Markt Erlbach -- A Real Sweet Bavarian Treat

<u>Bavaria</u> is always a treat, and with its wide open spaces and charming villages, it is an extra sweet treat to be here. And if you are here in Bavaria, more specifically near the town of <u>Neustadt an der Aisch</u>, remember to come by Markt Erlbach; I think you'll just love it.

As with many towns and villages in Bavaria, you're sure to find quite a number of old village churches. Markt Erlbach is quite proud of theirs, and rightfully so. The Church of St. Kilian has been part of village life since the 1300s; while it oversaw a renovation in the 19th century, it still qualifies as a medieval church, mind you. :-)

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Long before anyone thought to build St. Kilian's, the Church of St. Leonhard was already here (1278); as was the Evangelical Church of St. Jobst — except that it was an Evangelical one when it was built in 1250; neither was it when it was renovated in 1431.

It was a long time after that the town of Markt Erlbach's *Handwerkmuseum* was built; a half-timbered building with green shutters. It is open every year on Sundays from Easter to November 1st, if you're interested in visiting. How could you not be? It has all sorts of exhibits besides beautifully made crafts, displaying prehistoric artifacts and exhibits on tailoring, carpentry, and butchering. Is that even the right word? ;-)

I know the right word to describe all of Markt Erlbach's many cultural events — lively. Doesn't matter if you're here for the *Heimatfest* in July, or the two traditional *Kirchweih* festivals in May — you'll have a good time.

Germany's known for its Christmas Markets, and it's because of the ones you'll find in Markt

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Erlbach. And the Wine Festival (July) is always a popular one to come to.

Of course, if you want to give shopping a go, come to the village of Rimbach, that's known for its antique shops. Shopping not your thing? It's all right, the carriage rides, horseback riding, and all the bike and hiking trails will keep you busy enough.

Didn't I tell ya Markt Erlbach's a real sweet treat? Yeah, and I know you're gonna love it as much as I do.

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