Buchenwald concentration camp

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Buchenwald concentration camp (German: Konzentrationslager (KZ) Buchenwald, IPA: [ˈbuː.xɐnwald]; literally, in English: beech forest) was a German Nazi concentration camp established on the Ettersberg (Etter Mountain) near Weimar, Germany, in July 1937, one of the first and the largest of the concentration camps on German soil, following Dachau's opening just over four years earlier.

Prisoners from all over Europe and the Soviet Union—Jews, non-Jewish Poles and Slovenes, the mentally ill and physically-disabled from birth defects, religious and political prisoners, Roma and Sinti, Freemasons, Jehovah's Witnesses, criminals, homosexuals, and prisoners of war — worked primarily as forced labor in local armaments factories. From 1945 to 1950, the camp was used by the Soviet occupation authorities as an internment camp, known as NKVD special camp number 2.

Today the remains of Buchenwald serves as a memorial and permanent exhibition and museum administered by the Buchenwald and Mittelbau-Dora Memorials Foundation, which also oversees the camp's memorial at Dora Memorials Foundation, which also oversees the camp's memorial.

In 1937, the Nazis constructed Buchenwald concentration camp, near Weimar, Germany. Embedded in the camp’s main entrance gate is the slogan Jedem das Seine (literally “to each his own”, but figuratively “everyone gets what he deserves”). The camp was operational until its liberation in 1945. Between 1945 and 1950, it was used by the Soviet Union as an NKVD special camp for Germans. On January 6, 1950, the Soviets handed over Buchenwald to the East German Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Originally the camp was named after the Ettersberg hill but it was later renamed Buchenwald (German for beech forest). The Goethe Eiche (Goethe's Oak), stood inside the camp's perimeter, the stump of the tree is preserved as part of the memorial. Between April 1938 and April 1945, some 238,380 people of various nationalities including 350 Western Allied prisoners of war (POW) were incarcerated in Buchenwald. One estimate places the number of deaths at 56,000.

During an American bombing raid on August 24, 1944 that was directed at a nearby armaments factory, several bombs, including incendiaries, also fell on the camp, resulting in heavy casualties amongst the prisoners (2,000 prisoners wounded & 388 killed by the raid).

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Camp commandants

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People
As we got close to the camp and saw what was inside... a terrible, terrible fear and horror entered our hearts. We thought,

SS-Sturmbannführer: Jacob Weiseborn (1937–1939)
SS-Obersturmbannführer: Karl Otto Koch (1939–1942)
SS-Standartenführer: Hermann Pister (1942–1945)

Buchenwald’s second commandant was Karl Otto Koch, who ran the camp from 1937 to 1941. His second wife, Ilse Koch, became notorious as Die Hexe von Buchenwald ("the witch of Buchenwald") for her cruelty and brutality. Koch had a zoo built by the prisoners in the camp, with a bear pit (Bärenzwingen) facing the Appellplatz; the assembly square where prisoner "roll-calls" were conducted.

Koch himself was eventually imprisoned at Buchenwald by the Nazi authorities for incitement to murder. The charges were lodged by Prince Waldeck and Dr. Morgen, to which were later added charges of corruption, embezzlement, black market dealings, and exploitation of the camp workers for personal gain. Other camp officials were charged, including Ilse Koch. The trial resulted in Karl Koch being sentenced to death for drugging himself and the SS; he was executed by firing squad on April 5, 1945, one week before American troops arrived. Ilse Koch was sentenced to a term of four years' imprisonment after the war. Her sentence was reduced to two years and she was set free. She was subsequently arrested again and sentenced to life imprisonment by the post-war German authorities; she committed suicide in a Bavarian prison cell in September 1967.

The third and last commandant of the camp was Hermann Pister (1942–1945). He was tried in 1947 (Dachau Trials) and sentenced to death, but died in September 1948 of a heart condition before the sentence could be carried out.

