[Template:Other uses of](/wiki/Template:Other_uses_of" \o "Template:Other uses of) [Template:Use dmy dates](/wiki/Template:Use_dmy_dates) [Template:Infobox German location](/wiki/Template:Infobox_German_location) **Munich** ([Template:IPAc-en](/wiki/Template:IPAc-en); also [Template:IPAc-en](/wiki/Template:IPAc-en) in British English; [Template:Lang-de](/wiki/Template:Lang-de), [Template:IPA-de](/wiki/Template:IPA-de),[[1]](#cite_note-1) [Template:Lang-bar](/wiki/Template:Lang-bar) [Template:IPA](/wiki/Template:IPA)) is the capital and largest city of the [German state](/wiki/States_of_Germany) of [Bavaria](/wiki/Bavaria), on the banks of River [Isar](/wiki/Isar) north of the [Bavarian Alps](/wiki/Northern_Limestone_Alps). Munich is the [third largest city](/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Germany_by_population) in Germany, after [Berlin](/wiki/Berlin) and [Hamburg](/wiki/Hamburg) and the 12th biggest city of the European Union with a population of above 1.5 million.[[2]](#cite_note-2) The [Munich Metropolitan Region](/wiki/Munich_Metropolitan_Region) is home to 5.8 million people.[[3]](#cite_note-3) The city is a major center of art, advanced technologies, finance, publishing, culture, innovation, education, business, and tourism in Germany and Europe and enjoys a very high standard and quality of living, reaching #1 in Germany and #4 worldwide according to the 2015 Mercer survey.[[4]](#cite_note-4) According to the Globalization and World Rankings Research Institute Munich is considered an alpha-world city, [Template:As of](/wiki/Template:As_of).[[5]](#cite_note-5) The name of the city is derived from the [Old](/wiki/Old_High_German)/[Middle High German](/wiki/Middle_High_German) term *Munichen*, meaning "by the monks". It derives from the monks of the [Benedictine order](/wiki/Benedictine_order) who ran a monastery at the place that was later to become the Old Town of Munich; hence the monk depicted on [the city's coat of arms](/wiki/Coat_of_arms_of_Munich). Munich was first mentioned in 1158. From 1255 the city was seat of the [Bavarian Dukes](/wiki/Duchy_of_Bavaria). Black and gold—the colours of the [Holy Roman Empire](/wiki/Holy_Roman_Empire)—have been the city's official colours since the time of [Ludwig the Bavarian](/wiki/Louis_IV,_Holy_Roman_Emperor), when it was an imperial residence. Following a final reunification of the [Wittelsbachian](/wiki/House_of_Wittelsbach) Duchy of Bavaria, previously divided and sub-divided for more than 200 years, the town became the country's sole capital in 1506. Catholic Munich was a cultural stronghold of the [Counter-Reformation](/wiki/Counter-Reformation) and a political point of divergence during the resulting [Thirty Years' War](/wiki/Thirty_Years'_War), but remained physically untouched despite an occupation by the Protestant [Swedes](/wiki/Swedes); as the townsfolk would rather open the gates of their town than risk siege and almost inevitable destruction.[[6]](#cite_note-6)[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed) Like wide parts of the [Holy Roman Empire](/wiki/Holy_Roman_Empire), the area recovered slowly economically.

Having evolved from a duchy's capital into that of an [electorate](/wiki/Prince-elector) (1623), and later a sovereign [kingdom](/wiki/Monarchy) (1806), Munich has been a major European centre of arts, architecture, culture and science since the early 19th century, heavily sponsored by the Bavarian monarchs. In 1918, during the [German Revolution](/wiki/German_Revolution_of_1918–19), the ruling house of [Wittelsbach](/wiki/House_of_Wittelsbach), which governed Bavaria since 1180, was forced to abdicate in Munich and a short-living socialist republic was declared. In the 1920s, Munich became home to several political factions, among them the NSDAP, which was founded in the city in 1920. Though the first attempt of the Nazi movement to overtake the German government in 1923 with the [Beer Hall Putsch](/wiki/Feldherrnhalle), which was stopped by the Bavarian police in Munich with gunfire, the Nazis declared the city after their rise to power to be *Hauptstadt der Bewegung* (lit.: "Capital of the movement"). During World War II, Munich was heavily bombed and more than 50% of the entire city and up to 90% of the historic centre were destroyed.

The post war period was characterized by American occupation until 1949 and a strong increase of population and economic power during the years of the [*Wirtschaftswunder*](/wiki/Wirtschaftswunder) (lit.: economic miracle) after 1949. Unlike many other German cities which were heavily bombed and destroyed during World War II, Munich rebuilt most of its traditional cityscape and added a modern face to the city with the [Olympic Stadium](/wiki/Olympiastadion_(Munich)), while hosting the [1972 Summer Olympics](/wiki/1972_Summer_Olympics). Especially since the 1980s, Munich and the entire surrounding region was characterized by a strong economic growth, the location of high-tech industries and scientific institutions, very low unemployment rates and a strong influx of people. The city is home to major corporations like [BMW](/wiki/BMW), [Siemens](/wiki/Siemens), [MAN](/wiki/MAN_SE), [Linde](/wiki/The_Linde_Group), [Allianz](/wiki/Allianz_SE), [MunichRE](/wiki/Munich_Re) as well as many small and medium-sized companies.

Munich is home to many national and international authorities, major universities, major museums and theaters. Its numerous architectural attractions, international sports events, exhibitions, conferences and [Oktoberfest](/wiki/Oktoberfest) attract considerable [tourism](/wiki/Tourism).[[7]](#cite_note-7) Munich is one of the most prosperous and fastest growing cities in Germany. It is a top-ranked destination for migration and expatriate location, despite being the municipality with the highest density of population (4,500 inh. per km²) in Germany. Munich nowadays hosts more than 530,000 people of international background, making up 37.7% of the entire population.[[8]](#cite_note-8)

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## History[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [thumb|Munich city](/wiki/File:Germany_München_Monks.jpg) [coat of arms](/wiki/Coat_of_arms_of_Munich)

### Origin as medieval town[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

[thumb|left|230px|Munich in the 16th century](/wiki/File:Stadtansicht_1572.jpg) The year 1158 is assumed to be the foundation date, which is the earliest date the city is mentioned in a document. The document was signed in [Augsburg](/wiki/Augsburg).[[9]](#cite_note-9) By that time the [Guelph](/wiki/House_of_Welf) [Henry the Lion](/wiki/Henry_the_Lion), [Duke of Saxony](/wiki/Duchy_of_Saxony) and [Bavaria](/wiki/List_of_rulers_of_Bavaria), had built a bridge over the river Isar next to a settlement of [Benedictine](/wiki/Benedictine) monks—this was on the [Old Salt Route](/wiki/Old_Salt_Route) and a toll bridge.

In 1175, Munich was officially granted city status and received fortification. In 1180, with the trial of Henry the Lion, [Otto I Wittelsbach](/wiki/Otto_I_of_Wittelsbach,_Duke_of_Bavaria) became Duke of Bavaria and Munich was handed over to the [Bishop of Freising](/wiki/Roman_Catholic_Archdiocese_of_Munich_and_Freising). (Wittelsbach's heirs, the [Wittelsbach dynasty](/wiki/House_of_Wittelsbach), would rule Bavaria until 1918.) In 1240, Munich was transferred to [Otto II Wittelsbach](/wiki/Otto_II_Wittelsbach,_Duke_of_Bavaria) and in 1255, when the [Duchy of Bavaria](/wiki/Duchy_of_Bavaria) was split in two, Munich became the ducal residence of [Upper Bavaria](/wiki/Upper_Bavaria).

Duke [Louis IV](/wiki/Louis_IV,_Holy_Roman_Emperor), a native of Munich, was elected German king in 1314 and crowned as [Holy Roman Emperor](/wiki/Holy_Roman_Emperor) in 1328. He strengthened the city's position by granting it the salt monopoly, thus assuring it of additional income. In the late 15th century Munich underwent a revival of [gothic arts](/wiki/Gothic_art)—the Old Town Hall was enlarged, and Munich's largest [gothic](/wiki/Gothic_architecture) church, now a cathedral—the [Frauenkirche](/wiki/Munich_Frauenkirche)—constructed in only twenty years, starting in 1468.

### Capital of reunited Bavaria[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

[thumb|left|](/wiki/File:Marcktzumuenchen.png)[Marienplatz](/wiki/Marienplatz), Munich about 1650 [thumb|upright|Banners with the colours of Munich (left) and Bavaria (right) with the](/wiki/File:Mun_flags_frauenkirche.jpg) [Frauenkirche](/wiki/Munich_Frauenkirche) in the background When Bavaria was reunited in 1506, Munich became its capital. The arts and politics became increasingly influenced by the court (see [Orlando di Lasso](/wiki/Orlande_de_Lassus), [Heinrich Schuetz](/wiki/Heinrich_Schütz) and later [Mozart](/wiki/Wolfgang_Amadeus_Mozart) and [Richard Wagner](/wiki/Richard_Wagner)). During the 16th century Munich was a centre of the German [counter reformation](/wiki/Counter-Reformation), and also of [renaissance](/wiki/Renaissance) arts. Duke [Wilhelm V](/wiki/William_V,_Duke_of_Bavaria) commissioned the Jesuit [Michaelskirche](/wiki/St._Michael's_Church,_Munich), which became a centre for the counter-reformation, and also built the [Hofbräuhaus](/wiki/Hofbräuhaus) for brewing brown beer in 1589.

The [Catholic League](/wiki/Catholic_League_(German)) was founded in Munich in 1609.

In 1623 during the [Thirty Years' War](/wiki/Thirty_Years'_War) Munich became electoral residence when [Maximilian I, Duke of Bavaria](/wiki/Maximilian_I,_Elector_of_Bavaria) was invested with the [electoral dignity](/wiki/Prince-elector) but in 1632 the city was occupied by [Gustav II Adolph of Sweden](/wiki/Gustavus_Adolphus_of_Sweden). When the [bubonic plague](/wiki/Bubonic_plague) broke out in 1634 and 1635 about one third of the population died. Under the regency of the Bavarian electors Munich was an important centre of baroque life but also had to suffer under [Habsburg](/wiki/House_of_Habsburg) occupations in 1704 and 1742.

In 1806, the city became the capital of the new [Kingdom of Bavaria](/wiki/Kingdom_of_Bavaria), with the state's parliament (the [*Landtag*](/wiki/Landtag)*)* and the new [archdiocese of Munich and Freising](/wiki/Roman_Catholic_Archdiocese_of_Munich_and_Freising) being located in the city. Twenty years later [Landshut University](/wiki/Ludwig_Maximilian_University_of_Munich) was moved to Munich. Many of the city's finest buildings belong to this period and were built under the first three Bavarian kings. Especially [Ludwig I](/wiki/Ludwig_I_of_Bavaria) has rendered outstanding services to Munich's status as a centre of the arts, attracting numerous artists and enhancing the city's architectural substance with grand boulevards and buildings. On the other hand, [Ludwig II](/wiki/Ludwig_II_of_Bavaria), famous the world over as the fairytale king, held himself mostly aloof from his capital and focused more on his fanciful castles in the Bavarian countryside. Nevertheless, his patronage of Richard Wagner secured his posthumous reputation, as do his castles, which generate significant tourist income for Bavaria to this day. Later Prince Regent [Luitpold's](/wiki/Luitpold,_Prince_Regent_of_Bavaria) years as regent were marked by tremendous artistic and cultural activity in Munich, enhancing its status as a cultural force of global importance (see [Franz von Stuck](/wiki/Franz_Stuck) and [Der Blaue Reiter](/wiki/Der_Blaue_Reiter)).

