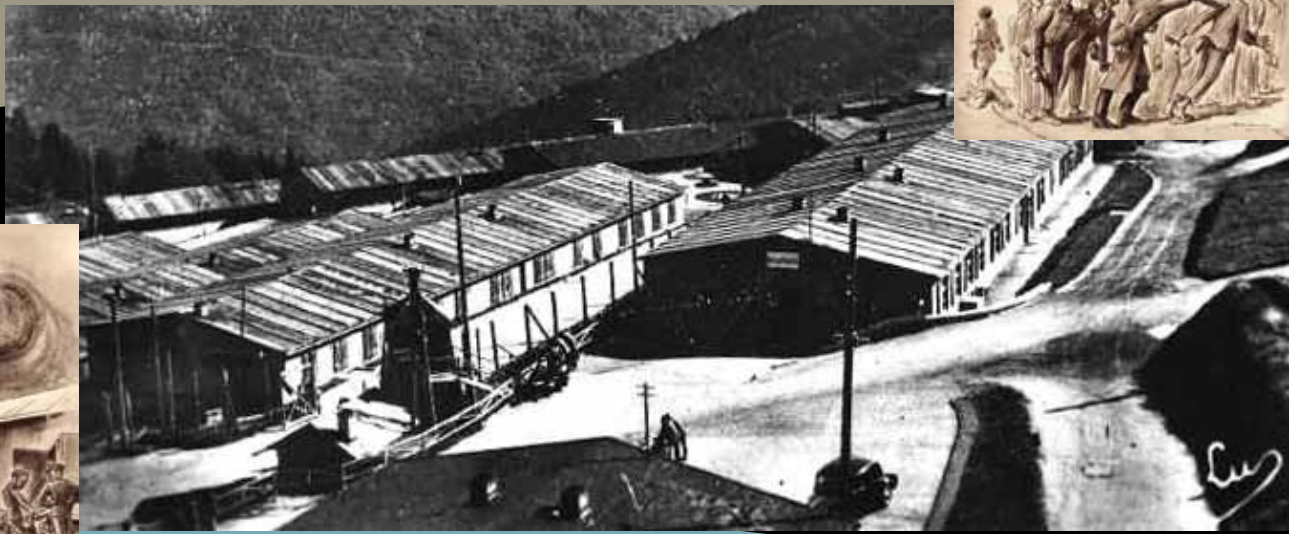


EUROPEAN CENTRE OF DEPORTED RESISTANCE MEMBERS

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Cliché Lucien Kohler - Musée du Struthof

“

Fellow deportees, we experienced the worst from the SS and in the camps. And yet in spite of all the brutality and the terrible, hell-on-earth living conditions, we managed to maintain among ourselves an unbelievable level of dignity, humanity, fraternity and solidarity, which enabled some of us to survive and be here today to bear witness. Never forget what we went through. There are still pockets of hatred and xenophobia. Be vigilant, preserve the Memory and commemorate of what happened. ”

Pierre ROLINET, deported resistance fighter, prisoner number 11902,
Chairman of the Amicale de Natzweiler association



© Pierre Rolinet - coll. privée

THE NATZWEILER CONCENTRATION CAMP: HISTORY

The *"Konzentrationslager Natzweiler"* opened in May 1941 on a site known as "Le Struthof", in annexed Alsace. The Nazis decided to set up a concentration camp here so that they could quarry a seam of granite situated nearby.

Intended to provide the Reich with slave labour, it took mainly prisoners of war, deportees arrested for their anti-Nazi convictions, and resistance fighters. There were also racial deportees (Jews, gypsies), homosexuals and Jehovah's witnesses.

Originating from 31 different countries, the number of deportees

tripled in 1943, the year of the «Nacht und Nebel» arrivals, who were destined to disappear without trace. The logic of terror was completed with the installation of an experimental gas chamber and the use of a cremation oven.

Outside the Struthof site, the Natzweiler camp opened up 70 subcamps, most of them in Germany, almost all intended to provide labour for the war effort.

As the Allies advanced, the Nazis evacuated the prisoners from the Struthof camp in September 1944. When the American army discovered

the site in November, it was completely empty, but its subcamps were still running.

