



The Official Newsletter of  
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## Exploring Germany's Expressionism - North, South, East & West

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### Editor's Choice: G8 Summit Highlights Northern Germany in Heiligendamm

The State Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania is one of Germany's Northern Lights, boasting not only a beautiful landscape along the Baltic coast, but also historic architecture. The region is shaped by water, and the Hanseatic towns still hold impressive reminders of the region's former power. Today, Wismar is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the region's seaside health resorts are still leading spa destinations. Palaces, stately homes, parks, gardens and lakes are characteristic features of the state. Along the shores of the Baltic Sea and the Mecklenburg Lake Area, the growing holiday destination boasts a variety of Spa and Golf hotels, adding new luxury accommodations every other week. From June 6 to June 8, the state will be the center of attention for political world events. This month the G8 Summit will be held in Sea Resort of Heiligendamm, the former Spa destination of the European high nobility, three hours north of Berlin. On occasion of this political world event Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania Tourism has launched a new website at [www.linking-stories-g8.com](http://www.linking-stories-g8.com) featuring 50 remarkable, comic, and exceptional stories connecting the German federal state of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania to many foreign countries as well as a new international meetings and incentives website at [www.meet-mv.de](http://www.meet-mv.de).

### Feature: Germany's Hot Art Month - Documenta and More

### Special Deals

#### Package-deal to the documenta 12

Visit the most famous exhibition of contemporary art in Kassel and enjoy various special offers included in a package: One night including breakfast at a two, three, or four-star hotel and a Kassel Info-Package per room. Visitors will additionally receive the KasselCard which offers several advantages such as the free use of the public transportation, the possibility to take part in rotation sightseeing tours for 5,- € supplementary compensation per person and walking tours organised by the Kassel Tourist Board at no further cost. Prices for the hotel start at 77 Euro per person in a double room and 94 Euro per person in a single room. Price-reduction for children is available upon request. The

This month Germany will celebrate outstanding art events spread over the whole country. World-famous impressionist paintings from New York's Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art will be on display in the New National Gallery in Berlin from June to October. The focus of this remarkable exhibition is a collection of around 130 highlights of 19th century French art, including paintings by Monet, Manet, Degas, Courbet and Delacroix, as well as 16 Rodin sculptures. Around 15 works by artists such as Picasso, Bonnard and Modigliani provide a forward look to the 20th century. Berlin is the only European stop on the exhibition's tour. [www.neue-nationalgalerie.de](http://www.neue-nationalgalerie.de)

The International State Exhibition "Constantine the Great" will take place in Trier, Germany's oldest city located at the Moselle River, from June 2 to November 4. Constantine the Great ruled as Roman emperor for more than 31 years from 306 to 337 - longer than any other apart from the first emperor, Augustus. In the 4th century, Constantine succeeded in reuniting the Empire after a period of major crisis. Enabling the classical age to enjoy its final heyday, he personally introduced a critical change that continues to shape Europe today: Constantine was the first emperor to actively promote the Christian church and adopted the Christian faith shortly before his death. The exhibition is dedicated to this great ruler in Trier, where he took up his first consulate post as emperor in 307. [www.konstantin-ausstellung.de](http://www.konstantin-ausstellung.de)

The Bonn Museum Mile Festival, one of Germany's many city museum festivals, is celebrating its birthday from June 7 to June 10. Over four days, the Deutsche Museum Bonn, the Kunst- and Ausstellungshalle, the Artmuseum, the House of History and the Museum Alexander Koenig offer a varied program including music, art, culture and special tours through the exhibitions. Different programs for children are also available. [www.bonn-region.de](http://www.bonn-region.de) (German only).

Taking place from June 16 to September 23 in Kassel, the documenta is regarded the world's largest contemporary art fair, drawing attention from all over the world. Initiated in 1955, it now takes place every five years in the Hessian town on the famed Fairy Tale Route. [www.documenta12.de](http://www.documenta12.de)

Not far away, the Muenster Sculpture Show will be erected throughout the city, from June 17 to September 30, by its curator, Kasper Koenig. Every ten years Muenster hosts this internationally recognized exhibition and the whole city becomes a museum for contemporary art. This year the project will invite about 35 artists, including Michael Asher, Isa Genzken, Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster and Susan Phillipsz to participate. [www.skulptur-projekte.de](http://www.skulptur-projekte.de)

### **Theme: Bruecke, Blue Rider & Co - Germany's Expressionist Movements**

Expressionism was born in Germany: Works by Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Franz Marc, Max Beckmann, Otto Dix, Lyonel Feininger, August Macke, Emil Nolde, and Max Pechstein formed the basis for the high esteem in which German expressionism is held around the world. Today visitors to Germany can follow the traces of Expressionist movements especially the former strongholds of Berlin, Murnau and Bremen, each of which was home to well known artists and Expressionist groups.