### World War I to World War II[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]

Following the outbreak of World War I in 1914, life in Munich became very difficult, as the Allied blockade of Germany led to food and fuel shortages. During French air raids in 1916, three bombs fell on Munich. After World War I, the city was at the centre of much political unrest. In November 1918 on the eve of revolution, [Ludwig III](/wiki/Ludwig_III_of_Bavaria) and his family fled the city. After the murder of the first republican [premier of Bavaria](/wiki/List_of_Ministers-President_of_Bavaria) [Kurt Eisner](/wiki/Kurt_Eisner) in February 1919 by [Anton Graf von Arco auf Valley](/wiki/Anton_Graf_von_Arco_auf_Valley), the [Bavarian Soviet Republic](/wiki/Bavarian_Soviet_Republic) was proclaimed. When Communists had taken power, [Lenin](/wiki/Vladimir_Lenin), who had lived in Munich some years before, sent a congratulatory telegram, but the Soviet Republic was put down on 3 May 1919 by the [Freikorps](/wiki/Freikorps). While the republican government had been restored, Munich subsequently became a hotbed of extremist politics, among which [Adolf Hitler](/wiki/Adolf_Hitler) and the [National Socialism](/wiki/Nazism) rose to prominence.

[thumb|Bombing damage to the Altstadt. Note the roofless and pockmarked Altes Rathaus looking up the Tal. The roofless Heilig-Geist-Kirche is on the right of the photo. Its spire, without the copper top, is behind the church. The Talbruck gate tower is missing completely.](/wiki/File:wardamage2.jpg) In 1923 [Adolf Hitler](/wiki/Adolf_Hitler) and his supporters, who were then concentrated in Munich, staged the [Beer Hall Putsch](/wiki/Beer_Hall_Putsch), an attempt to overthrow the [Weimar Republic](/wiki/Weimar_Republic) and seize power. The revolt failed, resulting in Hitler's arrest and the temporary crippling of the [Nazi Party](/wiki/Nazi_Party), which was virtually unknown outside Munich. The city once again became a Nazi stronghold when the National Socialists took power in Germany in 1933. The National Socialist Workers Party created their first [concentration camp](/wiki/Nazi_concentration_camp) at [Dachau](/wiki/Dachau_concentration_camp), [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) north-west of the city. Because of its importance to the rise of National Socialism, Munich was referred to as the *Hauptstadt der Bewegung* ("Capital of the Movement"). The [NSDAP](/wiki/Nazi_Party) headquarters were in Munich and many *Führerbauten* ("*Führer*-buildings") were built around the [Königsplatz](/wiki/Königsplatz,_Munich), some of which have survived to this day.

The city is known as the site of the culmination of the policy of [appeasement](/wiki/Munich_Agreement) employed by Britain and France leading up to World War II. It was in Munich that British Prime Minister [Neville Chamberlain](/wiki/Neville_Chamberlain) assented to the annexation of Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland region into Greater Germany in the hopes of sating the desires of Hitler's [Third Reich](/wiki/Third_Reich).

Munich was the base of the [White Rose](/wiki/White_Rose), a student [resistance movement](/wiki/Resistance_movement) from June 1942 to February 1943. The core members were arrested and executed following a distribution of leaflets in [Munich University](/wiki/Ludwig_Maximilian_University_of_Munich) by [Hans and Sophie Scholl](/wiki/White_Rose).

The city was heavily damaged by allied bombing during World War II—the city was hit by 71 air raids over a period of five years.

A list of deporations from Munich can be found at [[10]](#cite_note-10)

### Postwar[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

[thumb|](/wiki/File:BMW_Welt_Night.jpg)[BMW Welt](/wiki/BMW_Welt)

After US occupation in 1945, Munich was completely rebuilt following a meticulous and—by comparison to other war-ravaged [West German](/wiki/West_German) cities[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)—rather conservative plan which preserved its pre-war street grid. In 1957 Munich's population passed the 1 million mark. The city continued to play a highly significant role in matters of German economy, politics and culture, giving rise to its nickname *Heimliche Hauptstadt* ("secret capital") in the decades after World War II.

Munich was the site of the [1972 Summer Olympics](/wiki/1972_Summer_Olympics), during which [Israeli](/wiki/Israel) athletes were assassinated by [Palestinian fedayeen](/wiki/Palestinian_Fedayeen) in the [Munich massacre](/wiki/Munich_massacre), when gunmen from the Palestinian "[Black September](/wiki/Black_September_(group))" group took hostage members of the Israeli Olympic team.

Most Munich residents enjoy a high quality of life. Mercer HR Consulting consistently rates the city among the top 10 cities with the highest quality of life worldwide—a 2011 survey ranked Munich as 4th.[[11]](#cite_note-11) The same company also ranks Munich as the world's 39th most expensive city to live in and the most expensive major city in Germany.[[12]](#cite_note-12) Munich enjoys a thriving economy, driven by the information technology, biotechnology, and publishing sectors. Environmental pollution is low, although [Template:As of](/wiki/Template:As_of) the city council is concerned about levels of [particulate matter](/wiki/Particulate_matter) (PM), especially along the city's major thoroughfares. Since the enactment of [EU legislation concerning the concentration of particulate](/wiki/Particulate#EU_legislation) in the air, environmental groups such as [Greenpeace](/wiki/Greenpeace) have staged large protest rallies to urge the city council and the State government to take a harder stance on pollution.[[13]](#cite_note-13) Today, the crime rate is low compared with other large German cities, such as [Hamburg](/wiki/Hamburg) or Berlin. For its high quality of life and safety the city has been nicknamed "Toytown"[[14]](#cite_note-14) among the English-speaking residents. German inhabitants call it "Millionendorf", an expression which means "village of a million people". Due to the very high standards of living in combination with the thriving economy of the city and the region, a high influx of people made it possible, that Munich's population passed the 1.5 million mark in June 2015, increasing its total population by more than 20% within the last 10 years.

## Geography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]

[thumb|The inner city (2013).](/wiki/File:Stadtbild_München.jpg) [thumb|Munich: View from the](/wiki/File:Englischer_Garten_from_Monopteros.JPG) [Englischer Garten](/wiki/Englischer_Garten) Munich lies on the elevated plains of [Upper Bavaria](/wiki/Upper_Bavaria), about [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) north of the northern edge of the [Alps](/wiki/Alps), at an altitude of about [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) [ASL](/wiki/Above_mean_sea_level). The local rivers are the [Isar](/wiki/Isar) and the [Würm](/wiki/Würm). Munich is situated in the Northern [Alpine Foreland](/wiki/Foothills). The northern part of this sandy plateau includes a highly fertile [flint](/wiki/Flint) area which is no longer affected by the [folding](/wiki/Fold_(geology)) processes found in the Alps, while the southern part is covered with [morainic](/wiki/Moraine) hills. Between these are fields of [fluvio-glacial](/wiki/Fluvio-glacial) out-wash, such as around Munich. Wherever these deposits get thinner, the [ground water](/wiki/Groundwater) can permeate the gravel surface and flood the area, leading to [marshes](/wiki/Marsh) as in the north of Munich.

### Climate[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]

Munich's city climate lies between the [humid continental climate](/wiki/Humid_continental_climate) ([Köppen classification](/wiki/Köppen_climate_classification): Dfb) and between the [oceanic climate](/wiki/Oceanic_climate) ([Köppen classification](/wiki/Köppen_climate_classification): Cfb).

The city center lies between both climates, while the [airport of Munich](/wiki/Munich_Airport) has an [humid continental climate](/wiki/Humid_continental_climate). The warmest month of the year, on average, is July. The coolest month of the year, on average, is January.

Showers and thunderstorms bring the highest average monthly precipitation totals in late spring and throughout the summer. June, on average, records the most precipitation of any month. The winter months tend to bring lower precipitation, on average, and February averages the least amount of monthly precipitation for the year.

The higher elevation of Munich and the proximity of the Alps play a significant role on the climate, causing the city to have more rain and snow than many other parts of Germany. The Alps affect the city's climate in other ways too: the warm downhill wind from the Alps ([föhn wind](/wiki/Föhn_wind)), which can raise temperatures sharply within a few hours even in the winter is but one example.

Being at the center of Europe, Munich is subject to many climatic influences, so that weather conditions there are more variable than in other European cities, especially those further west and south of the Alps.

At Munich's official weather station, the highest and lowest temperatures ever measured are [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), on 13 August 2003, and [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), on 12 February 1929.

[Template:Weather box](/wiki/Template:Weather_box)

[Template:Weather box](/wiki/Template:Weather_box)

## Demographics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main)

[Template:Historical populations](/wiki/Template:Historical_populations) In July 2007, Munich had 1.34 million inhabitants; 300,129 of those did not hold [German citizenship](/wiki/German_nationality_law). The city has strong [Turkish](/wiki/Turkey) and [Balkan](/wiki/Balkans) communities. The largest groups of foreign nationals were [Turks](/wiki/Turkish_people) (43,309), [Albanians](/wiki/Albanians) (30,385), [Croats](/wiki/Croats) (24,866), [Serbs](/wiki/Serbs) (24,439), [Greeks](/wiki/Greeks) (22,486), [Austrians](/wiki/Austrians) (21,411), and [Italians](/wiki/Italian_people) (20,847). 37% of foreign nationals come from the [European Union](/wiki/European_Union).

From only 24,000 inhabitants in 1700, the population doubled about every 30 years. For example, it had 100,000 people in 1852 and then 250,000 people in 1883; by 1901, the figure had doubled again to 500,000. Since then, Munich has become Germany's third largest city. In 1933, 840,901 inhabitants were counted and in 1957, Munich's population passed the 1 million mark.

About 45% of Munich's residents are not affiliated with any religious group, and this ratio represents the fastest growing segment of the population. As in the rest of Germany, the Roman Catholic and Protestant churches have experienced a continuous decline in their memberships. As of 31 December 2015, 33.1% of the city's inhabitants were [Roman Catholic](/wiki/Roman_Catholic), 11.9% [Protestant](/wiki/Protestantism), and 0.3% [Jewish](/wiki/Jewish).[[15]](#cite_note-15) About 3% adhere to other Christian denominations and 7% are Muslim. There is also a small Old Catholic parish and an English-speaking parish of the [Episcopal Church](/wiki/Episcopal_Church_(United_States)) in the city.[[16]](#cite_note-16){| class="infobox" style="float:right;" |- |colspan="2"|**Largest groups of foreign residents** |-\ ! Nationality || Population (2013) |- |[Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) || 39,857 |- |[Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) || 26,070 |- |[Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) || 25,574 |- |[Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) || 24,337 |- |[Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) || 21,579 |- |[Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) || 20,103 |- |[Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) || 15,836 |- |[Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) || 14,293 |- |[Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) || 13,631 |- |[Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) || 10,394 |}

## Politics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]

Munich's current mayor is [Dieter Reiter](/wiki/Dieter_Reiter) of the [Social Democratic Party of Germany](/wiki/Social_Democratic_Party_of_Germany). Munich has been governed by the SPD for all but six years since 1948. This is remarkable because Bavaria—and particularly southern Bavaria—has long been a conservative stronghold, with the [Christian Social Union](/wiki/Christian_Social_Union_of_Bavaria) winning [absolute majorities](/wiki/Absolute_majority) among the Bavarian electorate in many elections at the communal, state, and federal levels, and leading the Bavarian state government for all but three years since 1946. Bavaria's second most populous city, [Nuremberg](/wiki/Nuremberg), is also one of the very few Bavarian cities governed by a SPD-led coalition.

