

## **Independent Traveler Infos # 06 TGAC**

**Public Holidays in Germany:** Germany has many public holidays. Some of them are federal holidays, others vary from state to state. Since most attractions, shops, museums, galleries, grocery stores and sometimes even restaurants are closed then, it's best to check dates before you make any individual travel plans. The most important holidays with the most restricted opening hours are the two Christmas holidays (Dec 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup>), New Years Day (Jan 1<sup>st</sup>), Good Friday, Easter Monday, Labor day (May 1<sup>st</sup>), Pentecost, Corpus Christi and Day of German Unity (Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>). For a more comprehensive list see the link below. Although not officially holidays, on Christmas evening (Dec 24<sup>th</sup>) and New Years evening (Dec 31<sup>st</sup>) opening hours – especially in bars and restaurants – are very limited. In addition to the holidays, many museums and other tourist attractions close on Mondays. Especially opening hours of outdoor destinations such as parks, gardens, castles, fortresses, amusement parks, markets and exhibitions are subject to seasonal changes – one more reason to check dates in advance to avoid bad surprises. On the other side, Germany has plenty of colorful and lively local events to offer: Christmas markets, Easter feasts, historic and traditional town festivities, farmers markets, open-air concerts and theatre in scenic settings of castles, monasteries, royal gardens etc., harvest celebration events, culinary events and much more. Therefore check the local event calendars or contact your specialized travel agent – it's definitively worth to become part of authentic local events and experience the true lively culture, history, tradition and cuisine of the various but unique regions!

<http://www.qppstudio.net/publicolidays2008/germany.htm>

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