



News from Germany

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Guggenheim Goes to Murnau and Celebrates the Blue Rider.

The Bavarian town of Murnau one hour south of Munich rises terrace-like over the Murnau Moor and the nearby Staffel Lake. The expressionist art movement, "The Blue Rider" (Blaue Reiter) made its home in Murnau and the likes of Gabriele Münter, Wassily Kandinsky and Franz Marc showed the landscape with intensive color and contrast. Art Nouveau (Jugendstil) architect Emanuel von Seidl painted the house facades in the pedestrian zone that today are protected historic buildings.

From May 19 to August 7, 2005, the "Art of Tomorrow," an exhibit of expressionist Hilla Rebay's works along with paintings from Jean Arp, Rudolf Bauer, Wassily Kandinsky, Hans Richter and Kurt Schwitters, will be at the Guggenheim in New York and then travel to the Museum Stuck in Munich and to the Murnau Castle Museum in Murnau where it will reside from September 8, 2005 to January 8, 2006.

Must-sees are the Gabriele Münter House, the Murnau Castle Museum as well as the several sophisticated galleries and

"Art, Beer & Xmas Flare in Germany's Autumn Air"

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EDITOR'S CHOICE

Preparing for Christmas!

Much goes into preparing for the thousands of Christmas markets in each town and city throughout Germany. Artisans in the traditional arts and crafts centers including Berchtesgaden, the Thuringian Forest and the Ore Mountains are busy carving, painting, pinning and creating charming children's toys, Christmas ornaments, nutcrackers, mountains of Lebkuchen (gingerbread), sweets, glühwein and stollen for November 18 when some Christmas markets open. This year the majority of markets will open the weekend of November 24-26, the first Sunday of Advent. For more information, go to www.cometogermany.com and look under Events and to order our new Christmas brochure with over 75 Christmas markets, call: 1-800-651-7010.

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FEATURED STORY

Hamburg's Beer and Culinary Scene

When you think of beer, it is not only in Bavaria. Hamburg, Germany's northern star city, has been serving up excellent food and beer for centuries and the tradition continues today! Back in the 1300s, Hamburg was a major exporter of beer and one quarter of its citizens were brewers. By the late 1800s, there was a brewery on every corner. Today two multinational breweries dominate the beer industry in Hamburg. The largest is the Holsten Brewery, founded in 1879 by Hamburg businessmen, followed by the Bavaria-St. Pauli Brewery, founded in 1862. Small private breweries like the "Gröninger Braukeller" and the "Brauhaus Joh. Albrecht" are still very popular. Here, before the very eyes of the patrons in the tavern, an amber-coloured pils is fermented and also served. The Hamburg brew was so famous that on his deathbed Philip Melanchton - the comrade-in-arms of Martin Luther - asked for a soup prepared from Hamburg beer. That leaves nothing more to say, other than, PROST!

Hamburg's tasty and diverse culinary scene is worth trying again and again. There are altogether over 50 Russian, Brazilian, Japanese, Portuguese, Chinese, Thai and French restaurants among others. But the winner are the Italians - there are over 200 Italian restaurants in Hamburg and everyone likes to say that their local Italian trattoria has the best secret recipe.

For those seeking Hamburg's traditional local fare, rote Gruetze (a red berry compote), Bratkartoffeln (roasted potato), eel soup and various Braten (roasts) are served up on Deichstrasse. Romanticists seek out the small restaurants on the Elbe in the pleasant areas of Oevelgoenne and the picturesque neighborhood of Blankenese.

ateliers. City walking tours start every Sunday at 10 am until 31 October 2004. For more information, go to www.murnau.de/english. In nearby Kochel am See is the Franz Marc Museum which is closed on Mondays and from January 16 to March 1. Around Murnau are many Bavarian highlights, including King Ludwig's Neuschwanstein and Linderhof Castles and the Ettal Monastery, a high baroque monastery where the monks make a good, strong beer.

Some of Hamburg's finest restaurants are the Landhaus Scherrer on the Elbchaussee; the Haerlin in the Four Seasons Hotel; Le Canard in an excellent setting overlooking the River Elbe and the Tafelhaus in the multi-cultural district of Bahrenfeld. These restaurants serve up earthly delights accompanied by the world's finest wines.

Of course, many of Hamburg's home-made specialties are fish-based. Fish is served in every style and manner that can be imagined. Just walking in the park, you can pick up delicious, hot fish sandwiches with herring, smoked mackerel or crab along with a beer. If you want to prepare your own fish, Hamburg's fish market in Altona, opens every Sunday morning from 5 am to 10 am. The fish sellers, such as Banana Harry and Eel Dieter, hawk their wares accompanied by wise cracks to the delight of the crowds! The finest fish restaurants are Rive on the terminal for ferries bound to England and the Fishery Harbor Restaurant where people go to see and be seen. A true Hamburg institution however is the Collins Oyster Restaurant where all the fish dealers and locals go. Hmmm....delicious! For more information on Hamburg, go to www.hamburg-tourism.de and click on the English flag.