As the capital of the Free State of Bavaria, Munich is an important political centre in Germany and the seat of the [Bavarian State Parliament](/wiki/Landtag_of_Bavaria), the Staatskanzlei (the State Chancellery) and of all state departments.

Several national and international authorities are located in Munich, including the [Federal Finance Court of Germany](/wiki/Federal_Finance_Court_of_Germany) and the [European Patent Office](/wiki/European_Patent_Office).

## Subdivisions[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) Since the administrative reform in 1992, Munich is divided into 25 [boroughs](/wiki/Borough) or *Stadtbezirke*, which themselves consist of sometimes quite distinct smaller quarters. [thumb|left|200px|Munich's Boroughs](/wiki/File:Stadtbezirke_Lage_in_München.png) [Allach-Untermenzing](/wiki/Allach-Untermenzing) (23), [Altstadt-Lehel](/wiki/Altstadt-Lehel) (1), [Aubing-Lochhausen-Langwied](/wiki/Aubing-Lochhausen-Langwied) (22), [Au-Haidhausen](/wiki/Au-Haidhausen) (5), [Berg am Laim](/wiki/Berg_am_Laim) (14), [Bogenhausen](/wiki/Bogenhausen) (13), [Feldmoching-Hasenbergl](/wiki/Feldmoching-Hasenbergl) (24), [Hadern](/wiki/Hadern) (20), [Laim](/wiki/Laim) (25), [Ludwigsvorstadt-Isarvorstadt](/wiki/Ludwigsvorstadt-Isarvorstadt) (2), [Maxvorstadt](/wiki/Maxvorstadt) (3), [Milbertshofen-Am Hart](/wiki/Milbertshofen-Am_Hart) (11), [Moosach](/wiki/Moosach_(District_of_Munich)) (10), [Neuhausen-Nymphenburg](/wiki/Neuhausen-Nymphenburg) (9), [Obergiesing](/wiki/Obergiesing) (17), [Pasing-Obermenzing](/wiki/Pasing-Obermenzing) (21), [Ramersdorf-Perlach](/wiki/Ramersdorf-Perlach)(16), [Schwabing-Freimann](/wiki/Schwabing-Freimann) (12), [Schwabing-West](/wiki/Schwabing-West) (4), [Schwanthalerhöhe](/wiki/Schwanthalerhöhe) (8), [Sendling](/wiki/Sendling) (6), [Sendling-Westpark](/wiki/Sendling-Westpark) (7), [Thalkirchen-Obersendling-Forstenried-Fürstenried-Solln](/wiki/Thalkirchen-Obersendling-Forstenried-Fürstenried-Solln) (19), [Trudering-Riem](/wiki/Trudering-Riem) (15) and [Untergiesing-Harlaching](/wiki/Untergiesing-Harlaching) (18).

[Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

## Architecture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [thumb|The New Town Hall and](/wiki/File:Rathaus_and_Marienplatz_from_Peterskirche_-_August_2006.jpg) [Marienplatz](/wiki/Marienplatz)

[thumb|](/wiki/File:Frauenkirche_Munich_-_View_from_Peterskirche_Tower2.jpg)[Frauenkirche](/wiki/Munich_Frauenkirche)

[Viktualienmarkt with the Altes Rathaus|thumb](/wiki/File:München,_Viktualienmarkt_met_das_Alte_Rathaus_D-1-62-000-4289_positie2_2012-08-05_15.29.jpg) The city is an eclectic mix of historic buildings and modern architecture, Munich having reconstructed the ruins of those historic buildings that have been destroyed in World War II while creating new landmarks of architecture. A survey, conducted by the Society's Center for Sustainable Destinations for the [National Geographic Traveler](/wiki/National_Geographic_Traveler), chose over 100 historic places around the world and ranked Munich as the 30th best destination.[[17]](#cite_note-17)

### Inner city[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]

At the centre of the city is the [*Marienplatz*](/wiki/Marienplatz)—a large open square named after the Mariensäule, a [Marian column](/wiki/Marian_and_Holy_Trinity_columns) in its centre—with the [Old](/wiki/Old_Town_Hall,_Munich) and the [New Town Hall](/wiki/New_Town_Hall,_Munich). Its tower contains the [*Rathaus-Glockenspiel*](/wiki/Rathaus-Glockenspiel). Three gates of the demolished medieval fortification have survived to this day—the [*Isartor*](/wiki/Isartor) in the east, the [*Sendlinger Tor*](/wiki/Sendlinger_Tor) in the south and the [*Karlstor*](/wiki/Karlstor) in the west of the inner city. The Karlstor leads up to the [*Stachus*](/wiki/Karlsplatz_(Stachus)), a grand square dominated by the [*Justizpalast*](/wiki/Justizpalast_(Munich)) *(Palace of Justice)* and a fountain.

The [*Peterskirche*](/wiki/St._Peter's_Church,_Munich) close to Marienplatz is the oldest church of the inner city. It was first built during the [Romanesque](/wiki/Romanesque_architecture) period, and was the focus of the early monastic settlement in Munich before the city's official foundation in 1158. Nearby St. Peter the Gothic hall-church [*Heiliggeistkirche*](/wiki/Heiliggeistkirche_(Munich)) (The Church of the Holy Spirit) was converted to baroque style from 1724 onwards and looks down upon the [Viktualienmarkt](/wiki/Viktualienmarkt), the most popular market of Munich.

The [*Frauenkirche*](/wiki/Munich_Frauenkirche) is the most famous building in the city centre and serves as the cathedral for the [Archdiocese of Munich and Freising](/wiki/Roman_Catholic_Archdiocese_of_Munich_and_Freising). The nearby [*Michaelskirche*](/wiki/St._Michael's_Church,_Munich) is the largest [renaissance](/wiki/Renaissance) church north of the Alps, while the [*Theatinerkirche*](/wiki/Theatine_Church,_Munich) is a [basilica](/wiki/Basilica) in Italianate high baroque which had a major influence on Southern German [baroque](/wiki/Baroque) architecture. Its dome dominates the [Odeonsplatz](/wiki/Odeonsplatz). Other baroque churches in the inner city which are worth a detour are the [*Bürgersaalkirche*](/wiki/Bürgersaalkirche_(Munich)), the [*Dreifaltigkeitskirche*](/wiki/Trinity_Church_(Munich)), the [*St. Anna Damenstiftskirche*](/wiki/St._Anna_Damenstiftskirche_(Munich)) and [*St. Anna im Lehel*](/wiki/Parish_Church_of_St._Anna_(Lehel,_Munich)), the first [rococo](/wiki/Rococo) church in Bavaria. The [*Asamkirche*](/wiki/Asamkirche,_Munich) was endowed and built by the Brothers [Asam](/wiki/Cosmas_Damian_Asam), pioneering artists of the rococo period.

The large [*Residenz*](/wiki/Munich_Residenz) palace complex (begun in 1385) on the edge of Munich's Old Town, Germany's largest urban palace, ranks among Europe's most significant museums of interior decoration. Having undergone several extensions, it contains also the [treasury](/wiki/Schatzkammer) and the splendid rococo [*Cuvilliés Theatre*](/wiki/Cuvilliés_Theatre). Next door to the Residenz the neo-classical opera, the [*National Theatre*](/wiki/National_Theatre_Munich) was erected. Among the baroque and neoclassical mansions which still exist in Munich are the [*Palais Porcia*](/wiki/Palais_Porcia), the [*Palais Preysing*](/wiki/Palais_Preysing), the [*Palais Holnstein*](/wiki/Palais_Holnstein) and the [*Prinz-Carl-Palais*](/wiki/Prinz-Carl-Palais). All mansions are situated close to the Residenz, same as the [*Alte Hof*](/wiki/Alter_Hof), a medieval castle and first residence of the Wittelsbach dukes in Munich.

Lehel, a bourgeoise quarter east of the Altstadt, is characterized by countless well-preserved (and in parts excellently reconstructed) town houses, giving a thorough impression of the "old Munich" outside of the main tourist routes. [*St. Lukas*](/wiki/St._Luke's_Church,_Munich) is the largest Protestant Church in Munich.

The inner city has been recreated[[18]](#cite_note-18) in the virtual world of [Second Life](/wiki/Second_Life) and can be visited for a virtual sight seeing tour.

### Royal avenues and squares[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]

[thumb|](/wiki/File:LudwigstraßeMUC.jpg)[Ludwigstrasse](/wiki/Ludwigstraße_(Munich)) from above, [Highlight Towers](/wiki/Highlight_Towers) in the background

Four grand royal avenues of the 19th century with magnificent official buildings connect Munich's inner city with its then-suburbs:

The neoclassical [*Briennerstrasse*](/wiki/Brienner_Straße_(Munich)), starting at [*Odeonsplatz*](/wiki/Odeonsplatz) on the northern fringe of the Old Town close to the Residenz, runs from east to west and opens into the impressive [*Königsplatz*](/wiki/Königsplatz,_Munich), designed with the "[Doric](/wiki/Doric_order)" [*Propyläen*](/wiki/Propylaea_(Munich)), the "[Ionic](/wiki/Ionic_order)" [*Glyptothek*](/wiki/Glyptothek) and the "[Corinthian](/wiki/Corinthian_order)" [*State Museum of Classical Art*](/wiki/Staatliche_Antikensammlungen), on its back side [St. Boniface's Abbey](/wiki/St._Boniface's_Abbey,_Munich) was erected. The area around Königsplatz is home to the [Kunstareal](/wiki/Kunstareal), Munich's gallery and museum quarter (as described [below](/wiki/Munich#Museums)).

