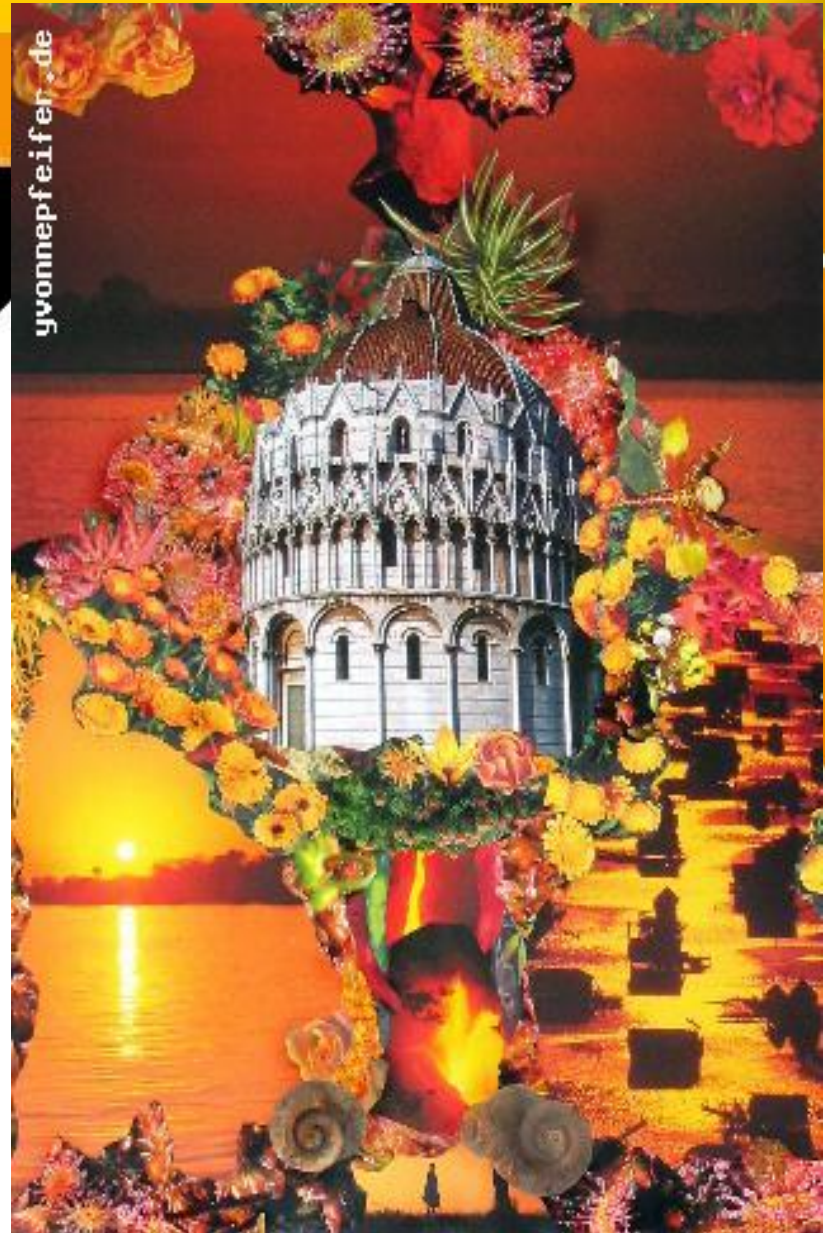


Germany's Culture

Germany's culture is a vast rich experience. In my project I'll touch on some aspects of what you will find in Germany. First off lets take a look at some basic stats on Germany





Facts About Germany

- Germany Consists of 16 parts the capitol is Berlin (right), and it's official name is Bundesrepublik Deutschland.
- The Flag of Germany is Black, Red, gold horizontal stripes (bottom-right). The flag can be hung vertically, but must be on a horizontal flagpole with the black facing furthest from the building. (bottom-left)
- The estimated population is 82,425,000 (2004), and 82,314,900 (2006), and the land mass is 357,021.7 square kilometers Germany actually ranks in at 62 in land mass according to a size chart of the largest areas.
- The Major religions are Protestant, Roman Catholic, und Rei Evangelische Kirche.
- The national currency is the euro, and the main exports are: Automobiles, Chemicals, Electronics, Foodstuffs, Machinery and Equipment, metals, textiles.



