The exhibition "From Ore to Iron" is another component of the museum located in the former sawmill. It initially shows where the key commodity, iron ore was to be found and how it was recovered.

A simulated mine tunnel leads to the area dealing with iron smelting. Models of a charcoal stack and a smelting furnace illustrate how from the Celts to the Middle Ages malleable iron was won from iron ore. In an area devoted to ironworking there are a number iron exhibits ranging from items of combat such as chain mail, armor or sword to everyday objects. Additionally there are various special exhibitions in the former stables.

Opening times
March
Sat., Sun. and public holidays, 1pm – 5pm
1st April – 31st October
Wed. to Sun. and german public holidays
1pm – 5pm and by arrangement

Admission prices
Adults 3 Euro
Children 1 Euro
Family ticket 5 Euro
Adult group
more than 10 people 2 Euro

Blacksmith demonstrations
10 euros per group, by arrangement
Tel.: +49 9171 81-2020 and +49 9171 81-1529
In 1775 Johann Michael Schäff I. took over the, at that time, indebted property. Unlike his predecessors, he was operator and owner in one person. Over several generations the forge Masters and entrepreneurs Schäff came to great prosperity at the Eisenhammer. The period of affluence came to an end as competition form mass produced goods of the factories grew. Added to this changes in the pattern of demand led to the cessation of operations in 1974. Thanks to Fritz Schäff V the forge remained operational until 1985 when it was converted into the industrial museum where today regular blacksmith presentations take place.

Built in the years 1699 to 1700, the house with its elaborately crafted timber framed exterior lays testimony to the distinct class consciousness of the hammer masters. Several conversions, extensions and renovations each in the style of its time changed the appearance and character of the house.

Museum

Historical Forge Eckersmühlen

We present craftsmanship from yesteryear

Special tours for groups the whole year round upon request
Tel.: +49 9171 81-1329

The former Schäff forge lies 30 kilometers south of Nuremberg, close to the village of Eckersmühlen. This gem of industrial history situated on the river Roth is now a lively museum, where the art of the blacksmith and the use of the red-hot iron is impressively demonstrated. For over five generations the Eisenhammer was owned by the family Schäff, a widely ramified blacksmith dynasty.

Electrically self-sufficient Exhibition of tools from a driving belt factory 75 different agricultural implements

Water power operates the massive power hammers. A turbine sets the main shaft moving. The power is transferred by leather transmission belts to the individual hammers. Visitors can view the production of these transmission belts, another long forgotten craft, in a separate room.

Extensions and the removal of timber framing in the 1910’s, robbed the former manor house of its baroque splendor.

Following the final closure of the Eisenhammer, Fritz Schäff V retired and devoted himself exclusively to research of his family and local history.

In this part of the museum the living environment of this last of the Schäff Dynasty is displayed in a visible and palpable way.

In the main house, which was built in 1699, there is a chronicle of the life of the master blacksmith Fritz Schäff.