

Oberboihingen -- Singing With Joy In The Swabian Alb

It's hard to start off these written pages in song, but here goes...

“Wenn Kirchenglocken festlich klingen im ganzen Dorf und Tal entlang, da will mein Herz vor Freude singen, so wie der Glocken heller Klang, hier möchte ich sein mein Leben lang. Oberboihingen.”

To paraphrase this ditty (written by Willi Groß), this *Heimatlied* tells how your heart sings with joy, and wanting to be in the town of Oberboihingen all your life.

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Yeah, I totally get that. But, if you aren't able to live here in this [Swabian Alb](#) town, at least come visit for its two very famous festivals.

Oberboihingen is most noted for its *Schäfermarkt*, or Shepherd's Market. Every two years, on even-numbered years, everyone gets together on the first weekend of June to buy (or learn) all about sheep products — everything from sausages to cheese to even handicrafts. Even if you don't need anything made from wool, you'll sit at one of the many tables drinking sheep wine.

Ha-ha, just kidding, just wanted to see if you're paying attention. ;-)

The other big market around town is the *Dorffest*, another festival taking place every two years; this one on odd-numbered years.

At least you don't have to wait years for the town's Christmas Market. Come buy little gifts for your

family and friends, drink mulled wine, and eat the tastiest street food on the first weekend of Advent. Trust me, you'll love it.

Between you and me, this is some crisp weather to enjoy hiking along Oberboihingen's hiking trail. Here's 11.5 km of pretty [Swabian](#) countryside, and it's a prime season to wander around the rest of town.

Don't miss a visit to the Church of St. Bartholomew's, once a 13th century chapel. Today's church isn't a sprawling medieval structure, but a narrow and tidy church with stunning stained glass windows.

You really shouldn't miss the Hohenwiel, either. The Old Rectory is a wonderful example of half-timbered architecture from 1467 — that's right, the old gal is over 500 years old.

I wouldn't mind living here that long, this way I'd have plenty of time to experience Oberboihingen's Easter Market (held at the Dorfplatz), its *Waldfest*, its Summer Festival, and its *Kartoffelfest* (a festival all about the potato).

Yes, Willi, you're right — my heart sings with joy about Oberboihingen, too.