

Welcome in Balve

Wir begrüßen Sie herzlich im
Aparthotel Mammut



We hope you had a pleasant journey!

You´ll find here some useful information to our accommoda-
tions.

Have a pleasant stay with us in Balve and a lot of joy in our re-
sort. If you have any questions, please contact Mr Anthony Jus-
tin, Tel: 02375/ 2201.

The managers of your Feriendomizil

Adalbert Allhoff-Cramer
Host & Owner

Anthony Justin
Local manager

You can reach me Adalbert Allhoff-Cramer by phone +49 2375 205 5273 or mobile +49 174 2154757. I live in Balve, Hauptstraße 21 (the old Blasius pharmacy). My email address: ad.ac@aparthotel-mammut.de

1. Important phone numbers and addresses

Police 110

Fire Department 112

[Medical service](#) 116117

Dental Emergency Service: +49 2373 1702658

Adler Pharmacy Hauptstr. 20: +49 2375 3085

On Sundays and public holidays click here on the "[emergency plan](#)"

[Taxi Zabel](#): +49 2375 4555

Touristik@balve.de: +49 2375 926190

Mr Justin +49 2375 2201

Mr Allhoff-Cramer +49 174 2154757

2. Your review

We want to know whether you like our accommodation and service. Of course we are particularly interested to improve. After your stay we send you a short questionnaire (via [trustyou](#)), and ask you to answer. We always appreciate good reviews of course, but we also like justified criticism. It will help us to improve our service. For former reviews please refer to our [web-site](#).

Make sure you leave your email for addressing the review letter!

3. Offers

Recreational and cultural offerings

In Balve you find a lot of cultural offerings, especially in summer. Primarily its unique culture cave and castle Wocklum with its riding tournament “Balve Optimum”, etc. Also interesting events in Sauerland Park in Hemer, at the [Sorpesee](#) and much more in the surroundings of the beautiful Sauerland.

Given the abundance of possible leisure activities and cultural events in the Balver Sauerland we refer here to our website (point “[events](#)”), as well as the tourist information of the city of Balve in the the town hall. They have always up-to-date information. We recommend also [hoennetal.de](#).

For an overview of the extensive offerings around Balve please look at [BalverSauerland.de](#)

Our special offer:

You can order a good breakfast with us. Mr and Mrs Justin accept this on their own invoice. Please ask them.

If you have any further wishes (cleaning, additional ceiling, oversized shopping service, Tamil kitchen): Please ask directly. Justin family will like to take care of it.

4. Aparthotel Mammut

The Aparthotel Mammut comprises a total of 9 apartments at three locations in the old city of Balve (also 2 apartments at Cottage Hönnewiese).

Alte Gerichtsstraße 10 (Lohgerberhaus)

- [Apartment Cave Bear](#)
- Apartment Cave Lion (maisonette, 1. floor)
- Apartment Dwarf Mammoth (ground floor, basement)
- Apartment Ice Age (1. Floor)
- Apartment Mammoth Lodge (attic storey)

Alte Gerichtsstraße 9 (Old Court)

- Apartment Wooly Mammoth (1. floor right)
- Apartment Wooly Rhinoceros (1. floor left)

Hauptstraße 21 (old Blasius Pharmacy)

- Apartment Sage (1. Floor apartment with balcony)
- Apartment Mint (in preparation)

In our apartments you will find a sufficient number of towels and bed linen for the booked persons number.

If you need extra towels/bedding or oversized, please ask Mr Justin.

Technical devices

- Internet-PC: WLAN can be used free of charge.
- TV: The flat panel display has an integrated receiver. The TV is equipped with a simple control to operate.

Laundry facilities

- available washing machine can be used as necessary. A small ironing board is located in the bedroom.

Miscellaneous

- to reduce the risk of fire is requested on candles to sacrifice.
- Our apartments are non-smoking. We ask for consistent attention.

The final cleaning of the house is also included in the rental price, such as bed linen and towels. You will get the apartment in a well maintained condition. That's why we require to keep the apartment clean and swept clean passed. Cleaning products are available in the bathroom.

Before departure

Please note the following small checklist before your departure:

- dishwasher with last dishes
- refrigerator and freezer: drain off and leave open
- please empty the kitchen trash
- apartment please leave swept clean
- close windows.

5. General information

The city of Balve requires no tourist-tax.

With the resort "Aqua Magis" in Plettenberg nearby, you will find a very recommended fitness and spa in the immediate area ("The No 1 in NRW"). In Balve is also the beautiful "[Hönne vital](#)"-fitness center (Hönnetalstraße 68, near the cave as well as the "fit for life" (Braukhaus siepen 20). Both are well recommended.

