



SQU SUMMER TRAINING 2013 IN GERMANY - STUDENTS' REPORTS

GERMAN-OMAN COOPERATION



Table of Contents

Foreword by the Landrat of the Lippe District	4
Foreword by the Chairman of INTEWO	5
Foreword by the Internship Supervisor	6
Where actually is Schlangen?	7
Introduction	9
Adlerwarte Berlebeck	10
Hermanns Monument	14
Corvey Castle	16
Weser-Skywalk	20
Futterkrippe Hagendorn	22
LWL-Open-Air Museum Detmold	24
Tourist Information Centres	28
Solar Parking	30
Bad Lippspringe	32
Forest Information Centre Hammerhof	36
Golf Club Westheim	40
Foursquare	42
GPS Nature Trail Ossendorf	44
Norderney Island	46
Externsteine	50
Viadukt-Fest Altenbeken	54
Lippe District	56
Stakeholder Meetings	58
Press Coverage	60

German - Oman Cooperation

Foreword by the Landrat of the Lippe District

The UN General Assembly declared 2010 to be the „International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures“ in order to support the cultural diversity and the intercultural dialogue.

This was the reason for us, that is the Ministry of Tourism of the Sultanate of Oman, the district of Lippe, the Nature Park Teutoburger Wald / Eggegebirge, the Lippe Tourismus & Marketing AG, Gulf Jewels Tours LLC and INTEWO to make a contribution concerning sustainable development in the fields of education and tourism to the cooperation between the Sultanate of Oman and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Among other things the mutual efforts include an exchange programme for students, a knowledge transfer and varied means to improve cultural and cross-cultural understanding. Within the context of this cooperation since 2010 the Sultan Qaboos University has been sending students of tourism to the region of the Teutoburger Forest. Doing internships, the students are supposed to get to know the above mentioned wonderful holiday region and the tourism infrastructure.

Learning a lot about European culture is of prime importance to them but establishing contacts which might be helpful for their future professional lives and representing their native country Oman is so as well.

I am pleased that the once casual connections between the regions Teutoburger Wald and Oman have developed into a solid bond. Our next step towards an even better solidity of this bond will be the further development of the students exchange in a way, that students of our local Universities of Applied Sciences will be enabled to do internships in Oman.

Together we will advance the rapprochement of cultures.

Friedel Heuwinkel
Administrative Head of the District of Lippe
President Nature Park Teutoburger Wald / Eggegebirge

Education is the Key

Foreword by the Chairman of INTEWO

We at INTEWO believe that education is the key to a more sustainable future. Therefore, over the last years INTEWO logistically and financially is supporting the annual SQU Summer Training in Germany. Investing in the future of our children, the future leaders and decision makers, is important to support a global sustainable development.

The German-Oman Cooperation, which has been formally inaugurated in 2010, between Omani and German partners, is the fertile soil and environment to offer young Omanis the chance to gain international experience and to learn more about the different approaches and concepts in their field of competence, namely tourism and hospitality.

Everybody who was able to have insights into different cultures and learning experience abroad during his personal education knows about the value of these unforgettable experiences. It is our common goal to provide good and practical cross-border education and to support the exchange of ideas and experience between the two friendly countries.

Germany has a long experience with being a global leader in providing environmentally considerate tourism development. I am confident that tourism development in Oman will benefit from the impressions and ideas, which the SQU students learned during their training.

In addition to professional knowledge and experience, the training program is also making a notable contribution to the rapprochement of cultures, as it has been declared by the United Nations in 2010.

In the light of this we call all concerned stakeholders to support the upcoming activities in the frame of this international exchange program.

Khalid Nasser Al Toubi
Chief Executive Officer
INTEWO | National Sustainable Development Enterprise LLC

Practical Experience

Foreword by the Internship Supervisor

Lessons and learning in University classes is mostly limited to theory. For the annual tailor made SQU Summer Training in Germany we follow a more practical approach.

Learning a language is of course easier in the language's country of origin. At the beginning of the training program, the SQU students participate in a two weeks language course, which, among general terms, is focusing on the region, tourism and what the students will do in the coming weeks. This seems to be very useful in limiting reservations in the practical use of the German language in a real environment. For most of the students it is the first time, where they can prove the language skills, which they gained at the University, in reality. The next important step of the training program is to link the language skills with the literal aim of their studies: tourism.

The project region in East Westphalia and in particular the Nature Park Teutoburger Forest / Eggegebirge is rich in cultural and natural diversity. Here, one can find some of Germany's most remarkable tourist attractions, namely the Hermanns Monument and the Externsteine. There has been valuable investment in sustainable tourism development over the last years, leading towards a modern and well functional tourism infrastructure and services. During the training course the students have visited some of the most important attractions and got insights in the innovative services sites offer for visitors. Also, wherever latest trends in tourism and marketing apply, the students were encouraged to learn details of the concepts and ideas behind.

Finally it is an important task for the trainees, to seek for potential links and a common ground in tourism in Oman and to develop ideas, wherever features and procedures could be transferred from Germany to Oman to support a sustainable tourism development in Oman.

Henning Schwarze
Managing Partner
INTEWO | World Habitat Society GmbH

Where actually is Schlangen?

Foreword by the German Teacher

When our students tell Germans that they had their summer training in Schlangen, most of the time people do not know this place. Why then has the Tourism Department of Sultan Qaboos University been sending students to an unknown place in Germany for the last four years?

It has something to do with the question “Where actually is Oman?”, which you still frequently hear from people in Europe.

In Schlangen and the region Lippe, our students see what people are doing in order to make their place known and to attract tourists. One expects big cities to promote tourism, but in order to make a whole country a flourishing tourist destination it is necessary to get the creative ideas of all its inhabitants. The region Lippe is just one of many areas in Germany where the local communities do their utmost best to make their home place attractive and interesting – for themselves and for visitors. It is the way citizens are active for the benefit of all, that we want our students to experience and bring home to their own small or larger home towns in Oman.

Be it the well-functioning public transport in Germany that impressed the students, or the traditional festivities in small places, the environmental protection efforts or the use of solar energy, as a result of their summer experience in Germany the students were able to compare to their home and come up with many suggestions for possible improvements.

Of course, we hope that the students’ suggestions will find sympathetic listeners with present and future decision-makers in Oman, so that Oman can continue to be a vibrant tourist destination.

Andrea Wenke
College of Arts & Social Sciences
Sultan Qaboos University

Introduction

Six weeks in a Nutshell



Hello and A'SalamAlaikum,

This is SQU Summer Training Course 2013's team. We Fatma Al-Baluchi, Zainab Al-Shuaibi, Ibrahim Al-Matrushi, Madyan Al-Balushi, Isehaq Al-Wahaibi and Ahmed Al-Souli did our second internship in Germany with INTEWO World Habitat Society and as a part of our training we decided to make and write this diary: to summarize our 6 weeks journey and represent it as our training report. It will also be very useful for others who are interested in having training in Germany or thinking to visit it for tourism purposes.

Our internship started on 23rd of June 2013 in Schlangen near Paderborn, and lasted until 31st of July 2013. We continued our work for one week in the tourism department in Sultan Qaboos University.

One of our internship aims was to study tourism sights in the tourism destination to compare between them with what we have here in Oman, bearing in mind that tourism in our homeland is still young and developing. We were inspired by what we saw and took as a model the area in Germany for our recommendations about how we can develop some tourism services in Oman.

We tried in the following pages to put our unique experience in our readers' hands, and give a clear picture about what we learned during our 6 weeks training.

Fatma Al-Baluchi, Zainab Al-Shuaibi, Ibrahim Al-Matrushi, Madyan Al-Balushi, Isehaq Al-Wahaibi and Ahmed Al-Souli





Adlerwarte Berlebeck

Bird Sanctuary

For all bird fans, especially birds of prey such as eagles, here is one of the best places in Germany that visitors of all ages can enjoy.

Adlerwarte is one of oldest and very first bird reserves in Europe. It was build around 1948, hosting 180 different types of raptors from 48 species. It is located in Detmold. Beautiful grey eagles, fast falcons, owls and huge African snake eagle and many other magnificent birds can be seen flying in the show.

