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Who Said You Can't Combine Business with Leisure

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Editor's Choice: New Art Openings and Museums on the Rhine

Starting on the 11th of November and running through February 24th, over 120 Surrealistic paintings, sculptures and objects from international museums, galleries and private collections will be on display at the Wilhelm Hack Museum in Ludwigshafen on the Rhine, just across from Mannheim and Heidelberg. The show includes works by Salvador Dalí, René Magritte, Max Ernst, Hans Arp, Yves Tanguy, Joan Miró, Alberto Giacometti, Man Ray, Giorgio de Chirico and Pablo Picasso. www.wilhelm-hack-museum.de

A new museum in Rolandseck devoted to the work of Dadaist artists Hans and Sophie Taeuber-Arp has opened high above Germany's Rhine in a new building above the famous railway station. Designed by American architect Richard Meier, the building houses more than 600 works by Hans and Sophie Taeuber-Arp. Hans Arp was a member of the Dadaist and Surrealist movements. Richard Meier also designed the exceptional Frieder Burda Museum in Baden Baden as well as the outstanding Museum for Applied Arts on the banks of the River Main in Frankfurt. www.arpmuseum.org (German only)

Feature: Open for Business: Stuttgart's New Business Traveler Hotels

Business travellers and meeting planners will delight in Stuttgart's array of hotels and new conference facilities along with existing meeting rooms in a variety of unusual places including the Mercedes Benz Museum, the Neues Schloss palace in the city center, a theater Theaterhaus Stuttgart, the Gottlieb Daimler soccer stadium, an old town hall in Esslingen and even a former farm. But the newest hotels are ripe for the picking as they say for meeting planners who need attractive space, attractive prices and

Special Events:

227th Gewandhaus Season, Gewandhaus, Leipzig

November

At the Gewandhaus, Leipzig's famous concert hall and home to the Gewandhaus Orchestra, a new season will start in November. New in 2007/2008 are the numerous piano recitals, with five internationally renowned pianists: Alfred Brendel, Grigory Sokolov, Radu Lupu, and Katia and Mareille Labèque. Another highlight this season is the performance of three Franz Schubert song cycles: Die schöne Müllerin, Winterreise, and Schwanengesang.

Gewandhaus organist Michael Schönheit and tenor Christoph Genz will present the cycles on three evenings, with an emphasis on historical performance practice.

www.gewandhaus.de

Chocoladium - An Interactive Chocolate Exhibition, Universum Bremen, Bremen

an exciting host city with plenty of culture and entertainment from the world second largest beer festival and tennis tournaments to car museums. www.stuttgart-tourist.de

In the very heart of this hi-tech region, the new trade fair complex, Neue Messe Stuttgart, has a total capacity of some 9,000 visitors but the rooms fit anywhere from 20 to 4500 participants and offer an exceptional range of possibilities for staging events in the most modern of surroundings.

www.messe-stuttgart.de

The new trade fair complex adds to the city's already existing 30 conference hotels within the city center and another 450 within a 60-kilometer radius. Moevenpick introduced a second hotel at the airport within walking distance of the new trade fair. The hotel's 326 rooms and facilities were created by well known artists and interior designers. Lining up down the block at the airport are the new Express by Holiday Inn and the new NH Stuttgart Airport. Hotel guests can use the complementary shuttle to the airport and trade fair.

In the city center, the newest hotel on the block will be the ARCOTEL Camino scheduled to open in December 2007. Located in the heart of Stuttgart this 4-star hotel will offer 170 guest rooms as well as six event rooms for up to 200 persons with modern technical equipment. That said; keep your old friends while you make new ones. The existing Maritim and Steigenberger Graf Zeppelin hotels as well as the Hotel am Schlossgarten are as ready as ever to greet you and your briefcase!

With so many opportunities it can be difficult to choose, but even that is taken care of by Stuttgart-Marketing. The new planning tool Congress Administrator offers professional support for event organizers, making it easy to handle queries about contingents and to allocate and reserve rooms directly with the contract hotels. To learn more about Stuttgart and this new service, go to www.stuttgart-tourist.de to order the new Stuttgart Meeting Guide.

