Saxony, one of the German federal states, is rich in natural beauty and attractive landscapes. One of them surrounds the splendid baroque, hunting castle of Moritzburg, with its forests where Saxon dukes and kings once hunted; with fishponds full of carp and waterfowl; a distinctive and fascinating landscape of low hills, colonised by many species of plants and animals. In addition to all this, it is embellished with the architectural and cultural heritage of a landscape whose development lasted for many centuries. Moritzburg: a place enriched by at least 800 years of history, starting with the first settlements of our ancestors, who cleared woods, cultivated fields and dammed swamps to create fish-ponds. Moritzburg: the realm of horse enthusiasts, of nature-lovers, painters and musicians, of bathers and campers, of walkers and cyclists. Moritzburg: which is blessed with a very beautiful and diverse landscape where nature, historic buildings and present human activities meet in a most harmonious manner.

The following chapter describes the historical development and the natural and man-made qualities and functions of this unique landscape, and also with the modifications to which this landscape has been and is and will be subjected; in common with most other European landscapes. The focus of attention will be present recreational use, fishery and forestry, horse-breeding, the lovely narrow-gauge railway, new landscaping activities and nature conservation, as well as the scientific research carried out on the area.