Female prisoners and overseers [edit]

The number of women held in Buchenwald was somewhere between 500 and 1,000. The first female inmates were twenty political prisoners who were accompanied by a female SS guard (Aufseherin); these women were brought to Buchenwald from Ravensbrück in 1941 and forced into prostitution at the camp's brothel. The SS later fired the SS woman on duty in the brothel for corruption, her position was taken over by "brothel mothers" as ordered by SS chief Heinrich Himmler.

The majority of women prisoners, however, arrived in 1944 and 1945 from other camps, mainly Auschwitz, Ravensbrück, and Bergen Belsen. Only one barrack was set aside for them; this was overseen by the female block leader (Blockführerin) Franziska Hoengesberg, who came from Essen when it was evacuated. All the women prisoners were later shipped out to one of Buchenwald's many female satellite camps in Sömmerda, Buttelstedt, Mühlhausen, Gotha, Gelsenkirchen, Essen, Lippstadt, Weimar, Magdeburg, and Penig, to name a few. No female guards were permanently stationed at Buchenwald.

When the Buchenwald camp was evacuated, the SS sent the male prisoners to other camps, and the five-hundred remaining women (including one of the secret annexe members who lived with Auguste van Pels), were taken by train and on foot to the Theresienstadt concentration camp and ghetto in the protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia. Many, including van Pels, died sometime between April and May 1945. Because the female prisoner population at Buchenwald was comparatively small, the SS only trained female overseers at the camp and "assigned" them to one of the female subcamps. Twenty-two known female guards had personnel files at the camp, but it is unlikely that any of them stayed at Buchenwald for longer than a few days.

Ilse Koch served as head supervisor (Oberaufseherin) of 22 other female guards and hundreds of women prisoners in the main camp. More than 530 women served as guards in the vast Buchenwald system of subcamps and external commands across Germany. Only 22 women served/trained in Buchenwald, compared to over 15,500 men. Anna Fest was a guard at Ravensbrück, who was later tried and acquitted.

Ulla Erna Frieda Jürß was a guard at Ravensbrück, who was convicted of her crimes.

Allied airmen [edit]

Main article: Phil Lamason

Although it was highly unusual for German authorities to send Western Allied POWs to concentration camps, Buchenwald held a group of 168 aviators for two months. These men were from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Jamaica. They all arrived at Buchenwald on August 20, 1944. All these airmen were in aircraft that had crashed in occupied France. Two explanations are given for them being sent to a concentration camp: first, that they had managed to make contact with the French Resistance, some were disguised as civilians, and they were carrying false papers when caught; they were therefore categorized by the Germans as spies, which meant their rights under the Geneva Convention were not respected. The second explanation is that they had been categorised as Terrorflieger ("terror aviators."). The aviators were initially held in Gestapo prisons and headquarters in France. In April or August 1944, they and other Gestapo prisoners were packed into covered goods wagons (US: boxcars) and sent to Buchenwald. The journey took five days, during which they received very little food or water. One aviator recalled their arrival at Buchenwald:

"As we got close to the camp and saw what was inside... a terrible, terrible fear and horror entered our hearts. We thought, what is this? Where are we going? Why are we here? And as you got closer to the camp and started to enter it [and] saw these human skeletons walking around—old men, young men, boys, just skin and bone, we thought, what are we getting into?"

—Canadian aviator Ed Carter-Eddard's recollection of his arrival at Buchenwald

They were subjected to the same treatment and abuse as other Buchenwald prisoners until October 1944, when a change in policy saw the aviators dispatched to Stalag Luft III, a regular POW camp; nevertheless, two airmen died at Buchenwald. Those classified as terrorflieger had been scheduled for execution after October 24; their rescue was effected by Luftwaffe officers who visited Buchenwald and, on their return to Berlin, demanded the airmen's release. Buchenwald was also the main imprisonment for a number of American university students from 1943 until the end of the war. The students, being Norwegian, got better treatment than most, but had to resist Nazi schooling for months. They became remembered for resisting forced labor in a minefield, as the Nazis wished to use them as cannon fodder. An incident connected to this is remembered as the 'Strike at Burkheim'. The Norwegian students in Buchenwald lived in a warmer, stone-construction house and had their own clothes.