[*Ludwigstrasse*](/wiki/Ludwigstraße_(Munich)) also begins at [*Odeonsplatz*](/wiki/Odeonsplatz) and runs from south to north, skirting the [*Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität*](/wiki/Ludwig_Maximilian_University_of_Munich), the [*St. Louis church*](/wiki/Ludwigskirche_(Munich)), the [*Bavarian State Library*](/wiki/Bavarian_State_Library) and numerous state ministries and palaces. The southern part of the avenue was constructed in Italian renaissance style, while the north is strongly influenced by Italian Romanesque architecture. The [Siegestor](/wiki/Siegestor) (gate of victory) sits at the northern end of Ludwigstraße, where the latter passes over into Leopoldstraße and the district of [Schwabing](/wiki/Schwabing) begins. [thumb|](/wiki/File:The_Maximilianeum_Building.jpg)[Maximilianeum](/wiki/Maximilianeum)

The neo-Gothic [*Maximilianstraße*](/wiki/Maximilianstraße_(Munich)) starts at [*Max-Joseph-Platz*](/wiki/Max-Joseph-Platz), where the *Residenz* and the National Theatre are situated, and runs from west to east. The avenue is framed by elaborately structured neo-Gothic buildings which house, among others, the [*Schauspielhaus*](/wiki/Munich_Kammerspiele), the *Building of the district government of Upper Bavaria* and the [*Museum of Ethnology*](/wiki/State_Museum_of_Ethnology). After crossing the river Isar, the avenue circles the [*Maximilianeum*](/wiki/Maximilianeum), home of the [state parliament](/wiki/Landtag_of_Bavaria). The western portion of Maximilianstraße is known for its designer shops, luxury boutiques, jewellery stores, and one of Munich's foremost five-star hotels, the *Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten*.

[*Prinzregentenstrasse*](/wiki/Prinzregentenstraße_(Munich)) runs parallel to Maximilianstraße and begins at [*Prinz-Carl-Palais*](/wiki/Prinz-Carl-Palais). Many museums can be found along the avenue, such as the [*Haus der Kunst*](/wiki/Haus_der_Kunst), the [*Bavarian National Museum*](/wiki/Bavarian_National_Museum) and the [*Schackgalerie*](/wiki/Schackgalerie). The avenue crosses the Isar and circles the *Friedensengel monument*, then passing the [*Villa Stuck*](/wiki/Villa_Stuck) and Hitler's old apartment. The [*Prinzregententheater*](/wiki/Prinzregententheater) is at Prinzregentenplatz further to the east.

### Other boroughs[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]

In [Schwabing](/wiki/Schwabing) and [Maxvorstadt](/wiki/Maxvorstadt), many beautiful streets with continuous rows of [Gründerzeit](/wiki/Gründerzeit) buildings can be found. Rows of elegant town houses and spectacular urban palais in many colours, often elaborately decorated with ornamental details on their façades, make up large parts of the areas west of [Leopoldstraße](/wiki/Leopoldstraße) (Schwabing's main shopping street), while in the eastern areas between Leopoldstraße and [Englischer Garten](/wiki/Englischer_Garten) similar buildings alternate with almost rural-looking houses and whimsical mini-castles, often decorated with small towers. Numerous tiny alleys and shady lanes connect the larger streets and little plazas of the area, conveying the legendary artist's quarter's flair and atmosphere convincingly like it was at the turn of the 20th century. The wealthy district of [Bogenhausen](/wiki/Bogenhausen) in the east of Munich is another little-known area (at least among tourists) rich in extravagant architecture, especially around Prinzregentenstraße. One of Bogenhausen's most beautiful buildings is [Villa Stuck](/wiki/Villa_Stuck), famed residence of painter [Franz von Stuck](/wiki/Franz_von_Stuck).

Two large baroque palaces in [Nymphenburg](/wiki/Nymphenburg) and [Oberschleissheim](/wiki/Oberschleissheim) are reminders of Bavaria's royal past. *Schloss Nymphenburg* ([*Nymphenburg Palace*](/wiki/Nymphenburg_Palace)), some [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) north west of the city centre, is surrounded by an impressive park and is considered to be one of Europe's most beautiful royal residences. [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) north west of Nymphenburg Palace is *Schloss Blutenburg* ([*Blutenburg Castle*](/wiki/Blutenburg_Castle)), an old ducal country seat with a late-Gothic palace church. *Schloss Fürstenried* ([*Fürstenried Palace*](/wiki/Fürstenried_Palace)), a baroque palace of similar structure to Nymphenburg but of much smaller size, was erected around the same time in the south west of Munich. The second large baroque residence is *Schloss Schleissheim* ([*Schleissheim Palace*](/wiki/Schleissheim_Palace)), located in the suburb of [Oberschleissheim](/wiki/Oberschleißheim), a palace complex encompassing three separate residences: *Altes Schloss Schleissheim* (the old palace), *Neues Schloss Schleissheim* (the new palace) and *Schloss Lustheim* (Lustheim Palace). Most parts of the palace complex serve as museums and art galleries. [Deutsches Museum's](/wiki/Deutsches_Museum) *Flugwerft Schleissheim* flight exhibition centre is located nearby, on the Schleissheim Special Landing Field. The [Bavaria statue](/wiki/Bavaria_statue) before the neo-classical [Ruhmeshalle](/wiki/Ruhmeshalle_(Munich)) is a monumental, bronze sand-cast 19th-century statue at [Theresienwiese](/wiki/Theresienwiese). The [Grünwald castle](/wiki/Grünwald_castle) is the only medieval castle in the Munich area which still exisists. [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:Image-Schloss_Nymphenburg_Munich_CC_edit3.jpg)[Nymphenburg Palace](/wiki/Nymphenburg_Palace) [thumb|left|upright|](/wiki/File:BMW-HQ.jpg)[BMW](/wiki/BMW) Headquarters

[*St Michael in Berg am Laim*](/wiki/St_Michael_in_Berg_am_Laim_(Munich)) might be the most remarkable church in the suburbs. Most of the boroughs have parish churches which originate from the Middle Ages like the most famous church of pilgrimage in Munich [*St Mary in Ramersdorf*](/wiki/St._Mary's_Church,_Ramersdorf). The oldest church within the city borders is *Heilig Kreuz* in Fröttmaning next to the Allianz-Arena, known for its Romanesque fresco. Especially in its suburbs, Munich features a wide and diverse array of modern architecture, although strict culturally sensitive height limitations for buildings have limited the construction of skyscrapers to avoid a loss of views to the distant Bavarian Alps. Most high-rise buildings are clustered at the northern edge of Munich in the skyline, like the [*Hypo-Haus*](/wiki/Hypo-Haus), the [*Arabella High-Rise Building*](/wiki/Arabella_High-Rise_Building), the [*Highlight Towers*](/wiki/Highlight_Towers), [*Uptown Munich*](/wiki/Uptown_Munich), *Münchner Tor* and the [*BMW Headquarters*](/wiki/BMW_Headquarters) next to the Olympic Park. Several other high-rise buildings are located near the city centre and on the [Siemens](/wiki/Siemens) campus in southern Munich. A landmark of modern Munich is also the architecture of the sport stadiums (as described [below](/wiki/Munich#Sports)).

In Fasangarten is the former [McGraw Kaserne](/wiki/McGraw_Kaserne), a former U.S. army base, near [Stadelheim Prison](/wiki/Stadelheim_Prison).

### Parks[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]

[thumb|Hofgarten with the dome of the state chancellery near the](/wiki/File:München_Hofgartentempel.jpg) [Residenz](/wiki/Munich_Residenz) Munich is a green city with numerous parks. The [*Englischer Garten*](/wiki/Englischer_Garten), close to the city centre and covering an area of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) (larger than Central Park in New York), is one of the world's largest urban public parks. It contains a famous [nudist](/wiki/Naturism) area, numerous bicycle and jogging tracks as well as bridle-paths. It is considered the "green lung" of Munich and one of the city's best-loved features. It was designed and laid out by [Benjamin Thompson](/wiki/Benjamin_Thompson), Count of [Rumford](/wiki/County_of_Rumford), for both pleasure and as a work area for the city's vagrants and homeless. Nowadays it is entirely a park, its southern half being dominated by wide and extremely well-kept open areas, hills, monuments and beach-like stretches (along the streams Eisbach and Schwabinger Bach), which can get very crowded in the summertime. In contrast, its less-frequented northern part is much more quiet, idyllic and natural-seeming, at times more resembling a natural preserve than an urban public park: It has lots of old trees, thick undergrowth, winding streams, hidden meadows and is pervaded by numerous romantic pathways. Multiple [Biergartens](/wiki/Beer_garden) can be found in both parts of the Englischer Garten, the most well known being located at the [Chinese Pagoda](/wiki/Englischer_Garten#Chinesischer_Turm).

Other large green spaces are the modern [*Olympiapark*](/wiki/Olympiapark,_Munich), [*Westpark*](/wiki/Westpark_(Munich)), and the parks of [Nymphenburg Palace](/wiki/Nymphenburg_Palace) (with the [Botanischer Garten München-Nymphenburg](/wiki/Botanischer_Garten_München-Nymphenburg) to the north), and [Schleissheim Palace](/wiki/Schleissheim_Palace). The city's oldest park is the [*Hofgarten*](/wiki/Hofgarten_(Munich)), near the Residenz, dating back to the 16th century. Best known for the largest beergarden in town is the former royal *Hirschgarten*, founded in 1780 for deer which still live there.

The city's [zoo](/wiki/Zoo) is the [*Tierpark Hellabrunn*](/wiki/Tierpark_Hellabrunn) near the Flaucher Island in the Isar in the south of the city. Another notable park is Ostpark, located in Perlach-Ramersdorf area which houses the swimming area, *Michaelibad*, one of the largest in Munich.

## Sports[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [thumb|](/wiki/File:Allianz_Arena_zu_verschiedenen_Zeiten.jpg)[Allianz Arena](/wiki/Allianz_Arena), the home stadium of [Bayern Munich](/wiki/FC_Bayern_Munich) and [1860 Munich](/wiki/TSV_1860_München)

### Football[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) Munich is home to several professional [football](/wiki/Association_football) teams including [Bayern Munich](/wiki/FC_Bayern_Munich), Germany's most successful club and a multiple [UEFA Champions League](/wiki/UEFA_Champions_League) winner. The Munich area currently has three clubs: [Bayern Munich](/wiki/FC_Bayern_Munich), [1860 Munich](/wiki/TSV_1860_Munich) and [SpVgg Unterhaching](/wiki/SpVgg_Unterhaching) in the [Bundesliga](/wiki/Bundesliga), [2. Bundesliga](/wiki/2._Bundesliga), and [Regionalliga (4th league)](/wiki/Regionalliga_Bayern) respectively, which are the top four leagues in the [German football league system](/wiki/German_football_league_system).

### Basketball[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]

[FC Bayern Munich Basketball](/wiki/FC_Bayern_Munich_(basketball)) currently playing in Beko Basket Bundesliga.

### Ice hockey[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]

The city's ice hockey club is [EHC Munich](/wiki/Eishockeyclub_München).

### Olympics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]

[thumb|right|Olympiasee in Olympiapark, Munich](/wiki/File:Munich_Olympiapark.jpg) Munich hosted the [1972 Summer Olympics](/wiki/1972_Summer_Olympics) and was one of the host cities for the [2006 Football World Cup](/wiki/2006_FIFA_World_Cup) which was not held in Munich's [Olympic Stadium](/wiki/Olympic_Stadium_(Munich)) but in a new [football specific stadium](/wiki/Soccer-specific_stadium), the [Allianz Arena](/wiki/Allianz_Arena). Munich bid to host the [2018 Winter Olympic Games](/wiki/2018_Winter_Olympic_Games) but lost to [Pyeongchang](/wiki/Pyeongchang_County).[[19]](#cite_note-19) In September 2011 the [DOSB](/wiki/DOSB) President [Thomas Bach](/wiki/Thomas_Bach) confirmed that Munich would bid again for the Winter Olympics in the future.[[20]](#cite_note-20)

## Culture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=21)]

### Language[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=22)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) The [Austro-Bavarian language](/wiki/Austro-Bavarian_language) is spoken in and around Munich, with its variety *Upper Bavarian* (*Oberbayrisch*). Austro-Bavarian has no official status by the Bavarian authorities or local government yet is recognised by the [SIL](/wiki/SIL_International) and has its own ISO-639 code.

