

Ballenberg viewing platform, Hofstetten BE

2025



The 25-meter-long treetop walkway adds another attraction to the forest playground in Ballenberg. The platform stands up to 9 meters high on round logs. Timbatec prepared the structural analysis for this project.

The project

A new treetop walkway has been created at the inn «Alter Bären» in the Ballenberg Open-Air Museum as a summer attraction for families. The walkway is around 25 meters long, winds its way through the forest at a lofty height, and ends with an almost eight-meter-long slide. The attraction is complemented by a tinkerer's corner for marble runs and playful learning stations on the theme of the forest. The facility combines nature, knowledge, and exercise. Realized as a regional timber construction project using natural spruce trunks and CLT platforms, the trail stands for sustainable architecture and communal experiences.

The construction method

The treetop path is designed as a delicate wooden structure made from regional, natural spruce trunks. CLT platforms are laid precisely around the trees and protected with rubber seals. Relief slots and cross-tension reinforcements in the round logs ensure that drying cracks only occur in the desired areas.

The challenge

Working with fresh round timber from the forest differs significantly from working with glued laminated timber. This was taken into account by creating controlled cracks and adding targeted reinforcements. Stabilization is achieved by partially clamping the CLT panels into the round timber supports.



Construction Data

- Spruce logs from Hofstetterwald 15 m³
- Cross-laminated timber 9 m³

Services of Timbatec

- SIA Phase 51 Implementation project
- SIA Phase 52 Execution
- Statics and construction

Building owner

Freilichtmuseum Ballenberg
3858 Hofstetten BE

Client

Grossmann Holzbau GmbH
3855 Brienz BE

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