

## Bötzingen -- Educational Hiking At The Emperor's Chair

There is absolutely no possible way anyone could come to the town of Bötzingen for just a day. No joke, there's so much to do for the average person to rush through — heck, there's too much to do for the above-average person. ;-)

If you're able to tackle one of Bötzingen's many marked hiking trails, you're in for a real treat since you're within the [Black Forest](#) region.

There are a couple of specific trails, like the *Weinlehrpfad*, a wine trail (marked with grapes, BTW) that starts off at the town's *Rathaus* (Town Hall). The whole route takes about 2-1/2 hours, or is 7 km long, which leaves you enough time to take the next themed route.

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That would be the *Brunnenpfad*, of course. This is another 7 km route that follows a dozen of the town's fountains. The information boards tell how water is important for everyday life, to animals, and even wine growing.

Since the Fountain Route takes you to a couple of Bötzingen's architectural gems, you're efficiently seeing the best of it all. One of the fountains is found right outside the St. Albans Kapelle, a Gothic chapel that was built in the 15th century.

And you'll also find yourself at the Dorfplatz (Village Square) in the hamlet of Oberschaffhausen. This is Bötzingen's only other village, and you'll find the Square acting as a community meeting point for all sorts of village goings-on.

In keeping with the whole fountain thing, you must see the *Stockbrunnen*, found right near the

Catholic Church. Amazingly, this fountain has been here for more than twelve centuries.

And coming back to the wine theme, you really need to be here for the *Dorf und Weinfest*. This fantastic multi-day festival is held on the second weekend of September on even-numbered years — that's right, it's only held every other year.

No worries, the *Fisch & Wein Festival* in June is an annual event, as is the Christmas Market held on the first weekend of Advent.

Didn't I tell you it would take more than a day to explore in (and around) Bötzingen. I think I need to come back again soon.