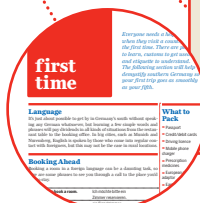


PLAN YOUR TRIP

YOUR PLANNING TOOL KIT

Photos, itineraries, lists and suggestions
to help you put together your perfect trip

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UNDERSTAND MUNICH, BAVARIA & THE BLACK FOREST

GET MORE FROM YOUR TRIP

Learn about the big picture, so you
can make sense of what you see

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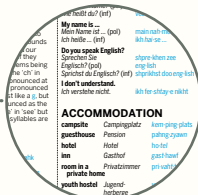
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➤ Every listing is recommended by our authors, and their favourite places are listed first

➤ Look out for these icons:



Our author's top recommendation



A green or sustainable option



No payment required

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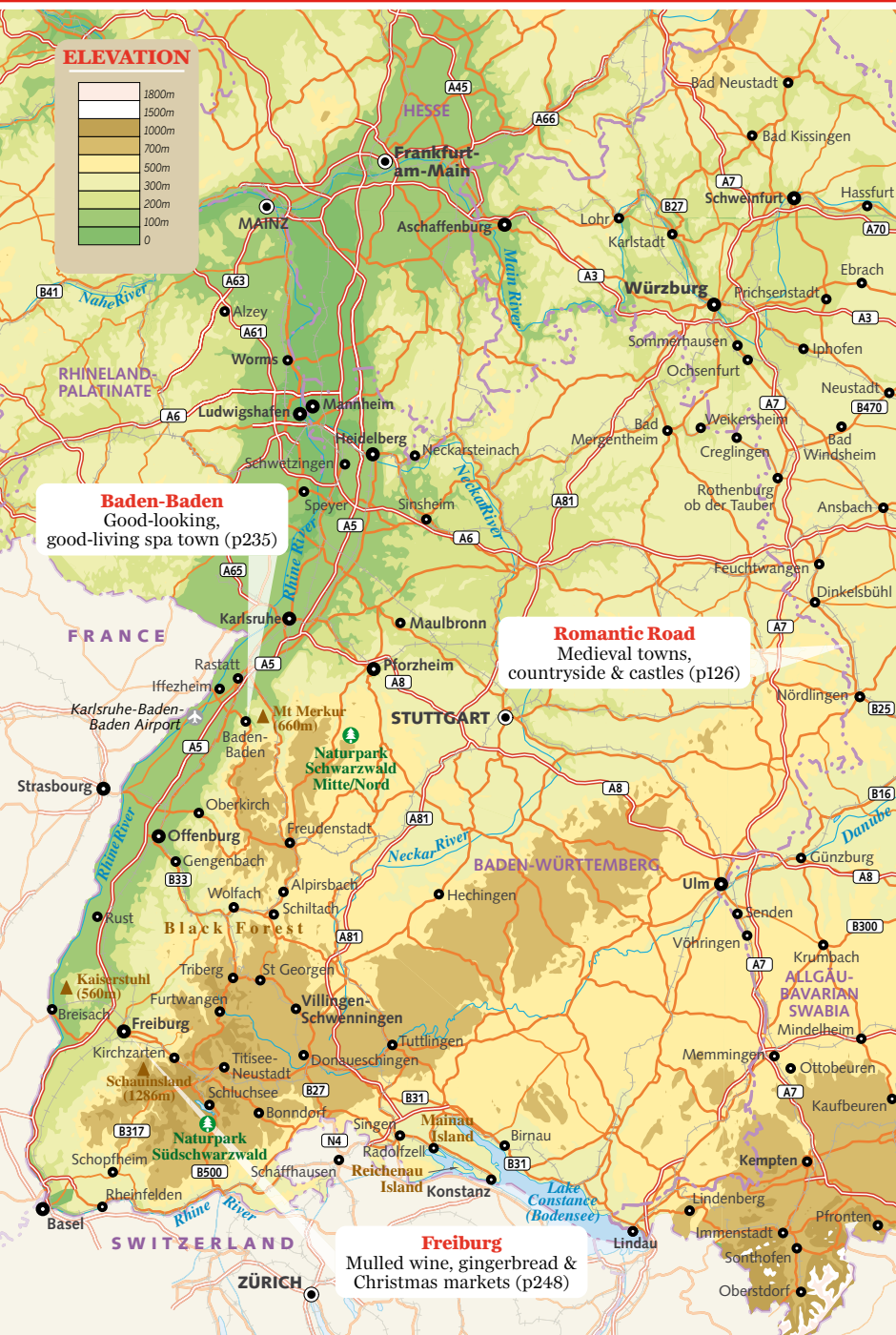
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› Munich, Bavaria & the Black Forest



