

Hochheim am Main -- More Wine, Anyone? It's Tempting Here!

Hochheim am Main gives you many options; you can either grab a bike and whiz around on that or take a leisurely stroll that lets you stand and stare when you feel like doing just that.

If you have the time, the latter option is surely the more rewarding. The place is wallowing in wine, and you can have it from breakfast to supper and beyond. If that's the way you want to go, maybe you should ditch the bike.

Hochheim am Main is not just one wine-soaked village and you'll have to pardon me if I gave you that impression. The charm of this town lies in its half-timbered buildings that you're bound to see everywhere. The Küster House is a case in point. You'll love the arched doorway that sets this building apart from the others of its kind.

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Also check out the market place in the Old Town quarters of Hochheim. Here's the lively cultural center that offers the best of local cuisine and entertainment, not to mention some of the best specimens of medieval architecture.

The highlight here would have to be the Church of Sts. Peter and Paul. The Boniface route here with its compelling piece of history attached is a huge draw among visitors. You should also consider taking a vineyard tour with a local guide. That way you won't get lost in a maze and ruin a perfect afternoon.

When you're done with the tours you could slow the pace a bit with a visit to the local museum. The *Hochheimer Kunstsammlung* is just the right place for that. Here you get to see a wonderful

collection of modern and contemporary art including Picasso and Dali (my favorite), housed in a lovely villa.

The Hochheim Market held weekly is a great place to imbibe the heady local culture. Stalls overflowing with local produce and yummy baked goods, wine, cheese, and preserves welcome you to give the good life a try. Even if you don't buy anything you'll soon agree that the ambience is simply priceless. :-)

They have a Wine Festival which draws thousands of visitors from all over. It's not just the wine; the singing, dancing, and stage shows go on all night to give you the time of your life. And of course, there's fireworks as well.