

Markneukirchen -- Following The Sound Of Music

Shhh, listen to that. Do you hear it? No, I am not hearing voices in my head. What I hear is the sound of almost 400 years of music tradition in the town of Markneukirchen.

I'll be honest with you though (again, not admitting to voices in my head), not much goes on around these parts that doesn't have to do with music. Don't get me wrong, you'll find things like cross-country skiing in the winter (speaking of the [Ore Mountains](#)). And you'll find a nice outdoor pool — the *Waldbad Adorf*.

Not to mention, there are some 70km of bike trails through the [Vogtland](#) region. The Tourist Office can help you with maps, and help you figure out which ones you might like best.

— Top Areas Of Interest

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

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

They'll also help you with Markneukirchen's festivals. Like the Christmas Market in December, the *Stadtfest* (City Festival), the *Bergfest* (Mountain Festival), and the *Dorffest* (Village Festival).

But, don't forget it was me who told you about the *Straßenfest* (Street Festival) in July first. ;-)

In addition to all the festivals and biking trails, you'll want to see the Bismarck Tower (dedicated to none other than grand German statesman, [Otto von Bismarck](#)); and Markneukirchen's two outstanding villas — the Villa Merz (built 1900) and Villa Stark (built 1896). The latter being a Children's Home in this century.

The voices in my head are telling me we need to move on — preferably to the Lutheran Church of St. Nicolai, and the Old Court Building.

I did say Markneukirchen was all about the music though, didn't I? Founded in 1883, the Music Instrument Museum has thousands of items from all over the world. Ain't my words — that's what the museum said. But, it's true, just so you know. ;-)

And every year Markneukirchen hosts an annual International Instrument Competition in May, where orchestras and Classical musicians come to compete.

The town even boasts its own Symphony Orchestra and Brass Orchestra. Ahh, the wonderful sound of music. Drowns out the voices in my head. ;-)