

PRESS INFORMATION

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Nuremberg – A City to Enjoy



View of the Imperial Castle over the Old Town (Photo: Uwe Niklas)

Nuremberg – for some, the name of this city evokes images of bratwurst, gingerbread and the Christmas market; for others, its misuse by the National Socialists as the "City of the Nazi Party Rallies" and the prosecution of the perpetrators of the Nazi regime of terror by the International Military Tribunal during the "Nuremberg Trials". Others link the name of the city with some of the greatest figures in the world of arts and letters: Albrecht Dürer, Veit Stoss or Willibald Pirckheimer.

Whatever the image that Nuremberg brings to mind: In reality, the city is a complex, multi-layered mosaic. It is a cosmopolitan business metropolis with an outstanding infrastructure and future-oriented industries marked by constant and continuing innovation; a knowledge center with respected universities and research centers; a city of culture with a broad and interesting spectrum of museums and a host of attractive events; a socially minded city with model projects and institutions. It is a place with a high quality of life – as a series of international surveys and studies prove – enjoyed by more than 500,000 inhabitants. It is a lively city full of people from many different cultures – a fact that is as important a part of the cityscape as the harmonious mix of modern and historical architecture.

Congress- und Tourismus-Zentrale Nürnberg
Frauentorgraben 3
90443 Nürnberg
Deutschland

Pressestelle
Telefon: +49 911 23 36-114
zilk@ctz-nuernberg.de

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Museums, Churches and Culture

In Nuremberg's cultural life, bridging the gap between tradition and modernity is not a difficult feat – after all, the city can simply follow the example of its most famous son, the innovative artist Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528). Like Dürer's paintings in the Germanisches Nationalmuseum – the world's largest museum of German art and culture – the works of art one can see in the city today bear witness to the illustrious past of the town: the "Angelic Salutation", Veit Stoss'



Tiergärtnertor square with a view of the Albrecht Dürer house (Photo: Birgit Fuder)

beautiful depiction of the Annunciation which hangs in the church of St. Lorenz, and Adam Kraft's Stations of the Cross in the St. Johannis quarter are just two examples. History is brought back to life in the city museums with their costumed tours and theater pieces in which the life and work of Dürer or daily life in a patrician household is imparted in a vivid and entertaining way. Nuremberg's long tradition as a place of toy production and industrial innovation can be grasped – in the truest sense of the word – in the Toy Museum and Museum of Industrial Culture.

Modern art and design await visitors to the Neues Museum; the Kunsthalle exhibit forum puts contemporary art to the forefront. Communication fans and train buffs can revel in a museum made just for them. All of these institutions and many more take part in the extremely popular "Blaue Nacht", Nuremberg's long night of museums and culture, which takes place every year in May.

With its operas, concerts, plays and ballets, the Nuremberg State Theater is a leader in the theater scene in the city, which is also rich with independent theater companies. Puppeteers – who come from all over the world to take part in the International Figure Theater Festival in Nuremberg – are just one part of the scene. A children's cultural center with theater and museum, several cabaret stages and a forum, which organizes a net of activities for young people, make Nuremberg a stronghold of children's culture.

Eleven "Kulturläden", which bring culture to local neighborhoods, are a model for such institutions Germany wide.

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Events for Every Taste



The Picnic in the park at the Classic Open Air (Photo: Uwe Niklas)

Nuremberg's music scene is extremely diverse. From the International Organ Week ION, the largest and oldest festival for sacred music in Europe; to the "Rock im Park" rock and pop fest; to the "Bardentreffen" world music festival, which turns the city into a free music happening for more than 200,000 fans one weekend each year: The range of musical events

that regularly take place in Nuremberg are as interesting as they are different. Two summer Classic Open Air concerts of the Nuremberg symphony orchestras – which draw more than 100,000 music fans to a picnic in the Luitpoldhain Park – are the largest events of this kind in Europe.

High-speed excitement is the draw at the Norisring Speed Weekend, where more than 100,000 spectators watch the drivers of the DTM race around the curves of the only German urban circuit.

Festivals, Markets, Specialties



Nuremberg Christkindlesmarkt (Photo: Ralf Schedlbauer)

Fests and (culinary) specialties are a long-time tradition in Franconia and especially in Nuremberg. That's no surprise to anyone who has tried freshly grilled Nuremberg bratwurst and one of the local beers – one taste and you're a lifelong fan. The Altstadtfest, celebrated in the Old Town at the end of summer each year, is the perfect place to enjoy just this combination.

Two million visitors from around the globe come each year to the tradition-filled Nuremberg Christkindlesmarkt, which many claim is the most beautiful Christmas

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Market in the world. Little visitors can discover historical, steam-driven rides and fun, hands-on activities at the Nuremberg Children's Christmas Market.

