

Schwarzenfeld -- A Cultural Lesson In Bavarian Heavy Metal

There's no way I can pretend to know everything (despite trying my hardest); and one of those things that I don't know about is Heavy Metal music. What I do know is there's a Metal band called *Deadlocked* that comes from the [Bavarian](#) town of Schwarzenfeld.

While I might not care too much for the head banging and music blaring sounds of the band, I do love their hometown. And thankfully during the annual Music Festival in November the genre of music played is, ah, shall we say, more subdued.

So what if Schwarzenfeld is a one-Metal band town? It isn't, however, a one festival town. You can join in all the festivities during the Josephie Market, always on the Sunday before March 19th; the Miesberg Kirchweih at the Baroque Church on the Sunday following Pentecost; the Aegidius Kirchweih on the first weekend of September; and the Dionysius Fair in early October along the Schlossstraße.

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Oh, a Schlossstraße... does that mean there's a castle? Sure does, and you can stay there too, since Schloss Schwarzenfeld is now a hotel. It's come a long way from its medieval beginnings, and one previous owner was friends with none other than my buddy, Ludwig II.

Some former residents of the castle are now buried in the Mausoleum, the final resting place of some Bavarian Dukes — and the Baroness von Gumpfenberg-Pöttmes.

I got so excited there for a minute that I forgot to mention Scharzenfeld's semi-annual *Bürgerfest*. While the date could fall in either late June or early July, it's always held on an even-numbered year. Simple enough to remember, right?

The best way to learn more about Deadlocked's Schwarzenfeld is to take a guided tour of the place. So long as it's on the second Saturday of the month from April to October.

Ah, this is why Germans plan, plan, and plan.

What I didn't plan on was loving the place as much as I did. Heck, I even learned a thing or two about Heavy Metal... ;-)