REGIONS & THEIR FLAGS



Baden-Württemberg



Bavaria



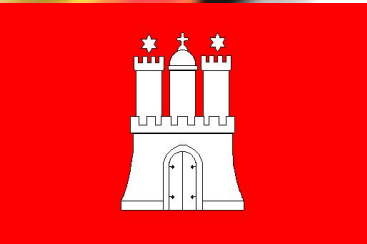
Berlin



Brandenburg



Bremen



Hamburg



Hessen



Mecklenburg-Vorpommern



Lower Saxony



Nordrhein-Westfalen



Rheinland-Pfalz



Saarland



Saxony



Saxony-Anhalt



Schleswig-Holstein



Thuringia

- Even though Germany has one United flag each other region also has a flag to represent its self.

What are Schools like?

| GRADE | | | | | AGE | |
|--|--|---|-----------------------|--|-----|--|
| 13 | | | | | 19 | |
| 12 | Berufsschule <i>(Apprenticeship combines work and classes)</i> | Berufsfachschule <i>(Vocational Training)</i> | Fachoberschule | University and college preparatory classes in Gymnasium and some Gesamtschulen | 18 | Secondary School (Second Phase) |
| 11 | | | | | 17 | |
| 10 | | | | | 16 | |
| 10 | Vocational Training <i>(full or part-time classes)</i> | | | | 15 | |
| Hauptschule students usually graduate after 9 years. Realschule students graduate after 10 years. | | | | | 16 | |
| 10 | <i>(Some schools have a 10th year)</i> Hauptschule | Realschule | Gymnasium | Gesamtschule <i>Comprehensive School (may combine elements of other 3 schools)</i> | 15 | Secondary School (First Phase) |
| 9 | | | | | 14 | |
| 8 | | | | | 13 | |
| 7 | Orientation Stage | | | | 12 | |
| 6 | | | | | 11 | |
| 5 | Grundschule <i>Elementary School</i> | | | | 10 | Elementary School |
| 4 | | | | | 9 | |
| 3 | | | | | 8 | |
| 2 | Kindergarten | | | | 7 | Pre-school |
| 1 | | | | | 6 | |
| | | | | | 5 | |
| | | | | | 4 | |
| | | | | | 3 | |

- In Germany there are many different schools available. The schools are based on the child's academic prose as pictured in the graph.(right)
- the regular school day for German children is mornings from 8:00 to 1:00. Also the Grundschule teaches the same curriculum to all the children grade 1st though 4th
- Students in Germany must complete at least 9 years of School if you drop out of the Gymnasium you must attend school at the realschule until the 9 years is over.
- The Hauptschule and the realschule offer vocational training, and apprenticeships, but few opportunities for universities



The Work Place In Germany

- In Germany the work day is fairly short with the hours being close to 7:00, or 8:00 in the morning to 3:00 in the afternoon, 4:00 is often considered pushing the feasible limit.
- The common myth about German working is it's tough to get fired from ones Job, but that's not the truth. An employee can receive a Kündigung as long as there is a good reason for it like stealing or threatening a co-worker. Though it has to go through the companies council who must approve the firing if the worker.

□ Also Germany is known for it's well established unions, that are a large force in the working environment.

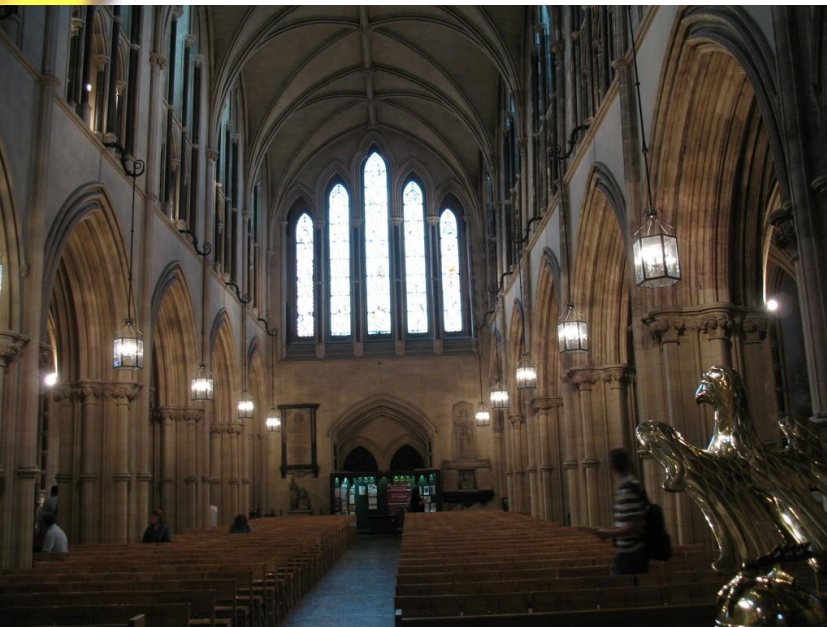
□ a good point to make is that in German Business it is less about being quick to decide what's next and more about the planning of the current action. It is pretty standard for German companies to spend more of the decision making on a thorough look at all the options, only after that can they move ahead with a business move, like a business to business transaction. This has earned Germans a reputation of having a fetish for business charts, and paper work.