Top Experiences >





OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Melbourne, London and Oakland, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

OUR WRITERS



Marc Di Duca

Coordinating Author, Munich, Bavaria From a library job in the Ruhrgebiet during that summer of '89 to scrambling around the Alps for this guide, German and Germany have been with Marc throughout his adult life. A well-established travel guide author, Marc has explored many corners of Germany over the last 20 years but it's to the quirky variety and laid-back openness of Bavaria that he returns most willingly. When not eating snowballs in Rothenburg ob der Tauber,

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Read more about Marc Di Duca at:
lonelyplanet.com/members/madidu



Kerry Christiani

Stuttgart & the Black Forest, Salzburg & Around Having lived for six years in Germany's Black Forest, Kerry jumped at the chance to return to her second home – and family – to write her chapters. Cycling around Lake Constance, road-testing Black forest gâteau in Triberg (it's a hard life) and going behind the scenes to discover the truth about the von Trapps in Salzburg kept her busy for this edition. Kerry has authored some 20 guidebooks and frequently contributes

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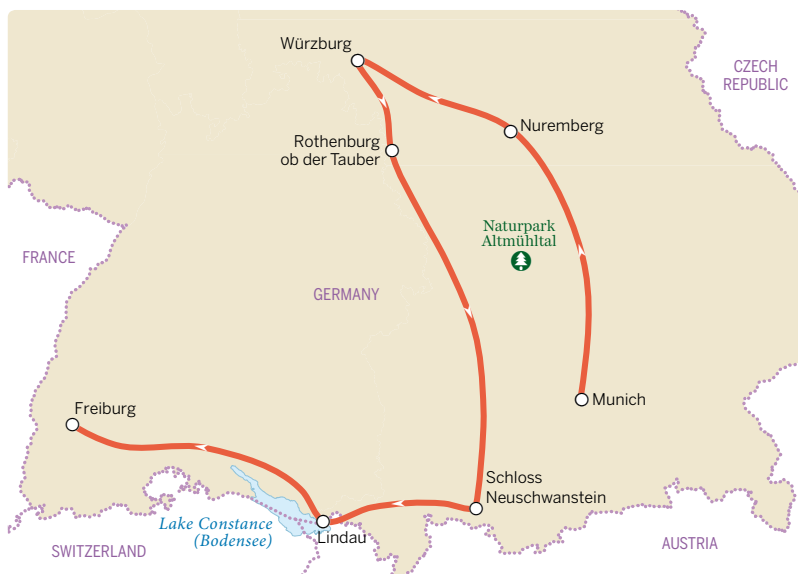
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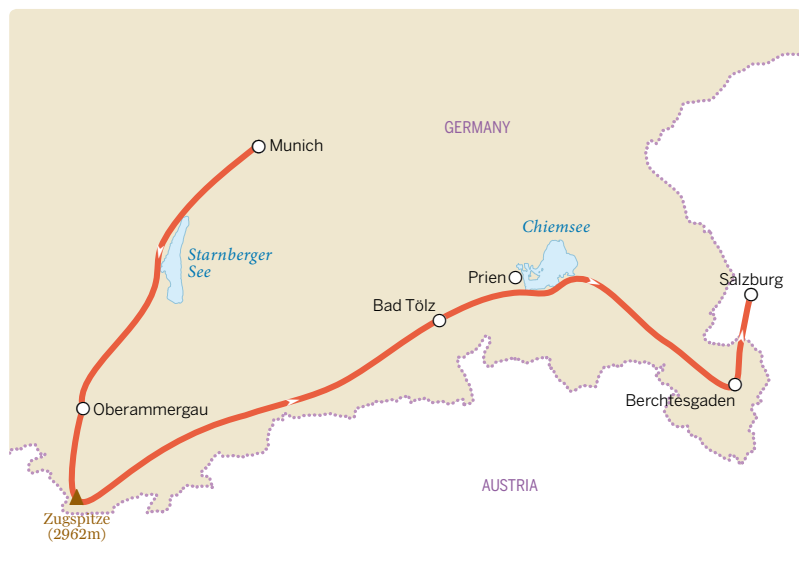
itineraries

