

Münsingen -- Fine Onyx Marble And Trombone Choirs

Münsingen sits adjacent to the [Biosphere Reserve Swabian Alb](#), the new 85,270-acre area designated as a special UNESCO biosphere in 2008.

However, it is obvious that the locals have cared for and cultivated the nature that surrounds the town for years. There are a number of parks and trails between the community zones, and nature lovers should take note of the rare orchids and silver thistles that are special to this area.

Of course it is hard to be looking down when there are so many castles and castle ruins to make you look up! For photographs and tours, you have your choice of the Castle Buttenhausen, Castle Hohenhundersingen, Castle Bichishausen, Castle Hohengundelfingen, and Castle Niedergundelfingen. Of them all, the Castle Buttenhausen is the most intact, and it also features a Jewish cemetery and memorial as a part of the grounds.

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Looking at all of the bright stonework in Münsingen's castles, you should be unsurprised that the area is known for its onyx marble. Swirled with bright reds and creams, the mining of the marble is a big part of the local economy.

You can find small decorative pieces in shops as souvenirs, or you can talk with local providers about getting counter top pieces for your home. Be prepared to pay for the quality — these pieces last for decades!

Münsingen is more than just nice to look at, though. The town is also nice to hear. They are known for their trombone choirs and small brass ensembles, many of which perform in the old town district in the summer.

In fact, whether a performance is on or not, you will want to make a point of heading to the old town area in the evenings. The fountain in the old *Marktplatz* is a popular hangout spot for locals. A visit, especially on a summer night, provides you with a chance for both people watching and meeting new friends.