

EIN BLICK NACH BAYERN / A GLANCE AT BAVARIA

EIN BLICK AUF ROTHENBURG OB DER TAUBER
(A LOOK AT THE TOWN OF ROTHENBURG ABOVE THE TAUBER RIVER)

Cultural references

Rothenburg has appeared in several films, notably fantasies. It was the inspiration for the village in the 1940 Walt Disney movie *Pinocchio*. It was the location for the Vulgarian village scenes in the 1968 family movie, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. It is sometimes mistaken as the town at the end of *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory* (1971); that town was Nördlingen. The town served as a loose basis for the fictional town of Lebensbaum ("life tree") in the video game *Shadow of Memories* (*Shadow of Destiny* in the American market).^[7] Pictures of the town were used in some parts of *The Wonderful World of the Brothers Grimm* and the trailer for the film. The camera flies over the town from the direction of the valley towards the Town Hall.^[8] A plaque exists on the rebuilt town wall to commemorate this. Filming was done in Rothenburg for *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows – Part 1* (2010) and *Part 2* (2011).

Robert Shackleton's *Unvisited Places of Old Europe* contains a chapter, "The Old Red City of Rothenburg", about the city and its history. Rothenburg is the primary location for Elizabeth Peters's mystery novel, *Borrower of the Night* (1973) about the search for a missing Tilman Riemenschneider sculpture. The town featured as the location in the Belgian comic book *La Frontière de la vie* (*The Frontier of Life*, 1977) and it inspired the look of the town in the Japanese manga and anime series *A Little Snow Fairy Sugar* (2001).^[9]

Rothenburg's famous street Kobolzeller Steige and Spitalgasse is depicted on the cover of two Blackmore's Night albums, 1999's *Under a Violet Moon* and their 2006 album *Winter Carols*.