In the "Sternenhaus", children can experience exciting entertainment just right for them. When Nuremberg transforms itself into "Germany's Christmas City #1", its most famous culinary specialties are in high season: delicious gingerbread and Nuremberg bratwurst. The sausages taste good any time of the year – whether served three-in-a-bun as "Drei im Weckla" or enjoyed in one of the historical sausage kitchens in the Old Town or in a shady beer garden.

An Obligation to the Past



Historic view into Courtroom 600 (Photo: D'Addario)

The National Socialists used the city's historical legacy as "Germany's little treasure chest". Beginning in 1927, they held their party rallies in Nuremberg. After the so-called seizure of power, Adolf Hitler designated Nuremberg the city of the party rallies. Following plans from Albert Speer, a group of monumental structures was built in the Dutzendteich public park at the southeast corner of the city. Today, these are witnesses to the megalomania of the leadership of the Third Reich. Julius Streicher, the "Leader of Franconia", spread his hate-filled anti-Semitic propaganda from Nuremberg. In 1935, the Nazis first

published the inhuman "Nuremberg Race Laws" in the city. During the pogrom of November 9, 1938, there were more victims here than in any other city: Nazi Mayor Willy Liebel boasted that 26 Jews had not survived "Reichskristallnacht". In the "arisierung" of Jewish property, Nuremberg was sadly at the forefront: More than 150 companies and almost 570 pieces of property changed hands as Jews were forced to sell their possessions at a loss. For the Jews who did not emigrate, deportations began in the autumn of 1941: From then until January 1944, 1,631 Jewish citizens were forcefully deported to concentration camps – only 76 survived the mass murder.

In January 1945, the city was destroyed by bombing. One structure that remained almost intact was the Palace of Justice and adjacent prison. This fact made the city an

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ideal place to begin the judicial reappraisal of the Third Reich: At the end of World War II, the "Nuremberg Trials" took place here.

Beginning on November 20, 1945, the major war criminals of the Nazi regime were called to account before the International Military Tribunal, accused of crimes against humanity and peace. It was the first time that those responsible for war and the suffering of millions were held personally accountable by an international tribunal. The "Nuremberg Principles" used there are the basis today for international law and the criminal prosecution of human rights violations. In 12 subsequent trials held between 1946 and 1949, further members of the Nazi regime and their helpers were prosecuted, including doctors, legal figures and leading German industrialists.

The reconstruction of the city was a carefully thought out synthesis of old and new. Most of the ancient street patterns and ground plans were kept intact. Important structures like the Imperial Castle, the churches of St. Lorenz and St. Sebald, the Church of Our Lady and the Old City Hall were recreated with their former appearance. Outside of the Old Town, new and modern residential districts were constructed. Today, historical Nuremberg is still visible in a thriving modern metropolis.

Nuremberg and National Socialism – Historical Responsibility



Memorium Nuremberg Trials (Photo: Nuremberg municipal museums; Christine Dierenbach)

Given the role that the city played during National Socialism, Nuremberg tries today to do justice to its self-imposed commitment to be the "City of Peace and Human Rights". In 1993, the Israeli artist Dani Karavan created "The Way of Human Rights" in front of the Germanisches Nationalmuseum. The 30 Articles of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights can be read in many languages on the stone pillars of this

work of art. Since 1995, the Nuremberg International Human Rights Award is given every two years. The first winner was the Russian dissident Sergej Kowaljow. Opened in 2001 in the north wing of the Nazi Party Congress Hall, the Documentation Centre Former Nazi Party Rally Grounds makes an

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important contribution to a deeper understanding of the National Socialist past.

The permanent exhibit "Fascination and Terror", many special exhibits and the "Studienforum" education programs are intended to make clear to young people the causes, context and consequences of the criminal exercise of power during the National Socialist dictatorship. Since 2006, an information system on the 380-hectare-large area of the former Nazi Party Rally Grounds provides details about the history and significance of the Nazi propaganda events that took place here.

Since November 22, 2010, the "Memorium Nuremberg Trials" museum at Courtroom 600 – the location of the Nuremberg trials from 1945 to 1949 – offers an information and documentation center which makes clear the historical background, progression and consequences of the Nuremberg Trials. The museum consists of a comprehensive documentary exhibit and the courtroom: The "power of place" and the "power of words" combine to create a place of new experiences, which closes a gap in the remembrance and memorial landscape between history-oriented documentation and present- and future-oriented educational work.

The International Nuremberg Principles Academy is a worldwide forum for current international criminal law themes, located at the historic location of the Nuremberg trials. The Academy's work focuses on interdisciplinary research, continuing education and human rights education and supports the legality, legitimacy and acceptance of international criminal law.

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