Adlerwarte is a very popular visitor attractions, especially for families. It provides a lot of activities and programs to entertain its visitors starting from the entrance, where there is a small play ground for children, moving to an information desk, souvenir shop and restaurant. However, one of the most important activities if not the highlight in Adlerwarte is an eagle show performed on a very wide stage twice a day. That only, after one moment of beginning the show, audience find themselves surrounded by majestic raptors.

Adlerwarte is a fully equipped reserve that provides special medical care for these wild animals and takes care of their food and shelter.

In Oman, we have many natural places where birds of prey still live in the wild. However, their habitats are shrinking and therefore they need to be protected. For this, awareness has to be build amongst Omani residents and tourists. It is highly recommended to set up bird watching spots with some tourism structure, to introduce more forms of sustainable tourism in Oman.

I think it will be great to apply such an idea especially in Oman's mountains like: Jebel Samhan in Dhofar, Jebel Shams and Jebel Akhdhar. These locations are perfect for bird watching; because they are consider as some of best tourism attractions with weather cooler than any other places in the Sultanate –at the same time these places are known as natural habitats for different kinds of birds.



www.adlerwarte-berlebeck.de









Hermanns Monument

Honoring the Heroes

Hermann the German – we heard of this impressive name and were curious to see the statue located in Ostwestfalen-Lippe in Germany in the Southern part of the Teutoburg Forest, which is in Southwest of Detmold in the district of Lippe, telling a 2000 years old heroic story. It took 40 years to finish the statue and was built from 1838 und 1875 by Ernst Von Bandel who died after finishing the monument in 1875 by one year only so it was his life time work with 53X46 meters he built the highest figure statue of the world at that time.

The monument was built in honor of a great warrior to tell the heroic story of Hermann (also known as the one who brought the victory over the Roman occupants. at the Battle of the Teutoburg Forest; that clarifies the meaning of Hermann's sword inscription: "German unity (is) my strength - my strength (is) Germany's might." That shows the relation to the time the monument was built in, and soon the statue became a symbol of German patriotism.

This monument was built around 1874 honoring the unity of German people in a common fight against occupation, ending in a united country which reminded us of our own country's history as in 1970, Oman's unity was introduced by a great character too. His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said who brought with his wisdom and braveness light and freedom for the country.

Over 130,000 tourists a year visit the attraction, we did too. When we visited the statue, we climbed the spiral staircase to an observation platform at the base of the statue, which opens a view over the town and the Southern part of the Teutoburg Forest below. It was spectacular! The idea of Hermann Monument made us think: why can't we build a climb-up statue tower in Oman or something easy to climb to get wide landscape views? No matter if this view is sea or desert! Why don't we build a statue for His Majesty or a symbolic art sculpture for honoring our nation's founding father – thanking him for what he did for our country and our nation! We can build it high over one of mountains that have great views. For tourists, there we can add some hiking services to climb to the monument. Maybe we can add some telescopes to let visitors enjoy distant views or special spots for watching the sunset or other things to make it more unique. For sure, there need to be displays to tell the history of what the monument is honoring.



www.hermannsdenkmal.de





Corvey Castle

Promoting Castles as Cultural Heritage

Corvey Castle is considered to be one of the most unique sites tourists would like to visit, starting from the story that castle trying to tell its visitors through its dramatic architectures ending up to its very old atmosphere that takes the viewer to the 9th century.

Such an attraction shortly might be appointed as one of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites; because it is almost the only completely preserved Carolingian work in the world, besides having a very old part represented as a church that goes back to the 9th century as well. Having this church is clear evidence which tells that Corvey was a spiritual center back then. Moreover, it had cultural and political importance as well as economical which can easily be seen by the castles different rooms.

The castle is divided into two parts: medieval times and other part that goes back to nearly 1000 years. It has a lot of rooms, each room with unique wall paper, showing how rich and wealthy the duke was who owned Corvey. It also, contains varied wall paintings and a lot of Scriptorium writings that clearly can be observed in the old part of the castle.

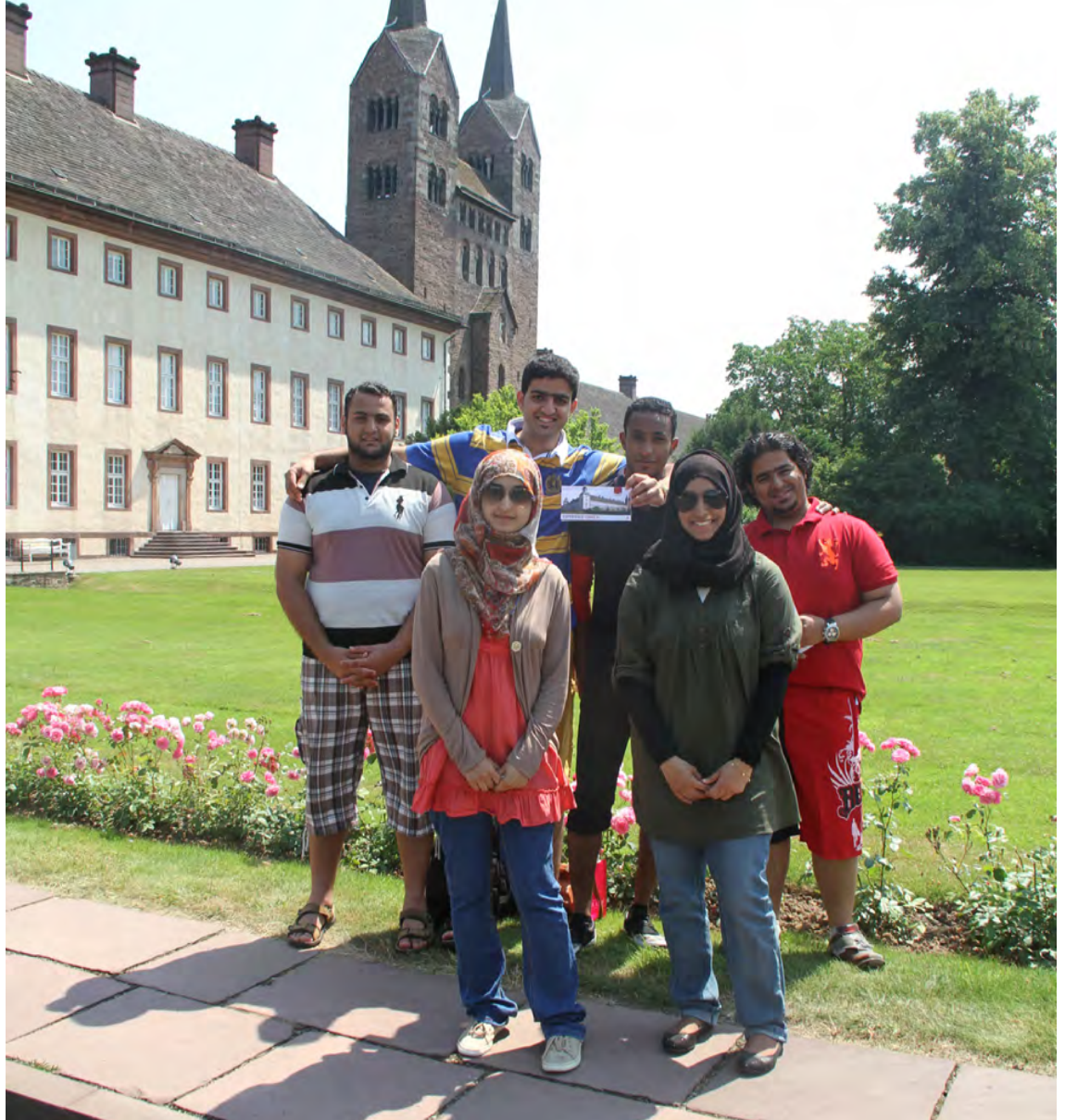
Corvey as both tourist and upcoming World Heritage Site is very well managed and conserved, although it is very old yet it is opened for visitors and special events can be held in its medieval part. People still use the new church and visit the old one and there is a restaurant and resting rooms.

