to France first reach Wissembourg: a small town full of typically Alsatian characteristics: old, half-timbered houses entwined in vines, together with narrow, winding alleyways. The Minster of „Peter and Paul“ is, after the Minster in Strasbourg, the largest church in Alsace. A building dating back to the 16th century is home to the Westercamp Museum. Here, old pieces of furniture and weaponry and relics from the 1870/71 Franco-Prussian War are on show. On the „Geisberg“, nearby, German and French monuments commemorate the battle of 4th August 1870. The Col Pigeonnier, a 432-metre high pass, affords a wide panoramic view onto the Vosges and the Rhine valley.

## Reminders of 1870/71

About 12 miles further on lies the town of Woerth. This name is linked to part of Franco-German history. In the midst of meadows and corn fields, on the edges of roads and woods, you can find graves from the Franco-Prussian War of 1870/71, where German and French war dead often lie in peace together. Scattered across the landscape, it is possible to come across monuments that commemorate this period. The most famous is the Bavaria monument in Woerth.



## **Bad Niederbronn (Niederbronn-les-Bains)**

Set in the picturesque, hilly landscape of the beautiful Vosges region lies the small spa town of Niederbronn, with its hot springs and a population of 5,000 inhabitants. Thanks to its favourable position the climate here is mild, ideal for visitors who have come here to recuperate.

At the end of the Second World War, fighting also reached this beautiful area, the town of Bad Niederbronn being largely destroyed. On the hill where, today, the German military cemetery of Niederbronn lies, the Americans buried their own war dead as well as Germans. After the end of the war, the American war dead were reburied at St. Avold. At the time, many thousands of German war dead from the Second World War lay in the Departements of Bas Rhin and Moselle, distributed over 774 communities and, within the communities, scattered across fields and meadows, the edges of pathways and woodland.

After the conclusion of the Franco-German War Graves Agreement, they were reburied in the central Niederbronn war cemetery. Between 1961 and 1966, the Volksbund did up the cemetery gardens and buildings. For the 15,500 German war dead here in Niederbronn, a worthy resting place had been built.

The German war cemetery lies around 350 metres from the eastern edge of the town, on a high area of land about five hectares in size. From here, you can see for miles into the mountains in the north, west and south-east. On three sides, the cemetery is flanked by fields, whilst the eastern side extends as far as an oak wood. In the entrance building, a long, single-storey building made of Vosges sandstone, a visitors' room and the office of the cemetery caretaker are located. The books of names in the visitors' room contain the details of the dead who are buried here. There is also a guide to help visitors find their way around. The plot is divided into 46 blocks.



The individual graves, identified by grave stones made of natural stone bear the names of two dead on each side, each cross identifying the resting place of four war dead in total. Name plates laid flat on the ground indicate the location of a group of graves with more than two dead. From the entrance, the main path leads to the military cemetery, in the middle of which there stands a high cross.

On seven stone blocks, all spaced equally apart, the visitor can read the names of the local communities from where the war dead were taken in order to be buried in Niederbronn. The few names are representative of 800 former burial sites. At the end of the main path, which turns right at the high cross, there is the memorial. It is a round structure made of red Vosges sandstone and has a diameter of 18 metres. Its cupola-shaped roof, lined with lead, stands on reinforced concrete pillars. Through a circular opening in the middle of the roof, light penetrates into the windowless interior, in the middle of which the comrades' grave is to be found. In memory of the Hungarian soldiers who fell in France, a pillar was erected in the hall. The cemetery was inaugurated on 1st October 1966.

Alongside the cemetery, the Volksbund also created a youth meeting place in 1994; it is known as the „Albert-Schweitzer” meeting place. It was expanded in 2000 to accommodate German and French school children at the same time and to implement joint projects, with children attending from both nations. Young people in particular, but adults too, are catered for here. They learn facts and information by attending seminars and going on excursions (teaching through experience).

