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The Official Newsletter of the German National Press Office

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Shopping - Made in Germany.

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Editor's Note: Germany Enjoys Increase of U.S. Visitors

On all accounts, the World Cup was a great success for Germany and its image around the world and the tourism sector may be the biggest winner of all. With 2.2 million visitors from the U.S. in the first six months of this year, Germany experienced an increase five percent over the first half of last year. Last year already was the second strongest year ever for U.S. travel to Germany with 4.4 million overnights.

"We are thrilled that June alone brought an increase of 27 percent with almost 700,000 overnights," said Michaela Klare, Regional Manager of the Americas for the German National Tourist Office. "We firmly believe that this great global sporting event has helped to position Germany more than ever as an exciting and hospitable destination. To take advantage of this strong enthusiasm, we are launching a new 2007 campaign for art and culture in Germany. With the opening of many new museums and important exhibits next year, including Kassel's Documenta and the Muenster Sculpture Show, we are already looking forward to welcoming many visitors from the U.S," said Klare.

Special Events

Aug 31 - Oct 1 Beethoven Festival, Bonn

This year's annual theme is "Russia: Rossija." Although Beethoven never traveled to Russia - Russia came to him: Count Razumovsky ordered string quartets from the composer, Czar Alexander I met him in 1814 at the Congress of Vienna, and even Prince Galitsin commissioned Beethoven to compose several string quartets and an overture. The festival celebrates the immeasurable wealth of variations in the composer's works. > www.

beethovenfest.de

Theme: Shopping Deals in Germany

There are deals and unique buys to be found in Germany's open air food and flea markets. Especially in large cities, Germany's food markets are the antithesis of the soul-less supermarkets while flea markets in Germany are a true delight for antique dealers, browsers and appreciators of the odd find. For flea markets, we recommend you always have enough change on hand and a huge comfortable carry bag; don't go there with your Louis Vuitton bag or Gucci sunglasses - chances are, there will be an immediate mark up of a 100%; always negotiate and get there early to snatch rare finds or very late when people are packing up to get best bargains.

Berlin's Strasse des 17 Juni is probably the best-known flea market in Berlin for art, handicrafts and antiques. And, every Tuesday and Friday afternoon Berlin's Turkish Market transforms the Maybachufer into a bustling Mideast market with exotic flair. Heaps of fruit and vegetables, mountains of bread loaves, buckets spilling over with olives, great selections of feta spreads and cheeses, clothes and jewelry are in abundance. Quality is high, prices are low and helpful smiles are all around. ** www.berlin-tourist-information.de

In Frankfurt, art and antiques reign in Alt-Sachsenhausen, where Frankfurt's biggest flea market takes place every Saturday 8 am to 2 pm along the Main River on the Sachsenhausen side. You can find everything from antique wares, Indian prints and Peruvian knits to beer as well as coffee and cakes. Just 45 minutes away in Mainz, the "Krempelmarkt", is held on every first and third Saturday from April to November. Visitors can stroll along the banks of the River Rhine between "Rotem Tor" and "Kaisertor" to find antique ware and books, all kinds of second hand goods, and some great bargains in electronic equipment. The Krempelmarkt starts by 7 and ends about 1pm. *www.mainz.de

In Munich, the Daglfing market, just outside the city center, specializes in antiques. It is easily reachable by train and is open every second Sunday of the month. *www.flohmarkt-daglfing.de (German only) The Viktualienmarkt, the bustling, colorful food market, has been located at the end of the pedestrian zone off the Marienplatz since 1807. And the nearby Schrannenhalle, a former corn market, re-opened last year after extensive renovation. The 19th century glass and iron construction was a first in the 1850s and today houses more than 50 market and craftsmen stalls each with its own individual architectural design. *www.muenchentourist.de

Feature: Hamburg: Schnell with Emirates! Shopping and More

Opens Sep 16 The Historic Green Vault, Dresden

Created by August the Strong (1670 - 1733), the historic Green Vault will open to the public in the Royal Palace on September 16, 2006 in the context of Dresden's 800th birthday. Approximately 100 restorers and sculptors, painters and craftsmen have recreated the splendid ten rooms on the basis of historic photographs. Nearly 3,000 masterpieces crafted by jewelers and goldsmiths, precious objects made of amber and ivory, vessels made of precious stones, exquisite bronze statuettes and objects made of exotic materials like coral and shells from the South Seas will be presented. > www.dresdentourist.de or > www.skd-dresden.

Sep 16 - Oct 3 Oktoberfest, Munich

Six million visitors are expected from all over the world at the world's largest beer festival. Five million liters of beer will be served and more than 200,000 pairs of pork sausages will be consumed during the Oktoberfest. In addition, carousels, roller coasters and other spectacular funfair attractions can be found on the huge festival site on the Wies'n. www.oktoberfest.de

Opens September 21 The Weissenhof Museum, Stuttgart

On the 21st of September, just outside of Stuttgart, the Weissenhof Siedlung (the Weissenhof Settlement) will open its museum in the Le Corbusier House. When it was founded in 1927, the Weissenhof Settlement was considered the most progressive architectural

Hamburg is a hot spot for a long, cool weekend! Emirates Airlines is accommodating a new surge in demand for the northern German city with its new JFK-Hamburg flight three times per day! * www.emirates.com/usa