From here, we can get some ideas how to represent and develop Oman's attractions that are listed as UNESCO's WHSs, as they are not yet invested in the right way. Until now there are missing information desks and souvenir shops in some of these sights.



www.schloss-corvey.de









Weser-Skywalk

Opening new Horizons

Our first “Sky Walk” began in a forest in the Höxter District – on a small, not too difficult track we walked through a rather dense forest with magnificent old trees and a lot of other greenery. Our German friends told us about the rare and protected plants that grow there. When we reached the end of the track, we were surprised by the structure that awaited us there. High on a natural cliff was a man-made construction out of steel with a platform. After we climbed the steel staircase, we understood the purpose of the skywalk: hanging about 80 meters over a river valley it opened a breathtaking view over the winding water and its green banks, barren rock formations, fields and forest. The platform can hold bigger groups of people and it felt very safe.

Since the idea of a Sky walk is simple, being something like a stage located in high point in a cliff and from it overlooking a valley, there are good chances to apply this in Oman. A Sky walk can be made of steel, glass or wood with holes which let you see through it.

Actually even though our visit was short, it was a great experience for us. A Skywalk gives a new dimension to beautiful nature. We thought how we can improve and develop unknown places to become a famous tourist destination with a simple modification. There are many places in Oman where we can apply the idea of a Skywalk, just giving people an easy access to a place from where they can see more than from the street. Places like Oman's Grand Canyon overlooking Wadi Nakhr or over a cave like Cave Al Jinns lend themselves to this kind of activity and it does not cost that much to set up in the first place. Of course there it involves some investment also in safety, maintenance and marketing, but it certainly is worth it because it will attract many people, thus stimulating local and foreign tourism. The idea of a Sky walk will open a new tourism horizon in Oman and we need those kinds of ideas to develop a lot of unused places, which can be attractive destinations with little effort.



www.weser-skywalk.de





Futterkrippe Hagendorn

Regional and Homemade Products

We heard about the “Futterkrippe” as a small shop which offers locally made products that are healthy and eco-friendly. Also we have read about it on the Internet. We knew that our trip would be amazing, as we had seen mouth-watering pictures on the internet especially in the shop’s Facebook page.

Hagedorn is a small place with big abilities and high quality products. Futterkrippe shop was opened in 10th April 2011 with the idea of selling local products made by the residents of the village with good quality. The products include: handicraft, clothes, and food stuff like herbs and fresh eggs from free-running hens of the adjacent farm. We learned that this shop is part of a Germany-wide organization called “Hofladen Bauernland” – meaning “farm shop – rural area”. During this organization, shops are helped with a view to marketing and administrative business. Frequently, these farms also offer farm-stays for tourists who want to experience living and working in a farm.

The trip was really entertaining, we have spent a good time on the farm and in the shop and we wish that this idea would be applied by the local people in Oman. In many regions with low employment, there are shops which sell traditional Omani products to local residents, domestic and foreign tourists with low prices. This needs to be supported by an organization and with the help from the Ministry of Tourism.

A lot of information about setting up local product shops and about how to organize them country-wide can be found on the internet.



www.hofladen-bauernladen.info





LWL-Open-Air Museum Detmold

Tourism Preserving Cultural Heritage

This Museum for Folkloristics in Detmold is the largest museum of its kind in Germany. It covers an area of over 90 hectares with more than 100 buildings. From April to October through ancient houses and rural lifestyle displays, visitors can learn about the past life in this area over the last 500 years.

During the visit to the museum the visitors will enjoy various workshops: sowing, shoemaking, working in windmills and in the village bakery. In addition, a bookshop, educational programs and guided tours are on offer.

Applying the idea of this museum in Oman will be a very profitable project in the tourism sector. This is because; Oman is rich in history and authentic culture like traditional music, songs, clothes and foods. Thus, introducing an open air museum in Oman will give the tourists a comprehensive knowledge about Oman's history and culture.



www.lwl.org/freilichtmuseum-detmold









Tourist Information Centres

Doors for Tourists

Tourist information centers exist to provide information and advice on what to do and see in a particular city, town, area, or country. Also, there are some tasks involved like booking accommodation, making reservations and selling related gifts and souvenirs.

During the field training we have visited many tourist information centers in Bad Driburg, Warburg, Hammerhof Forest information center, Bad Lippspringe and the tourist information in the Volksbank Schlangen.

All these centers present for their visitors different kinds of brochures and maps which provide them information about main attractions, museums, parks, restaurants, and transportation. In addition, some centers have terminals (touch screens) which help the tourists to know about the locations of the site with information and pictures.

Unfortunately, Oman has a shortage in tourist information centers and even the centers which existing are providing poor services. A country like Oman with huge attractions in all places deserves to have many centers with high quality. This is because these information centers are very important tools for attracting tourists as they provide them with all information they need and then make their life easier in the destination.



www.intewo.org/sawah





Solar Parking

Money from the Sun

Today is going to be busy; we have many places to visit: Solar Energy Parking and Bad Lippspringe village. Also, we will meet Stephan Luering, who is working as a freelancer in INTEWO and promised us a good idea to make money out of something we have too much in Oman: sunshine.

Bad Lippspringe Solar Energy Parking is one of the places that uses the sun to produce power by storing it in cells located at the roof of the parking. Also, it includes a board that shows some statistics about how much power it generates, how much power it stores per second. In this place the generated solar power is used to recharge electronic cars (Eco-friendly cars) with reasonable price. This type of establishment would cost money for the initial investment, but would contribute to a better, more sustainable life.

Recently, as the Sultanate of Oman started to advance in ECO world, this idea would be suitable for us because even in winter days the sun is shining for about 12 hours.

Also, if this idea will develop, it will open a new horizon for local car companies selling electronic cars. A positive side-effect is the present maximum speed of 100 km/h of the so-called E-Car Solar, which will reduce accidents.

Furthermore, we can use solar energy as cell phones charger (people are getting out of battery many times in a day).

We do have all the requirements just we need to move our thinking from things which cost millions and billions to things which costs less and thus help the earth.

Our visit to Bad Lippspringe Solar Energy Parking made us think about the vast opportunities solar energy has in Oman. It opened a brainstorming with Henning Schwarze and Stephan Luering. Solar energy has a bright future in Oman, it just needs more attention.



www.solardeck.org





Bad Lippspringe

Health Tourism

In Germany, the spa- and wellness industry always has been closely related to health care and goes back a long tradition, in some places to Roman times, 2000 years and more. After learning this, we were looking forward to visiting one of the more than 350 certified spas in Germany. The German word for such a wellness-health institution is "Bad" analog to the Latin based spa "Sanus per Aquam" meaning healing with water.

Bad Lippspringe is the name of the place that was founded in the 8th century at the area of the spring of the river Lippe. It is a beautiful city located in the way between Paderborn and Schlangen. The Health Park or Spa Garden in Bad Lippspringe was an amazing place to visit and interesting to discover its tourism side. We got to the place by cars with Mr. Henning and Mr. Stephen received us there. The place makes you feel better just by entering and walking around. The wonderful flowers, the old beautiful trees and the running water calm you and energize you at the same time. Everything makes you feel good in the garden. Inside the park, we walked around and discovered the place and we tried to get more information about the park and its use for health tourism.

There are a number of water springs inside the garden and people use the water from these springs for treatment and you can drink it or walk inside it from special places for drink and another place for walking inside for feet treatment. They always take the old people and the patients for walking in the garden and to enjoy the nature and the atmospheres which helps their health condition and make them feel better, even we felt good and better after being there. So our first thoughts about a place called "bad" were corrected to a really "good" one.

The main purpose of establishing this type of parks is health care or health tourism which is considered one of the most popular types of tourism nowadays.

There are a number of hospitals, health centers, spas and places for treating old people inside the garden which receives many visitors from all around the world to get treatment and medication. Also, there are places for children to play and for families to sit and enjoy in one of the cafes or restaurant inside the place. You can find shops and ice cream shops scattered around the park.

In our opinion and after we took an overview to the Health Garden, we believe that we need a project like this garden in Oman, we have many good locations and we have a lot of water springs which can be the main idea of establishing similar projects to develop health tourism in Oman. One example of these locations is Al Kasafa water spring in AL Rustaq which we can already call it a spa, but with no facilities to attract visitors. We need more services to develop the place as a tourism attraction. Al Thawara water spring in Nakhal and the hot springs in Ghala are other examples for locations that we can apply similar ideas on.



www.bad-lippspringe.com









Forest Information Centre Hammerhof

Rescue Place for Endangered Species

The Hammerhof Conservation Center is located near the city of Paderborn and it is considered one of the “must places” to visit in Teutoburger Wald Nature Park. It is one of the most important centers for the European bison which is an endangered species in Europe. (1996 the IUCN classified the European bison as an endangered species).