## Strasbourg

From Niederbronn (N 62) a drive via Haguenau on the N 63 takes you to Strasbourg. At the Haguenau-based municipal

cemetery, 188 German soldiers from the First World War lie. The most well-known building in Strasbourg is its Minster, one of the most magnificent examples of a church from the Middle Ages. The 142-metre high tower – completed in 1439 – is the symbol of the city, and is visible even from a long way off. Other sites worth a look include the Musée de l'Oeuvre Notre Dame, the Rohan-Palais, the Kammerzellhaus, the Cour du Corbeau (Rabenhof) and the Alsatian Museum. Goethe studied here from 1770 to 1771. Today, Strasbourg is the seat of the Council of Europe and the European Parliament. The war dead monument „Mother Alsace and her two sons” at the Place de la République, is impressive, and was created by Ernest Drivier, a pupil of Rodin, in 1936. A walk from the Minster to La Petite France, the former tannery quarters of old Strasbourg, is also recommended.

## **Strasbourg-Cronenbourg**

This military cemetery was laid out between 1888 and 1914 as a garrison cemetery. During the First World War, 1,717 German soldiers, 386 French soldiers and 1,164 dead prisoners of war from various nations were given their resting place here. In the Second World War, 1,069 German and 1,969 French war dead were added. The Volksbund, together with the French burial service, assumed the development and upkeep of this war cemetery. Strasbourg-Cronenbourg is one of the cemeteries at which the German and French soldiers are buried together. The burial site has been landscaped to give visitors a uniform overall view.

At the following German war cemeteries from the First World War in the Departement of Haut-Rhin war dead from the Second World War lie: Cernay (1,479), Guebwiller (175), Breitenbach (173), Ammerschwihr (Trois-Epis) (14), Munster (33), Ste-Marie-aux-Mines (136). In the Departements of Moselle and Vosges, there is a whole host of war cemeteries at which German and French War dead lie next to one another. These are the cemeteries at Reillon, Dieuze, Bisping, Bella-Fôret, Gosselming, Sarraltroff, Sarrebourg, Plaine-de-Walsch, Abreschwiller, Senones, Ranrupt, Bertrimoutier and Saulcy-sur-Meurthe.

As well as the war cemeteries in this region there is also the former concentration camp of Natzweiler-Struthof and the camp at Schirmeck. In Natzweiler a „Centre européen du résistant déporté” has been created, (European centre and memorial dedicated to the deported fighters of the resistance), which aims to show how many deported people from 20 different nations met their deaths here. At the place where the Schirmeck camp once stood, there stands today the „Memorial Alsace-Moselle”, in memory of the German annexation from 1871 to 1918 and the occupation of 1940 to 1944.



## Picturesque Bergheim

Bergheim, an old wine-growing village with 2,000 inhabitants, lies west of the main Strasbourg-Colmar road, around 35 miles from Strasbourg. The fortifications dating back to the 14th century, complete with circular walls, Roman tower and witches' tower, are still preserved to this day. The symbol of the town is the „upper gate”, through which you pass to reach the centre of the village. This was also built in the 14th century. Old, half-timbered houses add a sense of charm as you stroll along the alleyways.

## The „Grasberg”

Surrounded by vineyards, the cemetery at Bergheim lies on the „Grasberg” hill, located just off from the Vosges (337 metres above sea level). To the west, it slopes steeply. In the background lies the Hoch-Königsburg, just a few miles away. This building, dating back to the 15th century, was destroyed by the Swedes during the Thirty Years War. Between 1901 and 1908, it was rebuilt for Kaiser Wilhelm II. Today, it is a much visited tourist destination.