Berlin was always an avant-garde stronghold. 'Die Bruecke' (bridge), one of the most progressive art schools of expressionism, boomed in Berlin as of 1911. Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, who ranks as one of the most significant German artists of the 20th century, became the leader of the artist group which also included painters such as Max Pechstein, Karl Schmidt-Rottluf and Emil Nolde. They felt that the art of the current

offer is valid starting June 16 and ending September 23, 2007. [www.kassel-tourist.info](http://www.kassel-tourist.info)

Historic Germany: Berlin to Bavaria

Enjoy twelve days in Germany and get an impression of its past and present! Sightseeing highlights for this trip will be the cities of Berlin, Potsdam, Dresden, Weimar, Bamberg and Munich. The Go Ahead Tour includes round-trip air transportation, airport transfers and escorts, ten nights accommodations in comfortable, well-located hotels, full breakfast daily and four three-course dinners, guided sightseeing and entrance fees to selected sights. Prices for this tour start at \$1,999 per person, bookable from September 27, 2007. [www.goaheadtours.com](http://www.goaheadtours.com)

### **Art & Culture Package of the Steigenberger Parkhotel in Duesseldorf**

Spend a weekend full of cultural activities in Duesseldorf. Many interesting museums such as the Art Collection North-Rhine-Westfalia showing the Paul-Klee Collection are located close to the Steigenberger Parkhotel. The package includes two nights accommodation including breakfast buffet, a welcome cocktail and free admission to the Kunstsammlung NRW - K20 or K21. This offer is valid until December 30, 2007. Prices start at Euro 310 per person for a single room and Euro 205 per person for a double room. The offer is valid during weekends, on request and subject to availability.

[www.duesseldorf.steigenberger.de](http://www.duesseldorf.steigenberger.de)

### **Events**

#### **Bach Festival, Leipzig**

June 7 - Jun 17

The theme of 2007's annual Bach Festival is "From Monteverdi to Bach", with music from France, England, Germany and Italy. The artists will be performing at venues including churches that breathe the spirit of Bach and bear the traces of his predecessors. There will once again be trips to concert and

establishment was too academic and sought to build a 'bridge' between Germany's past and future by attempting to depict not objective reality but rather the subjective emotions and responses. Today the unique Bruecke Museum in Berlin owns the most substantial collection of 'Bruecke' masterpieces worldwide including major works from the most important periods in Kirchner's artistic life and celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. [www.bruecke-museum.de](http://www.bruecke-museum.de) (German only)

'Blue Land' is what Franz Marc called the region around Murnau, marked by lakes and mountain peaks, only an hour south of Munich. Thus the name for the second important school of German expressionism was coined in the early 1900s. In addition to Marc, Wassily Kandinsky, Gabriele Muentner, Alexej Jawlensky and Otto Mueller created their famous paintings under the influence of the folk culture and landscapes. Situated at the foothills of the Bavarian Alps, the literally picturesque town of Murnau overlooks Lake Staffelsee and the nature reserve 'Murnauer Moos'. The 'Blue Rider Group' is today remembered in two important local museums: The Schloss-museum houses the most important permanent exhibition of Muentner paintings worldwide. The Muentnerhaus shows amongst other exhibits, furniture and walls painted on by Kandinsky and Muentner. Travel packages such as the "Art cum Scenic Beauty Tour" and "Walking on the trails of The Blue Rider" combine walking through picturesque countryside and art, making the region attractive to both art and hiking travelers. [www.murnau.de](http://www.murnau.de)

In the artistic community of Worpswede, close to Bremen, Paula Modersohn-Becker produced most of her 1,000 drawings and 400 paintings. She was one of the most important representatives of early expressionism, but seldom exhibited and sold only a handful of her paintings during her brief career. Today, the artist is widely acknowledged throughout Germany and the Paula Modersohn-Becker Museum in Bremen, which is the first museum worldwide honoring the work of a female, houses substantial collections of the artist's work. Designed by sculptor Bernhard Hoetger, the house itself is an impressive reminder of his expressionist creativity. [www.bremen-tourism.de](http://www.bremen-tourism.de) In the close-by artist colony of Worpswede, where Paula Mernderson Becker worked, altogether seven museums illustrate the Worpswede art-history, among them the historical Modersohn house showing a fantastic collection of paintings. [www.bremen-tourism.de](http://www.bremen-tourism.de)