Theme: Meeting Planners Take Note: Germany's Magic Cities' Unusual Venues Combine Business with Pleasure

Two-thirds of the world's top international trade fairs and exhibitions take place in Germany. Frankfurt, Hannover, Cologne, Düsseldorf and Hamburg are known around the world for their international fairs. What event planners may not know is that Germany's nine Magic Cities offer highly unusual and exotic meeting venues that will delight and impress business executives and their VIPs. Event organizers can choose from a great variety of special locations from luxurious castles to stadiums and car museums and from the ultramodern locations to venues with great historical character.

Starting in the West, Düsseldorf is Germany's leading center of foreign trade and hosts 40 international fairs as well as several thousand meetings and conventions every year. Located in the midst of sweeping English landscaped gardens, Schloss Dyck is one of the most important historical monuments near the river Rhine. Its gracious park and surroundings will calm the most tortured business meetings.

www.business.duesseldorf-tourismus.de

Dangerously blinking crocodiles, changing chameleons and hungry piranhas can surround you while you talk business - after all, isn't it a dog eat dog world? Cologne's Zoo is an exotic and extravagant backdrop where business partners can book festivities and receptions all year around. www.koeln.de

Oct 13 - Jul 31

From 13th of October, the Universum® invites all chocolate lovers to Bremen. The exhibition "Chocoladium" explains all facets of the fascinating product - from the source of the cocoa bean to the effect of chocolate on the human body. In collaboration with German chocolate manufacturer Hachez based in Bonn the Universum® offers visitors a truly interactive experience. On exhibit are original machines used for the chocolate production and visitors can engage in various chocolaty activities.

www.universum-bremen.de
(German only)

Euro Scene, Leipzig

Nov 6 - Nov 11

Euro-scene Leipzig, established in 1991, is one of Europe's top festivals of contemporary theatre. Every year it features 25 performances by some 15 visiting avant-garde and innovative dance and theatre troupes at venues belonging to Leipzig Opera House, Schauspiel Leipzig and fringe companies. www.euro-scene.de

Pablo Picasso. Works of the 1950s, Saarbrücken

Nov 10- Feb-28

The 1950s works reflect a transition phase in Picasso's art which was marked by a return to stylistic elements from his early work and to the formal language developed in response to the Spanish Civil War and the Second World War.

www.saarlandmuseum.de

Theater Festival Impulse 2007, Bochum, Düsseldorf, Cologne, Mühlheim

Nov 21- Dec 02

Impulse, at last. At last the best off-theatre productions from Germany, Austria and Switzerland can be seen in North Rhine-Westphalia. For the first time, two international productions in English supplement the program as Jérôme Bel - one of Europe's most important theatre persons - and the Spanish newcomer Cuqui

For culture lovers, the Alte Oper in Frankfurt is one of the most renowned opera houses in Germany but also a truly unique conference center with a colorful history and a special flair. You don't have to be a world class soprano to get on stage! From company anniversaries to product presentations, the impressive atmosphere of Alte Oper Frankfurt guarantees a successful event. www.frankfurt-tourismus.de

In eastern Germany, Dresden offers the Panometer, a former gasometer, featuring a 180 degree panorama painting of Dresden's Baroque era with its magnificent palaces, churches and residences in the midst of the charming Elbe River. The Panometer is not only a fascinating venue for business events, but also worth a visit during a leisure stay in Dresden. www.dresden-congress.de

Most people think of Berlin's Olympic Stadium as an arena for top-class sport events such as the World soccer cup 2006 or Jesse Owen's winning five gold medals in the 1936 Olympics. But the Olympic Stadium also offers a unique setting for conferences, seminars and workshops. www.berlin-tourist-information.de

In the south of Germany, the Mercedes-Benz museum in Stuttgart can be booked for all kinds of events either during the opening hours of the exhibition or in the evening. Whether for exclusive receptions with a view over the surrounding vineyards, or for conferences or vehicle presentations in the outdoor arena, the stylish rooms and the amazing array of cars, are incredible backdrop to any kind of event. www.stuttgart-tourist.de

