



# Munich - City Business Guide

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## Overview

Although Munich's international reputation is linked to its beer gardens and festivals, the city is also undoubtedly an important financial center. The base for Germany's high-tech industry, Munich also hosts such multinationals as Bayer Pharmaceuticals, MAN, BMW and Siemens. Other major industries are electronics and automobile.

Munich's conservative population enjoys the rich and diverse cultural scene that accompanies their status as one of Germany's most affluent cities. Opera, theater, dance and popular music performances are well attended and well supported here.

The Muenchener Kindl has a reputation for partying. Discos draw crowds on a regular basis and the entire city gets into the spirit during the annual Oktoberfest celebrations.

## Business Etiquette

\* Make appointments during morning or afternoon business hours. Luncheon meetings are not customary.

\* Arrive punctually for engagements.

\* A neat appearance is important. Attire is generally conservative.

\* When addressing German associates proper titles should be used.

\* Business cards are exchanged on the first meeting. When you receive a card, take a moment to look at it.

\* Firm handshakes are used to open and close business meetings.

\* Refrain from smoking unless your German associate does.

\* If invited to a German home, bring flowers and a moderately priced bottle.

## Chamber of Commerce

**British Chamber of Commerce in Germany**, Brückenstr. 2, D-50667 Köln,

Tel. (+49) (0)221 314458

**Italian Chamber of Commerce** Ottostrasse 1, Tel.: +49 (0)89 961 661 70

**Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) München** Promenadeplatz 12,

80333 München, Tel.: +49 89 2908420

**Korea Trade Center (KOTRA)** Tal 12, 80331 München, Tel. : + 49 089 24 24

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## Embassies and Consulates

**Brazilian Consulate** Widenmayerstrasse 47; Tel.: +49 089- 21 03 76-0

**British Consulate** Buerkleinstrasse 10, Munich, Germany; Tel.: +49 089 211090

**Chinese Consulate** Roman Str. 107; Tel. +49 089 17 30 16 11

**French Consulate** Heimeranstr. 31; Tel.: +49 089 419-4110

**Japanese Consulate** Karl-Scharrn-Ring, 7. 80 539 Munich. Tel: +49 089 417 60 40

**U.S. Consulate** Koeniginstrasse 5, Munich, Germany; Tel.: +49 089 2-88-80

**Netherlands Consulate** Nymphenburger Strasse, 20 a. 80 335 Munich. Tel: +49 089 206 026 710

## Business Centers

Most large hotels also have business centers that offer many of the same services that independent centers provide.

**IBC International Business Center** Ismaninger Strasse 17; Tel.: +49 089 413-0060

**Instant Office Management** Stefan-George-Ring 29; Tel.: +49 089 930-860

**HQ Global Munich** Weltenburger Strasse 70; Tel: +49 089 92 40 420,

Maffestr. 3, Tel: +49 089 255 58 800

**Munich Artemis** Landsberger Strasse 155; Tel.: +49 089 579-590 or + 0800 522 253 33

## Conference and Exhibition Centers

**Internationales Congress Center München (ICM)** Messegelände; Tel.: +49 089 9 49-2 30 23

**Kleine Olympiahalle** Olympia Park München GmbH, Spiridon-Louis-Ring 21;

Tel.: +49 089 30670

**Europäisches Patentamt (EPA)** Erhardtstrasse 27; Tel.: +49 089 23990

## Translation Offices

**Kern**, Frauenstr. 32, 80469 München. Tel.: +49 089 2916-1514

**Baker and Harrison** Bergsonstr. 65, 81245 München, Tel.: +49 089 811-9310

**Elling Übersetzer Team GmbH** Landwehrstr, 35, 80336 München, Tel: +49 089 595-438

## Courier/Messenger Services

**DHL** Tel.: 0180 53 45 22 55 (toll-free within Germany)

**Fahrrad Courier** Lipowskystr. 4, 81373 München, Tel.: +49 089 7672 9100

**Fahrrad Express** Holzstr. 41, 80469 München, Tel.: +49 089 264 352

**FedEx** Station, Zeppelinstr. 28, 85748 Garching-Hochbrück, Tel.: 0800 123-0800 (toll-free within Germany)

**Rapid** Westendstr. 49, 80339 München, Tel.: +49 089 502 1199

**UPS** Tel.: 0800 882-6630 (toll-free within Germany)

## Internet Connection Place

All upper-range and most medium-priced hotels are equipped with dataports that allow guests to use laptop computers. Many hotels also offer business centers equipped with computers and Internet access. Outside hotels, cyber cafes are available including:

