

Schleiden -- A Splendid Hidden Surprise In The Eifel

Schleiden is a splendid surprise hidden within the [Eifel](#) nature park. Not only that, this town of 24 neighborhood is also a Kneipp Health Resort town.

To be honest, that's only the beginning of what you'll find around the old town. All you have to do to get here is hop on the regional rail line from [Cologne](#). Really, that's much faster than the route the Romans took from Cologne to get here. ;-)

One of the most popular sights in all of Schleiden is its early 13th century castle chapel. It was eventually converted over to a Gothic Church in 1516 and was originally part of the 12th century Schleiden Castle (now a senior citizen home).

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In the Olef District, you'll find plenty of old half timbered buildings all framed so neatly with flowerboxes.

Another popular spot is within the Eifel National Park itself, along a 24 km (approx 18 miles) stretch known as Wildnis Trail. This trail is considered to meander along some of the most beautiful Park countryside. There a few more walking, hiking, and biking trails locally ranging from only 6 km (4 miles) to a 365 km (226 miles) "Water Castle Route" that highlights [North Rhine-Westphalia's](#) best.

Don't let the snow stop you from enjoying the Eifel, cross country skiing is exceptionally popular and those trails go through some picturesque protected areas.

There are also two outdoor swimming pools here in Schleiden, one in Gemünd and the other in Deiffenbach. Both boast an outdoor volleyball court, but Deiffenbach's got the waterslide and

“sandy beach.” Don’t feel bad for Gemünd though, you’ll be too busy treating yourself to a Kneipp treatment to notice the pool much. ;-)

With a wide array of activities and history, this spot really makes for a great time. So, if you’re looking for something spectacular when you’re in North Rhine-Westphalia, look no further than the fun-filled town of Schleiden.