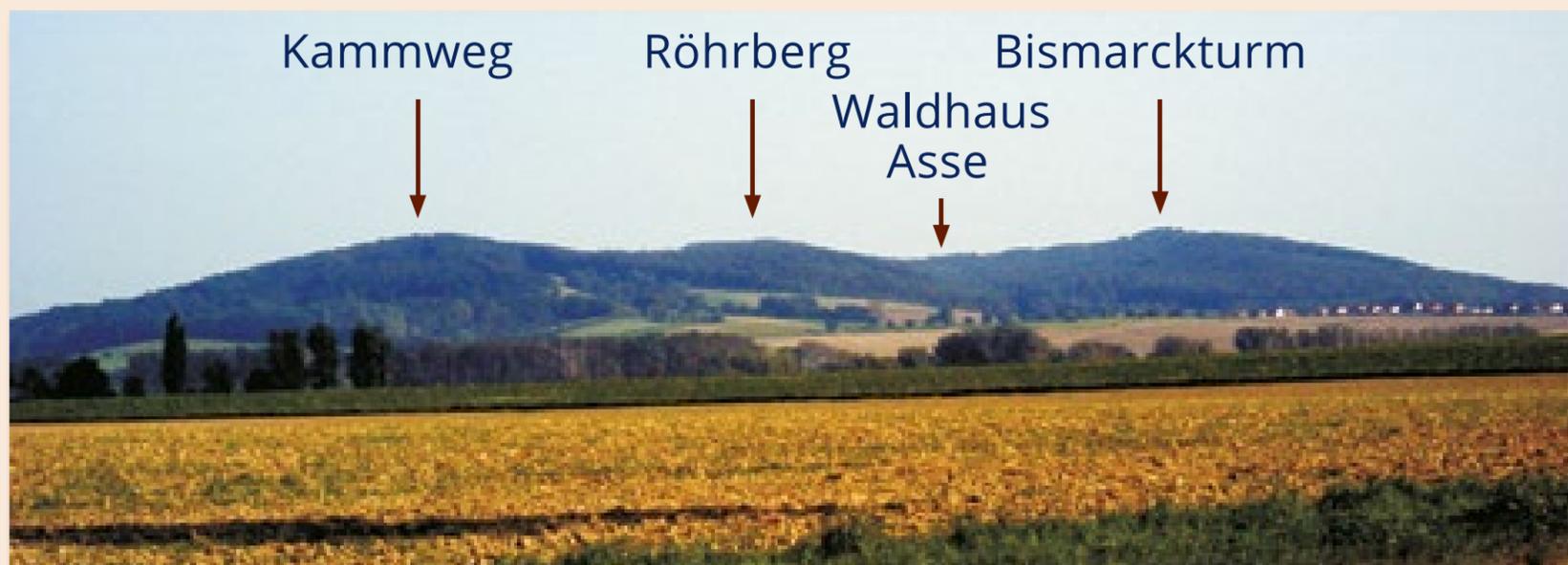


Muschelkalk (approx. 244–231 million years ago)

The Muschelkalk Ridges of the Asse

From a distance, the three distinctive ridges of the Asse are clearly visible. Together they form the so-called Asseschmalsattel and consist of resistant rocks: Muschelkalk and Rogenstein. The southern ridge is composed of Lower Muschelkalk. Due to the upward movement of salt from deeper layers, these rocks were strongly tilted and now stand at unusually steep angles. Along the slopes, they are clearly visible as weathered limestone beds.

The northern ridge is also made up of Muschelkalk, whereas the central ridge consists of Rogenstein. Another Rogenstein ridge that would normally be expected is missing: it became “trapped” at depth along the southern flank. As a result, the structure of the Asse is asymmetrical – a visible result of its dynamic geological history.



Take a close look:

In some places you can see how the rock layers run. Are they lying flat or slanting? That’s a clue the Asse hasn’t always been a calm place.