



Pressemitteilung

Munich is well worth a trip!

Enjoying great art? Culinary delights at a beer garden? Shopping? Basking in greenery? Munich has everything a visitor could want for a perfect stay: an outstanding infrastructure, with over 44.000 hotel rooms in all categories, 5000 restaurants and bars, good travel connections, excellent local public transportation, and also famous orchestras, spectacular museums and collections, castles and churches, expansive parks and gardens, popular festivals and attractive opportunities for shopping.

The favourite activities of all tourists, taking in culture and shopping, can be wonderfully combined in Munich as in hardly any other city.

Culturally, Munich has something for everyone, be they opera and classical music buffs, or fans of Munich's own top artists. Friends of the theatre will have to make a painful choice every evening, while at the same time rejoicing over the big names amongst directors. The three "Pinakotheken", literally picture galleries, offer art lovers the highest level of satisfaction. Weary museum visitors can restore their strength with coffee and cake in the garden of the Municipal Gallery at the Lenbachhaus, for example, or in the romantic inner courtyard of the Glyptothek.

The city boasts a plethora of Bavarian inns, pleasant cafés, saloons of every sort, gourmet restaurants, cool bars, trendy lounges, trashy discos, hot clubs, after-work and chill-out locales; indeed, it takes a will *not* to find the perfect place to either eat, go out, or celebrate.

And on the subject of revelry, Oktoberfest at the Wies'n is a party that has become inseparably linked to the image of the city.

But Munich is also lively at other times: Mardi Gras, the "strong beer" season, markets, film festivals, opera festivals, Christopher Street Day, or the Tollwood Festival, to name but a few.

What do visitors love so much about Munich? It is that incomparable mix of tradition and cosmopolitanism, of earthiness and innovation, that draws tourists to the city from the world round. After all, in 2005, Munich chalked up 8.3 million overnight stays in commercial operations and 83 million day visitors.

The motto for the people of Munich is: Live and let live. And both locals and visitors enjoy the outcome.

The Bavarian capital is one of the most important economic centres in Europe. The diversity and progressiveness of the economic structure, a state-of-the-art airport, an optimal congressional centre and the ideal complement of cultural attractiveness and superb leisure activities paved the way for the dynamic development of Munich during the past decades. Munich is the world's number one insurance location, Germany's second most important banking center, and a leading media hub.

Here are the remaining highlights for the year 2006:

29th August – 15th Sept 2006

55th ARD International Music Competition

Each year some 500 musicians from all parts of the world apply to enter the International Music Competition of the ARD (the working pool of Germany's public broadcasting corporations) – it is one of the world's major classical competitions. Four musicians only are admitted to the finals, which are traditionally held in the Herkulessaal of the Royal Residence with the Symphony Orchestra of the Bavarian Broadcasting Corporation.

For many artists who today are world-famous an award at the ARD Music Competition in Munich was a springboard for their career: Jessye Norman, Francisco Araiza, Natalia Gutman, Christoph Eschenbach, Mitsuko Uchida, Thomas Quasthoff, Yuri Bashmet, Sharon Kam, Heinz Holliger, Isabelle Moretti, Peter Sadlo and Maurice André, to mention only a few.

Information: Tel (089) 59002471, Fax (089) 59003573
ard.musikwettbewerb@brnet.de, www.ard-musikwettbewerb.de

8th – 10th September 2006

**OPEN ART
The art weekend of the Munich galleries**

The 65 galleries of contemporary art join forces to open the new season after the summer break with Open Art. The galleries and their exhibitions can be visited throughout the weekend.

Initiative Münchner Galerien zeitgenössischer Kunst
Tel (089) 29 20 15, Fax (089) 22 85 324
muenchner-galerien@ngi.de, www.muenchner-galerien.de

10th September 2006

Divine service with Pope Benedict XVI

Pope Benedict XVI spent many years of his life in Munich – first as chaplain and priest, later as an academic and finally as the Archbishop of the Diocese of Munich and Freising.

The Pope will visit his home country of Bavaria from 9th – 14th September 2006. In Munich Benedict XVI will celebrate high Mass on Sunday, 10th September, on the Trade Fair Grounds at Riem.

Organiser: the Archbishopric of Munich and Freising

Press contact: Erzbischöfliches Ordinariat München,
Tel (089) 2137-1663, Fax (089) 2137-1478
email: pressestelle@erzbistum-muenchen.de, www.erzbistum-muenchen-und-freising.de

16th Sept – 3rd Oct 2006

Oktoberfest

With the traditional "Ozapft is" (the barrel is tapped) the Lord Mayor opens the Oktoberfest at 12 noon. It is also a tradition that the biggest funfair in the world takes place at the foot of the statue of Bavaria. For eighteen days – because of the public holiday on the Tuesday after the last Oktoberfest weekend the event will remain open two days longer this year – the visitors stream onto the fairground to try out the modern and nostalgic funfair attractions and in the beer tents to enjoy beer and meals to the accompaniment of Bavarian music.

Information: Tourismusamt München, Tel (089) 23396500, Fax (089) 23330233
tourismus@muenchen.de, www.muenchen-tourist.de

30th Sept 06 – 14th Jan 2007

Gabriele Münter: Photographs

The Lenbach House will be exhibiting photographs by Gabriele Münter (1877-1962), who was a member of the Blauer Reiter (Blue Rider) group of artists.

