

Altdorf bei Nürnberg -- Churches, Watchtowers, Old Castles

You'll know why [Bavaria](#) is the most visited region in all of Germany once you get a glimpse of a place like Altdorf bei Nürnberg. It's a town with an amazing mountain landscape, yet filled with history. Quite fitting for a place that's only about 25 km or 15 miles from the city center of [Nuremberg](#).

So entwined are these two [Middle Franconian](#) towns that a local train runs between them every half hour. When venturing out that way, make sure to see Nuremberg's landmark, Nuremberg Castle. It was just about totally destroyed from bombings in 1944 and 1945, but now completely restored and absolutely gorgeous!

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Altdorf has a long history since it's been around for more than 1100 years. It's a dream spot for those who love medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque architecture.

The Parish Church Laurentis, built in 1407, is on a definite "must-see" list and Altdorf's City Hall (built sometime during the 1500's) is located right next door (another must-see).

You'll also going to find three remaining towers on part of the original *Stadtmauer* with two city gates at each end of the marketplace, all which have stood here for centuries.

To see some wonderful 13th century artwork, then Schloss Gruensberg is the place with its superb stucco ceilings. Too bad it's only open for visitors on the first Sunday of the month because you could spend a month of Sundays wandering around this gem.

There was another castle in town and you'll find it by looking for the local police department since

they're the new occupants. At least you'll have it much better now than the original 13th century dungeon. ;-)

Eismannsberg is one of the 25 small neighborhoods of Altdorf and its Parish Church Andreas and Bartholomaeus, built on Roman ruins, are worth a look.

Check out Prachenfels, too. While it only has a hundred residents, it does have its own hotel if you want to stay in this charming village. There was once a castle here, but sadly, its long gone and covered over with time.

What else you'll find are plenty of local artists (there's a fabulous Art District) and you're sure to find some great crafts to take back home. What better way to forever remember your time here in Altdorf?