

Wernberg-Köblitz -- Majestic Castle, Historical Churches

You know how some places are forever burned into your memory forever? I'd have to say the town of Wernberg-Köblitz is one of them. How could it not, it sits right in the [Upper Palatinate Forest](#) — a mere 30 km from the Czech border.

But, better than that, it's a place of old churches (with 26 villages, how could it not), a medieval castle, and proper German festivals.

A historical walking tour of Wernberg-Köblitz won't take you but 2-to-4 hours, but I really think you need to allot more time than that. I counted seven old churches before I had to call it quits, yet the ones I did see were utterly fantastic (can't imagine what I missed).

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The architecture of Wernberg-Köblitz's churches run the gamut from Romanesque to the Baroque, some often a blend of art through the centuries.

Take the Church of St. Anna, for example. It started out in the Middle Ages, had Gothic enhancements in the 1500s, underwent a remodel in the 18th century. Look hard and the the Church of Sts. Peter & Paul might still resemble its Gothic origins, but it, too, saw a Rococo overhaul in 1736.

For me, the best part of the Middle Ages were its castles; and you'll find a proper medieval one here. The menacing looking Burg Wernberg has been a part of the town since the 1100s, but the Romans were here first — according to the artifacts found here. If the Romans had a chapel as stunning as the St. Georg Chapel in the castle, they probably wouldn't have left.

Wernberg-Köblitz might be proud of its history, but it's modern at the same time. I love the fact the *Badebus* will take you (free of charge, no less) to the nearby outdoor swimming pool. And every October everyone gets together for Oktoberfest, and in August for the *Naabfest*, also in July for the Wine Festival, and in June for the St. Josef *Pfarrfest*.

Two to four hours in Wernberg-Köblitz? I don't think so — maybe two to four months might cover it. ;-)