

CHRISTINE GRÄFIN VON DER PAHLEN AND BERND BLIEMEL

MUNICH CONFIDENTIAL

HIDDEN GEMS
LOVED BY LOCALS



JONGLEZ PUBLISHING

#01

WHERE TO SLEEP (WELL): FOR EVERY BUDGET

> Louis Hotel – contemporary luxury

Just steps from the Viktualienmarkt, right in the heart of the city, the Louis Hotel (72 rooms) is an excellent hotel with a contemporary design. Bath products are by high-end brand La Biosthétique, all rooms have a free minibar and the hotel has a renowned restaurant.



LOUIS HOTEL
VIKTUALIENMARKT 6
80331 MÜNCHEN



+49 89 411 19 08 0

louis-hotel.com
contact@louis-hotel.com
Instagram: @louishotelmunich

Bus 132: Marienplatz
stop



© ENDER SUENNI



© MORITZ HOFFMANN.COM



> Hotel Cortiina – laid-back luxury

Opened by the duo Rudi Kull and Albert Weinzierl right in the city centre, the Hotel Cortiina is a very handsome hotel with impeccable service and a particularly pleasant sense of relaxed luxury.

The Grapes Bar, with its open fireplace in winter, is a must for an aperitif. Just opposite, the Italian Bar Centrale is a popular spot for aperitifs, coffee and panini ...



HOTEL CORTIINA
LEDERERSTRASSE 8
80331 MÜNCHEN



+49 89 2422 49 0

cortiina.com
info@cortiina.com
Instagram: @cortiina

U-Bahn U3 or U6: Marienplatz station
Free bicycles for hotel guests



© KUFFLER

> Hotel München Palace – classic luxury in Bogenhausen

For anyone who wants to avoid staying in the centre, with the inevitable crowds of tourists, the chic district of Bogenhausen, east of the city, is an excellent alternative: you are very close to the magnificent Villa Stuck (see p. 71) and not far from the Bayerisches Nationalmuseum and the Englischer Garten. In the evening, the beautiful Prince Regent Theatre is just a short walk away.

This is where you'll find the München Palace, the city's smallest five-star hotel (89 rooms). Although the hotel has kept its original character, the location, comfort, value for money and at-home feeling are real pluses. Its Palace Bar is well known.



HOTEL MÜNCHEN PALACE
TROGERSTRASSE 21
81675 MÜNCHEN



+49 89 419 71 0
hotel-muenchen-palace.de
info@hotel-muenchen-palace.de

U-Bahn U4: Prinzregentenplatz station
Tram 17 or bus 100: Friedensengel/Villa Stuck stop
Free bicycles for hotel guests



> Mariandl – the charm of another era

At the Hotel Mariandl, everything feels a little beyond time and trends: the charming Belle Époque villa that houses it, the café-restaurant with a Viennese feel where the piano is sometimes played (Café am Beethovenplatz), the terrace hidden beneath the trees ...

The rooms offer a very decent level of comfort and have the charm of another era, especially the large suites on the corners of every floor. But this is not a five-star hotel, which explains the very reasonable prices.

You can walk there from the main station in 10 minutes.

MARIANDL HOTEL MUNICH
GOETHESTRASSE 51
80336 MÜNCHEN



+49 89 552910 0

mariandl.com
 office@mariandl.com

U-Bahn U1, U2 or U3: Sendlinger Tor station
 Bus 68: Beethovenplatz stop



#09

BESPOKE SHOES FROM THE SHOEMAKER TO THE BAVARIAN COURT

They say we spend half our lives in bed and the other half in our shoes. It gives you pause for thought ... Plenty of people are happy to invest in a good mattress, yet put up for years with shoes that are too tight, uncomfortable heels and aching feet.

