



The Official Newsletter of the German National Tourist Press Office

New York, February 08 2007

Carnival Reigns & Contemporary Art Prevails

Welcome to our press newsletter: Carnival Reigns & Contemporary Art Prevails. We do respect your privacy. Should you no longer wish to receive our newsletter, please scroll down to unsubscribe. Thank you.

Editors Choice: Special Deals to Germany at www.ComeToGermany.com

There's so much to see and do in Germany, but where to find the best deals and packages? Germany's new launched website www.ComeToGermanyNOW.com provides special offers ranging from hotels and flights to city tours, package tours, including river cruising and more. For the first time altogether 16 Germany travel partners present their most popular travel products on one user-friendly website to help travelers planning their trip to Germany. In booking on of these package deals to Germany, you will experience great value for money.

Theme: Germany's Fifth Season and its Most Colorful Carnival Bashes

In Germany, Carnival is known as the fifth and foolish season. It is a time of colorful street parades, costumes, balls and fools' gatherings (Narrentreffen). From February 15-20, well known Carnivals are held in the Black Forest region, and in the Rhineland cities of Mainz, Aachen, Bonn and Dusseldorf. The biggest Carnival in all of Germany is in Cologne.

Carnival in Cologne is almost as old as the history of the city itself. The five fun-packed days come with imaginative costumes, parties and balls, ending with several parades on Rose Monday. In 2007 the motto of the over 3 mile long parade is "Cologne is all of us!" and consists of decorated carts, coaches, giant Hollywood style walking dummies, groups of masked fools, brass bands, horses and costumed groups on foot. www.koelnerkarneval.de

Just 25 miles northwest of Cologne, Duesseldorf will be turned upside down as more than 6000 revelers parade through the city, dressed in screaming colors and uniforms with more than 60 wagons and 120 horses. www.duesseldorf-tourismus.de

Further south, in Mainz the Carnival campaigns began on New Year's Day with a procession of Carnival regiments through the center of town. In February, numerous carnival sessions in and around Mainz lead up to the

Events

Picasso 'Painting against Time', Duesseldorf Feb 3 - May 28

Pablo Picasso spent the final years of his life in the French city Mougins (1960-1973), where his art was dominated by pastoral love scenes, disparate couples, nudes, self-portraits and cloak-and-dagger masquerades. Sixty paintings, sixty drawings, sixty graphic sheets and several "collapsible sculptures" serve to vividly embody this period of his life. www.kunstsammlung.de

Berlinale, Berlin Feb 8 - Feb 18

The Berlin International Film Festival is already in its 57th year. The public program features around 350 films, most of which are world or European premières. It functions both as a showcase for international filmmaking and as a global industry event, attracting talent from all over the world to Berlin. www.berlinale.de

Exhibition: Muentert and Kandinsky, Munich Feb 10 - Jul 3

The exhibition house "Lenbachhaus" in Munich presents Gabriele Muentert,

'crazy climax', which is the world-famous Mainz Carnival Parade on Rose Monday. www.mainz.de

In the Black Forest region, celebrations take the form of the Alemannic Carnival, which has its roots in medieval festivities designed to use up perishable foods before the start of Lent. One special feature of the Alemannic Carnival is its Carnival characters. Devil figures and fools are among the oldest-established characters. The masks are made mostly of wood and traditionally handed down through generations. www.tourismus-bw.de

For those who would like to experience an unusual carnival celebration this year the Maschkera Carnival in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Bavaria's international Ski Resort, is the place to go. On February 15 and 18 local folks hidden behind hand-carved traditional masks and colorful costumes roam the streets moving from one inn to the next tavern, spreading jokes, music, and most important the so-called Maschkera. The unique voice of Maschkera is a mixture of guttural sounds with sing-song falsetto, which is accompanied with bells or other rather crude instruments. Traditional Maschkera characters are the tambourine man, the Maschkera musicians or the "Untersberger Mandel" an oversized kobold couple, the man wearing short Lederhosen and the lady wearing a black pleated shirt. As one important part of the Maschkera is anonymity, not only the faces of the fools are covered by the wooden masks, but also the hands and feet are well covered from prying eyes. Nothing should give away the person behind the mask. Even old time locals have a difficult time trying to put a name to those masked people trying to remain unrecognized. www.garmisch-partenkirchen.de

Feature: Germany is a Mecca for Contemporary Art Lovers

Germany was a hotbed of 20th century art. Its incredible art explosion with the advent of the Jugendstil Movements, the Bauhaus and Expressionism were echoed throughout the country and all over the world. These days, the art and culture scene in Germany is still more than alive and vital. With more than 6000 museums and galleries spread all over the country, Germany is nothing, if culturally rich. But especially a strong contemporary art movement turns Germany into an art Mecca, which shows the present importance of the German art scene. Art schools and German artists, such as Neo Rauch from the Leipzig School, enjoy a worldwide reputation in the art scene.

