

## Herrieden -- Where Medieval Sights Abound

With thirty-nine villages that make up the [Middle Franconian](#) town of Herrieden, it might be hard to keep them straight. No matter, 'cause chances are you'll find something to tickle your fancy.

Besides, in this [Franconian](#) region just stop to enjoy the countryside if you lose your way — then the world will be right as rain. ;-)

Anyway, as much as I will shout from the church steeples (if I could) about how fantastic the scenery is, you'll still want to see the historical sites around Herrieden.

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One of the oldest is the Church of Our Lady, believed to date back to the days of Charlemagne. Yeah, that would be the 8th/9th century. It's not all medieval though, many improvements and changes to architectural style have been made over the centuries.

The Basilica St. Vitus & St. Deocar isn't as old as Our Lady, but the Baroque artwork added to the original 11th century medieval church is outstanding.

Speaking of medieval, there's got to be a castle. And, so there is! The early 12th century Stadtschloss isn't a castle anymore, it's been in ruins since 1875, but it was at one time. It was also a brewery for a while, too.

The *Storchenturm* (Stork Tower) is also one of Herrieden's remnants of its days from the Middle Ages — it was built 1316. And the town's former hospital was built 1476 — while the *Fronveste* was a fort tower (also used as a prison) came from 1415.

Hmm, that's 600 years. Wow, and I felt old turning 40! ;-)

These historical buildings aren't even the half of it in Herrieden. Townsfolk get to boast they've got many half-timbered houses (charming, to say the least), and many other buildings and structures that came along from the 16th to 19th centuries.

I like the *Altes Rathaus* and the 18th century Stone Bridge, personally. Oh, the Stone Bridge that's there today is from 1711, but there's been a bridge to cross since 836. Industrious folks in Herrieden, weren't they?

See, it doesn't matter if you get lost in Herrieden's 39 villages. You're bound to find something you like in every one; so no need to stop and ask for directions. ;-)