### Museums[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]

[thumb|The](/wiki/File:Glyptothek_in_München.jpg) [Glyptothek](/wiki/Glyptothek) [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:Bayerisches_Nationalmuseum_-_Muenchen_-_2013.jpg)[Bavarian National Museum](/wiki/Bavarian_National_Museum) The [*Deutsches Museum*](/wiki/Deutsches_Museum) or German Museum, located on an island in the River Isar, is the largest and one of the oldest science museums in the world. Three redundant exhibition buildings which are under a protection order were converted to house the *Verkehrsmuseum*, which houses the land transport collections of the Deutsches Museum. Deutsches Museum's *Flugwerft Schleissheim* flight exhibition centre is located nearby, on the Schleissheim Special Landing Field.Several non-centralised museums (many of those are public collections at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität) show the expanded state collections of [palaeontology](/wiki/Paläontologisches_Museum_München), geology, [mineralogy](/wiki/Mineralogy),[[21]](#cite_note-21) [zoology](/wiki/Zoologische_Staatssammlung_München), botany and anthropology.

The city has several important [art galleries](/wiki/Art_museum), most of which can be found in the [*Kunstareal*](/wiki/Kunstareal), including the [*Alte Pinakothek*](/wiki/Alte_Pinakothek), the [*Neue Pinakothek*](/wiki/Neue_Pinakothek), the [*Pinakothek der Moderne*](/wiki/Pinakothek_der_Moderne) and the [*Museum Brandhorst*](/wiki/Museum_Brandhorst). Alte Pinakothek's monolithic structure contains a treasure trove of the works of European masters between the 14th and 18th centuries. The collection reflects the eclectic tastes of the Wittelsbachs over four centuries, and is sorted by schools over two sprawling floors. Major displays include [Albrecht Dürer's](/wiki/Albrecht_Dürer) Christ-like Self-Portrait, his Four Apostles, [Raphael's](/wiki/Raphael) paintings[*The Canigiani Holy Family*](/wiki/Canigiani_Holy_Family_(Raphael)) and[*Madonna Tempi*](/wiki/Tempi_Madonna_(Raphael)) as well as [Peter Paul Rubens](/wiki/Peter_Paul_Rubens) two-story-high *Judgment Day*. The gallery houses one of the world's most comprehensive Rubens collections. Before World War I, the [Blaue Reiter](/wiki/Der_Blaue_Reiter) group of artists worked in Munich. Many of their works can now be seen at the [*Lenbachhaus*](/wiki/Lenbachhaus). [thumbnail|](/wiki/File:BMW_Welt,_Múnich,_Alemania,_2013-04-22,_DD_03.jpg) [BMW Welt](/wiki/BMW_Welt) An important collection of Greek and Roman art is held in the [*Glyptothek*](/wiki/Glyptothek) and the [*Staatliche Antikensammlung*](/wiki/Staatliche_Antikensammlungen) (State Antiquities Collection). King Ludwig I managed to acquire such famous pieces as the [Medusa Rondanini](/wiki/Medusa_Rondanini), the [Barberini Faun](/wiki/Barberini_Faun) and figures from the [Temple of Aphaea](/wiki/Temple_of_Aphaea) on [Aegina](/wiki/Aegina) for the Glyptothek. Another important museum in the [Kunstareal](/wiki/Kunstareal) is the [*Egyptian Museum*](/wiki/Staatliche_Sammlung_für_Ägyptische_Kunst).

The famous gothic [Morris dancers](/wiki/Morris_dance) of [Erasmus Grasser](/wiki/Erasmus_Grasser) are exhibited in the [*Munich City Museum*](/wiki/Munich_Stadtmuseum) in the old gothic arsenal building in the inner city.

Another area for the arts next to the Kunstareal is the [Lehel](/wiki/Altstadt-Lehel) quarter between the old town and the river Isar: The [*Museum Five Continents*](/wiki/Museum_Five_Continents) in Maximilianstraße is the second largest collection in Germany of artifacts and objects from outside Europe, while the [*Bavarian National Museum*](/wiki/Bavarian_National_Museum) and the adjoining [*Bavarian State Archaeological Collection*](/wiki/Bavarian_State_Archaeological_Collection) in Prinzregentenstrasse rank among Europe's major art and cultural history museums. The nearby [*Schackgalerie*](/wiki/Schackgalerie) is an important gallery of German 19th-century paintings.

The former [Dachau concentration camp](/wiki/Dachau_concentration_camp) is [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) outside the city.

### Arts and literature[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=24)]

Munich is a major European cultural centre and has played host to many prominent composers including [Orlando di Lasso](/wiki/Orlande_de_Lassus), [W.A. Mozart](/wiki/Wolfgang_Amadeus_Mozart), [Carl Maria von Weber](/wiki/Carl_Maria_von_Weber), [Richard Wagner](/wiki/Richard_Wagner), [Gustav Mahler](/wiki/Gustav_Mahler), [Richard Strauss](/wiki/Richard_Strauss), [Max Reger](/wiki/Max_Reger) and [Carl Orff](/wiki/Carl_Orff). With the [Munich Biennale](/wiki/Munich_Biennale) founded by [Hans Werner Henze](/wiki/Hans_Werner_Henze), and the [*A\*DEvantgarde*](/wiki/A*Devantgarde) festival, the city still contributes to modern music theatre. Some of classical music's best-known pieces have been created in and around Munich by native composers, for example Richard Strauss's famous tone poem [*Also sprach Zarathustra*](/wiki/Also_sprach_Zarathustra_(Strauss)) or Carl Orff's [*Carmina Burana*](/wiki/Carmina_Burana).

[thumb|](/wiki/File:München_Nationaltheater_Interior.jpg)[National Theatre](/wiki/National_Theatre_Munich) The [*Nationaltheater*](/wiki/National_Theatre_Munich), where several of [Richard Wagner's](/wiki/Richard_Wagner) operas had their premieres under the patronage of [Ludwig II of Bavaria](/wiki/Ludwig_II_of_Bavaria), is the home of the [Bavarian State Opera](/wiki/Bavarian_State_Opera) and the [Bavarian State Orchestra](/wiki/Bavarian_State_Orchestra). Next door, the modern [*Residenz Theatre*](/wiki/Residenz_Theatre) was erected in the building that had housed the [*Cuvilliés Theatre*](/wiki/Cuvilliés_Theatre) before World War II. Many operas were staged there, including the premiere of [Mozart's](/wiki/Wolfgang_Amadeus_Mozart) *Idomeneo* in 1781. The [*Gärtnerplatz Theatre*](/wiki/Staatstheater_am_Gärtnerplatz) is a ballet and musical state theatre while another opera house, the [*Prinzregententheater*](/wiki/Prinzregententheater), has become the home of the Bavarian Theatre Academy.

The modern [*Gasteig*](/wiki/Gasteig) centre houses the [Munich Philharmonic Orchestra](/wiki/Munich_Philharmonic). The third orchestra in Munich with international importance is the [Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra](/wiki/Bavarian_Radio_Symphony_Orchestra). Its primary concert venue is the *Herkulessaal* in the former city royal residence, the [Munich Residenz](/wiki/Munich_Residenz). Many important conductors have been attracted by the city's orchestras, including [Felix Weingartner](/wiki/Felix_Weingartner), [Hans Pfitzner](/wiki/Hans_Pfitzner), [Hans Rosbaud](/wiki/Hans_Rosbaud), [Hans Knappertsbusch](/wiki/Hans_Knappertsbusch), [Sergiu Celibidache](/wiki/Sergiu_Celibidache), [James Levine](/wiki/James_Levine), [Christian Thielemann](/wiki/Christian_Thielemann), [Lorin Maazel](/wiki/Lorin_Maazel), [Rafael Kubelík](/wiki/Rafael_Kubelík), [Eugen Jochum](/wiki/Eugen_Jochum), [Sir Colin Davis](/wiki/Sir_Colin_Davis), [Mariss Jansons](/wiki/Mariss_Jansons), [Bruno Walter](/wiki/Bruno_Walter), [Georg Solti](/wiki/Georg_Solti), [Zubin Mehta](/wiki/Zubin_Mehta) and [Kent Nagano](/wiki/Kent_Nagano). A stage for shows, big events and musicals is the [*Deutsche Theater*](/wiki/Deutsches_Theater_München). It is Germany's largest theatre for guest performances. [thumb|The *Golden Friedensengel*](/wiki/File:FriedensengelMunchen.JPG)

Munich's contributions to modern popular music are often overlooked in favour of its strong association with classical music, but they are numerous: The city has had a strong music scene in the 1960s and 1970s, with many internationally renowned bands and musicians frequently performing in its clubs. Furthermore, Munich was the centre of [Krautrock](/wiki/Krautrock) in southern Germany, with many important bands such as [Amon Düül II](/wiki/Amon_Düül_II), [Embryo](/wiki/Embryo_(band)) or [Popol Vuh](/wiki/Popol_Vuh_(band)) hailing from the city. In the 1970s, the [Musicland Studios](/wiki/Musicland_Studios) developed into one of the most prominent recording studios in the world, with famous bands such as the [Rolling Stones](/wiki/Rolling_Stones), [Led Zeppelin](/wiki/Led_Zeppelin), [Deep Purple](/wiki/Deep_Purple) and [Queen](/wiki/Queen_(band)) recording albums there. Munich also played a significant role in the development of electronic music, with genre pioneer [Giorgio Moroder](/wiki/Giorgio_Moroder), who invented [synth](/wiki/Synth) [disco](/wiki/Disco) and [electronic dance music](/wiki/Electronic_dance_music), and [Donna Summer](/wiki/Donna_Summer), one of disco music's most important performers, both living and working in the city. Other examples of notable musicians and bands from Munich are [Konstantin Wecker](/wiki/Konstantin_Wecker), [Willy Astor](/wiki/De:Willy_Astor), [Spider Murphy Gang](/wiki/Spider_Murphy_Gang), [Münchener Freiheit](/wiki/Münchener_Freiheit), [Lou Bega](/wiki/Lou_Bega), [Megaherz](/wiki/Megaherz), [FSK](/wiki/FSK_(band)), [Colour Haze](/wiki/Colour_Haze) and [Sportfreunde Stiller](/wiki/Sportfreunde_Stiller).

Music is so important in the Bavarian capital that the city hall gives permissions every day to musicians for performing in the streets around Marienplatz. This is how performers such as [Olga Kholodnaya](/wiki/Olga_Kholodnaya) and [Alex Jacobowitz](/wiki/Alex_Jacobowitz) are entertaining the locals and the tourists every day.