**Coffee Fellows** Leopoldstr. 70, Tel: +49 (0) 89 388 595 52

**Café Netzwerk** Luisenstraße 11, Tel.: +49 089 54-83-27-00

**Cyberice-Cafe Internet & Eiscafé** Feilitzschstr. 15, Tel: +40 089 340 76 955

**Times square Internet Bistro** Bayerstr. 10a, Tel.: +49 (0) 89 512 626 00

## Visas & Customs

Citizens of the EU, Brazil, Czech Republic, the Republic of Korea, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the U.K., and the U.S. do not need a visa for a stay up to 3 months. Citizens of the People's Republic of China must apply for a visa.

Duty-free allowances are 200 cigarettes or 100 cigarillos or 50 cigars or 250g of tobacco; 1 liter of spirits with an alcohol content exceeding 22% by volume or 2 liter of spirits or liquors with an alcohol content not exceeding 22% by volume or 2 liter of sparkling liquor; 2 liter of any other wine; 50g of perfume and 250ml of eau de toilette; 500g of coffee or 200g of coffee extract, and; personal goods up to the value of EUR178.95. However, there are now no limits imposed on tobaccos and alcohol from one EU country to another.

## Phone Information

The country code for Germany is 49. The area code for Munich is 089.

## Emergency Phone Numbers

\* Police 110

\* Ambulance 112

\* Fire 112

\* Rape/Battered Women's Hotline 70-94-94

## Tips and Rules for Use of Phone in Country

All German city codes begin with 0 when dialing from inside the country. For calls within Munich, drop the city code. Some local telephone numbers may have more digits than others. Dial 03 to get the operator and dial 01188 for directory inquiries. Dial 00118 for international directory assistance.

## Tips and Rules for Use and Rental of Mobile Phones

Germany's primary cellular standard is GSM, and the main mobile phone operators are T-Mobile, E-Plus, Mannesman Mobilefunk, and Viag. If you choose to bring your cellular phone into Germany, be sure to check with your home cellular service provider to establish compatibility of your phone with systems abroad. Rent a locally compatible cellular phone before you arrive to obtain reasonable rates and reliable service.

## Money

As of January 1, 2002, euro became the official currency. Euro notes are available in denominations of EUR5, EUR10, EUR20, EUR50, EUR100, EUR200, and EUR500, while coins are in 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 cents, and EUR1 and EUR2. The euro is divided into 100 cents. Foreign currency can be exchanged at banks, post offices, hotels, train stations, airports, or at the offices of American Express and Thomas Cook. ATMs are available throughout the country. Most businesses accept Visa and MasterCard, and some accept American Express, Diners Club, and JCB cards.

## Tippling

\* **Restaurants** Round up the bill to the nearest euro or two (unless a service charge is included on the bill)

\* **Bars** Round up the bill to the nearest euro or two

\* **Airport Skycap/Porter** EUR1 per bag

\* **Taxis** Round up to the nearest euro or two at most

\* **Hotel Bell Desk** Except in instances of extremely good service, a tip is not necessary

\* **Hotel Housekeeping** EUR1 or EUR2 per day

\* **Parking Attendant/Valet** EUR1 or EUR2

\* **Haircare/Personal Services** EUR2 or so

## Time Difference

Munich is in the Central European Time Zone (GMT/UTC plus one hour).

Daylight-savings time is observed from the last Sunday in March to the last Sunday in October.



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## VAT & Taxes

Most prices already have Germany's 16% VAT included. Some goods, like books, carry a 6.5% VAT.

## Voltage

Electrical voltage and current are 220V-240V AC / 50Hz. Electrical Plugs Plugs have two round prongs. Heavy-duty plugs have a third round prong.

