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***'Million People Village'
'Germany's Secret Capital' or
'Northernmost City of Italy'***

Munich has quite a reputation. It is a big (1.4 Million inhabitants), rich and important city, but most of all it is a beautiful city. A very beautiful one actually, with a wealth of more than *850 years of history, culture and attractions*, making it one of the top *tourist destinations* in the world.

There is so much to do and see in Munich that people sometimes get lost while trying to get the *most out of their limited time here*. You, on the other hand, can relax. Your Edelweiss tour guide will show you a great time.

After taking public transport to downtown Munich you can start your tour with a *second breakfast*: traditional Munich White Sausages, perhaps with a fresh wheat beer. Your tour guide will be happy to show you how to eat them.

A stroll across the *Viktualienmarkt* is a feast for the eyes and nose. It is one of the largest and most diverse food markets anywhere. Right next to it is *St. Peter's church*, Munich's oldest, and if you dare you can climb the ancient wooden steps to the viewing platform, 180 feet above street level.

From the *Marienplatz*, the city center, we follow the *Fußgängerzone*, the super-busy all-pedestrian shopping street. A multitude of shops and department stores make this a paradise for shopaholics. But keep your eyes open - the inconspicuous, towerless church on your right hand side is not only the *oldest Renaissance church* north of the Alps, featuring the second-largest self-supporting vault among the world's churches, but it's crypt contains, believe it or not, the tomb of Ludwig II, *mad king of Bavaria* and builder of world-famous Neuschwanstein castle.

Next on the list is Munich's most famous landmark, the great cathedral, the *Frauenkirche* (Our Lady's Cathedral), with its twin towers. Ask your tour guide about the devil who left his footprint inside!

A short detour to the *unofficial Michael Jackson Memorial* and then we're off to one of the most recent additions to Munich's shopping landscape: the *Fünf Höfe*, or five courtyards. *Fünf Höfe* features specialty and designer shops, as well as cafes and restaurants. What a great place to linger on a rainy day.





Munich was referred to as the *Capital of the Movement* during the Third Reich. This is where Hitler started his 'career'. Among the numerous buildings, monuments and museums that illustrate this dark chapter in the city's history, there is one landmark that you can actually walk on: *Shirker's Alley*.

We use it to get to the *Odeonsplatz*, where Munich looks so Italian that you could swear Scotty must have beamed you to the southern side of the Alps somehow. Café Tambosi is a great place to sit back and soak up the atmosphere. Next we walk through the *Hofgarten*, the city's oldest park, to visit the world's most famous inn: the *Hofbräuhaus*.

As in any other beer hall in Munich, the beer is served here in big 1 liter-mugs, called Maßkrug. Despite their name ('beer stein'), they are made of glass these days, making it easier for customers to verify that their *steins are sufficiently full*. The stein is not included in the beer price, but you can buy one in the shop. They make great souvenirs.

To round off the day we walk past the fan shops of Munich's *two rival soccer clubs* and the city's oldest hotel, back to the *Isartor*. You are welcome to ask your tour guide about the big clock with the hands that run counter-clockwise.

And if you feel like getting a first-hand experience of *Munich's famous beer garden culture*, your guide can point out the way. Enjoy!

FACTS AND FIGURES

- Munich, German 'München', is the third largest city in Germany behind Berlin and Hamburg
- It's the Capital of Bavaria, home of six breweries and Germany's most successful soccer team [FC Bayern München].
- There are 63 museums, 3 universities and many large companies, like Siemens, MAN, Allianz, MunichRe, Linde, and of course BMW.
- More than 35 million people use Munich Airport each year, with about 11 million people visiting the city itself.
- There are still some people around who speak the local dialect.

USEFUL PHRASES

<i>Griasaki</i>	-	hello	<i>Pfiati</i>	-	goodbye
<i>Bittschee</i>	-	please	<i>Vageitsgod</i>	-	thank you
<i>Heifdagod</i>	-	bless you			
<i>A Hoiwe/Maß bittschee</i>	-	a small/large beer please			
<i>No oane!</i>	-	Another one!			
<i>Zoin bittschee</i>	-	the bill please			
<i>Schee wars</i>	-	that was nice			

USEFUL INFORMATION

For more information about *availability and pricing* please do not hesitate to contact our Edelweiss Bike Travel team. We are looking forward hearing from you:

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