

## Der Rote Hang - Version 2

(placed on August 29, 2010 by lusumaka)

City: Nierstein/Rhine (appr. 15 km south of Mainz)  
Start: 49° 52' 21.89"N - 8° 20' 23.88"E  
Public parking „Heyl'scher Garten“, centre-south:  
From B9, turn onto B420, turn right immediately, pass the “Sparkasse”, finally turn right at the end of the street.  
Difficulty: (\*\*---) medium  
Terrain: (\*\*---) medium, paved routes, suitable for strollers  
Length: 10 km, appr. 3-4 hours  
Map : “Mainz und Rheinhessen“ 1:50000  
Equipment: Compass, pen, stamp & inepad, logbook



### The Clue:



We kick-off our quest in Nierstein's centre from the public parking “Heyl'scher Garten”. Leaving the car park to the north, we turn left at the next crossroads. We follow that street until we reach the „jingling“ alley. To unravel this mystery, we follow the hint and find the cause hanging on the wall at the “St. Urban”.

- How many “instruments” does this orchestra hold? **A = (    )**

At the end of the street, we turn left. Shortly after that, we turn right to get to the centre of Nierstein. Leading us there is a street which once was the “Schönste Gasse” (nicest alley) in Nierstein.

- In what year did it earn that title? **B = (    )**



The street ends at the “Oberdorfstraße“. Following that to the right, we reach the protestant church “St. Martin” which appears very prominent with its medieval churchyard mount and late Romanesque round tower (dated 15<sup>th</sup> century).

- How many pinnacles are on its “tower”? **C = (    )**

Following the church wall to the right, at the market square in the centre of the city of Nierstein, you can find - apart from other historical buildings - the former domicile of the electoral bailiff, which has been rewarded the „schönstes Eckchen“ (nicest corner) in Nierstein.

- In what year did it earn that reward? **D = (    )**

In the place where you can find the answer to that question, a path leads away from the market square. This path is full of information about the different grape varieties that are cultivated on the „Roter Hang“.

- In what month does „Theresa“ reach its full ripeness? Wanted: Month as number! **E = (    )**

Go back to the market square and to the fountain. If you look closely, you can find out the year in which the ceramic company „Witzmann“ manufactured this highly symbolic piece of art.

- In which year was it manufactured? **F = (    )**

We leave the market square - passing the town hall and the petrified redwood tree - towards [R1=\_\_\_\_\_]°. Upwards - we now go slightly upwards ☺. At the point where a dead-end-street branches off, you can see an impressive oak tree shading two wells.

- Find the 2-digit number on the iron faucet. **G = (    )**

We follow the dead-end-street alongside an old wall. Behind this wall is the “Niersteiner Glöck“, the oldest vineyard location in Germany.

- From which century does this wall originate? **H = (    )**

We arrive at the church „St. Kilian“, which we encircle halfway (walk towards the river). Here we can enjoy the view upon the Rhine Valley. Behind the church, a narrow path leads uphill. After a short while, the path reaches a nice lookout with many different fruit trees and opens out onto a tarred agricultural road.



We follow this road towards [R2=\_\_\_\_\_]° into the thick of the vineyards of the “Roter Hang”. In front of us is the vineyard with the highly symbolic name „Ölberg“. We now seek the walkway with the many flagpoles.



To find it, follow the tarred road (even when it looks like a rift), then turn right at the first T-junction, then turn left at the next T-junction and finally turn right at the next crossroads.

On this walkway we will now walk for quite a while (don't lose your patience!) alongside the “Roter Hang” - uphill, downhill - enjoying the view. You can now see where the “Roter Hang” got its name from. We follow the tarred road until we reach a lookout, where you can take a break if you like.

- What's the name of the globetrotter this lookout is dedicated to?  
Wanted: The number of vowels in his complete name!

J = ( )

We keep following the tarred agricultural road. After a few steps, it divides. We reach a Y-junction and turn towards [R3=\_\_\_\_\_]°. This road stays ours until further notice. Soon we reach the first of many shelter/celebration/BBQ huts in this area. Rest again? Why not!

- This hut is called: \_\_\_\_\_-Hütte  
Wanted: The numeric alphabetical position of the vowel in the hut's name that appears the farthestmost behind in the alphabet! (A=1)

K = ( )

Back on our road, we follow the sign of the castle, which shows us the next destination of our quest. You will be able to spot it very soon over the vineyards.



We arrive at the „Niersteiner Wartturm“. Unfortunately, it is always locked. Anyway: Another opportunity to take a break. Enjoy the view and relax.



Then stand in the entry to the tower and locate towards [R4=\_\_\_\_\_]°. Follow this direction until you reach the next path. Turn right, then left, then right.

After appr. [S1=\_\_\_\_\_] meters we follow track Nr. 2. Soon another tarred agricultural road meets us. Here you can find a hint about the “Flurbereinigung” (land consolidation), which left its highly visible marks also in these vineyards.

- In what year did the land consolidation happen? L = ( )

We follow the tarred road on in our original direction. After a few steps, we pass one of the few locations on this planet from which we can go to heaven directly - without detours. Not very surprising to find such a thing here. But: Why is the “Stairway to Heaven” actually leading downhill? ☺



Anyway, it's too early for heaven, as there are many other things to discover here on earth, enjoying views, emptying “Schoppegläser”, finding Letterboxes ...