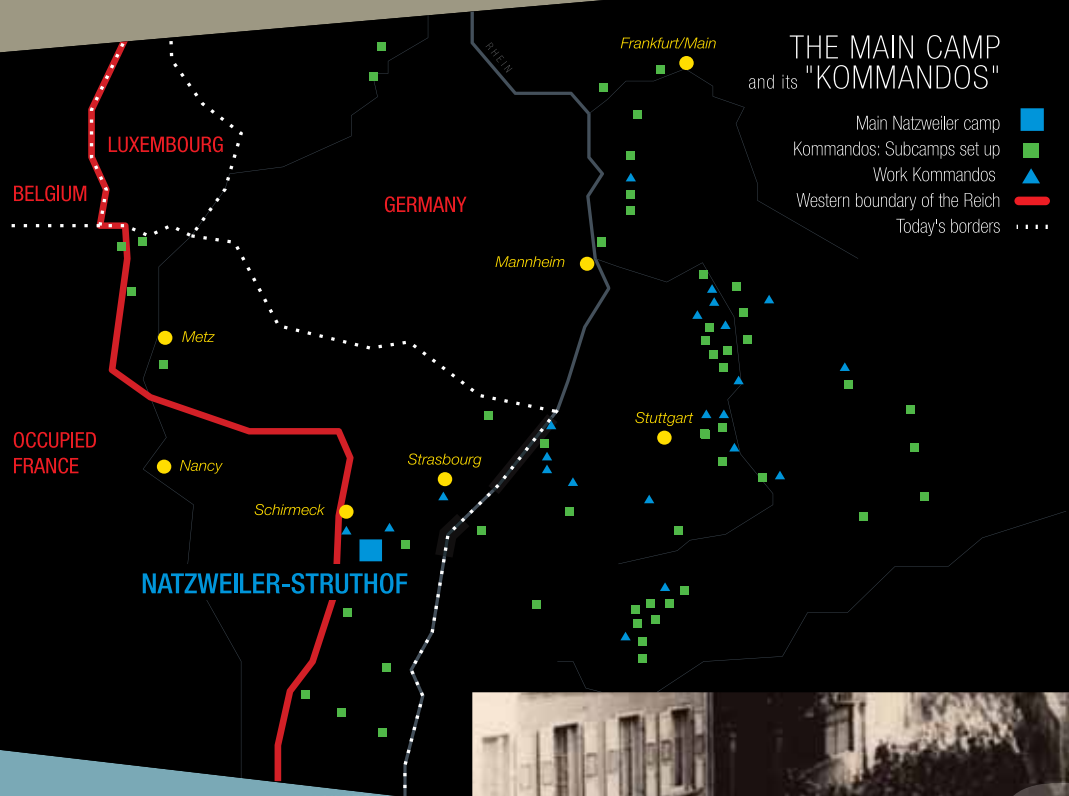
52,000 deportees passed through this camp and its «Kommandos» between 1941 and 1945. Almost 22,000 died. Most of them from exhaustion, inhuman treatment or hunger, others from the pseudo-medical experiments to which they were subjected. The camp also served as place of execution of resistance fighters. With a mortality rate of 40%, the Natzweiler camp was one of the most deadly in the SS concentration camp system.

SOME DATA

- > Camp surface area - 4.5 hectares
- > Altitude - 800 metres
- > 8 guard towers
- > 17 huts in 1944
- > Number of nationalities represented - 31
- > Number of deportees, main camp + subcamps - 52,000
- > Number of deaths - 22,000
- > Mortality rate - 40%
- > Youngest deportee registered at the camp - 11 years old
- > Oldest deportee registered at the camp - 78 years old
- > Average age - 20

CAMP COMMAND

- > 5 commandants between 1941 and 1945
- > 1 garrison of «Totenkopf» («Skull») SS about 150 men (officers, non-commissioned officers and troops)



“ It's impossible to talk about, but forbidden to say nothing... It is up to us to take over now. It's up to us to do all we can to ensure that no-one is allowed to remain ignorant about this subject... ”

Margaux, student

Column of deportees from KL-Natzweiler being taken through the town of Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines, clandestine photo, 1944. Archives municipales de Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines.