The Wittelsbachs understood the importance of being well shod. Kings, princesses and members of the court so admired master shoemaker Eduard Meier's expertise that, in 1895, he was awarded the title of official supplier to the Royal Bavarian Court. What was once a royal privilege is now a unique experience open to anyone who wants to take care of themselves, and their feet. Simply stepping into the shoe department on the first floor of the Brienerstraße store is already a pleasure ...



ED. MEIER MÜNCHEN
BRIENNER STRASSE 10
80333 MÜNCHEN



edmeier.com
schuhputzkurse.de

Instagram: @edmeiermunich

U-Bahn U3, U4, U5 or U6:
Odeonsplatz station



People generally take a little more care of their bespoke shoes than of their umpteenth pair of trainers. And yet even the finest shoes often end up neglected. At Ed. Meier, you discover that caring for them is an art in itself, especially during the shoe-polishing courses offered by the house.

Designed for around ten participants, the course lasts about three hours and covers all the essential steps, right up to the final touch: water polishing, which gives the leather a deep, gleaming shine.

Everything you need for optimal shoe care is available in the shop or online, from horsehair or goat-hair brushes to the leather cleaner your grandfather was already using.



#11

GERMANY'S BEST FOOTBALL BAR

Apart from an actual football stadium, the bar Stadion an der Schleißheimer Straße ('the stadium on Schleißheimer Straße') is probably the best place in Germany to watch a football match. An original 'Koan Neuer' sign (a reminder of the 2011 protest movement against goalkeeper Manuel Neuer's transfer from Schalke 04 to Bayern Munich), old issues of Kicker magazine in the toilets, a mass of supporters' scarves from legendary matches, dishes mostly named after football greats (such as the 'Klinsmann' Käsespätzle or 'Ramos' nachos) ... this cult bar gets everything right. It draws a mixed crowd of supporters of all kinds of German first-, second- and third-division clubs, along with football-loving tourists from across Europe.



STADION AN DER SCHLEISSHEIMER STRASSE
SCHLEISSHEIMER STRASSE 82
80797 MÜNCHEN



Reservations strongly recommended:
reservierungen@sadss.de
Instagram: @sadss.de
stadionanderschleissheimerstrasse.de

U-Bahn U2 or U8:
Theresienstraße station



PHOTOS © ACHIM FRANK SCHMIDT

In 2025 the Stadion was on the verge of closing because of complaints from local residents. Only soundproofing costing €35,000 could solve the problem. A considerable sum for a small restaurant ... So a group of supporters from Hamburg[] launched a fundraiser. The result: in just over a week, the target was reached and the Stadion an der Schleißheimer Straße was saved. The football gods are clearly on their side!



#14

AN ART NOUVEAU WALK IN SCHWABING

Munich is not necessarily the first place you associate with Art Nouveau. Yet Schwabing is full of gems of this style, known in Germany as 'Jugendstil'. Here is our suggested route.

The walk begins with one of the Art Nouveau masterpieces at **77 Leopoldstraße**, where the architect Martin Dülfer himself lived for several years. He also drew up plans for the decoration of the block of buildings at **4-6 Gedeonstraße**. Nearby, on **Ainmillerstraße**, admire nos 17, 20 and 22. The last of these – possibly the most beautiful building in all of Munich – is striking for the relief above the entrance, where Adam and Eve face each other. Look out, too, for the spectacular sculpted faces and the magnificent sunflower decorations.



ALLOW 1½ TO 2 HRS FOR THIS ROUTE

To start, take U-Bahn U3/U6, tram 23,
bus 59 or 142 to Münchner Freiheit station



To find out more, book a guided tour:
kunst-tour.de/stadtfuehrungen/im-stil-der-jugend
stattreisen-muenchen.de/fuehrungen/jugendstil-schwabing
botechin.de



© PHILIPP WEIGELL



© RUFUS

RÖMERSTRASSE 11



At **19 Franz-Joseph-Straße**, the façade was decorated by Hungarian architect Ferenc Nyilas with magnificent leaf, flower and peacock motifs.