Families with children should visit the "Luisenhütte" with integrated museum for pre- and early history. The oldest blast furnace plant in Germany is also highly interesting for adults, and well presented. You'll find there a great new adventure playground for kids directly on the grounds. By car the Luisenhütte is 5 minutes far away. To walk from Balve needs approx. half an hour.

Parking in the city can be used free of charge (two hours, please use parking disk). Directly at the hotel are plenty of free parking spaces for our guests.

Instructions for the disposal of waste: In the kitchen is a two piece trash can. Please disconnect after

- plastic and aluminum (yellow bin)
- residual waste (gray bin)

For smaller "accidents" you will find a first aid box in the kitchen. If you use something from it, please inform us so to complete for the following guests.

Midday rest from 12 h to 15 h must be observed, especially if other holiday guests are in the house. In this case we ask, sleep disturbing activities in the time is to be avoided. Since it is an old historical house, we also ask to avoid unnecessary noise disturbances. In swinging half-timbered houses a noise insulation is possible only to a limited extent. Please take care to other guests. This concerns in particular the apartment Cave lion, Mammoth Lodge in the attic as well as the apartment wooly rhinoceros in the old court (including there is a speech pathology studio).

Shopping possibilities in the vicinity:

- Balve offers in the city center great shopping possibilities for a place of this size. Especially to be recommended: shoes, watches and jewelry, and gifts.
- At the entrance to the village (near cottage Hönnewiese) you see three supermarkets of good quality (Aldi, Lidl, Rewe), and also a drinks market.
- Two good bakeries in the city are open on Sundays. But also Rewe has an excellent bakery.
- Sausage and meat you will find the best quality by Jedowski butcher shop in the city center.

Other:

Should mishaps to happen and something to rupture or be defective, please contact Mr Justin before your departure. We want the next guests to find a fully equipped apartment.

The attic apartment "Mammoth Lodge" can be very hot in the high summer. Each room has a movable fan to give cooling.

6. Environment and history of the Balver Sauerland

Balve is characterised by its hilly location in the western Sauerland. It has a wonderful environment: The Balve forest with its remote view via the Sauerland, the castle hill with the Luisenhütte, the surrounding villages (Affeln, Eisborn, "Golddorf Mellen", Frühlinghausen, etc.) and of course the Sorpetalsperre.

As excursion destinations are well recommended the Orletal with Wocklum Castle and in particular the Luisenhütte. Also the "Reckenhöhle" (Stalactite Cave) in the Hönnetal with its impressive rock formations, the "Felsenmeer" (sea of rocks) and the Sauerland Park in Hemer. Finally the agricultural machinery museum in Affeln (under construction), as well as the local Lamberti church with its carved Flemish panel altar.

Very impressive also the Balver St. Blasius church from 11th century, with old frescoes and tympani, the "poor sinners-lane", the small jewish cemetery, the striking "Drostenhaus" and the preserved land houses on the main road as well as in the Alte Gerichtsstraße (Lohgerberhaus), built after the last devastating town fire in 1789. In 1790 Balve got its straight main road in the width of a Parisian boulevard (fire protection!).

Last but not least: The imposing and in fact world famous Balve cave. It's prehistoric artifacts are at the museums of the surrounding towns and in particular the National Museum of Archeology in Herne.

Balve in the 15th century was raised by a strong city wall. It was strictly Catholic, a border fortress to reformation. By 1650 it had 500 inhabitants, about 1970 5000.

With the following territorial reform skipped the number of inhabitants the 10,000 mark. Against all the historical references and despite heavy civil defense Balve was assigned to the "Märkischer Kreis" (MK), after centuries of affiliation to the ro-

man catholic “Kurköln”-area (Kreis Arnsberg). The cultural cracks are still to perceive. By participating in the actual "Leader"-program together with the cities of Arnsberg, Sundern and Neuenrade, old covers currently will be restored.

The city of Balve was determined by its isolated location. Strongly influenced by the border situation between “Kurköln”- and the hostile Mark County. The boundary went through the Hönnetal, the dominant “Klusenstein”-castle is a Mark County border mounting. The valley between Lenne and Ruhr was scarcely tapped and difficult to pass. People whisper of robber barons in the Middle Ages and of customs stations in the hardly accessible Hönnetal.

The German “Platt” slogan "So faste arre Balve" was coined in the time of the religion wars - so-called “Truchsesssche turmoil” in 16. Century.

In the cruel times of Thirty-Years-War a lot of so called witches were burned in Balve. More than 300 women and men were murdered. A memory monument at the Wachtloh near Balve is eloquent witness of it.

In the period of Romanticism (1830 ff) the Hönnetal was a mystical place, "sung" by poets like Annette von Droste-Hülshoff and Ferdinand Freiligrath. Later in the german youth movement, it became a major tourist attraction, in particular for those seeking relaxation from the adjacent Ruhr area.