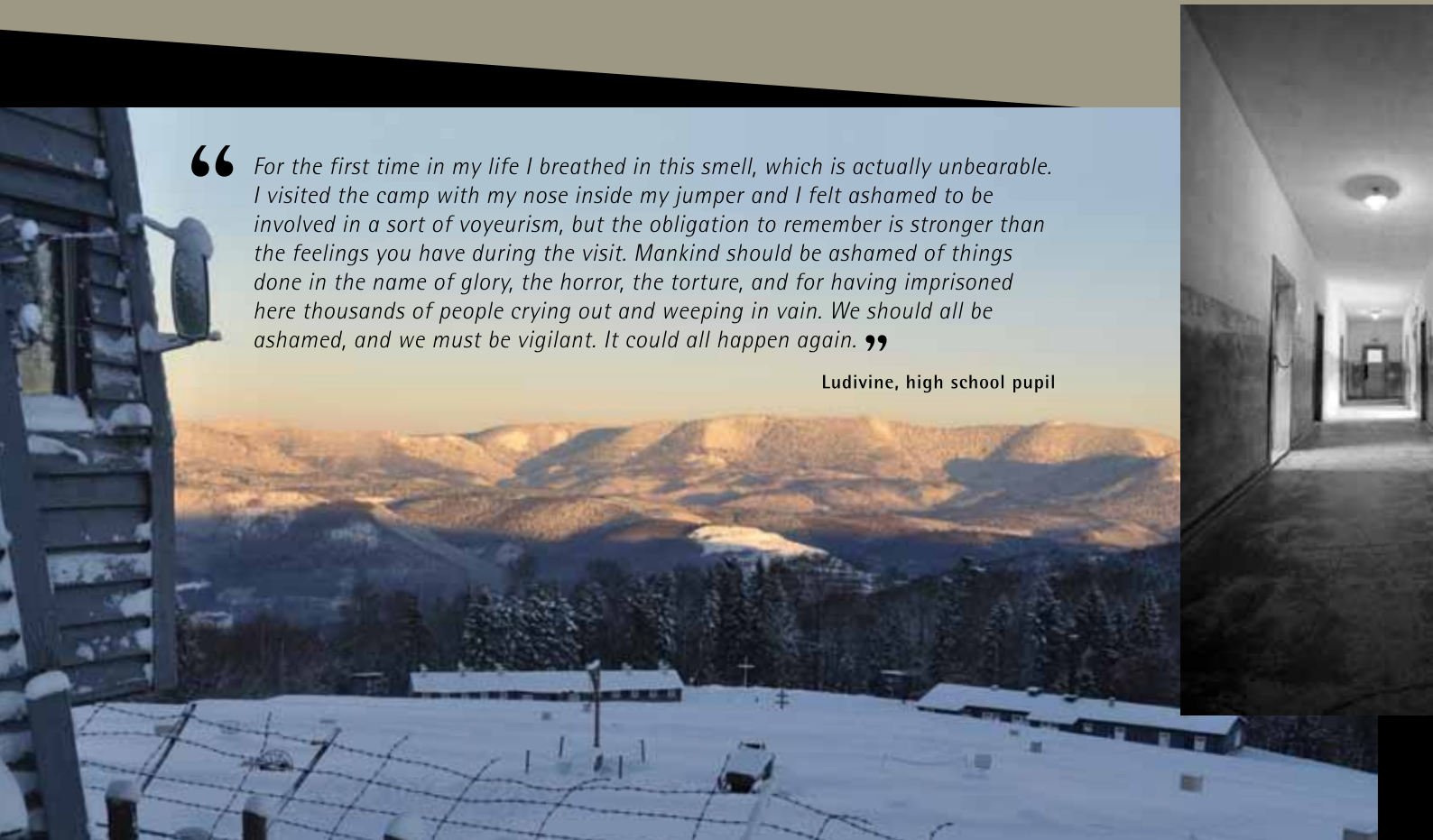


THE SITE TODAY

The entire site belongs to the Ministry of Defence and has been classified as a historic monument since 2011. About 170,000 people visit this place of remembrance every year.

“ For the first time in my life I breathed in this smell, which is actually unbearable. I visited the camp with my nose inside my jumper and I felt ashamed to be involved in a sort of voyeurism, but the obligation to remember is stronger than the feelings you have during the visit. Mankind should be ashamed of things done in the name of glory, the horror, the torture, and for having imprisoned here thousands of people crying out and weeping in vain. We should all be ashamed, and we must be vigilant. It could all happen again. ”

Ludivine, high school pupil



4

Inside the old camp, four huts can be visited, including the prison hut and the cremation block, as well one converted into a museum recounting the history of KL- Natzweiler. Through photos, archive documents, objects and drawings, visitors can discover how the camp was set up and organised,

the deportees and their daily lives, the subcamps, the camp's end, the trials, the work to preserve the memory of the camp...

