## **Bouldering in the Okertal**

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Having just returned from the Harz, I wanted to post some of the pictures that I took. The Okertal area has really changed since I was there in 2004. The original sectors have been developed to include a range of new problems, and parcours with different difficulties have been added. These make for a nice change of pace and are a good way to get to know the different sectors.

There are now proper paths to and from the boulder sectors thanks to the foresting work that has been done. The stormy winter led to a number of trees being unearthed, and as a result much of the Tränketal and Treppenstein are now directly in the sun, which is great.

## {gallery}harz{/gallery}

Even with the big influx of bouldering people many of the problems are still in good shape. The granite is as sharp as I remembered, with only the top routes showing signs of wear and tear. This means you should bring along your cleaning kit to free some of the boulders from dirt and weeds, especially if you are going to do the parcours in the lower grades.

Definitely get a copy of the HarzBlock guide book. It has all the info need, including approach maps, sector overviews, and parcours layouts. Also don't forget to check out my article on the Okertal.