In the year 1912 the rail way “Hönnetalbahn” opened. This enabled the development of the Hönnetal, long-awaited for economy and tourism. In the years after the first world war the Balver Sauerland was an important retreat and recreation area for the starving people of the Ruhr area.

During the second world (1944-45) the Nazis established a huge tunnel system in the Hönnetal for defense purposes,

named "swallow 1" - hydrogenation plants for aviation fuel. Over 10,000 forced laborers from many European countries have been used, a lot of them died. Until today this is hardly known to the public, any hints and commemorative plaques are missing in the Hönnetal.

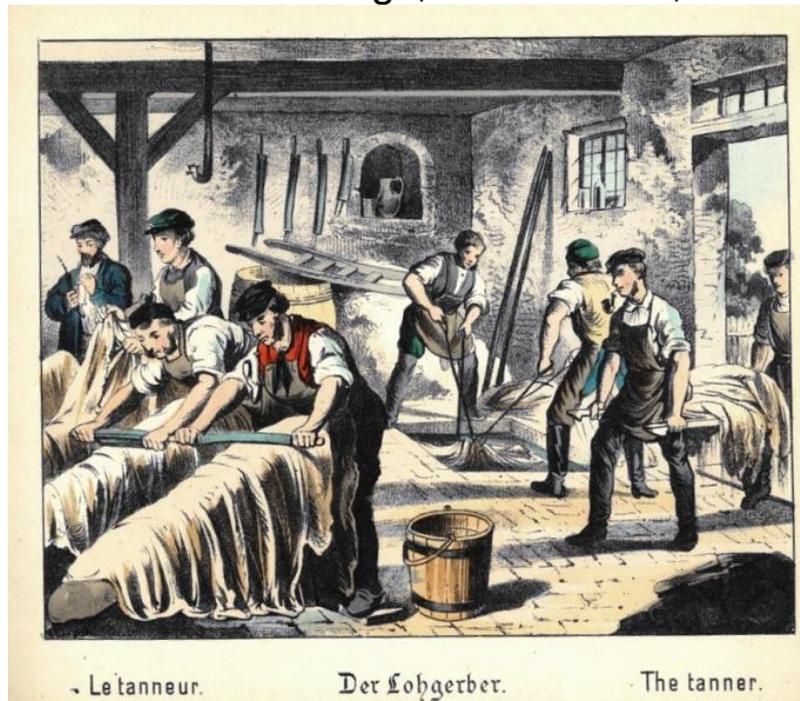
A small place named Sanssouci ("without concern") was the largest of approximately 15 forced labor camps in the Hönnetal.

Only a memorial on the Cemetery Lendringesen recalls this terrible episode.

7. The history of Lohgerberhaus

The house was since the beginning in the year 1789 a "Lohgerberei" (tannery), operated by the family Berken. The Lohgerberei took place in Balve predominantly with oak "Lohe" from the surrounding forests. Water was from the adjacent city of ditches and three wells in house drew. The cleaning of the leather occurred in the "Gerber" ponds (site of the actual printing company Zimmermann).

Today is the "Deele" in Lohgerberhaus - unlike in the times of tanning - "odor-neutral". For many years the Balver [History Club](#) stayed there. At the moment there is different uses and is used for events - weddings, celebrations, etc. - for rent.



The professional title "Lohgerber" today derives from the demise of the craft of Lohgerberei, a specialist form of tannery. Bovine skins are durable, strong leather processed soles, boots, saddle or satchel. "Lohgares" leather is hardly elastic, it gains from tanning on costs of surface area to thickness and is therefore very resistant to water and weak acids.



An old sofa from that time from one piece with a leather-covered skin, is now back in the “Deele” (right on the foto, with green striped trim). It means that this is the longest cowhide leather skin have the Opa Franz Berken per tanned.

Following the major restoration in 1986 the front with the jewelry bar over the “Deelentor” was restored in 2010, with technical instructions of the Balve historian Dr. Uwe Bathe (Vision & historic GmbH). On the “[Schmuckbalken](#)” old characters were revealed, but not sure. Possible the bar came from the predecessor house delivered at the city fire 1789.

In 2014, the house has been energetically renovated. In the dry cellar was a central gas heating is installed. The power supply is now entirely from a SOFC [fuel cell](#), in the framework of the “enefield” field test of Vaillant was installed.

The owners of the houses of the Alte Gerichtsstraße 9 & 10

Matthew Berken (up to 1813) - Franz Berken (up to 1852) - Franz Xaver Berken (until 1866) - Franz Berken (until 1903) - Josefa Berken (until 1938) - Adalbert Allhoff (until 1983) - Agatha Allhoff-Cramer (until 2004) - Adalbert Allhoff-Cramer

8. Excursion: the inhabitants

The number of inhabitants of the two houses and old lohgerberhaus court in the past two centuries is hardly to be discretion. After the marriage and the excerpt of my grand-Mother Josepha Berken were the homes always rented. Countless people of Balve the buildings were home. Even the family Justin with their sons, Manoshan and Sebastian lived over many years in the Lohgerberhaus (in the Apartment cave lion).