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Although Buchenwald was technically not an extermination camp, it was the site of an extraordinary number of deaths. A primary cause of death was illness due to harsh camp conditions, with starvation—and its consequent illnesses—prevalent. Malnourished and suffering from disease, many were literally "worked to death" under the Vernichtung durch Arbeit policy (extermination through labor), as inmates only had the choice between slave labor or inevitable execution. Many inmates died as a result of human experimentation or fell victim to arbitrary acts perpetrated by the SS guards. Other prisoners were simply murdered, primarily by shooting and hanging.

Walter Gerhard Martin Sommer was an SS Hauptscharführer (master sergeant) who served as a guard at the concentration camps of Dachau and Buchenwald. Known as the "Hangman of Buchenwald," he was considered a depraved sadist who reportedly ordered Otto Neururer and Mathias Spannlang, two Austrian priests, to be crucified upside-down. Sommer was especially infamous for hanging prisoners from trees with their wrists behind their backs in the "singing forest," so named because of the screams which emanated from this wooded area. Summary executions of Soviet POWs were also carried out at Buchenwald. At least 1,000 men were selected in 1941–2 by a task force of three Dresden Gestapo officers and sent to the camp for immediate liquidation by a gunshot to the back of the neck, the infamous Genickschuss.

The camp was also a site of large-scale trials for vaccines against epidemic typhus in 1942 and 1943. In all 729 inmates were used as test subjects, of whom 154 died. Other "experimentation" occurred at Buchenwald on a smaller scale. One such experiment aimed at determining the precise fatal dose of a poison of the alkaloid group; according to the testimony of one doctor, four Russian POWs were administered the poison, and when it proved not to be fatal they were "strangled in the crematorium" and subsequently "dissected." Among various other experiments was one which, in order to test the effectiveness of a balm for wounds from incendiary bombs, involved inflicting "very severe" phosphorus burns on inmates. When challenged at trial over the nature of this testing, and particularly over the fact that the testing was designed in some cases to cause death and only to measure the time which elapsed until death was caused, one Nazi doctor's defence was that, although a doctor, he was a "legally appointed executioner." The local German people insisted that responsibility for the treatment of the inmates fell to the Gestapo and the SS. Even at the end of the war, this attitude was very difficult to counter. On one occasion, after the camp had been liberated, an American officer showed a nurse some photographs showing conditions in the camp. Her initial reaction was one of shock, which soon changed when she realized the identity of most of the prisoners. She said: "but it's only the Jews.

### Number of deaths

Main article: [Number of deaths in Buchenwald](#)

The SS left behind accounts of the number of prisoners and people coming to and leaving the camp, categorizing those leaving them by release, transfer, or death. These accounts are one of the sources of estimates for the number of deaths in Buchenwald. According to SS documents, 33,462 died. These documents were not, however, necessarily accurate: Among those executed before 1944, many were listed as "transferred to the Gestapo". Furthermore, from 1941, Soviet POWs were executed in mass killings. Arriving prisoners selected for execution were not entered into the camp register and therefore were not among the 33,462 dead listed.

One former Buchenwald prisoner, Armin Walter, calculated the number of executions by the number of shootings in the back of the head. His job at Buchenwald was to set up and care for a radio installation at the facility where people were executed; he counted the numbers, which arrived by telex, and hid the information. He says that 8,483 Soviet prisoners of war were shot in this manner.

According to the same source, the total number of deaths at Buchenwald is estimated at 56,545. This number is the sum of:

- Deaths according to material left behind by the SS: 33,462
- Executions by shooting: 8,483
- Executions by hanging (estimate): 1,100
- Deaths during evacuation transports: 13,500

This total (56,545) corresponds to a death rate of 24 percent, assuming that the number of persons passing through the camp according to documents left by the SS, 240,000 prisoners, is accurate.

