

**Newsletter # 02 TGAC**

**BBQ State Thuringia – East Germany:** Barbecue is probably the favorite hobby for most original Thuringians during summer time. But it's not only the quantity – also in quality they show their very best. Hans-Joachim Fuchs is **Mister Barbecue 2002** (World Barbecue Association)! He became the Ambassador Barbecue Germany in 2000 and he is holding another world record: Since 1999 he has been participating in ALL World Barbecue Championchips. Apparently no one else ever achieved that! To share his craft & art he is running a Barbecue school “Grill- und BBQ-Schule ega Erfurt” in the **Thuringian capital Erfurt**. One secret he revealed is to use the heat-resistant and tasteless Canola oil for his superb herb marinades. The original “Thueringer Rostbratwurst” (Thuringian BBQ Sausage) is a must for every “Grillabend” (BBQ night). Here a simple and fast recipe by Mister Barbecue Hans-Joachim Fuchs: **Wrapped Thuringian BBQ sausage with sauerkraut** – Grill the sausage for 8 min (flip twice), fill ready wraps with sauerkraut (pickled cabbage), furl the grilled sausage and fix it with tooth picks, brush the furlled wrap with a spicy seasoned oil and grill it again indirectly for 3–4 min. Guten Appetit! Don't forget to serve mustard and a German Pilsener Beer as a “side dish” (light beer doesn't count!).

**Further information:**

<http://www.grillweltmeister.de> (only in German available)

[http://www.chron.com/CDA/archives/archive.mpl?id=2007\\_4473647](http://www.chron.com/CDA/archives/archive.mpl?id=2007_4473647)

**Fascinating highpoints in stone – UNESCO World Heritage Site “Historic Towns Wismar & Stralsund” in Northern East Germany:** Everywhere at the coast of the Baltic Sea the visitor will come across the red brickwork. Imposing church Staples still dominate many cities in the East German State Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. The medieval towns of Wismar and Stralsund were major trading centres of the **Hanseatic League in the 14th and 15th centuries**. The group of brickwork basilicas that were built in the Hanseatic cities around the Baltic Sea coast is, in their number and quality, unique in the world. **Gothic brickwork architecture** is considered an independent building style and is one of the region's great cultural achievements. Between 1990 and 2001 over 1.2 billion Deutschmarks were invested in the protection of monuments. This and the huge effort of many volunteers made it possible for every visitor to travel back in

time to the Middle Ages period when Mecklenburg and Pommern were making European cultural history. You can feel the spirit and fascination of those venerable monuments nestled in the town centres with their many preserved **historic houses** for residential, commercial and crafts use. The Mecklenburg Baltic sea coast takes you to the 19th century when countless **seaside resorts** were created. In 1793 the Grand Duke Friedrich Franz I of Mecklenburg-Schwerin founded Germany's first seaside resort in Heiligendamm. That's what the coast with its fine sandy beaches is today: an enormous bathing area and an endless promenade.

**Further information:** <http://www.auf-nach-mv.de/home2.html>

**Berlin WelcomeCard – Your explorer ticket for Berlin & Potsdam:** There is absolutely no doubt – the best way for independent travellers to discover **Berlin & Potsdam** is to take advantage of the comprehensive public transportation network. To buy the correct tickets can be difficult for foreign tourists and spoil the fun of individual sightseeing trips. There are several ticket zones, different transport systems, time limits, only german speaking sales staff, confusing ticket vending machines etc.. Fortunately there is a perfect solution: the **Berlin WelcomeCard** – an unlimited ticket for the entire **public transportation network** for 48 or 72 hours! It also comes with a convenient guide including maps and a voucher booklet with great savings on over 130 top sights and cultural highlights. Insider's tip: The **public Bus line #100** passes many Berlin sights and with your Berlin WelcomeCard you can get off and back on the bus at any stop any time!

**Further information:**

<http://www.visitberlin.de/welcomecard/index.php?lang=en>

**Microbrewery & Museum “Schmitt” in Singen, Thuringia – an unique relic:** The over 100 years old **family-run microbrewery** is hidden in the rural village Singen in the **Thuringian Forest** and an insider's tip even for locals. In 1885 the brewmaster Richard Schmitt acquired the brewhouse which was established in 1875. He installed a steam engine and established a flourishing microbrewery. His renewing and expanding activities were stopped by the World War I and the following inflation period. Therefore the old machines were preserved almost unaltered and today the brewery “Schmitt” is brewing their beer exactly the way they did it **100 years ago** –and without electricity! Luckily the brewery is also a museum and open for everyone who wants to see, smell and taste truly **traditional German beer brewing craft!** Once a week (usually on Tuesdays) they

heat-up the 12-hp steam engine driving the tube extruder and the wort pump. 2,000 Liter of wort are produced this way, the fermentation in wooden tubs takes 8 days. After 4-5 weeks of conditioning in oak barrels the "Singener Bier" (Pilsener style) is ready for consumption. There is no delivery and no retail sale, you have to pick up your beer bottles or kegs yourself - or you just go to one of the local pubs. **Contact us for further information** - the "Schmitt Brewery" in Singen has no webpage or email-address...

**Germany - a Shopper's paradise - Go East:** Sure, you can go shopping anywhere in the world. But one thing is certain: in Germany you can expect a very special shopping experience. As you stroll along the streets of Berlin, Leipzig, Dresden, Weimar, Meissen and Erfurt, gazing into the shop windows, you will be amazed. As well as **German brands** such as BOSS, JOOP!, Jil Sander, Adidas, Puma, Mont Blanc and Glashuette Original, you'll also find a impressive variety of local **German "originals" and handmade treasures:** porcelain in Meissen, garden gnomes in Thuringia, chocolate in Potsdam, christmas pyramids and nutcrackers in Seiffen, Embroidery in Plauen, christmas glitter balls and figures in Lauscha, faience and earthenware in Rheinsberg etc.. **Berlin** has glittering boulevards and brandnew "Arkaden", but also art markets and bohemian boutiques at lively squares and in hidden courtyards. **Leipzig's** completely redeveloped arcades at the main railway station are a great place. Shopping in **Dresden** is a cultural experience. In the town centres of **Erfurt** and **Weimar** carefully restored Renaissance and medieval buildings create a backdrop that transforms a shopping trip into a journey in history. Whenever you get the chance, visit one of the many local **markets** that sell fresh regional produce - mostly food specialties, but also local handcraft. And if you get tired, there are innumerable cafes, bars, restaurants and beergardens to relax and to enjoy **German culinary delights**. Insider's tip: Travellers from non-EU countries can claim back German VAT.

**Further information:**

[http://www.germany-tourism.de/ENG/culture\\_and\\_events/7249.htm](http://www.germany-tourism.de/ENG/culture_and_events/7249.htm)

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**More news & travel tips:**

<http://www.tgac-us.com>