Venue: Lenbachhaus

Information: Tel 089/23332003, email: presse-lenbachhaus@muenchen.de,
www.lenbachhaus.de

8th October 2006

Munich Marathon 2006

It is worthwhile sticking it out to the end as the route passes some of Munich's finest sights and squares. About 11,000 participants and roughly 200,000 onlookers are expected to turn up. An attractive fringe programme will take care of information and fun.

Information: Verein für City-Marathon-München e.V., Tel. (089) 74 83 57 94,
Fax (089) 74 83 57 92
presse@muenchenmarathon.de, www.muenchenmarathon.de

14th – 22nd October 2006

Kermis Dult

The Kermis Dult traditionally rounds off the Dult year.

Information: Tourismusamt München, Tel (089) 23396500, Fax (089) 23330233
tourismus@muenchen.de, www.muenchen-tourist.de

21st October 2006

The long night of museums

As in previous years, some 80 museums and collections as well as quite a few galleries, art societies and churches offer an assorted programme of conducted tours, concerts and performances. The reliable shuttle buses of Munich's public transport company will take visitors to all events at ten-minute intervals.

Organiser: münchner kultur GmbH, Tel 089-30610041, Fax (08) 30610011

info@muenchner.de, www.die-lange-nacht.de
Tickets: München Ticket, Tel 089-54818181, Fax 089-54818154
info@muenchenticket.de, www.muenchenticket.de

9th November 2006

Opening of the New Synagogue

The new synagogue is to be opened on Jakobsplatz on the anniversary of Crystal Night, the pogrom night on 9th-10th November 1938. By 2007 the Jewish Community Centre with school, kindergarten and restaurant and the city **Jewish museum** (opening on 22nd March 2006)will have been built beside the new synagogue.

Press information: Tel (089)20240015, Email: m.schleicher@ikg-m.de
Website in preparation

16th Nov – 3rd Dec 2006

47th Munich Book Show

Daily from 8 am to 11.30 pm the Munich Book Show in the Gasteig Arts Centre will be inviting everyone to find out about new publications, best and long sellers, to browse without any interruptions in the publishing houses' extensive programmes and to listen to the latest audio-productions at the audio bars. Some 20,000 novels, cookery and travel books, books for children and young people, art books. non-fiction works and specialist books will be exhibited by the publishing houses at about 200 stands. The Book Show's attractive fringe programme comprises exhibitions revolving around books, readings, book presentations and panel discussions.

Venue: Gasteig

Organisers: Verband Bayerischer Verlage und Buchhandlungen e.V.
Tel (089) 29194241, Fax (089) 29194249,
info@buchhandel-bayern.de, www.muenchner-buecherschau.de

29th Nov – 31st Dec 2006

Tollwood Winter Festival

In winter "Tollwood" welcomes its visitors with an exciting Christmas Market, drama and music in several tents on the Theresienwiese. In the marquee there is musical theatre of a special kind with an exclusive set meal.

Venue: Theresienwiese

Information: Goldmann PR, Tel (089) 21116418, Fax (089) 21116429
bettina.pauly@goldmannpr.de, presse@tollwood.de, www.tollwood.de

1st – 23rd December 2006

Christmas Market

Munich's traditional Christmas Market on the Marienplatz. A huge Christmas tree decorated with lights dominates the pre-Christmas magic of the stands. At 5.30 pm every day Advent music is played on the Town Hall balcony.

Information: Tourismusamt München, Tel (089) 23396500, Fax (089) 23330233

tourismus@muenchen.de, www.muenchen-tourist.de

End of 2006

Munich Ice Magic

An exciting mobile ice skating rink at the Stachus once again satisfies the wishes of all ice skating fans.

Venue: Karlsplatz (Stachus)

Information: www.muenchnereiszauber.de

End of 2006

Opening of Rooms I and II of the new Transport Centre

The second building stage of the Deutsches Museum's Transport Centre will be completed with Room I "Urban Traffic" and Room II "The Travel Culture". Room III, "The Pleasure of Mobility", has been open since May 2003. The Deutsches Museum's unique collection of vehicles – from the first car to the ICE Experimental – can be seen in a new light. Visitors will be introduced to all aspects of the world of transport yesterday, today and tomorrow. Discussions, special exhibitions and events dealing with all aspects of the subjects of mobility and transport are an integral part of the museum's concept. From 2006 the three listed historical trade-fair halls on the Theresienhöhe will provide in all 12,000 square metres of exhibition space and a permanent location for the dialogue about the future of mobility.

Transport Centre of the Deutsches Museum

Email: verkehrszenrum@deutsches-museum.de, <http://verkehrszenrum.deutsches-museum.de> ; www.deutsches-museum.de

Press information: Tel (089)2179-281, Email: s.hansky@deutsches-museum.de

Please note: The telephone and fax numbers given provide a chance to contact the relevant organisers' press offices and are not intended for inquiries from the general public.

No liability can be accepted for the information given.

As of March 2006

Inquiries: Karin Baedeker, Tel: +49(0)89/233-30286