The facilities of this center are designed on high standards which allow you to reach the location easily. Free parking and disabled-people parking are available. The main building includes an information center, a restaurant, a lecture hall, a museum and toilets.

Visitors can enjoy forest views and birds song during the 500m walk to the animal's location on a suitable track. The animals are having a lot of space which allows them to move freely and visitors can see them easily and without any fear.

Hammerhof Conservation center is a good example for every conservation center. It has a lot of features, which we can apply in Oman especially in the Arabian Oryx reserve. Actually, the facilities in Arabian Oryx reserve are not to modern standards. For example, the information center is very old and it does not fulfill the tasks that it was built for. Also, a lecture hall for visitors needs to be added because tourists are coming to get information about the Oryx, not just to watch them. Another important point is to provide an information center with high standard of service such, as tablets and E-Guiding. Also, we recommend that accommodation; restaurant and rest areas should be provided for visitors because many tourists come from afar and would like to spend more time in the area.



www.wald-und-holz.nrw.de







Bergwisent

*(Bison bonasus caucasicus x
Bison bonasus bonasus)*





Der Bulle „Kuabo“ beim Sandbad.



Der Bergwisent existiert heute nur noch als Mischform mit dem Flachlandwisent. Aus dieser Linie stammen die seit 1958 in Hardehausen lebenden Wisente ab.



Kühe mit Kälbern, ca 4 Wochen alt.



Standort
Waldinformationszentrum
Hammerhof
mit Café

Entfernt von:
Waldinformationszentrum
Hammerhof mit Café
aus Richtung

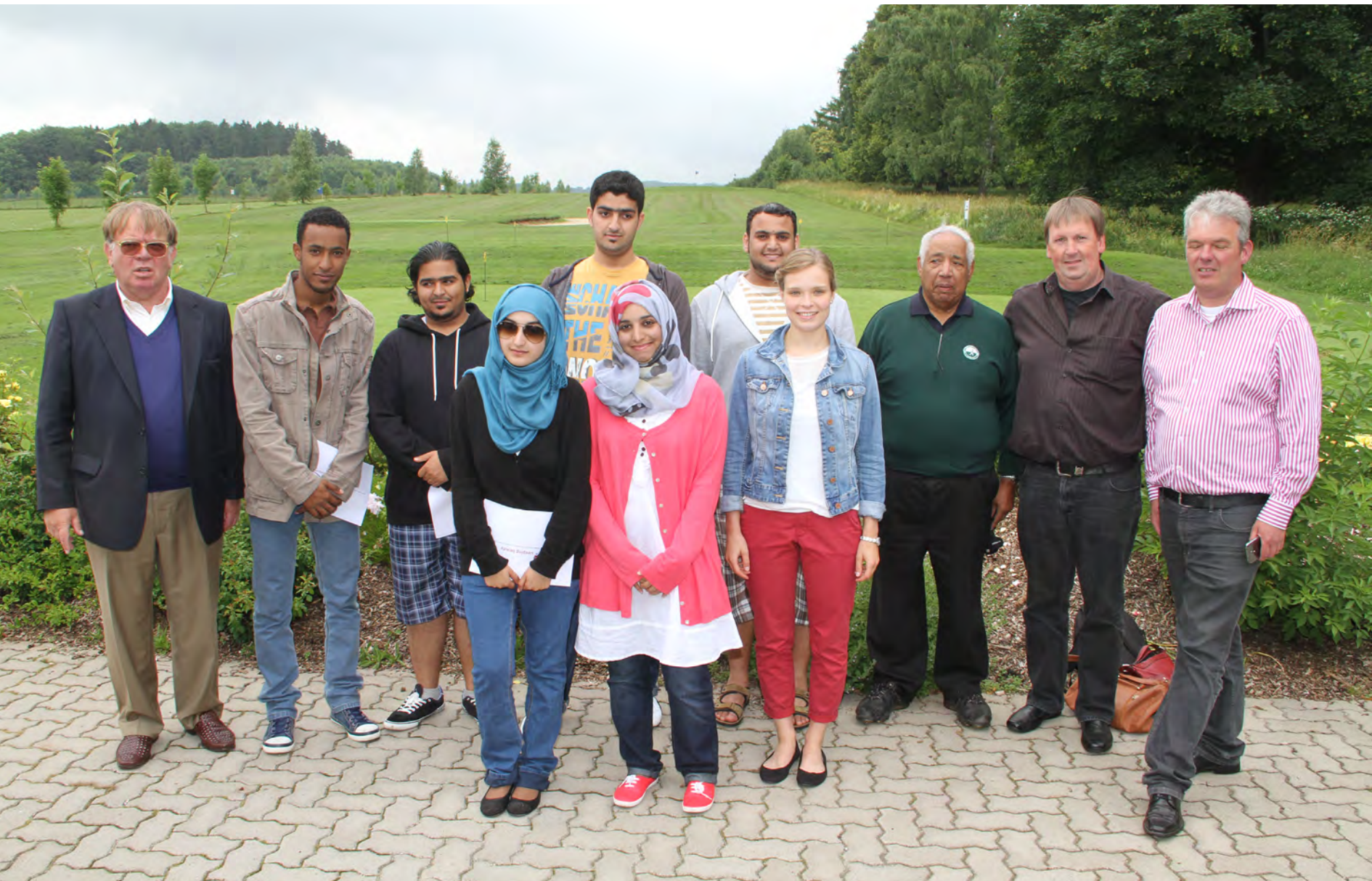


Blätter gehören zu den Lieblingsspeisen der Wisente.

**Ausgestorben:
Der Steppenwisent**

Durch verschiedene Funde von Knochenresten in vielen Teilen Europas wissen wir vom **Steppenwisent** (*Bison priscus*). Frühzeitig ist diese Art, die bedeutend größer als unser heutiger Wisent war, ausgerottet worden. Im Jahre 2002 fand man in einer Kiesgrube in Bocholt vier Schädel des bison priscus. Ein Schädel hat sich vollständig erhalten und die Spitzen der Hornzapfen haben eine Auslage von 1,13 m.







Golf Club Westheim

Golf for All

We heard a lot about golf clubs in Germany and how people like to play golf. Especially we have read about the Westheim Golf Club, and learned that it is mentioned that this golf club has built to be suitable for all people not only rich people. No one of us had been to a golf club before, but still we hoped to learn about difference between Oman golf clubs and German golf clubs.

Golf is becoming an interesting and popular sport for many people those days, with people traveling around the world looking for the best places to play golf. The Golf Club Westheim is one of the finest golf clubs in the region. It was a very interesting and exciting experience for us to visit the golf club.

The golf club is located in Marsberg. A small historic town in the heart of Germany -approximately 40 Km from Paderborn. It has beautiful landscapes with 14 holes. When we reached the Golf club Dr. Wolf-Peter Otto (owner of the golf club) greeted and welcomed us. Before the beginning of our trip around the golf club, Dr. Otto gave us a brief summary about the club and how he had established it. Also, he mentioned that he is trying to find an investor to upgrade the ground and build a hotel for the golf club. Then, we started the trip around the club by golf carts. During the trip we stopped several times and Dr. Otto explained to us about the holes, training place, ground and the suitable condition for the playing area.

What made this golf club special are the reasonable membership price and the ability for everybody to join. We would like to take this idea back to Oman, because it is important that Omanis, especially young ones, practice more sports. The weather is good half a year in Oman for playing golf and soon the Sultanate will attract many golfers from the Northern hemisphere in winter, when playing golf is more difficult there. It would add to the attraction of Omani golf courses if the tourists can also mingle with Omani players. Therefore prices should be at sponsored prices for young Omanis.



www.gc-westheim.de



Foursquare

New Marketing Tools

It was a wonderful day when we got familiar with an app called FOURSQUARE and we used it to allocate historical places in Schlangen and we did add several places to the app. Also, we did write some tips in FOURSQUARE which will help other people.

FOURSQUARE it is an app that works in new generation devices (tablet, smart phones), it depends on a built-in GPS system in your device. This app has no similarity to any app which is a good advantage for FOURSQUARE.

