

24. April 2026

City history

Time travel in the city forest: guided tour on the history of the former camp

Date on 8 May // Tour of the varied history of the site // Meeting point at the Wiener Allee hiking car park

The Bocholt City Museum invites you to a historical tour of the former city forest camp on Friday, 8 May from 4 to 5:30 pm. During the tour, interested citizens can learn about the eventful history of the site from the Nazi era to the post-war period. There are currently still places available for the tour.

The Stadtwaldlager is an important testimony to Bocholt's history and reflects the political upheavals of the 20th century. Among other things, the site served as the location of the so-called Austrian Legion (1935-1938), later as a prisoner of war camp during the Second World War and in the post-war period as a transit camp for displaced persons from the countries behind the "Iron Curtain". From a small part of the camp, the "Palestine Transit Camp", a total of around 6,000 former Jewish prisoners from ghettos and concentration camps were brought to the British Mandate of Palestine in 1947/48. These historical events still characterise the memory of the Stadtwald camp today.

Historian Werner Loock will guide visitors through the history of the Stadtwaldlager and use historical images and the latest scientific findings to explain the living conditions of the inmates and the effects on the Bocholt population.

The meeting point for all registered persons is the hikers' car park on Wiener Allee. The tour is free of charge, registration is required on the website of the Bocholt City Museum: www.stadtmuseum-bocholt.de/die-geschichte-des-bocholter-stadtwaldlagers ↗



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Dr Werner Loock and Lisa Resing, Director of the Bocholt City Museum, organise the guided tours of the former city forest camp