

Band Biography: BLACK HAWK

The German heavy metal band BLACK HAWK was founded in 1981 in Mölln, Schleswig-Holstein. In the early years of their career, the group produced several demos that earned them numerous gigs in clubs, at festivals, and biker parties. Their debut album, *First Attack*, was released in 1989, gaining BLACK HAWK a growing fanbase and opportunities to support renowned bands. Musically, the band has been influenced from the start by the giants of the 1980s, such as JUDAS PRIEST, SAXON, ACCEPT, and IRON MAIDEN.

In 2005, BLACK HAWK celebrated their 25th anniversary with the album *TWENTY FIVE*. This release received excellent reviews in the music press and solidified the band's reputation as authentic representatives of classic heavy metal.

A year later, in 2006, BLACK HAWK signed a record deal. The subsequent album, *DRAGONRIDE*, was released in January 2007 and thrilled both fans and critics alike. The album also achieved significant recognition internationally.

In 2008, BLACK HAWK returned to the studio, where Dirk Schlächter of GAMMA RAY handled the mastering of their album *THE INVASION*. Released in October of the same year, the album marked another milestone in the band's career. BLACK HAWK performed numerous shows and shared the stage with acts like SABATON, LOUDNESS, PAUL DI'ANNO, and VICIOUS RUMORS.

2010 saw the release of *STRAIGHT TO HELL*, which many fans hailed as the band's best and most diverse album to date. Three years later, in October 2013, *A MIGHTY METAL AXE* was released, once again receiving outstanding reviews.

After a creative break, BLACK HAWK returned in 2017 with *The End Of The World*. The album showcased the band more powerful and melodic than ever, cementing their reputation as purveyors of the classic '80s metal sound.

In 2020, the band released *Destination Hell*, once again proving that BLACK HAWK can hold their own against international competition. The album invited fans to another night of energetic metal performances.

On March 24, 2023, the band released their latest work: *Soulkeeper*. Featuring ten powerful metal anthems, the album set new standards in songwriting and production, showing BLACK HAWK in peak form.

With tireless energy and their passion for authentic heavy metal, BLACK HAWK has secured a permanent place in the metal scene. ****Keep it black and hawk!****

Current Line-Up:

- Udo Bethke – Lead Vocals
- Wolfgang Tewes – Guitars
- Didy Mackel – Bass
- Maximilian Behr – Drums