Next to the Bavarian Staatsschauspiel in the Residenz Theatre (Residenztheater), the [*Munich Kammerspiele*](/wiki/Munich_Kammerspiele) in the Schauspielhaus is one of the most important German language theatres in the world. Since [Gotthold Ephraim Lessing's](/wiki/Gotthold_Ephraim_Lessing) premieres in 1775 many important writers have staged their plays in Munich such as [Christian Friedrich Hebbel](/wiki/Christian_Friedrich_Hebbel), [Henrik Ibsen](/wiki/Henrik_Ibsen) and [Hugo von Hofmannsthal](/wiki/Hugo_von_Hofmannsthal).

The city is known as the second largest publishing center in the world (around 250 publishing houses have offices in the city), and many national and international publications are published in Munich, such as Arts in Munich, LAXMag and Prinz.

At the turn of the 20th century, Munich, and especially its suburb of [Schwabing](/wiki/Schwabing), was the preeminent cultural metropolis of Germany. Its importance as a centre for both literature and the fine arts was second to none in Europe, with numerous German and non-German artists moving there. For example, [Wassily Kandinsky](/wiki/Wassily_Kandinsky) chose Munich over Paris to study at the [Akademie der Bildenden Künste München](/wiki/Akademie_der_Bildenden_Künste_München), and, along with many other painters and writers living in Schwabing at that time, had a profound influence on [modern art](/wiki/Modern_art).

Prominent literary figures worked in Munich especially during the final decades of the Kingdom of Bavaria, the so-called *Prinzregentenzeit* (literally "prince regent's time") under the reign of [Luitpold, Prince Regent of Bavaria](/wiki/Luitpold,_Prince_Regent_of_Bavaria), a period often described as a cultural Golden Age for both Munich and Bavaria as a whole. Among them were luminaries such as [Thomas Mann](/wiki/Thomas_Mann), [Heinrich Mann](/wiki/Heinrich_Mann), [Paul Heyse](/wiki/Paul_Johann_Ludwig_von_Heyse), [Rainer Maria Rilke](/wiki/Rainer_Maria_Rilke), [Ludwig Thoma](/wiki/Ludwig_Thoma), [Fanny zu Reventlow](/wiki/Fanny_zu_Reventlow), [Oskar Panizza](/wiki/Oskar_Panizza), [Gustav Meyrink](/wiki/Gustav_Meyrink), [Max Halbe](/wiki/Max_Halbe), [Erich Mühsam](/wiki/Erich_Mühsam) and [Frank Wedekind](/wiki/Frank_Wedekind). For a short while, even [Vladimir Lenin](/wiki/Vladimir_Lenin) lived in Schwabing, where he wrote and published his most important work, [*What Is to Be Done?*](/wiki/What_Is_to_Be_Done?) Central to Schwabing's bohemian scene (although they were actually often located in the nearby Maxvorstadt quarter) were *Künstlerlokale* (artist's cafés) like [*Café Stefanie*](/wiki/Café_Stefanie) or Kabarett [*Simpl*](/wiki/Simpl), whose liberal ways differed fundamentally from Munich's more traditional localities. The *Simpl*, which survives to this day (although with little relevance to the city's contemporary art scene), was named after Munich's famous anti-authoritarian satirical magazine [*Simplicissimus*](/wiki/Simplicissimus), founded in 1896 by [Albert Langen](/wiki/Albert_Langen) and [Thomas Theodor Heine](/wiki/Thomas_Theodor_Heine), which quickly became an important organ of the *Schwabinger Bohème*. Its strikingly modern caricatures and biting satirical attacks on [Wilhelmine](/wiki/Wilhelminism) German society were the result of countless of collaborative efforts by many of the best visual artists and writers from Munich and elsewhere.

The period immediately before World War I saw continued economic and cultural prominence for the city. [Thomas Mann](/wiki/Thomas_Mann) wrote somewhat ironically in his novella *Gladius Dei* about this period: "München leuchtete" (literally "Munich shone"). Munich remained a centre of cultural life during the Weimar period, with figures such as [Lion Feuchtwanger](/wiki/Lion_Feuchtwanger), [Bertolt Brecht](/wiki/Bertolt_Brecht), [Peter Paul Althaus](/wiki/Peter_Paul_Althaus), [Stefan George](/wiki/Stefan_George), [Ricarda Huch](/wiki/Ricarda_Huch), [Joachim Ringelnatz](/wiki/Joachim_Ringelnatz), [Oskar Maria Graf](/wiki/Oskar_Maria_Graf), [Annette Kolb](/wiki/Annette_Kolb), [Ernst Toller](/wiki/Ernst_Toller), [Hugo Ball](/wiki/Hugo_Ball) and [Klaus Mann](/wiki/Klaus_Mann) adding to the already established big names. [Karl Valentin](/wiki/Karl_Valentin) was Germany's most important cabaret performer and comedian and is to this day well-remembered and beloved as a [cultural icon](/wiki/Cultural_icon) of his hometown. Between 1910 and 1940, he wrote and performed in many absurdist sketches and short films that were highly influential, earning him the nickname of "Charlie Chaplin of Germany". Many of Valentin's works wouldn't be imaginable without his congenial female partner [Liesl Karlstadt](/wiki/Liesl_Karlstadt), who often played male characters to hilarious effect in their sketches. After World War II, Munich soon again became a focal point of the German literary scene and remains so to this day, with writers as diverse as [Wolfgang Koeppen](/wiki/Wolfgang_Koeppen), [Erich Kästner](/wiki/Erich_Kästner), [Eugen Roth](/wiki/Eugen_Roth), [Alfred Andersch](/wiki/Alfred_Andersch), [Elfriede Jelinek](/wiki/Elfriede_Jelinek), [Hans Magnus Enzensberger](/wiki/Hans_Magnus_Enzensberger), [Michael Ende](/wiki/Michael_Ende), [Franz Xaver Kroetz](/wiki/Franz_Xaver_Kroetz), [Gerhard Polt](/wiki/Gerhard_Polt), John Vincent Palatine and [Patrick Süskind](/wiki/Patrick_Süskind) calling the city their home.

From the Gothic to the Baroque era, the fine arts were represented in Munich by artists like [Erasmus Grasser](/wiki/Erasmus_Grasser), [Jan Polack](/wiki/Jan_Polack), [Johann Baptist Straub](/wiki/Johann_Baptist_Straub), [Ignaz Günther](/wiki/Ignaz_Günther), [Hans Krumpper](/wiki/Hans_Krumpper), [Ludwig von Schwanthaler](/wiki/Ludwig_Michael_Schwanthaler), [Cosmas Damian Asam](/wiki/Cosmas_Damian_Asam), [Egid Quirin Asam](/wiki/Egid_Quirin_Asam), [Johann Baptist Zimmermann](/wiki/Johann_Baptist_Zimmermann), [Johann Michael Fischer](/wiki/Johann_Michael_Fischer) and [François de Cuvilliés](/wiki/François_de_Cuvilliés). Munich had already become an important place for painters like [Carl Rottmann](/wiki/Carl_Rottmann), [Lovis Corinth](/wiki/Lovis_Corinth), [Wilhelm von Kaulbach](/wiki/Wilhelm_von_Kaulbach), [Carl Spitzweg](/wiki/Carl_Spitzweg), [Franz von Lenbach](/wiki/Franz_von_Lenbach), [Franz von Stuck](/wiki/Franz_Stuck), [Karl Piloty](/wiki/Karl_Piloty) and [Wilhelm Leibl](/wiki/Wilhelm_Leibl) when [Der Blaue Reiter](/wiki/Der_Blaue_Reiter) (The Blue Rider), a group of expressionist artists, was established in Munich in 1911. The city was home to the Blue Rider's painters [Paul Klee](/wiki/Paul_Klee), [Wassily Kandinsky](/wiki/Wassily_Kandinsky), [Alexej von Jawlensky](/wiki/Alexej_von_Jawlensky), [Gabriele Münter](/wiki/Gabriele_Münter), [Franz Marc](/wiki/Franz_Marc), [August Macke](/wiki/August_Macke) and [Alfred Kubin](/wiki/Alfred_Kubin). Kandinsky's first abstract painting was created in Schwabing.

Munich was (and in some cases, still is) home to many of the most important authors of the [New German Cinema](/wiki/New_German_Cinema) movement, including [Rainer Werner Fassbinder](/wiki/Rainer_Werner_Fassbinder), [Werner Herzog](/wiki/Werner_Herzog), [Edgar Reitz](/wiki/Edgar_Reitz) and [Herbert Achternbusch](/wiki/Herbert_Achternbusch). In 1971, the [Filmverlag der Autoren](/wiki/Filmverlag_der_Autoren) was founded, cementing the city's role in the movement's history. Munich served as the location for many of Fassbinder's films, among them [*Ali: Fear Eats the Soul*](/wiki/Ali:_Fear_Eats_the_Soul). The Hotel [*Deutsche Eiche*](/wiki/Deutsche_Eiche) near Gärtnerplatz was somewhat like a center of operations for Fassbinder and his "clan" of actors. New German Cinema is considered by far the most important artistic movement in German cinema history since the era of [German Expressionism](/wiki/German_Expressionism) in the 1920s.

In 1919, the [Bavaria Film Studios](/wiki/Bavaria_Film_Studios) were founded, which developed into one of Europe's biggest film studios. Famous directors like [Alfred Hitchcock](/wiki/Alfred_Hitchcock), [Billy Wilder](/wiki/Billy_Wilder), [Orson Welles](/wiki/Orson_Welles), [John Huston](/wiki/John_Huston), [Ingmar Bergman](/wiki/Ingmar_Bergman), [Stanley Kubrick](/wiki/Stanley_Kubrick), [Claude Chabrol](/wiki/Claude_Chabrol), [Fritz Umgelter](/wiki/Fritz_Umgelter), [Rainer Werner Fassbinder](/wiki/Rainer_Werner_Fassbinder), [Wolfgang Petersen](/wiki/Wolfgang_Petersen) and [Wim Wenders](/wiki/Wim_Wenders) made films there. Among the internationally well-known films produced at the studios are [*The Pleasure Garden*](/wiki/The_Pleasure_Garden_(film)) by Alfred Hitchcock, [*The Great Escape*](/wiki/The_Great_Escape_(film)) by John Sturges, [*Paths of Glory*](/wiki/Paths_of_Glory) by Stanley Kubrick, [*Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory*](/wiki/Willy_Wonka_&_the_Chocolate_Factory) by [Mel Stuart](/wiki/Mel_Stuart) and both [*Das Boot*](/wiki/Das_Boot) and [*The Neverending Story*](/wiki/The_Neverending_Story_(film)) by [Wolfgang Petersen](/wiki/Wolfgang_Petersen). To this day, Munich remains one of the centres of the German film and entertainment industry.

