

Dornstetten Is A Real Gem On The German Framework Road

Odds are you might never have heard about the town of Dornstetten if you weren't traveling on one of the best [German scenic routes](#) (EVER). This little town of around 8,000 people lies along the Red Route of the *Deutsche Fachwerkstraße*, or the [German Framework Road](#).

Whatever name you choose to use for it, know this: it's all about the many framework houses you'll find in this part of the mysterious [Black Forest](#). Otherwise, why would the Framework Road bring you here?

Yeah, I didn't think so.

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One of the prettiest buildings in Dornstetten is the historic half-timbered *Rathaus* (or, Town Hall) that's right next door to the *Gasthaus Ochsen* (that's also a fairytale looking half-timbered building) in the *Altstadt* (Old Town).

I say spend the night here, this way you can see more of Dornstetten. Hmm, history and comfortable accommodations all in one place, I would say.

Not all of Dornstetten's history is limited to its administrative and accommodations buildings. The town has its own *Heimatmuseum* (a Local History Museum) and a Doll & Toy Museum.

It also has a bit of sightseeing in the underworld. No, I don't mean Hades or the Devil's domain; I'm talking about a mine. Copper and silver were once heavily mined here, and now you can see how (and where) they did it.

Mines are dark places, so to balance that all out go see (AND walk!) the *Barfußpark* or Barefoot Park. This is a pretty long “park” that’s meant to be done without shoes for all of its 2 (and a half) kilometers. Hey, I didn’t say it was a cake walk — I said it was a barefoot walk. ;-)

Sightseeing around Dornstetten might get a bit crowded during its festivals and markets. Every July there’s a *Stadtfest* (City Festival); and a market on Easter Monday and one every Autumn (called the *Herbstmarkt*).

Who cares if it’s crowded, the town lies within the Black Forest — so the food and pure nature will more than make up for it.

Dornstetten’s festivals and markets are held at the Marktplatz, which is also where you’ll find the town’s Tourist Office — as if the *Fachwerkstraße* isn’t enough, right? ;-)