The gas chamber, built at the request of a number of Nazi professors of medicine for experimentation purposes, is situated 1.5 km down the hill and can also be visited.

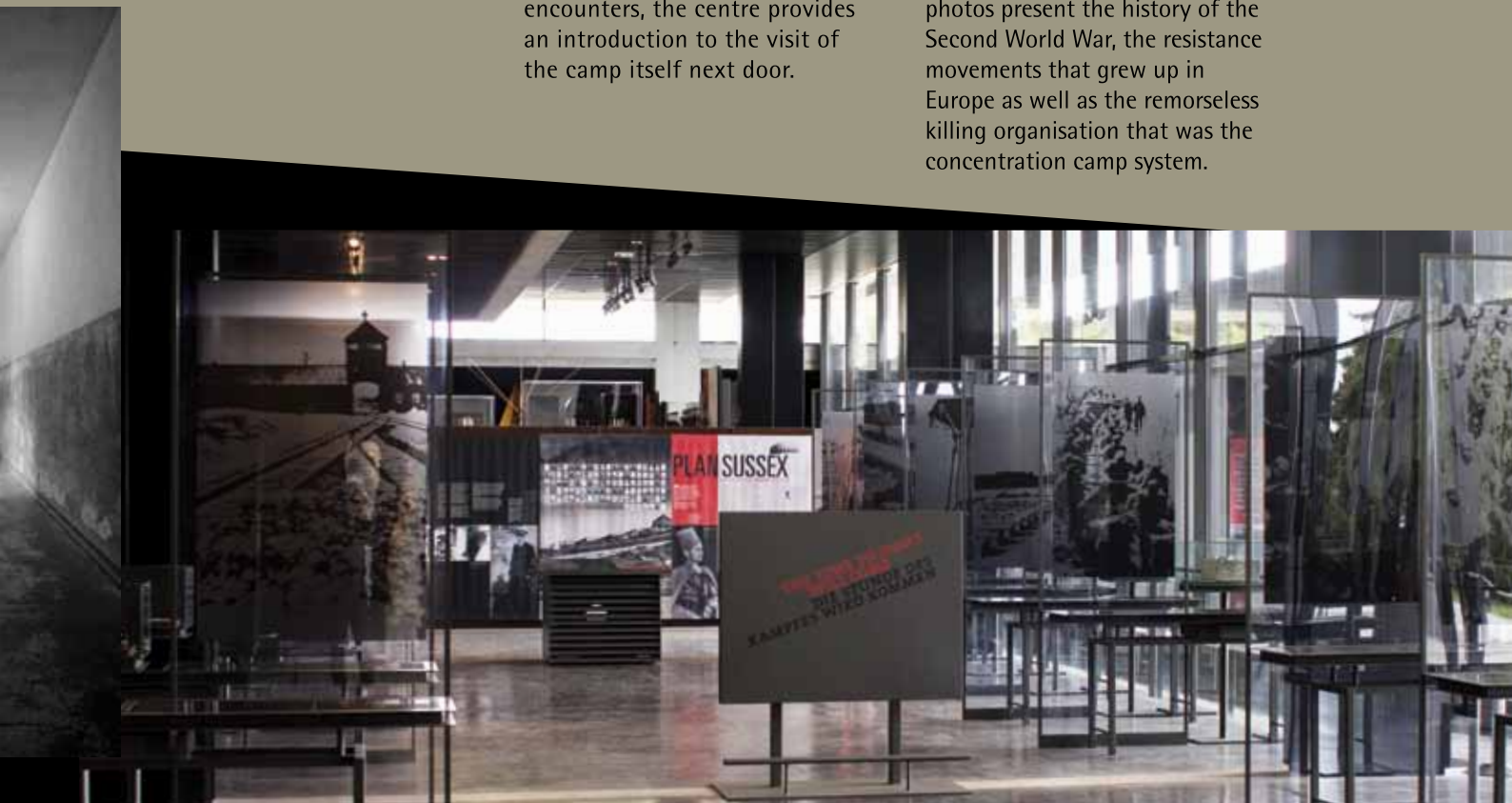


EUROPEAN CENTRE OF DEPORTED RESISTANCE MEMBERS

The CERD (European Centre of Deported Resistance Members) was inaugurated on 3 November 2005 by the French President, Jacques Chirac.

Designed as a place of information, reflection and encounters, the centre provides an introduction to the visit of the camp itself next door.

