

## Pegnitz -- Volcanic Springs Forth Strong Beer

Once upon a time, the [Upper Franconian](#) city of Pegnitz wasn't really German at all. It was, in fact, part of what was known as Bohemia, the modern day Czech Republic.

No matter where Pegnitz's roots come from, it's a lovely modern city nowadays but still manages to keep its medieval beginnings.

One of the best examples of medieval life is Pegnitz's City Hall, built in 1347. This neat and tidy building with beautiful flowerboxes adorning the windows really belies its age.

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Next, you'll be transported back to the days of the Middle Ages when you visit Monastery Michelfeld, built in the 12th century.

Very little remains of the 14th century Burg Boenheimstein and Castle Hollenberg, but it won't take too much imagination to think of how imposing (and beautiful) they must have been (they still are beautiful, actually).

No imagination is needed in the case of the 10th century Schloss Pottenstein (in neighboring [Pottenstein](#)). This castle is nothing short of astonishing with its tower, castle gardens, and Knights' Hall.

Pegnitz was also a mining town and the Lug Erwein is an entire museum dedicated to mining history and culture.

Today, it's also a town that hosts thousands of visitors for the annual summer Music Festival.

There's also plenty of concerts held at many of the town's historic locales in July and August for the Pegnitz Summer Concert Series.

If you prefer to get out to see the Bavarian countryside, the neighborhood of Hainbronn sits on the edge of the Nature Park *Veldensteiner Forst*, great for a healthy hike. Or, play a fun game of miniature golf, great fun for the whole family.

After all that you're bound to be thirsty, so get a beer at any number of beer gardens scattered throughout town. Or, grab some local delicacies at the *Zaussemühle* (an old mill built in 1450 and powered by a volcanic spring) now a bar and restaurant.

Special Tip: Do like the locals and order *Flinderer* (a strong local beer) with some Pegnitzer beer roasting sausage!