

Nümbrecht -- Spa Town With Witches And Evil Stepmothers

Nümbrecht is a spa town — one of the 15 nationally recognized Climatic Health Resorts of the Premium Class as they call it. And it is indeed a great place for body and soul.

The town may not be as culturally grown up as its big neighbor [Cologne](#) is, but there is actually an Art House that gives you a look at what this town and its artists can offer. It's got an indoor gallery as well as a sculpture garden. Since it opened in the 1980s this attraction is a must see.

There is also art around the town, so make sure to snap some pictures when wandering about.

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Those who want to leave only green footsteps on their travels might like to visit the ecovillage that is about five kilometers from the town. Benroth has done a lot to reduce the energy consumption, like changing building materials, putting in huge gardens and using alternative energies.

Want to experience “typical German” architecture? Than head over to the village of Bruch, not too far from Nümbrecht. The majority of the houses are from the 1800s, but some of them are even older than that.

If you are accused of being a witch, don't confess. Six witches confessed to being witches and there were trials here in 1631. Instead of being burnt alive like that would normally happen, they were beheaded. Other witches were thrown into Witches Pond to see if they were innocent and drowned or guilty and would float. Witches Pond a.k.a. *Hexenweiher* is interesting to stroll around.

Maybe witches aren't enough to scare you out of the woods. If so, maybe an evil stepmother will. Nümbrecht is the home town of the opera Hansel and Gretel. This opera was composed by

Engelbert Humperdinck.

You can't go back in time to the national annual garden show that took place here in 1974. However, the health resort park is still a great place to get out and see some beautifully groomed gardens.

There is a light festival in this park in the second weekend in July. During this festival, the park gets decked out in lights, including some huge, lighted hot air balloons.