

# MUNICH

With a population of 1.3 million, Munich is an important center of trade, manufacturing and fashion. The capital of Bavaria lies at the foot of the Alps and is divided into east and west by the cold, green mountain river Isar.



## Transportation

Munich has an extensive and modern transportation system that includes the U-bahn (subway), S-bahn (local train), bus and street car. Boarding is automated, so you must cancel your own ticket. You will pay a hefty fine if you don't cancel your ticket and are caught.

If you are driving, remember that there is no speed limit on the autobahn (highway), but 80 mph is the suggested maximum speed.

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## Banks and Currency

Banks are generally open from 8:30 am-12:30 pm and 1:45-3:45 pm (on Thursdays until 5:30). Some downtown banks are open during the lunch break, and the bank at the Hauptbahnhof (main train station) is open 6:00 am-11:30 pm every day. When exchanging money, you will get the best rates at the banks, so try avoiding the hotel exchange bureaus.

Germany's currency is the Euro. Coins in denominations of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 cents and 1 & 2 Euros. Bank notes of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 & 500 Euros are legal tender.



## Postage/Telephones

Post offices are open from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm weekdays, and Saturday mornings. It costs approximately one Euro to send a letter. There is a post office across the street from the main train

station that is open 24 hours to make phone calls and change money. It's much cheaper to call from the postoffice than from your hotel room.



## Shopping

Three times a year (at the end of April, end of July, and beginning of October), week-long shopping festivals blend antiques and carnivals for outdoor gala affairs. Shops are open from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm on weekdays and the first Saturday of the month, and 9:00 am to noon or 1:00 pm other Saturdays. Some department stores to look into: **Hertie**, Bahnhofplatz 7 and Leopoldstrasse 82; **Quelle**, Landwehrstrasse 1; **Neckermann**, Kaufingerstrasse 9; and fashion shops: **Polo Ralph Lauren**, Maximilianstrasse 23; **Hettlage**, Neuhauserstrasse 51; **Lange**, Brienerstrasse 1. The glamour boulevard of Munich is Maximilianstrasse, where you will find the world's top designers.



## Eating

You can eat well and cheaply in Munich. Try some of the city's specialties like weisswurst, which is sausage in a combination of veal, salt, pepper, parsley and lemon, boiled in water and served hot (but don't eat the skin), or schweinebraten mit knödel (roast pork with dumpling). You can have a good meal at stand-up tables in a butcher's shop, or at inexpensive cafeterias around the train station. With a city of Munich's size, there are of course also many fine restaurants serving national and international fares.



## Park and Gardens

One of the largest city parks in Europe is the English Garden in Munich; it has a man-made lake and several beer gardens. Two other great parks are Nymphenburg Park and the Hofgarten.



## Nightlife

Pick up the Monatsprogramm (monthly program) published by the Munich Tourist Bureau at their office, or at newspaper stands and bookstores. This program is out on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of each month, and lists all the activities in Munich for the following month. The Schwabing, the student and artist quarter, is the place to be at night. It's a long stretch of Cafés, bars, restaurants, discos, jazz clubs, and crowds of people.



## Places to Visit

Marienplatz, historic and geographic center of town; the museums Alte Pinakothek, which houses paintings from the 14<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> cent.; The Residenz, the palace of the Wittelsbach rulers; and Olympic Park, built for the 1972 games.

And if you're in Munich in late September or early October, don't miss (actually, you can't avoid it) the beer tents, roller coaster, brass bands, and broiled oxen at the Oktoberfest. It's a huge party, so enjoy yourself!

## More Information

Emergency Medical Services 55 86 61  
Police 110 Fire 112

American Consulate: Koniginstr. 5, tel. 23011

The Munich Tourist Office is located at the train station opposite platform 11. It's open from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm; here you can pick up a map of the city, and find out other information that interests you.