

Langenargen -- Castle Montfort Overlooking Lake Constance

Talk about a kick in the karmic teeth.

Could you imagine commissioning a grand castle, then dying two years before it was built? That happened to King Wilhelm I of Württemberg in the 1860s in the town of Langenargen.

Good ole Willie's death didn't stop the construction of Schloss Montfort. Sorry, I guess I should say his death didn't stop the reconstruction, because Castle Monfort was originally a medieval one.

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As much as I just love history, the castle being a prison (and all that jazz) is nothing compared to its view of [Lake Constance](#). And it's not just some far-off distant sighting of the *Bodensee*, either. Nope, it sits right up against this famous lake.

Oh, I just love this lake. You can do all sorts of exciting water sports, or just lounge around beachside and the yearly regatta.

The sailing regatta isn't the only cultural event, ya know. Musical concerts are constantly being held during the summer; and come the Christmas season, you'll just love shopping at the Christmas market.

Another religious event comes in the form of a huge Carnival celebration (usually) in February. I say usually because Carnival's date changes according to the Christian calendar.

Did I mention Langenargen was on the [Upper Swabian Baroque Route](#)? No? Well, it is. ;-)

Don't worry, I'm not going to leave you hanging there.

Since the town is on this epic scenic route, that means you'll get to see some amazingly beautiful Baroque architecture. One of the best places is the Baroque Church of St. Martin (built 1718), although its St. Anne Cemetery Chapel is of Romanesque design.

In all fairness, it is believed that the 18th century St. Martin Church is really about a thousand years older than that.

Another historical building in Langenargen is the Cavalier House (19th century). It's now a charming museum with all sorts of historical and art exhibits.

One last stop before you run off to the Bodensee again.

Everyone that comes to Langenargen stops at the bridge over the River Argen. Yeah, sure, a bridge — big deal.

No, really it is a big deal. This suspension bridge is just an amazing feat of 19th century [German engineering](#).

Now that I think about it, all of Langenargen is feat of fine German engineering — even if Willie I didn't get to see it.