In its eventful history the houses and their inhabitants survived a lot of disaster: large and small fires, water penetration, plans of local administration, etc. A major restoration work was done in 1986, after the demolition of the two houses to car-friendly expansion of the Alte Gerichtsstraße could be prevented at last moment

Back to the builders and first inhabitants:

Vita of Matthew Berken (*1738 - 1813), builder of the Lohgerberhaus

Johann Matthäus Berken Lohgerber, shoemaker built the lohgerberhaus after the big fire in 1789 on the basis of the former building, which is offset at the same location. The "Deele" was also paved with river stones in the herringbone pattern.

The city fire triggered a wave of helpfulness of the surrounding villages. Afterwards the plan of Balve City was completely newly designed. The roads were measured, straightened and wider aisles between the houses. There was generous funding from the national fund for the reconstruction of the city. Crafts and trade flourished.

In 1808 Matthew built the adjacent residential building, where in 1832 the Balve District Court was used. The negotiations were

held in the large room for the Alte Gerichtsstraße (therefore the two-winged oak door). In the year 1810 the west of the Lohgerberhaus was extended (mounted on the former moat) with a cellar room (today the space of the fuel cell).

Franz Berken (*1782 - 1852)

Lohgerbereibesitzer and trade Man City Rentmeister.
Son of Johann Matthäus Berken.

The son of Matthew Berken experienced at the age of seven the last big fire, almost the whole city Balve destroyed.

Franz married at a distance of seven to nine years

(a) On 10.11.1808 the eight-year-old Anna Maria Sybille Katharina narrow, born 17.11.1774 in Frühlinghausen, died 15.11.1816 in Balve. Two children: Franz Xaver (1808 1866), Sofia (1813 1814)

(b) on 29.07.1817 her Sister Maria Katharina (decked out in papal dispensation), born 06.09.1793 in Balve, died 14.12.1822 in Balve. Three children: Hermann Josef (1818 1860), Elisabeth (1820 1894), Maria Elisabeth (1820 1897).

(c) On 14.09.1824 the 21 years younger Lisotta Elisabeth Sondermann, born 06.12.1803 in Olpe, died 26.02.1838 in Balve. Five children: Sophie (1825 1908), Anna Maria Katharina Josefa (1828 1900), Marianne (1829 1880), Adolfine (1833 1877), Therese Flues-Berken (1837 1904).

Franz Berken also survived his last wife Lisotta, by 14 years. The five girls from the third marriage were between 1 year (Therese) and 13 years (Sophie) old when her mother died in the year 1838.

Then Franz married not more. His firstborn son Franz Xaver Berken (1808 1866) took two years later on the 08.10.1840 Li-

sottas ten years younger sister from Olpe to woman (Mina, 1813 1855). Mina led the budget in the lohgerberhaus for 15 years, with the three already adult siblings, the five girls of her sister lisotta and further its own seven children.

From her marriage with Franz Xaver originate:

Franz (1842 1903), Wilhelmine (1844 1845), Maria (1846 1903), Joseph (1848 1899), Robert (1850 1886), Emil (1851 1926), Therese (1854 1935). Two of the children died as a small child (Sofia and Wilhelmine), all other achieved healthy adulthood.

Elisabeth Allhoff born Berken (1772 1822)

Franz Berkens oldest sister Elisabeth married in 1791 Johann Theodor Allhoff (1761 1813), with which you had eight children: Heinrich Allhoff (*1792 1858), Elisabeth Allhoff (*1794 1849), Gertrud Allhoff (*1796 1856), Franz Allhoff (*1799), Mr Mann Allhoff (*1801), Margaretha Allhoff (*1804 1842), Kaspar Allhoff (*1806 1816), Theodor Allhoff (*1809), Teresa Allhoff (*1809) and Ernst Allhoff (*1812 1874).

Josefa Berken and Josef Allhoff

A great-grandson of the Elisabeth Allhoff, Josef Allhoff, married 114 years later on 21.05.1905 Josefa Berken, the great granddaughter of Franz Berken. Josef and Josefa Allhoff therefore had the same Urur-Grandparents Matthew and Elisabeth Berken.

Josefa (1871 1938) was the only child of the couple Franz Ignaz Berken (1842 1903) and Therese Schulte (1848 1915). It gave the "Erbhof" to my father. The court had a threshing floor for 2-3 cows and a dung heap before the "Deelentor". In addition he had a large garden (today the parking place Zimmermann) and tanner ponds behind the wall of the city (today's town hall).