

Mendig -- The Beer King Of The German Volcanoes Route

As it happens sometimes I'm a bit ahead of myself. How un-German of me since we are KNOWN for being prompt and orderly. But, I have a good reason so that should totally excuse it. Oh, wait — here I go again because I haven't explained why.

I talked about the town of Mendig long before I actually wrote about the place. Confused? You won't be in a second.

You see, I was so excited to talk about the [German Volcanoes Route](#), a 280km [scenic route](#) (your choice walking, biking, or driving) that I decided to write that first. And as it turns out, Mendig is Station 6 on this landscape created by erupting volcanoes.

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Don't worry though, they're all extinct now but every year in July Mendig holds its annual "Night of the Volcanoes" — right down to a gigantic fireworks display representing the fire breathing, lava flowing eruptions. Nice, keep the "volcano gods" happy! ;-)

That's not all Mendig does when it comes to the volcanoes. There's the Lava Dome, a volcano museum (as if the name doesn't give it away) and you got the chance to go 32 meters below street level to a cave system known as the *Lavakeller* (Lava Cellar). Plus, swimming in the Laacher See, created by a volcanic eruption, just keeps the lava theme going.

But, man isn't bound to lava & ash alone in Mendig — it's also known as a brewery city. Better yet, keep the "beer gods" happy for a great time.

On odd-numbered years Mendig holds the 4-day *Gambrinusfest* on the Marktplatz with guys & gals

dressed in period garb, and a “Beer King” is crowned. What a gig that would be... what does one got to do to win?

In the meantime while you campaign for the “king” job, I’ll go to Mendig’s Passion Play, music concerts, book reading, and visit its 12th century churches (St. Cyriacus & St. Genovefa), and then on to the sculpture garden.

Then one day when you’re crowned “king” you’ll rule that it’s OK to get ahead of oneself.

Now, bring me a beer or “off with your head!” ;-)