Neighbouring **Friedrichstraße** is also worth a detour, especially for the building at no. 3, designed by Hans Thaler (note the face on its pediment). Other highlights include the handsome building at **11 Römerstraße** (fine Egyptian-inspired details) and the elegant house at **34 Elisabethstraße**, which won the city's award for the most beautiful façade in 2021.

GEDEONSTRASSE 4-6



© THOMAS LEDL

LEOPOLDSTRASSE 77



© RUFUS

#16

MUNICH'S MOST BEAUTIFUL SWIMMING POOL

Opened in 1901 in a remarkable neo-Baroque Art Nouveau style, the Müller'sche swimming pool (originally public baths) is an unmissable architectural gem.

A 31-metre pool beneath a stuccoed vaulted ceiling, another 18-metre pool (reserved for women on Tuesdays from 3pm to 8pm), several steam baths and saunas – rather than a municipal pool, it feels like one of Europe's finest thermal spas.

Right next door, the Deutsches Museum is one of the largest science and technology museums in the world. On the rooftop terrace, you can have lunch at Frau im Mond while you enjoy the superb views over the city.



**MÜLLER'SCHE
SWIMMING POOL**
ROSENHEIMERSTRASSE 1
81667 MÜNCHEN



**FRAU IM MOND – ROOFTOP
OF THE DEUTSCHES MU-
SEUM**
MUSEUMSINSEL 1



swm.de/baeder/muellersches-volksbad
Tram 18: Deutsches Museum stop

frauimmond.bar
deutsches-museum.de



© MARCUS SCHLAF



© MÜNCHEN TOURISMUS / ANNA-LENA ZINTEL



© ROBERT GOETZFRIED

#18

CURLING ON THE CITY'S ROOFTOPS

Since curling took off as the new sport of the moment, teams no longer meet only on frozen lakes and canals. They are constantly finding new places to play their favourite sport: in Biergärten, in inner courtyards and, in recent years, more and more often on rooftop terraces.

One of them is in Munich's Werksviertel district. Go in through the Adina hotel entrance, take the lift up to the 14th floor, then follow the stairs to the 15th. And there it is: the **Fitzroy Rooftop Lounge**, the city's most beautiful, most spectacular and highest rooftop.

The season starts as winter approaches: book the terrace online for 45 minutes, with ten drinks included. To warm up, they serve mulled wine and delicious curries.

© DANEJ PRODUCTIONS



FITZROY ROOFTOP LOUNGE
ATELIERSTRASSE 22
81671 MÜNCHEN



fitzroy-munich.de
Instagram:
@fitzroy_bar_music

45-min. curling slot
and 10 drinks: from €79

Metro U5 or tram 19:
Ostbahnhof station



WINTERWUNDERWERK
ATELIERSTRASSE 1
81671 MÜNCHEN



Instagram: @eventfabrikmuenchen
eventfabrik-muenchen.de

Metro U5 or tram 19: Ostbahnhof station



FITZROY ROOFTOP LOUNGE

OTHER PLACES WE LIKE FOR CURLING

> **Bamberger Haus at Luitpold Park**

In November, the park around Bamberger Haus turns into a winter wonderland, with five comfortable curling lanes and Ludwig's Salettl, a rustic Alpine chalet that can host up to 60 people.

In summer, this imposing villa, built in 1912, opens up its magnificent terrace. It was built in the time of Prince Regent Luitpold of Bavaria, along with Luitpoldpark, a gift for his 90th birthday. In memory of that period, the restaurant's Ferdinand Room, under its grand chandelier, serves imperial and royal cuisine using traditional dishes from the era of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy.

DAS BAMBERGER HAUS

Brunnerstraße 2, 80804 München
 bambergerhaus.com
 Instagram: @bambergerhaus
 Metro U2 or U3: Scheidplatz station
 Tram 27: Gartenstraße stop

> **Nymphenburg Palace Canal**

What could be nicer than gliding along the palace's frozen canal while admiring the Wittelsbach residence? Four hours on one of the forty lanes costs between €4 and €5 per person. Before or after a game, Schlosswirtschaft Schwaige is the perfect address.