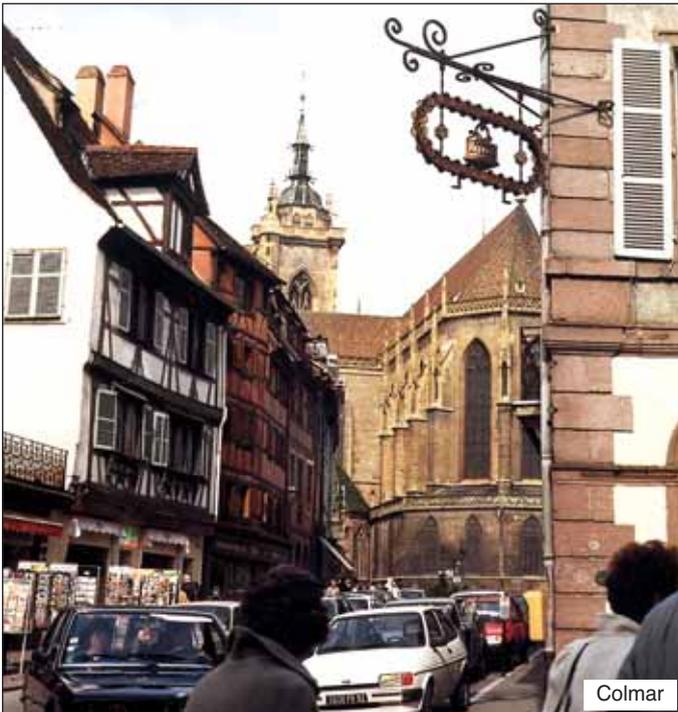
The 5,309 war dead lie in four burial grounds. Originally, they had been buried at 225 locations within the Departement of Haut-Rhin. The cemetery is four hectares in size and is bordered by a retaining wall in places. The grave signs, made of natural stone, bear the names and dates of three war dead each. At the highest point, a six-metre high cross rises above the cemetery. In the entrance building, complete with covered entrance hall, there is a map to help visitors to find their way around, and an inscription that tells visitors the number of people buried here. In the waiting room – next to the office of the cemetery caretaker – is the book of names of those who lie here.

Just 8 miles south of the German war cemetery at Bergheim, the French burial service laid out the national cemetery of

Sigolsheim „Blutberg”. The dead in Bergheim and Sigolsheim largely lost their lives in the winter of 1944/45 during the fighting in southern Alsace. The war cemetery was inaugurated on 7th June 1975.

## Colmar – a place worth seeing

From Strasbourg, the N 83 road travels to Colmar. Old houses set in the middle of small gardens, washing areas by the river and narrow roads with picture-postcard twists and turns – this is where the charm of Colmar lies, a town dating back to the end of the Middle Ages and the start of the Renaissance period. Of the countless houses worth seeing here, with their half-timbered, decorative bays and gables, the Pfister, the Kopfhüs and the Haus der Chevaliers de Saint-Jean are worth a particular mention. The Dominican church (13th century) is home to the valuable painting by Martin Schongauer entitled „Maria in the Rose Grove”. The former Dominican monastery at Unterlinden is, today, a museum. In the cloister chapel, visitors will find the work of art by Matthias Grünewald, the Isenheimer altarpiece. Not until the end of the 20th century was it possible, thanks to new developments in science, to attribute this unique work of art to Matthias Grünewald. The artist created this masterpiece in the area surrounding Colmar, in the cloister of St. Antonin near Issenheim.



You can divide the altar into many hundred images, none of which is like the other in theme or expression. The work is one of the most valuable art treasures in France. The museum is also home to remnants of cloisters and churches that have long since disappeared.

In the north of the town of Colmar, a war cemetery was laid out for 868 German war dead of the First World War. It borders the French national cemetery at Colmar. The Linge pass, about 15 miles from Colmar, was the scene of the heaviest battles in 1915. Even today, you can make out line of the trenches. Excavation findings dating to the First World War are on show at a small museum on the Linge pass. At the military cemetery of Hohrod-Bärenstall situated nearby, 2,438 German war dead from the First World War lie.

You can also get to Colmar by following the Alsace wine route from Strasbourg. The road snakes along the edge of the first ridges of the Vosges through the vineyards, linking the old, picturesque wine villages. Each village has typical sights and special peculiarities worth seeing (examples of villages include Wangen, Molsheim, Rosheim, Obernai, Mittelbergheim, Selestat, Ribeauvillé, Riquewihr). The prettiest places in these villages catch the sun in the summer evenings. Here, where the finest wines mature in the vineyards, people live off tourism and wine growing in particular. At the time of the grape harvest from September to October, you often find all members of one family doing the sometimes difficult work in the vineyards.



