

# Germany

**Continent:** Europe

**Languages Spoken:** German

**Population:** 83,000,000

**Currency:** Euro (EUR)

**Area:** 357,022

## Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Brandenburg Gate', 'writeup': 'An 18th-century neoclassical monument in Berlin symbolizing unity and peace.'}
- {'name': 'Neuschwanstein Castle', 'writeup': 'A 19th-century Romanesque Revival palace in Bavaria, famous for its fairy-tale appearance.'}
- {'name': 'Cologne Cathedral', 'writeup': 'A Gothic masterpiece and UNESCO World Heritage site, known for its impressive twin spires.'}
- {'name': 'Berlin Wall', 'writeup': 'Remnants of the Cold War barrier that divided East and West Berlin from 1961 to 1989.'}
- {'name': 'Heidelberg Castle', 'writeup': 'A Renaissance ruin overlooking the Neckar River, symbolizing German Romanticism.'}

## Head of State / Government:

Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier

## Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Oktoberfest', 'writeup': 'The world's largest beer festival held annually in Munich, celebrating Bavarian culture.'}
- {'name': 'Karneval (Carnival)', 'writeup': 'A festive season with parades and costumes, especially prominent in Cologne and Mainz.'}
- {'name': 'Christmas Markets', 'writeup': 'Traditional markets held across Germany during Advent, featuring crafts and seasonal foods.'}
- {'name': 'Berlin International Film Festival', 'writeup': 'One of the world's leading film festivals showcasing international cinema.'}
- {'name': 'Wagner Festival', 'writeup': 'An annual music festival in Bayreuth dedicated to the works of composer Richard Wagner.'}

## Food & Cuisine:

German cuisine features hearty dishes such as sausages, sauerkraut, pretzels, and regional specialties like Bavarian roast pork and Black Forest cake.

## Brief History:

Germany has a complex history marked by the Holy Roman Empire, unification in 1871, two World Wars, division during the Cold War, and reunification in 1990. It is now a leading European economic and political power.

## Important People:

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe - Writer and statesman
- Albert Einstein - Theoretical physicist
- Angela Merkel - Former Chancellor
- Ludwig van Beethoven - Composer
- Immanuel Kant - Philosopher

#### **Current Conflicts:**

Germany is not involved in any active military conflicts but participates in international peacekeeping and diplomatic efforts.

#### **Youtube Links:**

- Germany Travel Guide - Top Attractions & Things to Do
- History of Germany Explained in 10 Minutes
- German Culture and Traditions
- German Food Tour - What to Eat in Germany
- Understanding Germany's Political System