Other museums featuring collections of expressionism masterpieces are the K20 Museum in Düsseldorf [www.kunstsammlung.de](http://www.kunstsammlung.de), the Folkwang Museum in Essen [www.museum-folkwang.de](http://www.museum-folkwang.de), the Frieder Burda Museum in Baden-Baden [www.sammlung-frieder-burda.de](http://www.sammlung-frieder-burda.de), the Staatsgalerie in Stuttgart [www.staatsgalerie-stuttgart.de](http://www.staatsgalerie-stuttgart.de) (German only), the Buchheim Collection in Bernried [www.buchheimmuseum.de](http://www.buchheimmuseum.de), the Franz Marc Museum in Kochel [www.franz-marc-museum.de](http://www.franz-marc-museum.de), and the Lenbachhaus [www.lenbachhaus.de](http://www.lenbachhaus.de) as well as the Pinakothek der Moderne in Munich [www.pinakothek.de](http://www.pinakothek.de).

### **Regional Focus: Seebuell at the North Sea - Expressionism off the Beaten Path**

In the North of Germany, just minutes from the Danish border, the sleepy village of Seebuell was home to one of Germany's most important expressionist painters, Emil Nolde. Every year art lovers from all over the world drive down the long country road leading to Nolde's home, now a museum, perched atop one of the few tiny hills in the area to visit the domain of the famous artist.

Amidst the wide plains typical for northern Germany, Nolde's building is similar to a brick fortress, with narrow windows and a flat roof. Nolde

operas, intimate chamber music and large-scale orchestral concerts for the delight of music-lovers and connoisseurs. [www.bach-leipzig.de](http://www.bach-leipzig.de)

### **Classical Music at the Odeonsplatz, Munich**

June 30 - July 1

The two-day annual event begins with Munich's Philharmonic Orchestra performing on the Odeon public square in Munich. The soloist will be Waltraud Maier, who is internationally recognized as one of the most famous Wagner-singers. The conductor of the Philharmonic Orchestra will be Claus Peter Flor who is known as a remarkably talented conductor. On the second day, the Symphony Orchestra of the Bavarian Broadcast will be performing. Lang Lang, a famous Chinese pianist, hired by the Berlin and Vienna Philharmonics, will be welcomed as a special guest. Mariss Janson will be the conductor. During this event, works by Beethoven and Wagner will be presented. [www.klassik-am-odeonsplatz.de](http://www.klassik-am-odeonsplatz.de) (German only)

### **Special: For Armchair Travelers - Bruecke Online**

To learn more about the German Expressionist movement or get a sneak preview what Germany's art scene has to offer, the MoMA offers a special online exhibition on 'Artists of the Bruecke - Themes in German Expressionist prints'. The Museum of Modern Art's virtual exhibition showcases its unparalleled collection of German Expressionist prints and illustrated books.

Visitors can tour the eight thematic 'galleries' comprised of more than 50 comparative groupings of art with interpretive text and narrated quotes. Every image in the exhibition links to a larger version with more specific information about the work. From woodcut over lithograph

consciously chose the modern Bauhaus-style design to distinguish it from his neighbors' Frisian thatched roofed farmhouses. The painter's former studio now houses mostly his religious works. Directly above the studio lies the hall of paintings that Nolde had added on in 1937. The former living rooms on the first floor have been converted into cabinets to house exhibitions of Nolde's works on paper. Nolde planned the museum to be a place where 'intellectual pilgrims' could come for happiness and artistic and spiritual relaxation apart from the huge museums in Germany's cities

Bright blue cityscapes, bombastic red floral gardens, pink, yellow and red nudes: Nolde's emotional use of color became his calling card in Berlin. The style was new, and it inspired the nascent artist movement Die Brücke (The Bridge) to invite Nolde to join them in 1906 in Berlin. Preferring the solitude of the sea, the artist and his wife moved permanently to Seebuell in 1927, where they worked and lived. After 1945 the artist had received various awards and honors for his work and was one of the participants of the first documenta in 1951. In 1956, Nolde and his wife established the Foundation Seebuell Ada und Emil Nolde in their residential home at the Northern Sea. [www.nolde-stiftung.de](http://www.nolde-stiftung.de)

to intaglio, different mediums are represented. Altogether works of six Bruecke artists, Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Max Pechstein, Erich Heckel, Otto Mueller, Emil Nolde, and Karl-Schmidt Rotluff, are on display in the online exhibit. Access to a map provides context to where these artists worked, the sites they depicted, plus biographical information on the artists which includes narrated passages from their writings.

For more information visit [www.moma.org](http://www.moma.org) and go to online exhibits.

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Next Issue: The Art of Eating and Dining

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