Colmar



## Cernay

About 22 miles south of Colmar lies the village of Cernay, accessible via the N 83. This village was first recorded in documents under the name of „Sennheim” in the 11th century. In the 17th century, it was given its French spelling under the orders of Louis XIV.

Here, 7,429 German war dead from the First World War lie, 6,007 of whom are in individual graves and 1,422 in two comrades' graves. Just over three miles north of Cernay lies the Hartmannsweilerkopf, fiercely fought over in the First World War, especially in 1915. During this fighting around 10,000 soldiers fell. The French war dead were transferred to the French national cemetery at Silberloch, with the German dead taken to the German military cemetery in Cernay. Countless German prisoners of war who, between 1914 and 1920, had died in prison in the area of southern France were transferred to Cernay.

This was necessary since they had originally lain in countless small municipal cemeteries from locations far and wide, which made it difficult to maintain them.

In the rear part of the cemetery there lie 1,479 German war dead from the Second World War in individual graves; despite all efforts, it has not been possible to identify 386 of them to date. The cemetery was redesigned between 1979 and 1983, it receiving new grave signs, an entrance building and visitors' room as well as a maintenance building. It was inaugurated in June 1984.

## Mulhouse

Mulhouse is another base from which to make trips into the Alsace, the Vosges and Jura regions. The town's industrial upsurge began way back in the 18th century. At the time, a factory was built here for the production of printed cotton fabrics. Later, cotton mills plants and machine factories moved here. In the 20th century, potash deposits were discovered near the city. This base product, used in the manufacture of artificial fertilizers and raw materials for the chemicals industry, ensured further economic development for the city.

The city hall, dating back to the 16th and 17th centuries, built in a Rhine-Renaissance style, and complete with museum about printed fabrics, is worth seeing. The heart of the town is formed by the Place de l'Europe (Europe Square). It has a stone mosaic, bearing the coats of arms of many towns and cities in Europe. It is not just for friends of the notorious car maker, Bugatti, that the national automotive museum offers something worth seeing – the railway museum is also worth a look too. North of Mulhouse is the „Eco-musée“, where typical Alsatian peasant homes from throughout the region have been reconstructed.



Reillon

## The cemetery at Reillon

In September 1920, the French authorities in Reillon laid out two war cemeteries next to another, one for German war dead and one for French war dead. In the French section, they buried 882 of their dead in individual graves and 367 dead in two comrades' graves, whilst in the German section 969 war dead were laid to rest in individual graves, with 1,873 unknown dead in two comrades' graves. The German dead were initially removed from field graves nearby and taken to Reillon and later, in 1924, also taken from smaller cemeteries that had been wound up, including Amenoncourt, Badonwiller, Baccarat, Blamont, Bionville and Leintrey.

After 1945, the French authorities again transferred a larger number of German war dead from the Second World War, who up till then had been lying in smaller cemeteries in the Department of Meurthe-et-Moselle, and buried them in Reillon in a special section adjoining the German cemetery of the First World War.

The Volksbund moved soldiers to this site up to 1960. Landscaping and building work was carried out between 1961 and 1963. Overall 2,256 war dead lie here in individual graves, with 330 war dead in a comrades' grave. A narrow, paved path leads visitors to the entrance gate, fitted with a heavy, copper-lined oak door. The entrance building, made from Vosges sandstone, blends in well with the local landscape. The entrance hall opens up onto the cemetery, offering all those who enter it a view of the burial ground.

In the visitors' section, a room that has deliberately been kept simple in design, there is a stone bench for visitors to sit on. In a small bronze cabinet on the wall, the names of the war dead at the cemetery are listed.