### Liberation from Nazi Germany

On April 4, 1945, the US 89th Infantry Division overran Ohrdruf, a subcamp of Buchenwald. It was the first Nazi camp liberated by US troops.

Buchenwald was partially evacuated by the Germans on April 8, 1945. In the days before the arrival of the
American army, thousands of the prisoners were forced to join the evacuation marches.[citation needed] Thanks in large part to the efforts of Polish engineer Gwidon Damazyn, an inmate since March 1941, a secret short-wave transmitter and small generator were built and hidden in the prisoners' movie room. On April 8 at noon, Damazyn and Russian prisoner Konstantin Ivanovich Leonov sent the Morse code message prepared by leaders of the prisoners' underground resistance (supposedly Walter Bartel and Harry Kuhn):

To the Allies. To the army of General Patton. This is the Buchenwald concentration camp. SOS. We request help. They want to evacuate us. The SS wants to destroy us.

The text was repeated several times in English, German, and Russian. Damazyn sent the English and German transmissions, while Leonov sent the Russian version. Three minutes after the last transmission sent by Damazyn, the headquarters of the US Third Army responded:

KZ Bu. Hold out. Rushing to your aid. Staff of Third Army.

According to Teofil Wittek, a fellow Polish prisoner who witnessed the transmissions, Damazyn fainted after receiving the message.[33]

After this news had been received, Communist inmates stormed the watchtowers and killed the remaining guards, using arms they had been collecting since 1942 (one machine gun and 91 rifles).[34] (See Buchenwald Resistance)

A detachment of troops of the US 9th Armored Infantry Battalion, from the 6th Armored Division, part of the US Third Army, and under the command of Captain Frederic Keffer, arrived at Buchenwald on April 11, 1945 at 3:15 P.M., (now the permanent time of the clock at the entrance gate). The soldiers were given a hero's welcome, with the emaciated survivors finding the strength to toss some liberators into the air in celebration.[35]

Later in the day, representatives of the US 83rd Infantry Division, overran Langenstein, one of a number of smaller camps comprising the Buchenwald complex. There, the division liberated over 21,000 prisoners,[36] ordered the mayor of Langenstein to send food and water to the camp, and hurried medical supplies forward from the 20th Field Hospital.[37]

Third Army Headquarters sent elements of the 80th Infantry Division to take control of the camp on the morning of Thursday, April 12, 1945. Several journalists arrived on the same day, perhaps with the 80th, including Edward R. Murrow, whose radio report of his arrival and reception was broadcast on CBS and became one of his most famous:

I asked to see one of the barracks. It happened to be occupied by Czechoslovaks. When I entered, men crowded around, tried to lift me to their shoulders. They were too weak. Many of them could not get out of bed. I was told that this building had once stabled 80 horses. There were 1,200 men in it, five to a bunk. The stink was beyond all description.

They called the doctor. We inspected his records. There were only names in the little black book, nothing more. Nothing about who these men were, what they had done, or hoped. Behind the names of those who had died, there was a cross. I counted them. They totalled 242. 242 out of 1,200, in one month.

As we walked out into the courtyard, a man fell dead. Two others, they must have been over 60, were crawling toward the latrine. I saw it, but will not describe it.

---Extract from Edward R. Murrow's Buchenwald report, April 15, 1945.