Whether you've got six days or 60, these itineraries provide a starting point for the trip of a lifetime. Want more inspiration? Head online to lonelyplanet.com/thorntree to chat with other travellers.



Ten Days Southern Germany Highlights

Kick off your south German odyssey in **Munich** where three days is barely enough time to sample the Bavarian capital's museums, nightlife and celebrated brews. A short hop north by train brings you to **Nuremberg**, the bustling capital of Franconia and a major draw for fans of both dark tourism and dark beer. Another train, another historic city, this time university town **Würzburg** where fine wine has flowed for centuries and the prince-bishop's residence constitutes one of Bavaria's most impressive palaces. You're now at the northern terminus of the Romantic Road, which runs south for 350km. The most engaging stop along the route is **Rothenburg ob der Tauber**, a labyrinth of medieval streets and lanes with heaps of eye-candy architecture. The Romantic Road ends at the gates of **Schloss Neuschwanstein**, Bavarian King Ludwig II's fairytale pad and one of the world's most iconic 19th-century follies. Perhaps stopping off at **Lindau** on the shores of Lake Constance on the way, next stop is **Freiburg** in the southern Black Forest, where you can follow a tour of the mammoth Münster with a slab of the famous local gâteau.



Ten Days Munich & the Alps

The following itinerary can be tackled as a point-to-point trip or as individual day trips from Munich; the bracing air, cobalt skies and glassy lakes of the German Alps are easily reachable by train from the Bavarian capital. Beginning in **Munich**, you'll need at least three days to cover the essential viewing in this vibrant metropolis, perhaps reserving a bit of time for a spot of shopping and to visit some of the city's lesser known sights such as the Olympiapark and BMW Welt. If there's time, make a dash on the S-Bahn for gobsmackingly beautiful **Starnberger See** to enjoy a relaxing stroll along the pebbly shore. Pretty **Oberammergau**, famous for its once-a-decade passion play, is just over two hours (with changes) on the train from Munich's Hauptbahnhof and makes a superb base for visiting King Ludwig II's Schloss Linderhof, an easy going 12km hike. Then it's time to stand on the roof of Germany: the **Zugspitze** above Garmisch-Partenkirchen, the Bundesrepublik's highest peak. If you don't have your own wheels you'll have to back-track all the way to Munich to reach the pleasant spa town of **Bad Tölz**, the heart of the Tölzer Land and home to Alpmare, the region's best water park. Heading east, more train connections will have you on the shores of the **Chiemsee** in no time. Water sports are one of the big draws here, though most come to ogle at another of Ludwig II's palaces, Schloss Herrenchiemsee, set on an island (the Herreninsel) in the lake and accessible by ferry from the town of Prien. After a day of messing around on the *wasser*, it's back into the mountains, this time the ranges around **Berchtesgaden** in Germany's extreme southeastern tip. Drawing in many visitors is the area's intriguing Nazi history, particularly Hitler's mountain perch, the Eagle's Nest, now a seasonal restaurant. For an equally photogenic escapade, take one of the electric boats from Berchtesgaden along the stunningly picturesque Königssee, surrounded by the Berchtesgaden National Park. From Berchtesgaden it's a short bus ride across the border into Austria and a day or two of *Sound of Music*-mania in achingly beautiful **Salzburg**.