The most exciting thing about the app is the check-in tech! This tech allows your GPS to allocate your place and to check-in in it. For example, you are in Italian restaurant, you can open the app and by clicking in the Check-in button your GPS will allocate your place then a list of nearby points of interest will appear, you can choose the Italian restaurant to check-in and if the restaurant is not listed, you have the ability to add it easily and directly. Besides that, whenever you check-in you can share it with your friends in Facebook and Twitter.

The second attention-grabbing thing is allowing the owners of a venue to make campaigns (special offers) for their customers by creating a business account in FOURSQUARE website and claim their venues. As an owner you can make different kinds of campaigns such as, Swarm Special, Friends Special, Flash Special, Newbie Special, Check-in Special, Loyalty Special and Mayor Special. This is a good marketing tool which will made your business be popular in FOURSQUARE, FACEBOOK, TWITTER and all around the internet.

The third interesting thing about the app is whenever you check-in in a place you will receive points and awards, which will turn on the challenge between you and your friends. Also, the more you check-in in a place, the more your chance of being the mayor (the highest number of check-in in same place for the last 60 days) of the place will increase.

The last impressive thing is leaving a tip for FOURSQUARE users which can turn any place up down or down up. This tech kind of similar to review tech but it is not, the review is a detailed description about a thing but the tip is a short description about a thing, and that's what people likes, a little words that describes a lot.

FOURSQUARE is a free app with powerful techs and well-categorized functions. This app does not only shows you the best-nearby places, it shows you a menu with different categories such as, food, nightlife, coffee, shopping, sights, arts, trending, recently opened and Specials. Recently, this app has playing a huge role in business world especially tourism industry. It is advisable to start spreading the knowledge of using such apps because nowadays people are engaged to technology and they are updated daily about their friends' activities via Facebook or Twitter.



www.foursquare.com







GPS Nature Trail Ossendorf

E-Guiding

Ossendorf is the location where the official opening ceremony for the launching of a new GPS nature trail of the area was held.

The trail was done by INTEWO and the event was well organized, all parts of the ceremony were covered, even food, information desks and music were managed for entertainment; to make the launching more interesting and entertaining for the audience.

The launching ceremony was started by a welcoming speech by the Landrat (district counselor). This was followed by other speeches which were talking about the GPS Trail project: when it started, why it's so important for tourism and how useful this application can be for tourists and local people specially hiking fans.

Next phase was where Mr.Stefan Krooss explained the idea of GPS nature Trail and its functionality. It is a destination mobile web Application that users can download to their smart phones. It works as tour guiding solution supported by audios, videos and pictures. Users of this App Can access to informations on GPS-supported digital tour-guides in Smart phones. Later on, the event continued by having a tour in Ossendorf. The tour was guided by Dr. Burkhard Beinlich, who covered all educational, geological and historical parts.

The tour in Ossendorf let the audience enjoy the town's beautiful forest and other unique landscapes that will amaze hiking fans all the way around specially the hiking path passed by Heinberg Turm which is considered one of the most important monuments in Ossendorf.

Opening Ceremony, GPS Nature Trail Ossendorf finished at 16:30 leaving a new star in INTEWO's sky of achievements.



www.intewo.org/sawah



Norderney Island

Twinning of World Heritage Sites

When we heard that we can join the INTEWO team for their project to develop a GPS nature trail on Norderney, Germany's oldest North Sea spa, we hastened to Google for more information. It sounded good to us that Norderney has "a thriving cultural scene in the west, unspoilt nature in the east, and beaches as far as the eye can see. And all this in a unique habitat with UNESCO World Natural Heritage status." We knew that we would learn about how to develop an island's tourism potential, how to deal with natural resources in a national park and were hoping to enjoy some of the places just as tourists.

We were not disappointed. Norderney is one of the most beautiful locations that we have visited in Germany. It is located in the Germany's North Sea with about 6,200 inhabitants. We went there by ferry, - a "maiden voyage" for all of us. Shaking off some stress from homework, we had to think how relaxing a trip by ferry from Al Seeb to Quriat would be. (No traffic jams on the sea!) We understood that the island has been used as a health tourism place for more than 200 years – you get healthier just by breezing in the fresh air and relaxing on the beach or in one of the pretty coffee shops or restaurants. People from all ages enjoyed playing football or swimming, cycling or walking on some 80 km of dedicated paths around the island.

Seeing these vibrant touristic activities, we wondered what makes the island a World Heritage Site, because we were also looking for possible twinning partners in Oman. Of course we thought immediately of Oman's islands, especially the two that were submitted on UNESCO's World Heritage Tentative List in 2013 – The Dimaniyaat Islands and The Hallaniyaat Islands. Back home, we read about the ten criteria that a landscape has to meet in order to "be considered as a natural heritage by the UNESCO, of which at least one has to be fulfilled. The Heritage Site Wadden Sea satisfies three of them; criteria viii, ix and x of the UNESCO list." The proposed Nature Reserve encompassing Hallaniyaat Islands is very important "to contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation."

These islands need to protect their fish population e.g. especially the rare Giant Trevally by encouraging touristic sports fishing over illegal commercial fishing. Sports fishermen catch and release the fish, whereas commercial fishing with huge nets and long-lines destroys all maritime life including corals. Recognizing the islands as World Heritage would also improve the living standards of the local population by introducing sustainable tourism.

We think that in a way also the Al Qurum Mangrove Park could be proposed to UNESCO in this respect for the same reasons. In any case, we want to learn more about twinning of WHS hoping to make an impact on protecting the unique nature of Oman.



www.norderney.de











Externsteine

More than just Rocks

Externsteine is one of the best places landscape and nature lovers can visit. This natural reserve holds a 35m high towering group of rocks that can be breathtaking to admire. The great location of the Externsteine rocks in the Teutoburger Forest let it be surrounded by trees from different species and host wide range of wild life.

250000 visitors and tourists per year visit the Externsteine reserve; not only to enjoy the beauty of nature with dramatic rocks hugging green trees and cold clean lake water, they also visit the location to know more about its biodiversity. Visitors also want to find out about the geology of these rocks that played an important role since the lower Cretaceous period, some 70 million years ago.

To attract families, the reserve contains some interesting activities for kids too, as it's also an educational site where children can learn about Teutoburger forest while having fun.

During our tour in Externsteine we used GPS natural trail application. As it was explained earlier in other article of GPS nature Trail Ossendorf. This trail is a destination mobile web Application that users can download to their smart phones. It works as tour guiding solution supported by audios, video's and pictures. Using the application makes the whole tour very easy, educational and interesting.

Also, we were supported by movie production team from Oman who was making a documentary about our internship. We made several interviews, explaining our aims and goals from this internship and INTEWO's great support in this training course.

Thinking about Applying GPS Nature Trail in Oman can be a very useful idea, especially in similar places to Externsteine, e.g. GPS Nature trail around Jebel al-Sifa. Locations like Al.Sifa which diverse between marina life and rocks, nature and modern hotels with lot of tourist facilities need GPS trail to help tourist and visitors to get familiar with the location and services which are provided.



www.externsteine-info.de









Viadukt-Fest Altenbeken

Celebrating Traditions

It was an amazing day and a special experience for us. We went to Altenbeken and attended an event called Viaduktfest. Altenbeken is a small city located near the center of Paderborn. It is only 15 minutes from Paderborn by train. As usual we took the bus from Bad Lippspringe where we lived to the train station in Paderborn. Then we looked for a train that goes to Altenbeken. This is the second time for us traveling by train after the first time when we arrived to Germany, so we were very excited to try it again. The train came at 3:30 and it took exactly 15 minutes to Altenbeken. We arrived there at 3:45pm- exactly as the timetable had said. Right from the train station Altenbeken we noticed that the event is very important for the city because there were a lot of advertisements for the event all around the city. We followed the signs that lead to the event and it was very easy for us to get there.

The event was very nice and interesting. There were some games for children, restaurants, traditional dances, music and a number of old trains with steam engine that were used in the past. The most important place for us was the tourism street where you can find numerous organizations and companies related to tourism. One of the organizations which was there is Naturpark Teutoburger Wald and we meet Dirk Watermann, Director of the nature park. He gave us information and tourist material about the park and explained how important it is for tourism. When we left, we were loaded with material in German - homework for us.

