

Birkenfeld District -- Surrounded By Hill-Top Castles

On the border of the industrial state of [Saarland](#), the Birkenfeld District follows the Nahe river inland into central [Rhineland-Palatinate](#). With the heavily forested [Saar-Hunsrück Nature Park](#) to the north and west, it sits partly in the low [Hunsrück](#) mountain range.

Birkenfeld District Map

Towns & Villages in the Birkenfeld District

- Abentheuer
- Achtelsbach
- Allenbach
- Asbach (Hunsrück)
- [Baumholder](#)
- Bergen (Kirn)
- Berglangenbach
- Berschweiler (Baum.)
- Berschweiler (Kirn)
- [Birkenfeld \(Nahe\)](#)
- Bollenbach
- Börfink
- Breienthal (I.-O.)
- Bruchweiler

- Brücken (Birkenfeld)
- Buhlenberg
- Bundenbach
- Dambach
- Dickesbach
- Dienstweiler
- Eckersweiler
- Elchweiler
- Ellenberg (Birkenfeld)
- Ellweiler
- Fischbach (I.-O.)
- Fohren-Linden
- Frauenbeg
- Gerach (I.-O.)
- Gimbsweiler
- Gollenberg
- Gösenroth
- Griebelschied

- Hahnweiler
- Hattgenstein
- Hausen (Hunsrück)
- Heimbach (Nahe)
- Hellertshausen
- Herborn (I.-O.)
- Herrstein
- Hettenrodt
- Hintertiefenbach
- Hoppstädten (Weiers.)
- Horbruch
- Hottenbach
- [Idar-Oberstein](#)
- Kempfeld
- Kirschweiler
- Kronweiler
- Krummenau
- Langweiler (I.-O.)
- Leisel
- Leitzweiler
- Mackenrodt
- Meckenbach (Birkenf.)
- Mettweiler

- Mittelreidenbach
- Mörschied
- Niederbrombach
- Niederhambach
- Niederhosenbach
- Niederwörresbach
- Nohen
- Oberbrombach
- Oberhambach

- Oberhosenbach
- Oberkirn
- Oberreidenbach
- Oberwörresbach
- Reichenbach (Birk.)
- Rhaunen
- Rimsberg
- Rinzenberg
- Rohrbach (Nahe)
- Rötweiler (Nockenth.)
- Rückweiler
- Ruschberg
- Schauren (I.-O.)
- Schmidthachenbach
- Schmißberg
- Schwebach
- Schwollen
- Sensweiler
- Sien
- Sienhachenbach
- Siesbach
- Sonnenberg (Winn.)
- Sonnschied
- Stipshausen
- Sulzbach (I.-O.)
- Veitsrodt
- Vollmersbach
- Weiden (Hottenb.)
- Weitersbach
- Wickenrodt
- Wilzenberg-Hußweiler
- Wirschweiler

The largest town though is not the capital, but it has certainly been very successful over the centuries. [Idar-Oberstein](#) is on the banks of the Nahe, and is famous for its gemstones — mainly Agate and Jasper. Its own mines have long since “dried up,” but they now import gemstones from across the globe to be processed here.

As expected, there is a gem stone museum here, but another little gem originates from here as well. This is the birthplace of Bruce Willis — he was born on a US army base nearby.

Many other towns in the Birkenfeld District are on the river, and nearly all retain their historic architecture — and others are in the mountains, but all have great character.

[Birkenfeld \(Nahe\)](#) is part of the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg, Herrstein has an amazing historical center, and [Baumholder](#) regularly holds festivals and even closes off streets for days at a time during the *Fasching* carnivals!