Religion In Germany

- In Germany Religion is something that is considered to be personal. Very few Germans will engage in a religious conversation, and actually try to avoid the subject all together.
- Germany does not have a strict separation of state and Church, not only that, but 12 of the 15 legal German holidays are Christian feast days.
- Some of the religions of Germany are Lutheran, Roman Catholic, Protestant, Rei Evangelische Kirche, etc..
- An odd tid bit is that not all of the Church goers are there for the religious for the aspects of the Church. A poll from the 1990's indicated that not all of that belonged to the church even believed in god. Why go then? Well two reasons. 1: the church is a great social gathering, which is recognized by many people, 2: and once registered it is a long process to un-register and it draws a lot of unwanted attention to a private matter





German Holidays!



- A list of legal holidays are as follows: NeuJahr, epiphany, the kings, Labor day, Good Friday, Easter, Ascension Thursday, Pentecost, Corpus Christi, Feast of the assumption, Tag der Deutschen Einheit, Reformationstag, Penance day, Christmas day 1st and 2nd, and New years eve.
- Non legal holidays are just as important as the legal ones. A notable one is the Fasching (a.k.a. karneval) which is the German equivalent to Carnivale. In this time Germans will openly come and converse, or hug with whom ever they feel like without concern, there is also much drinking. This usually takes place on the two weeks leading to lent, and escalates on the Monday and Tuesday before ash Wednesday.
- Not every Legal holiday is Celebrated country wide some are exclusive to certain regions such as Penance day that is only legal in Saxony.
- During Christmas time even if you are not Christian it is costmary to say frohe Weihnachten! (merry Christmas!) if you don't it is considered a sign of unfriendliness

The Language In Germany

- ◉ The Language in Germany like any other Language has many Different Dialects, this is important Because even if you learn German you might not be able to understand what people are saying!
- ◉ The basic Language of Germany is Houchdeutsch, but the dialects change the language slightly in each part of Germany. The actual number of dialects are various and even the estimates are erratic spanning between 50 and 250!
- ◉ Part of the Reason for the vast dialects is because there where Germanic tribes much before there was a common language, also until 1871 there was no recognized German country.
- ◉ Linguists divide at language into three main categories that are: Dialekt, Umgangssprache, and hochsprache; though it is still in dispute as to the exact borders of each category.
- ◉ Also the difference in Dialect also effect the meaning of words such as the now infamous “Ich Bin ein Berliner” spoken by JFK, which Translated became “I an a doughnut“since the northern parts of Germany that word for doughnut is Berliner, whilst in the others are Krapfen, and (in southern Germany) Pfannkuchen. Too bad the president wasn't informed of the dialect changes



your furry friends and Germany



- ◎ First off it is very hard to travel with pets into Germany; Your little friend be vaccinated, have a license or an ID number that is on a visible tattoo or a micro chip that is corresponding with the examination papers, and they need a passport issued by a licensed vet. Many of these are new U.N. regulations.
- ◎ In many cases being a Pet in Germany is like hitting the Jackpot in the location lottery. Why? Since pets in Germany are held in very high esteem, there was a case where a ruling was against a man who was rear ended while avoiding a dachshund in 2003.
- ◎ Some species of Dog though are not allowed to be imported into the country since they are considered to be dangerous. The Breed are Pit Bulls, Staffordshire Bull Terriers, and American Staffordshire Terriers. Also several states do not like to import Rottweilers, there is no ban on them but they must pass a “Viciousness” test before being admitted into the country. If they pass they are treated like a regular dog, but if they fail they are to be muzzled, neutered, and have a high licensing fee.
- ◎ The pet owner is responsible for what the pet does
- ◎ Dogs and cats are allowed to travel with you in trains, and a ticket for them is half price of a regular fare