Soviet Special Camp 2 [edit]

Further information: NKVD special camps

After liberation, between 1945 and February 10, 1950, the camp was administered by the Soviet Union and served as Special Camp No. 2 of the NKVD.[37] It was part of a "special camps" network operating since 1945, formally integrated into the Gulag in 1948.[38][39] Another infamous "special camp" in Soviet occupied Germany was the former Nazi concentration camp Sachsenhausen (special camp No. 7).[40]

Between August 1945 and the dissolution on March 1, 1950, 28,455[41] prisoners, including 1,000 women, were held by the Soviet Union at Buchenwald. A total of 7,113 people died in Special Camp Number 2, according to the Soviet records.[41] They were buried in mass graves in the woods surrounding the camp. Their relatives did not receive any notification of their deaths. Prisoners comprised alleged opponents of Stalinism, and alleged members of the Nazi party or Nazi organization, others were imprisoned due to identity confusion and arbitrary arrests.[42][43] The NKVD would not allow any contact of prisoners with the outside world[44] and did not attempt to determine the guilt of any individual prisoner.[43]

On January 6, 1950, Soviet Minister of Internal Affairs Kruglov ordered all special camps, including Buchenwald, to be handed over to the East German Ministry of Internal Affairs.[39]

Demolition of the camp [edit]

In October 1950, it was decreed that the camp would be demolished. The main gate, the crematorium, the hospital block, and two guard towers escaped. All prisoner barracks and other buildings were razed. Foundations of some still exist and many others have been rebuilt. According to the Buchenwald Memorial website, "the combination of obliteration and preservation was dictated by a specific concept for interpreting the history of Buchenwald Concentration Camp."

The first monument to victims was erected days after the initial liberation. Intended to be completely
temporary, it was built by prisoners and made of wood. A second monument to commemorate the
dead was erected in 1958 by the GDR near the mass graves. Inside the camp, there is a living
monument in the place of the first monument that is kept at skin temperature all year round.[45]

## Notorious Nazi personnel [edit]

**Commandants**
- Karl Otto Koch from 1937 to 1941
- Hermann Pister from 1942 to 1945

**Medical doctors**
- Gerhard Rose
- Waldemar Hoven
- Hans Conrad Julius Reiter
- Dr. Robert Neumann
- Dr. Hans Eisele
- Wolfgang Plaul, Born 1909 -- Missing, 1945. Also commandant of Buchenwald Female camp (Aussenlager), 1945.