The graves bear pillars of natural stone, each with four names of war dead from the First World War and six names of war dead from the Second World War. At the highest point of the northern slope on a paved, open area the memorial in the form of a larger-than-life pillar rises to form the focal point of the cemetery. The cube, hewn from natural stone, bears a 3.20-metre high lead cross at the front.

On the 17th August 1963, this site was inaugurated. A monument on the burial field of the Second World War refers to eight war dead from the Franco-Prussian War of 1870/71.

## **Nancy, capital of Lorraine**

The historical capital of Lorraine is Nancy, the headquarters of the administrative centre for the Département of Meurthe-et-Moselle. About 200 or so miles from Paris and just under 100 miles from Strasbourg, Nancy lies on one of the main road intersections and is a major railway junction. The town offers visitors a multitude of tourist sights. One of the main attractions, Stanislas Square, was built between 1754 and 1760. Buildings around the square include the town hall, the Großes Theater (large theatre) and the Museum of Fine Arts. On the other side you will find the famous fountains of Neptune and Amphitrite. The gold-plated lattice-work is a unique feature.

## **From Nancy to Toul**

Toul, former fortress town, was once a powerful bishops' residence. Its cathedral of St. Stephan is known for the fine open work of its late-gothic façade. Here, arches and dry arches blend in harmony. In contrast to this, there is the modern church of Villey-le-Sec, built in 1955. It is impressive thanks to the simplicity it has been given by the building materials left in their natural state: the building stone used for the large number of small windows fitted with glass blocks breaks up the façade. These stones are just as visible as the supporting wooden beams of the roof and the columns. At the civilian cemetery in Toul, there is a small field with graves for German war dead from the Franco-Prussian War of 1870/71.

## **More than 33,100 war dead in Andilly**

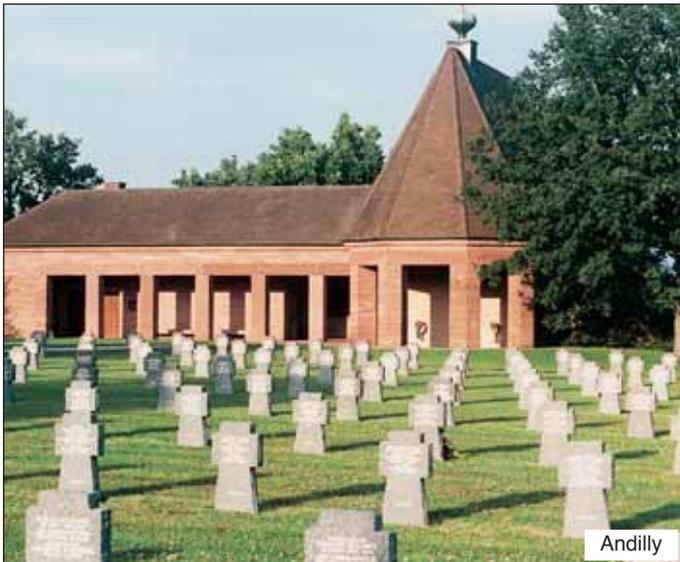
The German war cemetery lies in the French Département of Meurthe-et-Moselle, about 7,5 miles north of the town of Toul, and is the largest devoted to the Second World War in France. In the local sub-district of the small town of Andilly, with barely 250 inhabitants, on 12th September 1944 the American burial service began to bury its own and also German war dead. This first involved the dead who had fallen in the region west of Metz. Consequently, the „US Temporary Cemetery Andilly“ was created for 3,400 American and 5,000 German soldiers.

In 1945/46, the American burial service in St. Avold laid out a final cemetery for its war dead and transferred all bodies from temporary graves, including the dead in Andilly, to this site. There were 575 war dead from St. Avold and 4,891 from Epinal-Dinoze, increasing the number of soldiers in Andilly by 11,000. In the Franco-German War Graves Agreement of 1954 it was agreed that Andilly would remain the final German war cemetery.

