Dhamma Dvāra, meaning the ‘Door to Dhamma’, is located in a beautiful and quiet area called Vogtland, halfway between Nuremberg and Leipzig and very close to the Czech Republic. Fields and woods, remote from busy roads and towns, and accessible only by a steep track, surround the site. The main building is beautifully perched on top of a hill, from where visitors enjoy a splendid view over the picturesque Vogtland countryside. In a country as densely populated as Germany such real estate is hard to find.

After two years of intensive reconstruction, the German Vipassana Centre started with regular 10-day courses in December 2002. Spread over eight acres of land, the Centre consists of a mansion house, a large accommodation block, a caretaker house and a dozen garages for cars and trucks. Together the buildings offer a total of 1,700 square metres living space and can serve 90 students. The main building was built by a wealthy family in 1938.

Rooms, windows, kitchen as well as heating, electrical and sanitary systems of the buildings have been renewed. Additionally, the Centre has two separate teachers’ apartments, a professional kitchen and two large dining halls. Beautiful gardens with extended walking areas surround the buildings. The Centre offers about 20 courses a year. The site bears long-term potential for an extension up to 150 meditators.