

Kirchhain -- The Prehistoric Trail That Leads To The Burgwald

Kirchhain is now known as the “Gateway to the Burgwald,” a low mountain range, and is home to of its 12 municipalities or districts.

Prehistoric trails show a continuous settlement from at least the New Stone Age, while the area really grew some time in the 5th century B.C, or the early Iron Age.

Kirchhain once sat on the old trade route from [Cologne](#) to [Leipzig](#) in the Middle Ages and caused quite a bit of fighting between the Mainzers and the Hessians. During the [Thirty Years' War](#) (1618-1648) the town's 1000 residents were overburdened by the ~13,000 soldiers that flocked to the town and surrounding areas.

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There are buildings still standing today from medieval life. The Town Hall, a timber framed building, dates from around 1450 and is the town's landmark. The *Haus zum blauen Löwen* was built in the early 1600's and is the birthplace of the German poet Eberhard Werner Happel.

No doubt, any medieval city isn't complete without a medieval church. So stands the St. Michael church, a 15th century design.

Since Kirchhain is the gateway to the Burgwald, you'll find plenty of exciting cycling trails within the forest. For those of you not too excited about a bike, there's an abundance of hiking trails to excite you. And the indoor and outdoor pools are also great fun for both young and old.

If you're looking for a great place for some family fun, exploring the great outdoors, and

experience a little history and culture take the time to get to know Kirchhain.