### Hofbräuhaus and Oktoberfest[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=25)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [thumb|](/wiki/File:BeergartenenMunich.jpg)[Hofbräuhaus](/wiki/Hofbräuhaus) [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:Oktoberfest1.jpg)[Oktoberfest](/wiki/Oktoberfest) (2003) [thumb|munich Hofbräuhaus beer](/wiki/File:Munich_Hofbräuhaus_beer.jpg) The [Hofbräuhaus am Platzl](/wiki/Hofbräuhaus_am_Platzl), arguably the most famous beer hall worldwide, is located in the city centre. It also operates the second largest tent at the [Oktoberfest](/wiki/Oktoberfest), one of Munich's most famous attractions. For two weeks, the Oktoberfest attracts millions of people visiting its beer tents ("Bierzelte") and fairground attractions. The Oktoberfest was first held on 12 October 1810 in honour of the marriage of crown prince [Ludwig](/wiki/Ludwig_I_of_Bavaria) to [Princess Therese](/wiki/Therese_of_Saxe-Hildburghausen) of [Saxe-Hildburghausen](/wiki/Saxe-Hildburghausen). The festivities were closed with a horse race and in the following years the horse races were continued and later developed into what is now known as the Oktoberfest. Despite its name, most of Oktoberfest occurs in September. It always finishes on the first Sunday in October unless the German national holiday on 3 October (*Tag der deutschen Einheit*, i. e., "[Day of German Unity](/wiki/German_Unity_Day)") is a Monday or Tuesday—then the Oktoberfest remains open for these days.

### Culinary specialities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=26)]

[thumb|](/wiki/File:Weisswurst.jpg)[*Weisswürste*](/wiki/Weisswurst) with *süßer Senf* (sweet [mustard](/wiki/Mustard_(condiment))) and a *Breze* ([pretzel](/wiki/Pretzel))

The [*Weißwurst*](/wiki/Weisswurst) ('white sausage') is a Munich speciality. Traditionally eaten only before noon—a tradition dating to a time before refrigerators—these morsels are often served with *sweet mustard* (another Munich/Bavarian specialty) and freshly baked [pretzels](/wiki/Pretzel). The skin has to be removed before the meat can be eaten, and to accomplish this as elegantly as possible is considered an art form in itself.

[*Leberkäs*](/wiki/Leberkäse), Bavarian baked sausage loaf, often served with potato salad and sometimes topped with a fried egg, is another delicacy of the region. A thick slice of it in a bun, called *Leberkässemmel*, is sold as a cheap snack in almost every butcher's shop of the city. *Fleischpflanzerl* is the Bavarian variety of [*Frikadeller*](/wiki/Frikadeller).

[*Schweinsbraten*](/wiki/De:Schweinsbraten) (pot roasted pork) with [*Knödel*](/wiki/Knödel) (dumplings made from potatoes or white bread) and [*Krautsalat*](/wiki/De:Krautsalat) (a salad of white cabbage made with oil and vinegar, not to be confused with Sauerkraut) and [*Schweinshaxe*](/wiki/Schweinshaxe) (grilled pork knuckle) are the most typical heavy dishes in restaurants and beer gardens. A *halbe Ente* (roasted duck, literally "half of a duck") with [*Knödel*](/wiki/Knödel) and *Apfelrotkraut* (red cabbage with apple chunks) is especially popular in the colder months. *Saures Lüngerl* (less commonly called *Beuscherl*), a plate of lung, heart and spleen is also served with dumplings. [*Schlachtplatte*](/wiki/Schlachtplatte) (literally "slaughter plate") consists of *Kesselfleisch* (boiled pork), fresh *Blutwurst* (blood sausage), *Leberwurst* ([liverwurst](/wiki/Liverwurst)) and [*Sauerkraut*](/wiki/Sauerkraut). Traditionally only eaten on slaughtering day, it is available at any time now in restaurants. A common dish made with beef, onions and a thick dark sauce is *Zwiebelrostbraten*.

The most famous soup might be the *Leberknödel* soup. A [*Leberknödel*](/wiki/Leberknödel) is a bread dumpling seasoned with liver and onions.

Popular desserts include [*Apfelstrudel*](/wiki/Apple_strudel) (apple strudel) with vanilla sauce, [*Millirahmstrudel*](/wiki/Millirahmstrudel) (a cream cheese strudel), [*Dampfnudeln*](/wiki/Dampfnudeln) (yeast dumplings served with custard) and [*Auszogene*](/wiki/Knieküchle), a fried pastry shaped like a large doughnut without a hole. One of the most famous specialties is the [*Prinzregententorte*](/wiki/Prinzregententorte) created in honour of the 19th-century prince regent [Luitpold](/wiki/Luitpold,_Prince_Regent_of_Bavaria).

Some specialities are typical cold dishes served in [beer gardens](/wiki/Beer_garden): [*Obatzda*](/wiki/Obatzda) is a Bavarian cheese delicacy, a savoury blend of smashed mellow camembert prepared with cream cheese, cut onions and spicy paprika (and sometimes some butter). It is often served in the beer gardens along with *Radi*, white radish cut in thin slices and salted, and *Münchner* [*Wurstsalat*](/wiki/Wurstsalat), Munich's famous sausage salad with thinly sliced Knackwurst marinated in vinegar and oil with onions on a bed of lettuce. Popular grilled meals include [*Steckerlfisch*](/wiki/Steckerlfisch), which is usually [mackerel](/wiki/Mackerel), but may also be a local fish, such as brown trout or whitefish, speared on a wooden stick, grilled and smoked on charcoal—the typical feature is the crispy skin. Another classic is *a hoibs* [*Hendl*](/wiki/Hendl) (half a grilled chicken). A *Mass* (die [Maß](/wiki/Maß)) is a litre of beer, a [*Radler*](/wiki/Radler) consists of half beer and half lemonade. *Spezi* is an extremely popular non-alcoholic drink made of cola and orange lemonade.

### Beers and breweries[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=27)]

Munich is famous for its breweries and the [*Weissbier*](/wiki/Weissbier) (or *Weißbier*/*Weizenbier*, wheat beer) is a speciality from Bavaria. [*Helles*](/wiki/Helles), a [pale lager](/wiki/Pale_lager) with a translucent gold colour is the most popular Munich beer today, although it's not old (only introduced in 1895) and is the result of a change in beer tastes. Helles has largely replaced the *Munich Dark Beer* ([*Dunkles*](/wiki/Dunkel)), which gets its dark colour from burnt malt. It was the typical beer in Munich in the 19th century, but today it is more of a specialty. *Starkbier* is the strongest Munich beer, containing 6–9 percent alcohol. It is dark amber in color and has a heavy malty taste. It is available and popular during the Lenten *Starkbierzeit* (strong beer season), which begins on or before St. Joseph's Day (19 March). The beer served at [Oktoberfest](/wiki/Oktoberfest) is a special type of *Märzen* beer with a higher alcohol content than regular Helles.

There are countless *Wirtshäuser* (traditional Bavarian ale houses/restaurants) all over the city area, many of which also have small outside areas. *Biergärten* ([beer gardens](/wiki/Beer_garden)) are the most famous and popular fixtures of Munich's gastronomic landscape. They are central to the city's culture and serve as a kind of melting pot for members of all walks of life, for locals, expatriates and tourists alike. It is allowed to bring one's own food to a beer garden. There are many smaller beer gardens and around 20 major ones, providing at least one thousand seats, with four of the most famous and popular being located in the [Englischer Garten](/wiki/Englischer_Garten): *Chinesischer Turm* (Munich's second largest beergarden with 7000 seats), *Seehaus*, *Hirschau* and *Aumeister*. Among locals, connoisseurs and well-informed tourists, *Augustiner-Keller*, located near *Hauptbahnhof* (central station) at *Arnulfstraße*, is one of the most popular beergarden of the city, since it is the only one in which Munich's most popular beer, *Augustiner*, is pulled from wooden barrels. *Nockherberg*, *Hofbräukeller* (not to be confused with the [*Hofbräuhaus*](/wiki/Hofbräuhaus)) and *Löwenbräukeller* are other famous beergardens. *Hirschgarten* is the largest beer garden in the world with 8000 seats.

There are six breweries in Munich:

* [Augustiner-Bräu](/wiki/Augustiner-Bräu)
* [Hacker-Pschorr](/wiki/Hacker-Pschorr_Brewery)
* [Hofbräu](/wiki/Hofbräuhaus)
* [Löwenbräu](/wiki/Löwenbräu)
* [Paulaner](/wiki/Paulaner)
* [Spaten-Franziskaner-Bräu](/wiki/Spaten-Franziskaner-Bräu)

### Markets[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=28)]

The [*Viktualienmarkt*](/wiki/Viktualienmarkt) is Munich's most popular market for fresh food and delicatessen. A very old feature of Munich's Fasching (carnival) is the dance of the Marktfrauen (market women) of the Viktualienmarkt in comical costumes.

The [*Auer Dult*](/wiki/Auer_Dult) is held three times a year on the square around Mariahilf church and is one of Munich's oldest markets, well known for its hardware, trinkets and antiques.

Three weeks before Christmas the [*Christkindlmarkt*](/wiki/Christmas_market) opens at Marienplatz and other squares in the city, selling Christmas goods.

### Nightlife[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=29)]

[Nightlife](/wiki/Nightlife) in Munich is located mostly in the city centre ([Altstadt-Lehel](/wiki/Altstadt-Lehel)) and the boroughs [Maxvorstadt](/wiki/Maxvorstadt), [Ludwigsvorstadt-Isarvorstadt](/wiki/Ludwigsvorstadt-Isarvorstadt), [Au-Haidhausen](/wiki/Au-Haidhausen) and [Schwabing](/wiki/Schwabing). Between [Sendlinger Tor](/wiki/Sendlinger_Tor) and [Maximilansplatz](/wiki/Maximilansplatz) lies the so-called Feierbanane (party banana), a roughly banana-shaped unofficial party zone spanning 1.3 km along Sonnenstraße, characterized by a high concentration of clubs, bars and restaurants. In recent years, the Feierbanane has become the mainstream focus of Munich's nightlife and tends to get quite crowded, especially on weekends. It also has sparked some debate among city officials regarding alcohol-related security issues and the party zone's general impact on local residents as well as day-time businesses.

[Ludwigsvorstadt-Isarvorstadt's](/wiki/Ludwigsvorstadt-Isarvorstadt) two main quarters, Gärtnerplatzviertel and Glockenbachviertel, are both considered decidedly less mainstream than most other nightlife hotspots in the city and are renowned for their many hip and laid back bars and clubs as well as for being Munich's main centers of gay culture. On warm spring or summer nights, hundreds of young people can be seen gathering at Gärtnerplatz, where they lay down in the grass to relax, talk with friends and drink beer, occupying most of the square's available space in the process.

[Maxvorstadt](/wiki/Maxvorstadt) has many smaller bars that are especially popular with university students, whereas legendary [Schwabing](/wiki/Schwabing), once Munich's first and foremost party district, has lost much of its nightlife activity in the last few decades, mainly due to gentrification and the resulting extraordinarily high rents (even for Munich standards). It has become the city's most coveted (and one of its most expensive) residential districts, attracting affluent citizens with little interest in partying. Nevertheless, some of its more excentric aspects have survived, and there are still a few legendary venues like the underground [Schwabinger 7](/wiki/Schwabinger_7) and live clubs such as Schwabinger Podium.