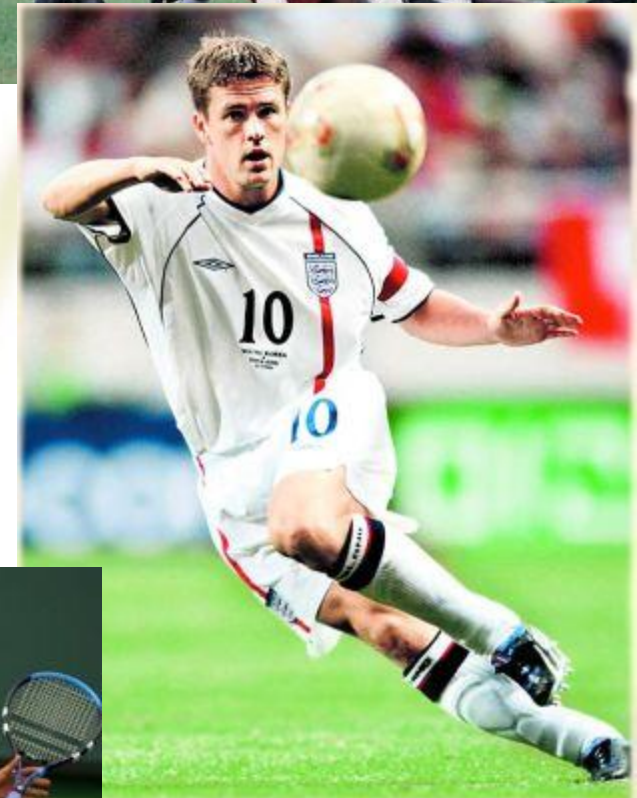
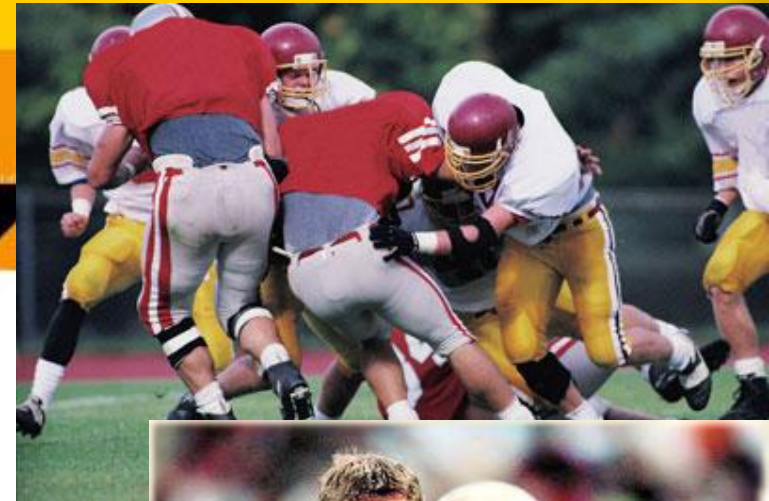
Crime In Germany???

- ◉ Germany has actually experienced a rise in Crime rate in the past few decades, but fortunate it is still at a comparable low amount compared to other western societies.
- ◉ The Crimes in Germany are actually more in the realm of damaged Things rather than people. There are more cases of Burglary, and ruined Property than there are grisly crimes.
- ◉ It is speculated that a contributing factor to the jump in crime is the leniency in court cases. Many German judges feel it is important to save the rights of both the accused and the accuser.
- ◉ With that in mind it is no Surprise that the death penalty was abolished in 1949



Sports!

- Germany is home to Passionate fans and player of the game Fussball, the fans are so dedicated that the streets of Germany during a world cup are barren.
- currently Germany holds three world cup championships. The only team to win more is the Brazilian team.
- Germany isn't just a place for Fussball, Tennis has become much more popular. This is due in part to some star German athletes stepping into the game, such as Steffi Graf, Boris Becker, Anke Hauber, and Michael Stich.
- Also some western Sports are gaining in popularity as well. There is now fans of the NBA, and Football. The football games as of late have been drawing in sell out crowds and the sports channels of Germany Play the super bowl as well.



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