In a 2,200 m² exhibition space touch screen kiosks, videos and photos present the history of the Second World War, the resistance movements that grew up in Europe as well as the remorseless killing organisation that was the concentration camp system.



© Michaël Verry - CERD / David Laguerre / David Costes



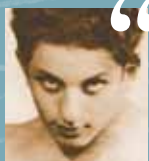
© Jacques Robert - SGA-DMPA



© Céline Fischer - CERD

The CERD stands on top of the «Kartoffelkeller», a reinforced concrete cellar almost 120 m long built by the detainees and which has become a symbol of the oppression and exhaustion suffered as a result of the harsh working conditions and beatings. The intended purpose of this construction remains unknown.

© Gisèle Nevers - coll. privée

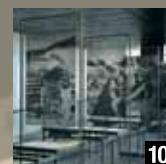
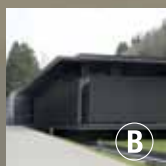


“ I was no longer any more than a number. (...) In the hut, I found myself with comrades from the Resistance. Some of them were sent to work in the “Kartoffelkeller”, the potato cellar, or in the quarry. When we saw them come back we thought “it's not possible... ”. Half of the comrades were carrying the other half who had not been able to resist. In the evening, I went to see a comrade, Roger Linet, and I asked him how long he had been there. “Four days.” ”

Max Nevers, deported resistance fighter, prisoner number 4585

VISIT

The historic site and the CERD (European Centre of Deported Resistance Members) cover a total of 4.5 hectares and the visit takes between 1 ½ and 3 hours.



A The former Natzweiler-Struthof camp

Inside the double fence

- 1 Museum
- 2 Roll call squares
- 3 Crematorium
- 4 Ash pit
- 5 Prison

Outside the double fence

- 6 The Lantern of the Dead
- 7 SS vegetable patch and orchard
- 8 Kommandantur

B The European Centre for Deported Resistance Fighters

9 "Kartofelkeller"

10 The 14 camps room

Permanent exhibition

11 "S'engager, résister, combattre"
(Commit, resist, fight)

C The national necropolis

12 The memorial

13 Sand quarry

14 To the granite quarry

15 To the gas chamber

COMMEMORATION

The National Necropolis and the Deportation Memorial.

On 23 July 1960, the "Mémorial aux Héros et Martyrs de la Déportation" (Memorial to the heroes and martyrs of the deportation) was officially inaugurated by the President of the Republic, General de Gaulle. A "beacon of remembrance" that stands 40 metres high and is visible from the valley, the memorial represents a flame and bears the silhouette of an emaciated deportee.

The body of an unknown deportee, a symbol of all the victims of deportation, lies inside a vault at the foot of the Memorial, along with 14 urns containing symbolic earth or anonymous ashes from concentration camps in Germany.

The National Necropolis contains 1,118 tombs of French men and women who died after being deported, at KL-Natzweiler or in other camps.



© CFIAR

The Struthof national ceremony.

A national ceremony of Remembrance is held on the Memorial Esplanade in June every year. It takes place in two stages:

On the Saturday evening a memorial vigil is held in the presence of surviving deportees, during which those present take turns holding the torches.

On the Sunday morning there is an official commemorative ceremony of Remembrance, led by a representative of the government (a Minister or the President of the Republic).



TRANSMISSION

Facilitating the transmission of knowledge about European resistance movements and deportation, and more particularly political deportation and repression, is the very core of the mission of the European Centre of Deported Resistance Members.

The CERD's educational role

With almost 90,000 schoolchildren visiting every year, the European Centre of Deported Resistance Members plays an important educational role: that of passing on history of course, but its mission goes beyond that - it also aims to create an awareness in each of these young visitors of their own role as citizens. It is hoped that it will instil in them the fundamental values of liberty, equality, fraternity and make them more vigilant in the face of mounting extremism and racism.

The educational service

The educational department provides teachers with teaching materials suited to each age group, from primary (cycle 3) to junior and senior high school: workshops and educational guided tours.

Materials available on the website

The website constitutes a reference source of information about the Natzweiler concentration camp, and provides an extension of the educational services. It offers online materials (teacher's kit, a guidebook to the visit, special guides for 7-12 year olds) to prepare school trips to the camp, raise young people's awareness and spread the message of vigilance. All these items can be downloaded for free on the Struthof website.