It became evident that this event is very vital for improving tourism in the region, by attracting many people and promoting the place. The advertisement was well-published and also the sign direction made it very easy for visitors to reach the event. The event was well-organized with all facilities that the visitors needed.

We recommend that smaller communities in Oman should have events like this one to encourage the domestic tourism in different places. Also, this will let people know about the history and culture of the city that hosts the event. These events do not need to be for a month like Muscat or Salalah Festivals, but for instance one Saturday in Barka, the next in Rustaq etc. This would also encourage small local enterprises, especially in the hospitality field, to offer local dishes and handicrafts. These events should be sponsored by the local industry that will be able to market their products.



www.altenbeken.de





Lippe District

Meeting with the Landrat

The District Lippe is located in east of North Rhine-Westphalia state; which is one of 16 federated states that made up Germany. We went to visit Mr. Friedel Heuwinkel the Landrat of district Lippe in Kreishaus. Landrat is a German word for the leader of a rural district council or land counselor.

After a warm welcome, Mr. Heuwinkel gave as a brief introduction about district Lippe. He started by talking about the history, location and its importance in tourism industry as well as explaining district Lippe's objectives. It was a lot that they are aiming to achieve. Then he gave as some good examples for positive relationships between Oman and Germany and from here we can refer to many business and economic cooperations between two countries such as in 2009, Germany exported to Oman 545.8 million EUR and on the other hand, imported 18.2 million EUR in 2010. Other good example for positive relations between Oman and Germany is Goods that every year are being imported and exported from Oman. German goods for Oman as an example are: vehicles, machineries, textiles, pharmaceuticals. Moreover, in 2008 23 Million Euro Germany made direct investments in Oman and in 2009 46 million Euro. Like many countries, Germany and Oman understood how important it is to cooperate with each other in terms of having development in training of young citizens. Therefore, some projects such as iMove activities started in March 2003 with a seminar on "Vocational Education made in Germany". iMove is jointly organized with the German Industry and Commerce Office for Oman, as well as the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and other Arabic countries.

After talking about positive relationships between two countries Mr. Heuwinkel talked about his job and tourism in district Lippe. The meeting ended by Mr. Friedel Heuwinkel best wishes for both countries toward success in the future and for us a pleasant time in Germany. For us it was great to be received by a high official, which made us feel special.



www.lippe.de





5

Stakeholder Meetings

Learning from Experience

Next to the visits to some of the important touristic highlights in the Nature Park Teutoburger Forest / Eggegebirge, the students also met several stakeholders from the region, in order to gain knowledge of tourist and regional development.

1. Visiting the Gräflicher Hotel & Spa, Bad Driburg
2. Meeting and discussion with Mr. Burkhard Deppe, Mayor of Bad Driburg
3. Visiting the Bilster Berg Drive Resort
4. Visiting the Leonardo Cube in Bad Driburg
5. Meeting and discussion with Mr. Michael Stickeln, Mayor of Warburg
6. Meeting and discussion with Mr. Ulrich Knorr, Mayor of Schlangen



6

Omaner lernen Tourismus-Konzepte kennen

Junge Studenten aus der Golfregion wohnen sechs Wochen lang in der Sennerandgemeinde

Von Cordula Gröne

Sechs Studenten der Sultan Qaboos Universität in Oman sind derzeit bei der Schlänger Intewo/World Habitat Society GmbH zu Gast. Mit im Boot ist die Geschäftsstelle des Naturpark Teutoburger Wald.

Schlangen. Seit dem Jahr 2008 läuft die Kooperation der Tourismusbehörde des Sultanats mit der Schlänger Firma. In diesem Jahr nehmen erstmals auch zwei Studentinnen an dem Programm teil. Gestern empfing Bürgermeister Ulrich Knorr die Gäste, die privat sowie in einer Ferienwohnung untergebracht sind.

Die Studenten, die bereits der deutschen Sprache mächtig sind, sollen hier ihre Sprachkenntnisse verbessern. Aber vor allem sollen sie Anregungen für den eigenen Tourismus im Oman mitnehmen. „Anreize für einen nachhaltigen Tourismus“, präzisiert Henning Schwarze, Geschäftsführer der Firma Intewo/World Habitat Society.

Warum der Oman? „Die meisten Touristen dort kommen aus Deutschland. Der Tourismus muss aber noch entwickelt werden.“ Hier kommen die Studenten ins Spiel. Sie haben zunächst einen zweiwöchigen Sprachkurs in Paderborn absolviert und verschiedene touristische Sehenswürdigkeiten mit dem jeweiligen Konzept kennengelernt. So besuchten sie mit Dirk Watermann von der Geschäftsstelle des Natur-



Kleine Geschichtsstunde am Dorfbrunnen: Madyan Al-Balushi, Ishag Al-Wahaibi, Ibrahim Al-Matroushi, Ahmed Alsouli, Henning Schwarze, Zainab Al-Shuaibi und Fatma Al-Baluchi hören Ulrich Knorr (von links) zu. FOTO: PREUSS

parks Teutoburger Wald/Eggegebirge das Wisent-Schutzgebiet. Ein Reservat gebe es auch im Oman, jedoch ohne ausreichende Infrastruktur, weiß Schwarze. Auch einen Skywalk wie an der Weser könne er sich im Gebirge gut vorstellen. Außerdem besichtigten die 20- bis 22-jährigen Omaner einen Golfclub, die Parks in Bad Driburg und mehrere Touris-

musbüros, die es in dem Staat am Golf noch nicht gibt.

Die Studenten sollen eine GPS-geführte Tour für den Oman erarbeiten. Im Rahmen eines gemeinsamen Dünenprojekts in der Senne, auf Nordey und in Oman reisen die sechs auch noch auf die Nordseeinsel. Gestern liefen die Studenten einige Geschichtsstationen in Schlangen ab, weil sie

tagsüber jedoch innerhalb der Ramadanzeit nichts essen dürfen, sollte daraus keine anstrengende Wanderung werden.

Frauen studierten durchaus im Oman, erzählten Zainab Al-Shuaibi und Fatma Al-Baluchi. Die jungen Männer empfinden ihre Zeit hier als „sehr organisiert“. Ungewohnt ist für sie das Fortkommen im Bus. Bei einem Benzinpreis von etwa 25

Cent pro Liter im Oman wird dort fast nur das Auto genommen.

Vor allem das Wetter ist für die Studenten der große Unterschied zu ihrem Land, von dem Henning Schwarze schwärmt. Oman sei das authentischste von allen arabischen Ländern, habe Traumstrände, Wüsten, Gebirge und sei sehr gastfreundlich.



MITTWOCH 24.7.2013 **KOSTENLOS!**

NORDERNEYER MORGEN

JEDEN MORGEN ALLES VON DER INSEL

im Verband mit **KÄPTNNOMO** www.nomo-online.de



Jan Weer meint:

Es ist nicht mit letzter Sicherheit zu sagen, aber heute Abend könnte es den ein oder anderen Tropfen Regen geben. Ansonsten ist es auch heute recht heiß und mit bis zu 23 Grad auch warm. Wind bis Stärke 3 aus Ost bis Nord. Hochwasser ist heute um 14.15 Uhr. Niedrigwasser um 8.17 + 20.50 Uhr. Wassertemperatur: 21,5 Grad. SA: 5.33 Uhr. SU: 21.41 Uhr

SCHIFFSAUSFLÜGE

HEUTE
Tagesfahrt nach Juist
Norderney ab 08.30 Uhr bis 15.15 Uhr
Dinnerpreis 19,90 € (inkl. 5,50 € Service)

Dienstag, 25. Juli
Tagesfahrt nach Esland
Norderney ab 11.00 Uhr bis 16.00 Uhr
Dinnerpreis 19,90 € (inkl. 5,50 € Service)

www.nomo-online.de

Unsichtbare Erlebnispfade



Berit Finkennest (li.) stellte Studenten aus dem Oman den Nationalpark Niedersächsisches Wattenmeer vor. Die Personen (v. li.) Zainab Al-Shuabli, Fatima Al-Baluchi, Ahmed Al-Souli, Masiyan Al-Baluchi, Henning Schwartze und Uthman Al-Wahabi. Foto: Dörner

(bad) – Sechs Touristinnen, zwei Frauen und vier Männer, aus dem Sultanat Oman weilen derzeit auf Norderney. Die Studenten nehmen an einem Austausch des Kreises Lippe mit der staatlichen Sultan Qaboos Universität im Oman teil. Die Austausche finden jährlich statt, erläutert Claudia Otto, Teamkoordinatorin beim Kreis Lippe und unter anderem auch zuständig für das Haus Detmold auf Norderney. Drei Tage dauere der Aufenthalt auf der Insel. Herbert Visser, Marketingleiter der Kurverwaltung, habe den Studenten bereits die touristischen Rahmenbedingungen auf Norderney erklärt. Auch ein Besuch im Nationalparkhaus fehlte nicht. Berit Finkennest informierte die Studenten über den Nationalpark Niedersächsisches Wattenmeer, seine Lebensräume, Lebensbedingungen für die verschiedenen Tiere und Pflanzen sowie die rechtlichen Rahmenbedingungen. Der Kreis Lippe und der Oman wollten auf Norderney einen GPS-Erlebnispfad einrichten, wie es sie auch schon im Teutoburger Wald und im Oman gibt.

