



## **The Probstzella „DDR-Grenzbahnhof-Museum“**

**The Probstzella GDR-Border-Railroad-Museum** is situated on half the way between Berlin and Munich inside the building of the old railway station (erected in 1885). This station in the City of Probstzella had been used as a GDR-Border-Checkpoint from 1949 till 1990. Nearly 20 million travelers there had been controlled, humbled, persecuted by passport controllers and customs officers.

**The exhibition** is divided into 5 thematically different areas:  
Rounds of control – orbits of power – border passages – GDR-waiting-room – permission to leave/order to stay.

The exhibition is clearing up about the freedom of departure refused by the GDR. About it's persecuting regime of control. About the character of the GDR-West-Border as a wall around a state as a prison. It shows interiors of political power as well as the powerlessness of the governed ones. It is talking about failed as well as successful attempts to escape via the Probstzella Border-Railway-Station. It informs about the history of the railway station between 1945 and 1990. There are shown original exhibits,

documents and fotos as well as film- and sound-clips out of the perpetrator's archives.

**Close by** this museum some other exhibitions about the former GDR-West-Border can be visited:

Inside the former GDR-Border-Guard-Tower on top of the Hopfsberg the exhibition "Perpetrators, victims, nominal members."

An exhibition inside the local museum of Gräfenthal: "Locked in, blocked. The Inner-German Border – from 1945 till 1990."

Finally the exhibition "From the line of death to the green line of nature conservation" shown in the Probstzella Bauhaus-Hotel "Haus des Volkes" (right opposite of the railway station).

**The Probstzella "DDR-Grenzbahnhof-Museum"** has been founded in autumn 2010. In order of the "Geschichtswerkstatt Jena" the exhibition has been created by Roman Grafe, book writer and cinéaste (among others "Die Grenze durch Deutschland", Siedler 2002). He had been assisted by pupils and teachers of the Saalfeld Heinrich-Böll-School as well as by citizens of Probstzella and Ludwigstadt and many others.

**Entrance-fee:** 4,-- EURO

**Opened:** every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday, 13.00 - 16.00h  
or by pre-arrangements via phone +49-36735-46 10 or  
+49-36735-73 850

**Approach:** via Federal Road B 85 or by train via Saalfeld (Thuringia) or Kronach (Bavaria)

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