One Week

Stuttgart & Black Forest

Begin with a couple of days exploring the galleries, stately plazas and vibrant nightlife of regional capital **Stuttgart**. High on your agenda should be the city's regal heart, Schlossplatz, the Staatsgalerie's art treasures and evenings spent sampling local rieslings in a *Weinstube* (wine tavern) or hanging out in Theodor-Heuss-Strasse's lounge bars. Car fans should race to the space-age Mercedes-Benz and Porsche museums. On day three, head west to **Baden-Baden**, a swish art nouveau spa town picturesquely nestled at the foot of the Black Forest's spruce-cloaked hills. Here you can wallow in thermal waters as the Romans once did, saunter through the sculpture-speckled Lichtentaler Allee gardens and try your luck in the ever-grand casino. Day four takes you south along the serpentine Schwarzwald-Hochstrasse, or B500, with tremendous forest and mountain panoramas at every bend. Stop to glimpse Germany's largest square in **Freudenstadt** on your way to the curving **Kinzigtal**, the prettiest valley in this neck of the woods, with its orchards, vineyards and cluster of half-timbered villages waiting to be ticked off like rosary beads. Your fifth day takes you to the Black Forest's most storied town, **Triberg**, where Germany's highest waterfall flows, the world's biggest cuckoo clock calls, and Claus Schäfer bakes *the* best black forest gâteau using the original 1915 recipe. Work off the cake with a walk or cross-country ski in the wooded heights of Martinskapelle or Stöcklewaldturm. A scenic hour's drive from Triberg brings you to the sunny university city of **Freiburg**, close to the French border. Spend the day absorbing its easygoing flair in the Altstadt's quaint lanes, watched over by a monster of a medieval minster. Wind out your final day by the lake. Swinging east brings you to forest-rimmed **Titisee** en route to the watery expanse of **Lake Constance**, Central Europe's third largest lake, flanked by quaint villages, vineyards, wetlands and beaches. An afternoon in **Konstanz** is just long enough to get a taste of this Roman-rooted city, where the historic alleys of the Altstadt wend down to a relaxed lake-front promenade.



One Week Romantic Road

The Romantic Road begins its 350km way through Bavaria's western reaches at **Würzburg** where you should take at least two days to tour the impressive Baroque Residenz and sample the wines produced within view of the city centre. From here carve your way south to magical **Rothenburg ob der Tauber** where you can lose yourself in the tangle of medieval lanes and celebrate Christmas every day. Perhaps with a stop-off at Feuchtwangen, your next destination is quaint little **Dinkelsbühl**, a medieval gem ringed by a complete set of town walls. More medieval defences ring **Nördlingen**, a less touristy but equally attractive stopover. Then set aside some time to check out the storybook castle guarding the half-timbered village of **Harburg**, and to stroll through twee **Donauwörth** before hitting the energetic city of **Augsburg**. Countless churches grace the Romantic Road but, to Augsburg's south, the one packing the mightiest punch is the luminous Wieskirche. Contemplate King Ludwig II's flights of fancy at his whimsical castle, **Schloss Neuschwanstein**, where Germany's most popular tourist route comes to a fittingly fairytale climax.

One Week Nuremberg & Franconia

With the exception of the Naturpark Altmühltal, this itinerary is best tackled as a series of excursions from **Nuremberg**, using Bavaria's excellent railways. The lively capital of Franconia has bags to see and do – including the Nuremberg trials courtroom, the Germanisches Nationalmuseum and the Deutsche Bahn Railway Museum – and an embarrassment of eateries to choose from when you return from exploring the region. A close second in Franconia's pecking order is Unesco-listed **Bamberg**, a confusion of ancient bridges, winding cobbled streets and riverside cottages, the air perfumed by numerous breweries producing the town's unique smoked beer. An hour's train ride brings you to **Bayreuth**, famous for its annual Wagner Festival but a pleasant place to stroll any time of year. Around 100km north of Nuremberg, **Coburg** is memorable for its fortress, its British Royal family connections and the longest sausages you'll ever eat served in the smallest bread buns. Round off your time in Franconia with a hike, bike or canoe trip (requiring more time) through the glorious **Altmühltal Nature Park**.

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