

GS#56-57 – Vennbahnradweg Nord-Süd/Süd-Nord

English translation

It was on 2nd July 2013 that the former “Vennbahn”, the “Fen Railway” line, was officially inaugurated as a premium cycle path that leads from Aachen in Germany to Troisvierges in northern Luxembourg. It covers a distance of **124 km** and crosses the attractive landscapes of the High Fens, the Western Eifel and the Ardennes. With its gradient of – with very few exceptions – never more than 2% and its mostly (more than 90%) black top surface, it offers excellent conditions for hobby cyclists. In addition, there are many caches to be discovered on the journey. But so far, there is no multi cache that accompanies the whole trail.

It's high time to change that! This **bicycle multi cache** and its counterpart GS#57 – “Vennbahnradweg Süd-Nord” give you the opportunity to reward yourselves for the (mild) effort with one or two containers. The tour can easily be made with children, although there is an elevation gain of **1.054 (southbound)** or respectively **811 m (northbound)** to overcome.

The task is quite simple: Find at the 24 waypoints (within a radius of 15 metres) the objects shown on the pictures and assign the numbers imprinted in red to the respective letters A-X. In order to make it possible for you to make the tour southbound as well as northbound, I hid two containers, one in Luxembourg and a second one in Aachen. The picture tables in the two listings are identical, only the order of the waypoints and the formulae to calculate the final coordinates differ from each other.

The tour can easily be made in two or three stages at a week-end; very athletic cachers might get through it on a single day. On the way, there are enough places of accomodation, and Belgian Rail operate a line with several trains a day between Troisvierges and Aachen via Liège and Welkenrath; you can transport your bicycle on them.

I would like to thank **hengheng** for helping me with finding an appropriate final in Troisvierges and for his commitment to care for the Luxembourg container. And I obviously don't speak Lëtzeburgesch ,-) – It was great fun preparing this cache with you!

For those who want to dig deeper, there are some useful links:

- Whoever might be interested in the former railway line of the Fens, could look up this link: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vennbahn>
- Touristic information on the cycle path can be found here: <http://www.vennbahn.eu/en/>
- And if you want to run off a PDF copy of the picture tables, here it is: <http://www.granusserenus.bplaced.net/GS%2356-57/GS%2356-57%20-%20Bildtafeln.pdf>

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Last not least: I would like to brighten up this listing with some impressions from the trip. But when *NinjaLloyd* and I made the tour, it mostly rained cats and dogs, so it wasn't worth taking pictures. It would be very nice if you sent me some taken on the way which I could use to that purpose. **Thank you!**

Have a nice trip!

Southbound:

N 50° 0[A+C-D].[B+F-G][H+J-K][L-M+O]
E 00[I+P-Q]° [V-T+X][E-N+S].[U-A+G][W-F+R][C+H-S]

Northbound:

N 50° 4[B+C-E].[I-J+K][D-A+H][F-P+L]
E 006° 0[Q+R-M].[G+N-O][V+W-T][X-S*U]

Attention: Don't multiply the results in brackets with each other; each of them denotes one digit of the final coordinates.