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REGIONAL FOCUS

Book a Vacation in the German Countryside

North, south, east and west, the German countryside is always beautiful and dotted with charming towns, squares, churches and wonderful restaurants. Whether you like to hike or ski in the Bavarian Alps, bike ride in the Black Forest, walk or horseback ride on the heath around Celle or boat on the lakes and rivers in Mecklenburg Vorpommern, you can find an inn, a farm or a holiday house through a new booking service on the Internet: www.landtourismus.de and click on the English flag. These vacations are ideal for families, those who want to use the house as a hub for day trips or who simply wish to get away from it all. Prices are extremely reasonable and vary from 15 Euros to 70 Euros per day.

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FESTIVALS & EVENTS

The Flick Collection, September 22, 2004-January 23, 2005: Berlin

The Friedrich Christian Flick Collection is now on display for the first time through the 23rd of January 2005. This exhibition of contemporary and 20th century art takes up an entire floor of the former Hamburger Bahnhof, now a museum. About 400 works from Mr. Flick's collection will be on display. More than 2,000 works have been loaned to the Hamburger Bahnhof for a total of seven years and, after the initial exhibition, they all will be shown on a rotating basis. Alberto Giacometti, Bruce Nauman, Martin Kippenberger, Luc Tuymans, Cindy Sherman and Pipilotti Rist are just some of the breathtaking artists in the collection. For more information, go to www.btm-presse.de.

Bremen Folk Festival, October 15-31, 2004: Bremen

Germany's third largest folk festival attracts over four million visitors each year. Bremen's "fifth season" offers 17 days of parades, carnivals, drinking, eating and celebrating. Bremen's tourist office is offering special deals with accommodations and overnight stay. For more information, go to www.bremen-tourism.de.

Glentleiten Open Air Museum, October 17-18, 2004: Bavaria

Between Murnau and the Kochelsee and one hour south of Munich, the Glentleiten Open Air Museum's 40 buildings lie in spacious fields and will present a lively picture of the agricultural past of Upper Bavaria. It will be colorful on 17 and 18 October 2004, when the locals celebrate the church fair with crispy roast goose, Bavarian veal sausage and the "Kirtahutschn," an historic swing for the young at heart! For more information, go to www.dasblaueLand.de.

Art Cologne, October 28-November 1, 2004: Cologne

Over 70,000 visitors will go to Germany's largest and most well-known art fair, "Art Cologne," featuring over 260 galleries that specialize in 20th century art. Sculpture, paintings and drawings from the 60s to today are to be seen and judged. Up and coming

artists also are part of the enormous exhibition. For more information, go to www.art-cologne.de.

Mendelssohn Festival, October 30-November 11, 2004: Leipzig

The only annual Mendelssohn Festival in Europe offers more than 30 concerts, presentations and exhibitions on the life and work of the famous director of music of the Gewandhaus who reformed the classic musical life of Leipzig and initiated the most far-reaching and influential Bach revival. For more information, go to www.gewandhaus.de.

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SPECIAL DEALS

6 Days: Fly to Christmas Markets in Munich and Bavaria from \$539

Package is good now through December 15 and includes: Round trip flights from NYC to Munich; 4 nights in your choice of hotels. Breakfast daily. Additional nights, other gateways available. Enjoy the festive atmosphere, aroma of roasting chestnuts, sausages and fresh baked goods permeates the air, as you stroll the decorated boutique-lined streets and browse locally hand-made quality crafts, toys, wood carvings, and delicate ornaments. This year, begin your holiday season with a wonderful centuries-old tradition, the Christmas Market. Go to www.gate1travel.com for more information.

6 Days: Fly to Nuremberg's Christmas Market - from \$699

This package includes round trip flights from NYC to Nuremberg. Four nights in your choice of hotel including breakfast. The Nuremberg Christ Child Market dates back to the early 17th century and is probably Germany's best known Christmas Market. This market annually attracts 2 million visitors. Chicago now has an annual Christmas Market which is modeled after the Nuremberg market. Go to www.gate1travel.com for further information.

Fly & Drive to Germany's Other Christmas Markets- from \$389

From now through March 24 for specific weeks, this package includes round trip flights from NYC to Frankfurt with a 7 day car rental and unlimited mileage. Go to www.gate1travel.com for further information.

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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.

Also, please register on our press extranet (if you haven't already done so) at www.germany-extranet.com/index_press.html.

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Be on the Outlook for Christmas traditions, Family Trips and more!

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