In 2007 the theme of art and culture will be present with outstanding contemporary art events throughout the year. The most important art exhibition "documenta12" will take place from June 16 to September 23 in Kassel, one and a half hour North of Frankfurt. This contemporary art event takes place every five years and is considered a seismograph of the contemporary art scene, drawing attention from all over the world. Every documenta, a new director is chosen and the exhibition is reinvented, a concept which to date has been affirmed by the public's interest. The number of visitors has continually risen. More than 650 thousand visitors came to "documenta11" in 2002. This years art director Roger M. Buergel was born in Berlin and has been lecturing Visual Theory at Lüneburg University in northern Germany since 2001. The exhibition poses three questions as leitmotifs: Is modernity our antiquity? What is bare life? What is to be done? www.documenta12.de

Just one day after the opening of the documenta the International Sculpture Show in Muenster will start. Every ten years the town just two hours Northwest of Kassel hosts this internationally recognized sculpture exhibition featuring 35 contemporary sculptors from all over the world, including Michael Asher, Isa Genzken, Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster and Susan Phillipsz. The sculptures will be installed in different locations around the city, making the small student town, famous for its cathedral,

the well-known woman painter and founder of the Blue Rider Group, in her almost unknown role as a photographer. The Blue Rider was an association of expressionism artists located in Murnau close to Munich. This exhibition comprises photographs of her journeys with Wassily Kandinsky, and her beloved house in Murnau. www.muenchen.de

Exhibition: 'New World. The Invention of American Painting', Hamburg Feb 24 - May 28

The Bucerius Kunst Forum hosts a three year exhibition cycle - 150 Years of American Art: 1800 - 1950. It starts with the exhibition of 60 paintings of the first American school of painting, the Hudson River School, followed by Portraits of the Gilded Age in May 2008 and American Realism in 2009. The project examines the origins of a genuinely American school of art and brings to life the rich and interesting art legacy of the United States with masterpieces from Thomas Cole, Frederick E. Church, John Singer Sargent, Mary Cassatt, James Whistler, Jorge Bellows and Edward Hopper. www.buceriuskunstforum.de

a temporary museum for contemporary art from Jun 17 - Sep 30. Apart from the sculpture exhibition the program includes artists' talks, lectures, readings and films. www.skulptur-projekte.de

And that's not all: The world's longest-established fair for modern and contemporary art is home in Germany as well. Every year the "Art Cologne" shows a comprehensive overview of 20th and 21st-century art - from classical modernism to the very latest contemporary works on the Cologne exhibition ground. It serves as an international market where artists and connoisseurs from all over the world meet to inform themselves about the latest art movements and to buy and sell art. This year for the first time the "Art Cologne", which normally took place in autumn, will move into the spring and will open its doors from April 18 to 22. www.artcologne.de



Special Deals

Package Offer 'Meenzer Fassenacht'

Virtually every single Mainzer takes part in the city's most elaborate and opulent "chase-away-winter's-woes" events. This package allows visitors to join the local 'fools' and experience the different elements of the fifth season in Mainz. The offer combines two nights accommodation in a double room, from February 17 to 19, including breakfast, admission to the "Prinzgardenball" (Prom of the guards of the Prince) and tribute tickets for several carnival parades including the famous Rose Monday Parade. Rates start at 106 EUR per person. www.mainz.de

Relax in the Alpenhof Murnau

Treat yourself to a week in the Alpenhof. Murnau is located about 100 miles south of Munich in a picture book region which was an inspiration for Wassily Kandinsky and August Macke more than 100 years ago. The package comprises: a welcome cocktail, seven nights accommodation including breakfast buffet, and free entrance to the hotel spa area. Prices start at 592 EUR per person for one week.

www.alpenhof-murnau.com

Winter Savings Vacation to Germany's Cities

United Vacations is trimming \$100 per couple on air-hotel packages for winter travel to Germany. The offer is available for trips from Chicago to Munich, Frankfurt, Berlin, Dusseldorf and Stuttgart. The Winter Savings Vacation to Germany packages must be booked by March 15 for travel through March 28, using promotional code DESAVE50 at time of booking. Sample vacations include roundtrip air, accommodations in a double room and daily breakfast. Prices start at \$664 to Frankfurt per person with restrictions. www.unitedvacations.com

"Companion Flies Free" Package

Berlin, Munich, Frankfurt - Wherever you go your companion flies free with Delta. Delta Vacations offers a promotion package of five nights or longer to one of the German cities. Two people can fly for the price of one and stay at any one of the participating hotels. Book by February 12, travel by May 18 2007 and save up to \$750! www.deltavacations.com



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: Art & Culture: Germany's Handicraft Routes: Planning the Ideal Family Vacation

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
Email: GermanyInfo@d-z-t.com
Internet: www.cometogermany.com

This newsletter has been sent to 4942469301@preview.qu . This newsletter is being sent to you with your permission only. Should you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please click [here](#).

© German National Tourist Office.
All rights reserved.

