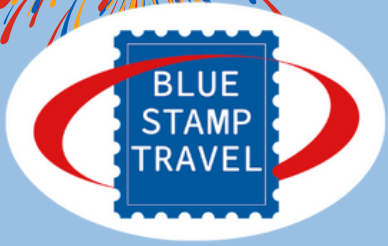


# Annual Festivities in Germany



## JANUARY 6th

### Dreikönigstag - Three Kings Day

This public holiday commemorates the Three Wise Men's visit to baby Jesus. It is celebrated in Bavaria, Baden-Württemberg, and Saxony-Anhalt, where churches hold special services and processions. Across the country, children dressed as the Three Kings, go door to door, singing carols and blessing homes with chalk markings while collecting donations for charity.



## FEBRUARY 2nd

### Lichtmess - Candlemass

This tradition is especially observed in Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg, where churches hold candle blessings and processions, symbolizing Christ as the "light of the world." Many households still follow old customs and light blessed candles for protection. In certain rural areas, people gather for festive meals and local traditions that mark the transition from winter to spring.



## MARCH 19th

### Josephstag - Saint Joseph's Day

In Bavaria and Saarland, this day is especially meaningful in Catholic communities, where church services honour St. Joseph as the protector of families and workers. In small villages and rural areas, particularly in Lower Bavaria and parts of the Allgäu, families gather for festive meals and reflect on hard work, humility, and family values. Some farming communities still recognize this day as a traditional marker of spring's arrival.



## JUNE 9th

### Pfingstmontag - Whit Monday

This day is celebrated in Catholic and Protestant regions of Germany, particularly in Bavaria, Baden-Württemberg, North Rhine-Westphalia, Rhineland-Palatinate, and Saarland. People gather for church services, processions. In rural areas, especially in southern Germany, families mark the day with nature walks.



## MAY 29th

### Christi Himmelfahrt - Ascension

This Christian holiday commemorates Christ's ascent to heaven 40 days after Easter. Celebrated across Germany, it is marked by church services, processions, and outdoor gatherings, especially in Catholic and Protestant communities. In some areas, pilgrimages to hilltop churches or chapels reflect the symbolic ascent.



## APRIL 30th

### Walpurgisnacht - Walpurgis Night

Once rooted in pagan traditions and Christian folklore, this festival marks the end of winter and the arrival of spring. Once feared as a night of witches' gatherings on the Brocken, it is now celebrated with bonfires and costumes, especially in the Harz region, Bavaria, and Thuringia. Towns like Schierke and Thale come alive with witch-themed parades, music, and fireworks.



# Annual Festivities in Germany



**JULY** 6-14th

## Kinderzeche - The Children's Feast

This historic children's festival in Dinkelsbühl, Bavaria, reenacts the town's legendary rescue during the Thirty Years' War. Dressed in traditional costumes, schoolchildren parade through the streets, accompanied by music, dancing, and theatrical performances. The celebration, with medieval costumes, rides, and festivities, keeps the town's history alive and unites the community.



**DECEMBER** 6th

## Nikolaustag - Saint Nicola's Day

Celebrated in Catholic regions like Bavaria and Rhineland-Palatinate, this tradition fills children with excitement as they leave their shoes out on December 5, hoping to wake up to sweets and small gifts; or, if they've misbehaved, a twig or coal instead. In some areas, a costumed St. Nicholas, often accompanied by Knecht Ruprecht, visits homes and schools, adding to the festive spirit.



**NOVEMBER** 11th

## Martinstag - Saint Martin's Day

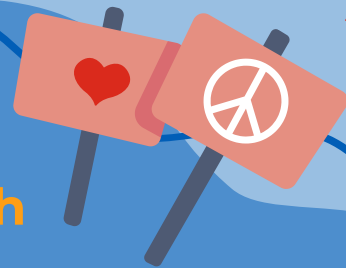
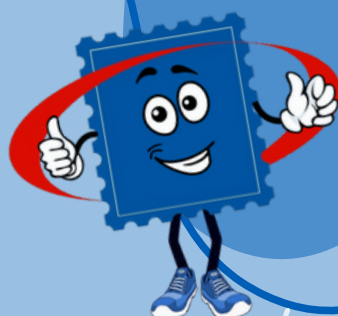
This tradition, especially in Catholic regions like Bavaria, Baden-Württemberg, and Rhineland-Palatinate, is marked by lantern processions, where children walk through the streets singing and carrying handmade lanterns. This celebration often includes a costumed rider on horseback reenacting a famous legend, along with bonfires, festive meals, and traditional roast goose.



**AUGUST** 8th

## Augsburger Friedenfest - Augsburg Peace Festival

This public holiday, celebrated only in Augsburg, Bavaria, commemorates the end of religious conflicts between Protestants and Catholics in 1648. The day is marked by church services, peace prayers, and public discussions on unity and tolerance. Locals also celebrate with cultural events, concerts, and exhibitions, reinforcing Augsburg's identity as a symbol of religious coexistence and peace.