**Guards**
- Martin Sommer

**Nazi head of personnel**
- Hermann Hackmann

## Well-known inmates [edit]

- Roy Allen, American B-17 Flying Fortress pilot
- Jean Améry, writer
- Robert Antelme, French writer
- Jacob Avigdor, before World War II Chief Rabbi of Drohobych, after World War II Chief Rabbi of Mexico
- Conrad Baars, psychiatrist
- Bruno Bettelheim, child psychologist
- Józef Biniaś, Polish socialist politician
- Léon Blum, Jewish French politician, pre-and post-war long term French Prime Minister
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Protestant theologian and prominent member of the Confessing Church
- Boris Braun, Croatian University professor
- Rudolf Brazda, the last known surviving homosexual deported to the camps
- Rudolf Breitscheid, former member of the SPD and leader of its faction in the Reichstag of the Weimar Republic before the Nazi seizure of power in 1933, died in the camp in 1944
- Christopher Burney, British officer and Special Operations Executive (SOE) operative, wrote about the savage infighting and struggle for power and privileges between the inmates at Buchenwald in The Dungeon Democracy
- Robert Clary, French actor, Corporal Louis LeBeau in the Hogan's Heroes television series
- René Cogny, French general
- Seweryn Franciszek Czetwertyński-Światopelk, Polish politician
- Fritz Czuczka, Austrian artist/architect
- Édouard Daladier, French politician, former Head of the French government
- Armand de Dampierre, French aristocrat, died in the camp on January 8, 1944
- Marcel Dassault, French aviation entrepreneur who founded the Dassault Group
- Almeric Lombard de Buffiers de Rambuteau, French aristocrat, died in the camp on December 14, 1944
- Hélie de Saint Marc, member of the French resistance, later involved in the attempted Algiers putsch of 1961
- Pierre d'Harcourt, Travel writer for The Observer, member of the French Resistance.
- Laure Diebold, French resistant, Compagnon de la Libération
- Willem Drees, Dutch politician, Prime Minister of the Netherlands from 1948 until 1958
- Ernst Federn, Austrian social-psychologist
- Bolesław Fichna, Polish right-wing politician and lawyer
- Marian Flar, Polish Jewish concert pianist and virtuoso. Played at Carnegie Hall after the war
- Maria Forescu, Romanian film actress, died in the camp in 1943
- Josef Frank (politician), Czech communist
- August Froehlich, German Roman Catholic priest active in resistance movement against the National Socialism
- Henry P. Glass, Austrian Architect and Industrial Designer, released in 1939, moved to the US
- Albin Grau, film producer (Nosferatu, 1922)
- Adolf Grunbaum, Austrian physician, released from the camp in 1939 and emigrated to the US. Changed his name to Arthur Grant
- Walter Gutheim, German business man who migrated to America after the war
Maurice Halbwachs, French sociologist, died in the camp in 1945
Curt Herzstark inventor of the Curta calculator, hand-held, hand-cranked mechanical calculator
Harris Hans Hirschberg, German Rabbi, Scholar, & Educator. Released in 1939, and immigrated to the U.S. with his two daughters.
Heinrich Eduard Jacob, German writer
Paul-Emile Janson, Belgian politician, former Prime Minister of Belgium, died in the camp in 1944
Léon Jouhaux, French trade unionist and Nobel Peace Prize laureate
Józef Kachel, Scout leader, head of the pre-war Polish Scouting Association in Germany
Imre Kertész, writer, 2002 Nobel Prize in Literature recipient
Eugen Kogan, anti-Nazi activist, later Christian Socialist, professor, broadcaster and author of Der SS-Staat ("The SS state"), a significant piece of literature concerning German concentration camps
Phillip (Phil) J. Lamason, Squadron Leader, Royal New Zealand Air Force
Jan Langowski, Polish social worker and politician active among the Polish diaspora in Germany
Yisrael Meir Lau (born 1937), Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Israel
Hermann Leopoldi, Austrian composer and entertainer
Parlindoengan Loebis, Indonesian physician and activist in the Netherlands
Fritz Löhner-Beda, Austrian lyricist
Artur London, senior Czech communist and writer, future government minister
Jacques Lusseyran, blind French memoirist and professor
Georges Mandel, French politician, former Minister of the Interior, died in the camp in 1944
Henri Maspero, French Sinologist, pioneering scholar of Taoism, died in the camp in March 1945
Karl Mayr, Adolf Hitler's immediate superior in an Army Intelligence Division in the Reichswehr, 1919–1920; later becoming a political opponent
Erik L. Mollo-Christensen, Emeritus Professor of Oceanography, MIT; former Associate Director of Earth Science, NASAtance
Jean Marcel Nicolas, a black Haitian national, he was incarcerated in the Buchenwald and Dora-Mittelbau camps[46]
John H. Noble, American-born gulag survivor and author; Family owner of the Praktica Camera factory, Dresden 1945
Andree Peel, Member of the French resistance
Harry Peulevé, an agent of the SOE who managed to escape Buchenwald with F. F. E. Yeo-Thomas.
Henri Christiaan Pieck, Dutch painter and twin brother of Anton Pieck
Franciszek Myśliwiec, Polish politician and social worker
Count Albert de Nadaillac, head of a French resistance organisation (ORA-Tours Angers Le Mans). He survived, but his younger brother, count Michel de Nadaillac, also involved in the resistance died in Dora.
Paul Rassinier, considered the father of Holocaust denial
Jakob Rosenfeld, minister of health under Mao
Baron Otto of Schmидburg, German nobleman, died in the camp on July 23, 1941
Herbert Sandberg, artist, designer, publisher of Ulenspiegel
Etta Sapon, Italian, Dramatic actress
Paul Schneider, German pastor, died in the camp in 1939
Jorge Semprún, Spanish intellectual and politician and culture minister of Spain (1988–91)
Jura Soyfer, Ukrainian-British writer, and a leader of the Buchenwald prisoners' resistance movement, and also later became a leading member of the Israeli War of Independence
Léonard de Vries, Dutch philosopher, political theory
Joseph Von Zgierski, Polish politician, junior minister of health under Władysław Grabski in 1939
Paul Schneider, German Rabbi, Scholar, & Educator. Released in 1939, and immigrated to the U.S. with his two daughters.

