

Bruchmühlbach-Miesau -- Long Name With A Big Heart

What is it with Germany having all these small towns with names bigger than they are? All right, I know I'm being a big melodramatic, but consider Bruchmühlbach-Miesau in the [Palatinate](#). It barely has 8,000 residents, but its name is like 10 feet long. ;-)

I'm joking, of course, about its name — but I wouldn't consider poking fun at Bruchmühlbach-Miesau itself. This is a fun-loving town (it's also a collective municipality) that takes its festivals (and other events) seriously.

Going against general writing practices, I'm gonna start off by mentioning one of Bruchmühlbach-Miesau's biggest events, the *Kirchweih* in Martinshöhe. It's a huge church fair on the Sunday before Michaelmas (the Sept. 29th feast day of St. Michael — the archangel that defeated Lucifer).

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Some other festivals in Bruchmühlbach-Miesau would be four (yes, 4) church fêtes — most of them in August (the 1st weekend, 2nd weekend, and last weekend of the month). Just to be a bit different, there's another church fête on the 4th weekend of October.

Besides religious festivals (appropriate since the town's on the [Way of St. James](#)), horses are really big here. Every Pentecost there's a huge horse show; and one day every August is Horse Racing Day.

In-between all the church and horse events, you'll still have a good bit to see in Bruchmühlbach-Miesau. But, sorry, there's no local history museum — but a *Staubsauger Museum* instead. Very interesting, a museum totally dedicated to the vacuum cleaner...

For old churches (yeah, we're back to them for a minute) look no further than the late 15th century church in Langwieden. You'll also see some pretty half-timbered and Baroque houses in this quaint village.

In Lambsborn you'll see a few more of the those framework house, but if you're willing to hike out into the [Palatinate Forest Nature Park](#) (which also borders France — but don't worry about going there, there's more than a hundred miles of hiking or Nordic Walking trails in & around Bruchmühlbach-Miesau) you'll find some awesome natural rock formations made from red sandstone.

Your trip to Bruchmühlbach-Miesau can end two ways. 1) at the Ohmbachstausee — a charming lake that's often a venue for festivals and concert, or 2) nah... option one is plenty enough. ;-)