

Rodenbach (Hesse) -- Home Of Our Shy Sir Wolfgang

Rodenbach, a [Hessian](#) town just east of [Frankfurt](#) and close to [Hanau](#), is both historical and sporty. The town itself has only two hamlets, Oberrodenbach and Niederrodenbach, so it'll be easy to find your way around.

Niederrodenbach has a bit more of the historical than her sister village. You'll find many (no, LOTS of) framework homes from the 17th and 18th centuries. This is also where you'll find the town's *Heimatmuseum* (Local History Museum), the historic Old Town Hall, and the town's Protestant Church which was built in the 1760's.

This area also has the monastery ruins of St. Wolfgang. The place is hidden within the surrounding forest with a stone tower standing a couple meters above the forest floor. You'll also be able to see parts of the original sacristy and the church section can now be rented out for barbecues.

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I can't think of a better place for an outdoor picnic than right next to medieval ruins shaded by tall trees. Can you? :-)

Oberrodenbach isn't as historic, although Stone and Bronze Age men & women wandered about. Its Church of Saints Peter and Paul, which was built in the 1830's, is worth the time to visit.

So is the local swimming lake. Besides letting the kids splash around until they're tuckered out, they can enjoy a game of beach volleyball or table tennis. Or, let them run around on the lake's playground.

If you want to spend the night, there are a few comfortable [Rodenbach guesthouses and inns](#) at

reasonable rates. One is right on the Marktplatz, where you'll catch plenty of action going on.

For something more quiet, try just a simple jog, hike or bicycle ride on any one of the local paths that criss-cross around the countryside. Haven't been on a bicycle in a while? Don't worry, the old saying about never forgetting how to ride a bike is true. ;-)

Now, don't forget to invite me to your forest barbecue; I'm looking forward to it!