

Hersbruck — A Donkey Run On The Golden Route

Sometimes surprises are good, as is the case of what you'll find in the [Franconian](#) town of Hersbruck. It's one of those small hamlets you might not ever have heard of, but you're pleasantly surprised just about every time you turn around.

There is a lot to see here in the old part of town and the ultimate place to start is right at City Hall. It overlooks the Upper Market, a major hustle & bustle spot of the Middle Ages. You'll be following in the footsteps of medieval traders when Hersbruck was located along the Golden Route.

Look out for the *Nürnberger Tor* (a good photo-op) and stop in the *Deutsche Hirtenmuseum*. It's the only museum of its kind in the region, totally dedicated to the life of the herdsman (a far cry from the life of a city dweller).

— Top Areas Of Interest

- [History](#)
- [Webcams](#)

- [Gunzenhausen](#)
- [Sigmaringen](#)

There are quite a few other gates scattered about with names like the Hospital Gate, the *Gänsturm*, and the *Fraischturn* (once used to house prisoners). While the *Wildzirkelturm* now houses documents from a 20th century subdivision of a concentration camp.

One of Hersbruck's oldest buildings is its castle (big surprise there, huh?). The original part of Schloss Hersbruck is over a thousand years old. It was rebuilt 500 years later and its imposing towers were added in the 17th century. It's a shame the castle isn't reported to be haunted, because it looks like it should have at least a ghost or two in residence. ;-)

Summer is a great time to visit (OK, anytime in Franconia is a good time) because that's when Hersbruck kicks up a really good time. July starts off with the annual Summer Celebration and on the 1st weekend in August is the Town Festival with a donkey run on that Sunday.

Who can resist a good donkey run with lots of Franconian culinary specialties served by locals in traditional garb (can you say *Lederhosen*)? Not me, and certainly not you either! ;-)