A long weekend in Hamburg is a perfect destination for those who like to luxuriate in canal cruising, culture, Michelin-starred restaurants and elegant architecture! Shopping is the city's best, not-so-hidden secret. The rich assortment of shops and markets will satisfy everyone at every budget level. You can start in center town with elegant boutiques on Neuer Wall and shopping arcades, including the Jungfernsteig, Hanseviertel and Gaensemarktpassage. Thereafter, spread your net to the second hand stories, flea markets and outdoor fairs such as the Isemarkt under the elevated tracks of the Hochbahn, where one-of-a-kind objets d'art and jewelry and clothing can be snapped up on a dime. The Marktstrasse and the student district of the Karolienviertel and Schanzenviertel offer retro and hip stores that rival anything found in New York's village or TriBeCa. *www.hamburg-tourism.de*

At the edge of the harbour, the Hamburg Fish Market has taken place every Sunday morning since 1703. Nowadays, market-goers can purchase much more than just fish—livestock, exotic plants and a whole range of bric-a-brac are sold by the cheery stallholders. The market is also a great place for a fishy breakfast. Pale-faced, all-night partygoers rolling off of a night on the Reeperbahn alongside rosy-cheeked early risers meet here early in the morning to line their stomachs and secure their fresh food for a few days. *www.hamburg-tourism.de

Regional Focus: Regensburg now new on the UNESCO World Heritage List

On July 13 of this year, the old town of Regensburg joined Germany's 31 other UNESCO World Heritage sites. The authentic buildings of outstanding quality bear witness to the town's political, religious and economic significance during the High Middle Ages. In addition to the buildings, the old town center features the stone bridge, dating from the 12th century. Stroll along the atmospheric, narrow lanes and cross the historical squares and imagine that the Middle Ages have come alive. *

www.regensburg.de

Special Deals

initiative of its time. In 33 houses with 63 apartments, a total of 17 architects from Germany, France, Holland, Belgium and Austria implemented their ideas of "functionalism." Among the architects, all of whom were under 45 years of age, were Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Walter Gropius, Le Corbusier, Hans Scharoun and others. *

Sep 23 - Oct 8 161th Cannstatter Wasen' Fest, Stuttgart

Every year, millions of guests

join the locals to enjoy the worlds second largest and most attractive beer garden and folk festivals. Up to 5000 visitors can frolicsomely celebrate in each festival tent. Bands wearing traditional clothing ensure the cheerful entertainment and the Stuttgarter and visitors enjoy delicious Käsespätzle (Swabian noodles with cheese), roast, potato noodles with sour kraut, Göckele or crispy knuckles. www.cannstatter-volksfest.de

Sep 29 - Apr 9 Home and Exile Exhibition, Berlin

(German only) or * www.

stuttgart-tourist.de

The Jewish Museum Berlin is dedicating its biggest special exhibition to the Jewish Germans who were driven from their homeland by the National Socialists. Between 1933 and 1945 the refuges found shelter in over eighty countries and five continents. The exhibition traces the refugees' routes into exile and includes many items lent from private possessions and are now being shown publicly for the first time. A vivid impression of the time is conveyed through

Regensburg "Princess Weekend"

Be treated like royalty. Enjoy deluxe accommodations with a view of the Danube in historic Regensburg, a city that has changed surprisingly little since five centuries ago. More than 1,300 medieval buildings pack an Old City barely a half-mile square.

Enjoy two nights' deluxe accommodations, with river view at the Hotel Courtyard by Marriott. A guided sightseeing tour through the medieval Old City and through the Palace of the Princes of Thurn and Taxis. Prices start from \$109 p.p. including breakfast. For more information, please visit > www.hhoa.de

Cruise on Rhine and Moselle River

Scenic fall sailings on the Rhine and Moselle rivers are still available on the five-star MV Heidelberg of Peter Deilmann Cruises in September and October. The seven-night cruises sail on the Moselle to the small wine villages of Cochem and Bernkstel with castles, half-timbered houses and old market squares as well as to Trier, the oldest city of Germany. You will also pass the pretty port town Koblenz with all of its castle ruins along the Rhine. Prices starting at \$1495 per person including air fare. For more information please go to * www.deilmann-cruises.com

Classic Germany

Germany boasts magnificent architecture, great museums and fascinating cultural events. Visit the exciting cities of Dresden, Leipzig, Berlin, Hamburg and Frankfurt. Travel through the Mecklenburg lake district, and visit the historic and lovely Hanseatic cities of Hamburg and Bremen. Prices starting from \$1229 per person for nine days including air fare.

www.picassotours.com

documentary and feature film sequences, video interviews, music clips and excerpts from radio programmes. > www.

juedisches-museum-berlin.de

Contact Information

For comments and enquiries, contact Victoria Larson, PR Manager, at the German National Tourist Office: phone: 212-661-7200 ext. 223 or email: victoria.larson@d-z-t.com

Next Issue: Christmas Markets and Advent

CONTACT INFORMATION

For comments and enquiries, please contact the Information Center at the German National Tourist Office:

German National Tourist Office 122 East 42nd Street New York, NY 10168-0072

Tel: (212) 661-7200 Toll-free: (800) 651-7010 Fax: (212) 661-7174

Internet: www.cometogermany.com

Email: GermanyInfo@d-z-t.com

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