>> Fortsetzung auf Seite 3

Unten links

Wieder was gelernt: Im Oman gibt man nicht die Hand – also Frauen nicht. Männern schon. Wir stellen also fest: Norderney – ohnehin als Nabel der Welt gerühmt – ist auch hier wieder internationale Spitze: Die Norderneyer geben niemandem die Hand. Außer zu Neujahr, aber das ist ja etwas Anderes. So viel Vorbildlichkeit schreit geradezu nach einem Award! No Handgiving 2013. Overheid no! Den gewinnen wir!

09. Juli bis 29. August 2013
Sommeraktion: 72 Menüs zu gewinnen!
Jeden Di, Mi und Do verlosen wir drei Menüs (inklusive Wein) für zwei Personen.
Täglich ab 11.00 Uhr. Eintritt frei. Spielbank Norderney • Kurhaus

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Ahmed Alsouli, Ishag Al-Wahaibi, Zainab Al-Shuaibi, Fatma Al-Aluchi, Ibrahim Al-Matroushi und Madyan Al-Balushi ließen sich von Stephan

Lüring, Dirk Watermann, Henning Schwarze (von links) sowie Maria Babilon und Michael Stickeln (von rechts) Warburg zeigen.

Omanische Studenten besuchen Warburg

Empfang beim Bürgermeister: Sechs junge Leute aus dem Sultanat sind begeistert von der Natur

Warburg (thö). Omanische Tourismusstudenten sind derzeit zu Gast in Warburg. Gestern trafen sie mit Bürgermeister Stickeln im historischen Rathaus zusammen.

Die zwei Frauen und vier Männer studieren an der omanischen Sultan-Qaboos-Universität in der Hauptstadt Maskat Tourismus. Dort lernen sie auch Deutsch.

Insgesamt sind sie mehr als sechs Wochen in OWL. Nach einem zweiwöchigen Sprachkurs an der Universität in Paderborn wollen sie die touristischen Ziele

dieser Region kennenlernen. »Das Sultanat Oman legt großen Wert auf die Entwicklung eines menschlichen und nachhaltigen Tourismus, der die Schönheit von Natur und historischen Städten beinhaltet und diese mit einheimischen Reiseleitern vermittelt«, sagt Stephan Lüring von der Landvolkshochschule Hardehausen, auf dessen Initiative der Besuch in Warburg zu Stande gekommen ist. Das unterscheidet das Land von den anderen Destinationen wie Dubai und Katar.

Angeleitet wird die Gruppe von Henning Schwarze von der Denkfabrik Intewo in Schlangen (Kreis Lippe). Die wissenschaftliche Aus-

gründung aus der Universität Paderborn kümmert sich unter anderem um die Weiterentwicklung eines nachhaltigen Tourismus in Westfalen und Lippe. Ähnlich wie im Oman geht es in dieser Region um die Vermarktung von Natur und dörflichen Strukturen. So hat Intewo bereits im Waldinformationszentrum Hammerhof die digitalen Informationen zusammengetragen. Auch im Oman hat Schwarze bereits touristische Routen auf GPS-Satelliten-Basis ausgearbeitet.

»Die Menschen aus der Wüste sind ganz begeistert von unserer grünen Natur. Sie lieben die Landschaft und das Klima«, sagt Dirk

Watermann, Geschäftsführer des Naturparks Eggegebirge/Teutoburger Wald. Er hofft, dass sich Ostwestfalen als Urlaubsort bei den Menschen im Oman herum-spricht. »Die Studenten sind gute Multiplikatoren«.

So sei das Wisentgehege in Hardehausen ein Highlight, das sie so in ihrer Heimat nicht kennen. »Überwältigt von der Vielfalt und Üppigkeit der Flora und Fauna sind sie beim Anblick der im Vergleich zu Dattelpalmen riesigen Bäume und der beeindruckend großen Wisente«, sagt Lüring. Auch ein Schlendern in den Altstadtgassen Warburgs mitten im Sommer sei für sie ein Genuss.

Oman

Oman ist ein Staat im Osten der Arabischen Halbinsel. Die etwa zweieinhalb Millionen Einwohner leben vorwiegend in Städten. Das Sultanat ist eine absolute Monarchie und besitzt gleichzeitig eine Verfassung. Die vom Sultan ernannten Minister und die zwei nationalen Parlamente haben nur beratende Funktion. Das Land wird seit 1970 vom absolutistischen Sultan Qaboos regiert.

Oman ist eines der am dünnsten besiedelten Länder der Erde. Etwa fünf Prozent der Omanis leben noch als Nomaden. Zwischen 1994 und 2004 wuchs die Bevölkerung um 17,5 Prozent. Zu dem steigenden Bevölkerungswachstum in den letzten Jahren trug vor allem der Zuzug ausländischer Arbeitnehmer bei.

Obwohl keine Schulpflicht im Oman besteht, werden fast alle Kinder eingeschult, der Schulbesuch ist kostenlos. Die einzige staatliche Hochschule des Landes, die Sultan-Qaboos-Universität, wurde 1986 in Maskat gegründet.

Gegenwärtig lägen in Oman die Tages- und Nachttemperaturen zwischen 35 und 45 Grad Celsius. »Auch ein Bad in 36 Grad heißem Meerwasser bringt da keine wirkliche Abkühlung«, sagt Lüring. Die ideale Kombination sei ein Sommer in Deutschland und ein Winter am persischen Golf.

Warburgs Bürgermeister Michael Stickeln berichtete den Studenten von der Arabischen Halbinsel, dass die Hansestadt vor allem bei Tagestouristen beliebt sei. Einen Übernachtungsschub habe es nach den Feierlichkeiten zum Stadtjubiläum vor zwei Jahren und dem WDR-Festival gegeben, bei dem Milow vor 20 000 Fans spielte.

Lippe und Oman? Ahnelt sich!

Tourismus-Studenten sammeln Erfahrungen im Land des Hermann

VON HANS FRANKENFELD

Kreis Lippe. Erfahrungen sammeln, die lippische Kultur kennenlernen und die Sehenswürdigkeiten genießen – sechs Studenten aus dem Oman absolvieren derzeit ein sechswöchiges Praktikum im Naturpark Teutoburger Wald/Eggegebirge und bekommen in dem Rahmen auch einen Einblick in den Tourismus in Lippe.

Seit dem 19. Juni sind die Studenten aus der omanischen Hauptstadt Maskat in Deutschland, wie der Kreis Lippe gestern mitteilte. Sie studieren Tourismus-Management an der Sultan Qaboos Universität und sind jetzt zu Besuch in Lippe. Warum in Lippe? „Weil wir hier ähnliche Voraussetzungen im Tourismus-Management vorfinden wie bei uns im Oman“, erklärt die 21 Jahre alte Zeinab Al Shuaibi. Allerdings sei ihr Land in dem Bereich noch lange nicht so weit entwickelt.