Therefore, we keep following our path and soon we see a red roof of another hut gleaming in the sun in front of us. This hut is called the „Roter-Hang-Hütte“. Go and look for the wooden nameplate.

- Wanted: Number of letters decorating the wine glass!

M = (     )

This hut (as well as the others) is frequently used for private parties as well as for events by the local winemakers.

Our path leads us on. We encounter an old, rather rough-cobbled agricultural road that we cross. Afterwards, we go on towards [R5=\_\_\_\_\_]°.

The valley we look upon is one of the many side valleys of the Rhine, formerly important traffic routes for the goods traffic between the cities and villages in the backcountry. This creek, the „Flügelsbach“ has its source in the nice wine-growing community of Zornheim, appr. 10 km upstream ;-)

We reach the junction (and another hut!) at the „Sängereiche“ (the singers‘ oak).

Next to it, you can find a small boundary stone. Some of you might recognize the inscription above the white-blue crest.



- It reads: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wanted: The total number of the letters!

N = (     )



We follow the tarred track uphill until - only a couple of steps away - a gravel road leads left to the “Schwabsburg”. Only the tower remains, but it is absolutely appealing. You can climb the tower if it is not being renovated (which was the case when this Letterbox was placed). You should climb it if you have the opportunity, for you will not only be able to enjoy a terrific clear view from the Rhine Valley into Rheinhessen’s back country, but also the bird’s eye view into the gardens and yards in the village below you which is well worth seeing. Inside the tower, there is an iron spiral stair.

- How many steps does this spiral stair consist of?

For those who cannot or do not want to climb, here is another way to find out the next variable:

$$O = K \times C - A \times (D - L) - N$$

O = (     )

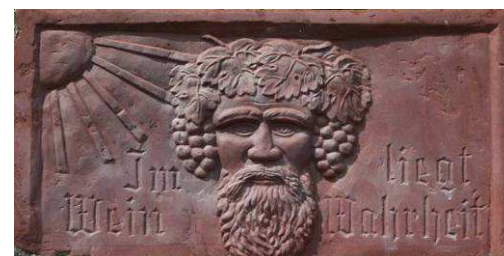
If you have seen enough, you can now start your final hunt for the letterbox. For that, we go back the route we arrived on, but not uphill on the gravel path, but straight on. Arriving at the top, the way leads towards [R6=\_\_\_\_\_]°. We reach a crossroads. Our way now leads towards [R7=\_\_\_\_\_]°. We pass the following crossroads straight on and follow the tarred agricultural road (even if it meanders) until we reach a T-junction. From there, we go towards [R8=\_\_\_\_\_]°.

At the point where you can ask for “divine backup”, the final-final hunt for the letterbox starts ☺

From the gods statue we go towards [R9=\_\_\_\_\_]°. We follow this way until we spot a nice seating-accommodation - with a view - on the right side. Last chance for a break! From this junction we choose the direction towards [R10=\_\_\_\_\_]°.

At the following junction we turn towards [R11=\_\_\_\_\_]°.

Next junction - next direction [R12=\_\_\_\_\_]°.



After appr. [S2=\_\_\_\_\_] steps stop and look around. It is hidden here in the very neighborhood, the Letterbox „Der Rote Hang 2“. Final hint: [S3=\_\_\_\_\_] steps after the last stair.

Found it? Congrats!!! Wasn’t that difficult, was it?!

As usual: Beware of hikers, strollers, bikers, wine drinkers (especially seated on tractor-trailers), joggers, hunters, winemakers (those who drive the tractors), dog-walkers - there’s plenty of those here. Log your discovery and cover everything back up in the hiding place. Please do not build little stone towers - the hiding place should remain a hiding place.

Way back: Keep walking the track you followed before, if in doubt - downhill this time - finally! It will lead you back into town. To get to your car, remember the creek. Find it and follow it downstream. Alternatively, choose one of the nice inns offering their wines throughout the town. A glass of wine is part of the game - maybe even a good drop from the "Roter Hang".

We hope you enjoyed the tour!



LuSuMaKa from Rheinhessen

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

| J | K | L | M | N | O |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |   |   |   |

|      |                            |  |
|------|----------------------------|--|
| R 1  | $A - E - 1$                |  |
| R 2  | $A \times 2 \times E$      |  |
| R 3  | $QsD \times J + H - 1$     |  |
| R 4  | $( QsF + K ) \times C$     |  |
| R 5  | $H \times K$               |  |
| R 6  | $QsF \times O + A + C + J$ |  |
| R 7  | $QsD + G + E$              |  |
| R 8  | $M \times N - G / 2$       |  |
| R 9  | $O \times 2 + E$           |  |
| R 10 | $C \times J \times 2 - N$  |  |
| R 11 | $QsL \times 3 - 1$         |  |
| R 12 | $( QsB + C ) \times 2$     |  |
| S 1  | $C \times E + QsF$         |  |
| S 2  | $F - L + K$                |  |
| S 3  | $E - N$                    |  |

In Rheinhessen  
ist es schön!



**Note:** Always respect the prevailing calculation rules!  
Qs - Quersumme = cross sum

Further information on the Internet:

<http://www.rheinhessen.de/>

<http://www.rheinhessenservice.de/strausswirtschaften/strausswirtschaften.html>

<http://www.nierstein-oppenheim.de/>

<http://www.nierstein.de/start.htm>

<http://www.roter-hang.de>