**SEPTEMBER** starting 20th

## Oktoberfest - October Festival

Oktoberfest, the world's largest beer festival, is held annually in Munich, Bavaria, and despite its name, it begins in September and ends in early October. Visitors from around the world gather for traditional Bavarian beer, food, music, and parades, with locals dressed in lederhosen and dirndls. The festival is a lively celebration of Bavarian culture, featuring huge beer tents, carnival rides, and folk performances.



**OCTOBER** 3rd

## Tag der Einheit - German Unity Day

This national holiday marks the reunification of East and West Germany in 1990. It is celebrated with official ceremonies, cultural events, and festivals. Each year, a different city hosts the main celebrations, while people across the country enjoy concerts, public gatherings, and fireworks.



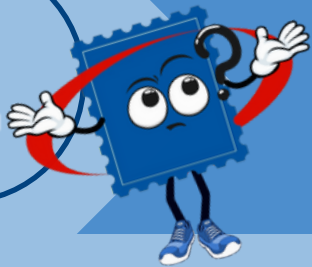


# Questions



**When is German Unity Day celebrated?**

1



a) November

b) June

c) October

d) April

**Which holiday is associated with children dressing as the Three Kings and collecting donations for charity?**

2

a) Augsburger Friedenfest    b) Dreikönigstag

c) Chrisiti Himmelfahrt    d) Nikolaustag

**How is Candlemas (Lichtmess) traditionally celebrated in Germany?**

3

**What do children traditionally receive on Saint Nicholas' Day if they have misbehaved?**

4

a) Nuts

b) Coal

c) Twigs

d) Oranges

**Which German festival marks the end of winter and the arrival of spring with bonfires and witch-themed parades?**

5

a) Oktoberfest

b) Halloween

c) Witchfest

d) Walpurgis Night





# Questions



**What marks the start of Oktoberfest each year?**

6

- a) A lantern parade
- b) A fireworks display
- c) A parade
- d) Tapping of the first keg

**How do families in rural Germany often celebrate Whit Monday (Pfingstmontag)?**

7



**Which of the following is NOT associated with Oktoberfest?**

8

- a) Beer tents
- b) Carnival rides
- c) Bavarian dresses
- d) Bonfires

**Which festival in Germany includes a reenactment of a Saint sharing his cloak with a beggar?**

9

- a) St Martin's Day
- b) St David's Day
- c) St Patrick's Day
- d) St Joseph's Day



**Describe the historical event that the Kinderzeche (Children's Feast) festival in Bavaria reenacts.**

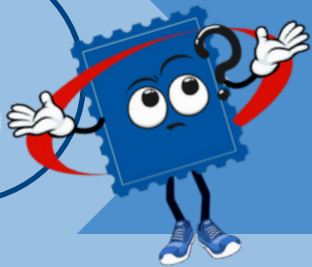
10

# Answers

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TRAVEL

When is German Unity Day celebrated?

1



a) November

b) June

c) **October**

d) April

Which holiday is associated with children dressing as the Three Kings and collecting donations for charity?

2

a) Augsburger Friedenfest

b) **Dreikönigstag**

c) Christi Himmelfahrt

d) Nikolaustag



"Dreikönigstag" translates to "Three Kings Day" in German

How is Candlemas (Lichtmess) traditionally celebrated in Germany?

3

Candlemas is celebrated with church candle blessings, symbolizing Christ as the "light of the world," and lighting candles for protection.



What do children traditionally receive on Saint Nicholas' Day if they have misbehaved?

4



a) Nuts

b) **Coal**

c) **Twigs**

d) Oranges



Which German festival marks the end of winter and the arrival of spring with bonfires and witch-themed parades?

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# Answers

BLUE  
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TRAVEL

What marks the start of Oktoberfest each year?

6



- a) A lantern parade
- b) A fireworks display
- c) A parade
- d) **Tapping of the first keg**

How do families in rural Germany often celebrate Whit Monday (Pfingstmontag)?

7

In rural Germany, families attend church services and go on nature walks.

Which of the following is NOT associated with Oktoberfest?

8

- a) Beer tents
- b) Carnival rides
- c) Bavarian dresses
- d) **Bonfires**



Which festival in Germany includes a reenactment of a Saint sharing his cloak with a beggar?



9

- a) **St Martin's Day**
- b) St David's Day
- c) St Patrick's Day
- d) St Joseph's Day

Describe the historical event that the Kinderzeche (Children's Feast) festival in Bavaria reenacts.

10

The festival reenacts how children helped save Dinkelsbühl during the Thirty Years' War. The festival includes a parade, music, and performances.