

Burgkirchen an der Alz -- Indoor Plumbing And Early Risers

Only in the [Upper Bavarian](#) town of Burgkirchen an der Alz does one millimeter equal 1,000 kilometers. As much as I like to think I'm special sometimes, my superpowers don't let me change the laws of physics, the standard measure of distance, or whatever study of science that apply here.

The change of this measured distance is along Burgkirchen's *Planetenweg* (Planet Way), where a millimeter of distance is equal to 1,000 km out in the vast distance of space. It's a fun, informative, not to mention healthy way (it IS a walking tour) to learn about our galaxy.

The best way to see about our little piece of the universe (that would be Earth) is at one of Burgkirchen's markets or fairs. The Flower Market is the town's way of celebrating Spring and the Advents Market is the grand start to the Christmas Season.

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In between the two is the Autumn Market that also coincides with the Church Festival of St. Pius. Held on the last Sunday in September, this harvest and religious celebration starts with a church service followed with lots of local street food and other festivities.

Two other churches that should be visited are St. Johannes and the Gothic style church in Margarethenberg, both early 15th century creations. They might not have had indoor plumbing back in the day, but they sure could build a magnificent church — so, I guess it works itself out.

Where Burgkirchen's churches are its history, its Citizen Center is its present — and it has indoor plumbing. :-) This large hall acts as a conference center, music school, and library. This is also where Burgkirchen's weekly market is held on Fridays starting at 7:30 am finishing by 12:30 pm.

Also at the Citizen Center are Farmers Markets that take place at various times of the month throughout the year. So, if you time your visit right, you'll be here to buy something special. This, too, is going to be an early start to the day — if you're a sleepy head all the good stuff will be gone. ;-)