Um dies zu ändern, und um Erfahrungen aus Deutschland mitzunehmen, gibt es seit einiger Zeit eine Kooperation zwischen dem Oman, dem Naturpark, dem Unternehmen Intewo aus Schlangen und dem Kreis Lippe, von dem nun auch die omanischen Gäste profitieren. Es ist mittlerweile die fünfte Studiengruppe, die unter der Leitung der Intewo/World Habitat Society GmbH das Land des Hermann besucht. „Es ist toll, in diesem Jahr erneut Studenten hier begrüßen zu können“, sagt Landrat Friedel Heuwinkel (CDU) über den Besuch. „Neben den zahlreichen



Landrat Friedel Heuwinkel (Mitte) begrüßt die omanischen Studenten im Kreishaushaus. Hennig Schwarze, Geschäftsführer der Intewo (links) führt die Gruppe um Madyam Al-Balushi (2. von links), Ahmed Alsouli (2. von rechts), Fatma Al-Baluchi und Zainab Al Shuaibi (vorne von links) mit Dirk Watermann, Geschäftsführer Naturpark Teutoburger Wald/Eggegebirge (rechts), durch die Region.

Sehenswürdigkeiten lernen sie hier, wie wir unsere Region vermarkten und wie wir im Tourismus-Management aufgestellt und strukturiert sind.“

Während der ersten zwei Wochen haben Zainab Al Shuaibi, Fatma Al-Baluchi, Ibrahim Al-Matroushi, Madyam Al-Balushi, Ishag Al-Wahaibi und

Ahmed Alsouli in einem Intensivkurs deutsch an der Universität Paderborn gelernt. Die weiteren vier Wochen bestehen aus verschiedenen Exkursionen durch die Region. „Sie sollen hier so viel wie möglich sehen und lernen“, sagt Hennig Schwarze, Geschäftsführer der Intewo. Besonders die

deutsch-lippische Kultur versucht Schwarze seinen Schützlingen näher zu bringen, denn niemand von ihnen hat vorher das Heimatland in Richtung Europa verlassen. Am Ende des Praktikums steht erstmals eine Abschlussarbeit auf dem Programm: „Die zusammengetragenen Ergebnisse würden wir

gerne veröffentlichen“, sagt Schwarze.

Bis zum 31. Juli werden die sechs Studenten ihre Reise durch den Naturpark fortsetzen. Mit einer Ausnahme: Vom 22. bis 24. Juli steht ein Besuch des kreiseigenen Inselquartiers auf Norderney auf dem Programm.



Schlangens Bürgermeister Ulrich Knorr (rechts) erklärt Madyan Al-Balushi, Ishag Al-Wahaibi, Ibrahim Al-Matroushi, Ahmed Alsouli, Henning Schwarze (Geschäftsführer der Intewo World Habitat Society), Zainab Al Shuaibi und Fatma Al-Baluchi (von links) etwas zur Historie des Dorfbrunnens. Die Studenten aus dem Oman sind noch bis Ende des Monats in Schlangen zu Gast. Foto: Oliver Budde

Vorbild für den mittleren Osten

Sechs omanische Studenten lernen den Tourismus in Schlangen und Umgebung kennen

■ Von Oliver Budde

Schlangen (SZ). Mehr als 5200 Kilometer Luftlinie trennen die sechs Schlänger Gäste von ihrer Heimat. Die Studenten aus dem Sultanat Oman absolvieren zur Zeit ein sechswöchiges Praktikum in Lippe und wollen den Tourismus und die Sprache in Deutschland kennenlernen.

Seit 2008 besteht die internationale Kooperation der omanischen Sultan Qaboos Universität, mit dem Naturpark Teutoburger Wald/ Eggegebirge und der in Schlangen ansässigen Intewo World Habitat Society GmbH. Seitdem kommen jeden Sommer junge Erwachsene aus dem Osten der Arabischen Halbinsel nach Schlangen, um Land, Leute und Besonderheiten der Region zu entdecken. Denn die sechs Omanis zwischen 20 und 23 Jahren studieren in Maskat Tou-

risimus-Management. Unter den Gästen sind in diesem Jahr mit Zainab Al Shuaibi und Fatma Al-Baluchi erstmals auch zwei Frauen. Sie sind in Gastfamilien untergebracht, während ihre vier männlichen Kollegen zunächst im Schlänger Gasthof Sibille Ostmann und jetzt in zwei Ferienwohnungen wohnen.

»Die Studenten sollen durch das Praktikum neue Anreize bekommen, wie man nachhaltigen Tourismus betreiben«, erklärt Henning Schwarze, Geschäftsführer der Intewo World Habitat Society, der die Gruppe während des sechswöchigen Deutschland-Aufenthalts betreut. Im besten Fall sollen die Studenten das Gelernte später auf ihr Land übertragen, denn der Tourismus im Oman sei noch in der Entwicklung.

Mitte Juni begann für die jungen Omanis das Abenteuer in Deutschland. Zunächst waren sie für zwei

Wochen an der Universität Paderborn, dort haben sie einen Sprachkursus belegt. »Die Studenten sollen unsere Sprache lernen. Denn Deutsch spielt im Oman eine große Rolle, da sehr viele Urlauber diese Sprache sprechen«, sagt Henning Schwarze.

Wie gut ihr Deutsch bereits ist, davon konnte sich Schlangens

»Die deutsche Sprache spielt im Oman eine große Rolle«

Henning Schwarze

Bürgermeister Ulrich Knorr selbst ein Bild machen. Er empfing am Freitag die Gäste am Dorfbrunnen. Zuvor haben die Studenten die weiteren geschichtsträchtigen Orte der Gemeinde besichtigt und sie mit Hilfe ihrer Handys und der Applikation »Foursquare« erfasst. »So zeigen sie all ihren Freunden im Oman, wo sie gerade sind«, erklärt Schwarze die Funktion der Software.

Aber auch sonst wird den Omanis in Deutschland mit dem Besuch des Naturparks Lippe und anderen lippischen Sehenswürdig-

keiten, der Rennstrecke Bilster Berg und der Insel Nordney einiges geboten. »Wir sind bemüht die verschiedensten Touristeninformationen zu besuchen, denn bei ihnen Zuhause gibt es keines«, so der Betreuer. Auf ihren Erkundungen hat die Gäste zeitweise auch ein Berliner Filmteam begleitet, die an den Exersteinen sowie in Schlangen Aufnahmen für eine Dokumentation für das omanische Staatsfernsehen gemacht haben. Geplant ist, zum Ende des Deutschland-Aufenthaltes zum ersten Mal ein kleines Buch anzufertigen, in dem die Gemeinsamkeiten der besuchten Orte mit dem Oman festgehalten werden sollen.

Aber auch die Freizeit soll für die Gäste aus dem Oman nicht zu kurz kommen: So stand für die Jungs am Freitagabend noch ein besonderes Glanzlicht auf dem Terminkalender. Sie sind nach Paderborn in die Benteler-Arena gefahren, um das Testspiel zwischen dem SC Paderborn und dem englischen Erstligisten Aston Villa zu besuchen.

Studierende aus dem Oman helfen beim Aufbau des neuen GPS-Erlebnispfades auf Norderney



Frank Schwäbisch (links), Leiter des Inselquartiers auf Norderney, mit den omanischen Studenten am Strand.

Arabische Lebensart trifft ostfriesische Kulturlandschaft: Tourismusstudenten aus dem Sultanat Oman haben in diesem Jahr zum ersten Mal das Haus Detmold auf Norderney besucht. Dort und auf Langeoog (Haus Lemgo) betreibt der Kreis Lippe seit Jahrzehnten zwei Jugend- und Gästehäuser: die Inselquartiere. Zustande gekommen war die Reise durch die seit 2010 bestehende Kooperation zwischen dem Tourismusministerium des Sultanats Oman, dem Kreis Lippe, dem Naturpark Teutoburger Wald/Eggegebirge und der INTEWO/World Habitat Society GmbH. Bei letz-

terem Unternehmen, mit Sitz in Schlangen, arbeitet Henning Schwarze. Durch seine zahlreichen beruflichen Aufenthalte im Oman entstand der Erstkontakt, aus dem später eine freundschaftliche Zusammenarbeit werden sollte. So reisen seit längerer Zeit regelmäßig einige Tourismusstudenten aus dem Sultanat nach Lippe, um sich über die Region, die Kultur und natürlich auch über die hiesige touristische Infrastruktur zu informieren. Doch was hat der erste Besuch der Tourismusstudenten auf Norderney mit einem neuen GPS-Erlebnispfad auf der Nordseeinsel zu tun? ►

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