

## Cölbe -- Dishy Town With A Serious Soup Battle

When you come to the [Hessian](#) town of Cölbe, be prepared to battle. No, I'm not suggesting that you grab a pickaxe or some other instrument of medieval warfare. Instead, grab some garlic, herbs, and veggies.

I'm not joking. Every year on the 1st weekend of December people come for the annual Soup Battle at one of the local hotels. No special time necessary to sample some of locally made sausages (try the blood & liver varieties if you're really adventurous).

Or, you can play golf on Cölbe's 18-hole course instead (golfing weekends are really popular here), or stick to shopping at the Craft Market in November. I'll take the awesome food, thank you very much.

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Eating is just par for the course in Cölbe during its annual Autumn Fun (in November), as it is during the Nicholas Celebration. Plus, you gotta keep your strength up during the Winter Hikes or to tackle one of the Nordic Walking trails, don't you?

Thanks for mentioning hikes, as along one 9.5km hiking trail is the Martin Church in the villages of Schönstadt, and who wouldn't love a walk along the Burgwald. Why not pretend you're a [Teutonic Knight](#) while you're doing it? This area was once teeming with the medieval warriors.

They weren't traveling by bicycle like you can do, though (the Lahn Valley Cycle Path is a good one); and they most certainly weren't traveling via motorcycle in the Middle Ages. Stay in character, go for the horseback riding instead.

As with anything medieval, there's always a castle involved. So, a trip to Burg Bürgeln is a must. This lowland castle was built in 1358, and destroyed in 1726 — leaving it the ruin you see today. But, it does house a local history museum.

Funny, a castle ruin in a town that carries the moniker *Unser Dorf hat Zukunft* (Our Village Has A Future). I can't be the only one to find the humor in that, can I? ;-)