



# News from Germany

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## Mozart in Germany

Mozart spent about a third of his life on the road. From the tender age of six, the prodigious young Mozart toured Europe and frequently spent important time in Germany.

For example, Augsburg is where Wolfgang Amadeus's father, Johann Georg Leopold Mozart, was born and Wolfgang visited the city 17 times. In Munich, Mozart composed some of his operatic works, including the opera "La finta giardiniera" and the opera "Idomeneo." In Passau Mozart first heard the basset horn, which became his favorite instrument. Another important city is Mannheim where the child genius became acquainted with and influenced by the court orchestra style and met his future wife. He played in Frankfurt to the 14-year old Goethe, in Schwetzingen Palace, and later in Dresden. He left his mark on Leipzig where he conducted the Gewandhaus Orchestra in some of his own compositions and performed improvisations on the organ in the St. Thomas Church. These places and many other German towns and cities with special Mozart

## "Mozart Year in Germany"

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### EDITOR'S CHOICE

#### Alaska in Augsburg

In honor of Mozart's 250th birthday, Augsburg, the birthplace of Mozart's father, has flown in Mozart Marionettes from Anchorage Alaska to present Don Giovanni in an unusual two hour production ([www.mozartstadt.de](http://www.mozartstadt.de)) Children can also celebrate the 250th birthday of Mozart in Germany with cake. Just before Germany's Halloween, the longest magic flute (165 feet) cake in the world will be served. Made by the Schwetzingen bakers in Baden Wuerttemberg, the cake will be cut on October 29th ([www.mozartways.com](http://www.mozartways.com)).

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### FEATURED STORY

#### Music in Germany – Old and new

However, not everything is about Mozart this year. From classical concerts, jazz festivals to open-air pop and rock concerts, Germany has every type of music event possible for all types of taste. There is the annual "Bach Festival" in Leipzig from May 27 to June 7 ([www.bach-leipzig.de](http://www.bach-leipzig.de)). More than 60 concerts will be performed at the "Beethoven Festival" in Bonn starting on August 31 to October 1. ([www.beethovenfest.de](http://www.beethovenfest.de)). The "Rheingau Music Festival", one of the biggest classical music festivals in Europe with more than 140 events, from June 24 to September 2, which take place in romantic castles and palaces on the Rhine ([www.rheingau-musik-festival.de](http://www.rheingau-musik-festival.de)). For jazz lovers, the "International Dixieland Festival" in Dresden, the second biggest jazz festival in the world, is not to be missed from May 7 to May 14 ([www.diexieland.de](http://www.diexieland.de)). Another excellent choice is the the "Duesseldorf Jazz-Rallye" ([www.duesseldorfer-jazzrallye.de](http://www.duesseldorfer-jazzrallye.de)) from June 24 to 26 or the great "German Jazz Festival" in Frankfurt ([www.kultur.frankfurt.de](http://www.kultur.frankfurt.de)) from October 27 to 29 as well as the "Jazz Festival" in Hannover ([www.hannover.de](http://www.hannover.de)) from May 13 to 23.

Once a year, music, not horsepower, reigns supreme at the Nuerburgring Formula 1 racetrack. Decibel levels rise for the Rock am Ring festival. At the same time the sibling event "Rock im Park" takes the stage in Nuremberg. "Rock am Ring" and "Rock im Park" are the two largest open-air events in Europe. More than 150.000 people are expected to visit these highlights of the European Open-Air season from June 2 to June 4. Approximately 70 bands, such as Depeche Mode, will play on the festivals three stages ([www.rockamring.de](http://www.rockamring.de) and [www.rockimpark.de](http://www.rockimpark.de)).

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### REGIONAL FOCUS