Reburial work from the Departements of Nièvre, Saône-et-Loire, Côte d'Or, Haute-Marne, Jura, Doubs, Haute-Saône, Vosges, Belfort, Meuse and Meurthe-et-Moselle began in 1957.

During this reburial work, a planned search through the entire area of land saw the discovery of almost 2,000 German war dead who had previously been lying unknown in their graves up to that time, above all in the Vosges. After the reburial work had been completed in the spring of 1961, work began to landscape the gardens and rebuild the cemetery. A wall, planted with shrubs, forms a permanent border. Scattered groups of trees and a dense crown of trees around the cemetery give it the character of a light grove, even today.

Via an artistically designed door in the entrance building, visitors enter the cemetery from where they have a view of the burial site. To the left is the commemorative hall, the recess wall of which shows the mosaic of three mourning soldiers. In a recess wall there is a cross that once stood on the German military cemetery in Pouxieux. German prisoners of war had carved it for their dead comrades. On the right-hand side, in a small room, the books of the names of those buried here are located in a shrine. The cemetery was inaugurated on 29th September 1962.



## The young helped too

Even as early as in 1959, young people from many nations helped the Volksbund at an international youth camp to maintain the war cemetery. Since this time, almost every year young people have been coming to the cemetery to help with further development and maintenance work. As well as carrying out work at the cemetery they have established good contacts with the French population; a major contribution in breaking down resentment.

On the way to Metz, there are three German cemeteries dating from the First World War: Bouillonville with 1,368 war dead, Thiaucourt with 11,685 war dead and Fey with 2,006 war dead. The sites of Thiaucourt and Fey were redesigned by the Volksbund in 1974 and provided with metal crosses. Thiaucourt is the largest site from the First World War in eastern France. Also in Thiaucourt, on the northern exit, lies the American military cemetery of St. Mihiel. Here 6,046 war dead from the First World War have their final resting place.

## The German gate in Metz

Metz is the capital of the Departement of Moselle and headquarters of the Lorraine region. It lies on the Mosel and the Seille. The town was an important trading place even in Roman times, at the time the cradle and centre of the Carolingian empire. From 1871 to 1918, Metz was the capital of Lorraine and was thus part of the German empire.



German Gate in Metz

Here in Metz, visitors will find the oldest basilica in France dating from the 4th century. At the heart of the picturesque old town is the Place d'Armes, together with the cathedral of St. Étienne and the town hall. The cathedral, a gothic building flanked by slender towers and made of yellow sandstone, was built between 1250 and 1520. When entering the 42-metre high church, visitors get an overwhelming impression of the size and splendour of colour of the beautiful glass windows. Not far from the cathedral is the Musées de la Ville with a major Gallo-Roman department of findings discovered during excavation work in Metz in 1969. There is also a collection of medieval sculptures and an art gallery. The German gate in Rue des Allemands dates back to the 13th to the 15th centuries, testimony to the major fortifications dating back to medieval times. During the Franco-Prussian War of 1870/71, around 7,000 German and French war dead were buried together at one site at Gravelotte. Other monuments and cemeteries for war dead from the Franco-Prussian War of 1870/71 can be found by visitors in many locations in the Departements in particular in the areas of Gravelotte, St. Privat, Vionville, Noisseville and more besides.

On the edge of the town (direction Thionville) is the German war cemetery of Metz-Chambière (previously a garrison cemetery) from the First World War and containing 2,056 war dead. It lies right in the heart of a cemetery that is also home to British, Belgian, Italian and Russian soldiers. Near the war grave of Metz-Chambière there is a Jewish cemetery that includes a very old section where four German soldiers of the First World War lie.

## **St. Avold: the largest American military cemetery in Europe**

The largest American war cemetery of the Second World War in Europe is in St. Avold. The bulk of the 16,000 initially buried here are from the Infantry and Tank divisions of the 7th US Army. In 1948, war dead from Limey, Andilly and Hochfelden were taken to St. Avold. American war dead from Poland, former Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Romania, what is now the Czech Republic and Slovakia, as well as from Germany were moved here. This increased the number to 26,000 war dead. At the request of relatives, around 60 per cent of the war dead were moved to America. For the 10,489 dead still remaining the American burial service created a permanent memorial that was handed over to the public on 15th December 1949. The cemetery today measures 46 hectares overall.