The Kultfabrik, a former industrial complex that was converted to a large party area near [München Ostbahnhof](/wiki/München_Ostbahnhof) in Haidhausen, hosted more than 25 clubs and was especially popular among younger people and/or residents of the metropolitan area surrounding Munich. The Kultfabrik was closed at the end of the year 2015 to convert the area into a residential and office area. Apart from the Kultfarbik and its smaller cousin Optimolwerke, there exists a wide variety of establishments in the more urban parts of [Haidhausen](/wiki/Haidhausen).

Generally speaking, Munich nightlife tends to change quite dramatically over very short periods of time. Establishments are opening and closing every year, with some surviving only a few months, while others can last for many years. Within recent history, Munich has had a few musical venues that have made more of an impact than others, some even gaining international recognition, such as Big Apple, PN, Tanzlokal Größenwahn, Atomic Cafe, Ultraschall or Babalu Bar, to name a few.

Munich has two directly connected gay quarters, which basically can be seen as one: Gärtnerplatzviertel and Glockenbachviertel, both part of the [Ludwigsvorstadt-Isarvorstadt](/wiki/Ludwigsvorstadt-Isarvorstadt) district. [Freddie Mercury](/wiki/Freddie_Mercury) had an apartment near the Gärtnerplatz and transsexual icon [Romy Haag](/wiki/Romy_Haag) had a club in the city centre for many years.

Some notable establishments are:

Bars (Pubs are located all over the city):

* Schumann's – Charles Schumann's Cocktail Bar
* Havana Club
* Bar Centrale
* Holy Home
* Eat the Rich
* Pimpernel
* M.C. Mueller

Clubs:

* P1 – Favourite meeting place of Munich's High Society, the so-called [Schickeria](/wiki/Schickeria)
* Harry Klein
* EdMoses
* Rote Sonne
* Call me Drella
* Cord
* M.C. Mueller
* Backstage – catering to more alternative and rock tastes.

Munich has more than 100 night clubs and thousands of bars and restaurants within city limits.

### Circus[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=30)]

The [Circus Krone](/wiki/Circus_Krone) is based in Munich and one of the largest circus in Europe.[[22]](#cite_note-22) It was the first and still is one of only a few in Western Europe to also occupy a [building](/wiki/Circus_Krone_Building) of its own.

## Education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=31)]

### Colleges and universities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=32)]

Munich is a leading location for science and research with a long list of Nobel Prize laureates from [Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen](/wiki/Wilhelm_Röntgen) in 1901 to [Theodor Hänsch](/wiki/Theodor_W._Hänsch) in 2005. Munich has become a spiritual centre already since the times of Emperor Louis IV when philosophers like [Michael of Cesena](/wiki/Michael_of_Cesena), [Marsilius of Padua](/wiki/Marsilius_of_Padua) and [William of Ockham](/wiki/William_of_Ockham) were protected at the emperor's court. The Ludwig Maximilian University (LMU) and the Technische Universität München (TU or TUM), were two of the first three German universities to be awarded the title *elite university* by a selection committee composed of academics and members of the Ministries of Education and Research of the Federation and the German states (Länder). Only the two Munich universities and the Technical University of Karlsruhe (now part of [Karlsruhe Institute of Technology](/wiki/Karlsruhe_Institute_of_Technology)) have held this honour, and the implied greater chances of attracting research funds, since the first evaluation round in 2006. [thumb|Main building of the Ludwig Maximilians University](/wiki/File:Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität_München.jpg) [thumb|Munich University of Applied Sciences](/wiki/File:Hochschule_Muenchen_Ansicht_Lothstrasse.jpg)

* [Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich](/wiki/Ludwig_Maximilian_University_of_Munich) (LMU), founded in 1472 in [Ingolstadt](/wiki/Ingolstadt), moved to Munich in 1826
* [Technical University of Munich](/wiki/Technical_University_of_Munich) (TUM), founded in 1868
* [Akademie der Bildenden Künste München](/wiki/Academy_of_Fine_Arts_Munich), founded in 1808
* [Bundeswehr University Munich](/wiki/Bundeswehr_University_Munich), founded in 1973 (located in [Neubiberg](/wiki/Neubiberg))
* [Deutsche Journalistenschule](/wiki/German_school_for_journalists), founded in 1959
* [Bayerische Akademie für Außenwirtschaft](/wiki/Bayerische_Akademie_für_Außenwirtschaft), founded in 1989
* [Hochschule für Musik und Theater München](/wiki/Hochschule_für_Musik_und_Theater_München), founded in 1830
* [International Max Planck Research School for Molecular and Cellular Life Sciences](/wiki/International_Max_Planck_Research_School_for_Molecular_and_Cellular_Life_Sciences)
* [International School of Management](/wiki/International_School_of_Management_(ISM))[[23]](#cite_note-23)\* [Katholische Stiftungsfachhochschule München](/wiki/Katholische_Stiftungsfachhochschule_München), founded in 1971
* [Munich Business School](/wiki/Munich_Business_School) (MBS), founded in 1991
* [Munich Intellectual Property Law Center](/wiki/Munich_Intellectual_Property_Law_Center) (MIPLC)
* [Munich School of Philosophy](/wiki/Munich_School_of_Philosophy), founded in 1925 in [Pullach](/wiki/Pullach), moved to Munich in 1971
* [Munich School of Political Science](/wiki/Munich_School_of_Political_Science)
* [Munich University of Applied Sciences](/wiki/Munich_University_of_Applied_Sciences) (HM), founded in 1971
* [Pionierschule und Fachschule des Heeres für Bautechnik](/wiki/Pionierschule_und_Fachschule_des_Heeres_für_Bautechnik)
* [Ukrainian Free University](/wiki/Ukrainian_Free_University), founded in 1921 (from 1945 – in Munich)
* [University of Television and Film Munich](/wiki/University_of_Television_and_Film_Munich) (*Hochschule für Fernsehen und Film*), founded in 1966

### Primary and secondary schools[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=33)]

[Template:Expand section](/wiki/Template:Expand_section) International schools in Munich:

* [Lycée Jean Renoir](/wiki/Lycée_Jean_Renoir_(Munich)) (French school)
* [Japanische Internationale Schule München](/wiki/Japanische_Internationale_Schule_München)
* [Bavarian International School](/wiki/Bavarian_International_School)
* [Munich International School](/wiki/Munich_International_School)

## Scientific research institutions[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=34)]

### Max Planck Society[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=35)]

The [Max Planck Society](/wiki/Max_Planck_Society), an independent German non-profit research organization, has its administrative headquarters in Munich. The following institutes are located in the Munich area:

* [Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics](/wiki/Max_Planck_Institute_for_Astrophysics), [Garching](/wiki/Garching_bei_München)
* [Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry](/wiki/Max_Planck_Institute_of_Biochemistry), [Martinsried](/wiki/Martinsried)
* [Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics](/wiki/Max_Planck_Institute_for_Extraterrestrial_Physics), [Garching](/wiki/Garching_bei_München)
* [Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Social Law](/wiki/Max_Planck_Institute_for_Foreign_and_International_Social_Law), München
* [Max Planck Institute for Intellectual Property, Competition and Tax Law](/wiki/Max_Planck_Institute_for_Intellectual_Property,_Competition_and_Tax_Law), München
* [Max Planck Institute of Neurobiology](/wiki/Max_Planck_Institute_of_Neurobiology), [Martinsried](/wiki/Martinsried)
* [Max Planck Institute for Ornithology](/wiki/Max_Planck_Institute_for_Ornithology), [Andechs](/wiki/Andechs)-[Erling](/wiki/Erling,_Germany) (Biological Rhythms and Behaviour), [Radolfzell](/wiki/Radolfzell), [Seewiesen](/wiki/Seewiesen) (Reproductive Biology and Behaviour)[[24]](#cite_note-24)\* [Max Planck Institute for Physics](/wiki/Max_Planck_Institute_for_Physics) ([Werner Heisenberg Institute](/wiki/Max_Planck_Institute_for_Physics)), München
* [Max Planck Institute for Plasma Physics](/wiki/Max-Planck-Institut_für_Plasmaphysik), [Garching](/wiki/Garching_bei_München) (also in [Greifswald](/wiki/Greifswald))
* [Max Planck Institute of Psychiatry](/wiki/Max_Planck_Institute_of_Psychiatry), München
* [Max Planck Institute for Psychological Research](/wiki/Max_Planck_Institute_for_Psychological_Research), München (closed)
* [Max Planck Institute of Quantum Optics](/wiki/Max_Planck_Institute_of_Quantum_Optics), [Garching](/wiki/Garching_bei_München)

### Other research institutes[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=36)]

* [Botanische Staatssammlung München](/wiki/Botanische_Staatssammlung_München), a notable [herbarium](/wiki/Herbarium)
* [CESifo](/wiki/CESifo), theoretical and applied research in economics and finance
* [Doerner Institute](/wiki/Doerner_Institute)
* [European Southern Observatory](/wiki/European_Southern_Observatory)
* [Fraunhofer Institute](/wiki/Fraunhofer_Society)
* [Helmholtz Zentrum München](/wiki/Helmholtz_Zentrum_München)

## Economy[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=37)]

[thumb|](/wiki/File:BMW_building_munich.jpg)[BMW Headquarters](/wiki/BMW_Headquarters) building (one of the few buildings that have been built from the top to the bottom) and the bowl shaped BMW museum [thumb|The Munich headquarters of](/wiki/File:Siemens_Palais.JPG) [Siemens](/wiki/Siemens) Munich has the strongest economy of any German city[[25]](#cite_note-25) and the lowest unemployment rate (3.0% in June 2014) of any German city with more than a million people (the others being Berlin, Hamburg and [Cologne](/wiki/Cologne)).[[26]](#cite_note-26)[[27]](#cite_note-27) The city is also the economic centre of [southern Germany](/wiki/Southern_Germany). The initiative "Neue Soziale Marktwirtschaft (INSM)" (New Social Market Economy) and the "[WirtschaftsWoche](/wiki/Wirtschaftswoche)" (Business Weekly) magazine awarded Munich the top score in their comparative survey for the third time in June 2006. Munich topped the ranking of the magazine "Capital" in February 2005 for the economic prospects between 2002 and 2011 in sixty German cities. Munich is a [Financial centre](/wiki/Financial_centre) and a [Global city](/wiki/Global_city) and holds the headquarters of [Siemens AG](/wiki/Siemens) (electronics), [BMW](/wiki/BMW) (car), [MAN AG](/wiki/MAN_SE) (truck manufacturer, engineering), [Linde](/wiki/The_Linde_Group) (gases), [Allianz](/wiki/Allianz) (insurance), [Munich Re](/wiki/Munich_Re) ([re-insurance](/wiki/Reinsurance)), and [Rohde & Schwarz](/wiki/Rohde_&_Schwarz) ([electronics](/wiki/Electronics)). Among German cities with more than 500,000 inhabitants purchasing power is highest in Munich (26,648 euro per inhabitant) [Template:As of](/wiki/Template:As_of).[[28]](#cite_note-28) In 2006, Munich blue-collar workers enjoyed an average hourly wage of 18.62 euro (ca. $20).[[29]](#cite_note-29)