CURLING LANES ON THE NYMPHENBURG PALACE CANAL

Südliche Auffahrtallee 27, 80639 München
 eisstockbahnen.de
 Lanes lit until 10pm
 Tram 17: Schloss Nymphenburg station

RESTAURANT SCHLOSSWIRTSCHAFT SCHWAIGE

Schloss Nymphenburg 30, 80638 München
 schlosswirtschaft-schwaige.de



#21

AN ALTERNATIVE CAFÉ JUST THE WAY WE LIKE IT

The little brother of Gans am Wasser (see p. 126), Gans Woanders in Untergiesing is a true neighbourhood meeting place, where families and trendy people come to soak up the alternative atmosphere of a venue put together largely with reclaimed furniture and objects, from window frames to lamps, not forgetting the old piano upstairs.

A laid-back terrace with a small bar, cosy corners where you can sit by the fire in winter, a stage where bands and artists regularly perform for free (topped by a little tower where you can sit), it's the kind of place where you instantly feel at home.

Insider tip: if you want to pass for a local, just call the place by its other name, 'Hexenhäusl' (little witch's house), as locals used to call an old kiosk near the railway bridge right next door because of its pointed roof.

Food-wise, you'll find Gans am Wasser's famous rosemary fries here as well as good pizzas.



CULTURE CAFÉ GANS WOANDERS
PILGERSHEIMER STRASSE 13
81543 MÜNCHEN



+49 89 24 59 77 85

ganswoanders.de
Instagram: @gans_woanders

U-Bahn U1, U2 or U7:
Kolumbusplatz station



#28

CHILLING AT WESTPARK

An alternative, family-friendly café in Westpark (Sendling). Gans am Wasser is exactly the kind of place we love. While the Englischer Garten and the banks of the Isar are usually overrun with crowds, the mood at Westpark is always more relaxed. And the lively heart of the park is Gans am Wasser.

Before it opened, the spot was just a patch of wasteland by the lake. In 2016 Julian Hahn, Daniel Hahn's younger brother (Alte Utting and Bahnwärter Thiel, see pp. 106 and 119), saw its potential and gradually built what has become an essential Munich hangout. It was during the pandemic that the place really took off: unable to work on trade fairs or other official events, many craftspeople came here to help with the build. And so, with a real love of detail, a place was born for anyone who wants to sit quietly by the water, beer in hand, spend time with their children, or catch one of the many artistic performances inside the yurt.

A hot tip: don't miss the rosemary fries.



WESTPARK
81373 MÜNCHEN

Bus 62/130/157 or N43:
Baumgartnerstraße station



CAFÉ GANS AM WASSER
SIEGENBURGER STRASSE 41
81373 MÜNCHEN

gansamwasser.de
Instagram:
@gans_am_wasser



Metro U4 or U5:
Heimeranplatz station



MUNICH

WE TESTED 1,000 PLACES, AND CHOSE ONLY THE BEST

Stay in the most beautiful boutique hotels, discover a hidden Biergarten, explore the best of alternative Munich, listen to open-air jazz while sitting on a staircase, visit a cinema that looks like a library, enjoy escaping into the mountains around Munich, take a private tour of a secret grain mill right in the city centre, seek out outstanding concept stores, have your own bespoke ski boots made, try curling on a rooftop, discover a fantastic pub for football fans, find a bowling alley inside a restaurant ...

Hidden hotels, outstanding restaurants, secret bars, off-the-radar strolls ... In this guide you'll find a carefully curated, eclectic selection for every budget. Designed for both travellers and locals, it reveals handpicked addresses chosen by local writers – each place a gateway to discovery, far from the crowds and off the beaten path. A fresh take on the art of travel.

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