## **Bunker Museum** Wurzenpass/Carinthia



Experience of (common) contemporary history...

Secret in the Cold War era, open to the public since 2005. Austria's largest fortification system was turned into a museum.

Neutral since 1955, Austria was situated between the military alliances NATO and Warsaw Pact until the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. To prevent foreign troops from passing through the country, the Austrian Armed Forces erected barriers, bunkers, and field positions in crucial areas across the country.

Built between 1963 and 1995, the WURZEN/73 Blocking Position remained fully operational until 2002, and was regularly used for exercises of the ready reserve:

- Security operation at the national border (1991/SLO = case of emergency)
- Blockage of the B109 road and defence at the saddle in the case of an attack

Mind you, our visitors do not need any pre-knowledge. Right at the start, we give you a general introduction to our premises. After that, feel free to explore the 11,400 m2 on your own: Experience everything yourself! We will be glad to answer your questions and be your guides!

It is not our intention to glorify the use of force, weapons, or the armed forces. On the contrary! Within the borders of today's peacefully united Europe vesterday's bunkers and weapons have, fortunately, become superfluous. However, what will Europe be like tomorrow? The future always remains uncertain. This is why we had better learn from history.

## Original bunkers, connecting tunnels and fighting positions

Explore the seven anti-armour/anti-infantry bunkers that were used as command and supply structures as well as shelters for soldiers. They are connected through tunnel-like passageways, including fighting positions (in original condition).

## Unique exposition of special heavy weapons systems

Display of all special heavy weapons systems thatwere part of the stationary weaponry of all Austrian bunkers during the Cold War. Take a look at subsurface cannons, mounted tank turrets, and decoys (camouflage facilities). View anti-infantry and anti-tank barriers, boats, as well as mobile anti-tank, anti-aircraft, and machine guns. Marvel at the grenade launchers and at the wheeled and armoured vehicles used by the Blocking troops.

## Action days: "Tank Ride and Goulash from the Field Stove"

Experience the bunker premises while riding in an Infantry Fighting Vehicle. Take in your surroundings and learn that, in operations, hatches remain closed. We heartily invite you to taste our fine "cannon goulash" prepared in a genuine field stove!





Colonel Mag. Dr. Andreas Scherer & team (last commanding officer of the WURZEN/73 Blocking Company and owner/initiator/operator of the Bunker Museum)

extends a warm welcome to all museum visitors!





Original inventory until 2002 (under monumental protection):

E/A: Access and exit H1: Corrugated-iron hut for firewood

H2: Wooden hut for tools and construction equipment

H3: Wooden camouflage hut (gable roof) for tank-turret, fortified underground

KD: Fighting position (infantry)

Latrine with pre-cast concrete cover

T1: CENTURION tank turnet with 10.5 cm tank gun

W1: Anti-aircraft and anti-infantry bunker with tank turret for heavy machine gun and fighting position

W2: Shelter [former anti-tank bunker with anti-tank gun (PAK) 42/loophole]

W3: Anti-tank bunker with CENTURION Tank Turret (next to wooden camouflage hut); [until 1992 with anti-tank gun (PAK) 42/loophole]

Platoon headquarters bunker/observation post with 2 fighting positions

W5: Company headquarters bunker (including switchboard); S2: Anti-infantry barriers later used as a shelter

W5a: Generator bunker, added to W5

W6: Anti-tank bunker with CENTURION tank turret

(under wooden camouflage hut)

W7: Section shelter



B: Patrol motorboat of the Danube Blocking Regiment C1: Info container with box office- and shop area

C2: Service container

Additions since 2005:

A1: Dummy tank turret (wood)

A3: Dummy tank turret (plastic)

A4: Dummy loophole gun (plastic)

A2: Dummy tank turret (wood/metal)

FA: Pre-assembled fortified position for anti-aircraft heavy machine gun

FD: Pre-assembled fortified position/fighting position

F1: Field kitchen M58 (under tent)

F2: Field stove (under tent)

GB: Trench bridge

H4: Sentry box

H5: Wooden camouflage hut/tank turret (gable roof)

H6: Wooden camouflage hut/tank turret (monopitch roof)

HK: Hemispheric amour-steel turret

KS: Emplacement for heavy machine gun on ring mount

K1: 2 cm infantry machine gun 65/68

K2: 8.5 cm anti-tank gun (PaK) 52

K3: Towed 10.6 cm recoilless anti-tank gun (PaK) 66/70

K4: 10.6 cm recoilless anti-tank gun, fortified underground

K5: 2 cm anti-aircraft gun (FlaK) 58

LT: Fire water pond

PiB: Engineer boats

PolB: Police Boat DANUBE

S1: Material for building infantry and rope barriers

S3: "Dragon's teeth" anti-tank obstacles

S4: "Czech hedgehog" anti-tank obstacles

S5: Individual "Czech hedgehogs" on carts

S6: Ground fixture for "Czech hedgehogs"

S7: Explosive barrier/vertical shafts (replica)

S8: Explosive barrier/horizontal shaft (replica)

S9: Wooden box for plug-in beams S10: Plug-in beam/partly activated

S11: Anti-tank mines, placed openly

T2: M24 tank turret with 7.5 cm tank gun

T3: CHARIOTEER tank turret with 10.5 cm tank gun

T4: CHARIOTEER tank turret with 8.34 cm tank gun, fortified underground

bunker

T5: T34 tank turret with 8.5 cm tank gun

T6: M47 tank turret with 9 cm tank gun

WC: Latrine container

WP: Guard (artwork/metal)

X1: Pre-assembled squad shelter (ETERNIT)

X2: Gun collection, including

a: 4 cm machine gun 55/57/stationary

b: T34 main battle tank, fortified

c: 15.5 cm heavy field gun M2

d: 2 cm infantry anti-aircraft gun (FlaK) 65/68

e: 7.62 cm anti-tank gun (PaK) 42, on loophole mount

f: 10.5 cm light field howitzer 18/40, on loophole mount

g: 10.5 cm light field howitzer 18/40, in turret mount

h: 12.7 mm heavy machine gun, on stationary standing mount

i: 8.1 cm medium grenade launcher 82

12 cm heavy grenade launcher 86

Armour-steel tank turret for machine guns

Observation armour-steel tank turret





