



# 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

connections are celebrating the great composer's life and music.

For more information, go to [www.cometogermany.com](http://www.cometogermany.com) and for a map of his travels go to: [www.germany-tourism.de](http://www.germany-tourism.de).

## The Mozart City Augsburg

Augsburg, the birthplace of Leopold Mozart, the composer's father, will celebrate the Mozart's family, all of whom lived in the region for generations. One of the highlights is the 55th German Mozart Festival from January to July 2006. The focal point of the festival program will take place May 12 to May 28, when the conductor Bruno Weil presents four important works from Mozart's Salzburg years 1773-1777 with the internationally-renowned "Tafelmusic Orchestra". From May 14 to May 21 there will be special programs for children while adults will enjoy hearing "In Concert – the Authentic Mozart Experience" on May 16 when Mozart pieces will be played on the violin that belonged to Leopold Mozart. The father of the boy genius also gives his name to an international violin competition when most talented violinists from universities around the world will compete for 11 exciting days. The 12,500 Euro 'Mozart Prize' will be awarded for the first time on May 26 in a concert with the Munich Radio Orchestra. ([www.mozartstadt.de](http://www.mozartstadt.de))

Augsburg is also offering various Mozart tours and a special travel guide: "The Mozarts – The German Mozart City Augsburg and Mozart Sites in the Region". The guide provides historically-substantiated, detailed and entertaining information about the life of the family of musicians who lived here for generations as craftsmen, sculptors and bookbinders. ([www.mozartstadt.de](http://www.mozartstadt.de))

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### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### Mozart Festivals '06

##### Exhibition Mozart's Manuscripts

Offenbach / Jan 29 - May 31

The City of Offenbach will commemorate Mozart with concerts, readings and an exhibition -- "The widow Mozart Left Me All of Her Husbands Manuscripts." ([www.mozartways.com](http://www.mozartways.com))

##### Trail "Of an old Love"

Mannheim / May 1 - Oct 3

Mannheim played a decisive role in Mozart's life as it is where he met his future wife: Constanze Weber. The "Trail of an old Love" takes place every first Saturday. ([www.mozartways.com](http://www.mozartways.com))

##### Mozart Summer Concert

Herrenchiemsee / May 25 - Sep 3

The Herrenchiemsee Castle Concerts are presenting a special program with the loveliest night music and entire string quintets of Mozart. Herrenchiemsee Island is one of the major historic-cultural sites in southern Bavaria. ([www.herrenchiemsee-festspiele.de](http://www.herrenchiemsee-festspiele.de))

##### Mozart Festival Wuerzburg

Wuerzburg / June 2 - July 1

The baroque Residence Palace, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site, is the venue for the Mozart Festival. The program highlight will be a performance of "loveliest night music" in the illuminated "Hofgarten" palace gardens. ([www.wuerzburg.de](http://www.wuerzburg.de))

##### Potsdam Music Festival Sanssouci: The Way to Mozart

Potsdam / June 2 – 18

Visitors will enjoy the opportunity to listen to Mozart exceptional artists in the beautiful rooms and parks of the world-famous palaces and gardens Sanssouci. ([www.potsdam.de](http://www.potsdam.de))

##### 54th European Festival Weeks

Passau / June 16 – July 23

More than 60 concerts will be held during the summer period in castles and churches in the area. Highlight of the Festival: Fireworks display on June 27 accompanied by the "Jupiter-Symphony".

##### Mozart Festival in Schwetzingen (Very Sweet)

Schwetzingen / Sep 9 – Oct 10

The 31st Mozart Festival of the Mozart Association is taking place in the Castle of

Schwetzingen with concerts and exhibitions. ([www.mozartways.com](http://www.mozartways.com))

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## SPECIAL DEALS

### Family Trip to Augsburg

The package "Weekend with the Augsburg Puppets and Legoland" includes a ticket to the Augsburg Puppet Theatre. Travelers can also enjoy the Legoland Leisure Park whose 2006 season opens on 8 April. Also included in the package are two nights with breakfast and a city tour "On the Trail of the Fuggers through Golden Augsburg". The price starts at 152 Euro per person. ([www.regio-augsburg.com](http://www.regio-augsburg.com))

### Experience Germany and the World Cup Host Cities

Experience the atmosphere of the Soccer World Cup as you become a participant of the world greatest event this year. Explore Germany and the host cities of the World Cup with their fan festivals and accompanying cultural program on an individual trip. Choose your own itinerary; check out the beautiful German countryside, Frankfurt, Munich and other cities of your choice in an 8 day fly and drive package. Although this package does not include World Cup tickets, it does cost only \$ 829.00 per person. This package includes a roundtrip fare to Frankfurt and return from Munich, a rental car with unlimited mileage. Book by February 16 and travel between June 1 and August 30. ([www.europeasap.com](http://www.europeasap.com))

### World Cup Soccer Tour Cologne and Italy

Combine your international tournament with a visit of the world's most exciting soccer event: the FIFA World Cup. See the quarter final game in the 'AufSchalke Arena' in Gelsenkirchen and experience the Cities of Cologne and Duesseldorf. Fly over to Italy after a four day stay in Germany and get to know the Italian countryside and culture. The ten day trip includes a round trip fare and accommodation as well as the tickets for the quarter final game. The price starts at \$ 1,956 per person from New York and at \$ 2,197 per person from Los Angeles or San Francisco. ([www.esrusa.com](http://www.esrusa.com))

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

For comments and enquiries, contact Victoria Larson, PR Manager, at the German National Tourist Office: 212-661-7175 or [victoria.larson@d-z-t.com](mailto:victoria.larson@d-z-t.com).

Also, please register on our press extranet (if you haven't already done so) at [www.germany-extranet.com/index\\_press.html](http://www.germany-extranet.com/index_press.html).

### Next Issue:

**Be on the Outlook for Easter in Germany, the city of Hamburg and the upcoming Soccer World Cup**

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