

PRESS RELEASE

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BILSTER BERG: A sporting review of the year

The driving season has officially come to an end at BILSTER BERG – time to look back. Although the circuit, which is located in the middle of Germany, about 200 km to the east of Cologne, is not a racetrack in the classic sense, there was plenty of racing excitement in many different ways in 2024.

4.2 kilometers, 19 turns and a gradient of up to 26% make the BILSTER BERG one of the most beautiful and challenging racetracks in Europe. The circuit is not a racetrack in the traditional sense, but a test, event and presentation track that primarily offers the automotive industry a location for photo and film shoots, product presentations, and vehicle tests. Nevertheless, you can always experience motorsport and a bit of racing atmosphere at BILSTER BERG.

Motorsport at BILSTER BERG

Even before the official start of the season at BILSTER BERG, German race team WS Racing used the circuit for their content shoot in February 2024. With „GIRLS ONLY!“, WS Racing has created the first all-female racing team that demonstrates, for example at the 24-hour race at the Nürburgring, that motorsport does not have to be a male domain. Being a test and presentation track and thus not a venue for classic racing, the „Girls Only“ project was a great opportunity at BILSTER BERG to get a taste of motorsport early in the year and to support and promote „women in motorsport“.



WS Racing – Girls Only team at BILSTER BERG

BILSTER BERG is also an important place for rookie racer Sally Erdmann as she regularly trains here in a Radical SR3, and she even offers race taxi rides to show partners and other motorsport enthusiasts how breathtaking the racetrack and motorsport can be. She recently described a detailed lap of the circuit [in an interview](#) with BILSTER BERG.



Sally Erdmann at BILSTER BERG

The Touring Car Legends were also back at BILSTER BERG with a test day at the start of the season. This test day met with so much public interest that a small networking event was held for the first time in June 2024, where spectators were able to experience the sports series, as a part of the „Touring Car Test & Summer Festival“. Fans of the classic automobiles experienced an atmospheric day of testing and got a whiff of genuine motorsport air at BILSTER BERG.



Touring Car Legends at the beginning of the season and for the „Touring Car Test & Summer Festival“ at BILSTER BERG

„Discussions and planning are currently taking place between us and the the Touring Car Legends management to organize the touring car season opener in 2025 at BILSTER BERG with more spectators than at the „Test and Summer Festival“. Following the 100% positive response from the 150 participants of the “Test & Summer Festival”, we would like to bring the touring car legends and a certain motorsport feeling to a larger public,” says Hans-Jürgen von Glasenapp, Managing Director at BILSTER BERG.

There was a special kind of racing atmosphere at the second „Aircooled Race Weekend“ in June. Over 500 enthusiastic people and 70 cool racing beetles could be seen in the lower paddock of BILSTER BERG and on the challenging circuit.



Second Aircooled Race Weekend at BILSTER BERG

Another highlight was the third Röhrl Classic. 150 historic Porsche drivers and their teams had the opportunity to drive on the racetrack that rally legend Walter Röhrl significantly helped to design. „Our „Mausefalle“ (mouse trap) with a 26% gradient was his idea and it is one of the best-known features of our circuit,“ explains von Glasenapp. „At the same time, the Porsche Center Paderborn held an event at BILSTER BERG which marked another milestone: the first event with electric vehicles only.“



Third Röhrl Classic stops at BILSTER BERG



„E-mobility is becoming more and more important. The number of electric car events has also been increasing over the last few years at BILSTER BERG. This year, for example, we hosted three 100% electric car events for the first time. This shows how the automotive industry is developing and what transformation processes we need to prepare for,“ says Hans-Jürgen von Glasenapp. „We are supporting this process, for example with the installation of a 1.5 megawatt photovoltaic system on the former ammunition halls and roofs of the other buildings. Since this year we have not only been able to obtain renewable energy from wind power but also from solar energy. The aim is to offset or compensate the CO₂ emissions caused by the events at BILSTER BERG. Other projects, such as the installation of additional electric charging points and the technical modernization of our safety and monitoring systems, are already underway. The construction of a hydrogen refueling station is also being planned.“



Porsche Center Paderborn with an electric car event at BILSTER BERG

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Photos: [Pressemitteilung - Ein sportlicher Jahresrückblick](#)
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About BILSTER BERG

Built on an ammunition depot of the NATO Rhine Army in Bad Driburg, about 200 km to the east of Cologne, BILSTER BERG opened on June 1, 2013. After a planning period of 7 years, this was the first time in 80 years that a new track started operating in Germany. Formula 1 architect Hermann Tilke and German rally legend Walter Röhrl were significantly involved in the planning and construction phase. However, BILSTER BERG was not primarily designed for use as a racetrack. Car manufacturers often rent BILSTER BERG as a test and presentation track. Due to the white label principle of the track, it is also often used for product presentations and by film crews. Part of BILSTER BERG is also an Off-Road Course, a Clubhaus, the restaurant TURN ONE as well as a Dynamic Driving Area offering possibilities for wet-track testing for example. The project cost 34 million euros and was fully privately financed by 180 shareholders. All shareholders have the opportunity to drive on the track themselves on selected dates.

Find the latest news about BILSTER BERG in our BERG-Post (german):
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Your contact



Viola Titze
Marketing & Communication

T +49 5253 973 90 20

F +49 5253 973 90 22

E viola.titze@bilster-berg.de

Bilster Berg Drive Resort GmbH & Co. KG, Bilster Berg 1, 33014 Bad Driburg www.bilster-berg.de