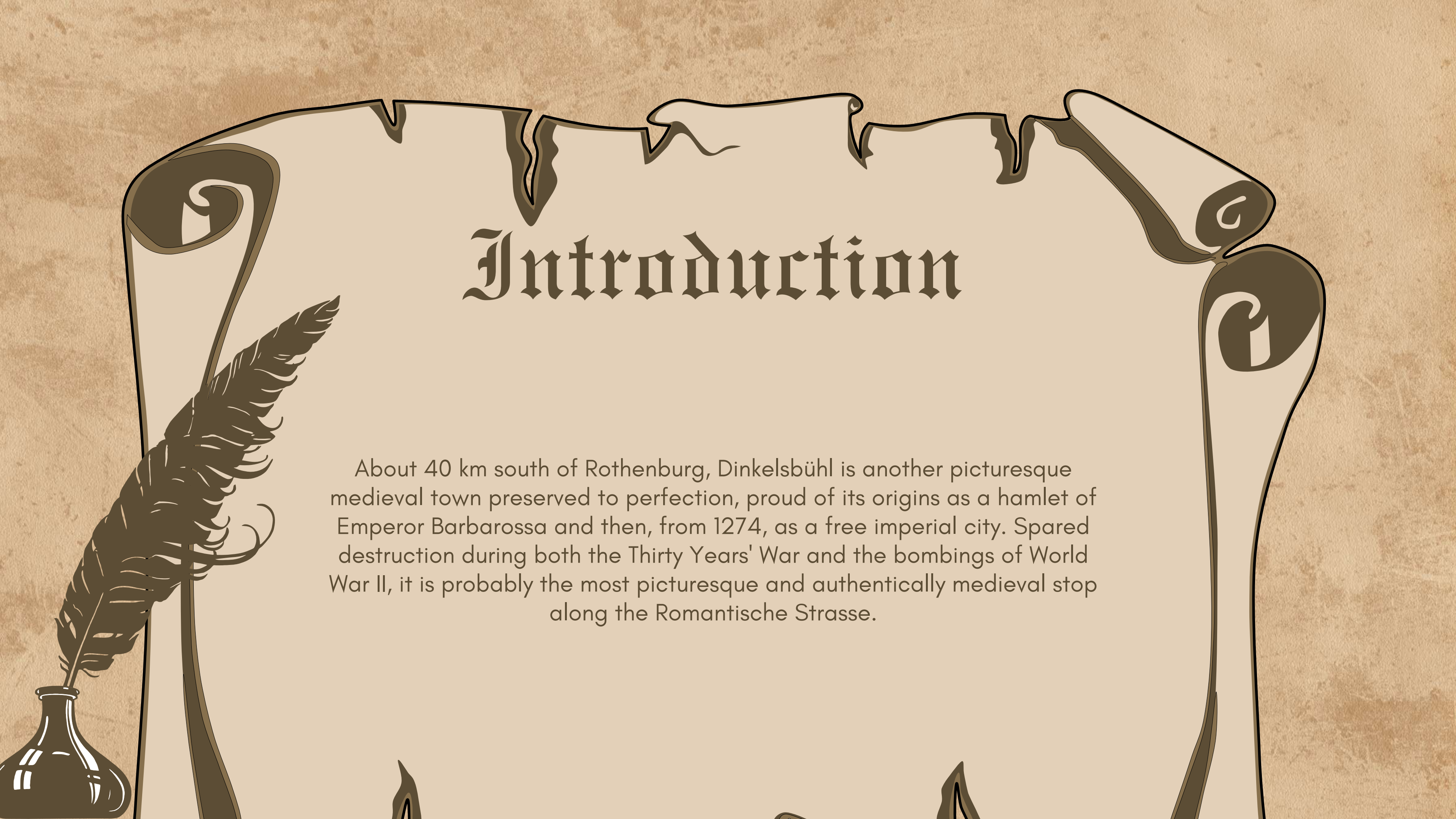




A DAY IN DINKELSBÜHL

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Introduction

About 40 km south of Rothenburg, Dinkelsbühl is another picturesque medieval town preserved to perfection, proud of its origins as a hamlet of Emperor Barbarossa and then, from 1274, as a free imperial city. Spared destruction during both the Thirty Years' War and the bombings of World War II, it is probably the most picturesque and authentically medieval stop along the Romantische Strasse.

Reformation

THE HISTORY

During the Protestant Reformation, Dinkelsbül was notable for being a Bi-confessional Imperial City where the Peace of Westphalia caused the establishment of a joint Catholic-Protestant government and administrative system, with equality of offices and a precise and equal distribution between Catholic and Protestant civic officials. This status ended in 1802, when these cities were annexed by the Kingdom of Bavaria. Around 1534 the majority of the population of Dinkelsbühl became Protestant.

Wornitz Tor



Munster St. George





Thirty Years War

Every summer Dinkelsbühl celebrates the city's surrender to Swedish troops in 1632 during the Thirty Years' War. This reenactment is played out by many of the town's residents. It features an array of Swedish soldiers attacking the city gate and children pleading for mercy. This historical event is called the "Kinderzeche" and can in some aspects be compared with the "Meistertrunk" in Rothenburg. The name is derived from the two German words for "child" and "the bill for food and drink in an inn", and is called such because of the legend that a child saved the town from massacre by the Swedes during the surrender.



various pictures