Free teacher's kits

on www.struthof.fr and on www.visiteretcomprendrelestruthof.fr an educational website developed in partnership with the CRDP Alsace (National Education Department).

Discover, see again, follow up in the classroom

www.visite-virtuelle.struthof.fr

Contact

pedagogie@struthof.fr
Tel. +33 (0)3 88 47 44 52

Workshops and visits

resa.groupes@struthof.fr
or use the online booking form.

Educational projects and remembrance trips

The Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Education support educational trips to places of remembrance of contemporary conflicts.

Applications for grants

Application forms online on www.struthof.fr page "Educational materials" and on Educ@def



Rates for schools

Visit and activities (booking obligatory, at least 1 month in advance)

- > Per pupil: €1
- > Accompanying adult free
- > Educational workshop + €20 per class (in French)
- > Guided tour + €20 per class (in French)

In order to respect the schedule of bookings over the day, groups arriving 20 minutes or more late will have their activity cancelled.



KEEPING THE MEMORY ALIVE

The CERD transmits values of tolerance, respect and vigilance. It bases its daily work on these notions, organising numerous educational and cultural activities.

“Passeurs d'Histoire” (Conveyors of history)

The CERD regularly organises encounters between former deported resistance fighters and young people, so that they may tell their stories and encourage them to become “Passeurs d'histoire”, conveyors of history to future generations: preparation days for the CNRD (National competition on the

resistance and deportation), Defence and citizenship days, participation in national ceremonies...

Place of encounters and reflection

The CERD organises exceptional events at different times throughout the year: European Heritage Days, military ceremonies, meetings, concerts, etc.

Temporary exhibitions

On the mezzanine, in the entrance hall, there is a space dedicated to temporary and visiting exhibitions.



To be regularly informed of our activities, sign up to the Newsletter on www.struthof.fr



© (1) Michaël Verry - CERD / (2) CSAD MGM / (3) Robert Salomon, deported resistance fighter, prisoner number 11908, Chairman of the Struthof executive committee, with his grandson - CFIAR

THE OTHER NATIONAL MEMORIALS

MANAGED BY THE ONACVG (NATIONAL OFFICE FOR VETERANS AND VICTIMS OF WAR)

The ONACVG (National Office for Veterans and Victims of War) is responsible, on behalf of the government, for managing the maintenance, renovation and enhancement of national necropolises and places of remembrance.

1 Memorial to the Wars in Indochina in Fréjus

On a 2-hectare site, this memorial includes the monument commemorating those who died in Indochina, a museum, a Military Necropolis with the tombs of 20,467 soldiers who "died for France", a civilian necropolis with the remains of 3,515 civilian victims who died in Indochina, and the "Mur du Souvenir" memorial wall inscribed with the names of some 34,000 soldiers who died for France in Indochina.

2 Memorial to the Allied Landings in Provence at Mont Faron

Inaugurated in 1964 by General de Gaulle, Mont Faron overlooks the Rade de Toulon (harbour) and was the scene of fighting during the allied landing in Provence in August 1944. The Memorial houses exhibitions on two levels telling the story of the fighting after the landings, and pays tribute to the French First Army.

3 Montluc Prison Memorial

After being requisitioned by the German army during the Second World War, between 1942 and 1944 8,000 victims of Nazi repression were detained at Montluc prison in Lyon, including Jean Moulin, André Frossard, and the children of Izieu. For them the prison was the antechamber to deportation, execution or extermination. The visit includes the permanent exhibition in the refectory, the cells and the "Mur des Fusillés" (execution wall)

4 National Memorial of the Algerian War and the Fighting in Morocco and Tunisia, Quai Branly, Paris.

This war memorial, which stands on Quai Branly in Paris, pays tribute to 23,000 French soldiers and "harkis" (native soldiers), as well as the civilian victims who fell during the Algerian War and the fighting in Morocco and Tunisia.

5 Memorial to the Martyrs of the Deportation, Île de la Cité, Paris

The "Mémorial des Martyrs de la Déportation" (Memorial to the martyrs of deportation) stands on the tip of the Île de la Cité in Paris and perpetuates the memory of the French people deported during the Second World War. A sober monumental crypt houses urns containing ashes from the death camps as well as the tomb of an unknown deportee.

6 Mont Valérien

Mont Valérien was the main place of execution for numerous resistance fighters and hostages during World War II. On 18 June 1960, General de Gaulle inaugurated the "Mémorial de la France combattante" (Fighting France memorial) and its crypt housing the remains of 16 resistance fighters and an urn containing ashes taken from the concentration camps. Inside the site, the visitor follows the path taken by those who were to face the firing squads.

