

HausRheinsberg Hotel am See

Unique holiday opportunities for people with disabilities

HausRheinsberg Hotel am See offers a very special kind of hospitality. Situated 90 kilometres north of Berlin, the hotel specialises in meeting the wishes and needs of people with disabilities.

HausRheinsberg, a subsidiary of the Fürst Donnersmarck Foundation, opened its doors for guests in June 2001, and has since established itself as the first address for barrier-free holidays in the Berlin-Brandenburg region. The 108 rooms with 150 beds are all designed with wheelchair users in mind. And the hotel offers a unique range of attractive, barrier-free facilities: Sauna, swimming pool, and solarium, as well as a sports hall for the active, or the cosy public rooms for those who just want to enjoy their leisure.

As well as offering relaxation, the hotel also provide guests with opportunities to try out something new. A broad programme of cultural and recreational activities is available with tours of the regions lakes and forests or local cultural highlights. Guests can try "Following the traces of Prussian history" or visit the "Long Night of the Arts" with guided tours of historical buildings, readings, and concerts in the nearby Music Academy. Those who enjoy outdoor activities might prefer to go fishing, or going on a handbike tour.

The hotel also offers ideal conditions for people with disabilities who play sports actively. From wheelchair basketball to hall boccia, there are opportunities to train for many paralympic sport disciplines. The hotel also promotes wheelchair rugby, and in alternating years it hosts a national and an international rugby tournament. But as well as catering for the professionals and enthusiasts, HausRheinsberg Hotel am See offers a wide range of facilities for all its guests, and they can try out their skills in the skittle alley, play table-tennis, or use the swimming pool, which is fitted with lifter and slide for ease of access.

In its first four years the barrier-free hotel has been a real success. "The reactions of our guests show that we are offering the safety and freedom of movement which people with disabilities need in order to be able to relax and to accept new challenges", explains hotel director Corinna Abele. And the Fürst Donnersmarck Foundation is constantly working to offer more for guests with disabilities: In June 2005, new barrier-free holiday apartments will be opened close to the hotel in Rheinsberg specially for families and groups.

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