



GERMANY, AUSTRIA &  
SWITZERLAND



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# GERMANY, AUSTRIA & SWITZERLAND

## GERMANY

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*More than lager and lederhosen, Germany has an abundance of stories to tell. So it's no wonder that this would be the birthplace of the world's most famous storytellers, the Brothers Grimm. From the once-divided city of Berlin to Bavaria's castle-dotted landscapes, the intrigue of this fabled land is unparalleled.*

<i>Capital</i>	<i>Berlin</i>
<i>Population</i>	<i>82 million</i>
<i>Language</i>	<i>German</i>
<i>Currency</i>	<i>Euro (EUR)</i>
<i>Time Zone</i>	<i>EST plus 6 hours</i>
<i>Electricity</i>	<i>230V, 50Hz </i>

## AUSTRIA

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*Home to some of the world's greatest composers—including Mozart, Beethoven and Strauss—Austria is the perfect place to delight in the sound of music. But more than music to the ears, picturesque Alpine vistas and taste-tempting cuisine make this culturally rich country a delight for all the senses.*

<i>Capital</i>	<i>Vienna</i>
<i>Population</i>	<i>8.2 million</i>
<i>Language</i>	<i>German</i>
<i>Currency</i>	<i>Euro (EUR)</i>
<i>Time Zone</i>	<i>EST plus 6 hours</i>
<i>Electricity</i>	<i>230V, 50Hz    </i>

## SWITZERLAND

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*Historically dedicated to political neutrality, the untamed beauty of Switzerland's Alpine landscapes will have you declaring your own personal loyalty. Cuckoo clocks and quaint chateaus await you in this picturesque wonderland.*

<i>Capital</i>	<i>Berne</i>
<i>Population</i>	<i>7.5 million</i>
<i>Language</i>	<i>Swiss German, French and Italian</i>
<i>Currency</i>	<i>Swiss franc (CHF)</i>
<i>Time Zone</i>	<i>EST plus 6 hours</i>
<i>Electricity</i>	<i>230V, 50Hz </i>

# GERMANY, AUSTRIA & SWITZERLAND CONTINUED

## HOLIDAYS &

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### FESTIVALS

<i>January 1</i>	<i>New Year's Day</i>
<i>January 6</i>	<i>Epiphany</i>
<i>May</i>	<i>Carnival of the Cultures (Berlin)</i>
<i>May 1</i>	<i>May Day</i>
<i>May 1</i>	<i>Ascension Day</i>
<i>June/July</i>	<i>Munich Summer Opera Festival</i>
<i>June 7</i>	<i>Corpus Christi</i>
<i>June 15</i>	<i>Concordia Ball (Vienna)</i>
<i>August</i>	<i>International Berlin Beer Festival</i>
<i>August 1</i>	<i>National Day (Switzerland)</i>
<i>August 15</i>	<i>Assumption Day</i>
<i>September</i>	<i>International Literature Festival (Berlin)</i>
<i>September</i>	<i>Munich's Oktoberfest</i>
<i>October</i>	<i>Oktoberfest (Berlin)</i>
<i>October 3</i>	<i>German Unity Day</i>
<i>October 36</i>	<i>National Day (Austria)</i>
<i>November 1</i>	<i>All Saints' Day</i>
<i>November/December</i>	<i>Christmas Market</i>
<i>December 8</i>	<i>Immaculate Conception</i>
<i>December 26</i>	<i>St. Stephen's Day/Boxing Day</i>
<i>December 31</i>	<i>Imperial Ball (Vienna)</i>

## BOOKS

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- *The Complete Brothers Grimm Fairy Tales*, by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm
- *The German Way: Aspects of Behavior, Attitudes and Customs in the German-Speaking World*, by Hyde Flippo
- *Germany: A New History*, by Hagen Schulze and Deborah Lucas Schneider
- *Heidi*, by Johanna Spyri
- *Mozart: A Cultural Biography*, by Robert W. Gutman
- *A Sailor of Austria*, by John Biggins
- *Why Switzerland?* by Jonathan Steinberg

## VIDEOS

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- *Heidi (1937)*
- *Sound of Music (1965)*
- *Das Boot (1981)*
- *Amadeus (1984)*
- *Run Lola Run (1998)*
- *Luther (2003)*
- *The Brothers Grimm (2005)*

