

## Bendorf -- Romantic Rhine River Town That Attracted Goethe

Bendorf isn't just another sleepy [German town](#) in the middle of the country, but an interesting one. In the winter months preceding Christmas, it is even host to the biggest Christmas festival in all of the Middle Rhine Region.

Those who can't come during the Christmas season don't have to worry about not having enough to do. This town on the romantic part of the [Rhine River](#) has architecture and natural beauty.

The Protestant Church is a must-see site even though it was restored after the [Second World War](#). The apse of the church is stunning because there are fresco paintings on it from the 13th Century. Of course the paintings have been restored several times, but it is still easy to see the soul of the church.

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On the right bank of the Rhine River, the city has a constant stream of tourists floating past it. Get on a tourist boat and take a cruise down the river and see the city from a different angle.

Not much into churches and don't want to sit on a boat? That's OK, because there is a 320 kilometer trail that passes right through Bendorf — the *Rhein Steig*. This trail gives you a great view of the river while walking along side of it. Make sure to wear sturdy shoes, because some of the ups and downs on this narrow path can get intense.

Another of Bendorf's claims to fame is that Goethe lived here while touring the Rhine region. Those into German literature might want to take a look at the Remy House (Untere Vallendarer Straße 19), which dates back to the year 1747. This was Goethe's home away from home.

The Sayn Castle is the place to visit if you want to see a castle that looks like a modern day castle. In the year 2000, they finally finished the renovations and restoration from the damage that was done during WWII. The castle is home to the Iron Museum. This museum displays a variety of beautiful things that can be made with this metal.