

Name: Example – Travel site blog post and email article
Author: Emily Cooney
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Purpose: To generate interest in a lesser selling destination

Five best things to do in Germany

October in Germany means only five things!

The Source of the Danube – the Donauquelle

Nestled in the foothills of the Alps and almost on the border with Switzerland, the pretty alpine hamlet of Donaueschigen, is well worth a visit. Even the most rubbish of photographers will choke Instagram with envy-inducing snaps.

Housed in an ancient fortress, the Donauquelle is a tranquil pool fed from an underground spring joining the Alpine snowmelt to form the source of the Danube. But please have a care when in conversation with the locals. The title ‘Source of the Danube’ is in hot contention between Donaueschigen and neighbouring ... wait for it ... Furtwangen.

Ahh German! What a language!

As you gaze into the crystal waters of the Donauquelle, think on how the Danube was, for millennia, the main northern border of the Roman Empire. The Danube flows from the Donauquelle for 2,800km all the way to the Danube Delta on the shores of the Black Sea. That’s about as far from Brisbane to Alice Springs.

Start your tour in October and take in the Donaueschigen Festival, one of the most prestigious musical festivals in the world promoting emerging musicians and composers.

Bike trail to Munich

The Donauquelle is also the start of the Danube Bike Trail (Donauradweg in German). The trail is part of the greater Euro Velo bike trail that runs all the way from the Atlantic to the Black Sea.

Rent a bike for €35 and coast all the way to Munich just in time for...

Oktoberfest

Don’t get old without it!

Oktoberfest! That mighty parade of proud lederhosen-clad moustachioed men. That bellowing of brass bands! That swilling of steins! There’s even a special Mass for the utterly remorseful the next morning.

But Munich is so much more than Oktoberfest. Whilst the crowds swirl and swill, check out the exquisite baroque Nymphenburg Palace, dine in the Marienplatz square or drink up the art in the Alte Pinakothek.

Teutoburg Forest

As you drive north from Munich, feel the Danube shrink into the distance behind you and remind yourself that to the Roman legionnaires two thousand years ago this was a no man's land filled with savage spear-wielding tribesmen who specialised in lightning quick ambushes before fading away into the thickly forested hills.

Imagine the ultimate David and Goliath battle. In 9CE, 5,000 lithe lightly-clad Germanic tribesmen ambushed 20,000 heavily armoured Romans, the ultimate war machine of the day. And killed them ... all of them ...

Imagine Emperor Augustus Caesar falling against a wall weeping "Where are my legions!" feeling the might of the Roman Empire eroding under his feet.

Moritzburg

Turn east from Teutoburg Forest and head for Moritzburg, just north of Dresden. The magical castle of Moritzburg houses one of the ten German State Studs.

Set on a small island and one bright paintjob short of rivalling St Basil's Cathedral for the title 'the fairest of them all' the Moritzburg Castle hosts an annual pageant of the finest horses in Germany. Imagine an Equine Ekka with oompa-pah bands.

The famous local breed are called 'warm-bloods', cross-bred from Arabian stallions and a local breed; 'cold-blood horses', so named for their strength and thick coats. The cold-bloods are famed for thwarting wolf attacks with skull crushing kicks.

The warm-blood horses are prized as the finest showjumpers in the world.