**Royalty** [edit]

HHH The Princess Mafalda of Savoy, the daughter of King Vittorio Emanuele III of Italy and his Consort, Queen Elena, died in the camp in 1944.

**Modern times** [edit]

Today the remains of Buchenwald serves as a memorial and permanent exhibition and museum administrated by Buchenwald and Mittelbau-Dora Memorials Foundation, which also administrates the camp memorial at Mittelbau-Dora.[2]

**Visit from President Obama and Chancellor Merkel** [edit]

In June 5, 2009 U.S. President Barack Obama and German Chancellor Angela Merkel visited Buchenwald after a tour of Dresden Castle and Church of Our Lady. During the visit they were accompanied by Elie Wiesel and Bertrand Herz, both survivors of the camp. [citations needed] Dr. Volkhard Knigge, the director of the Buchenwald and Mittelbau-Dora Memorials Foundation and honorary professor of University of Jena, guided the four quests through the remainder of the site of the camp. [citations needed] During the visit Elie Wiesel, who together with Bertrand Herz was send to the Little camp as 16-year old boys, said, "if these trees could talk." His statement marked the irony about the beauty of the landscape and the horrors that took place within the camp. [citations needed] President Obama mentioned during his visit that he had heard stories as a child from his great uncle, who was part of the 89th Infantry Division, the first Americans to reach the camp at Ohrdruf, one of Buchenwald's satellites.
The Boys of Buchenwald
Final Solution
The Holocaust
John H. Noble
Jonas Valley
List of Nazi-German concentration camps
List of subcamps of Buchenwald
Nazi crimes against ethnic Poles
Nazi-German concentration camps
Number of deaths in Buchenwald
Ohrdruf forced labor camp
Buchenwald Resistance
KLB Club
Edward A. Tenenbaum, one of the first two people to enter Buchenwald on April 11, 1945
Jasenovac concentration camp

3. As Vladimir Nabokov in Pnin (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2004) puts it, "in the beautifully wooded Großer Ettersburg, as the region is resoundingly called. It is an hour's stroll from Weimar, where walked Goethe, Herder, Friedrich Schiller, Christoph Martin Wieland, the inimitable Kotzebue and others. ‘Aber warum – but why – ‘Dr. Hagen, the gentlest of souls alive, would wail, ‘why had one to put that horrid camp so near!’ for indeed, it was near – only five miles from the cultural heart of Germany – ‘that nation of universities’ [...]" (p. 100).
6. The Buchenwald Report by David A Hackett, pp. 341
7. A chronology of Buchenwald concentration camp.
9. The Buchenwald Report by David A Hackett, pp. 341
10. [1]
15. Eyewitness accounts of Art Kinnis, president of KLB (Konzentrationslager Buchenwald), and 2nd Lt. Joseph Moser, one of the surviving pilots, at http://buchenwaldflyboy.wordpress.com.

References [edit]

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Bartel, Walter: Buchenwald—Mahnung und Verpflichtung: Dokumente und Berichte (Buchenwald: Warnings and our obligation [to future generations]—Documents and reports), Kongress-Verlag, 1960 (German)


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Noble, John H.: I was a Slave in Russia: An American Tells his Story.


The History of Buchenwald Memorial.


External links [edit]

The Buchenwald Boys Documentary

Buchenwald Camp Guards.