At the municipal cemetery of St. Avold, 212 German war dead from the Second World War lie. South of St. Avold, on the N 74, lies a further German war cemetery from the First World War. It was initially laid out in a wooded area in Morhange as a garrison cemetery, later as a war cemetery, for 3,754 war dead. The dead who have been given their final resting place at the cemetery in Morhange fell as early as 1914 during the First World War and the fighting for Lorraine.

## Spicherer Höhen

The cemetery of Spicherer Höhen for soldiers from the Second World War lies in an area of major significance to military historians. Even during the Franco-Prussian War of 1870/71, bitter fighting broke out here in the struggle for this strategically important area of land, since it was possible to control the whole area of land as far as Saarbrücken from here. Graves and monuments from this time bear testimony to this. The Volksbund overhauled the German-French War grave of „Giffertswald” in 1998. On 9th August of that year, the cemetery was inaugurated.

At the start of the Second World War, German troops occupied this hill. At the front, a war cemetery was laid out for the dead. After the end of the war, the Spichern local community took a number of war dead from field graves and buried them in this cemetery. In an agreement between the French community of Spichern and the town of Saarbrücken, this site was designed and finally laid out as the first cemetery for the Second World War in France by the town of Saarbrücken. From the cemetery you have a good view of the town of Saarbrücken and the Saar valley.

Today, around 110 war dead from the Second World War lie here. After the German-French War Graves Agreement, this cemetery was later included as the 23rd military cemetery under the agreement.



## The military cemeteries of the First World War:

name of the village	number of fallen
Abrescherwiller/Moselle	274
Ammerschwihr (Les Trois-Epis) Ht.-Rhin	259
Avricort/Moselle	568
Bertrimoutir/Vosges	6,749
Bisping/Moselle	598
Bouillonville/M.-et-M.	1,383
Breitenbach/Ht.-Rhin	3,356
Cernay/Ht.-Rhin	7,429
Colmar/Ht.-Rhin	863
Dieuze/Moselle	122
Fey/Moselle	2,006
Gerbéviller/M.-et-M.	5,462
Gosselming/Moselle	259
Guebviller/Ht.-Rhin	1,063
Hagenau/Bas-Rhin	188
Hohrod/Ht.-Rhin	2,460
Illfuhrt/Ht.-Rhin	1,964
La Broque/Bas-Rhin	1,933
Lafrimbolle/Moselle	2,110
Lagarde/Moselle	379
Metz/Moselle	2,056
Morhange/Moselle	4,753
Munster/Ht.-Rhin	382
Plaine-de-Walsch/Moselle	277
Ranrupt/Bas-Rhin	92
Reillon/M.-et-M.	2,842
Sarraltroff/Moselle	92
Sarrebourg/Moselle	83
Saulcy-sur-Meurthe/Vosges	370
Saverne/Bas Rhin	310
Senones/Vosges	1,528
St. Avoird/Moselle	212
Ste-Marie-aux-Mines/Ht.-Rhin	1,036
Strasbourg/Bas Rhin	1,707
Thanvillé/Bas Rhin	645
Thiaucourt/M.-et-M.	11,685
Thionville/Moselle	787
Walscheid/Moselle	364

## The German War Graves Commission ...

- ... cares for the German war graves here in France and nearly 100 countries all over the world.
- ... helps the next of kin in finding out about their relatives' fate and searches for their graves.
- ... works in the Eastern European countries since 1990 when the borders were opened.
- ... finds the war dead and brings them to central cemeteries.
- ... advocates through its work understanding and reconciliation with former enemies.
- ... leads young people to war graves in order to make them understand the terrible consequences of war such recognizing how important it is to work for peace.
- ... finances its work almost exclusively with contributions of its members and donors and would be very grateful for YOUR help.

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