TransParcNet Meeting 2016
Program

Tuesday, 7 June
14:00 Arrival, registration in the Saxon Switzerland National Park Centre Bad Schandau, accommodation
17:00 Short welcome by heads of the Saxon-Switzerland transboundary protected area and commented walk with the mayor of Bad Schandau through the town
18:00 Opening at the Saxon Switzerland National Park Centre: welcome by representatives of the National Park Centre and EUROPARC
Introductory presentation: Saxon-Bohemian Switzerland: Four protected areas, two countries, one landscape: H. Härtel (Bohemian Switzerland National Park) & J. Phoenix (Saxon Switzerland National Park)
19:00 Dinner and come-together in the National Park Centre, including presentation of the exhibition

Wednesday, 8 June
Morning presentation session I moderated by L. Reyrink
09:00-09:30 Nature and tourism – never ending story?: J. Kašpar (Krkonoše National Park)
09:30-10:00 Visitor survey and route analysis - on the way to a cross-border tourism strategy: M. Hußlein (Bavarian Forest National Park) & P. Bečka (Šumava National Park)
10:00-10:30 Social Carrying Capacity of Protected Areas: J. Schamel (University Würzburg)
10:30-11:00 coffee break
Morning presentation session II moderated by J. Kašpar
11:00-11:30 „European Charter for Sustainable Tourism Strategy: looking for synergies with the TransParcNet“: P. Castro (EUROPARC Federation Vice President)
11:30-12:10 Results of the national parks evaluation projects in Germany and Austria from the perspective of visitor management: K. F. Sinner (EUROPARC Germany)
12:10-12:30 Preparation of the evaluation project for the Czech national parks: M. Hošek (Krkonoše National Park)
Excursions to Bohemian Switzerland
13:00 Bus leaving for both excursions from Bad Schandau, Elbkai. Lunch package included, coffee break during the excursion.
Option 1: Gorge of the river Kamenice and Elbe Canyon (easy walk, including transport by boat). Excursion guided by H. Härtel (Bohemian Switzerland National Park) and P. Kříž (Czech Agency for Nature Conservation).
Option 2: Pravčická brána (Prebischtor / rock arch) (medium demanding). Excursion guided by J. Šafránek and T. Salov (Bohemian Switzerland National Park)
Both excursions will end in the town Děčín.
19:00 Departure of the steam boat from Děčín to Bad Schandau. Dinner on the boat.
21:00 (app.) Arrival at Bad Schandau
Thursday, 9 June

*Morning presentation and workshop session moderated by M. Hošek (Vicepresident, EUROPARC Federation)*

09:00-09:30 „IUCN WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group: Activities and Plans“: M. Vasilijević (Chair, IUCN Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group)

09:30-11:50 Workshops

**Workshop I:** Visitor Monitoring and Management, led by Prof. A. Arnberger (BOKU Vienna) and M. Hußlein (Bavarian Forest National Park)

**Workshop II:** Promoting Acceptance, led by S. Stab (Saxon Switzerland National Park Centre)

12:00-12:10 Brief presentation of the results from the workshops

12:30 Lunch in the National Park Centre

*Excursion to Saxon Switzerland*

14:00 Departure of the bus for the excursion from Bad Schandau, Elbkai. Excursion route: Hohburkersdorfer Rundblick – Hockstein – Bastei. Coffee break during the excursion

19:30 Dinner in the Bastei Hotel

23:00 Return to Bad Schandau

Friday, 10 June

Departure
Excursion descriptions:

**Excursions to Bohemian Switzerland on Wednesday, 8 June**


**Option 2: Pravčická brána (Prebischtor) - the largest sandstone arch in Europe;** guided by J. Šafránek and T. Salov. Medium demanding walk. By bus from Bad Schandau along the Elbe River to Hřensko in Bohemian Switzerland. A walk from the village Mezná along the traditional tourist Gabriela path (Gabrielensteig) to the famous Pravčická brána (Prebischtor) sandstone rock arch, the most visited site in the national park. Large variety of morphologic forms (rock pillars, walls etc.), including explanation of weathering forms and processes. From the arch a nice view to the landscape of both, Saxon and Bohemian Switzerland. More at http://www.pbrana.cz/en/ Coffee break in the old traditional restaurant Sokolí hnízdo under the arch (Falkennest). The end of the excursion in the town of Děčín. From here by steamboat to Bad Schandau.

**Excursion to Saxon Switzerland on Thursday, 9 June**

**Elbe-sandstones born in the sea – landscape of outstanding natural beauty;** guided by J. Phoenix and J. Posthoff. Visiting some very picturesque sites in the front part of the Saxon Switzerland National Park and the landscape protected area, well known by tourists for more than 200 years. The excursion is by bus with short walks. First stop is at Hohburkersdorfer Rundblick, a fine viewpoint with an excellent look around over the Elbe-sandstones and neighbouring landscapes. Next point is Hockstein, a viewpoint above the Polenz valley, situated in the core zone of the National Park where we have a good view into one of the oldest nature reserves in Saxony with its characteristic forest zones and an exciting walk through the wolf-gorge (Wolfsschlucht) down to the river Polenz. The excursion ends at the best known “balcony” of Saxony – the Bastei above the Elbe valley, the most visited site in the Elbe-sandstones. Dinner is at restaurant Bastei.