## Local Transportation

Unless you're planning excursions from Munich, you do not need to rent a car. Munich's excellent public transportation system can get you wherever you need to go, and the traffic and parking situation in Munich is dire. Munich's yellow Mercedes Benz taxis are generally excellent, though on the expensive side. A quick jaunt across town will run you at least EUR7. Taxi stands are located throughout the city, and near the central train station and larger hotels. The MVV, Munich's municipal transit system, operates buses, trams, and a subway (U-Bahn) that covers the entire city. Buses are clean, efficient, and prompt. Munich's U-Bahn has six U-Bahn lines that converge at Hauptbahnhof (Central Station) and Marienplatz, where you can change for the S-Bahn, suburban commuter trains.

## Health Info

There are no particular health problems to worry travelers in Germany. The standards for food handling are among the highest in the world. The water throughout the country is safe to drink right from the tap, though its high calcium content makes it taste almost universally lousy.

## Climate

For the most part, Munich enjoys a mild climate. Weather can be hot and humid in the summer, with temperatures falling between 51 and 90 degrees F. The period from May to August experiences the most rainfall. Winter temperatures can sink below freezing, in the range of 23 to 38 degrees F. Munich also gets the occasional winter snowfall.

## Public Holidays

- \* **New Year's Day** January 1
- \* **Epiphany** January 6
- \* **Carnival** The week before Ash Wednesday, starting on a Thursday
- \* **Ash Wednesday** The start of the Lenten Calendar, usually in February
- \* **Good Friday** Friday before Easter
- \* **Easter** Sunday in mid-March or early April
- \* **Easter Monday** Monday after Easter
- \* **Labor Day** May 1
- \* **Ascension Day** 40 days after Easter
- \* **Whitsunday** Seventh Sunday after Easter
- \* **Whitmonday** Monday after Whitsunday
- \* **Corpus Christi** 10 days after Whitsunday
- \* **German Unification** October 3
- \* **All Saints' Day** November 1
- \* **Christmas Holiday** December 25 and 26

## Where to Eat

**Alois Dallmayr**, one of Munich's most upscale establishments, is known for fine continental and German food and scrumptious pastries. At **Hunsingers Pacific** the chef, Werner Hunsinger personally enjoys cooking extraordinary fusion food for adventurous palates. For more casual dining, **Hundskugel** specializes in traditional Bavarian dishes. Among Munich's best French restaurants is the chic **Le Bousqueroy**, with its fine selection of seafood. **Käfer-Schänke** is a very typical Bavarian gourmet restaurant with a relaxed atmosphere although it is one of the most upmarket places in town. Italian eatery **Metropolitan** is a tasty choice in a chic setting that includes a breath-taking view. One of Munich's trendiest meeting places, **Reitschule** is a posh restaurant that serves up an eclectic menu containing dishes like the unbeatable gnocchi in prosecco sauce with spinach and Parma ham.

## Local Gift Ideas

In Munich you can find a wide selection of international brands as well as a range of traditional Bavarian crafts. Nymphenburg porcelain, wood crafts, beer steins, food items and traditional Bavarian clothing are among the most popular local gifts. The city's major shopping areas are Neuhauserstrasse, Kaufingerstrasse, Maximilianstrasse, and Leopoldstrasse.

## Leisure Time

Munich beer gardens are copied the world over. For an authentic beer-garden experience, try the famous Hofbrauhaus or Chinesischer Turm in the English Garden. Two other favorites are Augustiner-Keller and Hirschgarten. The church Asam-Kirche is a stunning example of Rococo style. At one time a residence of the royal Wittelsbach family, the museum of Residenz displays a fine collection of art from around the world as well as of precious jewels. On view within Florentine-style Lenbach Haus is an impressive collection of modern European art, including what may be the largest assembly of works from the Blaue Reiter movement. Other art museums in Munich that merit a visit include the Nationalmuseum, Alte Pinakothek, and Neue Pinakothek. One of Europe's best science museums, the Deutsches Museum, is located in Munich. For those interested by automotive culture, the BMW factory offers tours. Munich's green spaces include the Englischer Garten, an expansive park that includes bike paths, walking trails and a lake, and the botanical garden at Shloss Nymphenberg, which offers a serene atmosphere. Other recreation activities include visiting the Tierpark Hellabrunn zoo or taking in a Bayern Munich soccer game during the season.

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