My Story from a Buchenwald Holocaust survivor.

Film footage from 1945 inside Buchenwald Concentration Camp.

My Life in the Third Reich: Nightmares and Consequences by Gisela Cooper, who was a prisoner in Wansleben, a subcamp of Buchenwald.

Official Memorial Site homepage.

Information at jewishgen.org.

Google maps satellite image camp at top; see also memorial site lower down.

About Wikipedia
Nuremberg Trials
"Sir John Noble and Dresden: An American Survivor of post-war Buchenwald" Poet
Gelsenkirchen subcamp of Concentration Camp Buchenwald
Podcast interview of one of the 2,000 Danish policemen interned at Buchenwald
Money used in Buchenwald Concentration Camp
Images of Buchenwald taken during 2006
Survivors, academics recall dark episode in Germany’s postwar history Deutsche Welle on 16.02.2010
Guide to the Concentration Camps Collection at the Leo Baeck Institute, New York, NY. Includes extensive reports on Buchenwald collected by the Allied forces shortly after liberating the camp in April 1945.

Related articles by country: Albania Belarus Belgium Croatia Estonia Latvia Lithuania Poland Norway Russia Ukraine

Early elements
Racial policy Nazi eugenics Nuremberg Laws Haavara Agreement Madagascar Plan Forced euthanasia

Transit and collection
Belgium: Breendonk Mechelen
France: Gurs Drancy
Italy: Boziano Risiera di San Sabba
Netherlands: Amersfoort Westerbork

Concentration

Extermination
Auschwitz-Birkenau Bełżec Chelmno Jasenovac Maly Trostenets Sobibor Treblinka

Methods
Inmate identification Gas van Gas chamber Extermination through labor Human medical experimentation Inmate disposal of victims
Divisions: SS-Totenkopfverbände Concentration Camps Inspektorat Polizei/Arbeit Sanitätswesen

History of the Jews during World War II
Pogroms
Kristallnacht Bucharest Dorohoi Iaşi Jedwabne Kaunas Lviv Odessa Tykocin Vél d’Hv Wągrowiec

Ghettos
Białystok Budapest Kovno Kraków Łódź Lublin Łwów Mirsk Riga Vinnitsa Warsaw

Final Solution
Wannsee Conference Operation Reinhard Holocaust trains Extermination camps

Einsatzgruppen
Babi Yar Bydgoszcz Kamianets-Podilskyi Ninth Fort Piłsudica Ponary Rumbula Emterfest

Resistance
Jewish partisans Ghetto uprisings (Warsaw - Białystok - Częstochowa)

End of World War II
Death marches Wola Bricha Displaced persons Holocaust denials

Other victims
Romani people (Gypsies) Polen Soviet POWs Slavs in Eastern Europe Homosexuals People with disabilities Serbs Freemasons Jehovah's Witnesses

Responsibility
Organizations Nazi Party Sturmabteilung (SA) Schutzstaffel (SS) Reichssicherheitshauptamt (RSHA) Verfügungstruppe (VT) Wehrmacht
Individuals Major perpetrators Nazi ideologues
Collaborators Ypatingsasis būrys Lithuanian Security Police Rollkommando Hamann Arjas Kommando Ukrainian Auxiliary Police Trawniki Niederlandsche SS Special Brigades

Aftermath
Nuremberg Trials Denazification Reparations Agreement between Israel and West Germany

Lists
Holocaust survivors Deportations of French Jews to death camps Victims and survivors of Auschwitz Survivors of Sobibor Timeline of Treblinka Victims of Nazism Rescuers of Jews

Resources
The Destruction of the European Jews Functionalism versus intentionalism

Remembrance
Days of remembrance Memorials and museums

Authority control
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Categories: 1937 establishments Buchenwald concentration camp Soviet special camps 1937 establishments in Germany Buildings and structures in Thuringia World War II memorials in Germany Museums in Thuringia World War II museums in Germany NKVD special camps

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