There are congress centers with three, four or five stars. And, then there is the planetarium in the Forum der Technik in Munich which has 8,900! In this branch of the Deutsches Museum, the in-house team of specialists develops and coordinates your event, from cupola-projection to conference equipment. There are 18 additional rooms from a small seminar room to a large lecture hall. www.muenchen.de

In the north, Hannover was the seat of Hannoverian kings as well as to the House of Guelph. Next to the Royal Herrenhausen Gardens in Hannover's city center, the Guelph's summer residence, the Fürstenhaus Herrenhausen, is one of Hannover's top addresses for princely events. Suitable for exclusive receptions for up to 300 people and conferences of up to 40 people this imposing building, which is today still owned by his Royal Highness, Prince Ernst August of Hannover, offers royal ambience with exquisite interiors from the Baroque, Rococo and classical periods. www.hannover.de

The green heart of Hamburg provides a truly unique backdrop with its fleet of over 15 ships that can be perfectly equipped with conference technology, guaranteeing trouble free events for up to 60 guests. The pride of the fleet, the world's largest solar powered vessel, is available for exclusive conferences. For events on a larger-scale the Fish Auction Hall is a unique choice with maritime flair. The fully restored fish hall with its own landing stage, located at Hamburg's famous fish market, is the ideal setting for larger functions for up to 2,500 guests. www.hamburg-tourism.de

Heritage Special: A Whirlwind Tour through Germany's Heritage Places!

Relive the emigration stories of your ancestors and visit informative museums and retrace the steps of important German Americans all within ten days because that's how much vacation you can get anyway. Fly into Frankfurt and start your journey with a visit to the Paulskirche, the meeting place for the German revolutionaries of 1848 which brought

Jerez will attend the festival. From 21 November to 2 December not only the best shows of the past but also the future of theatre will be shown. www.festivalimpulse.de

Lucas Cranach the Elder 1472-1553, Frankfurt

Nov 23 - Feb17

The Städel brings together a comprehensive exhibition of over 70 masterpieces by Lucas Cranach, the great Reformation painter, from all the world's important museums and art collections. Lucas Cranach was even more popular and more commercially successful than his contemporary Albrecht Dürer, and his influence on the Germans' visual world was the most penetrating. Besides displaying a magnificent sample of Cranach's immense oeuvre, the exhibition will also attempt to uncover the secret of his success.

www.staedelmuseum.de

Traditional Christmas Markets

Nov 23 - Dec 23

As Christmas approaches, Germany reveals its most romantic side. Over 2500 Christmas markets, located in town and city centers, twinkle with lights and invite you to share the joy of the pre-Christmas season. The aroma of Gluhwein, baked apples and sausages wafts through the air, while stories of Christmas traditions are told and re-enacted.

www.cometogermany.com

many Germans such as Carl Schurz and Adolph Cluss to the US. It is also the place where Kennedy held a major speech in 1963.

Then, it is simply a hop, skip and a jump to the land of 'Once Upon a Time' and the Brothers Grimm and the German Fairy Tale Road which ends in Bremen. From there, it is a short ride to German Emigration Center in Bremerhaven from where more than seven million people emigrated between 1830 and 1974. Cuxhaven, another nearby emigration port, coined the term "America is just around the corner" which is still heard today. In Hamburg, a harbor cruise will bring you to the newly opened Emigration World: Ballinstadt - Port of Dreams. This is where five million European emigrants left their homeland in search of a better life across the Atlantic.

Hold on to your hats! It is now high speed to Berlin in just 2 ½ hours where, among hundreds of other things, you can retrace the footsteps of Marlene Dietrich and Ernst Lubitsch and visit the Kennedy Museum. Hopefully you caught a glimpse of the museum dedicated to Otto Lilienthal in Anklam and Lübeck where Thomas Mann lived and wrote. From Berlin you can travel south to Dessau to see where Kurt Weill grew up and the museum dedicated him as well as the Bauhaus School built by Walter Gropius but then, whoosh! it is on to Eisenach and Erfurt where Martin Luther was born, taught and preached. After sampling a variety of German beers and delicacies such as roast pork with dumplings or crispy meat patties and meatballs in creamy caper sauce, you set off for the southern realm where you can wind your trip down in Bavaria and Baden Württemberg.

