

Idstein, Hessen Germany - 30 minute drive

The town of Idstein could be the inspiration for the Movie set of Beauty and the Beast. Within one small city, we slipped into the 11th to 18th centuries, complete with a stone fountain, a castle, a witch's Tower, a palace, cobblestone streets lined with half timbered houses and flower boxes sharing their final blooms before winter.





One tourist blog encouraged us to ask for the key to the Witch's Tower at the Visitor's Center. So we did. We were given a big old skeleton key and told to lock the door when we went in. We inserted the key in the lock and locked ourselves inside this seven story tower. What an adventure to climb to the top and catch a bird's eye view of the charming city. The Tower received its name because in the 17th century several men and women were labelled as witches and burned in the town square.





The town is famous for the half timbered houses. Most of the houses are over 400 years old. Many lean and sag and have been painted and decorated to add to the beauty of the buildings.