A permanent exhibition entitled "Résistance et Répression 1940-1944" completes the visit.



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PRACTICAL INFORMATION

OPENING TIMES

The Struthof site is open 7 days a week
Closed from Christmas to the end of February.

**1 March - 15 April and
 16 October - 24 December:**

from 9 am to 5 pm.

Gas chamber: 10 am to 12.30 and 2 to 4 pm.

16 April - 15 October:

from 9 am to 6.30 pm.

Gas chamber: 10 am to 12.30 and 2 to 5 pm.

Last tickets sold one hour before closing.

Bookshop: 9.30 to 11.30 am / 2 to 5 pm.

Opening times may change.
 Please check before coming,
 by calling +33 (0)3 88 47 44 67

GUIDED TOURS (IN FRENCH ONLY)

Free guided tours of the former Natzweiler camp are offered (excluding school visits):

16 April - 15 October:

at 10.45 am and 3.15 pm.

1 March - 15 April and

16 October - 24 December:

at 10.45 am and 2.45 pm.

(subject to availability, please check by calling
 +33 (0)3 88 47 44 67)

The number of participants is limited to 100 people per visit. Sign up on arrival, at the CERD reception desk.

PRESS CONTACT

relations-publiques@struthof.fr

Tel. +33 (0)3 88 47 44 59

TICKET PRICES

Individual, 18 and over: € 6.

Individual, under 18: € 3.

Student, "Cezam" card holder, unemployed, CMU beneficiaries, large families (from 3 children, a "Famille nombreuse" card must be produced), "Pass Bruche" card holders: **€ 3.**
 Duo ticket (CERD / Mémorial de l'Alsace Moselle): **€ 11** per person.

FREE ENTRY

Children under 10 years (non-school visit), "Carte du Combattant", "Carte de Déporté ou Interné résistant ou politique", "Carte de Patriote Résistant à l'Occupation" card holders, holders of a disability card or an EU parking card for people with disabilities and the person accompanying them, holders of a Tourist Guide's card, drivers of coaches accompanying a group, military and civilian Ministry of Defence personnel (French), ONAC personnel.

GROUPS

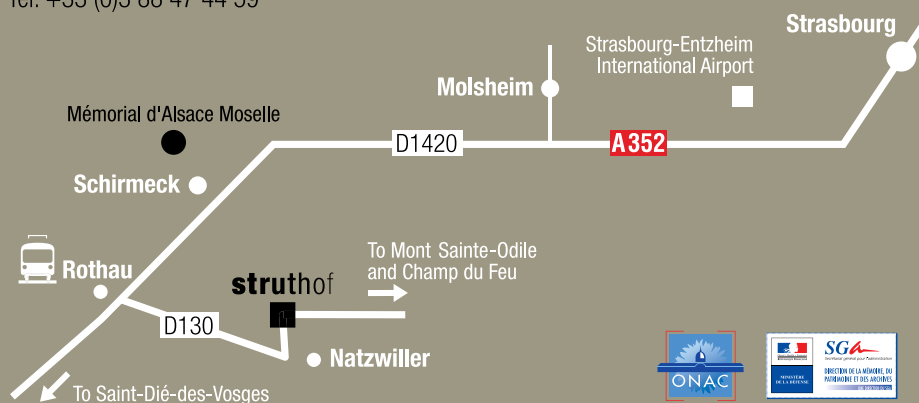
Groups of 10 people or more:

admission € 3 per person (in view of the large number of groups booking visits to the European Centre and the Struthof site, please book your visit at least one month in advance).

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www.struthof.fr
www.visite-virtuelle.struthof.fr

Centre Européen
 du Résistant Déporté
 site de l'ancien camp
 de Natzweiler-Struthof

Route Départementale 130
 67130 Natzwiller

Strasbourg 60 km - Rothau 8 km
 Road conditions - www.inforoute67.fr

It is possible to walk up - get a hiking
 map on www.tourisme67.com

www.**struthof**.fr



Cover photos : JP Kayser - OT de la Bruche / Michaël Verry - René Chevolet - CERD

**SITE DE L'ANCIEN CAMP DE NATZWEILER-STRUTHOF
CENTRE EUROPÉEN DU RÉSISTANT DÉPORTÉ**

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Mémoire et solidarité