# GERMANY, AUSTRIA & SWITZERLAND CONTINUED

## LOCAL TOURISM

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### WEB SITES

<i>Austria</i> .....	<i>www.austria.info</i>
<i>Berlin</i> .....	<i>www.berlin.de/english</i>
<i>Germany</i> .....	<i>www.germany-tourism.de</i>
<i>Munich</i> .....	<i>www.muenchen.de</i>
<i>Salzburg</i> .....	<i>www.salzburg.info</i>
<i>Switzerland</i> .....	<i>www.myswitzerland.com</i>
<i>Vienna</i> .....	<i>www.aboutvienna.org</i>

## WEATHER

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*Central Europe summers are warm and sunny, often extending well into October. Winters are relatively mild, apart from the mountainous regions. Layers are your best option while traveling here. Rain gear is recommended year-round. Pack appropriate gear if you plan to hike or ski while visiting the Alps.*

## AVERAGE

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### TEMPERATURES

	January	April	July	October
Berlin	30°	47°	64°	48°
Innsbruck	28°	49°	65°	49°
Munich	29°	46°	63°	46°
Salzburg	29°	47°	64°	48°
Vienna	30°	50°	67°	50°
Zurich	30°	47°	64°	47°

Temperatures in °F. For more specific weather information, visit [www.accuweather.com](http://www.accuweather.com).

## GERMAN FOR

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### TRAVELERS

<i>Hello</i>	<i>Guten tag</i>	<i>GOOT-en TAK</i>
<i>My name is _____</i>	<i>Ich heiÙe _____</i>	<i>Ikh hize-uh</i>
<i>I would like _____</i>	<i>Ich möchte _____</i>	<i>Ikh MERKH-teh</i>
<i>Please</i>	<i>Bitte</i>	<i>BIT-uh</i>
<i>Thank you</i>	<i>Danke</i>	<i>DAHNK-uh</i>
<i>Goodbye</i>	<i>Auf wiedersehen</i>	<i>Owf VEED-uh-zain</i>
<i>Do you speak English?</i>	<i>Sprechen sie Englisch?</i>	<i>SHPREKH-en zee</i>
		<i>ENG-lish</i>

# GERMANY, AUSTRIA & SWITZERLAND CONTINUED

## TIPS FOR

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### TIPPING

#### **Germany and Austria:**

*Service charges are included in all restaurant checks. Nonetheless, it is customary to round up the bill to the nearest euro or to leave about 5 percent. Give the tip directly to the server as you pay the bill; don't leave it on the table, as that is considered rude. In your hotel, the service charges on your bill are sufficient for most tips, though you should tip bellhops and porters. €1 per bag or service is ample.*

#### **Switzerland:**

*Although restaurants include service charges of 15 percent, a small tip is still expected: 1 CHF (one Swiss franc) or 2 CHF per person for a modest meal, 5 CHF to 10 CHF for a first-class meal. When possible, tip in cash. Give bathroom attendants 1 CHF and hotel maids 2 CHF. Theater and opera-house ushers get 2 CHF. Hotel porters and doormen should get about 1 CHF per bag.*

## CURRENCY

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### NOTES

#### **Germany and Austria:**

*Germany and Austria use the euro. See our included sheet for more information.*

#### **Switzerland:**

*Switzerland is one of the only countries in Central Europe that does not use the euro. Check current rates for the Swiss franc at [www.exchangerate.com](http://www.exchangerate.com).*

## DID YOU KNOW?

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- *Almost every town in Germany has its own Christmas market.*
- *The Swiss flag is the only square banner in a sea of rectangle-shaped flags at the United Nations.*
- *In Germany you can buy more than 300 sorts of bread and more than 1,500 types of sausages and cold meats.*
- *The average Swiss eats 23 pounds of chocolate per year compared to the 11.7 pounds consumed by each American annually.*
- *Switzerland has more than 1,500 lakes, and it is said that you are never more than 10 miles from a lake anywhere in the country.*
- *In Germany, courtesy dictates that when entering a shop, restaurant or similar venue, visitors should utter a greeting such as "Guten tag."*
- *Although women were supposedly ineligible to rule in Austria, Maria Theresa did for 40 years, developing the country into a modern state.*