Bavaria's fascinating emigrants included, Henry Kissinger, Sandra Bullock, both of whom came from Fürth, Jacob Astor from Walldorf and Franz Daniel Pastorius, the founder of Germantown, who came from Sommerhausen. No visit is complete without visiting Buttenheim, the erstwhile home and now museum to Levi Strauss, the founder of blue jeans in America. If you are not too exhausted, you can stop for a glass of Franconian wine but don't rest too long for there is so much more to see. In Bad Mergentheim, for example, there is a small museum dedicated to Ottmar Mergenthal who emigrated to Baltimore where he invented the typesetting machine and Linotype. Please don't miss Ulm for that is where Einstein was born and he honored his hometown with a beautiful speech. If you find this whirlwind tantalizing, then go to www.germanoriginality.com and check our interactive map for more information on German American heritage itineraries.

In planning your trip to discover your German Origin(ality) first hand, there are new heritage tours to Germany which include those offered by General Tours and Globus and Cosmos. Even Burt Wolf, the producer and host of PBS's Travel & Traditions has jumped on board with his own specialized heritage tours of Germany.

For more information on travel to Germany and special heritage offers, go to the website of the German National Tourist Office: www.cometogermany.com and for more current and historical information on Germany, go to the website of the German Information Center: www.germany.info.

Special Deals:

Continental Airlines - Holiday BusinessFirst Special

Give the gift of luxury this holiday season with discounted BusinessFirst fares to Berlin, Cologne, Hamburg or Frankfurt, each of which offer tremendous museums, Christmas markets and wonderful shopping opportunities for the budget-conscious traveler. Enjoy the luxury of BusinessFirst with affordable round-trip fares starting as low as \$596 each way. To get these sale fares travel outbound Dec. 17, 2007 - Jan. 4, 2008

and return Dec. 22, 2007 - Jan. 9, 2008. Additional taxes and fees apply.

»www.continental.com

Berlin at its Best with Virgin Vacations

Take advantage of this special offer and experience Berlin at its best - for example in the upcoming Christmas season. Stroll the Christmas Market at Gendarmen Markt or enjoy some of Berlin's many and diverse cultural events which take place all year round. The package includes 6 nights hotel accommodation, a daily continental breakfast and air fare for a roundtrip journey. The offer is valid for travel between November 05, 2007 and May 15, 2008. Prices start at \$829 per person double-occupancy and only apply for a 21-day advance purchase. Additional taxes and fees apply. »www.virgin-vacations.com

Romantic Wellness Weekend - Traben-Trarbach, Moselle Valley

Enjoy a romantic wellness weekend for two in the four-star superior art nouveau hotel Bellevue in Traben-Trarbach in the beautiful Moselle valley. On offer are two different packages. Choose between the 'Vinotherapy for Him and Her' and the 'Luxury Weekend for Him and Her'. Apart from two nights accommodation, breakfast buffet and a three-course-menu, the first package includes a body peeling with grape seed oil, an aromatic bath with red grape extract, a head-, foot and back massage with grape seed oil as well as an individual facial. The use of the spa-area with swimming-pool is also included. Prices start from € 380 per person double-occupancy. The second package includes a cleopatra facial treatment, a full-body massage and a one-day make-up class for her. He, on the other hand, can enjoy a reviving shiatsu facial, an ayurveda full-body massage as well as a hand treatment. This package also includes two nights accommodation with breakfast buffet and free-entry to the spa-area. Prices start from €240 per person double-occupancy. This offer is valid all-year-round and prices start at €180 for a single room and €140 per person double-occupancy. Rates include 19% VAT and service charge.

»www.rlp-info.de



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Next Issue: A Preview for 2008: Germany's Castles and Gardens.
Continuation of the Heritage Campaign

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